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19 Asadha, 1931 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

# RAJYA SABHA

## OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

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Web-site Address : <http://rajyasabha.nic.in>  
<http://parliamentofindia.nic.in>  
E-mail Address : [rsedit-e@sansad.nic.in](mailto:rsedit-e@sansad.nic.in)



## RAJYA SABHA

*Friday, the 10th July, 2009/19, Asadha, 1931/(Saka)*

The House met at eleven of the clock,  
MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### Number of Employees in Group A, B, C and D

\*101. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of regular Railway employees in Group A,B,C and D as on 1 January, 2008;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Railway Department has outsourced certain functions at railway stations and inside running trains;

(c) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise; and

(d) what are the backlog vacancies of SC and ST as on 31 March, 2008 in Group A, B and C?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED) : (a) to (d)  
A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### *Statement*

(a) The number of regular employees in group A,B, C and D as on 31.3.2008 on Indian Railways is as under :

Group	Number of regular employees
A	7968
B	8163
C	907510
D	470879
TOTAL :	1394520

(b) and (c) Outsourcing is resorted to where technical expertise is not available in Railways. Earlier, outsourcing was done in the area of catering, cleanliness of stations etc. In order to improve quality of food, it has been decided to introduce department catering in Shatabdi and Rajdhani trains. If this is successful, it will be extended gradually further to other trains.

(d) The backlog of vacancies of SC and ST in recruitment as on 31st March, 2008 in Group A, B and C is as under :

Group	SC	ST
A	Nil	Nil
B	Nil	Nil
C	1814	1688

Special drive will be launched to remove the backlog.

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am following this particular subject for the last two-three years, in view of the instructions given by the hon. Prime Minister to all the Ministries to fill up the backlog. The Railway Ministry, in its reply dated 8th January, 2007 to my question said, "It is expected that we would be able to complete the drive to fill the backlog of vacancies by 31st March, 2007." Today, again in the reply, they have admitted that there is backlog of vacancies. Secondly, in reply to another question put by one of my friends, the Railway Ministry has admitted that there are 1,72,444 vacancies in the Indian Railways. Now on the one hand, we talk of providing employment to the needy, to the SCs, STs and all categories of the people who are educated and well qualified, and on the other hand they are admitting that....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question, please.

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: I am coming to the question. Sir, this is not an ordinary thing for me. It is a very serious matter for me and for my people all over the country. Leave apart backlog, the Railways has admitted that they are working with the strength which is less than the sanctioned strength. The figure is 1,72,444. I would like to know from the hon. Minister why such a large number of vacancies are there as on 31st March, 2008. What is the answer of the Ministry?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman, there are two parts of this question which the hon. Member has put. The first part of the question is about backlog of SCs and STs. So far as SCs and STs are concerned, after the special drive in 2004, 9281 vacancies, that is, 99.09 per cent of the vacancies have been filled up. The balance is only 0.91 per cent. It was till 2004. After 2004, as per the information that we have, the backlog of vacancies under Group C is, SC - 1,814 and ST - 1,688; under Group D, SC - 1490 and ST 1840. This is the backlog. So far as backlog in respect of all the Groups A, B, C & D is concerned, it is true that there is backlog. It is an ongoing process. Whenever there are vacancies, the concerned zones send the indent to the concerned RRB, Railway Recruitment Board, advertises the vacancies and conducts the exam and then the people are selected. Therefore, these 1,72,444 vacancies which the hon. Member has mentioned, it is an ongoing process. It is a very big department and more than 14 lakh people are working here. Naturally, there will be some backlog. With respect to the SC and ST, the Department has done very well and reduced the backlog.

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Sir, in reply to part (b) of my question, the Minister has admitted that there is outsourcing of work in the area of cleanliness at stations. In fact, some of us are travelling by trains regularly, and we have observed that in the past, the work of cleanliness was done manually, and the sweeper community removed the human faeces from the tracks. But when mechanisation has come in, and sophisticated instruments are being introduced, that work is now being taken over from that particular caste and class and given to other communities. So,

outsourcing has two adverse effects. One, it has gone to the private sector. Secondly, it has been taken away from the poor sweepers, who were, otherwise, exploited when it was done by hand. I can give examples of airports and Railways where cleaning is done by a man sitting in the chair. At this time there is no reservation. I want to put a straight supplementary. If at all there is outsourcing for catering, it is understood. But why is the work of cleanliness being outsourced by the Railway Department, especially, when they have their own sweepers in the Railways?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, it is a fact that there is outsourcing in the area of cleanliness of stations. Now, in the matter of catering, the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation is taking care of it. After taking charge as Minister, several problems came to my notice. And, now, it is being decided that in Shatabdi and Rajdhani trains, the Railways itself would take care of food, passenger amenities, cleanliness, etc., instead of outsourcing these jobs. Cleanliness is an important area, and the Department is adequately taking care of it. As regards backlog, we will undertake a special drive, and whatever backlog is there, that will be removed.

SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Sir, as per the reply given by the Minister, the number of regular employees in Group 'D' as on 31.3.2008 was 4,70,879. As per the figures available with me, the number of Group 'D' employees was 6,07,493 in the year 2002. This shows that the number of employees has decreased by 1,36,614. Now, if I look at the figures given in reply to the next question, the number of vacancies in Group 'D' is only 58,329. If that is so, then, what has happened to the other posts of Group 'D'? Have they been abolished?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: No essential posts have been abolished so far. It all depends on the system. Whatever was followed earlier could change according to the system. Of course, it is a continuous Departmental process. I do not know what the position earlier was. But I can tell you what it is as of today. There are vacancies, and these will be filled. There are certain problems in RRB. You will appreciate that there are some problems in Maharashtra, Karnataka and a few other States. We have to take care of these things. I have already mentioned in my Budget speech that the RRB will be reviewed shortly. And, we will take appropriate steps to fill up the vacancies, in fact, safety is an important aspect, and wherever there is backlog, we have to fill them, more so, in the interest of safety of the Railways.

**श्री कांजीभाई पटेल :** सभापति महोदय, आदरणीय मंत्री जी ने अपने बजट में कहा है कि वे backlog पूरा करने में स्पेशल ड्राइव निकालेंगे और अभी भी इन्होंने एक्सेप्ट किया है कि वे इसे पूरा करेंगे। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार इस backlog को भरने के लिए, इसके ऊपर निगरानी हेतु, सीनियर मंत्रियों की कोई कमेटी बनाने के बारे में सोचेगी?

**कुमारी ममता बनर्जी :** देखिए, मिनिस्टर तो आते हैं, जाते हैं, लेकिन गवर्नमेंट तो रहती है, डिपार्टमेंट तो रहेगा, इसीलिए हम लोगों ने डिसाइड किया है कि, you will appreciate, जो कम्प्लेंट रिसीव की है, उसी के लिए

साइड किया है कि we will review the RRBs. The Group C posts are filled by the RRBs, and it has to decide how to fill it up. The Sixth Pay Commission has said that there will be no Group D posts and the existing Group D posts will be merged with the Group C. So, we have to examine all this and then we will come back.

**श्री ईश्वर सिंह :** सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से ऑनरेबल मिनिस्टर जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जो जोन वाइज बैक लॉग क्या अलग-अलग किया है या जैसाकि अभी मंत्री महोदय ने आश्वासन दिया है कि एस.सी./एस.टी. का बैकलॉग जल्दी पूरा किया जाएगा, क्या यह 2009-10 के बीच में विशेष अभियान चलाकर पूरा किया जाएगा?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have the entire backlog of the Railway. The zonal backlog has not been collected. But, if the hon. Member would like to have it, we will collect that.

#### **Vacant posts in Railways**

\*102. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:††

SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the sanctioned manpower in the Indian Railways, category-wise;
- (b) the number of vacant posts against the sanctioned manpower;
- (c) the time-bound action plan to fill up the vacant posts;
- (d) the number of contract workers in Railways both skilled and unskilled; and
- (e) the steps taken to regularize the contract employees in perennial services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMAD) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### **Statement**

(a) and (b) The sanctioned strength and vacancies on Indian Railways, category-wise as on 31.3.2008 is as under: -

Category	Sanctioned strength	Vacancies
A & B	17680	1549
C	1020076	112566
D	529208	58329
<b>TOTAL :</b>	<b>1566964</b>	<b>172444</b>

(c) Any large organization like the Railways will have certain vacancies at any point of time. Arising and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process. Vacancies arise due to normal retirement, voluntary retirements, deaths, promotions or creation of posts etc. Vacancies are filled in primarily through open market recruitment, promotions etc.

††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Tapan Kumar Sen

(d) and (e) Indian Railways are not directly connected with the number of persons engaged by the contractors. Therefore, such figures are not maintained in Railways.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I want to ask a specific question. My first supplementary is this. The deliberations on the Railway Budget were completed in this House yesterday. In this Budget, the hon. Railway Minister has taken up a very ambitious programme of expansion. In her Budget Speech, the hon. Minister has said about introduction of 57 new trains, 27 extension of service and doubling of frequencies of 13 trains. Besides that, there is a big expansion programme in the suburban and Metro railways, which requires augmentation of manpower. In this context, the written answer of the hon. Railway Minister shows an alarming figure of 1,72,444 vacancies against the sanctioned strength, as on 31st March, 2008. Sir, my question is, the kind of ambitious projects for expansion that have been taken up warrants an increase in the sanctioned strength also. But, the fact remains that in many of these categories, I can particularly refer to Group D, the sanctioned strength has been reviewed downwards, meaning thereby abolishing a part of the sanctioned posts. So, my first supplementary is whether this abolition in posts will be scrapped. In the case of Group D, this figure has come down from 6,00,000 to 5,29,000.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put your question.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, I am coming to my question. This gives rise to the question. Part (a) of my supplementary is, whether the hon. Minister will review the sanctioned strength in view of the big ambitious projects taken up by the Railways. I would also like the hon. Minister to assure the House a concrete timeframe by which time these 1,72,444 vacancies will be filled up.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far, the policy being followed by the Railways is, whenever vacancies arise, it will have to be filled up. Therefore, whatever the hon. Member has now mentioned with respect to the sanctioned strength which has not been filled up will be taken into account. I would also like to mention that so far as the Railway is concerned, in view of the constant inputs of the technology and the changing traffic pattern, the Railways have been carrying out its duty to identify its activities and also making sufficient strength by way of manpower available for running new and expanded activities.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary, please.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, my first supplementary question earlier was whether the sanctioned position was revised downwards; it has not been replied and I seek your protection. What is the use of asking another question if a concrete reply does not come? I had specifically asked whether the sanctioned Group-D posts are revised downwards. I may be wrong. Whatever I got is from the railway-papers!

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, whatever he is asking, my colleague, Shri Ahammedji has already replied that question; it is a continuous process. I have mentioned already that there are problems with the RRBs. After the examinations for the posts, interview has been called...



SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: That is not my question, Madam.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sen, please listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please resume your place and let the answer be given.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: If you intervene, how am I going to reply?

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: I would like to know whether the sanctioned posts have been decreased.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Whatever sanctioned posts are needed for the Railways, what we need today is very much there. Are you satisfied?

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: I am sorry, I am not, because it is not replied.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The second supplementary please.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Well, the problem is that when a question is asked to get reply, the reply comes the other way! It is unfortunate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The reply has been given and ask the second supplementary question.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Anyway, it is for you to judge whether the reply has been given or not.

My second supplementary question is: In (b) and (e), it is replied that the Indian Railways are not directly connected with the number of persons engaged by the contractors, therefore, such figures are not maintained by the Railways. As per the law of the land, which still exists and which still could not be changed despite all efforts, the Contract Labourer (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, puts an obligation on the principal employer to keep track of the contract labourers deployed by them. Because, that Act wants the principal employer to see to it that all the law of the land are made applicable to the contract workers. For that, they need to keep the track. On this position, your statement that you do not keep such figures clearly shows that as a principal employer it is a failure in discharging that statutory obligation towards the contract workers.

I would like to know whether the hon. Railway Minister will consider this aspect of obligation under the Contract Labourer (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, as a principal employer of Railways, would start keeping track of the figures. पहले जो हो गया, हो गया। But, at least, henceforth, would an assurance be given?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I emphatically say that it is not an obligation on the Railways to keep the list of contract labourers. I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Member a judgment passed by the hon. Supreme Court dated 10.4.2006, which has taken away the right of the party to be included in the permanent job. I would just quote the Supreme Court order: "High Courts, acting under article 226 of the Constitution of India should not ordinarily issue directions to absorb them, regularisation or permanent continuation in terms of the Constitution scheme. A total

embargo on the casual temporary employees is not possible given the exigencies of administration." Sir, it is the most important thing.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, I had asked. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen to the answer. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am afraid, this is not going to help matters. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the Minister complete the answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, the hon. Supreme Court has given this judgment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the answer be completed. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please do not interrupt.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: I quote the Supreme Court judgment: "There is no fundamental right in those who have been employed on daily wages or temporarily or on contractual basis to claim that they have a right to be absorbed in service. As long as they have no right....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... We cannot have a wider debate on this. Please resume your places.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: I seek your protection, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You asked a supplementary question... *(Interruptions)*... Mr. Vijayaraghavan, please do not interrupt. I am afraid, this is happening much too frequently. ...*(Interruptions)*... Just one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Just one minute, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... एक मिनट ठहरिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप जरा बैठ जाइए ...*(व्यवधान)*... Let the hon. Minister clarify the position. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please resume your place. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please resume your place. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will be compelled to invoke the rules if you keep interrupting in this manner. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please do not argue with the Chair, ...*(Interruptions)*... Please do not argue with the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please go ahead.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I appreciate my colleague, Mr. Ahammed for whatever he quoted because he has quoted some law. He quoted the legal position and that is why he gave the reply from a legal point of view. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, in our country there are so many contractors and contractual labour also. They should tell me which are the Governments that are not giving contractual work to the contractors. Even I will appreciate their Governments, wherever they are in power, if they tell me why they have given work to the contractors. They started the contractual labour. Sir, it is not that we started the contractual labour. It is the freedom of the people. There are some businessmen, there are some contractors, and they can depute their people. Why should the Department take responsibility for that? It is their responsibility. Whatever is within the jurisdiction of the Railways, to that extent, we will give full protection to our railway employees. But we cannot take responsibility for the contractual labour because this is not within our jurisdiction. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ...(Interruptions)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

†श्री मोहम्मद अमीन : महोदय, रेलवे रिक्रूटमेंट बोर्ड ने यह सिफारिश की थी कि 2007-08 में 23,588 लोगों को ग्रुप सी में लिया जायेगा। इसमें से अब तक कितने लोगों को लिया गया है? साल 2008-09 के लिए रेलवे रिक्रूटमेंट बोर्ड ने क्या कोई सिफारिश की है या नहीं?

جناب محمد امين : مہودے، ریلوے ریکروٹمنٹ بورڈ نے یہ سفارش کی تھی کہ 2007-08 میں 23,588 لوگوں کو گروپ سی میں لیا جائے گا۔ اس میں سے اب تک کتنے لوگوں کو لیا گیا ہے؟ سال 2008-09 کے لئے ریلوے ریکروٹمنٹ بورڈ نے کیا کوئی سفارش کی ہے یا نہیں؟

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, we did not have such type of information. I will give you entire detail and if you have any information you can send it to me also. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, हम लोग ...(व्यवधान)... हम लोगों को क्वेश्चन पूछने दीजिए न ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(Interruptions)... Please. ...(Interruptions)... Would you please allow the supplementary question to be asked? ...(Interruptions)... I am afraid. ...(Interruptions)... Please go ahead. ...(Interruptions)... No, please. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, रेलवे एक बृहद् निकाय है और इसमें रोजगार की काफी गुंजाइश है। मैं रेल मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि अभी-भी बहुत सारी पोस्ट वेकेंट हैं और जिन पोस्ट्स को वेकेंट रखा गया है, उनकी भरपाई कब तक होगी? मेरा सवाल बस इतना ही है कि अब तक उनकी भरपाई क्यों नहीं हो रही है? मुझे कोई हल्ले या हंगामे वाला सवाल नहीं पूछना है।

कुमारी ममता बनर्जी : सर, मैंने पहले भी कह दिया है कि भर्ती होगी, लेकिन चूंकि हम आरआरबी को रिव्यू करने जा रहे हैं इसलिए इसमें थोड़ा समय लगेगा। एक बात और भी है कि आरआरबी का इम्जाम होता है। आज Regional aspiration इतना ज्यादा हो गया है, I appreciate that, लेकिन इसको हम थोड़ा रिव्यू करेंगे। इसके लिए हम लोगों को थोड़ा वक्त तो देना चाहिए। हम लोगों को भर्ती करेंगे, लेकिन अभी क्या पोजीशन है, क्या सैंक्शन किया गया था, कौन-कौन से इंटरव्यू लिए गए थे, कितने हुए थे, इन सबकी पोजीशन को देखते हुए हमें पूरी परिस्थिति की जांच करनी होगी, क्योंकि यह बहुत ही इम्पोर्टेंट सवाल है।

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Sir, what I would specifically like to know from the hon. Minister is this. Sir, we have the law of the land for 3 per cent reservation for physically handicapped and disabled persons. I would like to know whether these posts have been filled up and physically handicapped and disabled persons have got employment. Also, is it a fact that in many places like

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†Transliteration in Urdu Script

Orissa, Karnataka and Maharashtra where interviews have already been done, appointments are not being effected? If so, will the Minister take appropriate steps by issuing orders where the interviews have already been done?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I will express my views in this august House that there are some problems for exams also. We appreciate our physically challenged people. We have full sympathy for them. We will do whatever is according to law. We will do whatever is needful but there are some problems arising through RRB exams. Let everything be settled. We will give full importance to the physically challenged people. This is our duty. We are human beings. We are members of the human family. That is why it is our duty.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, thousands of posts are lying vacant in the NF Railway and most of the posts belong to either 3rd grade or 4th grade. Taking advantage of the vacancy the Railway authorities of NF Railway have given appointment in the North Eastern Region without advertisement, without any interview. Recently, Sir, I raised the issue in the Railway Budget-2008 also. Sixty persons were appointed in NF Railway, Guwahati. I am very sorry to say that out of 60, not a single person was appointed from Assam and seven North Eastern States. All of them, Sir, were appointed from the North Indian States of our country. Out of 60, 58 were appointed from one of the North Indian States. I demanded an inquiry about the appointment in the NF Railway. The Minister herself in her Budget Speech expressed that she is going to review the recruitment policy. I want to know from our Minister what steps are going to be taken by the Railway Ministry to appoint thousands of vacant posts lying vacant in Assam and to give priority to the son of the soil.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I appreciate the concern of the hon. Member. So, Sir, I appreciate the concern of the hon. Member. North-East is an eight-sister State now. We love North-East Frontier. Yes, Sir, we have received some complaints. Hon. Member also gave me the complaints. We will take care of that. Again and again, I am repeating that in RRB there are some problems. That is why in Guwahati exams could not take place. Even in Maharashtra and Karnataka exams could not take place. Something happened, some *gadbad* happened, there was some *hulla gulla*. We will review the situation. Railway is the lifeline of the nation. We maintain the recruitment from the national point of view but when the problem arises we have to take care of all these things. We will come back after reviewing the position and we will send all the details to the hon. Member.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, Mr. Baishya, resume your place.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Priority will always be given to North Eastern States and Jammu and Kashmir. It is always in our priority list.

#### **Status of rail projects in Andhra Pradesh**

\*103. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of completed/ongoing rail line works in Andhra Pradesh during the last two years, indicating total number of over/under bridges and manned/unmanned crossings built therewith;

(b) whether all these works were executed/are progressing as per schedule; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, project-wise, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Statement**

(a) The details of ongoing rail line works in Andhra Pradesh including the sections completed during the last two years and total number of over/under bridges and manned/unmanned level crossings built therewith are as under:-

Sl.No.	Plan Head	Name of the Project	Sections completed in last 2 years
1	2	3	4
1.	New Line	Cuddapah-Bangalore	--
2.	New Line	Attipattu-Puttur	--
3.	New Line	Rayadurg-Tumkur	--
4.	New Line	Jaggayyapeta-Mellacheruvu	--
5.	New Line	Peddapalli-Karimnagar- Nizamabad	Karimnagar- Jagityal
6.	New Line	Gadwal-Raichur	--
7.	New Line	Macherla-Nalgonda	--
8.	New Line	Kakinada-Pithapuram	--
9.	New Line	Nandyal-Yerraguntla	Yerraguntla-Nossam
10.	New Line	Munirabad-Mahabubnagar	--
11.	New Line	Obulavaripalle-Krishnapatnam	--
12.	New Line	Kotipalli-Narsapur	--
13.	New Line	Vishnupuram-Janpahad	
14.	New Line	Tindivanum-Nagari	--
15.	New Line	Manoharabad-Kotapalli	--
16.	Gauge Conversion	Dharmavaram-Pakala	Pakala-Madanapalle
17.	Gauge Conversion	Guntur-Guntakal-Kalluru	Guntakal-Kalluru

1	2	3	4
18.	Gauge Conversion	Naupada-Gunupur	Naupada-Parlakimidi
19.	Doubling	Gooty-Renigunta	Pullampet-Bhakrapeta
20.	Doubling	Raichur-Guntakal	--
21.	Doubling	Raghavapuram-Mandamarri (Patch tripling)	--
22.	Doubling	Vizianagaram-Kottavalasa 3rd line	--
23.	Doubling	Kottavalasa-Simhanchalam North-4th line	--
24.	Doubling	Samalkot-Kakinada	Samalkot-Kakinada
25.	Doubling	Guntur-Krishna Canal	Guntur-Krishna Canal

11 RUBs, 2 RGBs, 68 Manned and 79 Unmanned level crossings have been provided in the completed new line, gauge conversion and doubling sections.

(b) Railways have a huge throwforward of ongoing projects, under new lines, gauge conversion, doublings, railway electrification and metropolitan transport projects. Due to limited availability of resources, the projects take long time in completion. The targets for the projects are generally fixed on yearly basis based on the availability of resources and progress made in the project and therefore, many of the projects get completed in phases. No time frame for completion of all the projects is feasible to be fixed in such a scenario. The main reasons for delay have been paucity of funds, delay in land acquisition and environmental/forestry clearance, failure of contracts, adverse law and order conditions and other market forces affecting the progress.

(c) The details of projects where targets had been fixed but had been delayed are as under:-

Name of the Project	Targets fixed earlier/ revised	Remarks & reasons for delay
Jaggayapeta-Mallacheruvu New Line (19.1 km.)	2007-08/ 2009-10	Delay due to change of alignment as per suggestion of beneficiaries and delay in land acquisition.
Dharmavaram-Pakala Gauge Conversion (227 km.)	2008-09/2009-10	Pakala-Madanapalle (82 km.) completed. Delay due to slow progress of works and delay in availability of PSC sleepers.

**श्री नंदी येल्लेया :** सर, इस प्रश्न का ताल्लुक आंध्र प्रदेश के लिए sanctioned ओवर और अंडर ब्रिजेज से है और आपने बताया है कि, "...delay in land acquisition and environmental/forestry clearance..." चेयरमैन सर, यह अंडर और ओवर ब्रिजेज की एक बहुत बड़ी जिम्मेदारी रेलवे की है।

**श्री सभापति :** आप सवाल पूछिए।

**श्री नंदी येल्लैया :** सर, इसका सवाल से ताल्लुक है।

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are putting supplementary question. Please ask the question.

**श्री नंदी येल्लैया :** सर, कुछ तो complete किए गए हैं और कुछ incomplete हैं, इन्होंने स्टेटमेंट में ब्यौरा दिया है।

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no. This is not an occasion for making a speech. Please ask supplementary question.

**श्री नंदी येल्लैया :** सर, इस स्टेटमेंट के ताल्लुक से इन ओवर ब्रिजेज की बहुत बड़ी responsibility है क्योंकि यात्री गाड़ी में बैठकर आते हैं, ऐसे में अगर वह dilapidated condition में है और उसकी देखभाल नहीं है, उस में कई लोगों की मौत होने का अंदेशा रहता है।...(व्यवधान)... हैदराबाद में एक हादसा हुआ ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, I am afraid, Mr. Yellaiah, ask the question. उसका इस सवाल से क्या connection है।

**श्री नंदी येल्लैया :** सर, ये ब्रिजेज किए लिए बनाए हैं, अगर इनका dilapidated condition है तो who is responsible -- Railways?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please ask your supplementary question.

**श्री नंदी येल्लैया :** वही मैं बता रहा हूं, कुछ complete किए हैं, कुछ incomplete हैं। मैं जानता हूं कि ये तमाम कार्य होने हैं, इसीलिए मैं कह रहा हूं कि यह काफी बड़ी जिम्मेदारी है। अगर फर्ज करो ब्रिज टूट गया तो कई लोगों को खतरा है, उस का कई लोगों से ताल्लुक है। इसलिए इस काम को जल्दी करिए। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि आप ओवर ब्रिज के काम को कब तक complete करेंगे?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before the hon. Minister answers this, may I request, most humbly, all the Members of the House that if every supplementary question is going to be a speech, then, perhaps, not even one question will be answered? It is for the Members to decide whether they want other questions to be answered. So, let questions be questions ...*(Interruptions)*...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Okay, Sir. We agree with you.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, at the same time, answers should also be answers.

MR CHAIRMAN: Okay. Agreed.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, answers should also be relating to the points raised.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. That is a valid point.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, the issues that have been raised here by the hon. Member with his experience in regard to Andhra Pradesh are well taken. I agree that at many places it is happening. It is the duty of the Railways to avoid such incidents and to make sure that all these things should effectively be looked into.

**श्री नंदी येल्लेया :** सर, शायद आपने कभी रेल में सफर किया होगा क्योंकि बहुत से ऐसे गेट्स होते हैं जहां कि वाचमैन या चौकीदार नहीं होता और चौकीदार न होने की वजह से कई लोगों का एक्सीडेंट हुआ। कई बेचारे शादी में जाने वालों का ....(व्यवधान)... आज भी देखिए ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति :** आप सवाल पूछिए।

**श्री नंदी येल्लेया :** सर, वहां पर चौकीदार नहीं है, यह बहुत responsibility का काम है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूं कि ऐसे कितने गेट्स खाली हैं और उसके लिए आप कितने लोगों की भर्ती करने वाले हैं?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, it is a fact that unmanned level crossings are creating a lot of difficulties and causing concerns to everyone. There is a policy that the Railways has been following that so far. I just would like to read out what the Railways has been doing. The ROB's or RUB's are not sanctioned on the basis of area, instead, Railways take up construction of ROB's or RUB's in view of busy level crossing on cost-sharing basis with the concerned State Government road authority where the traffic density at the level crossing is more than 1 lakh train vehicle units. Otherwise, it is on deposit or BOT basis. In such cases, proposals have to be sponsored by the concerned State Government or the road authority duly fulfilling certain preliminary conditions. With regard to cost-sharing works, the road authorities are required to submit the following main undertakings along with the proposal:

Level-crossing shall be closed by the State Government authorities on commissioning ROB.

State Government road authorities shall contribute a share of cost of work, generally 50 per cent of the total civil work cost.

Advance action shall be taken by the State Government road authorities to acquire land for approaches wherever required.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Next one, the State Government shall assign due priority to. ...*(Interruptions)*... These are the guidelines being followed so far. If these are needed to be revised, then. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

**श्री गंगा चरण :** सर, सन् 1998 में कई रेलवे लाइन परियोजना, महोबा-राठ-उरई-भिन्ड का सर्वे हुआ था ...*(व्यवधान)*... और उसकी सर्वे रिपोर्ट भी सदन पटल पर प्रस्तुत कर दी गई थी ...*(व्यवधान)*... उसे 1998 के बजट में भी रखा गया था ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you please put the supplementary question?

**श्री गंगा चरण :** मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूं ...*(व्यवधान)*... इस परियोजना के लिए आप बजट में क्या देंगी? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please stop interruptions. ...*(Interruptions)*... Will you please stop interruptions? ...*(Interruptions)*...

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : We need a separate notice for this because it is not related to this question. ...*(Interruptions)*...



DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, we had all praised the Railway Budget, presented by Mamataji two days back. Now, I would like to submit that for 15 new lines, we need 6,495 crores of rupees. I would like to know how much you are providing in this Budget. Then, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has agreed to spend almost 50 per cent on the Cuddapa-Bangalore line. I would like to know how much money you are going to spend on the new lines, during this year.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, the provisions in the Railway Budget are not State-wise. It is a national budget. If you want specific information regarding that, we can send you the details later on.

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to answer 'b', which says that the targets for the projects are generally fixed on yearly basis based on the availability of resources. But, in the Budget estimate of 2009-10, the revenue for the South-Central Railways is Rs. 8,700 crores, the expenditure is Rs. 5,600 crores. There is a surplus of Rs. 3000 crores. In view of this, will the hon. Minister explain the reasons for not allocating sufficient resources to the new lines, which had already been sanctioned in the South-Centra! Railway? What is the criterion for allocation of funds?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: We appreciate your concern. But if we give the full money to all the projects, then, we would be requiring about Rs. 1,70,000 crores. So, if all the Members plead for a one-time allotment of funds to the Railways, we will have no problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 104. ...*(Interruptions)*... This question is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... Question No. 104.

#### **National Food Security Act**

\*104. SHRI N.K. SINGH:††

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to bring in a legislation to enact "National Food Security Act" backed by a new BPL survey and also to alter the ambit of those under food schemes;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether views of various State Governments have been sought before bringing any legislation on the subject; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri N.K. Singh

### ***Statement***

(a) to (d) Government proposes to enact the National Food Security Act. Under the proposed law, every BPL family is to be entitled to receive 25 kg of food grains per month. Details of eligible BPL families to be covered, methodology for their identification, issue of targeted identification cards to them, etc, are being worked out.

Examination of different aspects of the proposed law in consultation with various stake holders is presently in progress. As part of this exercise, first consultation with State/UT Governments on various aspects of the proposed legislation was held on 10th June, 2009. Comments from some of the State/UT Governments have been received.

SHRI N.K. SINGH: Sir, with your kind permission, my first supplementary is this. Even while recognising the last sentence of paragraph 1 of the answer, which you have laid before us, the central question on the implementation of this Act is determining the eligibility criteria of those who will be beneficiary from the proposed Food Security Act. There is a raging debate on the extent of people who are below the poverty line. The Planning Commission's latest figure, based on 2004-05, is 25 per cent. The N.C. Saxena Committee Report estimates 50 per cent. Dr. Arjun Kumar Sengupta, a colleague of ours, who has submitted a report of his Commission, has pointed out that 77 per cent people are living in less than Rs.20/- . The Economic Survey, which was placed before us last week, on page 261, points out that this number is only 60 per cent. Sir, my first supplementary is: Does the Department has any plan to seek a convergence on these conflicting methodologies in determining poverty so as to determine clearly and in a transparent manner those who will be the likely beneficiaries of the proposed National Food Security Act?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, this is one of the major issues which we are also facing. We are discussing with various cross-sections and, ultimately, we will come to some decision, but we have not reached any decision yet. As the hon. Member said, we have different types of figures from different experts, yes, at least I have got three to four different figures from different experts and also something different from the Planning Commission. Sir, we have not taken any final view on that.

SHRI N.K. SINGH: Sir. my second supplementary relates to the efficacy of the likely delivery system. According to the Planning Commission's Expert Report, out of the 400,000 fair price shops which are functioning, the level of efficiency is not more than 56 per cent. In the context of the experience which we have had in the distribution of foodgrains through the fair price shops, is the Department considering any innovative scheme like food stamps or direct cash payments to the BPL families to enhance the level of satisfaction from the likely outcome of the proposed Food Security Act?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, There are already two, three suggestions with us. One is regarding food theft, the second is to continue the present system and, the third suggestion is from the Chief

Minister of Bihar. Recently, we got a communication from the hon. Chief Minister of Bihar and the views of the Government of Bihar. One of the suggestions which the hon. Chief Minister has made—I will read exactly what he said — is: "Instead of complex system of delivering foodgrains under the TPDS, objective of the proposed National Food Security Act can be made more effective by direct cash transfer to the Ministry." So, this is one of the suggestions which has been made by them. But it is very difficult to accept because we have not reached any conclusion yet. But if we are going to accept the idea of cash transfer, then, I will have to think what exactly I should do with the Food Corporation of India, whether I should procure or not. There are a number of other issues and that is why we have not reached to these issues yet.

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Sir, food security is a very serious issue, as also brought out in the Economic Survey. I would like to ask the hon. Minister, Sir, whether he would look at food security in its larger ambit, in a more holistic manner, because food security is not just about providing cheap food and access to food; it has to be seen in a more holistic manner because even in a more affluent State like Punjab where poverty is only eight per cent, malnutrition is 27 per cent. So, it, actually, includes sanitation, drinking water, nutritional value, etc. So, Sir, will the Minister address the urgent issue as the Economic Survey also says of actually looking at the outlays versus outcomes, measuring malnutrition to providing cheap food. If the exchequer's money is going in providing cheap food and access to food, it must result in lowering the levels of malnutrition in the country.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: When we got the opportunity to interact with various experts, there were number of suggestions like detailed definition about the food security, what is food, what is security, what should be included in the food, whether only wheat and rice, whether clean water, whether meat, fish etc. So, a number of suggestions have come but I would like to just bring to the notice of the hon. Member that on 4<sup>th</sup> June, the President of India had delivered a speech on behalf of the Government of India.

There she has specifically mentioned that 'My Government proposes to enact a new law — the National Food Security Act — that will provide a statutory basis for a framework which assures food security for all. Every family below the poverty line in rural as well as urban areas will be entitled, by law, to 25 kilograms of rice or wheat per month at Rs. 3 per kilogram.' So, the commitment which the Government of India has made through the Presidential speech, as on today, is to provide a particular quantity of wheat and rice at a particular rate. Definitely, we are working on that; but there are a number of other suggestions, as the hon. Member has made, but we have not yet come to any final view because there will be substantial financial burden also. So, one has to assess that also. One has also to assess whether we will be able to cope up with that type of demand and whether we will be able to fulfil that type of demand.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, the hon. Minister has just read out what the hon. President of India said in her Address to the Joint Session of Parliament where the assurance that the Government will enact a National Food Security Act to provide every BPL family with 25 kg of foodgrains at Rs. 3/- per month has been given. Already, Sir, under the Antyodaya Scheme, BPL families are getting 35 kilos of rice at Rs. 2/- per kg. Many State Governments are further subsidising this and I won't take the examples of Left-ruled States but Tamil Nadu, for instance, is giving 20 kg at 1 rupee. They are further subsidising it. But the Antyodaya, a Central Government Scheme, is giving 35 kg at two rupees, and now you propose to bring a Food Security Act where you will reduce it to 25 kg and increase the price by 1 rupee. Would the hon. Minister consider, Sir, terming this new Act as the 'Food Insecurity Act, and not the 'Food Security Act' in the light of this?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, of the various issues which are raised in our discussions and the communications, which I am getting from various States, one of the major issues which has been raised, is what the hon. Member has raised. As on today, the BPL family is getting 35 kg. The rates are different; the rates for BPL are, Rs. 5.65 per kg for rice and Rs. 4.15 per kilo for wheat. This is the present rate for the BPL families. But what the hon. Member has said is correct that we have another category called AAY, and, in AAY, we are charging two rupees. Now, if the commitment which has been made by Government is to be accepted in toto, then one has to see that one has to abolish the AAY category, which I feel is not proper. So, we are definitely considering that.

Secondly, as on today, for BPL family, we are supplying 35 kg but if it will come down to 25 kg, then we have to give a serious thought about that also. So, all these issues are before us to take a final view.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Sir, I very much appreciate the concern of the hon. President and the hon. Minister for Agriculture who is so committed for the food security to the people and he is bringing a legislation.

But, Sir, I would like to know from the Minister whether he is aware of the rampant corruption which takes place while the delivery of the foodgrains is made. The foodgrains on its way in-between, from leaving the depots and reaching the distribution centre, land up at some vyapari's house or a shop. This was reported in the newspapers and also on the television. What are you going to do and what will be the food security as far as the corruption is concerned?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, the Public Distribution System in our country is a system which has been implemented by both, the Government of India and the respective State Governments. The responsibility of the Government of India is, (a) to procure foodgrains and (b) make it available to the State Government at a particular place. Generally, whatever complaints we get, these complaints are not at that stage when the Government of India transfers foodgrains to a particular State.

But, definitely, we are getting complaints; particularly, at the depots-to-shops and shops-to-individuals levels, there are some problems. We have appointed some committees and they have placed a very serious and pathetic picture before us. The Supreme Court has taken cognisance of the situation and also appointed a committee, which has studied the case of Delhi. By and large, the report says that there are serious problems with the APL categories. In view of this, we called a meeting of the State Civil Supplies Ministers and Secretaries and we formulated a new policy with some eight or nine-point programme. We started, judiciously, a section of the programme in all the States. I had myself, at my level, organized meetings at various places — Kolkata, Assam, Bangalore, Mumbai — at the regional level, in order to assess the implementation of programmes. There is some improvement, but I am not in a position to say that it is totally transparent, and even today, we receive the kind of complaints that the hon. Member has talked about. Ultimately, State Governments need to take a serious view of this and see how to plug the loopholes.

MS. MABEL REBELLO: Sir, for the National Food Security Act to be successful, we need to identify the BPL families. I shall cite the example of Jharkhand. In Jharkhand, 50 per cent of the ration card holders and shopkeepers hold bogus ration cards. Twenty-five per cent of the APL families have ration cards meant for BPL families. Only 25 per cent of the genuine BPL families have ration cards. Thus, 75 per cent of the BPL families have been deprived of ration cards, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, put the question.

MS. MABEL REBELLO: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what he is going to do to eliminate from the BPL list the names of people not belonging to the BPL category and to see to it that only genuine BPL families get ration cards, so that the National Food Security Act is effectively and successfully implemented. Otherwise, it would be useless. I would like to know the mechanism the hon. Minister would adopt. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARJUN KUMAR SENGUPTA: Sir, may I raise just one point related to this question? The hon. Minister may, while answering to this question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Just a minute, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. The Minister has not yet answered the question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Sengupta, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARJUN KUMAR SENGUPTA: Sir, I would like to put just one question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... This would not be fair. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am afraid, questions have to be rotated and I can take only three questions. Please, go ahead and answer this, Sir.

SHRI ARJUN KUMAR SENGUPTA: Sir, my question is very much related to this question and it is a very simple point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, Mr. Sengupta. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: We have requested State Governments to start a campaign to eliminate bogus ration cards. We are getting State-wise reports showing that they are eliminating a certain number of bogus ration cards every month. So, some work is going on, but I am not totally satisfied because the figure, which the Planning Commission has given about BPL families in this country, is something like six crores and fifty-two lakhs, while the State Governments have, actually, issued more than ten crore ration cards. So, even the State Governments have bypassed the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission and the figure which the Government of India has communicated, and they have allotted additional ration cards. We have taken up this matter with them and are requesting them to reduce that number or cancel the cards.

**Credit policy for farm sector**

\*105. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:††

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidence of suicides amongst farmers in Vidarbha region came down during 2008-09 when more than Rs. 60,000 crores debt relief package was implemented; and

(b) if so, to avoid elimination of such trends, whether Government would frame a holistic policy rather than piecemeal measures, as indebtedness has been caused not only by the conditions of agriculture market, but also from the farmers' inability to cope with increased privatization of basic services like healthcare and school education?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

***Statement***

(a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The State Government has reported decline in incidence of suicides amongst farmers in Vidarbha region during 2008-09 as compared to previous years since 2006. The Government has initiated several measures for mitigation of farmers' distress. The major steps taken by the Government are as follows:

- (i) Effective implementation of the rehabilitation package for mitigation of agrarian distress in 31 identified farmer's suicide prone districts of Andhra Pradesh Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra.
- (ii) Other schemes, such as, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Macro management of Agriculture, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Agriculture Extension, National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS) are also being implemented through the State Governments. Further, the Union Budget 2009-2010 has also proposed, *inter-alia*, the following initiatives:-

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††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Syeda Anwara Taimur

- Agriculture credit shall be increased from Rs.2.87 lakh crore in 2008-09 to Rs.3.25 lakh crore in 2009-2010.
- Crop loans upto Rs.3 lakh will be provided at 7% by giving 3% interest subvention to banks.
- Additional subvention of 1 % will be paid from this year, as incentive to those farmers who repay short term crop loans on schedule. Thus, the interest rate for these farmers will come down to 6 % per annum.
- Under the Agricultural Debt Waiver & Debt Relief (ADWDR) Scheme, 2008, other farmers *i.e.*, farmers having more than two hectares of land can pay 75% of their overdues by 31st December, 2009 instead of 30th June, 2009.
- In some regions of Maharashtra, a large number of farmers had taken loans from private money lenders and the loan waiver scheme did not cover them. The Government in the Union Budget 2009-10 has announced constitution of a Task Force to address this issue.
- For National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGA), the outlay has been increased by 144% in 2009-10 *i.e.* Rs.39,100 crores.
- In the Union Budget 2009-10, the areas of health care and education have also been given adequate emphasis. Outlay for National Rural Health Mission during 2009-10 has been increased by Rs.2,057 crores to Rs.14,127 crores. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has already shown significant results in the field of school education. Besides this, it has been decided to launch a National Mission for Female Literacy with focus on minorities, SC, ST and other marginalised groups. These measures are expected to benefit the farmers and enhance their access to basic services like health care and school education in the public sector.

Maharashtra Government also has taken steps ameliorate the condition of farmers, which include:

- An Agriculture Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2009 to cover those farmers who could not get benefit under the Government of India scheme and those who have repaid their regular and overdue loans.
- A Special Package *inter alia* covering various socio-economic aspects under implementation in 6 affected districts in Vidarbha for the last 3 years.

SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Sir, to prevent suicides among farmers, only the loan-waiving policy of the Government will not provide a permanent solution. As you are aware, farmers depend on the monsoons for harvesting their crops. But now, due to climatic changes, monsoons do not occur in time; sometimes there is drought and sometimes there are heavy rains. As a result, harvesting is affected. According to weather reports, the whole of India has received less rainfall.

This would affect the cultivation of crops by farmers. What is the Government planning to provide relief to these farmers, especially this year?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, it is true that the whole country is worried about monsoon recession as on today, particularly Vidarbha. As compared to last week, as per reports which we are getting, there is improvement in certain areas. The real and serious problem is essentially in Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Western UP, part of Bihar and Himachal Pradesh. In these areas, there is more serious problem. Problem is serious throughout India, particularly in these regions it is more serious. We have prepared two plans. One is normally prepared prior to monsoon. Under this plan, we provide seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc., to all States which has been done. The second contingency plan is prepared when sowing operation is completed. Suppose there is no rain. Then the farmer has to sow second time. In such a situation, we require additional seeds. We have kept additional seeds with the State Government. The second plan is also ready. As on today, we are going with the first plan and I hope that the situation will definitely improve.

SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Sir, some farmers have taken loan from private moneylenders and the loan waiver scheme is not provided to them. Government in the Union Budget 2009 has announced the constitution of the Task Force to address the issue. How will this Task Force help farmers? Can you explain this?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, the hon. Finance Minister has made this statement in his Budget Speech. So, ultimately the Finance Minister is going to set up the Task Force. The terms of reference of this Task Force is not yet finalised. But the idea is how to protect those farmers from exorbitant interests who have taken loans from private moneylenders. It is one of the issues with them. When the Task Force will be set up with terms of reference, only then I will be able to give correct picture to hon. Members.

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Sir, I am happy with the written reply by the hon. Minister. But I want to know about the schemes which they announced and their implementation. How many farmers have been benefited in Vidarbha? How much money is being spent? What is the result of these programmes in financial terms quarterly?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, there are number of programmes which have been taken up in package. First three hon. Members have given the reference of Vidarbha. More weightage was given in Vidarbha scheme for irrigation purpose. The total money of Rs.2177 is provided to six regions of Vidarbha. These regions are Amravati, Akola, Washim, Buldhama, Yavatmal and Wardha. Up to the end of March 9, the expenditure is Rs.2665 crores which is more than budgetary provision. The target area was 1,59,275 hectares, but the actual area which came under irrigation was 1,33,598 hectares. There are total eight projects like Upper Wardha, Arunawati, Vaan and so on. They are



completed. There are also nine medium-sized projects. They have completed. There are 65 small projects. Out of 65 projects, 51 have been completed. I have got exact figures about how many farmers benefited because of this. There are so many schemes which we have implemented. So, it will be difficult to give details. So, it will be difficult to give details. But, if the hon. Member wants, I can collect and send the figures to her. I can definitely give some of the figures. Now, if we see the benefit passed to Vidharba farmers under the debt waiver scheme, which the Government of Maharashtra has implemented, the total number of farmers benefit in six districts is 2,65,129 and the total amount which has been provided is...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

### Food reserve in the Country

\*106. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: †

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the country is likely to have the food reserve upto 64.7 million tonnes;
- (b) if not, the volume of this food reserve by the end of April, 2009;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that this reserve is significantly higher than the annual requirement of the country;
- (d) if so, the extent by which, these reserves exceed the requirement; and
- (e) whether it is also a fact that the prices of foodgrains in the domestic market are higher than those of international market and if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool by end of April 2009 were 214.07 lakh tons of rice and 298.26 lakh tons of wheat.

At present level of allocations, the annual requirement of food grains (rice and wheat) for TPDS and other welfare schemes, exports on diplomatic grounds and requirement for flood relief, etc. is estimated around 516 lakh tons.

Domestic and international prices of foodgrains such as rice, wheat and maize are not strictly comparable. From time to time domestic wholesale prices of foodgrains may be higher or lower in comparison with international prices.

### Water Soluble Fertilizers

\*107. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is formulating a new policy that seeks to promote the usage of water soluble fertilizers;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether water soluble fertilizers are being imported from Israel, Norway and other countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and prices at which these fertilizers are being imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Presently, Department of Fertilizers administers Concession Scheme on decontrolled Phosphatic & Potassic fertilizers. Accordingly, Di Ammonium Phosphate (DAP), Muriate of Potash (MOP), 12 grades of NPK Complexes, Mono Ammonium Phosphate (MAP), Triple Super Phosphate (TSP), Ammonium Sulphate (AS) and Single Super Phosphate (SSP) are provided to the farmers at the subsidized rates. Water soluble fertilizers are not covered under the Concession Scheme of decontrolled Phosphatic & Potassic fertilizers. However, the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 incorporates liquid and 100% water soluble fertilizers which are allowed to be sold as fertilizers in India.

(c) and (d) The main exporting countries of water soluble fertilizers are Israel, Norway, Belgium, The Netherlands, China, etc. Indian importers import Water Soluble Fertilizers from these countries for marketing in India. It is estimated that import of Water Soluble Fertilizers in India is about 37000-40000 MT annually at present. Prices of water soluble fertilizers vary from time to time and from country to country. However, the current indicative prices of some of important water soluble fertilizers as indicated by the Fertilizer Industry Association are as under:-

Water soluble fertilizer/Product	Price (US\$/tonne)
NPK 19:19:19	1000
Potassium Nitrate (13:0:45)	1000
Calcium Nitrate	400
Mono Ammonium Phosphate (MAP) 12:61:0	800
Mono Potassium Phosphate (MKP) 0-52-34	1200-1400
Sulphate of Potash (SOP)	900-950

#### Wadhwa Committee Report on PDS

\*108. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Wadhwa Committee which was set up to look into the functioning of Public Distribution Scheme (PDS) had estimated that nearly 40 per cent of PDS supplies is siphoned off;

(b) if so, whether Government has given any instructions to the State Governments to make PDS fully operational without such manipulations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Central Vigilance Committee (CVC), set up by Hon'ble Supreme Court in the context of Writ Petition no. 196/2001 to study functioning of Targeted Public Distribution System, submitted its report on TPDS in Delhi to Supreme Court in August 2007. In the report, the Committee has inferred that majority of Above Poverty Line (APL) allocation issued to Delhi Government gets diverted. The Committee recommended that the APL category be abolished and the income limit of Below Poverty Line (BPL) category be raised. The report was sent to Delhi Government for action.

Government has issued directions to State Governments to streamline functioning of TPDS by enforcing provisions of the PDS (Control) Order, 2001 and to implement Nine-Point action plan which includes, *inter-alia*, use of information technology, display of fair price shop-wise and district wise allocations of PDS commodities on web-sites for public scrutiny, creating awareness among public about PDS operations and training Vigilance Committees on intricacies of PDS operations.

#### Functioning of C.G.H.S.

\*109. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) subscriptions have been increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether services of CGHS have deteriorated considerably;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether CGHS provides medicines as prescribed by specialists; and

(f) if not, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes. The subscription rates for CGHS were revised on 20th May, 2009, *as per* details in the table below:

S.No.	Grade pay drawn by the officer	Contribution (Rs. Per month)
1.	Upto Rs.1,650 per month	50/-
2.	Rs.1,800/-; Rs.1,900/-; Rs.2,000/-; Rs.2,400/-; and Rs.2,800/- per month	125/-
3.	Rs. 4,200/- month	225/-
4.	Rs.4,600/-; Rs.4,800/-; Rs.5,400/-; and Rs.6,600/- per month	325/-
5.	Rs.7,600/- and above per month	500/-

- (c) No.
- (d) In view of reply to (c) above, question does not arise.
- (e) Yes.
- (f) In view of reply to (e) above, question does not arise.

**Special quota of sugar for Kerala**

\*110. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has asked for special quota of sugar from the Union Government to bring down the spiraling price of sugar in the open market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Central Government has not received any request from the Government of Kerala for special quota of sugar for the purpose of bringing down the price of sugar in the open market. However, the Government of Kerala had requested for additional allocation of 5000 M.Ts of levy sugar in the month of February, 2008 for Attukkal Ponkala festival which was fully agreed to. The State Government again requested for 7100 M.Ts of sugar in the month of August, 2008 as Onam gift to the State which was partially acceded to and 3500 M.Ts of sugar was allotted as additional festival quota. This was in addition to their normal annual festival quota of 3600 M.Ts of levy sugar.

The State Government further requested for additional allocation of 10000 M.Ts of sugar in November, 2008 for Bakrid and Christmas festivals. Due to low availability of levy sugar in 2008-09 sugar season on account of trends of lower production in the season, the same was not acceded to. The State Government has again requested in June, 2009 for additional allocation of 14000 M.Ts of sugar for festival seasons in Kerala. It is not possible for the Central Government to agree to the request for additional allocation of festival quota due to lower sugar production in 2008-09 sugar season which limits the overall availability of levy sugar.

**Package to SMEs to cope with economic recession**

\*111. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:†

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the small and medium enterprises of the country are also hit by international recession;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the industries of this sector have been provided facilities under economic package so as to protect them from the effects of recession; and

(d) if so, the total assistance made available to this sector till May, 2009?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The international economic recession has adversely affected the export market of Indian industry, including the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). In particular, sectors such as textiles, leather, gems and jewellery, auto components, etc. have been mainly affected.

(c) and (d) Keeping in view the impact of global recession on MSMEs, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has provided a refinance limit of Rs.7,000 crore to Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for incremental on-lending to the micro and small enterprises (MSE) sector. In addition, the Government, the RBI and the Public Sector Banks have taken several measures for protecting and providing a stimulus to the MSMEs which, *inter alia*, include: (i) extending the loan limit under Credit Guarantee Scheme from Rs.50 lakh to Rs.1 crore with a guarantee cover of 50 per cent; (ii) increasing the guarantee cover under Credit Guarantee Scheme from 80 per cent to 85 per cent for credit facility up to Rs.5 lakh; (iii) an advisory to Central Public Sector Enterprises to ensure prompt payment of bills of MSMEs; (iv) interest subvention of 2 per cent in pre and post-shipment export credit to small and medium enterprises (SME) sector; (v) grant of need-based *ad hoc* working capital demand loans up to 20 per cent of the existing fund-based limits; and (vi) reduction in interest rates for borrowing by micro enterprises by 1 per cent and in respect of SMEs by 0.5 per cent.

Out of the refinance facility of Rs.7,000 crore, Rs.6,269 crore was drawn by SIDBI up to 31st March 2009 (latest available), of which Rs.4,336 crore was channelised through public sector banks, Rs.420 crore through State Financial Corporations (SFCs) and Rs.1,513 crore under SIDBI's own direct credit scheme.

#### **Allocation for Unani System**

\*112. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made and the expenditure incurred on unani colleges, hospitals and dispensaries during the last 3 years, year-wise;

(b) the allocations made for the current year; and

(c) the steps being taken to increase allocation for unani system?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Details of funds sanctioned and expenditure incurred during the last three years for the Unani System of Medicine under different schemes of the Department of AYUSH are given in the enclosed Statement. (*See below*)

(b) and (c) The Department of AYUSH is implementing a number of Central Sector Schemes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes for development and promotion of AYUSH systems, including the Unani System of Medicine. Some of the Schemes are:

- Upgradation of hospitals & dispensaries under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).
- Support for research studies/projects.
- Training Programmes including Continuing Medical Education.
- Upgradation and development of institutions.
- Organization of Seminars/Workshops.
- Acquisition, cataloging and digitalization of manuscripts, etc.

Allocations are being made at present for the AYUSH systems as a whole and separate system-wise allocations are not made. Further, the allocation under various schemes of the Department is based on the requirement indicated by the State Governments in their respective Project Implementation Plans (PIP) as well as the utilization of funds by the State Governments in the previous years.

Accordingly, the Department of AYUSH provides support for:-

- Mainstreaming of AYUSH (including Unani System) wherein an allocation of Rs.204.00 crore has been made in the current year's budget of the Department.
- Upgradation and development of institutions wherein a sum of Rs.45.00 crore has been provided in the current budget which will cover the requirement of the Unani institutions as well.
- Implementation of programmes for Unani system through the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM) for supporting activities like public health campaigns, research studies, public health interventions, Continuing Medical Education, etc. This year an allocation of Rs.71.00 crore has been provided to the CCRUM to support these activities.
- Promotion and propagation of the AYUSH systems including Unani under the Information, Education and Communication Scheme for which Rs.30.00 crores have been provided in the current year's budget.

#### ***Statement***

*Details of funds sanctioned and expenditure incurred during last three years for Unani System of Medicine under different schemes of the department of Ayush*

#### **1. Allocation made and expenditure incurred on Unani Colleges under the Scheme for Development of Institutions for supporting under Graduate and Post Graduates Level institutions:-**

Year	Amount (Rupees)
2006-07	231.97 Lakh
2007-08	23231 Lakh
2008-09	573.34 Lakh

## 2. Allocation made and expenditure incurred on Unani Hospital & Dispensaries Scheme

Year	Amount (Rupees)
2006-07	574 lakhs
2007-08	50 lakhs
2008-09	157.25 lakhs

### Closing of MSMEs due to sickness

\*113. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial units closed on account of sickness during the last five years and out of which how many were opened after rehabilitation during the last UPA Government;

(b) whether it is not a fact that the progress was very very marginal in spite of the commitment under Common Minimum Programme; and

(c) what is the policy of the present Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Statistics on the number of closed micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) is gathered at periodic intervals through All-India Census of MSMEs. According to the Third All-India Census of Micro & Small Enterprises (MSEs) conducted for the reference year 2001-02, 8.87 lakh enterprises were found to be permanently closed out of 22.62 lakh MSEs registered upto 31st March 2001. However, the data on sick MSMEs, potentially viable sick MSMEs and those put under nursing is compiled by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from the scheduled commercial banks. The position for the period from March 2004 onwards upto March 2008 (latest available) is as under:

As at the end of	Number of sick MSMEs	Number of viable sick MSMEs put under nursing
March 2004*	1,38,811	783
March 2005*	1,38,041	2,080
March 2006*	1,26,824	915
March 2007	1,32,081	705
March 2008	99,941	1,312

\* The data pertains to MSEs only, as the medium enterprises were defined for the first time under the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006 which became effective from 2nd October, 2006.

(b) and (c) The revival/rehabilitation of sick MSMEs is undertaken by the primary lending institutions (including commercial banks) in terms of guidelines issued by the RBI from time to time.

For this purpose, the RBI has issued detailed guidelines to banks in January 2002 on detection of sickness in MSEs at an early stage and taking remedial measures and for rehabilitation of sick MSEs identified as potentially viable. The RBI has also issued guidelines on 8th September 2005 relating to debt restructuring mechanism for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), based on the "Policy Package for Stepping up Credit to SMEs" announced by the Central Government on 10th August 2005.

The Standing Advisory Committee on Flow of Institutional Credit to the MSME sector in RBI had observed in January 2007 that there was considerable delay in rehabilitation/nursing of the potentially viable units, mainly on account of the inability of the promoters to bring in additional contribution. Consequent to this, a Working Group on 'Rehabilitation of Sick SMEs' was constituted to look into the issues and suggest remedial measures so that the potentially viable sick units could be rehabilitated at the earliest. Based on the recommendations of the Working Group, the RBI has advised all scheduled commercial banks on May 4, 2009 to consider, for speedy implementation, the recommendations made with regard to timely and adequate flow of credit to the MSE sector. The Banks have also been advised to apply the RBI's guidelines on debt restructuring optimally and in letter and spirit and put in place their own non-discretionary one-time settlement (OTS) policy for this sector.

#### **Katra-Qajigund rail line**

†114. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether work is going to recommence on the Katra-Qajigund railway line;
- (b) whether the bridge would be made on previous location, or the route would be changed;
- (c) whether accountability for the delay in execution and escalation in expenditure incurred so far has been fixed; and
- (d) if not, the time by when it will be done?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (d) Due to technical problems and safety/security considerations, the alignment between Katra-Qajigund was reviewed and an Expert Committee was appointed to study the issues involved. Committee has recently submitted its report, which is under examination. Since it is a project of National importance, top most priority will be accorded for completion of the project.

#### **Jammu-Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail project**

\*115. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi



- (a) the progress made on Jammu-Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail project;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the project has been significantly delayed and there have been cost over-runs;
- (c) if so, the details of extending time-limit and cost over-runs;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that expert committee on the said project has received inputs apprehending the technological sustainability and financial viability of the project;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether Government proposes to make changes in the route in view of such reservations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) On this rail project, Jammu-Udhampur and Anantnag-Baramulla sections have already been completed and commissioned to traffic. Qazigund-Anantnag section is targeted for commissioning in August 2009. The section from Udhampur to Katra is targeted for commissioning by December, 2011 and Qazigund-Banihal by March, 2012. The alignment between Katra-Banihal has been under review and an Expert Committee appointed to study the issues involved has recently submitted its report. The report of the Committee is under examination in the Ministry.

(b) and (c) This is a project being done in Himalayas which are the youngest mountain range in the world. The terrain is difficult with geological uncertainties. There have been delays due to technical difficulties being faced and the same may have cost implications also. The time schedule for completion of the entire project will be fixed once the decision on the report of the Expert Committee is finalized.

(d) and (e) The Expert Committee had received inputs through interaction with the contractors, consultants and officials associated with the project. The issue of financial viability was not referred to the Committee.

(f) The route will get decided once the final decision on the report of the Committee is taken.

#### **Sugar Mills**

† \*116. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that around 650 mills are engaged in production of sugar in the country;
- (b) if not, the actual number of these mills;
- (c) whether out of these only 107 mills have electricity generation as a by-product;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(d) if not, the facts thereof and whether as a result of provision of by-production, these sugar mills also get assistance in offsetting general economic loss; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) As per the information available with the Government, there are 626 sugar factories in the country as on 30.06.2009.

(c) As on 31.03.2009, 136 sugar factories have bagasse based co-generation power plants.

(d) and (e) Utilization of their by-product viz. bagasse for cogeneration of power is an economic activity involving value addition which improves the viability and profitability of sugar mills. This adds to green power availability in the country and helps in meeting the overall power requirement. The green power so generated has the potential of giving carbon credits to the sugar factories and to the country as a whole, further improving revenue generation. Therefore, the Government would continue to support bagasse based co-generation projects.

#### **Procurement of wheat and rice**

\*117. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRITYA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether wheat/rice procurement has gone up and procurement is on the higher side and shortfall is expected in wheat, oil seeds, sugarcane and pulses;

(b) if so, to what extent there is a decline in foodgrain, especially in wheat; and

(c) what is the total procurement made so far and to what extent it has been helpful to the country to make it sufficient in regard to food products?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) There has been a record procurement of 250.44 lakh tonnes of wheat (as on 6.7.2009) in Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2009-10, as against total procurement of 226.89 lakh tonnes in RMS 2008-09 and there is no shortfall in wheat procurement. Similarly, a record procurement of 312.66 lakh tonnes of rice (as on 6.7.2009) has been achieved in Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2008-09 as against 284.93 lakh tonnes in the entire KMS 2007-08. The procurement of oilseeds and pulses under Price Support Scheme have shown a decreasing trend during past three years. Sugarcane is not procured under Price Support Scheme.

(c) Adequate stocks of foodgrains (wheat & rice) are available in the Central Pool to meet the requirements of TPDS and other welfare schemes and also to maintain required buffer stocks for ensuring food security.

#### **Overbridge over the level crossing at Gohana Road**

† \*118. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi - Jammu line is the busiest in country upon which passes a train every 20 minutes, thereby causing frequent closing of level-crossings in cities along this route and a great deal of difficulties to the people;

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard by Railways on the decade-long demand to construct overbridge over the level crossing at Gohana Road in Sonapat city (Haryana); and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. Delhi - Jammu route is one of the busy routes of Indian Railways.

(b) The work of Road Over Bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 27-B at km.43/17-19 was sanctioned on Cost Sharing basis during Works Programme of 2007-08 but the work could not progress as the State Govt. deferred the work due to site constraints.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Use of cow urine for making ayurvedic medicine**

\*119. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Bareilly is collecting 'cow urine' @ Rs.5 per litre from farmers and is selling it to pharmacies @ Rs.25 per litre in order to produce ayurvedic medicines;

(b) if so, the type of such ayurvedic medicines and the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not taking any interest to popularize such a profitable project among the farmers all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir. The Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI) Bareilly does not have any such project.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### **Government Approval for Starting New Medical Colleges**

\*120. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently given its nod to start about 150 medical, dental, ayurveda and unani colleges;

(b) if so, the names of the colleges and their locations; and

(c) since when the request of each college was lying pending with the Government for clearance?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c)  
Between the period 01.06.2009 and 18.6.2009, the Central Government considered 147 cases of medical, dental, ayurveda and Unani colleges relating to grant of annual renewal of permission in existing colleges as well as permission for starting of new colleges and increase of seats in existing medical colleges. The Central Government has given permission for setting up of 3(three) dental colleges, 1(one) ayurvedic medical college and 1(one) Unani College in the country. These are as under:

- (i) Dr. D.Y. Patil Dental College & Hospital, Kolhapur, Maharashtra;
- (ii) Vaidik Dental College and Research Centre, Daman;
- (iii) Faculty of Dentistry, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi;
- (iv) Yunus Fazlaini Unani Medical College, Aurangabad, Maharashtra; and
- (v) Shri Dhanvantri Ayurvedic Medical College and Research Centre, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh.

The periods when these proposals were received by the Central Government and forwarded to the respective Councils and the date of receipt of recommendations from the Councils are enclosed as Statement.

**Statement**

*Details of proposals where permission has been granted by Central Government during the period between 01.06.2009 to 18.06.2009 in respect of setting up new colleges*

S. No.	Name of college	Date of receipt of application	Date of forwarding of the application to the Councils	Date of receipt of positive recommendation from Council	Date of approval by Central Government	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Dr. D.Y. Patil Dental College & Hospital, Kolhapur, Maharashtra	Oct. 2008	Dec.2008	4.6.2009	18.6.09	There has been no delay as per the time schedule.
2.	Vaidik Dental College and Research Centre, Daman	Oct. 2007	Dec. 2007	4.6.2009	18.6.09	DCI gave negative recommendation for the academic year 2008-09. Hence the proposal was carried forward to the year 2009-10.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Faculty of Dentistry, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi	Oct. 2007	Nov. 2008	4.6.2009	18.6.09	The proposal was incomplete therefore not forwarded to DCI during 2008-09. After receiving the requisite documents, the proposal was sent to DCI for the year 2009-10.
4.	Yunus Fazlaini Unani Medical College, Aurangabad, Maharashtra	28.4.2008	19.5.2008	5.3.2009	15.6.09	Delay was due to Code of Conduct which came into effect during Lok Sabha Elections
5.	Shri Dhanvantri Ayurvedic Medical College, and Research Centre, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh.	30.4.2008	29.5.2008	13.3.2009	16.6.09	Delay was due to Code of Conduct which came into effect during Lok Sabha Elections

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

### Effect of increasing Desert, Arid and Barren land area on Agriculture

711. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- the statistics of desert, arid and barren land area in the country and in Rajasthan;
- whether there is increase in above land areas over the years;
- if so, the reasons therefor;
- the steps being taken to check degradation/desertification of land;
- how far agricultural production has decreased on account of increase in above areas; and
- whether any new schemes/agro-practices have been chalked out to boost agricultural production in such areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) It is estimated that the barren & uncultivable land in the country is 17.44 million ha. of which 2.43 million ha. is in Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) Barren & uncultivable land in the country has decreased from 38.16 million ha. in 1950-51 to 17.44 million ha. in 2006-07.

(d) Government is implementing various watershed development programmes namely (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA) (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR) (iii) Reclamation and Development of Alkali and Acid Soil (RADAS) (iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) (v) Watershed Development Fund (WDF) (vi) Externally Aided Projects (EAPs) (vii) Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) and (viii) National Afforestation & Eco-Development Project (NAEP) through different Ministries in the country for management and development of the degraded lands.

(e) Agricultural production has increased in the country in the recent years.

(f) Government is implementing National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for boosting the agriculture production in the country including such areas.

#### **Implementation of irrigation projects**

712. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only one third of our cultivable land is irrigated at present; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what effective steps are proposed to be taken to implement various irrigation projects within a time bound programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) During 2006-07, 33.3% of the total Cultivable Land at all India level was irrigated.

(b) The details of State-wise Cultivable land, Net Irrigated land, Percentage of Net Irrigated land for the Year 2006-07 is given in the enclosed Statement. (See below)

Financial assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) is extended to States for creation of irrigation potential by completion of identified ongoing irrigation projects. 265 major/ medium irrigation projects and 9852 surface water minor irrigation schemes have been included under AIBP. Out of these, 100 major/ medium irrigation projects and 5805 surface water minor irrigation schemes have been completed up to 31st March, 2009.

The AIBP is also meeting the demands of the Bharat Nirman programme under which a major thrust on irrigation is included.

38 projects of the 65 major/ medium projects of the Prime Minister's relief package for agrarian distressed districts of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra received financial assistance under AIBP upto March, 2009.

**Statement**

*Details of State-wise Cultivable land, Net Irrigated land, Percentage of  
Net Irrigated land for the Year 2006-07*

(Thousand Hectares)			
State/ Union Territory/ Year	Cultivable Land	Net Irrigated Area	Percentage of Net Irrigated Area over Cultivable Land
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	15911	4453	28.0
Arunachal Pradesh	422	52	12.3
Assam	3224	140	4.3
Bihar	6638	3161	47.6
Chhattisgarh	5581	1282	23.0
Goa	197	24	12.0
Gujarat	12412	3388	27.3
Haryana	3782	2990	79.1
Himachal Pradesh	813	104	12.8
Jammu & Kashmir	1048	309	29.5
Jharkhand	4184	164	3.9
Karnataka	12894	2946	22.9
Kerala	2329	392	16.8
Madhya Pradesh	17312	6365	36.8
Maharashtra	21162	2951	13.9
Manipur	231	51	22.2
Meghalaya	1057	67	6.3
Mizoram	213	16	7.7
Nagaland	657	65	9.8
Orissa	7473	1846	24.7
Punjab	4270	4028	94.3
Rajasthan	25600	6496	25.4
Sikkim	155	9	5.6
Tamil Nadu	8148	2889	35.5
Tripura	310	61	19.7

1	2	3	4
Uttarakhand	1504	343	22.8
Uttar Pradesh	19268	13080	67.9
West Bengal	5751	3136	54.5
A & N Island	47	0	0.0
Chandigarh	2	1	61.5
D & N Haveli	24	7	30.5
Daman & Diu	3	0	0.0
Delhi	54	24	44.8
Lakshadweep	3	1	28.9
Pondicherry	31	18	57.8
<b>ALL INDIA :</b>	<b>182708</b>	<b>60857</b>	<b>33.3</b>

NOTE: '0' relates to the area less than 500 Hectares.

#### Sustainable Utilization of Marine Resources

713. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of a U.K. Government's well articulated document "Fisheries 2007 - A long-term vision for sustainable Fisheries"; and

(b) if so, whether our future fisheries policy would keep in mind inputs like (i) balance on economic, social and environmental priorities (ii) identify the roles and responsibilities of different stake holders in achieving sustainability, and (iii) a realistic cost and benefit profile, as the need of the hour is for sustainable utilization of India's vast marine resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has notified the comprehensive Marine Fishing Policy in November, 2004 with a focus on sustainable development of Coastal and Deep-sea Fisheries with a view to achieve harmonized development of marine fishery resources of the country. The objectives of the Comprehensive Marine Fishing Policy are (i) to augment marine fish production of the country up to the sustainable level in a responsible manner so as to boost export of sea food from the country and also to increase per capita fish protein intake of the masses, (ii) to ensure socio-economic security of the artisanal fishermen whose livelihood solely depends on this vocation, and (iii) to ensure sustainable development of marine fisheries with due concern for ecological integrity and bio-diversity. These objectives are incorporated in the schemes and projects undertaken by the Government.

#### Growth of Pulses

714. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:



(a) whether since 1967 overall yield growth in pulses has not matched with yield growth in other crops;

(b) whether yield of pulses on other hand has risen by 1.14 per cent;

(c) if so, whether it has been pointed out that if corrective steps are not taken India's per capita pulses consumption will fall by 10 kg. by 2010;

(d) whether study also reveals that though India remained deficient in pulses production leading to increase in imports, pulses exports grew faster than imports before all exports were banned in 2006; and

(e) if so, the concrete measures proposed to be taken in regard to growth for pulses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As per index number of the yield (Base: Triennium Ending 1981-82=100), the compound annual growth rates of yield of rice, wheat, coarse cereals, pulses, oilseeds, sugarcane and cotton between the years 1967-68 and 2008-09 are given below:

Crop	Compound annual Growth rates of yield between 1967-68 and 2008-09 (% per annum)
Rice	1.99
Wheat	2.45
Coarse Cereals	1.99
Pulses	0.70
Foodgrains	2.02
Oilseeds	1.69
Sugarcane	0.96
Cotton	2.63
All Crops	1.90

(c) In 2007, the per capita net availability of pulses was estimated at 10.7 kg. Assessment of per capita availability of consumption of pulses for 2010 has not been done.

(d) As indicated in the Table below, the quantity of pulses imported during 2005-06 to 2007-08 has been significantly higher than the quantity of pulses exported. The export and import of pulses during last 3 years is as under:-

Year	Export		Import	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	('000 Tonnes)	(Rs. Crore)	('000 Tonnes)	(Rs. Crore)
2005-06	447.44	1115.21	1695.95	2476.25
2006-07	250.70	773.34	2270.97	3891.91
2007-08	163.67	526.95	2791.10	5278.02

SOURCE: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S)

(e) The Government has launched several schemes to encourage the cultivation of pulses as given below:-

1. ISOPOM is being implemented since 1.4.2004 in 14 major pulses growing States.
2. National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Pulses was launched in 2007-08 and is being implemented in 171 identified districts of 14 major pulses growing States in 11th Five Year Plan.
3. Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) Scheme (Revised) provides assistance for pulses development to the States not covered under ISOPOM.
4. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) under which also the States can undertake pulses development programme.

#### **Remunerative price for Cotton Growers**

†715. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to bumper crop of cotton in the current year, the production is likely to touch approximately 290 lacs of cotton bales;

(b) whether it is also a fact that only 284.50 lacs cotton bales have been procured till now;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the production of cotton in the international market has been reduced this year and the prices are likely to be hiked in the international market; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to provide appropriate price of remaining production to the cotton growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) As per the 3rd Advance Estimates released on 08.05.2009, the production of cotton in the country during 2008-09 is estimated at 232.68 lakh bales (of 170 kg each).

(b) As per information received from the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), in addition to the procurement by Trade and Spinning Mills, 127 lakh bales of cotton has been procured by the institutional agencies like CCI and National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) under the MSP operations.

(c) As per the latest release of International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC), the world's cotton production during 2008-09 has declined to 23.52 million tonnes as against 26.19 million tonnes during the previous year. As measured by Cotlook A Index, the average international prices during cotton season 2008-09 are projected at 60 US cents per pound as against 73 US cents during the previous year.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(d) During the cotton season 2008-09, the Government has taken steps to provide appropriate price to cotton growers and substantially increased the Minimum Support Price of two basic varieties of cotton from 1800 and Rs.2030 per quintal to Rs. 2500 and Rs 3000 per quintal in the year 2008-09 in respect of F-414/H-777/J34 and H-4 respectively.

#### **Plans for RKVS, NFSM AND NHM**

716. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the plans being made for 'Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana', 'National Food Security Mission' and 'National Horticulture Mission'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):

#### **Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)**

Pursuant to the resolution adopted on 29.05.07 by the National Development Council (NDC), to reorient the current agricultural development strategies to meet the needs of the farmers and for fresh efforts by the Central and State Governments to rejuvenate agriculture so as to achieve 4% annual growth during the 11th Five Year Plan, a new State Plan Schemes of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for agriculture and allied sectors, namely, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) has been launched during 2007-08 with an envisaged outlay of Rs.25,000/- crore for the 11th Five Year Plan. Brief Note in respect of RKVY is enclosed as Statement-I. (See below).

#### **National Food Security Mission (NFSM)**

In view of the resolution adopted by the National Development Council (NDC) to launch a Food Security Mission in the country to enhance the production of rice, wheat and pulses by 10, 8 and 2 million tones, respectively by the end of XI Plan, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'National Food Security Mission' has been launched from Rabi, 2007-08 with three major components viz. NFSM-Rice, NFSM-Wheat and NFSM-Pulses. Brief Note in respect of NFSM is enclosed as Statement-II (See below).

#### **National Horticulture Mission (NHM)**

As per the guidelines of NHM, the State Horticulture Missions and Implementing Agencies send their Annual Action Plan proposals to the Central Government for approval of Executive Committee of the National Horticulture Mission. The Action Plans are examined and based on the approval, funds are released to the tune of 85% as central share while 15% is contributed by State Government as state share. In case of National Level Agencies the assistance is 100%. Funds are released keeping in view the unspent balances of previous years. The process of release of funds for 2009-10 has been initiated under the scheme.

#### ***Statement-I***

##### ***Brief note on Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana***

1. Pursuant to the resolution adopted on 29-05-2007 by the National Development Council (NDC), to reorient the current agricultural development strategies to meet the needs of the farmers and

for fresh efforts by the Central and State Governments to rejuvenate agriculture so as to achieve 4% annual growth during the 11th Five Year Plan, a new State Plan Scheme of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for agriculture and allied sectors, namely, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) has been launched during 2007-08 with an envisaged outlay of Rs. 25,000/- crore for the 11th Five Year Plan.

2. The broad objective of RKVY is to provide additional central assistance(ACA)to the States to increase public investment to achieve 4% growth rate in agriculture and allied sectors in the 11th Five Year Plan. The new scheme requires the States to prepare District and State Agriculture Plans for creation of such infrastructure, which are essential to catalyse the existing production scenario for achieving higher production.
3. ACA is made available to the States as 100% grant. The States have full autonomy in the process of selection, planning, approval and execution of schemes. Funds is allocated to the States is in two streams viz. Stream-I and Stream-II and are routed through the State Agriculture Department, which is the nodal Department for the scheme. Under Stream-I, at least 75% of the RKVY funds are made available for specific projects as part of the State and District Plans. Under Stream-II, upto 25% of the total RKVY funds to a State are made available for strengthening existing State Sector schemes.
4. Under the Scheme, the following broad activities have been identified for focus attention - Integrated Development of Food Crops, including coarse cereals, minor millets and pulses; Agriculture Mechanization; Soil Health and Productivity; Development of Rainfed Farming Systems; Integrated Pest Management; Market Infrastructure; Horticulture; Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries; Concept to Completion Projects that have definite timelines; Support to Institutions that promote Agriculture and Horticulture, etc.; Organic and Bio-fertilizers; and Innovative Schemes. These activities are only indicative in nature.
5. The Scheme has been operationalized with effect from August, 2007 and has evoked good response from the States. During the year 2007-08 an outlay of Rs. 1500 crore was approved, of which an amount of Rs. 1246.89 crore including Rs.48 crore @ Rs. 10 lakh per district for preparation of District Agriculture Plan(DAP) was released to the States under the programme.
6. For the year 2008-09, an outlay of Rs.2891.70 crore was provided and an amount of Rs.2886.80 crore has been released to the eligible States as on 31.03.2009. For the year 2009-10, an outlay of Rs. 4100 crore has been allocated and Rs.506.13 crore has been released to the States, so far. The exercise for SLSC meetings, project approval and release of funds has been started.
7. The Union Government is making efforts to provide assistance to the States to raise the income of the farmers who are engaged in Agriculture and allied sectors through RKVY. However, the objectives of this programme will only be met if the State Governments are able to prepare their State Agriculture Plan and District Agriculture Plan keeping in mind the inherent agro-climatic

potential of the State and dovetail creation of appropriate infrastructure, which will lead to higher productivity and thereby higher production.

8. Since implementation of RKVY is aimed at higher production of food grains and other agro-based products, it is also the time for intervention of the Industrial sector by planning its future activities on handling the enhanced agricultural production to enable better return to the farmers and also reduce perishable losses. Increase in production will require improved packaging and marketing for better return to the farmers, which can be translated through private investment, entrepreneurship and managerial capabilities. There will be more demand on creation for processing industries, storing facilities, improved transport mechanism. It's when the farmers get more return for their enterprise, that they will strive more for higher production leading to higher contribution of agriculture sector to the overall GDP. Therefore, though the Central Government is providing financial assistance to the State Government with full freedom to formulate its action plan for increasing productivity and production under the agriculture sector, it is for the State Governments and the other stake holders to convert this assistance into reality of food security.

#### ***Statement-II***

##### *Brief note on NFSM*

#### **Introduction :**

In view of the resolution adopted by the **National Development Council (NDC)** to launch a **Food Security Mission** in the country to **enhance the production of rice, wheat and pulses by 10, 8 and 2 million tones, respectively by the end of XI Plan**, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'National Food Security Mission' has been launched from Rabi, 2007-08 with three major components **viz.** NFSM-Rice, NFSM-Wheat and NFSM-Pulses.

#### **Objectives:**

The aim of the Mission is to increase production of rice, wheat and pulses through area expansion and productivity enhancement; restoring soil fertility and productivity; creating employment opportunities; and enhancing farm level economy to restore confidence of farmers of targeted districts.

#### **Area of Operation:**

The National Food Security Mission is presently **being implemented in 312 identified districts of 17 States** of the country. The component-wise identified districts are as follows:

**NFSM-Rice:** The NFSM-Rice is being implemented in **136 districts of 14 States, i.e.,** Andhra Pradesh (11 districts), Assam (13 districts), Bihar (18 districts), Chhattisgarh (10 districts), Gujarat (2 districts), Jharkhand (5 districts), Karnataka (7 districts), Kerala (1 district), Madhya Pradesh (9 districts), Maharashtra (6 districts), Orissa (15 districts), Tamil Nadu (5 districts), Uttar Pradesh (26 districts) and West Bengal (8 districts),

**NFSM-Wheat:** The NFSM-Wheat is being implemented in **141 districts of 9 States** *i.e.* Bihar (25 districts), Gujarat (4 districts), Haryana (7 districts), Madhya Pradesh (30 districts), Maharashtra (8 districts), Punjab (10 districts), Rajasthan (15 districts), Uttar Pradesh (38 districts) and West Bengal (4 districts).

**NFSM-Pulses:** The NFSM-Pulses is being implemented in **171 identified districts in 14 States** *i.e.*, Andhra Pradesh (14 districts), Bihar (13 districts), Chhattisgarh (8 districts), Gujarat (11 districts), Haryana (5 districts), Karnataka (13 districts), Madhya Pradesh (20 districts), Maharashtra (18 districts), Orissa (10 districts), Punjab (7 districts), Rajasthan (16 districts), Tamil Nadu (12 districts), Uttar Pradesh (19 districts) and West Bengal (5 districts).

#### **Criteria For Identification of Districts Under NFSM:**

For Rice, those districts were identified which have more than 50,000 ha area under rice and productivity less than the State's average productivity; for wheat the districts in which irrigation coverage under wheat is more than 50% and productivity is less than State's average were identified. The districts for implementation of NFSM-Pulses have been selected based on existing large area under pulses, potential for area expansion through inter-cropping and utilization of rice fallows.

#### **Strategies:**

The following main strategies are being followed under the scheme:

1. Implementation in a mission mode through active engagement of all the stakeholders at various levels;
2. Promotion and extension of improved technologies *i.e.* seed, integrated nutrient management including micro-nutrients, soil amendments, IPM and resource conservation technologies along with capacity building of farmers;
3. Flow of fund would be closely monitored to ensure that interventions reach the target beneficiaries in time;
4. Various interventions proposed would be integrated with the district plan and targets for each identified districts would be fixed; and
5. Constant monitoring and concurrent evaluation for assessing the impact of the interventions for a result oriented approach by the implementing agencies.

#### **Interventions included:**

**NFSM-Rice:** The interventions covered under **NFSM-Rice** include demonstrations on improved package of practices; System of rice intensification; hybrid rice technology; promotion of hybrid rice seeds-production & distribution; distribution of HYVs seeds; seed minikits; micro-nutrients; liming; conoweeders; zero till seed drills; multi-crop planters; seed drills; rotavators, pump sets, power weeders, knap sack sprays; plant protection chemicals & bio-pesticides; farmers field schools; local initiatives; award for best performing districts; mass media campaign; international exposures for technical knowledge enrichment and project management team.

**NFSM-Wheat:** The interventions covered under **NFSM-Wheat** include demonstrations on improved package of practices; Seed replacement; seed minikits; micro-nutrients, gypsum; zero till seed drills; rotavators; multi-crop planters; seed drills; sprinkler sets; knap sack sprayers; pump sets, pilot project on community generators; farmers field schools, award for best performing districts; local initiatives; international exposures for technical knowledge enrichment and project management team.

**NFSM-Pulses:** The interventions covered under **NFSM-Pulses** include assistance in the form of production & purchase of breeder seeds; production of foundation & certified seeds; distribution of certified seeds; strengthening of seed certification agencies; INM; 1PM, sprinklers sets; zero till seed drills; multi-crop planters; seed drills; rotavators; sprinkler sets; knap sack sprayers; pump sets; farmers field schools; training for extension workers; award for best performing districts; local initiatives; strengthening of infrastructure of IIPR, Kanpur; pilot project on blue bull; demonstration of ICRISAT technologies and project management team.

**The total outlay of National Food Security Mission for the Eleventh Five Year Plan is Rs. 4882.48 crores. During 2009-10, an amount of Rs. 1350.00 crores has been made as Budget Allocation.**

#### **Plans to boost farm production**

717. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the Plans made for creating Food Safety Net and to boost Farm produce?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): The Government of India is already implementing various schemes for enhancing the production of foodgrains in the country such as Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and Macro Management Mode of Agriculture (MMA). Besides, to increase production of fruits & vegetables, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme National Horticulture Mission (NHM) is also in operation in the country.

#### **Production of Rice**

718. SHRI NARESH GUJJRAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total production of rice in the country last year;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the rice production in India is 1/3rd of that of China and half compared to Vietnam; and
- (c) if so, the steps Government is contemplating to increase the rice production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The total estimated production of rice in the country during 2007-08 stood at 96.69 million tones.

(b) and (c) No, Madam. In comparison to the production of 96.38 million tones of rice in India during 2007, as per the information received from Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO), the production of rice in China and Vietnam during 2007 was estimated at 124.93 and 23.91 million tones respectively.

However, to increase the production of rice in the country several steps have been taken and programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) etc. are under implementation.

#### Production and procurement of wheat and rice

719. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the production and procurement of wheat and rice during 2008-09, 2007-08 and 2006-07;
- (b) the steps taken and incentives given by Government during these years to boost production and procurement; and
- (c) the production targets fixed for these crops during those years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The production and procurement of wheat and rice during the years 2006-07, 2007-08, and 2008-09 are given in the table below:

(Million Tonnes)				
Year	Wheat		Rice	
	Production	Procurement	Production	Procurement
2006-07	75.81	9.23	93.35	25.08
2007-08	78.57	11.13	96.69	28.49
2008-09	77.63 *	22.69	99.37 *	31.36 **
2009-10	—	25.16 **	—	—

\*3rd advance estimates

\*\* as on 7.7.09

**NOTE:** The production relates to the agricultural year and procurement relates to the marketing year.

(b) In order to boost agricultural production, several steps have been taken and programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) etc. are under implementation.

To boost procurement of wheat and rice, the following steps have been taken:

- Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of paddy of common grade and wheat have been increased from Rs.580 and Rs.750 during 2006-07 to Rs.850 and Rs.1080 per quintal respectively during



2008-09. In the above period, the MSP of paddy of Grade A variety has been increased from Rs.610 to Rs.880 per quintal.

- Over and above the MSP, a bonus of Rs.100 per Quintal in procurement of rice in Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2007-08 and Rs. 50 per Quintal in KMS 2008-09 has been given.
- NAFED was permitted to procure wheat on behalf of FCI in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Bihar in the Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2008-09.
- Export of non-basmati rice was restricted and later banned from 01.04.2008.
- Wheat exports on private account has been banned till further order.

(c) The production targets for wheat and rice fixed for the years 2006-07 to 2008-09 are given in the table below:

(Million Tonnes)			
Crop	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Wheat	75.53	75.50	78.50
Rice	92.80	93.00	97.00

**Adverse effect of failure of monsoon on crops**

720. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has initiated an action plan to cope with deficiency in water which has threatened to affect the Kharif crop;

(b) if so, whether Government has convened a meeting of States affected by deficient rains and discussed the adverse impact of the failure of the monsoon on crops;

(c) if so, the details of discussion held and outcome thereof; and

(d) the strategies to be adopted to, face the situation, if the current monsoon fails?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, convened the meeting of the Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries alongwith the technical persons of the States in the Central and Southern parts of the country on 125.6.2009 to review the impact of slow progress of monsoon on the sowings of agriculture crops and alternate plans if the current trends continues. In view of the prevalent weather conditions, the States have drawn up contingency Crop Plan for implementation, if the rains are delayed/not received by 15th July, 2009. Following this, three video conferences were held involving the States of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Assam and Bihar.

Ministry of Power has been requested to enhance allocation of Electricity to States like Punjab and Haryana. The Government is closely monitoring the situation on day to day basis. The States have also been advised to identify the pockets of distress, if any, and take remedial measures. The Ministry also intends to increase the allocation under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and give more flexibility to States to use these Schemes to meet the contingent situation particularly for purchase and distribution of seeds for alternate crops/varieties and support for micro-irrigation etc.

#### **Remunerative price for agriculture produce**

721. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that day by day agriculture is becoming unremunerative and farmers are falling into debt trap;

(b) if so, what has been done by Government to provide better returns for their crops;

(c) what has been done by Government to teach farmers growing organic crops and pesticides free farming methods which may give them better price; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) fixed by the Government provides remunerative . prices to farmers. The Government's price policy for agricultural commodities seeks to ensure • remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production, and to safeguard the interest of consumers by making available supplies at reasonable prices.

The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), while formulating its recommendations on price policy considers a number of important factors which include cost of production. The cost of production taken into account includes all paid out costs, besides cash and kind expenses on use of material inputs, irrigation charges including cost of diesel/electricity for operation of pump sets, etc. Besides, cost of production includes imputed value of wages of family labour and rent for owned land. The cost also covers depreciation of farm machinery and buildings. As such, the cost of production covers not only actual expenses in cash and kind but also imputed value of owned assets including land and family labour.

During 2008-09, MSP's of Kharif crops were raised substantially over their 2007-08 level. The increase ranged between 29 percent in case of Arhar (Tur) and 94 percent in case of Nigerseed. In the case of rabi crops of 2008-09 season maximum increase in MSP of 10 percent was given for Masaur (Lentil). To be remunerative, the MSPs fixed for 2008-09 season cover the all-India cost of production as projected by CACP for the respective crops. MSP is in the nature of a minimum guaranteed price for the farmers offered by the Government for their produce in case the market

prices fall below that level. If the market offers higher price than MSP, the farmers are free to sell at that price. In order to improve availability of credit to farmers, the Government in June, 2004 announced measures for doubling of flow of credit to agriculture sector within a period of three years. During 2007-08, the Banks disbursed Rs.2,54,657 crore against the target of Rs.2,25,000 crore.

(c) and (d) Through the extension activities farmers have been educated to adopt modern agricultural practices including growing organic crops and pesticides free-farming methods. The India Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) through its 567 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) conducts number of training programmes for farmers on various aspects including production and use of bio and organic products/inputs.

#### **Retail expansion plan of NAFED**

722. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether NAFED plans retail expansion through franchise route;
- (b) if so, the details thereof especially in Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) the aims and objective of such plans; and
- (d) the implementation stage thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. NAFED has planned retail expansion through appointment of franchisees to run retail outlets in the name of NAFED Bazaar for sale of consumer products. NAFED has laid down guidelines for appointment of franchisees. Any party from any State including Andhra Pradesh can apply in accordance with the guidelines. It is proposed to start appointment of franchisees in Delhi and move to other places depending upon its success.

(c) The aims and objective of this plan is to make available quality products of daily need at reasonable price to the consumers.

(d) The implementation of NAFED's plan of retail expansion is at preliminary stage. Offers from interested parties have been invited which will be evaluated as per prescribed guidelines.

#### **Rising Agricultural Input Cost**

723. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the rise in Agricultural input cost and its effect on the farmers in our country;
- (b) whether the interest of farmers in Agriculture sector is declining as a result thereof;
- (c) if so, the steps being taken to check the rise in Agricultural input cost;

(d) whether World Bank has suggested heavy investment in Agricultural sector for the welfare of millions of poor rural Indians since Agriculture is the main livelihood of rural poor and provides employment to 60 per cent of the working population in rural areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The Index Number of Wholesale Prices (Base 1993-94=100) for agricultural inputs for the last three years is as under:

Annual Average (July-June)	Fertilizers	Electricity (Agriculture use)	Pesticides	Non-Electrical Machinery	Tractors	Lubricants	Diesel Oil (HSDO)	Diesel Oil (LDO)	Fodder	Cattle Feed
2005-06	175.1	300.8	150.2	189.6	179.4	203.2	446.8	464.0	198.8	176.1
2006-07	178.3	315.6	119.7	196.3	182.2	260.7	466.2	492.4	210.3	179.2
2007-08	184.6	314.8	119.2	202.2	185.5	279.6	459.4	522.3	201.3	196.0

SOURCE: Office of the Economic Adviser, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The effect of rising input cost of cultivation of major crops is balanced by way of assuring Minimum Support Prices that help the farmers receive adequate return on their investment.

(b) Report on Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers titled "Some Aspects of Farming" (Reference Period January-December 2003) of the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), submitted in July, 2005 covers in detail certain important aspects of farming, which, *inter-alia*, reports reasons for not considering it as a suitable profession. The details on reasons for not liking farming are given below:

*Percentage of farmer households*

Liking farming	Not profitable	Lack of social status	Risky	Others	Total
60	27	2	8	3	40

No report as such on declining interest of farmers as a result of rise in input costs has been received.

(c) The Government of India has taken several steps to improve agricultural growth and return on investment in agriculture. These include declaration of Minimum Support Prices before sowing season, measures to improve production and productivity of various agricultural commodities through ensuring easy availability of credit, irrigation facilities, crop diversification, marketing infrastructure and extension services.

A National Policy of farmers, 2007 has been approved by the Government of India with its main aim to focus on the economic well-being of farmers by improving the economic viability of farming in addition to increasing production and productivity. Several programmes such as National Horticulture

Mission, Macro Management, National Food Security Mission and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna are under implementation to incentivise farmers to engage themselves profitably in the farming activities.

(d) and (e) World Development Report 2008 titled 'Agriculture for Development' emphasizes for greater investment in agriculture in developing countries. The report stresses that the agricultural sector must be placed at the centre of the development agenda for reducing extreme poverty and hunger.

The report says agriculture can provide pathways out of poverty for millions of rural poor. It says one way out is through a high-value agricultural revolution. Incentives to diversify into high-value horticulture, poultry, fish and dairy products *via* pricing reforms and an overhaul of subsidy support for cereals offer an opportunity to diversify farming systems.

According to the Report, the livelihood of farmers can be improved by increasing productivity of staple crops by making major investments in soil and water management and in agricultural research. It also advocates improving the investment climate for rural non-farm business and job schemes in rural areas. It also highlights the need to invest in rural infrastructure.

#### **Damage to cultivable land due to flood**

724. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has conducted any research over the cultivable land being damaged by silt deposition during recurring floods in Assam to make it cultivable again which may be a boon to the flood affected farmers in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per research conducted by Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, about 35,000 ha of cultivable land has been damaged due to sand/silt deposition from floods in the State of Assam along Brahmaputra river and its tributaries. The soils covered with sand/silt upto depth of 20 cm. can be put to cultivation of high yielding rice (Basundhara, IR50, IR36, Joymati, Lachit, Chilerai, Luit, Kapilee, Disang, Prafulla, Gitesh etc.) in kharif and niger, toria, linseed and buck wheat during rabi season. A few flood tolerant rice varieties able to withstand submergence upto 15 days have also been developed.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Implementation of Vaidyanathan Committee Report**

725. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds released to Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra under the Vaidyanathan Committee Report on strengthening co-operatives;

(b) whether the funds released are passed on to District Co-operative Central Banks (DCCBs) and Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS);

(c) whether Union Government is considering to make good, interest losses suffered by DCCBs and PACS due to late passing on of funds;

(d) whether the objectives of the schemes are fulfilled co-operatives strengthened and credit flow to farm sector is increased; and

(e) how many States in the country utilized the funds under Vaidyanathan Committee Report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

#### Implementation of RKVY in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra

726. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra States;

(b) out of this amount the amount spent by Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra respectively;

(c) whether funds were spent to achieve the objectives under RKVY;

(d) the output and achievements under RKVY; and

(e) whether implementation of TRKVY resulted increased productivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The amount released to Andhra Pradesh & Maharashtra during 2007-08 (beginning of the scheme), 2008-09 and during 2009-10 (till date) is given as under:

(Rs. in crore)		
Year	Andhra Pradesh	Maharashtra
2007-08	61.08	128.20
2008-09	297.17	261.77
2009-10 (till date)	157.67	37.84

(b) The expenditure reported by the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh & Maharashtra is given as under:

(Rs. in crore)		
Year	Andhra Pradesh	Maharashtra
2007-08 & 2008-09	351.02	324.55

(c) to (e) The State Governments are well aware of the objectives of RKVY scheme and the projects taken under the scheme are formulated accordingly by the implementing Departments of the State Government, which are approved by the State Level Sanctioning Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary of the State concerned. Since the RKVY funds are utilized by the State Governments for implementation of projects under RKVY for increasing food grain production, hence the implementation of RKVY is supposed to increase productivity & production in the country.

#### **Agricultural Credit**

727. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an urgent need to improve farmer's access to agricultural credit instead of following a policy for loan waiver and debt write off;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government proposes to consider such views of eminent agriculturists/economists in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the concrete steps taken by Government to improve agricultural productivity and to implement the Special Agricultural Action Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

#### **Growth of Agriculture, Animal Husbandary and Dairy in India**

728. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total Budget allocation, as percentage of GDP, to Agriculture, Animal Husbandary and Dairy Development during each of Five Year Plans;

(b) the contribution of above three Sectors, as percentage of GDP during that period, Plan-wise;

(c) the contribution of these three sectors, as percentage of GDP during last five years in Rajasthan; and

(d) the percentage growth of these three sectors, in India/Rajasthan, during last five years and how did it compare with other sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The total Budget allocation during each Five Year Plan for Agriculture and allied sectors and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country at current Market Prices and its percentage is enclosed as Statement-I (See below).

(b) The contribution of Agriculture including Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development as percentage of GDP, plan wise is enclosed as Statement-II. (See below)

(c) Contribution of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development as percentage of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) during last five years in Rajasthan is enclosed as Statement-III. (See below)

(d) The percentage growth of Agriculture. Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development in India/ Rajasthan during the last five years and its comparison with other sectors is enclosed as statement-IV.

**Statement-I**

*Five Year Plan by the Outlay for Agriculture & Allied Sector & GDP of the Country at Current Market Price and its percentage*

(Rs.in Crore)

Year	GDP at Market Prices	Plan Outlay	Allocation as a % of GDP for years of plan period	Year	GDP at Market Prices	Plan Outlay	Allocation as a % of GDP for years of plan period
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1951-52	10721			1980-81	145370		
1952-53	10522			1981-82	170805		
1953-54	11452			1982-83	191059		
1954-55	10834			1983-84	222485		
1955-56	11030			1984-85	249268		
<b>Total (1st five year Plan)</b>	<b>54559</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>0.65</b>	<b>Total (6th Five Year Plan)</b>	<b>978987</b>	<b>5695</b>	<b>0.58</b>
1956-57	13140			1985-86	281330		
1957-58	13536			1986-87	314816		
1958-59	15086			1987-88	357861		
1959-60	15895			1988-89	424531		
1960-61	17407			1989-90	487684		
<b>Total (2nd five year Plan)</b>	<b>75064</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>0.76</b>	<b>Total (7th Five Year Plan)</b>	<b>1866222</b>	<b>10524</b>	<b>0.56</b>



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1961-62	18445			1990-91	569624		
1962-63	19826			1991-92	654729		
1963-64	22774			<b>Total</b>	1224353		0.00
1964-65	26563			1992-93	752591		
1965-66	28016			1993-94	865805		
<b>Total (3rd five year Plan)</b>	115624	1089	0.94	1994-95	1015764		
				1995-96	1191813		
1966-67	31711			1996-97	1378617		
1967-68	37133			<b>Total</b>	5204590	22467	0.43
1968-69	39324			<b>(8th Five Year Plan)</b>			
<b>Total (Three Annual Plans)*</b>	108168	1107	1.02	1997-98	1527158		
1969-70	43298			1998-99	1751199		
1970-71	46249			1999-00	1952035		
1971-72	49523			2000-01	2102313		
1972-73	54591			2001-02	2278952		
1973-74	66428			<b>Total</b>	9611657	42462	0.44
				<b>(9th Five Year Plan)</b>			
<b>Total (4th five year Plan) *</b>	260089	2320	0.89	2002-03	2454561		
1974-75	78426			2003-04	2754620		
1975-76	84221			2004-05	3149407		
1976-77	90751			2005-06	3586744		
1977-78	102796			2006-07	4129173		
1978-79	111371			<b>Total</b>	16074505	58933	0.37
				<b>(10th Five Year Plan)</b>			
<b>Total (5th five year Plan)</b>	467565	4865	1.04				
1979-80	122155			2007-08	4723400		
				2008-09	5321753		
<b>Total (Annual Plan)</b>	122155	1997	1.63	<b>Total</b>	136381		
				<b>(11th Five Year Plan)</b>			

\* Includes Buffer Stock Rs. 140 crore for 1968-69, Rs.25 crore for 1969-70, Rs.50 crore for 1971-72, Rs.25 crore for 1972-73 and Rs. 24 crore for 1973-74. These figure for buffer stocks during the Fourth Plan works out to Rs. 124 crore against plan provision of Rs, 255 crore.

**Statement-II**

*Contribution of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development as percentage of Gross Domestic Product during each Five Year Plan*

Sl. No.	Five Year Plan	Period	Contribution of Agriculture including livestock in Gross Domestic Product at current prices. (%)
1.	First Plan	1951-56	46.3
2.	Second Plan	1956-61	43.0
3.	Third Plan	1961-66	39.4
4.	Annual Plan	1966-69	41.4
5.	Fourth Plan	1969-74	39.9
6.	Fifth Plan	1974-79	35.0
7.	Annual Plan	1979-80	31.0
8.	Sixth Plan	1980-85	31.0
9.	Seventh Plan	1985-90	27.4
10.	Annual Plan	1990-91	26.8
11.	Annual Plan	1991-92	27.3
12.	Eighth Plan	1992-97	25.8
13.	Ninth Plan	1997-2002	22.6
14.	Tenth Plan	2002-2007	17.8
15.	Eleventh Plan	2007-08	16.6

**Statement-III**

*Contribution of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development as percentage of GSDP during last Five Years in Rajasthan*

Sl. No.	Year	Contribution of Agriculture including livestock in GSDP at current prices during last five years in Rajasthan. (%)
1	2003-04	28.6
2.	2004-05	25.0
3.	2005-06	22.9
4.	2006-07	23.7
5.	2007-08	24.2
6.	2008-09	24.8

**Statement-IV**

*Growth rate in GDP/GSDP at constant (1999-2000) prices during the last five year in India / Rajasthan, in Agriculture including livestock and all other sectors*

Year	Growth rate of GDP/GSDP of Agriculture including livestock		Growth rate of GDP/GSKP of All other sectors	
	GDP India	GSDP Rajasthan	GDP India	GSDP Rajasthan
2003-04	10.8	87.8	8.0	12.0
2004-05	0.1	-14.6	9.3	4.2
2005-06	6.0	-1.3	10.3	9.8
2006-07	4.1	6.3	11.0	8.3
2007-08	5.0	6.7	9.8	7.2
2008-09	NA	6.1	NA	5.3

**Adoption of Swaminathan Committee Report**

729. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to adopt the MS Swaminathan Committee recommendations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when the recommendations would be adopted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The National Commission on Farmers under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan submitted its final report in October 2006 along with a draft National Policy for Farmers incorporating its main recommendations. Based on this draft and consultations with, the State Governments as well as the Central Ministries/Departments concerned, the Government of India approved the National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007. The Policy document was laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament in November 2007. Subsequently, an Inter-Ministerial Committee constituted by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation finalized a Plan of Action for operationalisation of the NPF, 2007 and the same was circulated in October, 2008 to all the State Governments and the Central Ministries/Departments concerned for necessary action.

**Impact of Delayed Monsoon**

730. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the delayed monsoon in the current season is going to have an adverse impact on agricultural production, affected by the crop size of pulses, oilseeds and maize etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Agricultural production of various Kharif crops in the country depends on the quantity and spread of rainfall during the monsoon season (July-September). As per the information furnished by India Meteorological Department, delay of one to two weeks in arrival of monsoon in certain States such as Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, East Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, East Uttar Pradesh has been observed. As a result, some delay in sowing of Rice, Groundnut, Soyabean in these States has been reported.

#### **Drip and Sprinkler Irrigation**

731. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is giving importance to drip and sprinkler irrigation in the country;

(b) if so, the details of hectares of crop covered under drip and sprinkler irrigation in the country in the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a Committee/Task Force was constituted long back to study and submit a report with regard to drip and sprinkler irrigation in the country; and

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations that have been implemented by Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Madam. The Government has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation in January, 2006 to promote drip and sprinkler irrigation system in the country.

(b) The details of area covered under drip and sprinkler irrigation system year-wise, State-wise since inception of the scheme is given in enclosed Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The main recommendations of Task Force is given in enclosed Statement-II (*See below*). The recommendations that have been implemented by the Government are as follows:-

i) An area of 14 lakh ha. have been covered under Micro Irrigation (MI) system in the country since inception of the scheme.

ii) Financial assistance is available for all crops except tea, coffee, rubber and oil palm and for all categories of farmers.

iii) The financial assistance is provided @ 50% of unit cost out of which 40% is borne by the Government of India and 10% is contributed by the State Government.

iv) States like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat etc. have raised the State share ranging from 20% to 35% in order to popularize the scheme.

v) The funds are being released directly to the district implementing agency of each State for speedy disbursal to the farmers.

vi) At present, there is 100% exemption of excise duty on micro irrigation equipment and only 5% custom duty is levied on such equipment.

**Statement-I**

*Statewise and yearwise details of area covered under drip and sprinkler irrigation system since inception of the scheme*

(Area in ha.)

S. No.	State	2005-06			2006-07			2007-08			2008-09		
		Drip	Sprinkler	Total	Drip	Sprinkler	Total	Drip	Sprinkler	Total	Drip	Sprinkler	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	5681	1094	6775	60873	30525	91398	97378.00	17468	114846.00	87381	36200	123581
2	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0	223.80	0	223.80	81.69	0	81.69
3	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	802	3798	4600	381.74	20449	20830.74	2172.4	34121.56	36293.96
4	Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0
5	Goa	0	0	0	8	0	8	100.50	9.02	109.52	5.39	70.71	76.1
6	Gujarat	4910.10	131.94	5042.04	12048.56	12289.04	24337.6	21356.27	21680.83	43037.10	34028	19399	53427
7	Haryana	0	0	0	1018.19	1804.81	2823	2785.60	4999.39	7784.99	2141.52	20160.17	22301.69
8	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0
9	Karnataka	0	0	0	24972.7	13877.3	38850	20540.00	42399	62939.00	22737.3	69885	92622.3
10	Kerala	0	0	0	800	260.16	1060.18	1587.53	516.9	2104.43	947.65	580.93	1528.78
11	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	2705.01	381.99	3087	2246.57	2464.63	4711.20	15971.5	22327.84	38299.34
12	Maharashtra	0	0	0	59257	49003	108260	60182.00	22042	82224.00	60011	34701	94712
13	Orissa	0	0	0	278.72	943.28	1222	1143.20	1926.28	3069.48	2100	582.53	2682.53
14	Punjab	0	0	0	1123	300	1423	3563.22	624.15	4187.37	2787.48	409.58	3197.06
15	Rajasthan	0	0	0	2709	65012	67721	19865.00	53870	73735.00	5097	72632	77729
16	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	0	0	6221.97	1597.62	7819.59	10906.1	667.71	11573.81
17	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	863	1000	1663	3189.00	1470	4659.00	921.48	366	1287.48
18	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	89	89	131.00	0	131.00	55.6	0	55.6
<b>TOTAL :</b>		10591.11	1225.941	11817.041	167458.18	179283.601	346741.78	240895.40	191516.82	432412.221	247345.311	312104.031	559449.34

### **Statement-II**

#### *Major Recommendations of Task Force Committee on Micro Irrigation*

- i) A total of 17 million ha. need to be covered under Micro Irrigation in the country by the end of XI Plan including 3 million ha. during X Plan.
- ii) Financial Assistance should be available on all crops.
- iii) The rate of financial assistance to the farmers should be 50% of unit cost.
- iv) Out of this 50%, 40% share of assistance should be from Gol and the balance 10% will be contributed by the respective State Governments.
- v) The States may raise their share through RIDF loan from NABARD.
- vi) The funds need to be released through States with full proof method and the main focus will be the farmers.
- vii) There should be tax concessions to make the system affordable by farmers.

#### **Availability of quality seeds to farmers**

732. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that good quality seeds are not made available to the farmers in time during the sowing seasons in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to strengthen the mechanism of making good quality seeds available to farmers in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Uttar Pradesh has indicated a surplus seed availability in major crops for Kharif 2009, *i.e.*, Paady, Urd, Moong, Arhar and Groundnut, Marginal regional shortfall reported in Maize, Til, Bajra, Jowar in Kharif 2009 has been tied up/can be easily met from available national surplus. Bihar has reported State level shortfall in Paddy and Arhar only. The State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI) and National Seeds Corporation (NSC) had immediately indicated availability of Paddy and Arhar seeds to the State to meet the shortfall.

(b) Assistance for seed sector is provided under the following schemes of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation:

- i. Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA).
- ii. National Food Security Mission (NFSM)
- iii. Integrated Scheme for Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM)
- iv. Technology Mission on Cotton.
- v. Technology Mission on Jute and Mesta.
- vi. Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds.
- vii. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)

The components covered under the Scheme are given in the enclosed statement.

### ***Statement***

#### *Components related to seed covered under Government of India (GOI) Schemes*

- i. Seed Production Subsidy (MMA, NFSM, ISOPOM, Technology Mission on Cotton, Technology Mission on Jute and Mesta, Seed Division Scheme)
- ii. Seed Distribution Subsidy (MMA, NFSM, ISOPOM, Seed Division Scheme)
- iii. Seed Treatment (MMA, Technology Mission on Cotton, Plant Protection)
- iv. Support to Research (NFSM, Seed Division Scheme, ISOPOM)
- v. Agricultural Infrastructure (Seed Processing and Seed Storage godowns). (Seed Division Scheme).
- vi. Strengthening of State Seed Certification Agencies. (Seed Division Scheme).
- vii. Strengthening of Quality Control viz. Strengthening of Seed Testing Laboratories/State Seed Certification Agencies. (Seed Division Scheme).
  - a. Grow-out Test farm.
  - b. Establishment of Hi-tech DNA Testing Laboratory.
  - c. Facilities for Hybridity/GM Crop Testing and Installation of Facilities for Conducting DNA Finger Print Test.
- viii. Financial Assistance to obtain Membership of ISTA/OECD and Boosting Seed Export. (Seed Division Scheme).
- ix. Seed Village with components of Seed Storage Bin and Training. (Seed Division Scheme).
- x. Transport Subsidy for Movement of Seeds to the North Eastern and Other Hill Areas (all certified seeds excluding Potato) (Seed Division Scheme).
- xi. Biotechnology in Agriculture viz. Upgradation of Laboratory to Test BT Gene. (Seed Division Scheme).
- xii. Establishment/Strengthening of Tissue Culture Laboratory. (Seed Division Scheme).
- xiii. Establishment and Maintenance of Seed Bank. (Seed Division Scheme).
- xiv. Assistance to Private Sector to Produce Seed. (Seed Division Scheme).

### **Consumption of organic food**

†733.SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the organic food items are hygienic as there are no residues of pesticides and chemical fertilizers in these items;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the efforts being made by Government to increase the consumption of organic food items;
- and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As organic crops are grown without the use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers, these are likely to be free from pesticide and fertilizer residues contamination.

(c) and (d) Under the National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) launched during 2004-05, financial assistance, is *inter-alia* provided for creating awareness through international/national/regional seminars/exhibitions and publicity through print and electronic media to increase production and consumption of organic food. To ensure quality of organic produce, the 'National Programme on Organic Production' was launched in 2002. Assistance for promotion of organic farming is provided as a component of the National Horticulture Mission.

#### **Norms for price fixation of drugs**

734. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of drugs in various categories currently under the Drugs Price Control Order, 1995;
- (b) the extent of revision allowed, if any, in life saving drugs prices during the last five years indicating reasons therefor in respective instances;
- (c) whether 'Levofloxacin' falls in life saving drug category;
- (d) whether Government has been seized of wide variations in price of 'Levofloxacin', of different manufacturers;
- (e) if so, whether the rationale behind such variations, particularly with a view to protecting the consumers, have been ascertained or not; and
- (f) the norms prescribed, if any, for manufacturers in fixation of prices of scheduled and non-scheduled drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) There are 74 bulk drugs included in the first schedule of the Drug Price Control Order, 1995. NPPA/Government fixes/revises prices of these scheduled drugs and the formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs as per the provisions of DPCO, 1995. Life saving drugs are not defined under DPCO 1995. In respect of scheduled formulations, the prices are revised / fixed as per the provisions of DPCO 1995.

(c) to (e) As stated above life saving drugs are not defined under DPCO 1995. Levofloxacin is a non-scheduled bulk drug and is not covered under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995. In



respect of drugs not covered under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 *i.e.* non-scheduled drugs, manufacturers are at liberty to fix the prices by themselves without seeking the approval of Government / NPPA. Such prices are normally fixed depending on various factors like the cost of bulk drugs used in the formulation, cost of excipients, cost of R&D, cost of utilities / packing material, sales promotion costs, trade margins, quality assurance cost, landed cost of imports etc.

(f) The prices of scheduled bulk drugs and formulations thereof are fixed in accordance with the provisions of DPCO, 1995. However, price of non-scheduled drugs are fixed by manufacturers themselves depending on various factors as mentioned in reply to Para (c) to (e) above.

#### **Renewal of contracts of NIPER**

735. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a high powered Committee was constituted in the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali, to consider renewal of contracts by NIPER;

(b) whether the report of the Committee has been received, if so, what are the major recommendations and findings; and

(c) the reaction of Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Yes, a committee has been constituted in the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) to review the existing Recruitment Rules. The Committee will see the renewal of the contract aspect as well. The Committee's report is awaited.

#### **Keeping Urea in the list of controlled fertilizers**

†736. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to review rate of secondary freight for Urea and if so, by when decision in this regard will be taken;

(b) whether Government is considering to bring Urea into the list of decontrolled fertilizers, if so, by when decision in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(c) whether there is adequate stock of Urea in the country, if so, reasons for very less allocation of Urea to Government of Madhya Pradesh under ECA; and

(d) whether ECA would be increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Under the Uniform Policy for freight subsidy on subsidized fertilizers, the freight is paid on transportation of fertilizers as rail freight and road freight. The rail freight is paid on actual whereas the road freight is paid on the basis of normative district leads and a normative per tonne per Km rate. There is no concept of secondary freight under the Uniform freight policy effective from 1st April, 2008.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. As per extant policy, Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement and distribution control of the Government of India *i.e.*, only 50% of the indigenous production is regulated under ECA. One of the reasons for less ECA to Madhya Pradesh is likely inflow of Non-ECA quantity of Urea from two units of NFL, Vijaipur located in Madhya Pradesh.

The gap between the assessed requirement and indigenous availability of Urea is bridged through ECA allocations from Urea imported on Government Account.

The availability of Urea in Madhya Pradesh during the month of April, 09 to June, 09 of current Kharif 2009 has been over and above the assessed requirement as follows:

(Qty. in '000' MT)

Months	Requirement	Availability	Sales
April '09	26.00	75.17	15.85
May '09	71.5	123.77	30.98
June '09	136.50	185.49	103.72

**Revival of Madras Fertilizers Ltd.**

737. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial restructuring proposal for the revival of Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL) has been approved;

(b) what steps have been taken to produce NPK fertilizers in Madras Fertilizers Ltd., which is in great demand in southern part of India; and

(c) what steps have been taken to bring LNG to produce the fertilizer at cheaper rate in MFL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The company had appointed M/s. Deloitte Consultants for suggesting measures and road map for financial restructuring/ revival of the company. Based upon the report of the Consultant, MFL is finalizing a long term integrated plan to sustain its operations, utilize its unused or idle assets, and reduction in equity capital to reduce accumulated losses. The Government has recently approved amendment in the New Pricing Scheme-III for urea units which is expected to make urea operations of the company viable. The company may consider re-start of its NPK production depending upon the profitability of the operations.

Regarding supply of LNG to MFL, Department of Fertilizers has taken up the matter with Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for early pipeline connectivity and availability of gas to enable conversion from Naphtha to gas. Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has informed that the pipeline connectivity by RIL from Kakinada-Chennai is expected by December, 2011.

### Revival of closed public sector fertilizer units

738. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) how many public sector fertilizer units are closed in our country;
- (b) whether Government has chalked out any scheme to raise funds for the revival of these closed public sector fertilizer units;
- (c) if so, the details there of;
- (d) whether these units are encountering serious problems due to price hike and non - availability of sufficient quantity of raw materials like Sulphur; and
- (e) if so, whether Government has taken any comprehensive measures to overcome the crises?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Out of the nine public sector fertilizer companies under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers, the units of two, namely Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL), and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) are presently lying closed since 2002. The details of closed units are as under:-

Name of Unit	State in which situated	Date of shut-down of the unit	Date of Government's decision for closure
<b>1. Name of the PSU: Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL)</b>			
Sindri	Jharkhand	March, 2002	5.9.2002
Gorakhpur	Uttar Pradesh	1990	18.7.2002
Talcher	Orissa	1.4.1999	18.7.2002
Ramagundam	Andhra Pradesh	1.4.1999	18.7.2002
Korba Fertilizer Project	Chhattisgarh	Never Commissioned	Not Applicable
<b>2. Name of the PSU: Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL)</b>			
Durgapur	West Bengal	1997	5.9.2002
Barauni	Bihar	1999	5.9.2002
Haldia Fertilizer Project	West Bengal	Never Commissioned	18.7.2002

(b) and (c) Pursuant to the decision taken by the Government on 12.4.2007, the feasibility of reviving the various closed units of FCIL and HFCL was examined by the Government, subject to the confirmed availability of gas. The revival of closed units, based on gas have been found to be economically feasible, under the New Investment Policy, as per the Techno-Economic Feasibility Reports (TEFR) for revival of the closed units, as prepared by the Projects & Development India Limited (PDIL), a premier consultancy organisation in the fertilizer sector. PDIL had opined that revival was economically feasible provided the outstanding GOI loans and interest liabilities of the

units are waived and the other dues are settled with the respective creditors. Accordingly, the Government, on 30th October 2008, considered the proposal of the Department of Fertilizers for revival of Barauni Unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), promoted by fertilizer PSUs/ Cooperatives. The SPV would submit a fully tied-up revival scheme for the closed fertilizer unit at Barauni.

The Government also accorded approval for constitution of an Empowered Committee of Secretaries under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Fert.) and Secretaries of Deptt. of Expenditure, Deptt. of Disinvestment, Planning Commission, Department of Public Enterprises and Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas as members, to look into all the financial models for revival of each of the closed units. The Committee would also look into various linkages including gas for facilitating revival of the closed units. The Committee will submit its recommendations including the model for revival of each of the closed units, to the Government.

The Government also accorded in-principle approval for considering write-off of Government of India loans and interest liabilities of the FCIL and HFCL. The final decision on waiver will be taken when fully tied-up proposals are received by the Government. Since the mode of revival and financing of each unit are yet to be finalized, the Government is exploring all options for financing the revival of these closed public sector fertilizer units.

(d) and (e) As the units remain closed since 2002 and there is no production of fertilizers, the question does not arise.

#### **Availability of Fertilizers**

739. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the demand and supply of fertilizers recorded in the country during 2008-09, Statewise;
- (b) whether there is shortage and delay in the availability of fertilizers for the current season; and
- (c) if so, the details and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The State-wise demand (Requirement) and supply (Availability) of major fertilizers namely Urea, DAP, MOP & Complex fertilizers during the year 2008-09 are given in the enclosed Statement. (See below).

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement and distribution control of the Government. Union Government ensures availability of urea State State level. State Governments are responsible for its distribution within the State. All other fertilizers viz., DAP, MOP, NPK and SSP etc. are de-controlled/ de-canalized since, 1992. The availability of these fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply. The month-wise requirement, (demand), availability (supply) and sales of Urea, DAP, MOP and complex fertilisers in the country during the period April, 2009 to June, 2009 of current Kharif, 2009 season are given at Annexure. [See Appendix 217 Annexure No.10] As can be seen, there is no delay shortage of these fertilizers in the country except complex fertilizers where some tightness is felt because of low level of indigenous production.

**Statement**

*Cumulative availability of fertilisers during the year 2008-09 (April '08 to March '09)*

(Qty. in LMTs)

2008-09	Urea			DAP			MOP			Complex		
State	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	27.50	27.84	27.33	8.50	9.98	9.97	5.85	6.27	6.04	20.50	16.50	16.30
Karnataka	13.50	12.88	12.82	6.05	8.12	8.07	4.55	5.14	5.05	11.17	8.44	8.39
Kerala	1.49	1.68	1.63	0.31	0.24	0.24	1.33	1.53	1.51	1.72	1.85	1.81
Tamil Nadu	10.37	11.28	11.28	4.31	3.85	3.85	4.84	5.95	5.84	3.62	3.55	3.51
Gujarat	18.65	18.69	18.48	7.10	8.24	8.19	1.90	2.26	2.22	4.39	4.92	4.70
Madhya Pradesh	15.75	13.83	13.59	8.25	8.31	8.14	1.20	1.17	0.88	4.35	2.20	2.15
Chhattisgarh	5.40	5.23	5.06	1.75	2.31	2.28	0.77	0.95	0.92	1.31	1.23	1.22
Maharashtra	23.25	22.84	22.46	8.60	10.19	10.15	3.70	5.17	4.92	15.65	10.40	10.29
Rajasthan	15.10	13.21	12.97	5.60	5.90	5.77	0.33	0.32	0.24	1.42	0.67	0.66
Haryana	19.90	17.59	17.36	6.00	6.69	6.61	0.46	0.47	0.39	0.67	0.31	0.31
Punjab	25.50	26.28	25.77	8.10	8.82	8.82	0.95	0.98	0.81	1.01	0.59	0.57

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Himachal Pradesh	0.65	0.66	0.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.44	0.40	0.40
Jammu & Kashmir	1.35	1.28	1.26	0.80	0.59	0.59	0.33	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.01	0.01
Uttar Pradesh	55.00	55.74	54.83	15.50	15.12	14.93	2.50	2.79	2.47	10.50	7.44	7.32
Uttarakhand	2.30	2.22	2.20	0.35	0.31	0.31	0.18	0.08	0.08	0.45	0.51	0.51
Bihar	21.25	18.33	17.96	4.25	4.12	4.11	1.90	2.28	2.13	3.60	2.59	2.59
Jharkhand	2.00	1.57	1.54	1.05	0.80	0.80	0.13	0.16	0.14	0.40	0.38	0.38
Orissa	5.50	4.74	4.61	2.00	1.89	1.89	1.35	1.53	1.34	2.88	2.66	2.55
West Bengal	13.00	11.94	11.67	4.86	4.03	4.03	4.15	4.80	4.62	7.49	7.29	7.23
Assam	2.40	2.30	2.30	1.03	0.14	0.14	1.06	1.08	0.95	0.30	0.06	0.060
<b>ALL INDIA</b>	<b>281.34</b>	<b>270.88</b>	<b>266.51</b>	<b>94.83</b>	<b>99.78</b>	<b>99.03</b>	<b>37.86</b>	<b>43.34</b>	<b>40.95</b>	<b>92.32</b>	<b>72.26</b>	<b>71.22</b>

\$ Excludes 10.4 LMT of urea extra sold in March, 2008 (March, 08 requirement 10.36 LMT, the sales was 22.76 LMT)

NOTE: DOF started monitoring of complex fertiliser w.e.f. Kharif, 2008.

#### **Rise in the prices of essential drugs**

740. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of a number of essential drugs have gone up abnormally during the last few months;

(b) if so, the details of essential drugs of which prices have gone up during the last one year with comparative prices at present and one year before;

(c) whether Government is considering to bring out a new drug policy in order to control the prices of essential medicines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Under the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO 1995), the prices of 74 bulk drugs included in its Schedule and the formulations containing any of these drugs are controlled. NPPA / Government fixes or revises prices of the scheduled drugs / formulations as per the provisions of the DPCO, 1995. No one can sell any scheduled drug / formulation at a price higher than the price fixed by NPPA / Government.

During the current financial year 2009-10 (up to 28th June, 2009), the prices of 481 medicine packs have been fixed / revised by the NPPA, out of which only in 42 cases the prices have increased. These comprise 8.7% of the total cases for which prices were fixed / revised during the year. In the remaining cases, the prices were either reduced or fixed for the first time or there was no change in the price.

In respect of drugs not covered under the DPCO, 1995 *i.e.* non-scheduled drugs, the manufacturers are at liberty to fix the prices by themselves without seeking the approval of Government / NPPA. Such prices are normally fixed depending on the various factors like the cost of bulk drugs used in the formulation, cost of excipients, cost of R&D, cost of utilities / packing material, sales promotion costs, trade margins, quality assurance cost, landed cost of imports etc. Wherever a price increase beyond 10% per annum (20% before 01.04.2007) is noticed, the manufacturer is asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed conditions action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest. This is an ongoing process.

(c) and (d) One of the recommendations in the draft National Pharmaceuticals Policy, 2006 was to bring the essential medicines under price control which was submitted before the Cabinet for its approval. The Cabinet considered the Policy in its meeting held on 11.1.2007. It was decided that the matter may, in the first instance, be considered by a Group of Ministers (GOM). The GOM had held four meetings but did not make recommendations to the Cabinet.

#### **Shortage of essential medicines**

741. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to World Health Organisation there is an alarming shortage of essential medicines in the public sector;

(b) if so, whether the essential medicines are not available at a reasonable price to the needy;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to have a price control on essential drugs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) As per the information available in this Department, there is no recent report from World Health Organisation regarding shortage of essential medicines in the public sector as specified in National List of Essential Medicines 2003.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Drug Policy as amended from time to time envisages making available quality medicines at reasonable prices to the masses. Besides this Department has recently launched Generic Drug Campaign by opening Jan Aushadhi Generic Drug Stores with the cooperation of State Governments & Pharma CPSUs. The generic medicines available in these stores are cheaper as compared to the branded drugs available in the market.

A draft National Pharmaceuticals Policy, 2006 was prepared by this Department in consultation with various stakeholders and submitted before the Cabinet for its approval. One of the recommendations made in the draft Policy is to bring essential medicines under price control subject to certain conditions and exceptions. The Cabinet considered the Policy in its meeting held on 11.1.2007. It was decided that the matter may, in the first instance, be considered by a Group of Ministers (GOM). The GOM had held four meetings but did not make recommendations to the Cabinet.

#### **Commissioning of new project Namrup-IV**

742. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalized the plan for commissioning a new project as Namrup-IV under the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizers Corporation Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;



(c) whether a declaration to this effect was made by the Hon'ble Minister, Chemical & Fertilizers at Namrup on 26th June, 2006;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by when it is likely to be commissioned;

(e) the total outlay and the target set for implementation of Namrup-IV during Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(f) the other steps initiated by his Ministry for better health and survivability of the Namrup unit in this global competition era?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a ) to (f) The Hon. Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers during his visit to Namrup on 26th June, 2006, declared in a public meeting the intention of the Government to explore the feasibility of setting up of Namrup-IV unit with an annual production capacity of 8 - 9 lakh tones of urea. The revamp of Namrup Units viz Namrup - I, II & III has been completed on 22nd November, 2005. The Company has been making losses due to low energy efficiency, as the Namrup Units consume energy more than 12.7 Gcal per MT of urea as compared to other gas based units in the country which consume energy less than 6 Gcal per MT of urea. The Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Ltd (BVFCL) is exploring the possibility of further revamp of its Namrup units to achieve production level of 7 - 8 lakh MT per annum with an improved comparable energy efficiency or the alternative of setting up of Namrup-IV unit based on modern gas based technology. The Company has instituted a study through a process licensor to examine the current status of Namrup units and recommend the best possible alternative for the Company to sustain its future operations. No final decision has been taken in the matter as the report of the process licensor is yet to be finalized,

Simultaneously, the Government is also actively considering a proposal for financial restructuring of BVFCL so as to ensure sustainable operations of existing units, till an alternative as discussed above, is finalized.

#### **Allocation of fertilizers to States**

743. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any shortage of fertilizers during monsoon seasons during last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any criteria has been formulated by the Ministry for distribution of fertilizers produced by CPSUs to the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of allocation to each State during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The requirement, availability and sales of Urea, DAP & MOP during last three years is as follows:

Year	Particulars	Urea	DAP	MOP
2006-07	Requirement (demand)	249.55	81.31	33.27
	Availability (Supply)	254.79	77.57	24.82
	Sales	244.52	69.75	23.17
2007-08	Requirement (demand)	271.70	89.21	36.13
	Availability (Supply)	274.26	83.740	29.28
	Sales	261.71	75.55	28.28
2008-09	Requirement (demand)c	281.34	94.83	37.86
	Availability (Supply)	270.88 *	99.78	43.33
	Sales	266.51	99.03	40.95

\* Excludes 10.40 LMT of urea extra sold in the month of March 2008 (March, 2008 requirement 10.36 LMT, the sales was 22.76 LMT)

Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement and distribution control of the Government. All other fertilizers viz. DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled/ de-canalized since 1992. As can be seen, the fertiliser availability is adequate to sustain sales/requirement.

(c) and (d) The criteria for allocating urea from CPSU/Cooperative/Private indigenous manufacturing units are as follows:

- i) There are more than two or more sources of supply of fertilisers in the State to ensure the back up supplies in case of failure of one of the sources; and
- ii) Department of Fertilisers also ensure that supplies from CPSU/Cooperative Sector /Indigenous manufacturers/private unit/Importers is made to the nearest States in order to ensure the minimum lead distance for minimising the freight subsidy outgo.

(e) The State-wise demand (Requirement), supply (Availability) and Sales of major fertilizers namely Urea, DAP and MOP during the last three years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 is enclosed as Statement.

**Statement**

*State-wise Requirement, Availability and Sales of UREA, DAP and MOP during the last three years*

							2006-07	Qty. in (LMTs)	
Product		Urea			DAP		MOP		
Name of State	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	27.00	24.52	22.13	6.69	6.15	5.97	5.21	3.90	3.72
Karnataka	11.20	11.55	10.92	5.00	5.25	4.88	3.90	3.14	2.76
Kerala	1.46	1.33	1.27	0.17	0.23	0.23	1.40	1.13	1.12
Tamil Nadu	10.00	9.59	9.18	3.85	3.98	3.84	4.85	3.48	3.48
Gujarat	15.00	15.22	15.03	5.75	5.79	4.56	1.65	1.46	1.42
Madhya Pradesh	12.10	13.89	13.16	6.20	5.76	4.96	0.50	0.75	0.67
Chhattisgarh	4.90	5.93	5.53	1.38	1.59	1.27	0.52	0.67	0.59
Maharashtra	19.00	20.70	19.87	6.25	7.06	6.49	3.00	2.48	2.34
Rajasthan	13.20	12.80	12.26	5.60	4.30	4.05	0.22	0.07	0.07
Haryana	17.50	18.04	17.33	5.60	5.04	4.46	0.40	0.32	0.23
Punjab	25.00	26.16	25.74	7.90	7.60	7.12	0.90	0.52	0.47
Jammu & Kashmir	1.42	1.15	1.05	0.71	0.55	0.51	0.21	0.10	0.10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Uttar Pradesh	50.00	53.50	51.83	14.50	14.42	12.94	2.30	1.34	1.22
Uttaranchal	1.65	2.17	2.10	0.32	0.24	0.23	0.12	0.06	0.04
Bihar	17.50	16.32	16.01	4.50	3.29	2.65	2.50	1.04	1.00
Jharkhand	1.74	1.63	1.60	1.10	0.71	0.68	0.07	0.01	0.01
Orissa	4.70	4.44	4.21	0.98	1.16	1.03	0.92	0.85	0.75
West Bengal	12.00	12.28	11.94	4.10	3.99	3.54	3.58	2.78	2.51
Assam & other N.E	3.08	2.67	2.47	0.51	0.27	0.24	0.82	0.59	0.54
Other Total	1.10	0.90	0.90	0.20	0.17	0.12	0.20	0.13	0.13
ALL INDIA :	249.55	254.79	244.52	81.31	77.57	69.75	33.27	24.82	23.17

2007-08

Name of State	Urea			DAP/MAP			MOP (LMTs)		
	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sale
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	27.50	26.84	25.12	8.24	7.16	7.15	5.55	4.52	4.50
Karnataka	12.80	13.63	12.54	5.80	4.54	4.50	4.00	3.70	3.58
Kerala	1.40	1.44	1.34	0.28	0.18	0.18	1.40	1.19	1.16
Tamil Nadu	9.85	9.68	9.16	4.25	3.35	3.35	4.90	4.85	4.77
Gujarat	17.25	18.37	17.93	5.80	6.76	6.47	1.70	1.82	1.79

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Madhya Pradesh	13.75	14.76	14.31	7.50	6.82*	6.34	1.10	0.76	0.74
Chhattisgarh	5.90	6.17	5.87	1.70	1.38	1.35	0.74	0.69	0.62
Maharashtra	21.20	23.05	21.39	7.05	6.45	6.29	3.05	3.46	3.2
Rajasthan	14.70	13.83	13.21	6.05	5.51*	4.50	0.23	0.23	0.19
Haryana	18.75	19.30	18.47	5.85	6.80*	5.36	0.50	0.34	0.29
Punjab	25.00	26.97	26.46	8.00	9.14*	6.81	0.95	0.58	0.57
Uttar Pradesh	55.00	54.37	52.72	15.50	14.89*	13.20	3.00	1.27	1.14
Uttaranchal	2.30	2.42	2.31	0.32	0.23	0.23	0.18	0.05	0.05
Jammu & Kashmir	1.40	1.19	1.15	0.84	0.33	0.33	0.28	0.07	0.07
Bihar	20.00	19.40	18.56	4.25	3.30	3.07	2.05	1.19	1.07
Jharkhand	2.10	1.67	1.58	0.90	0.75	0.74	0.13	0.08	0.08
Orissa	5.50	5.19	4.58	1.25	1.79	1.72	1.20	1.05	1.01
West Bengal	12.95	12.45	11.56	4.55	3.80	3.78	4.00	2.76	2.7
Assam	2.30	1.99	1.93	0.70	0.08	0.08	0.85	0.40	0.4
All India	271.70	274.26	261.71	89.21	83.40	75.55	36.13	29.28	28.28

\* Includes, the stock available with State Federations MP-0.35 LMT, Rajasthan - 0.77 LMT, Haryana - 1.15 LMT, Punjab - 1.96 LMT & UP - 1.21 LMT aggregating 5.44 LMT (Sales of which is not available).

2008-09

State	Urea			DAP			MOP			Complex		
	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	27.50	27.84	27.33	8.50	9.98	9.97	5.85	6.27	6.04	20.50	16.50	16.30
Karnataka	13.50	12.88	12.82	6.05	8.12	8.07	4.55	5.14	5.05	11.17	8.44	8.39
Kerala	1.49	1.68	1.63	0.31	0.24	0.24	1.33	1.53	1.51	1.72	1.85	1.81
Tamil Nadu	10.37	11.28	11.28	4.31	3.85	3.85	4.84	5.95	5.84	3.62	3.55	3.51
Gujarat	18.65	18.69	18.48	7.10	8.24	8.19	1.90	2.26	2.22	4.39	4.92	4.70
Madhya Pradesh	15.75	13.83	13.59	8.25	8.31	8.14	1.20	1.17	0.88	4.35	2.20	2.15
Chhattisgarh	5.40	5.23	5.06	1.75	2.31	2.28	0.77	0.95	0.92	1.31	1.23	1.22
Maharashtra	23.25	22.84	22.46	8.60	10.19	10.15	3.70	5.17	4.92	15.65	10.40	10.29
Rajasthan	15.10	13.21	12.97	5.60	5.90	5.77	0.00	0.32	0.24	1.42	0.67	0.66
Haryana	19.90	17.59	17.36	6.00	6.69	6.61	0.46	0.47	0.39	0.67	0.31	0.31
Punjab	25.50	26.28	25.77	8.10	8.82	8.82	0.95	0.98	0.81	1.01	0.59	0.57
Himachal Pradesh	0.65	0.66	0.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.44	0.40	0.40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Jammu & Kashmir	1.35	1.28	1.26	0.80	0.59	0.59	0.33	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.01	0.01
Uttar Pradesh	55.00	55.74	54.83	15.50	15.12	14.93	2.50	2.79	2.47	10.50	7.44	7.32
Uttarakhand	2.30	2.22	2.20	0.35	0.31	0.31	0.18	0.08	0.08	0.45	0.51	0.51
Bihar	21.25	18.33	17.96	4.25	4.12	4.11	1.90	2.28	2.13	3.60	2.59	2.59
Jharkhand	2.00	1.57	1.54	1.05	0.80	0.80	0.13	0.16	0.14	0.40	0.38	0.38
Orissa	5.50	4.74	4.61	2.00	1.89	1.89	1.35	1.53	1.34	2.88	2.66	2.55
West Bengal	13.00	11.94	11.67	4.86	4.03	4.03	4.15	4.80	4.62	7.49	7.29	7.23
Assam	2.40	2.30	2.30	1.03	0.14	0.14	1.06	1.08	0.95	0.30	0.06	0.06
<b>ALL INDIA :</b>	<b>281.34</b>	<b>270.88</b>	<b>266.51</b>	<b>94.83</b>	<b>99.78</b>	<b>99.03</b>	<b>37.86</b>	<b>43.34</b>	<b>40.95</b>	<b>92.32</b>	<b>72.26</b>	<b>71.22</b>

\$ Excludes 10.4 LMT of urea extra sold in March, 2008 (March, 08 requirement 10.36 LMT, the sales was 22.76 LMT)

NOTE: DOF started monitoring of complex fertiliser w.e.f. Kharif, 2008.

#### **Revision of drug prices**

744. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether domestic Pharma industry has sought revision in drug prices by submitting a report on the increase in conversion and packaging cost to Indian drug price regulator, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority;

(b) if so, whether the drug regulator annually fixes maximum retail price of medicines that contain any one of 74 raw materials that are under price control of Government;

(c) if so, whether Indian Drug Pharmaceutical Association have been asked to submit a report and they expected Government to implement new pricing decision by July itself; and

(d) if so, whether any final decision in this regard has been taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No Sir. However, individual companies have submitted replies / data in response to a questionnaire issued by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in connection with annual exercise of revision conversion cost (CC), packaging cost (PC), cost of packing material (PM) and process loss (PL) norms.

(b) Annual revision of CC, PC, PM and PL norms is only carried out. Price revision in respect of maximum retail price of medicines that contain any one of the 74 scheduled bulk drugs under DPCO, 1995 is not carried out on an annual basis.

(c) and (d) Indian Drug Pharmaceutical Association have not been asked to submit any report and also no report has been received.

#### **Savings of fertilizers subsidy**

745. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

MS. MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reliance Industry Limited (RIL) has signed a Gas Sale and Purchase Agreement (GSPA) with 12 urea manufacturers in a move that may result in annual fertilizer subsidy saving of Rs.3,000 crore for the Centre;

(b) whether GSPA involved supply of 15 million standard cubic metres per day annual gas from its Krishna-Godawari basin D6 block to 15 urea units across the country; and

(c) to what extent it has helped in reducing fertilizer subsidy where Government has urged upon RIL to supply more gas with all the fertilizer companies so that fertilizer subsidy becomes nil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Yes, Reliance Industries Limited has entered into a Gas Sale and Purchase Agreement (GSPA) with 19 urea manufacturing units (12 manufacturers) for supply of 14.84 MMSCMD of natural gas from KG D6 basin. This additional gas is being utilized to replace the costly fuel / feed stock namely naphtha being used earlier in absence of availability of natural gas.



This substitution of naphtha by natural gas has led to reduction in fuel / feed stock cost of production of urea in the country, leading to savings in subsidy by approximately Rs. 3000 crore per annum.

The Department of Fertilizers has taken up with Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for additional long term availability of domestic gas from a future date, to enable conversion of all non-gas based units to gas; expansion of existing urea units and revival of closed urea units in the country to reduce the subsidy burden further.

#### **Government investment in fertilizer manufacturing industry**

746. SHRI P. RAJEEV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has made any investment for fertilizer manufacturing industry during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether any of the Central Public Sector Undertakings which are producing fertilizers has made expansion during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) The Union Government has not made any direct investment in fertilizer manufacturing industry during the last three years. However, the Government has announced a pricing policy for new investments in urea sector on 4th September, 2008, for attracting new investments in this sector. Further, the Government has decided to accord highest priority in allocation of gas for fertilizer sector *inter-alia* including debottlenecking, expansion and revival projects in the country. The focus of the Government has been to attract investments in this sector rather than making any direct investments.

The Central Public Sector undertakings have not made expansion during the last three years. However, Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited and Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited have initiated steps for expansion of their units at Thal and Hazira respectively.

#### **Shortage of fertilizers**

747. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken/being taken by Government to address the shortage of fertilisers, which could result in fall in agricultural output; and
- (b) the reasons for this shortage and the steps taken by Government to address the discontent and grievances of farmers caused thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Government have approved the New Pricing Scheme (NPS) Stage III implemented with effect from 1.10.2006. Under the NPS III, the effort is to reach urea to each and every State. The subsidy on urea will be paid only when it reaches the district. The urea is allotted as per monthly requirement projected by State Government through Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. The requirement of urea is met through indigenous production and gap between demand assessment and indigenous production is met through imports.

Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement and distribution control of the Government.

All other fertilizers viz. DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled/ de-canalized since 1992. The availability of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply. Department of Fertilisers gives State-wise/month-wise supply plan indicated by manufacturers/importers of these fertilizers as per the requirement and ensures availability through the instrument of subsidy.

The month-wise requirement, (demand), availability (supply) and sales of Urea, DAP MOP and complex fertilizers in the country during the period April, 2009 to June, 2009 of current Kharif, 2009 season is given at Annexure [Refer to the Appendix 217 Annexure 10 appended to the answer to USQ 739 part (b) and (c) dt 10/07/09] As can be seen, availability of Urea, DAP & MOP is comfortable but there is some tightness of complex fertilizers because of low level of indigenous production.

#### **Foodgrain storage**

748. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the foodgrain storage capacity in metric tonnes of FCI, State-wise;
- (b) the details of foodgrains stored in FCI godowns, State-wise;
- (c) whether FCI godowns have space to store fresh stocks that are going to come very soon; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As on 15.06.2009, FCI is having total storage capacity of 271.80 lac MT (Owned & Hired/Covered & CAP). The total quantity of foodgrains stored therein is 236.14 lakh MT. A Statement showing the State-wise and agency-wise storage capacity and stocks held as on 15.06.2009 is given in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The present capacity is not adequate to store the fresh stocks. In order to overcome the shortage of space, the following steps have been taken for augmentation of storage capacity:-

- i) Action was taken in consultation with the State Governments to hire and create additional storage capacity where covered space was not available.
- ii) Temporary plinths of 4.07 lac MT capacity are being constructed on the vacant land within the FCI's existing godowns.
- iii) The General Manager (Regions) of FCI have been empowered to hire additional storage capacity from CWC/SWCs/State Agencies and Private Parties as per requirement.
- iv) FCI proposes to create an additional capacity of about 126 lac MT through the Private Public Partnership Scheme for creation of storage godowns through Private Entrepreneurs, by offering 5 Year Guarantee.
- v) Under XIth Five Year Plan (2007-12), FCI proposes to construct 3.41 lac MT of storage capacity.

**Statement**

*State-wise and Agency-wise storage capacity and stocks held with F.C.I. as on 15.06.2009*

(Fig. in lac tonnes)

Zone	Sl. No.	Region/U.T.	Covered Hired From				CAP (Open)									
			FCI owned	State Govt.	C.W.C.	S.W.C.	Private parties	Total hired	Total covered	Owned	Hired	Total	Grand Total	Stocks held	Utiliz. %age	Vacant space
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
East	1	Bihar	3.66	0.03	0.66	0.79	0.48	1.96	5.62	0	0	0	5.62	3.79	67	1.83
	2	Jharkhand	0.66	0.02	0.13	0.15	0.20	0.50	1.16	0	0	0	1.16	1.25	108	(+)0.09
	3	Orissa	2.93	0	0.74	2.76	0.15	3.65	6.58	0	0	0	6.58	6.39	97	0.19
	4	West Bengal	8.59	0.20	0.92	0	0.87	1.99	10.58	0	0	0	10.58	8.95	85	1.63
	5	Sikkim	0.10	0.01	0	0	0	0.01	0.11	0	0	0	0.11	0.09	82	0.02
		TOTAL (E. Zone)	15.94	0.26	2.45	3.70	1.70	8.11	24.05	0	0	0	24.05	20.47	75	3.58
N.E.	6	Assam	2.07	0	0.18	0.10	0.39	0.67	2.74	0	0	0	2.74	1.41	51	1.33
	7	Arunachal Pradesh	0.18	0.03	0	0	0	0.03	0.21	0	0	0	0.21	0.07	33	0.14
	8	Meghalaya	0.14	0	0.07	0.05	0	0.12	0.26	0	0	0	0.26	0.10	38	0.16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	9	Mizoram	0.22	0.01	0	0	0	0.01	0.23	0	0	0	0.23	0.03	13	0.20
	10	Tripura	0.27	0.05	0.17	0	0	0.22	0.49	0	0	0	0.49	0.14	33	0.35
	11	Manipur	0.20	0	0	0	0	0	0.20	0	0	0	0.20	0.07	35	0.13
	12	Nagaland	0.20	0	0.12	0	0	0.12	0.32	0	0	0	0.32	0.23	62	0.09
		TOTAL (N.E.Z)	3.28	0.09	0.54	0.15	0.39	1.17	4.45	0	0	0	4.45	2.05	46	2.40
North	13	Delhi	3.36	0	0	0	0	0	3.36	0.34	0	0.34	3.70	3.12	84	0.58
	14	Haryana	7.68	3.84	2.16	4.06	2.18	12.24	19.92	3.21	0.07	3.28	23.20	21.89	94	1.31
	15	H.P.	0.14	0.06	0.05	0	0	0.11	0.25	0	0	0	0.25	0.13	52	0.12
	16	J & K	1.03	0.16	0	0	0.11	0.27	1.30	0	0	0	1.30	0.91	70	0.39
	17	Punjab	21.84	0.07	3.81	27.97	5.55	37.40	59.24	6.35	3.56	9.91	69.15	65.49	95	3.66
	18	Chandigarh	0.40	0	0.46	0.20	0	0.66	1.06	0.08	0.17	0.25	1.31	1.29	98	0.02
	19	Rajasthan	7.06	0.15	1.55	3.04	1.45	6.19	13.25	1.58	2.30	3.88	17.13	14.94	87	2.19
	20	Uttar Pradesh	14.95	0.06	2.19	4.52	0.23	7.00	21.95	4.15	0.10	4.25	26.20	17.88	68	8.32
	21	Uttaranchal	0.66	0.27	0.50	0.56	0.05	1.38	2.04	0.09	0.20	0.29	2.33	2.43	1.04	(+)0.10
		TOTAL (N.Z.)	57.12	4.61	10.72	40.35	9.57	65.25	122.37	15.80	6.40	22.20	144.57	128.08	89	16.49
South	22	Andhra Pradesh	12.66	0	3.89	16.09	0.53	20.51	33.17	2.62	0.00	2.62	35.79	34.35	96	1.44

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	23	Andaman Nicobar	0.07	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.07	0	0	0	0.07	0.05	71	0.02
	23	Kerala	5.17	0	0	0	0	0	5.17	0.20	0.00	0.20	5.37	4.81	90	0.56
	24	Karnataka	3.78	0	1.15	1.25	0	2.40	6.18	1.35	0.00	1.35	7.53	6.25	83	1.28
	25	Tamil Nadu	5.80	0	2.22	0.50	0	2.72	8.52	0.57	0.00	0.57	9.09	9.59	106	(+)0.50
	26	Pondicherry	0.44	0	0	0.02	0	0.02	0.46	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.51	0.45	88	0.06
		TOTAL (S.Z.)	27.92	0	7.26	17.86	0.53	25.65	53.57	4.79	0.00	4.79	58.36	55.50	95	2.86
West	27	Gujarat	5.00	0.14	0.70	0.02	0	0.86	5.86	0.27	0.00	0.27	6.13	4.41	72	1.72
	28	Dadar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	29	Lakshya- dweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	28	Maha- rashtra	11.77	0.13	2.09	2.03	0.88	5.13	16.90	0.92	0.00	0.92	17.82	11.65	65	6.17
	29	Goa	0.15	0	0	0	0	0	0.15	0	0.00	0	0.15	0.12	80	0.03
	30	Madhya Pradesh	3.37	0.36	1.52	1.68	1.60	5.16	8.53	0.35	0.00	0.35	8.88	6.59	74	2.29
	31	Chhattisgarh	5.12	0.13	0.29	1.75	0.10	2.27	7.39	0	0.00	0.00	7.39	7.27	98	0.12
		TOTAL (W.Z.)	25.41	0.76	4.60	5.48	2.58	13.42	38.83	1.54	0.00	1.54	40.37	30.04	74	10.33
		GRAND TOTAL	129.67	5.72	25.57	67.54	14.77	113.60	243.27	22.13	6.40	28.53	271.80	236.14	87	35.66

### Corruption in PDS

749. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether nearly 40 per cent of beneficiaries are being kept away from the PDS scheme by denying ration cards as per CAG report;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government; and
- (c) the details of monitoring mechanism by the Central Government to supervise PDS scheme being implemented through the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As per CAG report for the year ended March, 2005 [Union Government (Civil) Performance Audit No. 16 of 2006], a survey conducted regarding functioning of fair price shops in Manipur, *inter-alia*, indicated that 37% of the beneficiaries had not been issued ration cards. In this regard the report was called for from the State Government of Manipur, The State Government has reported that FPS level vigilance committees have been set up and adequate efforts are being made to improve TPDS. It has also been informed that penal action has been taken against four officers of the Food and Civil Supplies Department for diversion of foodgrains.

(c) Under PDS (Control) Order 2001, State & UT Governments are mandated to issue ration cards only to eligible applicants. As stipulated under this Order, reports are obtained from State Governments on their monitoring of TPDS under clause 8 and penal action taken under clause 9. Reports in Form 'C' are obtained on distribution of foodgrains and status of ration cards. Utilization Certificates (UCs) for the foodgrains allocated to State Governments are obtained regularly from the State Governments. Review meetings are held with Food Secretaries of State Governments on functioning of the TPDS. Area Officers of this Department also visit the States to monitor the functioning of TPDS in the States.

Similarly progress reports are obtained on implementation of 9-points action plan.

### Sale of banned 'Khesari' pulse in open market

†750. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of years since pulses are imported in the country;
- (b) the reasons for importing pulses;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the ban on khesari pulse continues; and
- (d) if so, whether Government is aware that khesari pulse is being treated with chemicals and poisonous materials and is being sold in the open market, and if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) As per available published record, pulses are being imported into the country since 1960-61.

(b) The main reason for importing pulses is to augment the overall availability of pulses and to contain the prices of pulses.

(c) The sale of Khesari pulses has been prohibited under rule 44A in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955. An extract of the relevant rule is reproduced below:-

**"Rule 44-A:- Sale of Khesari gram prohibited:-** No person in any State shall, with effect from such date as the State Government concerned may by notification in the Official Gazette specify in this behalf, sell or offer or expose for sale, or have in his possession for the purpose of sale, under any description or for use as an ingredient in the preparation of any article of food intended for sale Khesari gram and its mixture."

(d) There is no such report received by the Government.

#### **Adulteration in food products**

†751. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that ninety per cent of the food products being sold in the country are adulterated and are also the source of many serious diseases;

(b) if so, whether Government is taking any effective step to stop this trade of adulteration; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The implementation of Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act, 1954 and Rules, 1955 is entrusted to the Food (Health) Authorities of the States/U.T.s. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has informed that as per information made available by the Food Health Authorities through their Annual Reports on working of PFA Act, and Rules in their respective States/U.T.s from year 2003 to 2007, only about 8.9 percent of samples tested during the period 2003-07 were found adulterated.

The adulterants used in food articles may or may not cause illness in human beings.

(b) and (c) In order to keep a check on adulteration in food, the Food (Health) Authorities are advised from time to time to keep a strict vigil by drawing more and more food samples of all commodities from all sources viz. manufacturer, wholesalers and retailers and to take penal action against the offenders under the provisions of the PFA Act, 1954.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

### Starvation deaths

752. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the starvation deaths reported in the country during last one year till 1st July, 2009, State-wise;

(b) the details of the starvation deaths reported in Uttar Pradesh during the last one year till 1st July 2009, district-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As per information received from various State/UT Governments and record available in the Department, no incidence of starvation death has taken place during last one year in any State/UT, including Uttar Pradesh.

(c) For maintaining food security in the country and to ensure that people living below poverty line get adequate food grains, the Government has been implementing the following schemes:

1. Targeted Public Distribution System:

Government is allocating food grains at subsidized rates for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL), and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) ration card holder families under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Under this scheme, for BPL & AAY families food grains are allocated to the States/UTs @ 35 Kg per family per month. Depending upon availability of food grains in the Central Pool, they are also allocated for APL category of population. Presently, allocations of food grains under this category range from 10 to 35 Kg per family per month.

2. Under Annapurna scheme implemented by Ministry of Rural Development through State/UT Governments, indigent senior citizens of 65 years of age or above who, though eligible under National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) but not getting pension, are provided 10 Kg of food grains per person per month free of cost.

3. Under the Emergency Feeding Programme (EFP) implemented by Department of Food and Public Distribution through the State Government of Orissa, in eight KBK Districts of Orissa, food grains (rice) at BPL rates are being allocated to State Government of Orissa for approximately 2 lakh beneficiaries in these districts.

4. To provide safeguard against starvation during natural calamity and lean season, under the Village Grain Bank Scheme being implemented by the Department of Food and Public Distribution through the State & UT Governments, food grains are loaned to people in need of food grains from the Village Grain Banks.



### Imported GM food

753. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that imported Genetically Modified (GM) food which have been banned by Government are freely entering into the country with the tag 'Non-GM food';

(b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has contemplated any step to check the entry of imported GM food and to punish importers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) As of date there is no ban on import of GM food. The import of GM food is governed by two regulations namely:

- The entry of GM food at various ports of entry is governed by the DGFT notification dated 7th April, 2006. The DGFT notification requires:

(i) All applications for import of GMOs/LMOs for research, bulk import of GM food, feed, raw or processed or any ingredient of food, food additives or any food product that contains GM materials will require prior approval by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC).

(ii) At the time of import, all consignments containing products which have been subjected to genetic modification will carry a declaration stating that the product is 'Genetically Modified'.

(iii) In case a consignment does not carry such a declaration and is later found to contain genetically modified material, the importer is liable to penal action under the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992.

- 'Rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import and Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro-Organisms / Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells, 1989', commonly known as 'Rules 1989' issued under the provisions of the EPA, 1986.

The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) notified under Rules, 1989 is the apex body to accord approval for large scale use and commercial release of genetically modified organisms. The mandate of the GEAC is to (i) ensure that all activities related to genetically modified organism are carried out in a safe manner and (ii) evaluate the impact of the living modified organisms on environmental and human health before it is permitted for commercial release. Currently there is no mechanism or mandate to monitor the transboundary movement of GM products.

(b) No such information has been received. However, two representations are under review:

- Representation from M/s Greenpeace regarding the import of GM food namely "Dorito's Cool Ranch Corn chips" manufactured by Frito Lays Inc. for Pepsico USA without the approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) notified under 'Rules 1989' of EPA, 1986.

- Representation from M/s K K Enterprise whose consignment consisting of Dorito Chips of three flavors namely 'NACHO', 'TACO' and 'BBQ' has been detained at Nhava Sheva Port, Navi Mumbai

(c) and (d) The import of GM food requires the prior approval of the GEAC under Rules, 1989 of EPA, 1986 and a declaration at the port of entry. In case of a wrong declaration or import without the approval of the GEAC both, the regulations provide for taking punitive action against the importers. The Food Safety and Standards Authority is in the process of framing rules and guidelines for import of GM food. Once the FSSA is operational, the import of GM processed will be exempted from the provisions of Rule 11, of Rules, 1989 of EPA, 1986.

#### **Jaggery production**

754. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to regulate jaggery production; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Foodgrains at cheaper rates to BPL families**

755. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has consulted the State Governments for identification of exact BPL beneficiaries, to implement its promise of 25 kg. rice/wheat at Rs. 3 per kg. for BPL families;

(b) whether it is a fact that the number of BPL families accounted by the State Governments are quiet higher than the number estimated by the Central Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government to figure the exact number of proposed BPL beneficiaries under this scheme, along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government proposes to enact the

National Food Security Act. In order to frame the proposed law, Government has initiated necessary action. Examination of different aspects of the proposed law in consultation with various stake holders is presently in progress. As part of this exercise, consultation with State Governments was held on 10.06.2009 as per concept note circulated on the proposed law.

Presently, under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) allocation of food grains is made for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) (including the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission projected on the population estimates of Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000. However, the total number of BPL (including AAY) ration cards issued by the States as per reports upto 30.06.2009 is 10.86 crore.

For conducting next round of BPL census, Ministry of Rural Development is in the process of finalizing guidelines. For identification of BPL families in urban areas, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation has issued guidelines in January, 2009.

#### **Consumer complaint mechanism**

756. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) how effective is the on-line consumer complaint mechanism of CORE Centre; and
- (b) in what percentage of cases have consumer complaints been resolved in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The on line consumer complaint mechanism of CORE Centre is useful because the complainant without going to Consumer Forum, may get redressal of his grievances. On an average 1500 complaints per month are received at CORE. The percentage of resolutions is also increasing by every year.

The percentage of complaints resolved in the last three years is given below:

Sl.No.	Period	No. of Complaints	No. of Complaints	% of
		Received	Resolved	Resolved
1	01 Jan 06 to 31 Dec 06	13196	2260	17.12%
2	01 Jan 07 to 31 Dec 07	16261	4653	28.61%
3	01 Jan 08 to 31 Dec 08	17396	4683	26.91%

### Warehousing capacity

757. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of wheat, rice and other cereal required to be stored for six months reserve;
- (b) the present capacity of warehousing in different States; and
- (c) the steps taken to increase the warehousing capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Buffer norms for wheat and rice are as under:-

(Figs. In Lakh Tonnes)

Date	Wheat	Rice
1st April	40	122
1st July	171	98
1st October	110	52
1st January	82	118

Buffer norms for other cereals has not been fixed.

(b) As on 15.06.2009, FCI is having total storage capacity of 271.80 lac MT (Owned & Hired/Covered & CAP) all over the country. A statement showing the State-wise and agency-wise storage capacity and stocks held as on 15.06.2009 is given in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(c) The following steps have been taken for augmentation of storage capacity:-

i) Action was taken in consultation with the State Governments, to hire and create additional storage capacity wherever required.

ii) Temporary plinths of 4.07 lac MT capacity are being constructed on vacant land lying within the FCI's existing godowns.

iii) The General Manager (Regions) have been empowered to hire additional storage capacity from CWC/SWCs/State Agencies and Private Parties as per requirement.

iv) FCI proposes to create an additional capacity of about 126 lac MT under Five Year Guarantee Scheme for creation of storage capacity.

v) Under XIth Five Year Plan (2007-12), there is an allocation of Rs. 149 crores for construction of godowns by FCI and State Governments.

**Statement**

*The State-wise and Agency-wise storage capacity and stocks with F.C.I. (as on 15.06.2009)*

(Fig. in Lac. Tonnes)

Zone	Sl. No.	Region/U.T.	Covered Hired From				CAP (Open)						
			FCI owned	State Govt.	C.W.C.	S.W.C.	Private parties	Total hired	Total covered	Owned	Hired	Total	Grand Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
East	1	Bihar	3.66	0.03	0.66	0.79	0.48	1.96	5.62	0	0	0	5.62
	2	Jharkhand	0.66	0.02	0.13	0.15	0.20	0.50	1.16	0	0	0	1.16
	3	Orissa	2.93	0	0.74	2.76	0.15	3.65	6.58	0	0	0	6.58
	4	West Bengal	8.59	0.20	0.92	0	0.87	1.99	10.58	0	0	0	10.58
	5	Sikkim	0.10	0.01	0	0	0	0.01	0.11	0	0	0	0.11
TOTAL (E. Zone)			15.94	0.26	2.45	3.70	1.70	8.11	24.05	0	0	0	24.05
N.E.	6	Assam	2.07	0	0.18	0.10	0.39	0.67	2.74	0	0	0	2.74
	7	Arunachal Pradesh	0.18	0.03	0	0	0	0.03	0.21	0	0	0	0.21
	8	Meghalaya	0.14	0	0.07	0.05	0	0.12	0.26	0	0	0	0.26
	9	Mizoram	0.22	0.01	0	0	0	0.01	0.23	0	0	0	0.23
	10	Tripura	0.27	0.05	0.17	0	0	0.22	0.49	0	0	0	0.49
	11	Manipur	0.20	0	0	0	0	0	0.20	0	0	0	0.20
	12	Nagaland	0.20	0	0.12	0	0	0.12	0.32	0	0	0	0.32
Total (N.E.Z)			3.28	0.09	0.54	0.15	0.39	1.17	4.45	0	0	0	4.45
North	13	Delhi	3.36	0	0	0	0	0	3.36	0.34	0	0.34	3.70
	14	Haryana	7.68	3.84	2.16	4.06	2.18	12.24	19.92	3.21	0.07	3.28	23.20
	15	H.P.	0.14	0.06	0.05	0	0	0.11	0.25	0	0	0	0.25

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	16	J & K	1.03	0.16	0	0	0.11	0.27	1.30	0	0	0	1.30
	17	Punjab	21.84	0.07	3.81	27.97	5.55	37.40	59.24	6.35	3.56	9.91	69.15
	18	Chandigarh	0.40	0	0.46	0.20	0	0.66	1.06	0.08	0.17	0.25	1.31
	19	Rajasthan	7.06	0.15	1.55	3.04	1.45	6.19	13.25	1.58	2.30	3.88	17.13
	20	Uttar Pradesh	14.95	0.06	2.19	4.52	0.23	7.00	21.95	4.15	0.10	4.25	26.20
	21	Uttaranchal	0.66	0.27	0.50	0.56	0.05	1.38	2.04	0.09	0.20	0.29	2.33
		TOTAL (N.Z.)	57.12	4.61	10.72	40.35	9.57	65.25	122.37	15.80	6.40	22.20	144.57
South	22	Andhra Pradesh	12.66	0	3.89	16.09	0.53	20.51	33.17	2.62	0.00	2.62	35.79
	23	Andaman Nicobar	0.07	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.07	0.00	0	0	0.07
	23	Kerala	5.17	0	0	0	0	0	5.17	0.20	0.00	0.20	5.37
	24	Karnataka	3.78	0	1.15	1.25	0	2.40	6.18	1.35	0.00	1.35	7.53
	25	Tamil Nadu	5.80	0	2.22	0.50	0	2.72	8.52	0.57	0.00	0.57	9.09
	26	Pondicherry	0.44	0	0	0.02	0	0.02	0.46	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.51
		Total (S.Z.)	27.92	0	7.26	17.86	0.53	25.65	53.57	4.79	0.00	4.79	58.36
West	27	Gujarat	5.00	0.14	0.70	0.02	0	0.86	5.86	0.27	0.00	0.27	6.13
	28	Dadar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	29	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	28	Maharashtra	11.77	0.13	2.09	2.03	0.88	5.13	16.90	0.92	0.00	0.92	17.82
	29	Goa	0.15	0	0	0	0	0	0.15	0	0.00	0	0.15
	30	Madhya Pradesh	3.37	0.36	1.52	1.68	1.60	5.16	8.53	0.35	0.00	0.35	8.88
	31	Chhattisgarh	5.12	0.13	0.29	1.75	0.10	2.27	7.39	0	0.00	0.00	7.39
		TOTAL (W.Z.)	25.41	0.76	4.60	5.48	2.58	13.42	38.83	1.54	0.00	1.54	40.37
		GRAND TOTAL	129.67	5.72	25.57	67.54	14.77	113.60	243.27	22.13	6.40	28.53	271.80

#### **Import of wheat**

758. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) what has compelled Government to import around 10 lakh tonnes of wheat inspite of enough stock to meet the domestic demand;
- (b) whether Government is aware that presently global wheat prices are soaring and there is no sign of reversal;
- (c) the cost at which Government has imported 10 lakh tonnes of wheat;
- (d) whether it is a fact that Government would have to pay twice as the price of imports than Government paid to domestic farmers;
- (e) whether public sector companies would be allowed to import wheat; and
- (f) if so, the details of those companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) During 2006-07 and 2007-08, 53.79 lakh tons and 18.44 lakh tons respectively of wheat was imported to meet the requirements of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other Welfare Schemes of the Government as procurement fell short of the estimated requirement.

However, in view of the good progress in procurement of wheat during 2008-09 which was sufficient to meet the requirement of targeted public distribution system and other welfare schemes run by the Government, Government took decision in May 2008 not to import wheat during 2008-09. Further, no decision has been taken to import wheat during 2009-10 for the Central Pool.

(b) During the last six months the price of wheat (US Soft Red Wheat) in the international market has been more or less stable.

(c) The weighted average price of wheat imported during 2006-07 and 2007-08 was US \$ 205.34 per ton and US \$ 366.83 per ton respectively.

(d) to (f) Since Government has decided not to import wheat, hence, the questions do not arise.

#### **Procurement of wheat**

759. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of wheat procured by FCI and private parties during this season from wheat producing States, separately in each case, the price paid by FCI and the private parties per quintal of good quality wheat in each State, if varies; and
- (b) to what extent the central pool of wheat has been augmented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The State-wise procurement of wheat by Food

Corporation of India (FCI) and State agencies in Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2009-10 as on 6.7.2009 is given in the enclosed Statement (*See below*). FCI and State agencies procure wheat at Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by the Government (Rs. 1080 per quintal in RMS 2009-10).

Data regarding purchase of wheat by private parties is not maintained by the Department.

(b) On 1.4.2009, the total stocks of wheat in the Central Pool was 134.29 lakh tonnes. Due to the record procurement of wheat in RMS 2009-10, wheat stocks in the Central Pool has increased to 329.22 lakh tonnes as on 1.7.2009.

***Statement***

*State-wise procurement of wheat by FCI and State agencies in  
Rabi Marketing Season 2009-10*

S. No.	Name of State	2009-10*
1.	Punjab	107.19
2.	Haryana	69.12
3.	U.P.	38.69
4.	Rajasthan	11.52
5.	Chandigarh	0.12
6.	Delhi	0.00
7.	H.P.	0.01
8.	M.P.	19.18
9.	Gujarat	0.75
10.	Bihar	2.43
11.	Uttarakhand	1.44
12.	Chhattisgarh	0
TOTAL :		250.44

\* As on 6.7.2009

**Subsidised foodgrains to States**

760. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) on what basis the Central Government allocates subsidized foodgrains to the States and on what basis the State Governments distribute the grains to the BPL families;

(b) whether the poverty estimate for each State has always been at variance with State list of beneficiaries;



(c) whether some States have asked the Union Government to remove the anomaly, if any;  
and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under joint responsibility of the Government of India and State/UT Governments. While the Central Government engages in procurement of foodgrains for TPDS, storage, transportation and allocation to the State/UT Governments, the onus for identification of BPL and AAY families as per Planning Commission estimates and guidelines of Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation and issuance of ration cards to them, allocation of foodgrains within the State/UT and proper distribution of allocated TPDS foodgrains to the eligible families through Fair Price Shops rests with the State/UT Governments.

Under the TPDS allocation of foodgrains is made @ 35 kg. per family per month for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, including the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in the country on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission projected on the population estimates of Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000. Accordingly State Governments are expected to identify BPL families as per their respective share within this ceiling limit and issue foodgrains @ 35 kg. per BPL family per month. However, as against 6.52 crore families accepted for allocations as above, the total number of BPL (including AAY) ration cards issued by the States as by 30.6.2009 is 10.86 crore. Therefore, the scale of issue of foodgrains to each BPL family per month is lower than 35 kg. in those States.

Requests have been received from 12 States/UT Governments namely Bihar, Kerala, Orissa, Karnataka, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Meghalaya, Maharashtra and Daman & Diu for accepting higher number of BPL families for TPDS allocations than their share in 6.52 crore families.

#### **Storage facility of foodgrains**

†761. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present Government have started any plan/programme for increasing the number and capacity of warehouses and cold storages and for their upgradation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of newly constructed warehouses and cold storages whose capacity has been enhanced and also the warehouses and cold storages which have been equipped with advanced resources during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(d) the details of the investments made by private investors, corporate sector and public sector undertakings in this sector, State-wise and year-wise; and

(e) the grant/credit support/technological aid provided by Government for the same, if any, along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, for the 11th Five Year Plan, Food Corporation of India (FCI) has prepared a shelf of project to construct 3.41 lakh MT additional capacity of godowns and the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) proposes to construct additional capacity of foodgrain storage godowns to the tune of 1.09 lakh MT during the current financial year.

A network of rural godowns to enable small farmers to enhance their holding capacity in order to sell their produce at remunerative prices and to avoid distress sales, titled as 'Gramin Bhandaran Yojana' has been launched *w.e.f.* 01.04.2001 by the Ministry of Agriculture. Sanction for total number of 20,691 godowns having a capacity of 240.75 lakh. Tones have been given by NABARD & NDCDC under this scheme upto May 2009.

(c) The details of newly constructed storage space by FCI & CWC during the last three years. Year-wise and State-wise is as under :

(Capacity in MTs)			
States	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Uttar Pradesh	59400	62150	65200
Delhi	9900	10000	--
Karnataka	39460	5000	--
Madhya Pradesh	16700	--	--
Rajasthan	18300	--	5000
Bihar	5000	--	--
Gujarat	201300	132530	--
Maharashtra	27760	22000	--
Andhra Pradesh	--	13200	--
Goa	--	--	2000
J & K	6250	--	--
Tripura	5000	--	2500
Assam	3340	7500	--
Himachal Pradesh	3340	--	--
Mizoram	3340	4590	--
TOTAL :	399090	256970	74700

The details indicating the details of cold-storages, State-wise and Year-wise for the last three years is enclosed as Statement. (See below)

(d) and (e) Government of India has released an equity amount of Rs. 4 crores during 2007-08 and Rs. 16.45 crore during 2008-09 to FCI for construction of godowns. The CWC has invested Rs. 188.94 crores on construction of additional warehousing capacity across the country during the last three years. Besides, under the National Storage Policy, 5.5 lakh MT capacity of storage space has been created in the private sector on Build, Own & Operate (BOO) basis.

Under the Ministry of Agriculture's revised 'Grameen Bhandaran Yojana' subsidy @ 25% is provided to all categories of farmers, Agriculture graduates, cooperatives & CWC/ SWCs. All other categories of individuals companies and corporations are provided subsidy @ 15% of the project cost. In case of NE States/hilly areas & SC/ST entrepreneurs and their cooperatives and Women Farmers, subsidy is provided @ 33.33%.

The National Horticulture Board under Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing a scheme on 'Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Modernization, Expansion of Cold Storages and Storage for Horticulture Produce' to promote setting up of cold storage/storages of horticulture produce in the country. Under this scheme, the Board is providing back-ended capital investment subsidy facilities for projects.

#### Statement

*Status of Cold Storage Sanctioned under the "Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for 'Construction/Expansion/Modernization of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Produce' during 2006-07 to 2008-2009 (as on 31.03.2009) (NABARD/NCDC/NHB/NAFED)*

(Subsidy in Lakh Rupees)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2006-2007			2007-2008			2008-2009		
		No.	Capacity (MT)	Eligible Subsidy	No.	Capacity (MT)	Eligible Subsidy	No.	Capacity (MT)	Eligible Subsidy
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Punjab	3	7773	35.25	16	67198	585.54	6	16553	114.05
2	Haryana	3	6028	341.02	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00
3	Tamil Nadu	14	32206	510.47	0	0	0.00	3	0	53.12
4	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0.00	3	18270	1599.00	0	0	0.00
5	Uttar Pradesh	92	487301	3399.03	119	645177	5139.65	75	55522	1450.09
6	Uttanchal	0	0	0.00	1	1200	2.67	0	0	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7	Maharashtra	4	16021	171.39	12	10356	46.05	4	8368	10.55
8	Rajasthan	4	11720	102.14	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00
9	Karnataka	9	54646	363.89	13	74961	592.13	4	16533	92.86
10	Gujarat	13	96221	347.63	24	37768	349.53	0	0	0.00
11	Orissa	0	0	0.00	4	13273	141.31	0	0	0.00
12	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	5	8503	42.91
13	Chhattisgarh	6	23482	202.98	1	2200	25.13	1	5112	26.01
14	West Bengal	8	24118	266.76	81	1600	99.50	0	0	0.00
15	Andhra Pradesh	30	102304	1082.42	9	44235	423.10	1	6415	40.22
16	Assam	6	33900	353.30	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00
17	Bihar	15	56051	434.90	12	47347	463.88	5	16580	75.25
18	Jharkhand	0	0	0.00	9	46694	407.28	0	0	0.00
19	Tripura	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00
20	Delhi	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	1	2566	6.41
21	Kerala	2	4850	48.50	0	0	0.00	1	4644	23.59
22	Nagaland	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00
23	Goa	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00
24	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00
25	J & K	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00
TOTAL :		209	956621	7659.69	231	1020279	9874.76	106	140796	1935.10

#### National Food Security Act

762. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to bring in the National Food Security Act to tackle the malnutrition problem in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has ever assessed loss to nation due to calory/energy deficit in the country; and

(d) if not, whether there is any agency which has assessed the loss and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As announced in President's address to Parliament on 4th June, 2009, Government proposes to enact the National Food Security Act. In order to frame the proposed law, Government has initiated necessary action. Examination of different aspects of the proposed law in consultation with State Governments, various Central Ministries, experts and other stake holders is presently in progress.

To address problem of malnutrition in the country, Government implements schemes such as Midday Meal Scheme by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, and Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) and Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) by the Ministry of Women & Child Development.

(c) and (d) In a report captioned "National Strategy to Reduce Childhood Malnutrition" (December, 1997) prepared by Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad, annual productivity loss due to major malnutrition disorders in India had been estimated as 3.9% of GDP.

#### **Export of foodgrains from the stock of FCI**

763. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total stock of foodgrains in the godowns of the Food Corporation of India during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total quantum of foodgrains released and lifted for export during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether foodgrains were released to the exporters at a subsidized rate;

(d) if so, the details of subsidy given to the exporters during the said period, year-wise; and

(e) the details of release, off take and price of foodgrains under the Public Distribution System during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) A Statement showing the details of total storage capacity and stock of foodgrains in the godowns of FCI during the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement-I. (See below).

(b) and (d) There has been no export of foodgrains from Central Pool stocks during the last three years i.e. 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09.

(e) The details of allotment and offtake under Targeted Public Distribution System during the last three years i.e. 2006-07 to 2008-09 and Central Issue Prices are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

*Details of the total storage capacity and stock available with the Food Corporation of India during the last three years*

(Fig. in Lakh tonnes)

Year As on 31st March	Total Storage Capacity available with FCI (Covered/CAP/Owned/Hired)	Total stocks held with FCI
2006-07	252.87	135.97
2007-08	238.94	117.49
2008-09	252.79	192.58

**Statement-II**

*Details of allotment and offtake under Targeted Public Distribution System during last three years and Central issue prices*

**Wheat**

Figures in '000 Tonnes (Provisional)

Year	Allotment				Offtake			
	BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total
2006-2007	5502.998	5808.497	3107.299	14418.794	4769.360	2653.413	2829.695	10252.468
2007-2008	5030.055	3533.641	3399.294	11962.990	4724.338	2933.487	3180.471	10838.296
2008-2009	5911.237	5259.704	3475.011	14645.952	5624.399	3710.086	3198.559	12533.044

**Rice**

Year	Allotment				Offtake			
	BPL	APL	AAY	Total	BPL	APL	AAY	Total
2006-2007	12501.194	24474.266	6261.802	43237.262	9469.914	5815.086	5831.989	21116.989
2007-2008	12335.087	8282.416	6697.251	27314.754	10404.635	5788.914	6258.335	22451.884
2008-2009	11494.134	5915.586	6720.759	24130.479	10031.384	5710.298	6326.078	22067.760

**Central Issue Prices**

(Rate: Rs./Quintal)

Name of the Scheme	Wheat	Rice	
		Common	Grade 'A'
Above Poverty Line (APL)	610	795 \$	830
Below Poverty Line (BPL)	415	565	565
Antyodaya Anna Yojana	200	300	300

(\$: Rate for Common rice under APL is applicable only for J&K Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and NE States.)

### **Ban on Import of Toxic Chinese Toys**

‡764. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that some countries have imposed ban on Chinese toys because of use of toxic substance in them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken concrete steps to create awareness amongst consumers about buying indigenous goods, and threats of buying foreign goods particularly Chinese goods;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) This information is not maintained in this Department.

(c) to (e) Department of Consumer Affairs has undertaken multi media publicity campaign regarding consumer awareness under which efforts are being made to educate consumers about their rights and grievance redressal mechanism. Specific focus has been given to spread awareness regarding purchase of goods that are based on standardization such as ISI, Agmark, etc.

### **Price rise of Sugar**

765. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that price of sugar is rising during the last one year;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to control it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Due to lower production of sugarcane and sugar in the country during the current sugar season 2008-09, sugar prices in the open market have increased. The Central Government has taken a slew of measures to check the price hike as indicated below:

- (i) Stock-holding and turnover limits on sugar have been imposed *vide* Notifications dated 09.03.2009 and 12.03.2009 for a period of four months *i.e.* upto 08.07.2009. The Government has since decided to extend these limits by another six months, *i.e.*, upto 08.01.2010;

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(ii) Additional releases of non-levy sugar quota were given during the quarter April-June, 2009;

(iii) Futures trading in sugar on NCDEX has been suspended to check speculative tendencies in sugar trade with effect from 27th May, 2009.

Apart from the above, the Central Government has also taken steps to augment sugar stocks by permitting import of raw sugar by sugar mills, and one million ton of white/refined sugar by designated agencies, at zero customs duty for a specified period under O.G.L. Besides, sugar mills have also been permitted to import raw sugar under Advance Authorization Scheme upto a specified period and sell the processed sugar in domestic market, subject to discharge of export obligation in subsequent period.

#### **Village Grain Banks**

766. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Village Grain Banks established in the State of West Bengal, during the last three years, district-wise and year-wise;

(b) the amount sanctioned and released for setting up of above banks in West Bengal in the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that VGB scheme has been revised recently;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) how the Indian Grain Storage Management and Research Institute is helping in effectively maintaining Grain Banks in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) 420 Village Grain Banks (VGBs) have been sanctioned by Government and established by State Government of West Bengal during 2006-07 and 2007-08. For this purpose, Rs.283.19 lakh have been released. Details of VGBs established by the State Government and funds released are enclosed as Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Continuation of the Village Grain Bank scheme during Eleventh Plan period was approved in December, 2007 with an outlay of Rs.87 Crores.

(e) Village Grain Banks are managed by Executive Committee of each VGB. It is to ensure proper storage of foodgrains. A one time grant of Rs.6000/- for storage and other expenses is provided for each grain bank. The Indian Grain Storage Management and Research Institute has not been involved in maintenance of VGBs.



**Statement**

*Details of VGBs established by the State Government and funds released*

1. District-wise/Year-wise Village Grain Banks established in West Bengal during 2006-07 and 2007-08.

2006-2007			2007-2008	
Sl.No.	Name of District	Number of VGBs established	Name of District	Number of VGBs established
1.	Purulia	39	Bankura	57
2.	Bankura	54	Purulia	72
3.	Pachim Midnapur	24	Paschim Midnapore (Jhargram)	53
4.	Birbhum	06	Jalpaiguri	09
5.	Murshidabad	03	Malda (32)	11
6.	Burdwan	03	Uttar Dinajpur	04
7.	Darjeeling	03	Dakshin Dinajpur	17
8.	Jalpaiguri	03	Birbhum (16)	06
9.	Malda	12	Burdwan	06
10.	Dakshin Dinajpur	11	Murshidabad	04
11.	Uttar Dinajpur	10	H.O. (North 24-Parganas)	06
12.	24 -Paraganas (N)	02	H.O. Hooghly	05
TOTAL :		170	TOTAL :	250

2. Funds released by Government of India for setting up Village Grain Banks in West Bengal during 2006-07 and 2007-08.

(Rs. In Lakh)

Sl.No.	Year	Number of VGBs sanctioned	Amount sanctioned and released		Total
			Cash Component*	Food Component**	
1.	2006-07	170	20.74	87.46	108.20
2.	2007-08	250	30.50	144.49	174.99
TOTAL :		420	51.24	231.95	283.19

\* Released to State Government.

\*\* Cost of foodgrains released to Food Corporation of India (FCI).

#### **Supply of foodgrains for students in SC/ST hostels**

767. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government supplies foodgrains for students who are studying in SC/ST/OBC hostels in the country;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the foodgrains are being provided to students studying only in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka since 2001-02; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The Government allocates foodgrains to States/UTs under SC/ST/OBC Hostels Scheme for such students staying in hostels based on requests received from State/UT Governments. Allocations of foodgrains under this scheme were made in 2001-02 to 19 States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. In subsequent years, allocations were issued mainly to Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka under this scheme based on request received. During 2008-09, foodgrains under the scheme have been allocated to Andhra Pradesh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland and Tripura.

#### **Rise in the prices of foodgrains**

†768.SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of foodgrains are increasing continuously;

(b) whether the production of wheat and rice has also increased; and

(c) the measures being adopted to control the prices of pulses as well as other foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Madam, There has been no continuous increase in prices of food grains especially Rice and Wheat. Government has taken several steps to check the increase in prices by taking effective measures such as augmenting domestic supplies of foodgrains through imports at zero/reduced rates of duty and ban on exports. Prices of foodgrains are either stable or declined. Across the 4 zones, the Retail prices and whole sale prices of Rice and wheat is more or less stable over the last six months.

(b) Yes, Madam, Since 2004-05 there has been increase in production of rice from 83.13 million tonnes to 96.69 million tonnes in 2007-08. The Third Advance Estimates of production sets rice production for 2008-09 at 99.37 million tonnes. The production of wheat has also increased from 68.64 million tonnes in 2004-05 to 78.57 million tonnes in 2007-08. The Third Advance Estimates sets wheat production for 2008-09 at 77.63 million tonnes.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(c) The Government has taken a number of steps to control the price rise and to soften the impact of price rise on consumers. The important steps taken are briefly listed:

**A. Short Term Measures**

**1. Fiscal Measures**

- (i) Reducing import duties to zero - for wheat, pulses, edible oils (crude) and maize (under TRQ of 5 lakh tonnes per annum, beyond which 15% duty will apply).

**2. Administrative Measures**

- (i) Export of wheat and wheat products (atta, maida and suji) was permitted after 15th May 2009, with a cap of 2 million tonnes in 2009-10.
- (ii) Export not more than 20 lakh tonnes of rice, on diplomatic basis through the MEA to friendly countries in KMS 2008-09.
- (iii) Banning export of non-basmati rice, wheat and pulses (except kabuli chana).
- (iv) Imposition of stock limit orders in the case of paddy, rice, pulses.
- (v) The periodic enhancements in MSP- currently Rs. 1080 per quintal for wheat, Rs.850 per quintal for common rice and Rs.880 per quintal for Grade A rice, to maximize procurement of wheat and rice, as well as give incentive to higher production.
- (vi) Maintaining the Central Issue Price (CIP) for rice (at Rs. 5.65 per kg for BPL and Rs. 3 per kg. for AAY) and wheat (at Rs.4.15 per kg for BPL and Rs.2 per kg for AAY).
- (vii) To augment availability of pulses, the Public Sector Undertakings (namely, STC, MMTC, and PEC) and NAFED were permitted to import and sell pulses under a scheme and losses, if any, up to 15% are reimbursed by the Government.
- (viii) Distribution of imported pulses to State Governments at a subsidy of Rs.10/- per kg.
- (ix) Futures trading in Rice, Wheat, Urad and Tur suspended by the Forward Market Commission in the year 2007-08 continued during the year 2008-09.

**B. Medium Term Measures:**

In the medium term, Government has taken initiatives such as the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) to improve production and productivity in agriculture.

**Spurt in prices of pulses**

†769.MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(a) whether Government is aware that there has been a spurt in prices of pulses particularly Toor Dal, in the last five months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to check the price rise and the time by when effects of these measures would be visible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam, Government is aware that there has been a spurt in prices of pulses particularly Tur Dal, in the last five months in some centres, while they have remained steady at 9 centres. Prices of pulses are governed by exogenous factors such as weather, area, production, productivity, demand freight cost and international prices of pulses. As per the Third Advance estimates for 2008-09 released in May 2009, tur production is estimated at 2.37million tonnes as against 3.08 million tonnes for 2007-08. Areas under kharif tur is marginally lower by 0.5% to 3.36 million ha as on 24.10.08, as compared to 3.85 million ha by this time last year. International prices of tur have doubled during the last five months. Demand for pulses increased from 16.77 million tonnes in 2007-08 to 17.51 million tonnes in 2008-09 as estimated by Working Group on 'Crop Husbandry, Agricultural Inputs, Demand and Supply Projections and Agricultural Statistics' constituted by the Planning Commission for the Eleventh Plan (2007-2012).

(c) The various measures taken by Government to check the price rise of pulses is as under:-

(i) Reducing import duties to zero for pulses.

(ii) Banning export of pulses (except kabuli chana).

(iii) Imposition of stock limit orders.

(iv) To augment availability of pulses, the Public Sector Undertakings (namely, STC, MMTC, and PEC) and NAFED were permitted to import and sell pulses under a scheme and losses, if any, up to 15% are reimbursed by the Government.

(v) Distribution of imported pulses to State Governments at a subsidy of Rs.10/- per kg.

(vi) In the medium term, Government has taken initiatives such as the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPAM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) to improve production and productivity in agriculture.

As a result of these measures, the import of pulses has increased from 2.49 million tonnes in 2006-07 to 2.95 million tonnes in 2007-08. During the current year (up to April-February) the imports of pulses is estimated at 2.15 million tonnes(provisional). Prices of tur are stabilizing in many centers for the past two months. These measures have been able to moderate price rise of pulses in the absence of which price rise would have been much higher.

#### **Policies of Dental Council of India**

770. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dental Council of India (DCI) statutory regulator of Dental Education in India, has totally failed in articulating an over all vision for students welfare, while pursuing the policies doing maximum damage to Dental Education in India;

(b) the details of representations received from MPs, and other public representatives by the Government/DCI for taking immediate corrective measures; and

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The Dental Council of India is discharging its statutory duties for maintaining the standard of dental education in accordance with the provisions of Dentists Act, 1948 and the regulations made thereunder so that the students are fully trained in the science of treatment of dental patients. The interests of the students are well protected by the Council.

#### **Primary healthcare system**

771. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need for major changes in the country's primary healthcare systems;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the experts from United Kingdom have agreed to provide training to Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) in public health fields; and

(d) if so, the further steps Government proposes to take to improve the country's primary healthcare system?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) major improvements are being taken up in primary healthcare system in the country for providing quality health care on equitable and affordable basis to all the citizens. The thrust of NRHM is on establishing a fully functional, community owned, decentralized health delivery system. NRHM facilitates simultaneous action on collateral determinants of health like water, sanitation, education, nutrition, etc. Under NRHM major steps have being taken augment the Health Human Resources, improve infrastructure and equipments at health facilities and improve planning, management and logistics/supply chain management at health facilities.

Public health experts from various institutions in UK have agreed to provide training, academic programmes, research opportunities to Public Health Foundation of India in public health fields.

### **Population Policy**

772. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the policy of Government to control population in the country;
- (b) whether Government is considering to formulate a Population Policy which will give direction for control of population; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The Family Welfare Programme in India is voluntary in nature, which enables a couple to adopt the family planning methods, best suited to them according to their choice, without any compulsion.

India adopted a comprehensive and holistic National Population Policy (NPP), 2000, with clearly articulated objectives, strategic themes and operational strategies. The National Population Policy, 2000 provides a policy framework for advancing goals and prioritizing strategies to meet the reproductive and child health needs of the people and to achieve net replacement level *i.e.* Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of 2.1 by 2010. It is based upon the need to simultaneously address issues of child survival, maternal health and contraception while increasing outreach and coverage of a comprehensive package of reproductive and child health services with government, industry and the voluntary non-government sector, working in partnership.

The Government has launched the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) on 12th April, 2005 throughout the country. Population stabilization is one of the objectives of NRHM. It provides a thrust for reduction of child and maternal mortality and reduces the fertility rates. The approach to population stabilization is through providing quality health services in remote rural areas along with a wide range of contraceptive choices to meet the unmet demands for these services. While ensuring full reproductive choices to women. The strategy also is to promote male participation in Family Planning. Population stabilization and Infant Mortality rate requires greater convergent action to influence the wider determinants of health care like female literacy, sanitation, nutrition, gender and social empowerment, early childhood development, marriages after 18, spacing of children and behavioural changes etc. Government is promoting IUD 380 intensively as a spacing method because of its longevity of 10 years and advantages over other IUDs. Fixed day fixed place Family Planning services round the year have been made possible on account of growing number of 24x7 PHCs and better functioning CHCs and other health facilities, under NRHM. NRHM has increased the basket of choice by systematically and carefully introducing new and effective contraceptives in the programme.

### **Indian labelled fake drugs**

773. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization has recently unearthed a racket at Chennai Port involving the use of fake labels and invoices to ship spurious Chinese drugs into Indian cities;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the consignments of fake drugs have since been seized at Chennai port;

(d) if so, whether Government has taken up the matter with the Chinese Government/firms on fake drugs; and

(e) if so, response of the Chinese Government/firms thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) During the recent past, three cases of import of bulk drugs from unregistered source originating from China were detected at Chennai sea port by the officers of Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO). The following bulk drugs have not been released from Chennai Port:

1. Roxithromycin - 500 Kgs
2. Progesterone - 400 Kgs
3. Cimetidine - 2000 Kgs.

The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization, Chennai office which investigated the matter, has requested "Absolute Confiscation and Prosecution" in these cases to customs authority.

(d) and (e) The CDSCO has taken up the import of these drugs to India with registered manufacturers in China who have informed that they have not manufactured the drugs which have landed at Chennai Port.

#### **Medi-claim policy for Government employees**

774. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to provide medi-claim policies to Government employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how the scheme will benefit them and by when it is likely to be implemented; and

(d) which companies have shown interest in the proposal of Government?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The Sixth Central Pay Commission recommended the introduction of health insurance scheme for Central Government Employees and pensioners. It had recommended that for existing employees and pensioners, the scheme should be available on a voluntary basis subject to their paying

prescribed contribution. It had also recommended that the health insurance scheme should be compulsory for new Government employees who would be joining service after the introduction of the Scheme. Similarly, It had recommended that new retirees after the introduction of the insurance scheme would be covered under the scheme.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has floated an Expression of Interest from Insurance companies providing health Insurance and health insurance Consultants for implementation of the proposed Central Government Employees and Pensioners Health Insurance Scheme (CGEPHIS) for Central Government employees and pensioners on an all India basis.

#### **Providing lab facilities at Civil Hospital, Rohru**

775. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will consider the proposal for providing vital laboratory instruments to the Civil Hospital, Rohru in Shimla District of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to absence of pathological tests in the said Hospital patients are referred to Shimla; and

(c) if so, what steps will be taken to fully equip the Hospital under N.R.H.M.?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes. Under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), States are encouraged to include proposal for improvement of health infrastructure including proposal for providing vital laboratory instruments in their Annual Programme Implementation Plan(PIP), which are considered and approved by National Programme Coordination Committee (NPCC).

(b) No. All routine Hematological tests including Biochemistry test, HIV Tests and Test related to Sexually Transmitted Diseases are being done at Civil Hospital, Rohru in Shimla District. Besides, all facilities for testing blood in Blood Bank are available there. However, Biopsies taken by the Surgeon are being sent to Pathology Deptt. of Medical College (Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla) because pathological/specialized tests are done only in the Labs of Medical Colleges.

(c) The funds will be released on the recommendations of the NPCC to Government of Himachal Pradesh in case they prefer to incorporate the case of upgradation of the said hospital in their annual PIP under NRHM.

#### **Medical treatment of BPL families**

776. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether households living below the poverty level will have an access to hospitals for medical treatment; and

(b) if so, by when and to what extent and what would be the policy thereof, with time frame for implementation?



THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b)  
The Government of India is committed to ensuring access to quality health care on affordable basis to all citizens of the country. Towards this goal, the Government has operationalised National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) since April 2005. The NRHM seeks to undertake wide ranging reforms in public health system to ensure access to quality health services for poor and needy patients especially in the far flung rural areas. The NRHM envisages establishment of a fully functional, decentralized health delivery system with sharp focus on intra and inter-sector convergence for optimal utilization of resources. The NRHM is being implemented from of 2005 to 2012.

NRHM provides overarching umbrella to existing National programmes of Health and Family Welfare including RCH-II, National Disease Control Programmes and Integrated disease Surveillance. Further, it addresses the issue of health in a sector-wide manner addressing sanitation and hygiene, nutrition and safe drinking water as basic determinants of good health.

The Government also provides direct financial assistance to patients who are living below poverty line and are suffering from major life threatening diseases. Under the Rastriya Arogya Nidhi, this assistance helps the patients receive medical treatment at any of the super specialty hospitals/institutions or other Government hospitals.

#### **Availability of Cochlear implant surgery in Government hospitals**

777. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cochlear implant surgery for the hearing impaired is available in Central Government sponsored hospitals;

(b) if so, the details of such hospitals; and

(c) if not, whether Government is contemplating to introduce the surgery in Government hospitals to enable the needy poor to have access to it?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c)  
As far as Central Government Hospitals in Delhi are concerned, the cochlear implant surgery is available in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital.

The Cochlear Implant Surgery is also available at All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.

#### **Non-availability of medicines**

778. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in many primary and sub-primary health centres medicines are not available all the time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what action Government is taking to ensure the availability of all medicines required in these centres; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The provision of medicines in Primary Health Centres and Sub Centres is a subject matter of State Government. Further records of day-to-day activities such as availability of medicines etc. is not maintained by this Ministry.

(c) and (d) Under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) Union Ministry of Health and Family welfare releases funds for augmentation and upgradation of health infrastructure which includes provision for medicines at Sub Centres and Primary Health Centres also. The State Governments reflect their demand for funds in their annual Programme Implementation Plan under NRHM. Funds are released to them as per the approval of National Programme Coordination Committee (NPCC).

#### **Adulteration of essential food items**

779. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of day-by-day reported increase of adulteration in drugs, food commodities, edible oil, ghee, milk, etc. throughout the country;

(b) if so, what steps the Union Government have taken so far for strict enforcement of "the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954" and rules made there under as local food Inspectors simply take samples of sold food commodities but do not check adulterated food items; and

(c) if so, what stringent measures Government proposes to take against such defaulters in this regard and the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The implementation of Prevention of Food Adulteration PFA Act, 1954 and Rules, 1955 is entrusted to the Food (Health) Authorities of the States/U.T.s. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has informed that the Food (Health) Authorities of States/U.T.s have not reported increase of adulteration in food commodities. Samples of various food are taken regularly by the States/U.T.s Governments and action is taken from time to time in case of individual complaints of adulterated foods. The Food Health Authorities of States/U.T.s advised from time to time to keep a strict vigil by drawing more and more food samples of all commodities from all sources viz. manufacturer, wholesalers and retailers and to take penal action against the offenders under the provisions of PFA Act, 1954.

So for adulteration in drugs is concerned. The following steps have been taken by the Government to prevent manufacture and sale of adulterated drugs in the country:

1. The Drugs and Cosmetic Act has been amended *vide* Gazette notification dated December 2008, to increase the penalty and punishment of spurious drugs manufacturing.
2. A Committee has been formed in 39th Drugs Consultative Committee (DCC) to look into the problems of spurious drugs in the country.
3. In order to assess the extent of spurious drugs in the country, a country wide Survey has been undertaken by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare through Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO).
4. Under the Capacity Building Project through World Bank, assistance has been provided to upgrade testing facilities and to establish new drug testing laboratories so as to enhance the capacity of the laboratories to test large number of samples. Under this project 23 States and 6 Central Drugs Laboratories have been strengthened through renovations, extensions and equipments.
5. Schedule M to the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945, pertaining to Good Manufacturing Practices was amended to make it at par with the International standards and it is mandatory for the manufacturers of drugs to comply with the requirements of this Schedule for quality control of the drugs manufactured by them.
6. Detailed guidelines have been issued to the State Governments to undertake focused surveillance over possible movement of spurious drugs.

(c) The PFA Act, 1954 stipulate imprisonment of six months to life imprisonment depending upon the gravity of offence awarded by the courts. In case of samples of food found adulterated or not conforming to the standards, action is taken under the PFA Act, 1954 by the States/U.T.s Governments.

#### **Status of drug smuggling cases**

780. SHRI RAM DAS AGARWAL:

SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many drug smuggling cases were caught by different appointed Government agencies in the country during the last three years State-wise;

(b) what quantity of drugs was seized in such operations, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) how many persons were arrested and cases booked against them and awarded punishment during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) how many cases are still pending in different Courts, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d)  
The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Commissions/incentives paid to doctors by drugs companies**

781. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the regulation exists to stop doctors being paid commissions, incentives, etc. by drug companies for prescribing their drugs?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Regulation 6.4.1 of The Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 provides that a physician shall not give, solicit, or receive nor shall he offer to give, solicit or receive any gift, gratuity, commission or bonus in consideration of return for the referring, recommending or procuring of any patient for medical, surgical or other treatment. A physician shall not directly or indirectly, participate in or be a party to act of division, transference, assignment, subordination, rebating, splitting or refunding of medical fee for medical, surgical or other treatment.

#### **Scheme to ensure health for all**

782. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has been working on a scheme to ensure health for all by 2010;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) how much work in this regard has been accomplished and whether remaining work will be completed as planned earlier?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The Government has already launched National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) for the period 2005-12 to improve access the quality health care on equitable and affordable basis for all citizens of the country. Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) major improvements are being taken up in Primary Health Care System in the country and the thrust is on establishing a fully functional, community owned, decentralized health delivery system. NRHM facilitates simultaneous action on collateral determinants of health like water, sanitation, education, nutrition, etc. Under NRHM major steps have being taken to augment the Health Human Resources, Improve infrastructure and equipments at health facilities and improve planning, management and logistics/supply chain management at health facilities.

All the States have adapted the strategies under NRHM and the institutional framework has been operationalised. The intermediate goals of NRHM have been achieved as per the approved time line. The Annual Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) of all the States and UTs have been approved for FY 2009-10.

#### **GDP spending on health**

783. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is spending only one per cent of the GDP for the health of the people in the country;

(b) if so, the facts and complete details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps Government is taking to improve the percentage for the welfare of the poor people like minorities especially living in slum areas in each State especially in Andhra Pradesh in the current Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) Government Spending on Health Sector is in the vicinity of one per cent of the GDP with the Central Govt. contribution on health in the range of 25% to 30% of the total Govt. spending. With the launch of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in April 2005, budgetary allocations by the Union and State Governments have significantly gone up.

To enhance public spending on health a number of measures have been initiated in the spheres of primary, secondary, tertiary healthcare and control of Communicable and Non-communicable diseases. The NRHM aims at effecting an architectural correction in the existing healthcare delivery system particularly primary and secondary healthcare. The Mission *inter-alia* seeks to provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and quality health care facilities, especially to the poor and vulnerable sections of the population including minorities throughout the country including Andhra Pradesh etc.

#### **Setting up of All India Institute of Ayurveda**

784. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to set up All India Institute of Ayurveda on the pattern of AIIMS;

(b) if so, where and by when the Institute would be set up and at what cost;

(c) by when it is expected to be made operational and what are the salient features of the Ayurveda treatment; and

(d) whether it would be better in treatment than the previous National institute of Ayurveda at Jaipur?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Yes. Action has already been initiated to set up the All India Institute of Ayurveda at Sarita Vihar, New Delhi at a total capital cost of Rs.134.05 crores and recurring cost of Rs.20.50 crores within the 11th Plan so as:

- i. to facilitate quality research about safety and efficacy of Ayurveda Products;
- ii. to develop benchmark of Ayurvedic education, research and health care;
- iii. to undertake inter-disciplinary education & research programme of Ayurveda in collaboration with premier national and international organizations;

- iv. to establish viable communication between Ayurveda and modern sciences and translating traditional standards into modern scientific parameters for global positioning of Ayurveda; and
- v. to develop and document best practices, safety and efficacy data and standard treatment protocols of Ayurveda.

(d) Yes. The proposed institute will be developed as a referral and research hospital and receive patients referred by National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur and other Ayurvedic Hospitals in the country.

#### **Opening of AIIMS like institutions**

†785. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that an announcement was made by Government that on the pattern of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, institutions at six different places of the country, would be opened;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) if not, whether there is any fresh proposal to open such institutions?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, the Government approved the proposal in 2006 for setting up of six AIIMS-like institutions in the first phase of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY).

(b) The Design-DPR Consultants selected for preparation of designs and the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) have submitted the DPRs for medical college and hospital complex. Project Consultants have also been appointed at all sites and work is expected to start in September, 2009 and get completed by the end of 2011.

The availability of faculty/medical staff is key to efficient running of these institutions. The work of construction of residential complexes has, therefore, been taken up on priority work has started at all 6 Sites and will be completed at all sites by the end of 2010.

(c) In addition, it has also been decided to set up two more new AIIMS-like institutions, one each in West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh in the second phase of PMSSY.

#### **Review of functioning of CGHS**

786. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reviewed functioning of Central Government Health Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(c) whether any change in the implementation of the scheme has been made in the last two years and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has any plan to alter/modify and improve the scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e)  
Revamping of the functioning of the CGHS is a continuous process. Recent initiative taken by the CGHS to make to more user friendly are:

- (i) Commencement of computerisation of CGHS. It has been completed in Delhi and will be extended in other cities in a phased manner.
- (ii) In order to provide more options for treatment in private hospitals for CGHS beneficiaries, CGHS introduced the scheme of "Continuous Empanelment Scheme" whereby private hospitals and diagnostic centres which fulfilled the terms and conditions for empanelment and accepted the rates fixed for that city were empanelled under CGHS after being recommended by the Quality Council of India. This scheme has now been discontinued.
- (iii) It has been decided that private hospitals/ diagnostic centres to be empanelled under CGHS should have NABH/NABL accreditation.
- (iv) As there was hardly any hospital in the list of empanelled hospitals providing treatment to CGHS beneficiaries who are cancer patients, instructions have been issued to authorities to give permission to cancer patients in any hospital providing treatment for cancer patients and reimbursement made as per rates for year 2001-02.
- (v) As no private hospital/diagnostic centre was willing to be empanelled under CGHS, in Mumbai, Shillong and Thiruvananthapuram, instructions have been issued to permit CGHS beneficiaries, in these three cities, to get treatment in any hospital and get reimbursement as per the rates fixed for that city.
- (vi) A pilot project has been introduced in CGHS Delhi to place indents directly on manufacturers for support of drugs on rate contract basis. This has resulted in most of the beneficiaries in these dispensaries getting medicines on the same day.
- (vii) To tide over the shortage of medical officers in dispensaries, approval of the Government was conveyed to CGHS for recruiting retired medical officers on contract basis for a period of 2 years.
- (viii) CGHS has been holding claims adalats every year to settle any old pending unsettled claims.
- (ix) As part of computerisation process, it has been decided to issue plastic cards individually to each beneficiary of the CGHS. This will enable beneficiaries to avail CGHS facilities in any CGHS city after the process of computerisation and networking of cities is completed.

- (x) As part of Public Private Partnership, CGHS and Hindustan Latex Ltd. (HLL) have entered into a MOU to running a diagnostic centre at CGHS dispensary premises in Sector XII in Ramakrishna Puram, New Delhi.
- (xi) Ministries/Departments have been delegated powers to handle all medical reimbursement cases if no relaxation of rules is involved.
- (xii) As there is perennial shortage of Group D staff in the CGHS, it has been decided on a pilot project basis to outsource cleaning work for mechanised cleaning. The existing Group D staff in these dispensaries have been relocated in other dispensaries where vacancies exist.
- (xiii) Due to paucity of funds, settlement of bills of private hospitals and diagnostic centres get delayed with the result that many private hospitals and diagnostic centres refused to extend credit facility to pensioner CGHS beneficiaries. To overcome the problem, it has been decided to engage Third Party Administrators (TPA) to processing of bills and release of payments electronically through a bank within a fortnight. After the bank makes the payment through electronic medium, it will lodge its claim in the CGHS to recoupment of the payments made. CGHS will then carry out medical audit of the bills passed for payment by the TPA.
- (xiv) Two geriatric centres for CGHS beneficiaries have been set up at Timarpur and Janakpuri in Delhi.
- (xv) Instructions have been issued for CGHS beneficiaries to claim reimbursement of expenses from two sources, first from the insurance agency if the beneficiary had obtained mediclaim policy and then from the CGHS for the balance amount subject to the condition that the reimbursement from the two sources did not exceed the actual expenditure and also that reimbursement from CGHS will be limited to package rate fixed for the treatment.
- (xvi) Instructions have been issued for revising dependency criteria for family members of a CGHS beneficiaries to avail CGHS treatment.
- (xvii) Son of a CGHS beneficiary is entitled to CGHS facility till the age of 25 years or till he starts earning or he gets married, whichever is earlier. Taking a lenient view, instructions have been issued to permit sons of CGHS beneficiaries to avail CGHS facility if they are permanently disabled. The disabilities included for this purpose are the disabilities defined in Section 2(i) of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1995 (No.1 of 1996).

#### **Memorandum for changing DCI Regulations**

787. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Dental Council of India (DCI) and the Hon'ble Minister have received representations from MPs/ MLAs to make changes in the DCI Regulation denying permission to



those students from attending higher classes who have supplementaries in more than one subject with a view to protect the interests of the students belonging to SC/ST and other backward classes, vulnerable and women sections of the society; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) A few representations have been received by the DCI in this regard. The BDS Course Regulations framed under the Dentists Act, 1948, *inter-alia*, envisage that any candidate who fails in one subject in a BDS examination is permitted to go to the next higher class and appear for the subject and complete it successfully before he is permitted to appear for the next higher examination of BDS Course. This concession has been given to all the candidates including SC/ST and other Backward Classes. The DCI on 31.12.2008 issued detailed instructions in this regard to all the dental colleges and the universities to which the dental institutions are affiliated to follow this provision of the Regulations strictly for maintaining the highest standard of dental education.

#### **Change of curriculum in BDS and MDS programmes**

788. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the catastrophic changes made by Dental Council of India (DCI) during the last four years in BDS and MDS programmes/ curriculum aimed at promoting the financial interests of private dental colleges has come in for strong criticism in prominent press sections and the concerned quarters;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the remedial action taken by Government to protect the interests of the students community particularly belonging to poor and weaker sections of the society?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The BDS and MDS Course Regulations framed in 1983 have been revised in 2007 incorporating some new subjects in dentistry in consultation with the State / U.T. Governments and other dental experts to bring them at par with the international standard. The duration of BDS course is now 5 years integrated course. Dental Council of India has instructed all States / universities in the country to phase out four years tuition fees into five years to avoid financial burden on students.

#### **Reducing of child mortality rate**

789. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the measures taken, if any, during the last five years aimed at reducing the child mortality rate in the rural and urban areas respectively indicating volume of fund allocated for the purpose, year-wise;

(b) whether Government has also put in place adequate mechanism for monitoring implementations therefor;

(c) if so, the salient details thereof;

(d) whether any review of the situations prevailing in rural and urban areas and effect of the measures carried out by any agency (ies) has been made; and

(e) if so, the findings thereof showing their comparison with those prevailed in 2003-04?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The Reproductive and Child Health programme (RCH) II [2005-10] under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) [2005-12], comprehensively integrates interventions that improve child health and addresses factors contributing to mortality amongst children.

The Components of child health care which help reduce child morbidity and mortality are as follows:

- i. Essential newborn care
- ii. Immunization
- iii. Infant and young child feeding
- iv. Vitamin A supplementation and Iron and Folic Acid supplementation
- v. Early detection and appropriate management of Acute Respiratory Infections, Diarrhoea and other infections
- vi. Integrated management of neonatal and childhood illnesses (IMNCI) and Pre- Service IMNCI
- vii. Facility Based New Born Care.

Funds under the RCH Flexible Pool are released to the States/UTs for implementing the RCH programme. There is no separate allocation for child health.

The funds under the RCH Flexible Pool allocated year-wise to States is given in the Statement-I (See below).

(b) to (d) The Ministry has a system of monitoring of performance data on health interventions reported by the States on a monthly basis. In addition it also undertakes household surveys like the National Family Health Survey and District Level Household Survey that throw light on the impact of the various health interventions and health seeking behaviour of the population.

(e) Comparison of the data of District Level Health Surveys conducted by the Ministry during the period 2002-04 and 2007-08 respectively is given in the Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

*RCH Flexi Pool Funds allocated year-wise in Crores*

Year	RCH Flexi pool
2005-06	1698.69
2006-07	1998.13
2007-08	1872.01
2008-09	3126.04
2009-10	3545.00

**Statement-II**

*Comparison of the data of District Level Health Surveys conducted  
by the Ministry during 2002-04 and 2007-08*

Indicators	DLHS-3(2007-08)			DLHS-2 (2002-04)		
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
<b>Child Immunization</b>						
Children 12-23 months fully immunized (%) .....*	54.1	50.6	63.1	45.9	40.0	61.1
Children 12-23 months not received any vaccination (%).....	11.3	12.6	7.9	19.8	23.6	10.0
Children 12-23 months who have received BCG vaccine (%).....	86.9	85.5	90.5	75.0	70.3	87.2
Children 12-23 months who have 3 received doses of DPT vaccine (%).	63.6	60.3	72.1	58.3	52.3	73.6
Children 12-23 months who have received 3 doses of polio vaccine (%)	66.2	63.3	73.7	57.3	51.4	72.4
Children 12-23 months who have received measles vaccine (%).....	69.6	66.6	77.6	56.1	50.2	71.2
Children (age 9 months and above) received at least one dose of vitamin A supplement (%).....	55.0	52.5	61.4	31.1	28.2	38.7
Child feeding practices Children under 3 year's breastfed within one hour of birth (%).....@	40.2	39.4	42.1	27.8	25.1	34.7
Children age 0-5 exclusively breastfed (%).....\$	46.4	47.8	42.5	NA	NA	NA
Children age 6-35 months breastfed for at least 6 months (%).....	24.9	25.7	22.8	22.7	NA	NA
Children age 6-9 months receiving solid/semi-solid food and breast milk (%).....	23.9	24.4	22.5	NA	NA	NA

\* BCG, three injection of DPT, three doses of Polio (excluding Polio O) and Measles

@ DLHS-2 data indicates children breastfed within two hours of birth.

\$ Children who were given nothing but breast milk till the survey date.

Indicators	DLHS-3(2007-08)			DLHS-2 (2002-04)		
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
<b>Awareness about Diarrhoea and Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI).</b>						
Women aware about danger signs of ARI (%).....	57.4	55.0	62.7	41.3	41.6	40.4
<b>Treatment of childhood diseases (women who had live birth during reference period)</b>						
Children with diarrhoea in the last 2 weeks who received ORS (%).....	33.7	30.2	43.3	30.3	25.7	42.0
Children with diarrhoea in the last 2 weeks who were given treatment (%).....	70.9	69.3	75.6	73.2	71.2	78.3
Children with acute respiratory infection or fever in last 2 weeks who were given advise or treatment (%) .....	71.9	69.4	79.0	73.9	71.7	79.6

SOURCE: Fact Sheet, DLHS-3 2007-08, IIPS, Mumbai

#### Deaths due to consumption of contaminated water

790. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the death of about 20 people in Bholakpur area of Hyderabad due to drinking of contaminated water has come to the notice of his Ministry;

(b) whether any help/assistance has been sought by the Government of Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, what assistance or help has been provided by his Ministry to the State of Andhra Pradesh in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) As per the information provided by Government of Andhra Pradesh, 15 persons died of Cholera in Bholakpur area of Secunderabad after drinking contaminated water.

(b) and (c) On a request from Superintendent of Gandhi Hospital, Hyderabad a team from the National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases (NICED), Kolkata, an Institute under Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) visited the affected area from the 9th May to 12th May, 2009 for investigation and providing guidance to State health authorities for prevention and control of diarrhoeal diseases.

#### Backlog vacancies of SC/ST in Health Services

791. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total number of employees in various Departments, under his Ministry, including hospitals, groupwise as on 31st March, 2008;

(b) what are the details of SC/ST employees among the above total employees;

(c) the details of backlog vacancies in group A, B and C for SCs and STs; and

(d) what actions are proposed to fill in the backlog of SC/ST vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Swine Flu cases in Andhra Pradesh**

792. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of his Ministry that there is a sharp rise in the number of cases of Swine Flu (H1N1) in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh has recorded the highest Swine Flu cases in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that only one Government hospital is equipped to treat the patients;

(e) if so, whether he would direct the private corporate hospitals to attend to Swine Flu cases without any charges; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) There have been 20 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A [H1N1] (earlier referred as Swine Flu) from Hyderabad as on 7th July, 2009.

(b) No.

(c) State-wise and city-wise details of Influenza A [H1N1] cases is enclosed as Statement (*See below*).

(d) Isolation/ critical care facilities have been identified in the Cities where International Airports, Ports and International Checkpoints are located for isolation and treatment of patients. Accordingly, Government General and Chest Diseases Hospital, Hyderabad has been identified by the State Government. In addition, such cases can be treated in any medical college or other tertiary care hospitals having isolation facilities.

(e) and (f) As of now, there is no community spread of Influenza A H1N1 in the country and Government hospitals can provide treatment facilities. Decision to involve private sector hospitals for treatment facilities would be taken as the situation evolves.

**Statement**

*Statewise-City-wise details of Influenza A H1N1 case in India*

S.No.	State	City	No. of cases
<b>Imported cases (142)</b>			
1	Karnataka	Bangalore	27
2	Tamil Naidu	Chennai	6
		Coimbatore	2
		Madurai	1
3	Delhi	Delhi	42
4	Punjab	Fatehgarh	1
		Jalandhar	9
		Gurdaspur	1
		Hoshiarpur	1
		Amritsar	1
5	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	19
6	Maharashtra	Mumbai	10
		Pune	3
7	Goa	Panjim	1
8	Haryana	Gurgaon	5
9	West Bengal	Kolkata	2
10	Kerala	Calicut	5
		Cochin	5
11	Gujarat	Kandla	1
<b>Indigenous Cases (11)</b>			
1	Delhi	Delhi	6
2	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	1
3	Punjab	Gurdaspur	1
4	Haryana	Gurgaon	1
5	Karnataka	Bangalore	2

**AIIMS like institutions**

793. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had approved two AIIMS-like medical institutions, one each in West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh in the recent past;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether there was also a proposal to set up AIIMS like medical institutions in all the States; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the time by when AIIMS like medical institutions will be set up in all the State capitals?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Under the second phase of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), the Union Government has approved the proposal for setting up of AIIMS-like institutions, one each in the States of West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh, on 5.2.2009. Each institution will have a 960 bedded hospital, intended to provide healthcare facilities in 40 speciality/super-speciality disciplines. Medical College will have 100 UG intake besides facilities for imparting PG/doctoral courses in various disciplines, and also nursing college conforming to Nursing Council norms. Estimated cost of each AIIMS-like institution is Rs.823 Crore.

(c) and (d) No. In this regard, it is submitted that in March, 2006 the Government approved the first phase of PMSSY for setting up six AIIMS-like institutions, one each in the States of Bihar (Patna), Chhattisgarh (Raipur), Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal) Orissa (Bhubaneswar), Rajasthan (Jodhpur) and Uttarakhand (Rishikesh).

The civil construction of housing complex has been started at all the sites and will be completed in 2009-10. The Hospital and medical college complexes are likely to get completed by the end of 2011.

#### **Adulterated eatables**

794. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that most of the eatables such as vegetables, pulses, milk and milk products and even fruits are contaminated and highly adulterated;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 has completely failed to curb adulteration and contamination in day to day items of eatables;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government proposes to take any fresh strict measures to ensure availability of eatables free from any adulteration and contamination; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The implementation of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA), 1954 and Rules, 1955 is entrusted to the Food (Health) Authorities of the States/U.Ts. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has informed that as per information made available by the Food Health Authorities of

States/U.T.s through their Annual Reports on working of PFA Act and Rules, only about 8.9 percent of samples tested during the period 2003-2007 were found adulterated.

(c) In case of samples of food found adulterated or not conforming to the standards, action is taken under the PFA Act, 1954. The PFA Act, 1954 stipulates imprisonment of six months to life imprisonment depending upon the gravity of offence awarded by the courts.

(d) and (e) The Central Committee for Food Standards Constituted under the PFA Act, 1954, reviews the provisions of PFA Rules, 1955 from time to time with a view to curb the adulteration and contamination in food items.

#### **Establishment of a regulatory institution in health sector**

†795. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI BALAVANT AL/AS BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to establish a regulatory institution in the health sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps Government is taking to protect the general public from the exploitation by private hospitals and pharmaceutical companies?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Under the draft National Health Bill, 2009, there is a provision of establishment of national level Health Service Regulatory Body to ensure compliance of the standards, protocols, norms and guidelines etc. The draft Bill is available on this Ministry's official web site [www.mohfw.nic.in](http://www.mohfw.nic.in)

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Shortage of doctors**

796. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether country is suffering from acute shortage of doctors, having just six doctors for every 10,000 people, compared to the global average of 15 whereas, States like Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh have just two doctors for 1,00,000 people;

(b) whether India produces 32,000 medical graduates each year, whereas the need is for 1,00,000 graduates;

(c) whether number of Postgraduate/ MCH doctors is woefully inadequate;

(d) whether medical career is getting less attractive as aspirants to PMT are getting lesser every year;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi



(e) total number of medical colleges, number of MBBS/Postgraduate/MCH seats, State-wise;  
and

(f) remedial measures taken to improve health services in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b)  
As per information furnished by Medical Council of India, the total number of registered allopathic doctors in the country is 7,33,617. Thus the allopathic doctors population ratio works out to 1:1584 approximately. In addition there more than six lakh practitioners of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy. Taking all these number together, the doctor population ratio comes to 1:860 approximately. Currently, there are 289 medical colleges in the country for teaching modern system of medicine with annual intake of 33,382 who add up to the existing medical manpower.

(c) As per information furnished by Medical Council of India, presently approximately 23000 students pass out various medical colleges across the country. Postgraduate facilities are available for nearly 70% of these students.

(d) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), which conducts All India Pre Medical / Dental Entrance Examination, has informed that there is a decrease in the number of candidates registered for the examination.

(e) The information is provided in the enclosed Statement (*See below*).

(f) The National Rural Health Mission has been operationalised with the aim of providing accessible and reliable primary health care facilities especially to poor and the vulnerable section of the population.

#### ***Statement***

*Number of Medical Colleges in the Country State-wise as on 30.6.2009*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Number of Medical Colleges		Total	Total number of seats		Total
		Govt.	Private		Govt.	Private	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	20	33	1775	2600	4375
2.	Assam	3	-	3	426	-	426
3.	Bihar	6	3	9	390	220	610
4.	Chandigarh	1	-	1	50	-	50
5.	Chhattisgarh	3		3	250		250
6.	Delhi	5	1	6	630	100	730
7.	Goa	1	-	1	100	-	100
8.	Gujarat	8	5	13	1205	550	1755

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Haryana	1	2	3	150	200	350
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2	-	2	115	-	115
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	1	4	250	100	350
12.	Jharkhand	3	-	3	190	-	190
13.	Karnataka	10	29	39	1050	3755	4805
14.	Kerala	6	14	20	950	1350	2300
15.	Madhya Pradesh	5	4	9	620	500	1120
16.	Maharashtra	19	22	41	2200	2510	4710
17.	Manipur	1	-	1	100	-	100
18.	Orissa	3	3	6	464	300	764
19.	Pondicherry	1	7	8	100	900	1000
20.	Punjab	3	5	8	350	470	820
21.	Rajasthan	6	4	10	650	500	1150
22.	Sikkim	-	1	1	-	50	50
23.	Tamil Nadu	16	14	30	1745	1870	3615
24.	Tripura	1	1	2	100	100	200
25.	Uttar Pradesh	10	9	19	1112	900	2012
26.	Uttaranchal	2	2	4	200	200	400
27.	West Bengal	9	1	10	1105	150	1255
TOTAL :		141	148	289	16277	17325	33602

#### Discrimination among the employees for CGHS entitlement

797. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) while the current LTC/TA/DA entitlement and transport allowance of the grade pays Rs. 4600 and Rs. 4800 are lower than that of the grade pays Rs. 5400 and Rs. 6600, the reasons for classifying them in the same category for deducting the CGHS contribution of Rs. 325 per month as per the latest order issued by his Ministry;

(b) why the ward entitlement at AIIMS is discriminated among the above officials even though the monthly subscription is fixed on par; and

(c) whether the above order may be looked into and fresh orders issued rectifying the anomalies?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Benefits available to Government servants under various schemes are different. Revision of rates for subscription were made after consulting the Department of Expenditure.

(b) Entitlements of Wards in AIIMS is based on the pay drawn in the pay band, and all officials drawing same pay are entitled to identical facilities in AIIMS.

(c) The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare does not intend to revise the instructions issued on 20th May, 2009.

#### **Role of patient welfare Committees under NRHM**

†798.SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the role of patient welfare Committees in the National Rural Health Mission;
- (b) whether these Committees are effective in helping the poor and the needy;
- (c) steps being taken by Government to ensure regular meetings of these Committees, and make their welfare role more effective; and
- (d) the details of Government's plan to include eminent persons from society besides officials in these Committees, and give them more and more administrative and financial powers?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The Patient Welfare Committees [Rogi Kalyan Smitis (RKS)] are envisaged to be a registered society, for managing the affairs of health facility concerned. It comprises members from local Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). Non Government Organisations(NGOs), local elected representatives, eminent persons from the community and officials from Government who are responsible for proper functioning and management of the health facility. The RKS is supported with annual corpus grant under NRHM and is also envisaged to receive the user charges, if any levied at the facility concerned. The RKS are empowered to manage the health facility and compensate for any service gaps. The RKS are being highly effective in the States and are helping the poor and needy. The Government has disseminated the guidelines for ensuring regular meetings of these committees so as to make them more effective. The functioning of RKSs is monitored as an integral part of Review Missions under the NRHM.

#### **Status of Indian public health standards**

†799.SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether structural, personnel, equipment and management standards have been defined in Indian public health standards;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) whether standards have been evolved for sub centres, Primary health centres and district hospitals;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether facility survey has been undertaken for upgradation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof in respect of Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes.

(c) The details of Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS), are available on this Ministry's web site *i.e* [www.mohfw.nic.in](http://www.mohfw.nic.in)

(d) Yes. As on 1st July, 2009, Facility Survey reports have been received for 6362 District Hospital/Sub Divisional Hospital, Community Health Centres (CHCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Sub Centres (SCs) from 18 States /UTs.

(e) As per the information received from the Government of Rajasthan, Facility Survey has been conducted for all the SCs, PHCs, and CHCs.

The Facility Survey has identified hospital-wise demands for manpower, equipment, infrastructure and bed capacity, which have been duly included in, for formation of State Programme Implementation Plans under National Rural Health Mission.

#### **Primary health care to all**

800. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is achieving the national objective of delivering primary healthcare to all;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if not, by when such objective will be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) comprehensive steps have been undertaken for improving the Primary Health Care System in the country. The NRHM envisages providing quality health care on equitable and affordable basis to all the citizens. The thrust of NRHM is on establishing a fully functional, community owned, decentralized health delivery system. NRHM facilitates simultaneous action on collateral determinants of health like water, sanitation, education, nutrition, etc. Under NRHM major steps have been taken to augment the Health Human Resources, improve infrastructure and equipments at health facilities and improve planning, management and logistics/supply chain management at health facilities.

Under the NRHM, in the State of Andhra Pradesh, 70,700 Community Link workers (ASHAs) have been positioned, 21916 Village Health & Sanitation Committees have been constituted, 10322 Sub Centers strengthened, 800 PHCs operationalised on 24x 7 basis. The State has reported

recruitment of 9505 ANMs on contract and 2120 Community Health Centers have been operationalised as First Referral Units.

#### **Health insurance scheme for CGHS beneficiaries**

†801. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to introduce Health Insurance Scheme for CGHS beneficiaries and the pensioners;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the CGHS facility would be withdrawn after the implementation of the Health Insurance Scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) to what extent the said Health Insurance Scheme is likely to reduce the financial burden on the ex-chequer, would provide quality health facilities to the employees and remove corruption?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e) The Sixth Central Pay Commission recommended the introduction of health insurance scheme for Central Government Employees and pensioners. It had recommended that for existing employees and pensioners, the scheme should be available on a voluntary basis subject to their paying prescribed contribution. It had also recommended that the health insurance scheme should be compulsory for new Government employees who would be joining service after the introduction of the Scheme. Similarly, it had recommended that new retirees after the introduction of the insurance scheme would be covered under the scheme.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has floated an Expression of Interest from Insurance companies providing health Insurance and health insurance Consultants for implementation of the proposed Central Government Employees and Pensioners Health Insurance Scheme (CGEPHIS) for Central Government employees and pensioners on an all India basis.

#### **Fake drugs from China**

802. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after electronic items, fake Chinese drugs are coming to India now;

(b) if so, who is the responsible authority to check it and whether it is well equipped; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) During the recent past, three cases of import of bulk drugs from unregistered source originating from

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

China were detected at Chennai sea port by the officers of Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO). The import of drugs from unregistered source is not permitted under the Drugs and Cosmetic Act 1940 and Rules 1945.

The import of drugs is handled alongwith other goods at the port of entry. Drugs being imported into the country are in the control of customs department which as per norms refers the cases to CDSCO for no objection for the purpose of import. After receiving no objection the drugs are released by the custom authorities. The system is well equipped and functioning properly.

**Proposal for upgradation of Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College, Shimla**

803. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to upgrade Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College, Shimla under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana;
- (b) if so, the current status of the proposal; and
- (c) by when the work of upgradation of said college is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) It is proposed to upgrade Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College, Tanda, at an outlay of Rs.150 Cr. comprising Central contribution of Rs.125 Cr. and State's contribution of Rs.25 crore, in the 2nd phase of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY). Union Cabinet has approved the proposal on 5.2.2009. Project Consultant has been appointed and necessary modalities for implementation of the upgradation scheme are being worked out with the State Government.

- (c) The work of upgradation will be started by the end of 2009.

**Isolated wards for swine flu patients**

804. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) how many swine flu cases have been reported in the country;
- (b) what are the preventive measures taken by Government to curb the outbreak of the disease;
- (c) whether special medical teams are functioning at International Airports and ports to detect the disease from foreigners who visit India; and
- (d) whether any isolated wards are provided to patients who suffer from this disease in Government hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) As on 7th July, 2009 there have been 153 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A H1N1 [earlier referred as Swine Flu] in the country.

(b) Government of India took a series of actions. A comprehensive plan including guidelines and standard operating procedures were put in place. Travel advisory was issued to defer non essential travel to the affected countries. Entry screening of passengers started at 22 international airports and five international checkpoints. Community surveillance to detect clusters of influenza like illness is being done through Integrated Disease Surveillance Project. National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi and National Institute of Virology, Pune are testing clinical samples. Sixteen additional laboratories have also started testing. There is adequate quantity of Oseltamivir, the drugs and protective equipments. License has been issued to three Indian manufacturers for importing seed virus to manufacture flu vaccine. Short term media plan has been implemented. Travel advisory, do's and don'ts and other pertinent information has been widely published to allay fear and avoid panic. Media is kept informed on daily basis.

The pandemic preparedness and response calls for actions in sectors beyond health. National Disaster Management Authority has issued guidelines for such actions. All States have been requested to gear up the State machinery and strengthen isolation facilities including critical care facilities at district level. Government is fully geared up to deal with the situation.

(c) Yes. Medical teams are functioning at 22 International Airports and sea ports to detect the disease among passengers coming to India.

(d) Yes. Isolation facilities have been identified and attached to all the International Airports and sea ports to treat cases of Influenza A H1N1.

#### **Shortage of vaccines**

805. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government proposes to take to address the shortage of vaccines in various States, following the closure of public sector manufacturing units last year;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government is looking for private companies to meet such demand for the affected States; and

(c) if so, how does Government proposes to address the cost and accessibility implications that are bound to arise from such a step?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) After the suspension of vaccine production at vaccine Institutes of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, vaccine procurement is being carried out from other PSUs as well as private sector to meet the present requirement.

(c) Vaccine procurement is being carried out on the basis of competitive rates by inviting tenders from other PSUs as well as indigenous private sector units to meet the present requirement. There is no problem in accessibility of vaccines and at present there is no shortage of vaccines.

#### **Implementation of ban on smoking at Delhi University Campus**

806. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that last year's initiative of DUSU to make North Campus of Delhi University a smoke free zone is fizzling out fast;

(b) whether it is also a fact that with no action of police against the cigarette vendors there has been no reduction in the sale of cigarettes inspite of the ban implemented last year in the campus; and

(c) what steps Government would take to reactivate the "Anti Smoking Cell" formed to check and implement the ban of smoking in the campus thus to safeguard the health of the students and also the environment?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No. In the year 2008, Delhi University in collaboration with Delhi University Students Union (DUSU) declared smoke free campus. This was supported by the Government of Delhi whereby assistance was provided for holding advocacy lectures for teachers, wall paintings in campus area on "ill effect of smoking" and No-Smoking Signage's and carrying out enforcement activities in form of raids by its squads for violations under Section 4 of the Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003.

(b) No. Legal action under "The Delhi Prohibition of Smoking and Non-Smokers Health Protection Act-1996" was taken against four Cigarette vendors by the local police (P.S. Maurice Nagar) during the year 2008 in the University area. Three vendors were fined Rs.500/- each and one vendor was fined Rs. 100/- by the court.

(c) The Government of Delhi has informed that it will continue to support Delhi University in implementing the Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 as per the relevant provisions. The University of Delhi has also informed that they have taken a number of steps including appointing Nodal Officers for each of the Departments/ Colleges to help in maintaining the campus as a 'Tobacco Free Zone'.

#### **Mandatory fitness certificate for travellers**

†807.DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that basic source of Swine Flu in the country is United States of America and other developed countries;

(b) if so, whether Government would make the fitness certificates mandatory for the passengers coming to India from these countries; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi



(c) whether there is proper arrangement to treat this disease in all the States?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes. Most of the cases detected in India are travel related that came from United States of America and other developed countries.

(b) No. However, Indian Missions have been requested to take up the matter of screening outbound passengers with the respective governments.

(c) Yes. Health facilities have been identified in all cities with international airports to treat passengers who are detected at airport screening and those who self report based on information provided to them. In addition, such cases can be treated in any medical college, other secondary or tertiary care hospitals having isolation facilities. Enough stock of the drug to treat this case is available.

#### **Introduction of train from Delhi to Hyderabad**

808. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal to introduce one more train from Delhi to Hyderabad like Andhra Pradesh express in view of heavy rush daily especially in the evening like T.N. express and G. T. express, the train from Delhi to Chennai;

(b) if so, the comments of the Government thereupon; and

(c) by when such new train would be introduced from Delhi to Hyderabad in the evening daily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Introduction of Hazrat Nizamuddin-Bangalore Rajdhani Express (tri-weekly) *via* Kacheguda has been announced in Railway Budget for 2009-2010. With this, Hyderabad city will now have a daily Rajdhani connection with New-Delhi.

#### **Missing patients of swine flu**

809. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many swine flu positive cases have been reported so far;

(b) whether all the positive patients are put on anti-viral therapy even if a person tests negative;

(c) whether one suspect of swine flu admitted in RML hospital was reported to be absconding from the hospital causing concern; and

(d) whether in view of recent case of absconding of patient from the hospital, Government is going to take stringent action to stop such recurrences?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) There have been 153 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A H1N1 [earlier referred as Swine Flu] as on 7th July, 2009 in India.

(b) All the laboratory confirmed cases [positive cases] are put on anti-viral therapy.

(c) The patient preferred home treatment but was admitted to the Airport quarantine hospital which was nearest to his residence.

(d) The Epidemic Act has been invoked in Delhi which provides for hospitalization of such cases. The security of the hospitals has also been strengthened.

**UN assistance for prevention and cure of swine flu**

810. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of swine flu cases reported in the country till date, State-wise;

(b) the arrangements made for treatment by the Central and the State Governments;

(c) whether India has any vaccine maker involved in production of swine flu vaccine;

(d) whether United Nations has proposed to give financial or technical assistance for the prevention and cure of the disease; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) As on 7th July 2009, there have been 153 laboratory confirmed cases of influenza A H1N1 in India. State-wise list is given in the Statement. [Refer to the statement appended to the answer to USQ 792 part (c)]

(b) Health facilities have been identified and attached to the 22 International Airports and Ports. Stock of Oseltamivir, the drug for treating the disease has been made available to the States and the identified health facilities.

(c) Three Indian manufacturers namely, Serum Institute of India, Pune, Panacea Biotec, Delhi and Bharat Biotech, Hyderabad have the capacity to manufacture vaccine. Drug Controller General (I) has issued license to import seed virus to these manufacturers.

(d) and (e) World Health Organization provides technical assistance to member countries. India has also consulted WHO on technical guidelines. It has supported Government of India with diagnostic primers and seed virus for manufacturing vaccine. It has also supported capacity development for State and Central Rapid Response teams at a cost of about Rs. 3.00 crores.

#### **Production of vaccine to prevent swine flu**

811. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether due to swine flu impact demand for bio-security products has increased;
- (b) if so, whether WHO has also confirmed 11168 cases of influenza HINI infection;
- (c) as diseases break from animal farms, whether there is a need for greater awareness and emphasis should be laid on preventive hygiene;
- (d) if so, what steps Government has taken to prepare itself to have HINI vaccine;
- (e) whether WHO also convened a meeting of flu vaccine manufacturers to discuss production of pandemic vaccine against H1N1 strain; and
- (f) if so, what was outcome of the discussion and to what extent India has participated in the meeting?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Government of India in its guidelines advocated infection control practices for health institutions in community settings and for hospitals. The states have also been asked to procure personal protective equipments.

(b) As on 6th July, 2009 World Health Organization has reported 94,512 laboratory confirmed cases of influenza A/H1N1 infection from 135 countries. There have been 429 deaths.

(c) Influenza A H1N1, earlier called 'Swine Flu' is transmitted from human to human and pigs or other animals are not involved.

(d) Three Indian manufacturers namely, Serum Institute of India, Pune, Panacea Biotec, Delhi and Bharat Biotech, Hyderabad have the capacity to manufacture vaccine. Drug Controller General (I) has issued license to import seed virus to these manufacturers.

(e) WHO has convened meeting of vaccine manufacturers to discuss production of pandemic vaccine.

(f) Serum Institute of India, Pune has been identified by World Health Organisation to manufacture pandemic vaccine.

#### **Swine flu affected children**

†812. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(a) the number of cases of swine flu that has come into light in the country and the number of persons coming from abroad in whom symptoms of swine flu have been found till date;

(b) whether it is a fact that seven children in a school near Jalandhar have been found H1N1 positive; and

(c) if so, the arrangements made by Government to provide treatment to the affected persons and the measures taken to prevent the expansion of virus?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) There have been 153 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A H1N1 [earlier referred as Swine Flu] in the country out of which 142 are travel related cases.

(b) and (c) Yes. Fourteen of the 31 children who visited USA showed symptoms of the disease. Seven tested positive. They were isolated in the civil hospital, Jalandhar. The central rapid response team and the Regional Director of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare were deputed immediately to Jalandhar to institute containment measures. Adequate quantity of Oseltamivir and personal protective equipments were made available to the State Government. Punjab Government traced 296 family and social contacts and put them on preventive medication with oseltamivir. Active surveillance was done in the community to detect cases of influenza like illness. All the seven children who tested positive were cured. No further cases among the remaining children or the contacts have been reported.

#### **CGHS and ESI like facilities to common man**

813. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would agree to introduce a new scheme like C.G.H.S. and E.S.I., under which common people can have treatment and medicines on payment of monthly subscription; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under the National Rural Health Mission [NRHM] has prepared a framework for introducing health insurance scheme for the BPL population. The States have been requested to prepare need based, community oriented, innovative and flexible insurance policies for implementation on pilot basis.

Further, Ministry of Labour and Employment has rolled out from 1st April 2008 "Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana [RSBY] in a phased manner in most of the States. The main aim of the Scheme is to provide Health Insurance Cover to the BPL workers and their families on the unorganized sector and to improve access of BPL families to quality medical care for treatment of diseases involving hospitalization and surgery through an identified network of health care providers on cashless basis.

#### **Clusters for development and expansion of SMEs**

†814. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that clusters have been set up for the development and expansion of small and medium enterprises in the country;
- (b) if so, the total number of clusters existing in the country at present;
- (c) the number of total industrial units existing in these clusters; and
- (d) the additional facilities extended by Government to the units established in these clusters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. Industrial clusters throughout the country are being provided assistance by the Government for their holistic development.

(b) As per the report of Third All India Census of Small Scale Industries 2001-02, there are 1223 clusters in the registered SSI sector and 819 in the unregistered SSI sector.

(c) The total number of industrial units in clusters in the registered SSI sector are 4,55,139 and in clusters in the unregistered SSI sector are 14,55,754 as on 31st March 2007.

(d) Under cluster development programmes/schemes, soft interventions (training, exposure, workshops, seminars, market development, website development, etc.) and hard interventions (creation of tangible assets like Common Facility Centres for testing, design, research and development, training, etc.) are undertaken for the clusters, depending upon the requirements of the clusters. 438 clusters with financial approvals worth Rs 76.19 crore, have been undertaken under the 'Micro and Small Enterprises- Cluster Development Programme' of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

#### **Adverse effect of cheap Chinese imports on SMEs**

815. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cheap Chinese imports have direct adverse effect on the small and medium enterprises in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether SMEs have asked Government to take strict anti-dumping measures to stop cheaper Chinese imports;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(d) if so, whether his Ministry has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry; and

(e) if so the response of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry thereon and the details of further steps Government proposes to take to protect SMEs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Imports from other countries, including China, could either be used as raw material/components for further production or as substitutes for domestically produced goods. As such, the precise effect of imported goods on small and medium enterprises in the country is varied and not quantifiable.

(c) to (e) The Directorate General of Anti Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) initiates anti-dumping investigations on the basis of applications filed by domestic industries, supported by evidence of dumping, injury and causal link between dumped imports and alleged injury to domestic industry. Such objections submitted by domestic industry are processed as per procedures and within the time limit specified under the Custom Tariff Act of 1975 (as amended in 1995) and the rules made thereunder. DGAD does not maintain any record with regard to the size/category (whether micro, small or medium)'of the applicants. As per available information, during the last three years DGAD has initiated 41 anti-dumping investigations, and anti-dumping duties have been levied in 23 cases.

#### **Protection of small industry and handicraft from Chinese products**

†816. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian small industry is lagging behind in the competitive race with the Chinese industry;

(b) whether Government is also aware that the Indian handicrafts sector is being completely affected by the Chinese market;

(c) if so, whether Government is taking any step to promote and protect the Indian small industry and handicraft; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The micro and small enterprises (MSE) sector in the country has registered a continuous increase in the number of enterprises, production and persons employed. In view of the different definition of MSEs in the two countries, any comparative assessment may not be possible. In so far as Indian handicrafts sector is concerned, China is one of the main competitors in the world market.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(c) and (d) To facilitate the promotion and development of micro and small enterprises (MSEs) and enhance their competitiveness, the Government announced a 'Policy Package for Stepping up Credit to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)' on 10 August 2005 which envisages public sector banks to fix their own targets for funding SMEs in order to achieve a minimum 20 per cent year-on-year growth in credit to the SME sector. The Government has also announced in February, 2007 a 'Package for Promotion of Micro and Small Enterprises' with an objective to provide support in areas of credit, technology upgradation, marketing, infrastructure etc. Further, the Government has enacted the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006 which has come into force from 2nd October, 2006. The Government is also implementing various schemes/programmes relating to credit, infrastructural development, technology upgradation, marketing, entrepreneurial/skill development, etc., for assisting the MSE sector in meeting the challenges. Some of the major schemes/programmes being implemented are Credit Guarantee Scheme, Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme, Performance and Credit Rating Scheme, Cluster Development Programme, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme and Market Development Assistance Scheme. To promote the handicraft sector, the Government is implementing specific schemes including Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana, Marketing Support and Services Scheme, Design and Technological Upgradation, Research & Development and Human Resource Development.

#### **Proposal to boost SMEs**

817. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to boost small and medium enterprises and also to increase their competitiveness with better infrastructure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether under the existing Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS), Government proposes to set up hubs for various sectors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The promotion and development of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and to enhance their competitiveness with better infrastructure are primarily the functions of the respective State Governments and UT Administrations. The Central Government, however, supplements the efforts by providing supportive measures aiming to boost MSMEs through specific schemes, which, *inter alia*, include the scheme for assistance for technology upgradation, comprehensive need based development of clusters, accessing the markets, improved infrastructure, facilities for training and capacity building of entrepreneurs, etc. For setting up of industrial estates for micro and small enterprises and to develop infrastructure facilities like power distribution network, water, roads, etc., the Integrated Infrastructure Development

(IID) Scheme was launched in 1994. The scheme provides for Central grant upto Rs. 2 crore for each projects (Rs. 4 crore for NE Region, HP, J & K and Uttarakhand.)

(c) and (d) There is no proposal under the IIUS to set up hubs for various sectors as the scheme aims to enhance competitiveness of existing clusters by providing quality infrastructure under PPP approach.

#### **Railway project in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh**

†818. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations and railway lines to be set up/laid by Government in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh;

(b) the specific steps Government would take to complete the old projects soon; and

(c) the action plan Government is formulating to complete the Guna-Etawah line pending since long and the amount spent on the same so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) 99 stations on 5 new lines in Madhya Pradesh and 6 stations on 1 new line in Chhattisgarh are proposed to be set up.

(b) The projects will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources. Efforts are being made to generate additional funds through Public Private Partnership, State sharing and extra funds for National Projects for expediting progress of projects.

(c) The 308 km stretch from Guna to Bhind has already been completed. Work has been taken up on Bhind-Etawah section and contracts for all the important bridges finalized. The land acquisition in Madhya Pradesh is being perused. An expenditure of Rs. 405.27 crore has been incurred on this project upto 31.03.2009. The work is likely to take about 2 years for completion.

#### **Video/TV facilities in trains**

819. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide Video/TV facilities in trains;

(b) if so, whether any study has been made in this regard;

(c) whether any comparative study, regarding such facilities by train service providers in other countries, have been made; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Broad guidelines have been issued to the Zonal Railways for installation of on board audio/video information

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi



dissemination and entertainment system in trains through open tender.

- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Doesn't arise.

#### **Rail coach factory at Palakkad**

820. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the present status of railway coach factory construction at Palakkad;
- (b) what is the provision for this project for this year;
- (c) how long it would take to start production; and
- (d) how many people are employed presently to start the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) In the Budget speech of 2008-09, Hon'ble MR announced the setting up of a new Rail Coach Factory at Palghat Kerala to take care of the increasing requirement of Passenger coaches in the country. Government of Kerala has promised to make 1000 acres of land available, free of cost, for this project. Railway Board commissioned RITES for finalizing the Detailed project Report (DPR). Land earmarked by the State Government has already been inspected by RITES officials. A DPR, bringing out the product mix, investments required and other related details were submitted by M/s. RITES. It has been scrutinized in the Ministry of Railways and requisite approval are being taken.

The abstract cost of the project is estimated to be Rs. 1215.76 crores.

- (b) No budget provision is required at this stage.
- (c) and (d) It is not feasible to furnish these details at this stage.

#### **Coach manufacturing units in Uttar Pradesh**

821. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways has plan to construct a coach manufacturing unit in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including investment cost, capacity of the plant and tentative completion date of the project;
- (c) whether Railways is proposing to coach manufacturing unit of M/s. Jessop in West Bengal which would involve comparatively much less investment *vis-a-vis* a green field coach factory in Uttar Pradesh; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir at Rai Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh. The estimated cost of the Project is Rs. 1685 crore and annual manufacturing capacity is 1000 coaches. The Project will be completed expeditiously.

(c) and (d) M/s Jessop is a privately owned company which is currently engaged in manufacturing EMU coaches and wagons for Indian Railways.

#### Annual Direct Recruitment Plan

822. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Annual Direct Recruitment Plan (ADRP) has been withdrawn;

(b) if so, whether action has been taken to fill up the vacancies in various departments of Railways; and

(c) the existing vacancies in various departments, category-wise and the present status of recruitment to fill the posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension have not extended the validity of Annual Direct Recruitment Plan (ADRP) beyond 31.3.2009.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The vacancies in various departments, (categories-wise) as on 01.04.2009 is as under:

Category	Vacancies
A and B	1549
C	133732
D	44743

Any large organization like the Railway will have vacancies at any point of time. Arising and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process. Vacancies arise due to normal retirement, voluntary retirements, deaths, promotions etc. and vacancies are filled in primarily through UPSC, open market recruitment, promotions and compassionate ground appointments, through Railway Recruitment Boards or by the Zonal Railways themselves.

#### Alternate rail route between North and South

823. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the plan of Railways to develop an alternate rail route between North and South by using the Raipur - Visakhapatnam track;

(b) the details of any such plans to improve the track between Raipur - Visakhapatnam;

(c) whether there are any on-going plans to double the existing track network and strengthen the track between Raipur - Visakhapatnam; and

(d) what other steps and new routes are proposed to reduce the track congestion between North and South to improve speed and traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) The main route connecting North and South is *Via* Vijaywada, Kazipet, Ballarshah, Nagpur, Bhopal and Itarsi. Alternate route *Via* Visakhapatnam, Titlagarh, Raipur to Nagpur already exists. To improve capacity on this alternate route, doubling between Raipur and Titlagarh, third line between Vizianagaram and Kottavalasa and fourth line between Kottavalasa and Simhachalam north sections have been sanctioned.

(d) To improve line capacity on the main routes connecting North and South, various works have been sanctioned which include doubling, 3rd and 4th lines, automatic signalling, grade separator, Intermediate Block Sections, electrification, strengthening of tracks, yard remodelling, crossing stations and additional loops at stations.

#### **Road overbridges near level crossing in Orissa**

†824. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there has been a demand for years to construct road overbridge (ROB) at level crossings near Boinda station of Sambalpur division, Dhenkanal of Khorga Road division and Talchar Road station under East Coast Railway in Orissa;

(b) whether Government is also aware that there is widespread dissatisfaction among people for delay in these works; and

(c) if so, by when these three ROB's would be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. Road over bridge (ROB) near Boinda in Sambalpur Division is a sanctioned work & part of the work has been completed.

Works of ROB's at Dhenkanal-Sudasibpur in lieu of level crossing (LC) No. CT-41 in Khurda road Division and ROB between Budhapank-Talchar of same Division in lieu of LC No. CT-81 have been included in the Works Programme of 2009-10.

(b) and (c) If the State Government co-operates in making the land available promptly and also clears the General Arrangement Drawing in time, the work of ROB would be taken up on priority.

#### **Extention of Vidhan Express upto Baidnath Dham**

825. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(a) whether Government has received several representations for extending Vidhan Express from Asansol to Howrah upto Baidnath Dham;

(b) if so, what are the reasons that Railways have not, so far, implemented the extension of above train upto Baidnath Dham; and

(c) by when this project of extension is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Extension of the train upto Baidyanath Dham is presently not feasible due to terminal and operational constraints.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Mandate of Reservation and Cancellation of tickets to IRCTC**

826. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IRCTC has also been given the mandate regarding reservation and cancellation of tickets;

(b) whether IRCTC being a corporation earns revenue for providing the service for the Railways;

(c) whether IRCTC as a corporation also charge service tax from the passengers over and above the rail fare and reservation charges; and

(d) if not, whether IRCTC is exempted from service tax and if so, under which rule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has been assigned the work of providing reservation on internet using the Indian Railway's computerized Passenger Reservation System (PRS).

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) IRCTC realises service charges from passengers and pays service tax to the Government out of the service charges collected.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Ticket reservation and cancellation by IRCTC**

827. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IRCTC has also been given the mandate regarding reservation and cancellation of tickets;

(b) whether such functions were part of original mandate of IRCTC;

(c) if not, when such functions were transferred to IRCTC;

(d) whether IRCTC being a corporation earns revenue for providing the service for the Railways; and

(e) if so, the details of charges levied by the IRCTC on the Railways and the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has been assigned the work of providing reservation on internet using the Indian Railway's computerized Passenger Reservation System (PRS).

(b) Yes, Sir;

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No charges are levied on Railways.

Service Charges realized from customer are:

- i-ticket: Rs. 40/- per ticket for Sleeper/ reserved 2nd Sitting (2S) classes and Rs. 60/- per ticket for other classes.

- e-ticket: Rs. 15/- to Rs. 25/- per ticket in sleeper (SL)/ reserved 2nd Sitting (2S) classes and Rs. 20/- to Rs. 40/- per ticket in other classes depending upon the number of passengers.

#### **Black marketing of tickets**

828. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that common man is not having an access to confirmed railway tickets whereas black tickets are easily available;

(b) whether the waitlisted tickets do not improve the status even to a single point even after lapse of more than a month period whereas such tickets used to improve position many a times in a single day, two three years back;

(c) what measures are taken to control black marketing of tickets; and

(d) whether Government would consider roll back of tatkal scheme which has made upside down the availability of tickets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir. Reserved tickets are available on first come first serve basis.

(b) Change in status of RAC/Waitlisted tickets is automatic and depends upon the cancellation of confirmed tickets.

(c) Measures taken include frequent checks in reservation offices, stations and in the premises of authorized/unauthorized agents, etc.

During the Financial Year 2008-09 & 2009-10 (upto May 2009), 2521 and 298 touts respectively were apprehended and prosecuted.

Besides apprehending touts, Railways have also ensured availability of confirmed berths so that the intending passengers do not fall a prey to touts. The activities include augmentation of coaches and running of special trains so that more berths are available to passengers, provision of e-ticketing, proliferation of PRS etc.

(d) No, Sir. At present there is no such proposal. However, it has been decided to revise Tatkal scheme to make it more user friendly.

#### **Headquarter quota for railway reservation**

†829.SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways headquarters has its quota for railway reservation and that falls under special and essential service category;

(b) if so, the criteria set for releasing the quota of headquarters;

(c) whether Government has fixed any time limit for Members of Parliament and Ministers to avail of the headquarters quota; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the reservation quota in Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) In order to meet the urgent travel requirements of high official requisition holders, which includes Central/State Government Ministers, Judges of Supreme Court of India, High Courts of various States & MPs/MLAs/VIPs, a limited number of berths/seats have been earmarked as High Official Requisition (HOR) Quota in different trains and in different classes. The HOR quota is released in accordance with the priority as per warrant of precedence and well established practice being followed since long.

(c) The requests for release of berths should reach the quota controlling authority before the release of quota.

(d) Does not arise. Centralized details of reservation quota available in trains running on Indian Railways are not maintained.

#### **Halting of Swarna Jayanti Rajdhani Express at Falna junction**

†830.SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry is contemplating to make Falna junction a halt for Swarna Jayanti Rajdhani Express which runs from New Delhi to Ahmedabad;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the technical reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal for provision of stoppage of 2957/2958 Ahmedabad-New Delhi Swarn Jayanti Rajdhani Express at Falna.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Rajdhani Express services are primarily meant for providing faster services with very limited stoppages enroute. Therefore, stoppage of 2957/2958 Ahmedabad-New Delhi Swarn Jayanti Rajdhani Express at Falna is not considered justified.

#### **Pantry car in Ashram Express**

†831. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for no arrangement of pantry car in Ashram Express which runs from Delhi to Ahmedabad and whether said arrangement is proposed to be provided in future;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the details of the technical aspect, if any, as to which train would have pantry car and which train would not?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Attachment of Pantry Cars to the trains is considered based on various factors such as priority of the train, journey time, commercial justification, availability of pantry cars, load of the train, etc. The decision in respect provision of pantry car in Ashram Express would be taken in line with above policy as and when operationally feasible.

#### **Lalitpur-Singrauli rail line**

†832. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of work of Lalitpur to Singrauli rail route;

(b) the amount spent, so far, on this project;

(c) by when it is targeted to be completed; and

(d) whether funds required for this project would be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) On Lalitpur-Satna, Rewa-Singrauli, Mahoba-Khajuraho new rail line project, Mahoba-Khajuraho has already been completed and commissioned. Earthwork, bridges etc taken up on Lalitpur-Khajuraho section. Land acquisition processed on Rewa-Sidhi section.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

- (b) Expenditure upto March, 2009 is Rs.303.66 crore.
- (c) The project will be progressed as per availability of resources.
- (d) Rs.58.26 crore has been provided in the Budget 2009-10 for this project.

#### **Status of railway projects**

833. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of ongoing and new railway projects and the surveys in the country especially in backward and rural regions during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the progress regarding the completion of said projects as on date;
- (c) the details of the funds allocated for the said projects and spent till date project-wise and State-wise; and
- (d) the time by when the said projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### **Superfast daily trains between Maharashtra and North India**

834. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways are planning to introduce more superfast daily trains between Maharashtra and northern part of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by when the trains are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Following trains announced in Railway Budget 2009-2010 will link Maharashtra and northern part of the country:-

#### **New Trains:**

1. Delhi-Pune (AC) Express (Non stop)
2. Sriganga Nagar-Delhi-Nanded Express
3. Mumbai-Varanasi Express
4. Mumbai-Bikaner Express
5. Gorakhpur-Mumbai Express
6. Mumbai-Jodhpur Express
7. Hazrat-Nizamuddin-Bangalore Rajdhani Express *via* Kacheguda
8. Lucknow-Rae Bareilly-Bangalore Express



**Extension:**

1. 2993/2994 Mumbai-Jaipur Express upto Delhi
2. 2143/2144 Nagpur-Gaya Deekshabhoomi Express to Shri Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Terminal on one side and to Dhanbad on the other side.
3. 2173/2174 Lokmanya Tilak (T)-Kanpur Udyog Nagari Exp. (bi-weekly) upto Pratapgarh.

**Increase in frequency:**

1. 2149/2150 Pune-Patna Express from 4 days to daily
  2. 7091/7092 Secunderabad-Patna Express from bi-weekly to daily
- (c) Trains announced in the Railway Budget are implemented during the financial year.

**Setting up of Rail Yatri Niwas**

835. DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the policy regarding setting up of Rail Yatri Niwas at various major stations and on what basis such stations are identified;
- (b) what is the prospective plan for setting up such Yatri Niwas;
- (c) whether the financial viability of such project has been ascertained;
- (d) whether the Railways would provide the land for such facilities;
- (e) if so, on what conditions and whether any policy for rent or lease of such land has been formulated; and
- (f) what is the revenue sharing arrangement between IRCTC and Indian Railways in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (f) Although there is no laid down policy on setting up of Rail Yatri Niwas, in the Railway Budget 2009-10 construction of Multi Functional Complexes (MFC) has been proposed at 50 railway stations serving places of pilgrimage, industry and tourist interest. These MFCs will have budget hotel also in addition to other facilities.

**Modifying coaches for physically challenged**

836. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to modify coaches to made them suitable for physically challenged persons;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Indian Railways have already been manufacturing certain passenger coaches which have a separate compartment specially designed for wheel chair borne passengers. These compartments have the facilities like wider entrance door, wider aisle and knee space to permit easy movement of wheel chair, toilets adopted to need of such passengers, arrangements for securing wheel chair during the journey etc. Presently there are about 1600 such coaches on Indian Railways.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Decongestion of Jammu station**

837. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Jammu railway station has only three platforms, as a result of which a lot of inconvenience is caused to passengers; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps Government proposes to take to decongest the station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To decongest Jammu Railway station, two additional platforms have been sanctioned in Budget 2009-10 at an estimated cost of Rs.5.03 crore.

#### **Construction of electric-diesel locomotive factories**

838. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that electric-diesel locomotive factories have been approved for construction in Marhowrah, Bihar and at another location in Utter Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the land acquisition has been completed and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government is contemplating shifting of these factories and if so, the reasons therefor and justification thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) A diesel-electric locomotive factory has been approved for construction in Marhowra, Bihar. There is no proposal for construction of another diesel-electric locomotive factory in Utter Pradesh.

(b) Diesel Loco Factory, Matrhowra is planned for manufacturing 130 diesel locomotives per annum. The estimated cost of the factory is Rs. 2052 crores.

(c) Land acquisition is in progress. Payment for 69.84 acres of land has been made.

(d) No, Sir.

**Licence to private players to set up Yatri Niwas and budget hotels**

839. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to give license to private players to establish Yatri Niwas and budget hotels on its land;

(b) if so, the details of the tendering process for the grant of licenses;

(c) whether the license would be awarded for individual facility or for a group of facilities at different stations;

(d) whether Railways have framed model contract regarding revenue sharing, room tariff, responsibilities of the licensee, period of license, conditions of abrogating license etc.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Railways (IR) has entrusted Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC) with setting up of Budget Hotels in the vicinity of major railway stations either directly or through Public Private Participation.

(b) IRCTC follows two packet open competitive bidding system to grant licences.

(c) Tender for each site is separately issued by IRCTC.

(d) and (e) IR gives the land on license to IRCTC for a period of 30 years-with a revenue sharing ratio of 40:60 between IR & IRCTC besides a nominal land licence fee such that the total earnings to the Railways is not less than 2.5 percent of the market value of the land. The detailed contract conditions with the licensee are framed by IRCTC.

**Expansion and modernization of Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus Station**

840. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

SHRI Y. P. TRIVEDI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CST) in Mumbai, which happens to be the financial capital of India is a historical monument that needs extension and renovation;

(b) whether Government is also aware that the Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal for the development of the CST which has its own twenty acres of land on BOT principle:

- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the proposal is approved; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes Sir, a part of the Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus is a heritage structure that will be preserved during formulation of the proposal of the station development.

- (b) to (d) No land has been offered by the Government of Maharashtra for such development.
- (e) Does not arise.

#### **Private participation in railways facilities**

841. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that private players are being allowed to establish budget accommodations on Railways property;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Railways have encouraged private participation in catering services;
- (c) if so, whether such scheme also covers railway retiring rooms and waiting rooms; and
- (d) if not, whether Government consider bringing in private participation in these facilities considering the dismal maintenance of these facilities being used by common passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Railways has entrusted Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. with the work of setting up Budget Hotels in the vicinity of major railway stations either directly or through Public Private Participation.

- (b) The matter is under review.

(c) and (d) A scheme for effecting upgradation of Retiring Rooms by implementation of the Renovation / Rehabilitation Operation and Transfer (ROT) Scheme through Public Private Participation (PPP) was conceptualized and instructions were issued to zonal railways.

#### **Pushing of a woman passenger from train**

842. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a pregnant woman passenger was recently pushed out from running train by two constables of the GRP, leading to the death of the woman;
- (b) if so, whether an enquiry has been held in the matter; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. On 18.06.2009 one person named Shri Dinesh Kumar accompanied by his pregnant wife and a two years daughter boarded Train No. 190 Dn. passenger (Mailani-Gonda) from Tikoniya Railway Station to reach Majhrapurab. He hanged his bicycle on the window of the coach. On being asked by the GRP escort party of Mailani, he failed to produce any luggage ticket for his bicycle. On this, quarrel took place between the GRP staff and the lady. The GRP staff pushed her out alongwith the bicycle resulting in her death on the spot.

(b) and (c) Government Railway Police/ Lakhimpur registered a case *vide* crime no. 45/09 U/s 304/383/384 IPC against both the GRP staff. On 18.06.2009, the aforesaid GRP staff have been arrested and sent to judicial custody and on 21.06.2009 they have been dismissed from police service. Further, in charge GRP/ Mailani outpost has been suspended and Station Officer/ Government Railway Police/ Lakhimpur has been attached to Head Quarter/ Lucknow.

#### **Trains plying without pandrole clip**

†843.SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that trains are plying on the tracks having no pandrole fastener clip which ever poses a lurking possibility of major tragedy;

(b) whether Government is taking any step to prevent the theft of these clips alongwith placing new fastener clips at the earliest as well; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir. Daily patrolling of track is done on Indian Railway to ensure that there are no missing pandrol clips (these are now called elastic rail clips). However, instances of theft of track fittings, including pandrol clips, do get reported from time to time. Immediate action is taken to recoup them.

(b) Track is being patrolled by keyman every day for routine inspection and to notice theft, if any. The missing clips are replaced immediately as and when noticed.

(c) In addition to above, security patrolling is also done on identified sections to guard against any miscreant activity.

#### **National projects in NER**

844. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the implementation status and target set for various National projects in the NER indicating the progress made, so far;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) the details of the sectoral progress and target set for completion of the gauge conversion of Rangia Murkongselek sections of NF Railway during current financial year along with total outlay, annual allocation and utilization made upto May, 2009 and provision made for subsequent years; and

(c) the details of the sectoral progress and target set for completion of the approach road and main bridge construction of the Bogibeel bridge project over Brahmaputra along with total outlay, annual allocation and utilization made upto May, 2009?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Details of National Projects in North JEastern Region alongwith expenditure, outlay and status are as under:-

(Rs in crore)

Name of the Project	Exp. upto March ' 09	Outlay 2009-10	Status
1	2	3	4
<b>New Line</b>			
Jiribam -Imphal (Tupul)	73.63	50.00	Final Location Survey, construction work & earthwork and bridges in progress in Km.0.0 to 20.5 and Km.63.606 to 97.9. Jiribam-Tupul target-March, 2014 and Tupul-Imphal target- March, 2016.
Kumarghat- Agartala	910.00	10.00	Completed and commissioned.
Azra-Byrnihat	0.34	5.00	Final Location Survey in progress.However, survey work suspended in Assam portion due to obstruction by local people. Project target - March, 2014.
Dimapur-Zubza Kohima	0.83	5.00	Final Location Survey from Km. 0.00 to 40.00 in progress. Final Location Survey was stopped between Km . 5.00 to Km. 8.00 due to objection by villagers. Project target March, 2015.
Bogibeel Bridge	1391.71	110.41	South Bank line on approach (44 km) completed. Target for road approaches by PWD - March, 2013. Main bridge substructure Target - June, 2012. Main bridge super-structure target - Dec, 2013. Overall

1	2	3	4
			project completion Target - March, 2014. Total estimated cost Rs.3087.44 crores. Annual Allocation 2008-09 Rs.75.00crore.
Bharabhi - Sairang	0.58	5.00	Final Location Survey in progress between Km.0.00 to 9.0 km. Project completion target - March, 2014.
Agartala-Sabroom	1.14	30.00	Final Location Survey from Agartala to Sabroom completed and land acquisition under process. Project completion target - March, 2014.
Sivok-Rangpo	0.00	10.00	Final Location Survey contract awarded and work started. Project completion target - December, 2015.
<b>Gauge Conversion</b>			
Lumding-Silchar- Jiribam & Badarpur to Kumarghat	1657.35	100.00	Construction works for earthwork, maior and minor bridges and ballasting etc. is in progress. Overall physical progress 43.89%. However, progress is badly affected due to militancy and law & order problems in the region. Project completion target - March, 2012.
Rangia- Murkongselek with linked fingers	71.64	54.28	Rangia - Rangpara North Section - works of formation, bridges etc. in progress. Rangapara North to Murkongselek tenders invited. Project completion target - March, 2013.

**Four more dedicated rail freight corridors**

845. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission has prepared blue print for four more dedicated rail freight corridors which could be taken over by new Government;

(b) whether in addition to on-going Ludhiana-Kolkata (Eastern Corridor) and Delhi-Mumbai (Western Corridor), the Commission has developed blue print for Kolkata-Mumbai, Delhi-Chennai-Kharagpur-Vijayawada and Chennai-Goa dedicated freight corridor projects;

- (c) if so, whether Planning Commission has already forwarded its plan;
- (d) whether projected investment in dedicated freight corridors during Eleventh Five Year Plan has been fixed at Rs. 30000 crores; and
- (e) by when work is likely to start on these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However pre-feasibility studies for four Dedicated Freight Corridors on the following routes have been carried out by Ministry of Railways:-

- (a) East West Corridor (Kolkata-Mumbai)
- (b) North South Corridor (Delhi-Chennai)
- (c) East South Corridor (Kharagpur-Vijayawada)
- (d) Southern Corridor (Goa-Chennai)

A decision on the corridors will be taken based on traffic & financial considerations and infrastructural requirements of the Railways.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

#### **Change of old passenger coaches**

846. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has time bound plan to discard all railway passenger coaches which are more than 15 years old;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps Railways propose to take to introduce a system whereby all such old coaches are changed within the next 5 years in phased manner in all zones; and
- (d) the details of such plans and investment proposed over the next 5 years including investment for capacity enhancement for coach building?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir. The codal life of a passenger coach is 25 years, A Mid-life rehabilitation is undertaken after 12-15 years of usage so that coaches can be kept in good service condition till the end of codal life.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) To take care of the increasing requirement of passenger coaches in the country and the substantial gap between production and requirement, work for setting up a New Coach Factory is in progress at Rae Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh, Estimated to cost Rs. 1685 crores, it shall have a capacity to manufacture 1000 coaches per annum.



In the Budget speech of 2008-09, hon'ble MR announced the setting up a new Rail Coach Factory at Palghat, Kerala. Government of Kerala has promised to make 1000 acres of land available free of cost for this project. Estimated to cost Rs. 1215 crores, this factory shall manufacture 600 coaches per year. Requisite approval for this project is under process.

In the Budget speech of 2009-10, hon'ble MR has announced setting up of a new coach factory in state-of-the-art facility to manufacture about 500 EMU/MEMU and Metro coaches per annum in Kancharapara-Halisahar Railway Complex where Railway land is available. This unit will be set up in joint venture/public private partnership. Details of the project are being worked out.

#### **Repair of Rail bridges**

847. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether fitness certificate has been obtained to run trains on all major rail bridges;
- (b) whether Railways have the design of all rail bridges; and
- (c) the number of bridges constructed during British rule the repair of which has been carried out by the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Train operations of passenger carrying trains on a new Bridge are started only after receipt of sanction from Commissioner of Railway Safety. Further, to ensure the safety of passenger and trains, a regular and rigorous system of inspection of Bridges is followed on Indian Railways. Under this system, all the Bridges are thoroughly inspected once a year as a focused attention. In addition, the inspecting officials also inspect the Bridges during their routine inspections.

(b) All Railway Bridges have been constructed either as per standard drawings issued by Research Designs & Standards Organization (RDSO) or as per designs made by Zonal Railways. Completion drawings of some of old Bridges are not available. However, in case of such Bridges also, safety is completely ensured by a focused attention during inspections.

(c) Rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening of Bridges is an ongoing work on Indian Railways. Rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening of Bridges is undertaken on the basis of their physical condition as ascertained during regular inspections carried out in the field and not on the basis of age. Therefore, all old Bridges do not necessarily require rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening. During the last five years, a total of 6720 no. of Rail Bridges have been rehabilitated/rebuilt/strengthened on Indian Railway system.

#### **Merger of Braithwaite and Co. Ltd. with Railways**

†848. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(a) whether any memorandum or request has been received by Government to merge Braithwaite and Co. Ltd. (B.C.L.) with Railways;

(b) if so, the steps taken, so far, in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) As announced by Hon'ble Minister of Railways in her budget speech of 2009-10, process is being initiated for transfer wagon units of Burn Standard and Braithwaite & Co. Ltd. (BCL) to MOR. A dialogue has already been started with concerned Ministry for waiver of accumulated liabilities of Burn Standard Co. Ltd. and inter ministerial discussion for transfer of BCL shall be started soon.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Unused railway land

†849. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have additional land that remains unused;

(b) if so, the details of available land, throughout the country, State-wise;

(c) whether Government proposes to bring such land under use for other activities or commercial purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps Government is taking to save unused land from encroachment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (e) Details are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Connecting Udhampur with Qazigund

850. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a plan to connect Udhampur with Qazigund in Kashmir by the Railways; and

(b) if so, by when the plan would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Udhampur-Katra (25 km.) portion is targeted to be completed by December, 2011, The alignment between Katra-Qazigund is under review and an Expert Committee appointed to study

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

the issues involved has recently submitted its report. The matter is under consideration of the Ministry. The target for this portion will be fixed once the decision on the alignment is finalised.

#### **Facilities in AC-3 tier trains**

851. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to put curtains in 3 tier AC;
- (b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;
- (c) by when this proposal would be implemented in each train; and
- (d) the other facilities being considered to put in AC-3 tier trains like Rajdhani?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) All new AC-3 Tier coaches are being provided with curtains in aisles, besides curtains on the windows which were already provided. Existing AC-3Tier coaches on the Zonal Railways shall also be provided with curtains in the aisles in a phased manner.

(d) From the considerations of coach design and passenger amenities, AC-3 Tier coaches are similar whether used in Rajdhani services or other trains.

#### **Gauge conversion**

852. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have prescribed some norms for approving the gauge conversion work after completion of its survey works;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of railway lines for which proposals have been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh and South Central Railway; and
- (d) the time-frame fixed for completing the works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The norms for taking up gauge conversion projects are as under:

- i) To take up conversion of lines to develop alternative Broad Gauge (BG) routes obviating the need for doubling existing BG lines on these routes.
- ii) To establish new BG links between stations connected by other BG lines.
- iii) To establish BG connection to ports, industrial centres and locations having potential for growth;

- iv) To take up conversion of lines required on strategic consideration;
- v) To minimize transshipment and to improve wagon turn around by avoiding delays at transshipment points.

Gauge conversion works are also taken up on socio-economic considerations for development of backward areas.

(c) and (d) There is only one Metre Gauge line on South Central Railway for which Andhra Pradesh Government has requested for expeditious completion. On this Dharmavaram-Pakala line, conversion of Pakala-Madanapalli has already been completed and awaiting certification by Commissioner of Railway Safety. The portion from Madanapalli Dharmavaram is targeted for completion during 2009-10.

#### **Road overbridges in Himachal Pradesh**

853. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that some proposals of rail cum road overbridges (ROBs) in Himachal Pradesh are pending with Government;
- (b) if so, the current status of the proposals;
- (c) whether the State Government has completed all the preliminary formalities for getting sanctioned the said proposals;
- (d) if not, the details of the negotiations Government has made with the State Government, so far; and
- (e) the details of results of the said negotiations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a), (b) (d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Proposals for three ROBs on deposit terms were initiated by the State Govt. details of which are as under:

Name of work	Status
1. Road over bridge (ROB) at Fared, Km. 120/8-7 on Pathankot-Joginder Nagar section	State Govt. has not conveyed acceptance of conceptual profile sketch and abstract Estimate which were sent to them on 1.5.2007. P&E (Plan & Estimate) charges have also not been deposited by them.
2. Road Over Bridge at Km. 116/8-9 near Tabha village on Sirhind-Unna section	Joint feasibility studies could not be taken up due to poor response from State Govt. for last 2 years.
3. ROB in lieu of LC No. 323 at Km. 143/1-2 on Pathankot-Jogindernagar section near Baijnath Mahakal.	P&E charges have not yet been deposited by State Govt. to enable Railways taking further action

- (c) No, Sir.

#### **Rail projects in Gujarat**

854. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress made in the railway line between Patan-Bhiladi;
- (b) whether she is aware about reduction in Railway facilities subsequent to conversion to broad gauge between Patan-Mehsana in North Gujarat; and
- (c) how much time her Ministry would take to provide daily two trains between Patan and Ahmedabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The work of land acquisition and major bridges has been taken up for construction of new line Patan-Bhildi.

(b) During conversion, one of the level crossings has been closed as it was not feasible. Traffic of this L-xing was diverted to a nearby L-xing.

(c) 273-274 Ahmedabad-Patan passenger has been introduced from 14.02.2009. At present, there is no such proposal to introduce additional train on Ahmedabad-Mahesana-Patan section.

#### **New trains and rail projects in Kerala**

855. SHRI P. R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to start regular trains from Ernakulam-Shoranur-Ernakulam and Kottayam-Ernakulam-Kottayam; and
- (b) what is the provision for doubling of rail line from Ernakulam to Kayamkulam and by when it is proposed to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) There is no proposal to start trains between Ernakulam-Shoranur and Ernakulam-Kottayam. However, the following trains announced in the Railways Budget 2009-10 will serve the Ernakulam area also:

1. Ernakulam-Delhi Express Non-stop
2. Bangalore-Kochuveli Express
3. Mangalore-Thiruvananthapuram Express
4. Ernakulam-Goa Express
5. Bilaspur-Tirunelveli Express
6. Hapa-Tirunelveli Express
7. Extension of 2075/2076 Thiruvananthapuram-Ernakulam Jan Shatabdi Express to Kozhikode.

(b) An outlay of Rs. 100.5 crore has been proposed for the patch doublings taken up between Ernakulam-Kayankulam route. Work on these doublings is likely to be completed in next 2-3 years subject to handing over of the required land by the State Government and availability of resources.

#### **Gauge conversion of Chhindwara-Nagpur railway line**

†856. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(a) whether it is a fact that a lump sum amount of Rs.585 crores has been sanctioned in the months of December, January and February for Chhindwara-Nagpur gauge conversion;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the sanction order number and date etc.;

(c) the present progress of work of this project and the details thereof, item-wise and the target fixed to complete the same; and

(d) the present cost of the said gauge conversion project and whether the project, with the help of lump sum sanctioned amount would be completed prior to the scheduled time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) 2 Yes, Sir. Detailed estimate for Rs. 585.93 crore have been sanctioned for the work *vide* Railway Board's letter no. 2005/W-2/ SECR/GC/01 dated 15.01.2009.

(c) 50% land acquisition completed. Work on major, minor bridges, earthwork etc, taken up.

(d) The latest anticipated cost of the project is Rs.617.51 crore. An outlay of Rs.50 crore has been proposed for this work in Budget 2009-10. No target date for this work has been fixed. The project will be progressed as per availability of resources.

#### **Promotion of Research and Development in Iron and Steel Sector**

857. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the scheme 'Promotion of Research and Development in Iron and Steel Sector' is still moving at snail pace without adequate fiscal allocation for the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons for lethargic functioning of this scheme which was initiated specifically to increase steel production and to reduce dependency on the imported cooking coal;

(c) the steps taken by Government for optimum functioning of this programme and fiscal allocation estimated during the current year; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Steel proposed a new scheme namely "Scheme for Promotion of Research and Development in Iron and Steel Sector" during the 11th Five Year Plan Period. On receipt of the token provision from the Planning Commission for the first year of the plan (2007-08), actions were initiated to formulate the scheme in consultation with Planning Commission and other stake holders. The Planning Commission conveyed its 'in-principle' approval for scheme on 16th June, 2008 with a budgetary provision of Rs.118.00 crore. As a follow-up, the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) Memorandum was prepared which was appraised by the EFC in its meeting held on 21.11.2008. The scheme was finally approved for implementation by Ministry of Finance on 23.1.2009, As per approval of Ministry of Finance, the scheme is to be effective from 1.4.2009. To operationalise the scheme

during the current financial year (2009-10) with an allocation of Rs.26 crore, research projects of national importance have since been identified. On receipt of detailed proposals from the identified organizations, these would be considered by the competent authority.

#### **Steel Plants in Jharkhand**

858. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) for setting up steel manufacturing plants in Jharkhand have been signed with Government by several private entrepreneurs, particularly during the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating annual production capacity envisaged in each MoU along with size of land indicated to be acquired/allotted;

(c) the current status of implementation of respective projects;

(d) whether Government has formulated any policy for socio-economic rehabilitation/resettlement of the families whose lands are to be acquired for implementation of these projects;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (c) The details of MoUs signed alongwith the name of companies for setting up of iron and steel plants in Jharkhand and the annual production capacity along with size of land indicated in each MoU project-wise are enclosed as Statement (*See below*) as per the record of information available in the Ministry of Steel.

(d) to (f) Government of India has already formulated National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007, which has been notified by Ministry of Rural Development vide Gazette Notification No. 26011/4/2007-LRD dated 31.10.2007.

The objectives of the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy are as follows:-

- to minimise displacement and to promote/ as far as possible, non-displacing or least-displacing alternatives;
- to ensure adequate rehabilitation package and expeditious' implementation of the rehabilitation process with the active participation of the affected families;
- to ensure that special care is taken for protecting the rights of the weaker sections of society, especially members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and to create obligations on the State for their treatment with concern and sensitivity;
- to provide a better standard of living, making concerted efforts for providing sustainable income to the affected families;
- to integrate rehabilitation concerns into the development planning and implementation process; and
- where displacement is on account of land acquisition, to facilitate harmonious relationship between the requiring body and affected families through mutual cooperation.

The National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 is available for public information in the Ministry of Rural Development's site *i.e.* <http://www.rural.nic.in> / <http://www.rural.nic.in/policy.htm>

**Statement**

*Details of iron & steel plant projects for which MoUs have been signed with the State Government of Jharkhand*

S.No.	Name of the Company	Location	Capacity in MTPA	Land indicated to be acquired (approx.)	Date of Signing MoU	Present status & progress
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	M/s Monnet Ispat Limited	Hazaribagh	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.8 (b) Steel -0.7	500 acres	05-02-03	Production not Started
2	M/s Vallabh Steel Limited	Gamharia	(a) Sponge Iron -0.3 (b) Steel -0.2 (c) Pig Iron -1.5	116 acres Purchased 105 acres of land	26-02-04	1st phase Commissioned
3	M/s Aadhunik Alloy & Power Ltd.	Kandra	(a) Sponge Iron -1.98 (b) Steel 2.6	1584 acres Procured 120 acres of landCommissioned	26-02-04	1st phase
4	M/s Nilanchal Iron & Power Ltd.,	Chandil	(a) Sponge Iron 0,5, (b) Steel - 0,20	Purchased 67 acres of land	26-03-04	1st phase Commissioned
5	M/s Pawanjal Steel & Power Ltd.	Lohardaga	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.2, (b) Steel - 0.4	200 acres	01-06-04	Production not Started
6	M/s Chhattisgarh Electricity Co. Ltd.	Karra, Ranchi	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.45 (b) Steel-0.4		01.06.04	MoU Cancelled



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	M/s. Narbheram Gas Point Pvt. Ltd.	Jamshedpur	(a) Sponge Iron -0.135, (b) Steel 0,045	50 acres	12-04-05	Production not Started
8.	M/s Jharkhand Ispat Pvt. Ltd.,	Ramgrah	(a) Sponge Iron -1.08, (b) Steel -0.20	300 acres Purchased 20.05 acres non tribal land	26-02-04	1s1 phase Commissioned
9.	M/s. Balajee Metal & Sponge Ltd,  Commissioned	Chaibasa	Sponge Iron -0.12	30 acres	01-06-04	Partially
10.	M/s Abhijeet Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.	Saraikela Kharswan	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.25, (b) Steel -0.11	272 acres Purchased 90 acres of land	26-02-04	Production not Started
11	M/s R G Steels Pvt. Ltd.	Near Patratu	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.09, (b) Steel -0.06	100 acres	26-03-04	Production not Started
12	M/s Corporate Ispat Alloy Limited	Saraikela Kharswan	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.25, (b) Steel -0.11	1500 acres Purchased 150 acres of Raiyat land	26.03.04	Production not Started
13	M/s Prasad Groups, Resources, Pvt Ltd.	Near Patratu	(a) Sponge Iron-0.105, (b) Steel -0,22	80 acres	26-03-04	Production not Started
14	. M/s. Horizon Loha Udyog Ltd. (M/s. Horizon Eximp Ltd.,.	Chaibasa	Sponge Iron -0.4	50 acres Purchased 113 acres	26-03-04	Production not Started
15	M/s. Prakash Ispat	Chaibasa	Pig Iron - 0.2	75 acres	26-03-04	Production not Started

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
16	M/s. . Spectrum Mercantile Pvt. Ltd.	Chaibasa	Sponge Iron -0.4	100 acres	26-03-04	Production not Started
17	M/s AML Steel & Power Ltd.	Saraikela	(a) Sponge Iron -1.54, (b) Steel -0.20	2000 acres Purchased 72 acres	26-02-04	Partially commissioned
18	M/s Chaibasa Steel Pvt. Ltd,	W. Singhbhum	Sponge Iron -0.4	300 acres Purchased 50 acres of land	26-03-04	Production not Started
19	M/s Annpurna Global Ltd,	W. Singhbhum	(a) Sponge Iron 0.201, (b) Steel -0.1	-	26-03-04	MoU Cancelled
20	M/s. Electro Steel Integrated Ltd.	ChandanKyari, Bokaro	(b) Sponge Iron 2.0, (b) Steel-3.0	2000 acres Purchased - 1252 acres of Raiyat land	-	Production not Started
21	M/s. Balaji Industriaal Products Ltd.	Chaibasa	(a) Sponge Iron 0.12	37 acres Purchased 19 acres of land	-	Production not Started
22	M/s. Rungta Mines Ltd.	Gaisuti, West Singhbhum	(a) Sponge Iron 0.51	139 acres Purchased - 63 acres of land	12-04-05	Partially commissioned
23	M/s. Raj Refractories (P) Ltd.	Bundu	(a) Spong e Iron - 0.6, (b) Steel -0.06	38 acres	12-04-05	Production not Started
24	M/s Sunflag Iron & Steel Com. Ltd.	Saraikela	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.06 (b) Steel -0.49	425 acres	07-08-04	Production not Started
25	M/s Essary Steel Jharkhand Ltd. (Formerly Hy-Grade Pellets Ltd.)	W. Singhbhum	(a) Sponge Iron - 7.5 (b) Steel-10 (c) Pellet Plant 8	3000 acres	17-11-04	Production not Started

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
26	M/s. Anindita Traders & Investment Ltd.	Ramgarh	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.334	140 acres Purchased 30 acres of land	12-04-05	Partially Commissioned
27	M/s- BMW Industries Ltd.	Bokaro	(a) Sponge Iron 0.21 (b) Steel 0.5 (c) Pig Iron - 0.5	200 acres Allotted 270 acres of land by Bokaro Industrial Area Development Authority, Bokaro	12-04-05	Production not Started
28	M/s. Goel Sponge Pvt. Ltd.,	W. Singhbhum	(a) Sponge Iron-0.115, (b) Steel -0.09	100 acres	12-04-05	Production not Started
29	M/s. Jindal Steel & Power Ltd.,	Ghatshila	(a) Sponge Iron - 5.0 (b) Steel -5.0	3000 acres	05-07-05	Production not Started
30	M/s. Contisteel Limited,	Galudih	(a) Sponge Iron-1.2, (b) Steel-1.4 (c) Liquid Steel -1.25	1400 acres	18-07-05	Production not Started
31	M/s. Kohinoor Steel Pvt. Ltd.	Buladih near Chandil	(a) Sponge Iron-0.225, (b) Pig Iron -0.12,	160 acres Purchased 44 acres of land	18-07-05	Partially Commissioned
32	M/s. Bhushan Power Steel Limited,	Potka, Jamshedpur	(a) Sponge Iron -1.5, (b) Steel 3.0	3400 acres	23-07-05	Production not Started

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
33	M/s. Kalyani Steel Ltd.	Silli, Ranchi	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.23, (b) Steel -1.0	1500 acres	23-07-05	Production not Started
34	M/s Tata Steel Ltd. (Green Field Project)	Manoharpur/ Chandil	Integrated Steel Plant -12.0	24500 acres	08-09-05	Production not Started
35	M/s Tata Steel Ltd. (Expansion)	Jamshedpur	Integrated Steel Plant -5.0	60000 acres (Fully acquired)	08-09-05	Production not Started
36	M/s. V.S. Dempo & Company Pvt. Ltd.	Manohanpur	Integrated Steel Plant -0.5	350 acres Purchsed 110.54 acres Raiyati land	04.10.05	Production not Started
37	M/s. Arcelor Mittal Limited	Khunti	Integrated Steel Plant -12.0	25000 acres	08.10.05	Production not Started
38	M/s JSW Steel Ltd.	Sonahtu, Ranchi	Integrated Steel Plant -10.0	9000 acres	09.11.05	Production not Started
39	M/s Ranchi Integrated Steel Limited	Silli, Near Muri	Integrated Steel Plant -1.5	-	30.12.05	MoU Cancelled
40	M/s. Essel Mining Industries Ltd.	Jagnathpur, W. Singhbhum	Integrated Steel Plant -1.0	500 acres	05.05.06	Production not Started
41	M/s. Sesa Goa Limited	Saraiakela Kharswan	Integrated Steel Plant -0.5	300 acres	07.09.06 Started	Production not Started
42	M/s. Mukund Steel	Barianga, Hazaribag	Integrated Steel Plant -2.0	1800 acres	07.09.06	Production not Started

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
43	M/s. Feegrade & Company Pvt. Ltd.	Guraa & Rangamati W. Singhbhum	Integrated Steel Plant-0.3	250 acres	11.09.06	Production not Started
44	M/s. Bonai Industrial Company Limited	Kundubera & Singh Pokharia, W. Singhbhum	Integrated Steel Plant-0.25	300 acres	11.09.06	Production not Started
45	M/s. Rungta Mines Limited	Gaisuti, West Singhbhum	Integrated Steel Plant-4.5	3000 acres	11.09.06	Production not Started
46	M/s. Vini Iron & Steel Udyog Limited	Lupungdih, Chandil, Saraikela Kharswan	Integrated Steel Plant-0.6	355 acres Purchased 100 acres of land	14.09.06	Production not Started
47	M/s. Narsingh fspat Limited	Khunti, Chandil, Saraikela Kharaswan	Mini Steel - 0.25	150 acres	14.09.06	Production not Started
48	M/s. Core Steel & Power Ltd.	Musabani, Ghatsila	Mini Steel -1.0	1000 acres	29.12.06	Production not started
49	M/s. Ispat Industry Ltd.	Kara, Khunit	Integrated Steel Plant-2.8	2500 acres	12.01.07	Production not started
50	M/s. Ma Chandi Durga Ispat Ltd.	Nala Block Jamtara	Integrated Steel Plant-1.1	1250 acres	09.02.07	Production not started

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
51	M/s. Jagdamba Fiscal Services Ltd.	Raneshwar, Sikaripara, Dumka	Integrated Steel Plant-1.1	1000 acres	09.02.07	Production not started
52	M/s. Brahmi Impex Ltd.	Afjalpur, Balablock, Jamtara	Integrated Steel Plant-1.1	1000 acres	09.02.07	Production not started
53	M/8. Adhunik Corporation Ltd.	Dhanbad	Integrated Steel Plant-1.1	1250 acres	09.02.07	Production not started
54	M/s. Traihgle Trading Pvt. Ltd.	Saraikela - Kharswan	Steel Plant - 0.24	200 acres	14.02.07	Production not started
55	M/s. Premier Ferro Alloys & Securities Ltd.	Baiianga, Ranchi	Steel Plant-1.0	750 acres	23.02.07	Production not started
56	M/s. Pushp Steel & Mining (P) Ltd.	Chandil	Steel Plant-0.25	150 acres	24.02.07	Production not started
57	M/s. SarthaK industries Ltd.	Rajkharswan	Steel Plant • 2.2	2000 acres	26.02.07	Production not started
58	M/s Jindal Steel & Power Ltd.	Patratu	Integrated Steel Plant- 6.0	3100 acres Purchased - 310 acres	08.11.07	Production not started
59	M/s. Bhushan Steel Limited	Galudih, E. Singhbhum	Integrated Steel Plant-3.1	2500 acres	04.01.08	Production not started
60	M/s. Ma Chhinmastika Sponge Iron Ltd.	Ramgarh	Integrated Steel Plant-1.0	500 acres Purchased 29 acres of land	09.07.08	Partially commissioned

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
61	M/s. Maa Chhinmastika Cement and Ispat Pvt. Ltd.	Ramgarh	Integrated Steel Plant-0.128	125 acres Purchased 25 acres of land	09.07.08	Partially Commissioned
62	M/s. V.M. Salgaocar & Brothers Pvt. Ltd.	Ghatishila	Integrated Mint Steel Plant-0.5	600 acres	11.07.08	Production not started
63	M/s. Ramgarh Sponge Iron Pvt. Ltd.	Hosir, Hazaribagh	Steel Plant-0.25	250 acres Purchased 25 acres of land	14.07.08	Partially Commissioned
64	M/s. SKS Ispat and Power Ltd.	Kanchi Bundu, Ranchi	Steel Plant-1.3	1000 acres Acquired 332 acres	07.08.08	Production not not started
65	M/s. Jupiter Iron Industries Pvt. Ltd.	Ramgarh	Steel Plant-0.25	300 acres Purchased 68 acres of land	07.08.08	Production not started

#### **Safeguard duty on import of steel**

859. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has deferred its decision to impose safeguard duty on import of hot rolled and other forms of steel for two more months;

(b) whether the Committee which had to decide on safeguards has pointed out that there was a need to take into consideration views of the consumer industry; and

(c) if so, by when a final decision in regard to private curbs on imported steel products will be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) The Standing Board on Safeguards, held a meeting on 11 May 2009, to consider the recommendations of the Director General (Safeguards) for imposition of provisional safeguard measures on Hot Rolled Coils/Sheets/Strips. The Board decided that Director General (Safeguards) should continue with the investigations, consult all stakeholders, and submit a report to the Board within sixty days.

(c) A final decision will be taken by the Standing Board on Safeguards after considering the report of Director General (Safeguards), referred above.

#### **Restructuring of MSTC, FSNL, KIOCL and HSCL**

860. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether in an initiative to optimize functioning of 4 of its Public Sector Undertakings, *i.e.* MSTC, FSNL, KIOCL and HSCL, his Ministry is considering restructuring of companies and has appointed a Committee to suggest ways for it;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has examined structure and functioning of these four companies and has made recommendations regarding their reorganization, merger with other companies or other structure reorganization;

(c) if so, whether committee has already submitted its recommendation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A Committee has been constituted by the Ministry of Steel in May, 2009 to study the structure and functioning of MSTC, FSNL, KIOCL and HSCL and to suggest measures to achieve sustainable profits, enhanced business presence, diversification as well as re-organization or merger with other companies with a view to optimizing efficiency and profitability. The Committee has not submitted its recommendations so far.



**Assignments of public sector steel companies in foreign countries**

†861. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the sectors in which public sector steel companies have got work in foreign countries along with the names of such countries;
- (b) the number of people employed in these works; and
- (c) the potential in these sectors in coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) MECON Ltd., a public sector company under the Ministry of Steel, is providing services in the following sectors in the countries mentioned against each:

Name of Sector	Name of the country
Metal	Bolivia, UAE, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Qatar
Mining (Iron Ore and Rock Phosphate)	Syria

- (b) The number of persons employed vary from project to project. However, around 15-20 persons are employed for overseas assignments every year.
- (c) The potential in the metal sector appears good in the coming years.

**Merger of 'Nahan Foundry' with SAIL**

862. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government intends to resume 'Nahan Foundry' at Himachal Pradesh by merging it with Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) as announced by Hon'ble Minister in his speech delivered in Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the concrete plan Government has prepared to fulfill the purpose; and
- (c) if not, by when all the formalities are likely to be completed to restart 'Nahan Foundry' under SAIL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (c) A team of officials from the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has visited Nahan in Himachal Pradesh in connection with the setting up of a Steel Processing Unit. During the visit, they also visited Nahan Foundry. SAIL has not yet taken any final decision in the matter.

**Import for steel industry**

†863. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some materials are being imported for Government steel industry; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) if so, the names of such materials and countries from where these are imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b)  
The details of the materials imported by various Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Steel enclosed as Statement.

**Statement**

*Details of the materials imported by various PSUs under the Ministry of Steel*

**1) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL):**

- i) SAIL imports metallurgical coal such as coking coal and PCI coal. SAIL is presently importing these coals from Australia, New Zealand and USA.
- ii) List of other materials imported by SAIL alongwith country of origin is as follows:

Name of material	Name of Country
Ferro Niobium	Brazil
Low Carbon Ferro Chrome	South Korea
Nickel	Russia, Canada and Australia
Ferro Molybdenum	South Korea
Forged Rolls	Russia, Spain and USA
Low Silica Limestone	Oman and UAE
Sea Water Magnesite	Ireland
Sulphur	Bahrain
Carbon Blocks	China

**2) Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL):**

List of materials imported by RINL alongwith country of origin is as follows:

Name of material	Name of Country
Low Ash Metallurgical Coking Coal	Australia, USA, New Zealand
Low Silica Limestone	Dubai
Boiler Coal	Indonesia
Coke Russia and China	
Sea Water Magnetite	Ireland, Mexico
Graphite Flakes	China
Ferro-Silicon	China

RINL is importing spares and equipment from Germany, Russia, USA, Italy, Japan, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, England, China and Singapore.

**3) Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited (FSNL):**

FSNL has been importing spares namely (i) Silent Chains, (ii) Hydraulic Spares for Dumpers, (iii) Lifting Magnets and (iv) Crane Spares for maintaining the Heavy Earth Moving Equipments from United Kingdom, USA and Germany.

**4) Bharat Refractories Limited (BRL):**

List of materials imported by BRL alongwith country of origin is as follows :

Name of material	Name of Country
Fused Magnesite	China
Dead Burnt Magnesite	China
Sea Water Magnesite	Japan
Silicon Carbide	China
Thernax Powder	Canada
Brown Fused Alumina	China
Round Kiln Calcined Bauxite	China

**Expansion programme of SAIL and RINL**

864. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expansion programme of SAIL and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) are going on as per schedule;

(b) if so, the total expenditure to be involved in expansion of SAIL and RINL;

(c) whether Government has drawn up latest plans to ensure completion of expansion programme of SAIL and RINL without any cost escalation and in time; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (d) The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is undertaking an ambitious expansion and modernization programme for enhancing its annual production capacity from the present level of around 14 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) to 26.2 million tonnes per annum (MTPA), of which 23.46 million tonnes per annum is to be attained in the first phase. The Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) is also in the midst of a capacity expansion and modernization programme for enhancing its annual liquid steel production capacity from the present level of 3.0 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) to 6.3 million tonnes per annum (MTPA). The expenditure involved in the first phase of modernization and expansion programme of SAIL is estimated to be in the region of Rs.70,000 crores, while in the case of RINL it is estimated at Rs. 12,220 crores.

While there have been some delays in implementing the various components of these programmes, it is the constant endeavour of these companies to make good the delays for ensuring adherence to timelines. The implementation of the expansion programmes are constantly reviewed by the Boards of the respective companies and the Ministry of Steel with a view to minimizing delays.

**Effect of cheap import and raw material security on steel industry**

865. SHRI N. K. SINGH:

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the steel industry in the country has been badly affected due to cheap imports and raw material security;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to take any measure to curb cheap imports and raw material security for steel firms; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) The global meltdown, beginning September 2008, had its effect of Indian steel sector as well. The steel production and consumption during the period October to December (Q3) witnessed substantial reduction by (-) 7.8% and (-) 13.6% respectively. Government initiated various steps to enable the steel sector to manage itself during the economic slowdown. These measures along with the economic stimulation packages resulted in a revival of steel demand during January-March period of 2009 (Q4). During this period (Q-4) the production and consumption finished steel in the country grew by 1.2% and 3.8% respectively. The growth in production and consumption of finished steel has continued in the first quarter of the current year *i.e.* 2009-10 compared to the first quarter of the previous year as may be seen in the table below:

*Production, Export, Import & Consumption Apr-June 2009-10 vs. 2008-09*

(In million tonnes)			
Finished Steel	Apr-June 2008	Apr-June 2009	% Change
Production	13.527	13.982	3.4%
Import	01.493	01.414	-5.3%
Export	01.032	0.642	-37.8%
Real Consumption	12.200	12.830	5.2%

SOURCE: JPC (Figures are provisional)

(c) and (d) Currently, there is a 5% import duty, in addition to CVED @ 8% for all steel products, so as to create a level playing field for the domestic steel manufacturers with the steel imports. Besides, to protect the domestic steel industry from cheap imports Government has put the

import of Hot Rolled (HR) Coils in the negative list. Further safeguard investigations have been initiated against import of HR Coils/Sheets/Strips and anti dumping investigations have been initiated against import of Cold Rolled Flat Products of Stainless Steel HR Flat Products being imported or originating from various countries. The Government has also imposed 5% *ad-valorem* export duty on export of iron ore (other than fines but including lumps and pellets).

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12.00 Noon

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair)

### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

#### The Outcome Budget (2009-10) of the Ministry of Steel

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Outcome Budget for the year 2009-10 in respect of the Ministry of Steel. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 85/15/09]

- I. **Report and Accounts (2005-06) of Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Corporation Limited, New Delhi and related papers**
- II. **Report and Accounts (2007-08) of the Omnibus Industrial Development Corporation of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Naini, Daman and related papers.**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, I lay on the Table under Section 38 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Notification G.S.R. 116(E), dated the 24th February, 2009, publishing the Drugs Cosmetics (Second Amendment). [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 61/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
  - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (DSIIDC), New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 41/15/09]
  - (b) Sixteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Omnibus Industrial Development Corporation of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli Limited (OIDC), Naini, Daman, for the year 2007-2008, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (c) Statement by Government accepting the above Reports.
- II. Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (I) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 40/15/09]
- I. **Report and Accounts (2007-08) of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, Pune and related papers.**
- II. **Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India and various Limited companies for the year 2009-10**
- IV **Outcome Budget (2009-10) of the various Departments of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:
  - (a) Fifty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), Pune, for the year 2007-2008, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
  - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 109/15/09]
- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-
  - (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals) and the Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 107/15/09]
  - (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals) and the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 108/15/09]
  - (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals) and the Karnataka Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Limited (KAPL), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 106/15/09]
- III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-
  - (i) Outcome Budget for the year 2009-10 in respect of the Department of Chemical and Petrochemicals in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 296/15/09]

(ii) Outcome Budget for the year 2009-10 in respect of the Department of Fertilizers in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 478/15/09]

(iii) Outcome Budget for the year 2009-10 in respect of the Department of Pharmaceuticals in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 295/15/09]

**I. Notification of Ministry of Railways**

**II. Memorandum of Understanding between Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited for the year 2009-10**

**III. Report and Accounts (2007-08) of Railways Information System and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): Sir, I lay on the Table:

I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Railways Notification G.S.R. 219 (E), dated the 30th March, 2009, publishing the Railways (Extent of Monetary Liability and Prescription of Percentage Charge) Amendment Rules, 2009, under Section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 113/15/09]

II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited (IRFC) for the year 2009-2010. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 111/15/09]

III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS), New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 112/15/09]

**Outcome Budget (2009-10) of the Planning Commission**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Outcome Budget for the year 2009-10 in respect of the Planning Commission. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 260/15/09]

**Memorandum of Understanding between Government of India and  
various Limited Companies for the year 2009-10**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Steel) and the MSTC Limited, for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 120/15/09]
- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Steel) and the KIOCL Limited, for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 121/15/09]
- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Steel) and the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) (Visakhapatnam Steel Plant), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 123/15/09]
- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Steel) and the Bharat Refractories Limited (BRL), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 118/15/09]
- (v) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Steel) and the NMDC Limited, for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 122/15/09]
- (vi) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Steel) and the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 117/15/09]
- (vii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Steel) and the Manganese Ore (India) Limited (MOIL), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 124/15/09]
- (viii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Steel) and the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited (HSWCL), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 119/15/09]
- (ix) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Steel) and the MECON Limited, for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 125/15/09]
- I. **Notifications of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution and Department of Consumer Affairs)**
- II. **Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation)**
- III. **Reports and Accounts of various Corporations and a Cooperative Stores Ltd. (Super Bazar) for the years of 1991-92, 2007-08 and 2008-09 and related papers**



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V.  
THOMAS): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution) under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:-
    - (1) G.S.R. 129 (E)/ Ess.Com./Sugarcane, dated the 26th February, 2009, publishing Factory-wise Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of Sugarcane for 2008-09 sugar season, in respect of 431 sugar factories.
    - (2) G.S.R. 241 (E)/ Ess.Com./Sugarcane, dated the 6th April, 2009, publishing Factory-wise Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of Sugarcane for 2008-09 sugar season, in respect of 46 sugar factories. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 55/15/09]
  - (ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs) under Section 39 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986:-
    - (1) G.S.R. 311 (E), dated the 8th May, 2009, publishing the Bureau of Indian Standards (Terms and Conditions of Service of Employees) Second Amendment Regulations, 2009.
    - (2) G.S.R. 50 (E), dated the 27th January, 2009, publishing the Bureau of Indian Standards (Terms and Conditions of Service of Employees) Amendment Regulations. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 236/15/09]
  - (iii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) Notification G.S.R. 383 (E), dated the 3rd June, 2009, publishing the Vegetable Oils Grading and Marking (Amendment) Rules, 2009, under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 57/15/09]
- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
    - (i) (a) Thirty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Gujarat State Seeds Corporation Limited (GSSC), Gandhinagar, for the year 2007-2008, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
    - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 50/15/09]
    - (ii) Forty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 2007-2008, together with the

Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 15/15/09]

(iii) Twenty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Jammu and Kashmir State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Srinagar, for the year 1991-1992, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(iv) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporations.

(2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (IV) (1) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 46/15/09]

III. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the following Papers:-

(a) Forty-third Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Cooperative Stores Limited (Super Bazar), New Delhi, for the year 2008-2009, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Cooperative. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 56/15/09]

#### **Notifications of the Ministry of Power**

(SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): Sir, on behalf of Shri Bharatsinh Soianki, I lay on the Table under sub-section (1) of Section 59 of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Power Notification G.S.R. 25, dated the 21st March, 2009, publishing the Energy Conservation (Manner of holding inquiry) Rules, 2009. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 32/15/09]

#### **Notifications of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): Sir, I lay on the Table:

I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health and Family Welfare) Notification G.S.R. 305 (E), dated the 3rd May, 2009, publishing the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Packaging and Labelling) Amendment Rules, 2009, under sub section (3) of section 31 of the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 78/15/09]

II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health & Family Welfare) Notification S.O. 650(E), dated the 9th March, 2009, regarding enforcement of the provisions of Section 11 to 15 (both inclusive) of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, under Section 93 of the said Act. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 79/15/09]

**Report and Accounts (2007-2008) of the Morarji Desai National Institute  
of Yoga, New Delhi and Related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDN1Y), New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 263/15/09]

**Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the  
year ended March, 2008**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): Sir, I lay on the Table under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports:

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2008: Government of Jharkhand—Audit Report on **Civil Commercial and Revenue Receipts** for the year 2007-2008. (No. PA 7 of 2008) Union Government (Direct Taxes) (Performance Audit); [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 155/15/09] [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 154/15/09]
- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2008: Report No. CA 14 of 2008-09 Union Government (Civil) - Compliance Audit Observations and Report No. **CA 16 of 2008-09** - Union Government Scientific Departments; [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 145/15/09] [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 146/15/09]
- (iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2008: Report CA No. 17 of 2008-09: Report CA No. 17 of 2008-09: Union Government (Defence Services) Army and Ordnance Factories; [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 147/15/09]
- (iv) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2008: Report No. **CA 20 of 2009-10** (Compliance Audit) and Report No. **PA 24 of 2009-10** (Performance Audit): Union Government (Indirect Taxes-Central Excise, Service Tax and Customs); [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 152/15/09] [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 153/15/09]
- (v) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2008: Report No. CA 21 of 2009 (Compliance Audit) and Report No. **PA 25 of 2009** (Performance Audit): Union Government (Direct Taxes); [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 148/15/09] [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 149/15/09]

- (vi) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2008: Report No. PA 29 of 2008-09 Union Government (Civil) - Autonomous Bodies (Performance Audit) - Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA); and [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 151/15/09]
- (vii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2008: Report No. PA 30 of 2008-09: Union Government (Civil) - Autonomous Bodies (Performance Audit) National Institute of Biologicals (NIB) (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare). [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 150/15/09]

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**MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES  
AND SCHEDULED TRIBES**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : Sir, I move:

"That this House resolves that the Rajya Sabha do join the Committee of both the Houses on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the term ending on the 30th April, 2010 and do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote, ten Members from among the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

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**MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : Sir, I move the following Motion:

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Undertakings of the Lok Sabha for the term ending on the 30th April, 2010 and do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, seven Members from among the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

### **MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : Sir, I move the following Motion :

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the Lok Sabha for the term ending on the 30th April, 2010 and do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, seven Members from amongst the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

### **STATEMENT BY MINISTER**

#### **Status of implementation of recommendations in the Twenty-seventh Report of Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers, 2008-09**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I beg to lay a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twenty-seventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers, 2008-09.

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### **STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : Sir, With your permission, I rise to announce that the Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 13th of July, 2009 will consist of:-

- (iv) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
- (v) General Discussion on Budget (General) for 2009-10.
- (vi) Consideration and return of the Appropriation Bill relating to the Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 2006-07, after it is passed by Lok Sabha.
- (vii) Discussion on the Statutory Resolution seeking approval for the continuance in force of the Proclamation dated 19.01.2009 in respect of the State of Jharkhand, issued under Article 356

of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from 19th July, 2009.

- (viii) General Discussion on Jharkhand Budget for 2009-10.
- (ix) Consideration and return of the Jharkhand Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2009, after it is passed by Lok Sabha.
- (x) Consideration and passing of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2008.

#### **CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

##### **Situation arising due to disturbance of peace in North Cachar Hills district of Assam**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Calling Attention to Matters of Urgent Public Importance. Shri Khekiko Zhimomi.

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI (Nagaland): Sir, I beg to call the attention of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to the situation arising due to disturbance of peace in the North Cachar Hills District of Assam.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the North Cachar Hills District of Assam with an area of 4,888 sq. km. is densely forested. It is sparsely populated, with a majority of the total population of 1.51 lakh (2001 Census) belonging to the Dimasa tribe. The other major tribes are Zemie Naga, Hmar and Kuki.

There has been ethnic tension in the NC Hills District between Zemi Naga tribes and Dimasas since March, 2009 following the killing of 4 Zemi Naga tribals in Mahur Sub-division between March 19 to 23, 2009. The cadres of a Dimasa militant outfit, Dima Halam Daogah (Joel group), who had been indulging in large-scale violence in the last two to three years, were suspected to be behind the incident. Some Nagas migrated to Tousem sub-division, Tamenglong District in Manipur.

Seven persons belonging to the Dimasa community were killed and 97 houses were burnt by Naga extremists suspected to be cadres of NSCN factions between 28th April, 2009 and 9th May, 2009 in the NC Hills District.

The violence perpetrated by the militants belonging to both Dimasa and Naga tribes has continued to occur on a regular basis. As per report received from the Government of Assam, 63 persons have been killed of whom 39 belong to the Naga community and 24 to the Dimasa community. 528 houses have been burnt of which 228 belonged to Nagas and 300 to Dimasas. The Government of Assam has set up 32 relief camps and is providing gratuitous relief. At present, 11,737 persons are staying in the relief camps. Among them, 6,841 persons belong to the Naga community and 4,896 belong to the Dimasa and other communities.

The situation is being closely monitored and the Government of Assam has been advised to take all necessary measures to contain the violence. The State Governments of Assam, Manipur and Nagaland were also sensitized that there was a likelihood of mobilization and movement of Naga militants who would use this opportunity to make their presence felt in NC Hills District capitalizing on the wide-spread resentment and reaction among the Naga civil society.

The security situation in NC Hills was periodically reviewed at various levels including at the level of the Union Home Secretary and the Cabinet Secretary. The Government of Assam was requested to intensify counter-insurgency operations against the extremists and take necessary measures to control violence. The State Government was also requested to provide relief to the affected persons and take steps for their rehabilitation.

A Central Team headed by Special Secretary (Internal Security), Ministry of Home Affairs, was also deputed to Assam on 26th and 27th May 2009 to review the situation. The train services on the Lumding-Badarpur Hill Section which were suspended due to attacks by militants of DHD(J) have since been restored.

I reviewed the security situation on 1st June 2009. Additional Central Forces, including Army Units, CPMF companies, and State Police personnel have been deployed in the district. The DHD(J) has been declared as an 'unlawful association' under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. Sustained counter-insurgency operations are continuing against the DHD(J). The Chairman of the DHD(J) and his two associates were arrested on 4th June 2009 at Bangalore. During the period between 19th March 2009 and 6th July 2009, six cadres of the DHD(J) have been killed in action by the Security Forces and 24 cadres/linkmen have been arrested. The security forces have also recovered arms and ammunition and also Rs.1.51 crore from the linkmen of the DHD (J).

The Government of Assam has informed the Central Government that three border posts have been set up along the Assam-Nagaland areas to provide security to the villages and to check the movement of militants. Armed policemen have been deployed at 12 pickets to provide security to the sensitive villages. In view of the difficulties, in providing security to the widely scattered villages and hamlets in remote and inaccessible areas of the districts, the Government of Assam has identified 12 clusters for the Zemei Nagas and other communities in discussions with the apex bodies of the tribes. Measures are being taken to provide one platoon of force in each cluster for their security. Village Defence parties have also been activated and regular meetings are being organised with the Village Headmen (Gaon Burhas). Several 'Peace Meetings' have been convened by the State Government officials with both the apex bodies and representatives of the Naga and the Dimasa tribes. A proposal for the rehabilitation of affected families whose houses have been burnt in the violence is under consideration of the Government of Assam.

The security situation in the NC Hills district is being reviewed on a regular basis. The Government is committed to provide all possible assistance to the Government of Assam for

restoration of normalcy in the NC Hills district and also the rehabilitation of the affected people.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Do you want to seek any clarification from the hon. Minister?

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Sir, I want to seek a few clarifications from the hon. Minister.

I would like to give a brief genesis of this incident. Both the communities, Zemei Nagas and Dimasas, share same historical rights as well as birth rights, which exist in the region, as they were the original settler in the region, as the history indicates and record speaks.

A handful of armed miscreants, who have no public endorsement of the issues, should not be allowed to flare up communal enmity between Dimasas and Zemei Nagas who have been living as good neighbours since time immemorial. The handiwork of uncivil elements, with some sinister designs, should therefore be checked at once and for all times to come.

Sir, it is a matter of satisfaction and appreciation that both the State Government and the Central Government have taken innumerable steps to curb violence in the area. One, over 80 companies of paramilitary forces have been deployed. Two, the arrest and suspension of Mr. Mohit Hojai, the Chief Executive Member of North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council.

Next, the banning of office of the DHD(J) and the arrest of its chief. The fifth point is the deployment of the National Investigation Agency. The prime investigating agency of the Central Government has been brought to undertake the immediate task.

Sir, again, it is heartening to note that Naga Hoho and Dimasas Hoho of Nagaland have come to a common platform to restore peace in North Cachar Hills and to resolve and settle the issue amicably. Towards this direction, a public rally was held at Dimapur on 29th June 2009 where thousands of ethnic groups of both tribes participated. Sir, I also read the press report regarding restoration of normalcy in North Cachar Hills district of Assam which is one of the flagship items of the Home Ministry for implementation in their first 100-days of the new Government. However, notwithstanding all these measures, it is a matter of grave concern that the ground situation still remains the same with fresh violence reported every day. This august House would like to know the reason as to why violence still continues unabated in the North Cachar Hills of Assam. The National Investigation Agency should make serious soul-searching. The situation definitely warrants initiation of more drastic steps at ground zero level to bring the situation under control without further delay.

Sir, I would also like to know about the details of the steps taken by the Central Government to instil a sense of security and confidence among the displaced Dimasas and Nagas, enabling them to return to their homeland. What other steps are proposed to be taken by the Central Government to restore normalcy in the area may also be elaborately indicated.



Sir, here, I read that the security forces have given two reasons. For their inability to contain the militants, they gave the reason that North Cachar Hills is a hilly terrain State where the operation of the security forces has become difficult. Sir, I would like to say that for football players, we make grounds; for cricket players, we make cricket stadiums. But, for the security forces, we cannot create any ground where they will be able to fight. The security forces shall have to content with the circumstances. Otherwise, the security forces may not have given this reason of their inability to contain the militants. The topographical hilly terrain of the region is not at all an answer.

Secondly, during the Second World War, the last great battle which took place in Kohima, the allied forces had the mind and confidence of the Naga people and with the support of the Naga people, many Japanese soldiers were captured. So, it is very important for the security forces operating in any area firstly to have the confidence of the people.

So, here, the militants have owned the confidence of their local public whereas the security forces have failed to own the confidence of their local people, and it is a failure. With all the sincerity, I appreciate the hon. Home Minister and the Government of Assam for whatever measures possibly they have taken at the higher level. But I think something is going wrong at the ground level, at the implementing stage. So, a thorough look at the implementing stage is required, and if it is properly implemented and then the will of the people is executed, it would be good. These two ethnic groups are living together and they would like to live together, and if sincere efforts are made, the problem may not go out of their control. With these few words, I appreciate the Home Minister and the Government of India for the action that they have taken. Thank you.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think, the Calling Attention mentioned about the North Cachar Hill District of Assam only. But in this region, there is a lot of problem. And when the Home Minister was coming to respond to this, I think, he could have given some more information about that region. He has given information only about the Dimasas and the Nagas. But the Karbis are also there, and we know that there is always a fight between the Karbis and the Dimasas. There is less fight between the Nagas and the Dimasas, more fights between the Karbis and the Dimasas, and that is the reason, Sir, that since 1980 onwards, there are so many rehabilitation camps over there, and some unfortunate incident took place in 2002. I visited that area when about 76 people were killed, butchered, chopped off. So, I visited these camps also. Camps are there, bamboos are there, roofs are there. To guard those bamboos and roofs, there are people, I mean the police force is there, but nobody stays in the camp. They are not putting these people in the jail. They are putting these people in the camp. And those people who cannot stay in the villages, they are living in the camps, but there is no arrangement, there is no sanitation facility, there is no drinking water available, there is no kitchen. So, that is why people are living in jungles only. And the biggest problem of that area is the ginger lobby. This is a very fertile area for growing ginger, and the

whole fight is for ginger production to grab more land in that area, and it was a long standing demand of the Nagas to capture some more area, the Dimasas to capture some more area and the Karbis to capture some more area, and that is why, two Hill Councils are working. The Hill Councils were given a lot of money for development. But if you go there, you will not find any development. Although in every Budget, the Assam Government is giving enough money for the developmental works, yet there is no development taking place in that area. I do not know who is monitoring it, who is doing it, or, out of fear, the Government officials may not be visiting that area to monitor the developmental work, and whatever money they are getting, whether that money is used for the purpose for which it is given or not or whether they have siphoned off that money.

Nobody knows that, Sir. Again, Sir, there is a non-tribal population. That is in good number and their life is always in danger. Their properties are in danger and they are suffering day in, day out because of this extortion. Nobody is there to take care of them because it is, basically, declared a tribal area. So, all the rules, regulations, laws and incentives are meant for the tribal people only. But those who are non-tribals are not getting any incentive, any benefit out of that.

Sir, there is a very strong Organisation. Like you heard about Jewel Group, there is another Group called 'Black Widow'. You are aware of that. Recently, the Chief of 'Black Widow' was arrested in Bangalore. It is not that they are living in jungles only; they are living a very good life in a city like Bangalore also. He was arrested in Bangalore. They are coming here. And if you inquire, the children of these leaders of these banned outfits are studying in good schools, good colleges, either in Bangalore or in Bombay or somewhere else. You have Intelligence agencies. What are they doing? It is not one day's affair. Every three months, they are killing, killing not one person or two persons; in a series 50 people, 60 people or 100 people are being killed, and 100 houses are burnt. And their buffaloes, cows, lambs, sheep were killed. It is happening every day. Police is there; paramilitary force is there. But, still, it is happening! Have you started any formula, I mean negotiations with these three warring Groups Karbis, Dimasas and Nagas? Have you started any negotiations? Or you have just left them at the mercy of God that let them live like this only because that is also part of India, Sir, and that is also under the Indian Constitution; they should work. If Hill Councils are there, whatever money is given for the developmental work or for the betterment of that area — money is sent from Delhi — should be spent in a proper way. That work should be done. I do not know when last the North-East Council members visited that area or whether the Home Ministry officials visited or last when they visited and analysed the whole thing or done a review of that, and whether these two Councils are working in a right direction or not; I do not know. If he just gives this information to the House, I would be grateful to him. Thank you, Sir.

**श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास (छत्तीसगढ़) :** धन्यवाद महोदय। माननीय गृह मंत्री जी ने काफी विस्तार से अपनी रिपोर्ट दी है। मैं केवल इतना ही जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उन क्षेत्रों में जो तत्त्व काम कर रहे हैं, उनके विदेशों से किसी सम्बन्ध के बारे में आपके मंत्रालय को या खुफिया एजेंसी को कोई जानकारी प्राप्त हुई है?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. Home Minister.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, may I thank the hon. Members for raising this issue and making some very important interventions? Sir, it is true that there are many tribes who live in that area, but the dominant tribes are, as far as the North Cachar Hills are concerned, the Dimasas and the Nagas. Going by the 2001 Census, the Dimasas outnumbered the Nagas by almost 4:1. The Nagas, of course, are a very large tribe, a dominant tribe, in Nagaland, and, also in some parts of Manipur, they are present. But as far as this area is concerned, the North Cachar Hills, the dominant tribe is the Dimasas.

It is true that these tribes have lived together for many centuries and it is our wish that they should live in peace and harmony. But that is not the fact. The fact is that there has been inter-tribal rivalry and this inter-tribal rivalry has intensified in the past two years, as a result of which the Dimasas killed the Nagas and the Nagas killed the Dimasas. It is sad; it is very unfortunate. Most of them are poor people. Instead of focussing on development, a significant number of them have taken to violence and this has resulted in inter-tribal rivalry leading to inter-tribal killings. We set up the North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council in order to give them a measure of autonomy so that they can govern themselves. That experiment may have worked well for some time. But the last Chief Executive member turned out to be, as has been alleged against him now, a corrupt person who was diverting money meant for the Council to the militants. The Council has, therefore, been suspended; the Chief Executive member has been arrested; the senior Civil Servant of the Council has also been arrested; the cases have been transferred to the National Investigating Agency. In fact, as a result of what happened, that experiment, at least, for the time being, has failed. The Governor has taken over the administration of the North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council.

Sir, Karbis also live in that area. But their presence is in a much smaller number. Karbis are dominant in the Karbi Anglong district. Some Dimasas also live in the Karbi Anglong district. But this Calling Attention is confined to the North Cachar Hills district.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: I am aware of that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Both are adjacent areas.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: No. I am only answering the Calling Attention.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: This is a troubled area.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: This is a troubled area. Karbi Anglong is a troubled area. Every day I am learning about this area. But the Calling Attention is about the North Cachar Hills and, therefore, I have not dwelt on the conflict in the Karbi Anglong area. That is also an area where there is militancy and we are trying to put down that militancy.

Sir, there was some reference to a joint rally organised by the Dimasas and the Nagas. That rally, according to my information, was organised in Dimapur and that rally was organised in order to ensure peace among the two tribes in Nagaland. I don't think that had any impact on the North

Cachar Hills. In fact, as I speak today, the North Cachar Hills witnesses inter-tribal rivalry and there are inter-tribal killings.

Sir, my good friend, Mr. Ahluwalia, referred to the ginger crop and the ginger lobby. Nothing has been brought to my notice to say that it is the ginger crop and a ginger lobby which is behind this inter-tribal rivalry. Perhaps, it is true. We will probe into that further.

Sir, the problem has been accentuated by the group called DHD (J), that is, Dima Haram Daogah (Joel Group). It is an unlawful association. We have taken very strong action in the last few weeks and that has yielded results. The chief of the DHD (J) was nabbed in Bangalore. It was a very well coordinated intelligence and police operation in which he was nabbed. He has been arrested. Another major field commander was neutralised in a police operation. Another commander, who, we believe, is part of the time in India and part of the time across the border, has made a so-called offer of ceasefire. Since I took over, I have not entertained this kind of ceasefire. A militant group cannot offer ceasefire to a sovereign Government. A militant group must abjure the path of violence, surrender and lay down arms and then we can talk about any other problem they may have. So, we have made it very clear. I wish the whole House to know that we will not entertain any ceasefire offers from militant groups. A militant group is most welcome to abjure the path of violence, lay down arms and then come and talk to the Government. They can form a political party. They can contest as a political party. We have no problem. They have to come and talk to the Government and the Government will redress their grievances within, of course, the framework of the Constitution of India. I think the message has gone home. It is quite possible that the DHD (J) has got the message. It is quite possible that something may happen in the next few days or weeks. I would welcome it, I would take this opportunity to tell the DHD (J) to lay down arms, abjure the path of violence and then hold talks with the Government of Assam. The Government of India will facilitate those talks and if necessary the Government of India will directly hold talks with the DHD (J). Sir, I do not wish to go into the history and genesis of these problems. All I can say is, these Tribals are poor people. These Tribals have their own rich culture and way of life. They should be allowed to develop. They should be allowed to reap the fruits of development which the rest of India is enjoying or will enjoy as we grow at a brisk pace. But inter-Tribal rivalry, militancy is denying them the fruits of these developments.

The paramilitary, the police and the Army are doing a yeoman's job. These are difficult areas. In fact, when I reviewed the matter, I reviewed it with the Corps Commanders, with the paramilitary Chiefs and the State police and then we have clearly laid down their areas of responsibility. My review meeting was preceded by a visit of the Special Secretary and a team of MHA officials, which I have referred to in my statement. Following that meeting, I am happy to say, rail traffic has been fully restored, goods traffic has been fully restored. Passenger trains are now running and supplies to the North East, Assam and some other States of the North East have been fully restored. But these things are running under security cover. Being dense forest and hilly terrain, they have the advantage

of knowing the terrain better than anyone else. So, responsibilities have been defined for the State police, for the paramilitary and for the Army. These operations are underway. Even as we speak, the operations are underway. There have been some results, Not entirely satisfactory results, but there have been some results. There is enormous pressure being put on the DHD (J), which is the reason, I believe, they have offered the so-called ceasefire. I think they will get the message soon. They should abjure the path of violence, lay down arms and come and hold talks with the Government on any grievances they may have. We are willing to hold talks with them on any grievances they may have. In the meanwhile, I have requested the Governor who has taken over the administration of the North Cachar Hills district to ensure that the development works take place. Unfortunately, the Governor has passed away a few days after he took over. We have got a Governor of another State who is now temporarily looking after the affairs. We hope to be able to appoint a new Governor soon. I have requested the Chief Minister and I will request the new Governor to pay special attention to the development of the NC Hills. Huge amount of money is being given. Everybody knows that. Unfortunately, the bulk of this money finds its way into the hands of militants and terrorists. Therefore, we need to plug these loopholes. The NIA is investigating these cases and I am sure they will be able to find the culprits. They are already on the trail of these culprits.

Let me conclude by saying, we will pay special attention to the development works which have been neglected in the past few years in the NC Hills district. And, we will also continue to maintain pressure on the militant groups so that militancy comes to an end. On inter-tribal rivalry, I can only appeal to the leaders of the two Tribes, and the Hohos, the Dimasa Mono as well as the Naga Hoho - bury the hatchet, put an end to this inter-tribal rivalry, learn to live in peace and harmony, bring development and prosperity to your own people, give up this path of confrontation and inter-tribal rivalry.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: I would like to know as to when you are going to hold elections for the North Cachar Hills Council. Like, if an Assembly is under suspension, or, is dissolved, then, there is a mandate that you have to bring in a Bill in Parliament and get it passed. But for such Hill Councils, when the Governor takes them over, there is no time bar. But only if the new leadership emerges, can the aspirations of the people be met. So, when will you hold the elections?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I think it is too early to talk about elections. We have just suspended that Council for gross dereliction of duty, I don't think we should talk about elections so quickly. Let us first get some development going there. I am sure there is a Constitutional provision — I am not familiar with it now — which requires elections to be held to this Council within a certain period. I would look into that provision. It is too early to talk about elections. My first goal now is to ensure that militancy, the DHD (J), is put an end to, that development works start in the N.C. Hill District. And, whatever the Constitutional requirement is, we will abide by that.

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: I would like to know whether there is any foreign hand behind this trouble.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Obviously, they get help from across the border, and many of the leaders are not here. They are across the border, in safe havens and sanctuaries, and they operate from there. In that sense, the Indian hand has become a foreign hand when it operates from outside. And, they have the support of other agencies and some other countries. So, obviously, they have the support of some foreign elements.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now we will take up the Appropriation (Railways) No.3 Bill, 2009.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, we will pass this Bill without discussion. But, the only thing is that in future, this Bill should come along with the Railway Budget. We do not understand how it was separated.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There was some delay this time because of some message which was to come.

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#### GOVERNMENT BILL

##### The Appropriation (Railways) No.3 Bill, 2009

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2009-10 for the purposes of Railways, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2, 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I move:

*That the Bill be returned.*

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet at 2.30 p.m.

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The House then adjourned for lunch at forty-five minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-five minutes past two of the clock, The Vice-Chairman (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) in the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Shri Vijay Darda to move a Resolution urging upon the Government to take urgent steps to increase the power generation in the country.

#### PRIVATE MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

##### Need to increase power generation in the country

**श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दडा** (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित संकल्प उपस्थित करता हूँ:-

"इस तथ्य को ध्यान में रखते हुए कि-

i. विद्युत/ऊर्जा की दीर्घकालिक कमी भारत के भावी सामाजिक-आर्थिक पुनरुत्थान की गति को धीमा कर रही है और समाप्त होते जा रहे जल तथा लिग्नाइट/कोयला संसाधनों के कारण विद्युत उत्पादन से संबंधित समस्याएं आहिस्ता-आहिस्ता बढ़ती जा रही हैं;

ii. विद्युत-उत्पादन के सौर ऊर्जा-स्रोत और गैर-नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा स्रोत प्रारम्भिक अवस्था में हैं और वाणिज्यिक उपयोग के लिए इनका दोहन तथा राष्ट्रीय ग्रिड में इनका कोई मात्रात्मक योगदान नगण्य है;

iii. परमाणु रिएक्टरों से बहुत कम मात्रा में विद्युत प्राप्त होती है, हालांकि, गत वर्ष भारत-अमरीका परमाणु समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए जाने से तथा उसके बाद अनेक अन्य देशों के साथ इसी प्रकार के समझौते किए जाने से वर्तमान में स्थापित तथा भविष्य में स्थापित किए जाने वाले रिएक्टरों को चलाने के लिए हमें परमाणु ईंधन की पर्याप्त आपूर्ति होने की स्थिति में विद्युत-उत्पादन में बढ़ोत्तरी की उम्मीद है।

iv. अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मानकों की तुलना में विद्युत के पारेषण और संवितरण में होने वाली हानि बहुत अधिक है।

v. राज्य विद्युत बोर्डों की ओर भारी मात्रा में धन राशि बकाया है और उनके द्वारा राष्ट्रीय ग्रिड से, अपने नियत कोटे से अधिक मात्रा में बेरोकटोक विद्युत लिए जाने से विद्युत की निराशाजनक स्थिति और भी बदतर हो जाती है।

vi. विद्युत-उत्पादन पूंजी प्रधान क्षेत्र है और इसकी उत्पादन-पूर्व-तैयारी अवधि काफी लम्बी होती है; और

vii. छोटे और सीमांत किसानों को अपने पम्प सेटों को चलाने के लिए तथा ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में छोटे तथा कुटीर/खादी उद्योगों की इकाइयों को आसानी से विद्युत उपलब्ध कराना एवं यंत्रचालित कृषि के माध्यम से अधिकाधिक कृषि उत्पादन की प्राप्ति हेतु योगदान प्रदान किया जाना अभी भी शेष है;

यह सभा सरकार से शीघ्रातिशीघ्र निम्नलिखित कदम उठाने का आग्रह करती है-

(क) सर्वसमावेशी विकास के लिए व्यापक ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण करे;

(ख) जल विद्युत, ताप विद्युत तथा कोयला-आधारित, तेल-आधारित, गैस-आधारित, सौर ऊर्जा स्रोत, नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा स्रोतों और परमाणु ऊर्जा स्रोतों के माध्यम से विद्युत उत्पादन बढ़ाए और "थोरियम" जो कि देश के अनेक हिस्सों जैसे केरल में उपलब्ध है, के विद्युत-उत्पादन में उपयोग के संबंध में अध्ययन कराए;

(ग) स्वीकृत वैश्विक मानकों के अनुसार विद्युत संयंत्रों को बन्द रखे जाने की अवधि को कम करे;

(घ) स्वीकृत अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मानकों के अनुसार पारेषण में न्यूनतम हानि सुनिश्चित करे, और जवाबदेही तय करे;

(ड.) उपभोक्ताओं द्वारा स्वप्रेरणा से अथवा कर्मचारियों के साथ मिलीभगत से बिजली की चोरी को क्रमिक रूप से रोके और अगले दस वर्षों में इसे "व्यावहारिक रूप से शून्य संवितरण हानि" के इसके तार्किक निष्कर्ष तक ले जाए;

(च) सेवा तथा सब्सिडी की लागत की वसूली करे;

(छ) अनुसंधान और विकास के माध्यम से प्रौद्योगिकी की शुरुआत करे;

(ज) उपभोक्ताओं के लाभ के उद्देश्य से प्रतिस्पर्धा की शुरुआत करे;

(झ) विद्युत-उत्पादन में निजी क्षेत्र की भागीदारी या तथाकथित सरकारी-निजी साझेदारी के मार्ग को अपनाए;

(ञ) ऊर्जा-संरक्षण को मात्र संरक्षण सप्ताहों तक ही सीमित न रखा जाए बल्कि अधिमानतः 'ऑडिट ब्यूरो ऑफ इनेर्जी एफिसिएन्सी' अथवा ऐसे किसी अन्य स्वतंत्र संगठन को तरजीह देते हुए उनके माध्यम से इसे ऊर्जा संरक्षण पद्धतियों का एक अभिन्न अंग बनाया जाए;

(ट) वर्तमान नियमों एवं विनियमों के अनुसार विहित पर्यावरणीय दिशा-निर्देशों का अनुपालन करे;

(ठ) गुणवत्ता आश्वासन के लिए मानव संसाधन के क्षेत्र में विशिष्ट रूप से निर्मित एवं गहन प्रशिक्षण प्रदान करे;

(ड) आगामी 100 दिनों में तमिलनाडु, गुजरात और उड़ीसा, इत्यादि प्रत्येक राज्य में 4000 मेगावाट की कोयला-आधारित अल्ट्रा मेगा पावर परियोजनाओं के माध्यम से क्षमता-संवर्धन करे और बिजली की भारी कमी का सामना कर रहे महाराष्ट्र जैसे राज्यों को इसी प्रकार के संयंत्रों के आबंटन के लिए भावी योजना बनाए;

(ढ) एनटीपीसी, डीवीसी, राज्य क्षेत्र तथा निजी क्षेत्र द्वारा चलाई जा रही समस्त विद्युत परियोजनाओं को केन्द्र सरकार के अन्तर्गत समकालिक बनाए और ग्रामीण, जनजातीय तथा पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों सहित समस्त क्षेत्रों में विद्युत-आपूर्ति सुनिश्चित करे;

(ण) क्षमता संवर्धन लक्ष्यों, जो कि 10वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान अपूर्ण रह गए थे, के संबंध में अध्ययन कराए तथा 11वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के लिए निर्धारित लक्ष्यों का मूल्यांकन करे और छमाही निगरानी के आधार पर वर्तमान विद्युत योजना की समीक्षा करने के बाद 12वीं तथा 13वीं योजना अवधियों के लिए भावी योजना तैयार करे; और

(त) विद्युत संयंत्रों की बाह्य सुरक्षा और संरक्षा को सुदृढ़ करे और राष्ट्र विरोधी तत्वों द्वारा किसी भी संदिग्ध आंतरिक तोड़-फोड़ को बिल्कुल भी सहन न करे।"

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके प्रति आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ कि आपने मुझे मौका दिया और इस सदन का भी मैं आभारी हूँ कि आज पूरा कोरम हो गया है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे सन् 1917 में रूस में हुई क्रांति का वह दिन याद आता है जब लेनिन ने जार को पराजित करके एक नव राष्ट्र का सूत्रपात किया था, लेकिन लेनिन ने उस अवसर पर अपने देशवासियों से कहा था कि हमें राष्ट्र निर्माण के लिए दो चीजों की आवश्यकता होगी, एक तो प्रॉलिटेरियट का साथ तथा दूसरा निबार्ध ऊर्जा की आपूर्ति। ये दोनों चीजें राष्ट्र निर्माण के भाग्य का फैसला करेंगी। बाद की घटनाएं साबित करती हैं कि किस तरीके से uninterrupted power की बदौलत रूस ने विश्व की राजनीति में महत्वपूर्ण स्थान प्राप्त किया।



आज जो प्रस्ताव मैंने सभापटल पर बहस और सरकार के ध्यानाकर्षण के लिए रखा है, वह देश में विद्युत उत्पादन, ट्रांसमिशन और वितरण के संबंध में है।

ऊर्जा हमारे सामाजिक और आर्थिक विकास की रीढ़ है। इससे हमारे जीवन के हर पहलू संचालित होते हैं। देश के ढांचागत विकास का यह महत्वपूर्ण अंग है, इसीलिए सरकार ने अपने पहले 100 दिन के कार्यक्रम में इसे स्थान दिया है तथा इस अवधि में 5,600 मेगावाट की वृद्धि निश्चित की गई है। Competitive rates पर पर्याप्त मात्रा में ऊर्जा की जरूरत समस्त भारतीय उद्योग, जिसमें भारी माध्यम और लघु, कृषि, ग्रामोद्योग तथा घरेलू चीजों, के लिए है। अभी हाल ही में service sector में काफी प्रगति हुई है और outsourcing के लिए, ऑफिस वगैरह जो 24 घंटे चलते हैं, उनके लिए विद्युत एक महत्वपूर्ण आवश्यकता बनी है। श्रीमती सोनिया गांधी जी, UPA Chairperson के नेतृत्व में कांग्रेस ने 2009 में महत्वपूर्ण जीत हासिल की। श्रीमती सोनिया गांधी जी की यह आकांक्षा है - Power by 2020. स्वतंत्रता प्राप्ति के पश्चात् पंडित जवाहर लाल नेहरू ने विकासशील भारत की नींव रखी थी तथा इसके लिए उन्होंने औद्योगिक विकास, वैज्ञानिक विकास, शैक्षणिक विकास और कृषि के क्षेत्र में विकास के लिए महत्वपूर्ण नीतियां बनाईं। इस समग्र विकास को प्राप्त करने के लिए विद्युत उत्पादन एक महत्वपूर्ण आयाम है। आजादी के बाद इस क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण प्रगति हुई है लेकिन देश की बढ़ती हुई आबादी तथा सतत खुलते हुए विकास के रास्तों ने ऊर्जा की अधिक आवश्यकता की ओर पूरे देश का ध्यान परिलक्षित किया है। हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी द्वारा न्यूक्लियर समझौता इसी दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है। इस दिशा में हमें ताप, जल और गैर पारम्परिक स्रोतों से प्राप्त ऊर्जा पर भी ध्यान देना होगा। अभी हमारी आवश्यकता से कोसों कम विद्युत उत्पादन हो रहा है। इस संदर्भ में संसद ने वर्ष 2003 में Electricity Act पारित किया था, जिसके तहत सरकार ने 2005 में राष्ट्रीय विद्युत नीति बनाई। इस अधिनियम की धारा 3 में कहा गया है कि केन्द्र सरकार, राज्य सरकारों, कोयले तथा प्राकृतिक गैस, न्यूक्लियर तत्वों अथवा सामग्री, जल तथा नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा के अधिकतम उपयोग पर आधारित विद्युत तंत्र का विकास करने वाले प्राधिकरण से परामर्श कर समय-समय पर राष्ट्रीय विद्युत नीति तथा टैरिफ नीति तैयार करेगी। राष्ट्रीय विद्युत नीति के उद्देश्यों के तहत अगले 5 सालों में सभी घरों में विद्युत पहुंचाना ...(व्यवधान)... विद्युत की उपलब्धता तथा 2012 तक मांग को पूर्ण रूप से पूरा किया जाना, ऊर्जा की अधिकतम मांग के समय कमी को दूर किया जाना, ऊर्जा दक्षतापूर्ण ढंग से और उचित दरों पर निर्धारित मानकों के अनुरूप गुणवत्ता युक्त और विश्वसनीय विद्युत की आपूर्ति, 2012 तक प्रति व्यक्ति विद्युत की उपलब्धता को 1,000 यूनिट तक बढ़ाना, 2012 तक मेरिट गुड के रूप में एक यूनिट प्रति घर, प्रतिदिन का न्यूनतम विद्युत उपयोग तथा उपभोक्ताओं के हितों की रक्षा शामिल है।

महोदय, इस नीति के तहत ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण उत्पादन, ट्रांसमिशन, वितरण, targeted subsidies तथा सेवाओं की लागत की वसूली, तकनीक विकास अनुसंधान, उपभोक्ता के लाभ के हेतु प्रतिस्पर्धा, निजी क्षेत्र की भागीदारी सहित विद्युत क्षेत्र के कार्यक्रमों का वित्त पोषण, ऊर्जा संरक्षण, पर्यावरणीय मुद्दे, प्रशिक्षण तथा मानव संसाधन विकास सह उत्पादन और गैर-परंपरागत ऊर्जा स्रोत आदि भी तय किया गया है। राष्ट्रीय विद्युत नीति से विद्युत संबंधी कोई भी मुद्दा अछूता नहीं रहा है, इसके लिए मैं ऊर्जा मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहूंगा, लेकिन अगर इस नीति को हम वास्तविकता के धरातल पर देखें, तो पाएंगे कि लक्ष्य का निर्धारण करना आसान है और उसे प्राप्त करना बहुत मुश्किल है। इस क्षेत्र में केन्द्र, राज्य और निजी क्षेत्र, तीनों की भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण है।

महोदय, अगर हम उत्पादन के क्षेत्र में दृष्टिपात करें, तो पाएंगे कि हम लक्ष्य से काफी पीछे हैं। वर्ष 2009 में विद्युत उत्पादन क्षमता 3,500 मेगावाट बढ़ी है, लेकिन क्षमता में बढ़ोत्तरी दयनीय है और यह 11,061 मेगावाट निर्धारित टारगेट से 68 प्रतिशत कम है। वर्ष 2010 में उत्पादन क्षमता में 4.6 प्रतिशत के साथ 7,730 मेगावाट

बढ़ोत्तरी की आशा है। वर्ष 2009-10 में कोलले और गैस की उपलब्धता को देखते हुए इस क्षमता में वृद्धि हो सकती है। इस समय देश की कुल विद्युत क्षमता 1,47,403 मेगावाट है, जिसमें से 93,393 मेगावाट ताप विद्युत है, nuclear power की क्षमता मात्र 4,120 मेगावाट है तथा जल विद्युत की क्षमता 36,648 मेगावाट है। विश्लेषकों का अनुमान है कि ताप विद्युत उत्पादन में 5.6 प्रतिशत की बढ़ोत्तरी हुई है, जब कि जल विद्युत में 8.4 प्रतिशत तथा nuclear power से मिलने वाली विद्युत में 12.3 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई है। हालांकि 2009 में विद्युत उत्पादन में 2.7 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है। लेकिन वर्ष 2008-09 में मांग और पूर्ति की औसत में 11 प्रतिशत की कमी आंकी गई है। ग्यारहवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में सरकार ने 78,700 मेगावाट क्षमता की वृद्धि का लक्ष्य रखा है। इसके अलावा केन्द्रीय विद्युत प्राधिकरण ने बारहवीं योजना के तहत एक लाख मेगावाट क्षमता की वृद्धि का लक्ष्य रखा है। अगर लक्ष्य तथा वास्तविक उत्पादन को देखा जाए, तो दोनों में काफी अंतर दिखाई जाती है।

महोदय, दिनांक 10 जुलाई, 2009 यानी आज के ही एक समाचार पत्र में प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय के एक नोट का जिक्र आया है, जिसमें विद्युत मंत्रालय के काम काज पर टिप्पणी है और इसमें कहा गया है कि कम विद्युत उत्पादन की वजह से देश की आर्थिक growth प्रभावित हो रही है। जहां चीन प्रति वर्ष एक लाख मेगावाट विद्युत क्षमता बढ़ा रहा है, वहीं भारत में यह बढ़ोत्तरी 3.454 प्रतिवर्ष है। भारत में जहां कुल स्थापित क्षमता 1,50,000 मेगावाट के लगभग है, वहीं चीन में 8,60,000 मेगावाट है। दिल्ली में ही पांच सौ मेगावाट की कमी महसूस की जा रही है। जहां तक मेरा अनुमान है कि देश के सभी क्षेत्रों में सिर्फ पॉवर सेक्टर ऐसा है, जो कि सभी क्षेत्रों में पिछड़ा हुआ है। इसके लिए हमें proactive सकारात्मक नीति की जरूरत है। हमने Electricity Bill के बाद Electricity Policy, Electricity Plan, Rural Electrification Policy, Tariff Policy आदि तमाम नियामक संस्थाएं बनाईं। Electricity Regulatory Authority, Power Grid Corporation, Power Finance Corporation इत्यादि अनेक rules और regulations तथा policies के बीहड़ में आंकड़ों से खेल करने लगे। जिसके कारण हमारे ऊर्जा के क्षेत्र में दयनीय ढांचागत स्थितियां हमारे औद्योगिक विकास को धीमा कर रही हैं।

महोदय, इस विषय में 2012 तक 'Power for All' सिर्फ एक सपना बन कर रह जाएगा। आंकड़े बताते हैं कि इस समय 11 प्रतिशत की कमी है तथा 2012 Plan Peaking Shortage 12.8 प्रतिशत है, ऐसे में 2012 प्लान को लक्ष्य में रखकर उत्पादन क्षमता में दो गुणा वृद्धि का लक्ष्य कहां तक साकार होगा। यह प्रश्न हमारे मन में है। पिछले तीन पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में लक्ष्य तथा उत्पादन में पचास प्रतिशत का अंतर रहा है। ग्यारहवीं योजना यानी 2007-12 में 78,700 मेगावाट का लक्ष्य, दसवीं योजना के तहत हुए Capacity Addition से चार गुणा से भी ज्यादा है। यह बहुत ही महत्वाकांक्षी योजना है। यह कैसे हो जाएगा? मंत्री जी इस सदन में इस बात की जानकारी देने की कृपा करेंगे।

महोदय, इस संबंध में एक और प्रश्न विचारणीय है कि हमारे 70 से 80 प्रतिशत कोयला पर आधारित Power Stations बीस साल से भी पुराने हो चुके हैं, जिनके नवीनीकरण के लिए काफी पैसे की आवश्यकता होगी। इस संबंध में जुड़ी सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की एक और कंपनी भेल की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका है। पावर प्लांट्स को लगाने तथा दुरुस्त रखने के लिए हमारे सभी प्लांट्स को इस कंपनी पर निर्भर रहना पड़ता है। BHEL तमाम मशीनों की आपूर्ति समय पर करने में असमर्थ रहा है। अभी Central Regulation Authority ने कहा है कि BHEL द्वारा समय पर मशीनों की आपूर्ति न कर पाने की वजह से तमाम projects को चालू करने में देरी हो रही है। BHEL देश की सबसे बड़ी कंपनी है। यह कंपनी इस समय प्रति वर्ष 10,000 मेगावाट की क्षमता की मशीनें बना रही है तथा अगले वर्ष इसकी क्षमता में 5,000 मेगावाट की वृद्धि की आशा है, जिसे मिलाकर वह 15,000 मेगावाट की हो जायेगी। अभी नए प्लान के तहत 2012 तक 78,577 मेगावाट उत्पादन बढ़ाया जाना है, जिसके ऑर्डर्स BHEL को दिए गए हैं। ऐसी

स्थिति में यह टारगेट कैसे हासिल होगा? पिछले पांच वर्षों में कुल लक्ष्य का कुल 49 प्रतिशत उत्पादन क्षमता हासिल करके 41,110 मेगावॉट का हमने addition किया है। साल 2007-08 में निर्धारित 12,000 मेगावॉट के लक्ष्य में सिर्फ 9,300 मेगावॉट का addition हुआ है। विश्लेषकों का अनुमान है कि 11वीं योजना में कुल लक्ष्य का सिर्फ 40 प्रतिशत से 45 प्रतिशत ही addition हो पाया है, इसके बारे में सरकार से जानना चाहूंगा कि जब आप लगातार लक्ष्य बढ़े अंतर से चूक रहे हैं, फिर दोबारा ऐसी नीति क्यों बनाते हैं, जो वास्तविकता से कोसों दूर है?

सर, अब एक नज़र मैं जल-विद्युत उत्पादन पर डालना चाहता हूँ। Central Power Authority - केंद्रीय विद्युत प्राधिकरण ने देश में जल विद्युत की कुल 1,48,701 मेगावॉट की संभावित क्षमता का अनुमान लगाया था, जिसमें से स्थापित क्षमता 36,878 मेगावॉट है तथा 12,855 मेगावॉट के प्रोजेक्ट्स पेंडिंग पड़े हुए हैं। जल विद्युत की कुल विद्युत उत्पादन से हिस्सेदारी 24.92 प्रतिशत है। अगर हम पहली पंचवर्षीय योजना से लेकर अब तक की योजनाओं पर नज़र डालते हैं, तो पाएंगे कि जल विद्युत की हिस्सेदारी कुल उत्पादन में लगातार कम होती गई है। पहली योजना में 63 प्रतिशत, दूसरी में 41 प्रतिशत, तीसरी में 45 प्रतिशत, चौथी में 41 प्रतिशत, पांचवीं में 40 प्रतिशत, छठी में 34 प्रतिशत, सातवीं में 82 प्रतिशत, चौथी में 41 प्रतिशत, नवीं में 25.40 प्रतिशत और दसवीं में 26 प्रतिशत - ऐसा क्यों हो रहा है? इस संबंध में National Hydro Power Corporation ने कुछ कारण बताए हैं। इनमें कठिन और दुर्गम स्थल, भूमि अधिग्रहण संबंधी समस्याएं, कानून और व्यवस्था की समस्या, धन की कमी, लंबी पूर्णता अवधि, भौगोलिक भूगर्भिक समस्याएं, अंतर्राज्यीय विवाद तथा विभिन्न लाभ भोक्ताओं के बीच परियोजना लागत के विभाजन पर सहमति का न होना आदि। इसी के साथ पर्यावरण के संबंध में मंजूरी में देरी, वन क्षेत्र समस्या, स्थानीय निवासियों, ग्राम पंचायतों आदि के द्वारा एन.ओ.सी. में बाधा, downstream क्षेत्रों की समस्याएं आदि - इन सभी समस्याओं की वजह से काफी परियोजनाएं या तो लंबित पड़ी हैं या उन पर काम बीच में रुका है। केन्द्र सरकार को इन विषयों पर, विशेष रूप से पुनर्वास और विस्थापन जैसे मुद्दों पर परियोजना शुरू करने से पहले विचार करना चाहिए तथा सारी समस्याएं सुलझाने के बाद ही आगे बढ़ना चाहिए। एनएचपीसी के संबंध में एक बात प्रकाश में आई है कि वहां पर कर्मचारियों और इंजीनियरों का पलायन हो रहा है। वैसे ही यह क्षेत्र ठेकेदारों की समस्या से जूझ रहा था। पता चला है कि गत वर्षों में 500 के लगभग कर्मचारी एनएचपीसी छोड़कर निजी क्षेत्र के प्रतिष्ठानों में चले गए हैं और अब एनएचपीसी इस समस्या से निपटने के लिए बाहर से लोगों को contract पर ले रही है। इस समय एनएचपीसी 12 प्रोजेक्ट्स पर काम कर रही है तथा 2012 तक इसने 16,500 मेगावाट ऐडिशन का लक्ष्य रखा हुआ है। सरकार बताए कि यह लक्ष्य इन सारी समस्याओं को सामने देखते हुए कैसे पूरा होगा? गैस आधारित विद्युत संयंत्रों को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए नीति में राष्ट्रीय गैस ग्रिड स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव किया गया है। अब तक इसके लिए क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं? क्या निजी क्षेत्र को भी इस ग्रिड से आपूर्ति संभव है? क्या विद्युत उत्पादक विद्युत संयंत्रों के लिए गैस और कोयले की आपूर्ति के लिए लम्बे टेंडर भर सकते हैं? यदि ऐसा है तो क्या इसके लिए कोई आदर्श करारनामा आपने तैयार किया है? ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण के बारे में केन्द्र और राज्य सरकारों के बीच हुए समझौते की शर्तें क्या हैं? क्योंकि केन्द्र ने सबको बिजली मुहैया कराने की ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण नीति के लक्ष्य को हासिल करने के लिए राजीव गांधी ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण योजना के कार्यान्वयन हेतु आरईसी, राज्य सरकारों और राज्य डिस्कॉम के बीच त्रिपक्षीय समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में विद्युतीकरण की स्थिति बहुत ही दयनीय है। 56 प्रतिशत के लगभग ग्रामीण घरों को अभी तक बिजली नहीं पहुंच पाई है जबकि ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण की नीति के तहत आरजीजीवीवाई नेटवर्क में प्रतिदिन न्यूनतम 6 से 8 घंटों की बिजली आपूर्ति के लिए राज्य सरकार द्वारा गारंटी, जिसमें विद्युत अधिनियम, 2003 के तहत तथा अपेक्षित सब्सिडीकृत शुल्क पर बिजली आपूर्ति

3.00 P.M.

कर इस परिप्रेक्ष्य में होने वाले किसी भी प्रकार के वित्तीय घाटे की पूर्ति का आश्वासन शामिल है। ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण हेतु संसाधन हिस्सेदारी के संबंध में उल्लेखनीय है कि भारत सरकार ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण संरचना सृजन हेतु 90 प्रतिशत पूंजी सब्सिडी देगी और 11वीं योजना में स्वीकृत आरजीजीवीवाई परियोजनाओं के लिए गरीबी रेखा से नीचे के प्रत्येक ग्रामीण परिवार को मुफ्त बिजली कनेक्शन उपलब्ध कराने के लिए 2200 रुपए देगी, शेष 10 प्रतिशत सब्सिडी राज्यों द्वारा अपने संसाधनों, वित्तीय संस्थाओं से ऋण के जरिए दी जाएगी। इतनी महत्वाकांक्षी योजना को लागू करने के लिए पर्याप्त संसाधनों की आवश्यकता है जिससे ईमानदारी के साथ इसका निर्वाह किया जा सके। लेकिन तमाम प्रदेशों में अभी भी ऐसे गांव हैं जहां बिजली नहीं पहुंच पाई है। तमाम गांवों में विद्युतीकरण का काम किया गया है। कुछ दिन वहां पर बिजली भी आई लेकिन अब सिर्फ खम्बे बचे हैं जो कि गाय और भैंसों बांधने के काम आते हैं और गांव वालों के पशुओं के लिए खूंटे का काम कर रहे हैं। वहां पर बिजली नहीं है फिर भी लोगों को शुल्क भरना पड़ रहा है। इसी प्रकार प्रदेशों के इलैक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड्स में काफी भ्रष्टाचार है।

इसलिए इसके लिए निगरानी तंत्र मजबूत होना चाहिए। केन्द्र सरकार की योजना है। इसके लिए मॉनिटरिंग के साथ ही दण्ड का भी प्रावधान होना चाहिए। जुलाई, 2007 में केन्द्रीय विद्युतीय प्राधिकरण ने एक सम्मेलन कराया था, जिसमें उत्पादन, ट्रांसमिशन से जुड़े कुछ मुद्दों को उठाया गया था। ये मुद्दे क्या हैं तथा इस पर अभी तक क्या कार्रवाई हुई है? जहां तक मुझे पता है, इन मुद्दों में एमैन प्लांट मशीनरी की उपलब्धता थी। अभी भेल के अलावा मशीनरी की आपूर्ति कौन कर रहा है, कितनी आपूर्ति बाकी है, कितने आर्डर्स प्लेस किए जा चुके हैं? मेरी जानकारी के मुताबिक कुल मशीनरी का 20 प्रतिशत का आर्डर अभी भी जाना बाकी है। इसे कौन मॉनिटर कर रहा है और 11वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के अंतर्गत मशीनरी आपूर्ति की स्थिति क्या है, कंस्ट्रक्शन मशीनरी की कमी के संबंध में भी बात सामने आई है, फोर्जिंग और कास्टिंग मेटिरियल के बारे में क्या स्थिति है, सिविल ठेकेदारों के बारे में क्या एजेंसी की कमी है तथा इसके बारे में क्या हुआ है, प्रोजेक्ट की मॉनिटरिंग ठीक से नहीं हो रही है, काफी प्रोजेक्ट्स कई वर्षों से लम्बित हैं, जिसकी कॉस्ट बढ़ रही है।

कोयले की कमी के बारे में क्या किया गया, इस समय कितना कोयला आयात किया जा रहा है, कोयले के अधिक उपयोग से वातावरण पर इसका क्या असर पड़ेगा, इस पर कोई विचार हुआ है? अभी 20440 मेगावाट क्षमता वाले गैस प्लांट्स के लिए जो 11वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में पूरे होने हैं, उसके लिए 66.61 एम.एम.एस. सी.एम.डी. गैस चाहिए, जबकि उपलब्धता सिर्फ 37.45 एम.एम.एस. सी.एम.डी. है। जहां तक कोयले की मांग और आपूर्ति का सवाल है, आज के समाचार पत्र की खबर के मुताबिक एन.टी.पी.सी. के पास कोयले के स्टॉक की स्थिति बहुत ही खराब है। एन.टी.पी.सी. के पास 15 पावर स्टेशनों में से पांच के पास इस समय बहुत ही कम स्टॉक है तथा तीन सुपर क्रिटिकल स्टेज पर पहुंच चुके हैं, चार दिन का स्टॉक सुपर क्रिटिकल माना जाता है। अभी तक सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के प्लांट अपनी आवश्यकता का सिर्फ 50 प्रतिशत कोयला ही प्राप्त कर पा रहे हैं। देश के 78 थर्मल पावर स्टेशनों में से 11 के पास स्टॉक सुपर क्रिटिकल स्टेज में है। ऐसी स्थिति में सरकार क्या कदम उठाने जा रहा है?

11वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के अंतर्गत उत्पादन, ट्रांसमिशन और वितरण के लिए 5,60,000 अतिरिक्त लोगों की आवश्यकता होगी। इस क्षेत्र में प्रशिक्षित और स्किल्ड लोगों की पहले से कमी है तथा तमाम लोग हमारे पी.एस.यूज. छोड़कर निजी संस्थानों में जा रहे हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में हमारे लक्ष्य का क्या होगा? प्रशिक्षण के क्षेत्र में हमारे पी.एस.यूज. ने क्या किया है? ट्रांसमिशन के क्षेत्र में मिनिमम नुकसान की बात पॉलिसी में कही गई है। अभी देश में 33 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा का नुकसान हो रहा है। इस संबंध में राष्ट्रीय विद्युत नीति में व्यक्त नीतियां क्या हैं तथा हम उन्हें कहां तक प्राप्त कर पाए हैं? केप्टिव विद्युत संयंत्रों से राष्ट्रीय विद्युत योजना में योगदान के किस स्तर की संकल्पना की गई है और राष्ट्रीय विद्युत ग्रिड में इसके योगदान का स्तर क्या है, केप्टिव विद्युत उत्पादन के सामने आने वाली कौन सी बाधाएं हैं, विशेष रूप से ट्रांसमिशन के क्षेत्र में निजी भागीदारी की स्थिति क्या है? तथा इस समय राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर ट्रांसमिशन की वस्तु संरचना क्या है? राज्य विद्युत बोर्डों के पुनर्गठन की स्थिति क्या है? क्या केन्द्र सरकार ने राज्य सरकारों से इस बारे में बात की है? अक्सर ग्रिड से ज्यादा पावर लेने के बारे में सुनने में आता है? क्या इस बाबत आपने रूल्स तैयार किए हैं? क्या आपने किन्हीं राज्यों को ज्यादा पावर लेने की स्थिति में फाइन किया है? अगर हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है?

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रस्ताव का उद्देश्य बहस करके सरकार का ध्यान विद्युत की गंभीर समस्या की ओर आकृष्ट करने का है। अब स्थिति यह हो गई है कि दिल्ली जैसे शहर में भी लोग जेनरेटर और इन्वर्टर का सहारा ले रहे हैं, तो गांवों की स्थिति क्या होगी? मुझे अंत में दुष्यंत कुमार की कविता की चंद पंक्तियां याद आ रही हैं। मुझे विश्वास है कि हमारे कवि मन के मंत्री जी इस ओर ध्यान देंगे-

कहां तो तय था चरागां हर एक घर के लिए,

कहां चराग मयस्सर नहीं शहर के लिए।

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA (Rajasthan): Thank you, your honour, for having given me this opportunity to take part in this very important discussion. I congratulate Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda for bringing up such an important resolution for consideration, discussion and debate by this august House. In fact, he has so beautifully presented his case that, I feel, it could be a subject matter of a thesis for PhD. He has been thought-provoking as well as thought-boggling. He has said so much and has raised so many questions that, I think, the hon. Minister of Power must be fully busy with the questions raised by him. I would only mention that as far as the human progress is concerned, there is hardly any debate on this that some sort of source of power or energy is required. In our country, this is also not debatable that there is a shortage of power and energy, and it has become a chronic shortage, which is a matter of concern. If you permit to trace a kind of history of civilizational progress, we would recollect that the first step was - in the stone age, by chance, a spark was found and element of fire was discovered—when pre-historic man found out, by chance, that friction of two pieces of stone produces a spark. That was virtually a spark of life. The first invention that the civilization had was fire. Another invention, if we go through that, was wheel. The third invention, we can say, was steam. The fourth invention is electricity. Electricity is virtually another name for *agni*,

which is one of the five elements, क्षिति, जल, पावक, गगन, समीरा — earth, water, fire, sky and air. So, fire is one of the very important elements and electricity gives us warmth, heat as well as light. In fact, we invoked *agni* in our Vedas "तमसे मा ज्योतिर्गमय take us from darkness to light" and that is what we expect from our hon. Power Minister. Your honour, you will be delighted to know and I think you know it already that first *sloka* of Rigveda is अग्नि इले पुरोहितम् It starts with an invocation to *agni*. So at present, *agni devta* is our Power Minister and we expect from him all kinds of help in taking the country ahead. As far as India is concerned, India is the Sixth largest consumer of energy accounting for 3.4 per cent of global energy consumption. The installed capacity as on March, 2009, was 1,47,000 MW. In 1986, generation of electric power was 190 billion KWH which increased to 860 KWH by 2006. It is surprising to see what kind of a progress we have made. Initially, our generation capacity was merely 1,300 megawatt at the commencement of Independence and at the commencement of the Tenth Five Year Plan, it rose from 1300 megawatt to 1,00,000 megawatt. Progress has been significant but demand is so much, the need is so much that more power is required and that is the problem and that is the crux of the issue also. What ails Indian power sector, what the power sector scenario is and how we can improve things; that should be the focus of our discussion. As far as per capita consumption is concerned, it is very much below in India as compared to .... I think, the Minister of Power is busy in deliberations. I will stop for a while. Is it all right, Sir?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): My one ear is to you and the other ear is to him.

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: But I want both the ears to me. One won't do.

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE: Okay.

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Very kind of you, Sir. I am a handicapped person; so, I need both the ears.

I will, again, submit your honour that per capita consumption in India is only 612 KWH which is very much below as compared to developed countries. If it becomes equal to developed countries, we will be in a morass, we will be in a great trouble because we won't be able to produce electricity to that effect. As far as composition of India's installed power capacity is concerned, Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda has already explained in detail starting from the First Plan to the Tenth Plan and the Eleventh Plan, but I will submit by saying what the situation at present is. Thermal is 64.6 per cent. Thermal is the largest sector as far as electricity production is concerned. Hydel is 24.7 per cent. It has been coming down. Hydel is the cheapest, but somehow because of many constraints which the hon. Minister knows better and, perhaps, they can be to some extent controlled also, it has come down to 24.7 per cent. Nuclear is just starting, it is at an infancy stage, that is, 2.9 per cent.

Renewable is 7.7 per cent. We have ignored the Sun God very badly. Sun is an unlimited source of energy, unlimited source of power, unlimited source of fire, the luminous planet in the sky, but we have not been able to make use of that.

In Rajasthan, we have Jodhpur, an important town your honour, which is known as *Suryanagari*, Sun City because during the year largest sun shine throughout the country is on that city. But there is hardly any installation of creating energy by Sun power. Similarly, *Vayu Devta* is there; wind energy is also very much less. Electricity production by air or by wind is also very much little. All our coastal area is there where winds are like anything; it can be generated. As far as waves are concerned, *Jal Devta*, I think, we have not been able to take much advantage of that also. Coal, we have been eating up, believing that it is unlimited reserve, which is a myth. We have the reserves, but it can't be unlimited; it will be never unlimited. Sun energy is, in one way, unlimited. Air energy is another way unlimited; water energy, is also unlimited, provided we are able to take advantage of that. As far as coal is concerned, India has world's third largest coal reserve. Hence, maximum energy is thermal energy.

Lignite is another factor which has not been taken proper care of, which should be exploited. Government's commitment to provide power for all by 2012, it is worth adoration that such a target has been set. But will it be possible to achieve? That is the main thing. The present scenario of electricity power in India—State sector, 52.5; Central sector, 34; private sector, 13.5. I mean, that is the percentage of overall energy bids by State, Centre and private sector. When we look into it, private sector has only 13.5 per cent share of energy production. My submission is to the hon. Power Minister that this source can be tapped further. By public participation, private sector participation, I think, more energy can be developed. There can be regulations which can force them to have captive power houses in their factories, in their installations. Central sector also needs to do more and it will be possible if we are able to fulfil our dream of nuclear energy. I would not like to rub what has been published in today's *Hindustan Times* because, I think, that is unkind to our hon. Power Minister, Shri Sushilkumar Shinde, and his name doesn't permit me to be critical as far as my remarks are concerned. He has been a very generous and good person. This has been referred by Mr. Darda also, 'PMO note slams Power Ministry.' I mean, it is not in good taste to say that. But, unfortunately, the note says, "a symptom of the deep malaise in the power sector." "Persistent shortfalls on account of electricity generation, held back our GDP." It is said, Delhi is facing such and such shortage and those details are given. This is a note by a very responsible person, T.K.A. Nair, Principal Secretary to the PMO's Office. "Having conspicuously failed to add even 50 per cent of the target capacity of 44000 MW in the Tenth Plan, the leaders of this sector pitched for an absolutely high target of 78,000 MW in the 11th.[]"

With your Permission, Sir, I shall quote from the latest Economic Survey. It has also highlighted the deceleration in GDP growth and has pointed out, "The electricity sector continues to be

hampered by capacity constraints. The growth in electricity generation by power utilities during 2008-09 at 2.7 per cent fell much short of the targeted 9.1 per cent". We targeted 9.1 per cent and we fell to the ground by achieving only 2.7 per cent! This is what has been said in the Economic Survey. Something needs to be done here, Sir. As far as the earlier performance is concerned, I would like to quote: "Electricity generation in 2003-04 at 558.1 billion kwh was 4.5 per cent above the generation in the same period of the previous year." There was progress earlier, up to 2004, but now there is deceleration. I do not intend to point out any partisan figure but it needs consideration. It needs examination. It needs remedial measures. What are the constraints that have been mentioned? With your permission, Sir, I shall just spell them out. Lower capacity utilisation is one constraint. There are figures showing how much per cent less capacity utilisation has been done. Secondly, there are very high transmission and distribution losses. At the Central level, it is much better in the case of power projects. At the State level, it is something quite alarming in the case of electricity boards. Thirdly, there are huge operational losses perennially being incurred by State Electricity Boards. There are details shown about how much the losses are. The annual losses of SEBs at the end of the Ninth Plan were estimated at Rs. 24,000 crores, which led to large outstanding dues to Central public sector undertakings amounting to Rs. 35,000 crores. It is thousands and thousands of crores of losses which we are incurring.

One point, which has been rightly pointed out by the mover of this Resolution is, rampant corruption in the State Electricity Boards and even in Central organisations. A villager can get no connection without paying something. Even in the city, a man has to pay for getting a connection. There are cases of meters not working and linemen exploiting. It has virtually become a cesspool of corruption. With a man of the Power Minister's integrity at the helm of affairs, I hope, something will be done to stem the rot. As far as the pitiable condition of the villagers is concerned, I think it might sound exaggerating, but as Mr. Darda very rightly pointed out, poles without electricity running in the wires are used for tying cattle. वे खूँटे का काम करते हैं। पोल्स खड़े हैं, लेकिन बिजली नहीं है। गांव के अंधेरे में भी प्रकाश पहुंचे, that is what should happen. At present, 56 per cent villages are virtually without electricity. Statistics might be saying anything; even if there is one bulb in a village, you say the village is electrified; in fact, it is a travesty. You must go to the villages and see the condition for yourself. You will get to know what the person there feels. As far as the first charge on electricity is concerned, it is that of the farmer and that too, of the poorest farmer. In cities we have enough of चकाचौंध। They have a new 'sun' everywhere, but as far as villages are concerned, they are still worse off and that should be the first task as far as the farmer is concerned. For him electricity is his lifeline. Without that he cannot draw groundwater; without that his tube well is not working and without that his crop withers. So, how much share should be of a farmer and which kind of priority should be given to a farmer, that must be looked up. Farmer is not able to put forward his plight or his plea or his claim. It is for you to look up. Industry naturally needs power. The first charge is of agriculture because 65 per



cent of population lives on agriculture. Agriculture is the backbone of the nation and agriculturist must get electricity eight hours a day minimum continuously. But he does not get, at times, even one hour of electricity in a day. That is what is happening. I will again repeat or re-emphasise that it should also be considered which kind of environmental pollution is resulting because of our power-houses and different kind of our schemes. In that context, nuclear power will be the real and right one; solar power will be the right one; wind energy will be the right one and tidal energy will be the right one because there will be least pollution or no pollution at all. Thermal power is giving biggest pollution in the form of fly ash. That has to be looked up. One point which has not come up so far is theft of power. Both corruption and theft eat into the revenues. As far as distribution and transmission losses are concerned, they are in the system. By that individual does not get advantage. But by corruption and theft individual gets advantage. Let it be checked. I think, Sir, I have talked enough and there is enough for you to do. I have all hope and expectation that a man of your eminence and calibre will be able to get over all difficulties in the way of progress. Ignoring whatever PMO has written, I am sure you will be able to come out with fresh figures and best of niche in the history of Power Ministers in this country. Thank you.

**श्री गंगा चरण** (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं श्री विजय कुमार जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ। इन्होंने जो रेजोल्यूशन पेश किया है, इसके लिए वह धन्यवाद के पात्र हैं। आज सारा देश बिजली के संकट से जूझ रहा है और इन्होंने मंत्री जी का एवं सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करवाया, इसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

महोदय, आज बिजली संकट पूरे देश की समस्या है, जन-जन की समस्या है। लेकिन जिस तरह सरकार को इस संबंध में गंभीर होना चाहिए, उस तरह सरकार और बिजली मंत्री गंभीर नहीं हैं।

**श्री उपसभापति** : पीठासीन हुए।

पिछले वर्ष न्यूक्लियर डील हुई। उस न्यूक्लियर डील के आधार पर ही सरकार को जनादेश मिला और पुनः कांग्रेस की, यूपीए की सरकार बनी। लेकिन न्यूक्लियर डील पर जिस तरह की प्रोग्रेस होनी चाहिए थी, उस तरह की प्रोग्रेस देश की जनता को दिखाई नहीं दे रही है। हमारे दो साथियों ने न्यूक्लियर पावर के अलावा भी कुछ और विकल्प रखे हैं, उन विकल्पों पर भी गंभीरता से विचार होना चाहिए।

आज पूरे देश में और राज्यों में हाहाकार मचा हुआ है। देश की राजधानी दिल्ली में भी बिजली को लेकर हाहाकार मचा हुआ है। वी.आई.पी. इलाकों में भी बिजली की कटौती हो रही है। बिजली की वजह से पानी के लिए भी हाहाकार मचा हुआ है। इस बात को सरकार को एक चुनौती के रूप में लेना चाहिए।

विद्युत उत्पादन के लिए और भी कई विकल्प रखे गए हैं। मेरा सुझाव है कि हर डिस्ट्रिक्ट को कितनी बिजली की आवश्यकता है, उससे कम-से-कम 50 परसेंट बिजली का उत्पादन उसी जिले में होना चाहिए जो अन्य विकल्प दिए गए हैं, उनसे, चाहे वह और सौर ऊर्जा का उत्पादन हो या जैसे आजकल कचरे से भी बिजली बनने लगी है।

इसलिए जिले में जो कचरा निकलता है, उसका भी सदुपयोग हो और उससे भी ऊर्जा का उत्पादन होना चाहिए। कचरे से पैदा होने वाली बिजली की जो टेक्नोलॉजी है - चाहे वह देशी टेक्नोलॉजी हो या विदेशी टेक्नोलॉजी हो - उस टेक्नोलॉजी का एडॉप्ट करके सरकार को हर जिले में कचरे से विद्युत का उत्पादन सुनिश्चित करना चाहिए। दूसरा विकल्प पनबिजली का है, पानी से विद्युत के उत्पादन। बरसात के समय हम पानी से भी बड़ी मात्रा में बिजली का उत्पादन कर सकते हैं। हम सौर ऊर्जा से भी बिजली का उत्पादन कर सकते हैं तथा हवा के द्वारा भी बिजली का उत्पादन कर सकते हैं, लेकिन इन विषयों पर सरकार ने अभी तक गम्भीरता से कोई काम नहीं किया है। सौर ऊर्जा प्रोजेक्ट पर एक समय सरकार ने 50 परसेंट और कहीं-कहीं 70 परसेंट भी अनुदान दिया है। खास तौर से ग्रामीण अंचलों में इसके लिए सरकार को ग्रामीण सभाओं को अनुदान देना चाहिए कि वे ग्राम सभाएं ही गांवों में सौर ऊर्जा का उत्पादन करें। गांव में जितनी बिजली की आवश्यकता हो, उसके लिए सौर ऊर्जा के बड़े-बड़े प्रोजेक्ट्स उन गांवों में लगाए जाएं। इसका कारण यह है कि जब हम शहरों को ही बिजली नहीं दे पा रहे हैं, और इंडस्ट्रीज को ही बिजली नहीं दे पा रहे हैं तब मैं तो ग्रामीण पृष्ठभूमि से जुड़ा हूं, मैं गांव का रहने वाला हूं इसलिए मुझे यह पता है कि गांवों में हफ्तों तक बिजली नहीं आती है और उसके अभी आने की उम्मीद भी नहीं है। इसलिए गांवों को सौर ऊर्जा से बिजली की आपूर्ति की व्यवस्था हो, ऐसा प्रबंध सरकार को करना चाहिए।

इसी तरह हवा से भी बिजली का उत्पादन गांवों में किया जा सकता है। जल-विद्युत का भी उत्पादन गांवों में किया जा सकता है। इसके साथ ही गांव में किसान का जो भूसा होता है या कचरा होता है, उससे भी विद्युत का उत्पादन गांवों में किया जा सकता है। ये सारे प्रोजेक्ट्स सरकार को जिला स्तर से लेकर गांव स्तर तक लगाने चाहिए, जिससे कि बिजली की जो मांग है, उन्हें इन छोटे-छोटे प्रोजेक्ट्स के द्वारा पूरा किया जा सके। बड़े प्रोजेक्ट्स के लिए तथा बड़े शहरों के लिए न्यूक्लियर पावर से या कोयले से जो बिजली का उत्पादन होता है, उनसे आपूर्ति कर सकते हैं। इस विषय में केन्द्र सरकार को राज्य सरकारों, राज्यों के जो ऊर्जा मंत्री हैं, उनके साथ बैठ कर वार्ता करनी चाहिए तथा जिस राज्य में जितनी जरूरत है, उस राज्य को उसकी आबादी के अनुसार बिजली देनी चाहिए।

आज विद्युत वितरण का काम एन.टी.पी.सी. करती है। लेकिन, आज उसमें भी पोलिटिक्स होने लगी है। किस राज्य में कांग्रेस की सरकार है, किस राज्य में यू.पी.ए. के घटक दल की सरकार है, उसे ज्यादा बिजली देंगे, लेकिन जहां विरोधियों की सरकार है, वहां उससे कम बिजली देंगे। मैं उदाहरण के तौर पर बताना चाहता हूं कि देश की सबसे बड़ी आबादी वाला प्रदेश उत्तर प्रदेश है। वहां पर क्योंकि बी.एस.पी. की सरकार है, इसलिए केन्द्र सरकार से, एन.टी.पी.सी. से, उसको बिजली नहीं दी जा रही है। वहां हाहाकार मचा हुआ है। महोदय, एक तरफ तो कांग्रेस पार्टी आंदोलन चलाती है और दूसरी तरफ बिजली भी नहीं देती है। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि इस तरह का अन्यायपूर्ण व्यवहार केन्द्र सरकार को नहीं करना चाहिए। महोदय, अगर वहां जनता ने बी.एस.पी. की सरकार बनायी है तो उसने कोई कसूर तो नहीं किया है, फिर इसकी सजा आप जनता को क्यों दे रहे हैं? उसकी सजा जनता को नहीं मिलनी चाहिए। इस तरह का भेदभावपूर्ण व्यवहार केन्द्र सरकार को बदलना चाहिए और सभी के साथ समानता का व्यवहार करना चाहिए। यही मेरा सुझाव है। धन्यवाद।

**श्री राजनीति प्रसाद :** धन्यवाद, महोदय। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय ऊर्जा मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूं कि आज देश को आजाद हुए करीब 60 साल हो गए हैं, लेकिन अभी भी देश में जैसा बिजली का infrastructure बनना

चाहिए, लोगों को बिजली मिलनी चाहिए, उस मुताबिक उन्हें बिजली नहीं मिल पाती है। आखिर इस का कारण क्या है? महोदय, इस बारे में अभी तक बहुत शोध नहीं किया गया है। अगर इस पर शोध किया जाता, तो संभव है कि जिस तरह से अन्य देशों, जैसे चीन और दूसरे देशों में बिजली का अभाव नहीं रहता हमारे यहां भी बिजली का अभाव नहीं रहता।

महोदय, पिछले 20 वर्षों के अंदर सौर ऊर्जा पर बहुत कारगर रिसर्च हुई है। पहले गांवों में सौर ऊर्जा से दिवरी जला करती थी। उसकी एक तकनीक है। अभी हम लोग बाहर गए थे तो देखा कि हमने सौर ऊर्जा के कुछ प्रोजेक्ट्स बाहर के लोगों को दिए हैं। लेकिन अभी भी सौर ऊर्जा के बारे में बहुत रिसर्च नहीं हुई है। अगर इस बारे में बहुत रिसर्च होती तो कुछ गांवों में जहां बिजली नहीं रहती है, वहां हम बिजली पहुंचा सकते थे। महोदय, कुछ गांव तो ऐसे हैं जहां अगर बिजली आ गयी तो मानो कोई त्योहार हो गया। वहां लोग सोचकर चलते हैं कि बिजली नहीं रहेगी, लेकिन जब वहां बिजली आती है तो लगता है जैसे कोई त्योहार हो गया। लोगों के चेहरों पर चमक आ जाती है, लेकिन वहां बिजली सिर्फ घंटे-दो घंटे के लिए रहती है और वह भी कब आती है, कब जाती है, यह लोगों के लिए एक खास विषय बना रहता है। बिजली कब आएगी और कब जाएगी, इस का कोई नियम नहीं होता है।

महोदय, आज से कुछ महीने पहले सरकार बिजली के संबंध में एक प्रस्ताव लाई थी कि हम बाहर से बिजली लेंगे। उस पर हमारे कुछ साथियों ने समर्थन भी वापस लिया था। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि बिजली के बारे में उस समय जो बात हुई थी, उसका क्या हुआ? उस बारे में क्या काम किया गया, उस पर क्या कार्रवाई हुई और उस पर क्या प्रगति हुई, यह हम लोग जानना चाहेंगे?

महोदय, पन-बिजली अभी संभव नहीं है क्योंकि सब जगह बरसात नहीं होती है। हमारे यहां नदियों को बांधा नहीं गया है। अगर नदियों को बांधकर धारा बनाते तो हो सकता था पन-बिजली हम को मिलती। यह थर्मल पावर का प्रोजेक्ट भी हमारे यहां लैप्स कर दिया है क्योंकि वहां ठीक से कोयला नहीं मिलता है और जब कोयले की supply नहीं मिलेगी तो बिजली कैसे तैयार होगी? यह भी कहा गया कि थर्मल को भी बिजली चाहिए।

महोदय, मैं एक बात हमेशा कहना चाहता हूं। कहीं ऐसी जगह बिजली का उत्पादन होता है। एक उदाहरण के लिए मैं कहलगांव का नाम लेता हूं। कहलगांव में जब बिजली उत्पादन की जा रही थी तो वहां के लोगों ने कहा कि यहां से अगर बिजली जाएगी तो इसमें हमारा भी कोटा मिलना चाहिए। सर, कहलगांव भागलपुर के पास है। इसके लिए वहां लड़ाई-झगड़ा हुआ और पुलिस की गोली से एक व्यक्ति की मृत्यु भी हो गई। बिजली जिस जगह पैदा होती है, उस जगह पर इसलिए झगड़ा हो गया कि हमारे इलाके में आप बिजली पैदा कर रहे हैं तो आप बिजली का शेयर हमको भी दीजिए।

सर, आजकल बहुत गरमी पड़ती है। मैं बिहार का रहने वाला हूं। वहां बहुत गरमी पड़ती है। अभी तो यहां भी बहुत ज्यादा गरमी है, लेकिन आप लोगों ने सुविधा दी है। जहां भी बिजली दो-दो घंटे के लिए चली जाती है। अभी पार्लियामेंट में भी एकाध दिन बिजली चली गई थी। अब पता नहीं उसमें कमी-बेशी हो गई है। सर, जो घर एयरकंडीशन होते हैं। वहां जब बिजली चली जाती है तो किसी जनरेटर से भी एयरकंडिशन नहीं चलता। आदमी पूरे मकान को घेर कर रखता है। खिड़की बंद करके रखता है। उसमें कपड़े और कूट लगाता है। जब मकान बंद हो जाता है और बिजली चली जाती है तो गरमी बहुत ज्यादा महसूस होने लगती है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को कहना

चाहूंगा कि इसके लिए आप कोई उपाय निकालिये। हमारी आबादी भी बढ़ रही है और लोगों के उपभोग के नये-नये साधन भी बढ़ रहे हैं। हमारे यहां फैक्टरियां भी बढ़ रही हैं। हमारे यहां रहन-सहन का स्तर भी बढ़ रहा है। इसलिए अगर आप बिजली के बारे में कोई नया अनुसंधान नहीं करेंगे तो हमारे यहां बिजलियां नहीं मिलेगी।

सर, मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि मरने के लिए भी बिजली की जरूरत होती है। अगर आदमी मर गया तो उसके लिए भी बिजली की जरूरत होती है। गरीब लोग पार्थिव शरीर को लकड़ी से नहीं जला सकते हैं, वह बहुत महंगी होती है, वहां 160 रुपये मिलती है। वहां बिजली नहीं रहती है। आपने शवदाह गृह तो बना दिया, लेकिन वहां बिजली ही नहीं है। अगर वहां बिजली नहीं है तो वह चलेगा ही नहीं। इसलिए गरीबों के लिए भी बिजली की जरूरत है। आप बिहार के शहरों और देहातों में जाइये। वहां आठ-आठ और दस-दस दिनों तक बिजली नहीं आती है। वहां और क्या होता है? वहां पर्यावरण का भी सवाल होता है। पर्यावरण क्या? वहां हर शहर, गांव, टोला और बाजार में जेनेरेटर चलता रहता है। उससे इतना धुआ होता है कि वहां से आदमी pass नहीं कर पाता।

सर, मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि बिजली के उत्पादन के लिए कोई नई खोज - जब आप चांद पर जा रहे हैं, जब आपका इलैक्ट्रॉनिक मामला इतना बढ़ गया है तो नई खोज, नई चीज निकालने की जरूरत है। अगर आप नई चीज नहीं निकालेंगे तो फिर हम लोगों की उम्र तो जितनी हो गई सो हो गई, हमारे बच्चे भी कहेंगे कि इन लोगों ने कुछ नहीं किया। बिजली अभी भी टिमटिमाती है। अभी भी बिजली नहीं रहती है और अगर एक मोहल्ले में दो-तीन जेनेरेटर चलने लगे तो उनसे इतनी आवाज होती है कि रात भर कोई सो नहीं पाता है।

सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से यह कहना चाहूंगा कि एटॉमिक एनर्जी पर जो समझौता हुआ था, उसके बारे में आपने क्या किया? कहां से मामला आया? कौन-सा मामला आया? उसमें आपने कहा था कि हम बिजली का - कलावती वगैरह का नाम लिया गया था जो डिबरी में पढ़ती थी, उसका नाम लिया गया। इतने दिन बीत गये - मेरे ख्याल से सात-आठ-नौ महीने बीत रहे हैं। उसके बारे में आपने क्या काम किया?

सर, अंत में मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूं और वह यह कि उन्होंने भी दुष्यंत की कविता से खत्म किया था और मैं भी उसी से खत्म कर रहा हूं,

"बढ़ गई है पीर पर्वत सी पिघलनी चाहिए,

इस हिमालय से कोई नई गंगा निकलनी चाहिए,

मेरे सीने में न सही, तेरे सीने में हो,

हो कहीं भी आग, लेकिन आग जलनी चाहिए, बिजली जलनी चाहिए।"

धन्यवाद सर।

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, first of all, I congratulate my friend Shri Vijay Darda and support the Resolution moved by him. It is a very important matter which catches the attention of the entire Indian people. Now, the hon. Minister for Power is working very hard to reach the targets which he has already fixed as power for all by 2012 to the level of two lakh megawatt. At the same time, we have already installed capacity of 1,50,000 megawatt. Sir, we have to compare ourselves with the other big brothers who are sitting nearby, that is, China. They have got target of 8,60,000 megawatt. Their capacity now is one lakh megawatt per year. But, our

capacity is only 3,454 megawatt. Sir, even now we are going very conventionally and we are depending only on the thermal power and also on the other fossil fuel. Other than that, the nature has given us a lot of energy through solar and wind power. These two areas have never got so much of attention. We put it as one of the non-conventional energy sources. Even a small tool or a solar panel will cost too much. A small bulb will cost Rs.200 or Rs.300. Therefore, people do not at all have a feeling that we can utilise the solar power which nature has given us.

Sir, I just want to draw the attention of the Government that we have to involve the people also for power generation. It is not that people need to procreate their children alone. Even a simple man in the remote village can generate power by utilising the solar energy. Sir, I have the direct knowledge of going to Germany and seeing the people there. There the Government allows individuals to put solar panels on top of their houses. Their system is like this. The energy which is produced from that panel is separately monitored and measured. For that, they will pay six times more than what is the actual market rate per unit. At the same time, whatever power comes out of their house is connected to the national grid. That national grid will measure. From the national grid, they can take electricity for their own usage. That will also be subsidised. Therefore, in Germany, where only 30 per cent of the solar energy is available, they are making the people participate in generating electricity. But, here, we have got 103 crore people who are anxious to have electricity. Even small houses want to have it. This time the UPA Government has made a Budgetary provision of Rs.7,000 crores just to provide lights to the ordinary poor people. If we make a provision of Rs.7,000 crores for giving solar panel to every house in a remote village, we can save the energy which is now lost in transmission. More than 40 to 45 per cent transmission loss is there. Therefore, we can save that energy and utilise it in the cities. In remote areas, they have a pattern of having a gap of around 20-25 kilometres between one village and another. Even for the purpose of electronic communication usage, we are putting a cable unnecessarily. We can have dish antennas everywhere so that we can save the money. Similarly, for this solar photovoltaic system, we can very easily involve the people. There are more than 50 crore households. Even a small man in cottage can generate electricity for their own use and provide it to the national grid also, Therefore, we have to think in a different way and I feel that it should not be treated as non-conventional. I feel, it should be a part of the Power Ministry, and they have to concentrate too much on it, and if it is taken as a national project, then naturally, when we are making a unit worth Rs. 50 crores, the cost will be very much reduced, and minimum cost will be there, and millions of unemployed youths will get jobs. We can take the example of Ladakh in our own country. Ladakh is fully supported by the solar energy. Every house is having the full capacity of electricity even though the conventional energy is coming. But at the same time, they are utilizing the solar energy for the purpose of heating water and also for the purpose of using it in the household. In the deserts of Rajasthan, people have now started using the solar power for pumping water, half horse power or one horse power. This type of change of mind has to come to

our planning system. The Planning Commission should also think on those lines. We need not borrow the same ideas from the Europeans. Germany is one of the countries in Europe which is going in for the solar energy. At the same time, they are not giving importance to the nuclear energy. They are even banning the nuclear energy. I don't say that the nuclear energy is not necessary. We need it for the purpose of industrial growth. But for the purpose of agricultural growth and for the rural areas, solar energy is very suitable and it has to be fully utilised for that purpose.

Solar thermal energy is also another concept. Sun light is focussed on to an absorber tube which heats up to a very high temperature. Another system is also coming up, that is, heating of the oil. Synthetic oil is now generated, and it will be heated and it will give 400 degree centigrade heat. Through that, the energy is now taken away.

Similarly, a lot of research is going on. We have to utilise our own intelligence for this purpose to come out with more new inventions. Similarly, I would like to concentrate on the wind energy. Take for instance, China. They calculate that from their own country, they can have 6.08 trillion kilowatt of power per year through this wind energy alone. They have got the calculation that land wind energy volume will be 4.2 billion kilowatt. The exploitable capacity is 300 million kilowatt. Offshore wind energy will be 750 million kilowatt. When they are thinking that their industrial need and agricultural need and also the peoples' need can be satisfied by these systems, why not we think about it. In South India, more so, in Kanyakumari district, the wind energy is one of the projects taken up by the multinational companies also and so much of energy is being produced by them. They are selling it for multiple amounts to the State Electricity Boards. Similarly, when we are taking up the issue of the agriculturists, we used to say that the sugarcane price should be increased because as a by-product, the molasses and the products which are utilised for the purpose of electricity generation, in multiple terms, that is again sold to the Electricity Department. Therefore, all these things can be done by ordinary people. It has to be a mass upsurge in India to have the power being generated by everybody and not by the Government alone. It should not be a task for the Government, it should be a task for the entire population of India. Thank you very much.

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया (झारखंड) :** उपसभापति जी, मैं अपने विद्वान मित्र श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा जी द्वारा जो संकल्प प्रस्तुत किया गया है, उसका समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। लोगों ने जो आंकड़े बताए हैं, लेकिन मैं आंकड़ों पर नहीं जाता हूँ। मैं इतना समझता हूँ कि हमारे यहां कुछ power consumption necessity based है, कुछ लग्जरी है, कुछ डोमेस्टिक है और उस necessity based में कुछ infrastructure भी है। मसलन, हमारा देश एक ग्रामीण प्रधान देश है, जहां किसानों को बिजली चाहिए। शायद बिजली की जरूरत न पड़ती, अगर नहरें होतीं और irrigation system अच्छा होता, तो शायद किसानों को उतनी बिजली की जरूरत नहीं पड़ती,

जितनी कि आज पड़ रही है। जिन इलाकों में नहरें हैं, सिंचाई की व्यवस्था अच्छी है, वहां आदमी नाली काट कर भी पानी अपने खेतों तक पहुंचा लेता है, पर यहां पर पंप की योजना है, इसलिए यहां पर बिजली की जरूरत पड़ती है। इसी कारण से कुछ-कुछ राज्य मुफ्त में भी बिजली देती है, unmetered बिजली देती है, इसमें कितनी बिजली जा रही है, यह भी उसको पता नहीं रहता है। दूसरा, हमारे रेलवे को बिजली लगती है, बंदरगाहों को बिजली लगती है, airports को बिजली लगती है तथा hospitals को बिजली लगती है। जहां पर जरूरत है, वहां पर कट नहीं किया जा सकता है। यदि वहां पर कट करेंगे, तो सारा देश रुक जाएगा। इसमें domestic वाले मरते हैं, जो घरेलू काम में बिजली का प्रयोग करते हैं। Small-scale industry वाला मरता है और जिसके पास अपना captive power plant नहीं है तथा captive power back-up नहीं है, वह suffer करता है।

महोदय, हमारे प्राक्तन राष्ट्रपति डा. कलाम साहब ने कहा था कि हम rural areas को अर्बन एरिया की facility provide करें। हम वह provide तभी कर सकते हैं, जब कि वहां बिजली पहुंचे। बिजली भी कई तरह की है, पर उन कई तरह की बिजली में से दो तरह की बिजली को माना गया है। एक तरह की बिजली वह है, जो carbon emissions produce करती है और दूसरी तरह की बिजली वह है, जो 'Green Energy' के नाम पर जानी जाती है।

महोदय, हमारा देश विश्व का तीसरा बड़ा देश है, जहां सबसे ज्यादा कोयले का उत्पादन होता है। पर, दुर्भाग्य इस बात का है कि हमारा कोयला low ash नहीं है, उसकी calorific value उतनी नहीं है, जितनी एक थर्मल पॉवर स्टेशन को चलाने के लिए आवश्यक होती है। इस कारण से हमें थर्मल पॉवर स्टेशन को चलाने के लिए low ash तथा अच्छी calorific value वाला कोयला बाहर से import करना पड़ता है। Import करने का मतलब यह है कि हमारी विदेशी मुद्रा का गमन होना, आगमन नहीं, बल्कि गमन होना अर्थात् हमारी विदेशी मुद्रा बाहर जाती है। पर, अभी United Nations की "Global Warming" पर जो रिपोर्ट आई है। बहुत दिनों से ऐसा माना जा रहा है कि जो थर्मल पॉवर स्टेशन हैं, इनमें इस तरह का technological development किया जाए ताकि इनसे कम pollution हो, इसकी व्यवस्था करें। उनकी pollution इसलिए कम करनी है, क्योंकि यह जो धुआ निकलता है, वह जो carbon emissions हो रहा है, यह ultimately, global warming का कारण बन रहा है। इस महीने में बारिश होनी चाहिए, लेकिन नहीं हो रही है। किसान धान लगाने के लिए बैठा हुआ है। वह रोज उम्मीद करता है कि आज बारिश होगी, लेकिन बारिश नहीं हो रही है। इसका कारण क्या है? इसका कारण बिजली का उत्पादन है। हमें बिजली चाहिए भी, परंतु बिजली चाहने पर उसका बुरा असर भी है, जैसे antibiotic खाने पर बीमारी मरती भी है तथा दबती भी है, किन्तु उसका side effect भी है। तो वैसे ही इस luxury की, इस necessity की और इस जरूरत की साथ में और बीमारियां भी हैं और उन बीमारियों में सबसे बड़ी बीमारी है - ग्लोबल वार्मिंग। उस ग्लोबल वार्मिंग से निजात पाने के लिए green energy की या green energy produce करने की बात सोची गई। जब बड़े स्तर पर हम सोचने लगते हैं, तो पिछले वर्ष हमने Indo-US Nuclear Deal पर फैसला किया और उस फैसले के साथ हमें यह सोचना पड़ता है कि यूरेनियम और प्लूटोनियम, जो हमारे पास बहुत कम है - यूरेनियम की खानें मेघालय में और झारखंड में हैं, पर वह उतना purified यूरेनियम नहीं है कि उसका हम commercial exploitation करके उसके आधार पर एक या दो न्यूक्लीयर प्लांट चला सकें। हमें उसके लिए टेक्नालॉजी भी विदेश से लेनी है और raw material भी विदेश से लेना है। Green energy आएगी और हमने एक विभ्रान्ति ऐसी पैदा कर दी कि लोग कहने लगे,

पंजाबी में यह समझाने लगा कि "ओ बिजली आएगी न जिस वेल्ले, तो लट्टू बुझेगाई नई" मतलब जो बल्ब है, वह बुझेगा ही नहीं, वह जलता ही रहेगा और बिजली की खपत भी नहीं होगी। ऐसा समझाया लोगों को, किंतु ऐसा नहीं है। बिजली जब पैदा होगी तो उसकी खपत होगी। खपत होगी, तो उसकी आपूर्ति के लिए और ज्यादा बिजली पैदा करनी पड़ेगी।

महोदय, हाइड्रो प्लांट के बारे में हमारे सपने हैं। जब भाखड़ा नंगल बना और भाखड़ा नंगल में जब बिजली पैदा होने लगी, तो बहुत तरह की विभ्रान्ति उस वक्त भी पैदा की गई। कुछ नेता तो ऐसा कहने लगे कि अरे भाई, बिजली में से तो energy निकला ली गई है और इस energy निकली हुई बिजली का पानी खेतों में डाला जाएगा, तो जो गेहूं पैदा होगा, उस गेहूं में energy नहीं रहेगी। ऐसा प्रचार करके बहुत लोग चुनाव जीतते रहे। यह विभ्रान्ति है। जब हम विकास की तरफ जाते हैं, तो विकास के लिए हमें बिजली की जरूरत पड़ती है। उस सदन में हमारे हरियाणा के एक एम.पी. दो बार चुनाव इसी मुद्दे पर जीतते रहे। मणिराम बागड़ी जी का नाम आप लोगों ने सुना होगा, उनका यही भाषण होता था कि जो गेहूं पैदा होगा, उस गेहूं में शक्ति ही नहीं रहेगी, क्योंकि उसमें से तो भाखड़ा नंगल ने energy निकाल ली, यह तो पन-बिजली है। तो अब इस बार हमें महसूस हो रहा है कि भाखड़ा नंगल में जब पानी का स्तर गिर रहा है, तो भाखड़ा से जब बिजली पैदा नहीं होगी, तो उससे साथ लगे हुए राज्य affected होंगे। हरियाणा, दिल्ली, उत्तर प्रदेश, पंजाब - सब affected होंगे। हिमाचल में, मेरे ख्याल से हाइड्रो का एक प्लांट है "झाखड़ी प्लांट" - वहां जो पानी है, वह तिब्बत से आता है। तिब्बत में चाइनीज़ ने एक बहुत बड़ा लेक बना लिया और पिछले दिनों एक बहुत बड़ी न्यूज़ हुई, इंटरनैशनल न्यूज़ हुई कि they are creating a water bomb, कि अगर उस लेक का पानी छोड़ दिया, तो हमारा जो डैम है, वह बह जाएगा। इस तरह एक panic की situation पैदा हो गई। उसी तरह हमारे उत्तरांचल में जब डैम बनने लगे, तो बहत विरोध हुआ। जब सरदार सरोवर डैम बनने लगा, तब विरोध हुआ। हमारी कृष्णा और कावेरी पर जब डैम बनने लगे, तो वहां विरोध हुआ। विकास की तरफ जब भी आप जाएंगे और green energy पैदा करना चाहेंगे, थर्मल से हटकर, तो विरोध होंगे, इसलिए उसका ध्यान रखने की जरूरत है और उसके लिए जागरूकता पहुंचाने की जरूरत है कि अगर हम कोयले से बिजली पैदा करते हैं, तो उससे क्या नुकसान है और अगर पानी से बिजली पैदा करते हैं, तो उसके क्या फायदे हैं? वे फायदे वायुमंडल पर हैं, वातावरण पर हैं और साथ में जब एक डैम बनता है, तो उसके साथ canal system भी बन सकता है और irrigation में हमें मदद मिल सकती है। पर जिस तरह से glaciers की संख्या में कमी आ रही है, जिस तरह से glaciers समय से पहले पिघल रहे हैं, glaciers जम नहीं रहे हैं, पानी ऊपर से नीचे से आने की संभावनाएं कम हो रही हैं, उस स्थिति में hydro power पर हम कितने निर्भर रहेंगे और क्या कर सकेंगे, यह भी हमारे लिए सोचने का विषय है। यह बहुत बड़ा विषय है।

महोदय, जो Natural gas based power plant है, इसमें भी pollution है। खासकर नॉर्थ ईस्ट में असम में,



नागालैंड में, त्रिपुरा में हम इसका उपयोग कर सकते हैं। आजकल बड़े प्लांट न लगाकर, छोट-छोटे प्लांट लगाकर अगर पांच, दस या बीस गांवों को बिजली दी जा सकती है तो उसकी शुरुआत करनी चाहिए क्योंकि जब आप बड़े प्लांट लगाते हैं तो आपको distribution और transmission losses भी बढ़ते जाते हैं, theft की संभावना ज्यादा रहती है लेकिन जहां-जहां wells में आपको natural gas मिली है, वहां से अगर आप connectivity देकर प्लांट लगाएं और गांवों को feed करें तो वह बेहतर होगा। महोदय, आज से 15-20 साल पहले हमने solar cooker देखा। अब आपने लोगों से कह दिया कि आप छतों पर solar heater लगा लीजिए। सोलर लाइटें आ गई हैं, गांवों में, community centres में या street lights में भी सोलर का इतना प्रचलन चल पड़ा है। सर, विदेशों में solar farming हो रही है। वे धूप देखने के लिए हवाई जहाज पर चढ़कर छुट्टियां मनाने जाते हैं। धूप को महसूस करने के लिए, sunbath करने के लिए वे लोग कितने खर्च करते हैं। हमारे यहां तो sunbath रोज ही हो जाता है। सूर्य प्रणाम से शुरू करके शाम तक sunbath ही होता रहता है। अगर पूरे देश की मैपिंग करके, जहां पर सूर्य का पूरा प्रभाव रहता है, जैसे नागपुर मंत्री महोदय का राज्य है, वहां पर अच्छी धूप निकलती है, अच्छी गर्मी रहती है। Solar Farming का concept हमने पूरी तरह से commercially exploit नहीं किया है, कहीं-कहीं हम लोगों ने शुरू की है। जैसे आपने wind farm लगाया। wind farm विद्युत उत्पादन के मकसद से कोई नहीं लगा रहा है। मैं जब वह लिस्ट पढ़ता हूं कि किस-किसने wind farm लगाया है तो मुझे हंसी आती है कि इन्हें विद्युत उत्पादन से कुछ लेना-देना नहीं है। इन्होंने income tax बचाने के लिए wind farm लगाए हुए हैं। मैं एक बार त्रिवेंद्रम से तिरुनलवेली जा रहा था। जिधर से रास्ता कन्याकुमारी को जाता है, वहां से बाईं तरफ तिरुनलवेली जाने के लिए घूम जाइए। मैं ज्यों ही तिरुनलवेली के अंदर घुसा तो वहां पर मैंने बड़े-बड़े wind farm देखे। उन्हें देखकर मेरी तबीयत हरी हो गयी कि इतने wind farm लगे हैं। जाने के वक्त तो मैंने उन्हें नहीं देखा, आते वक्त मैंने वहां रुककर बोर्ड पढ़ने शुरू किए कि ये wind farm किस-किस कम्पनी के हैं। उन कम्पनियों को बिजली पैदा करने से कुछ लेना-देना नहीं था। वहां पर कुछ wind farm रुके हुए थे और कुछ चल रहे थे। भूत की तरह बहुत ऊंचे-ऊंचे wind farm खड़े हुए हैं, कुछ चल रहे हैं और कुछ रुके हुए हैं लेकिन income tax की फाइल में तो वे लिख रहे हैं कि हमारे इतने wind farm चल रहे हैं

Tamil Nadu State Electricity Board उतनी wind power खरीद रहा है या नहीं खरीद रहा है यह irrelevant है। आप देखिए कि western countries में लोगों ने अपने घर में पानी की व्यवस्था, सिंचाई की व्यवस्था करने के लिए, यहां तक कि अगर उन्हें कुएं से पानी भी निकालना है तो उन्होंने wind energy लगायी हुई है। गांव-देहात में, जहां पर बिजली नहीं है, उन्होंने wind energy लगायी हुई है और उस wind energy से वे अपने घर का सारा काम कर लेते हैं। अगर हम इन छोटी-छोटी चीजों पर भी ध्यान दें तो शायद हम बहुत कुछ कर सकते हैं। हमारे पॉवर मिनिस्टर का एक एडवार्टाइजमेंट निकलता है। उसमें लिखा होता है कि जब आपको बिजली का उपयोग नहीं करना है तो बत्ती बंद करके अगर पॉवर बचाएंगे तो वह विद्युत उत्पादन के बराबर है। यह आप लिखते हैं। किन्तु कभी आपने सोचा है कि हेयर ड्रायर की जो टेक्नोलॉजी है, चाहे रेजर टेक्नोलॉजी है या छोटी-छोटी चीजें, जिसमें इतनी पावर की जरूरत नहीं है, उसमें भी हमने पूरी ताकत से पॉवर दिया हुआ है, क्योंकि टेक्नोलॉजी का अभाव है? हमारे फ्रिज, हमारे एयरकंडीशनर्स, हमारे माइक्रो ओवन तथा घर के जो अन्य एप्लाइंसेज हैं, चाहे वह आयरन प्रेस हो, चाहे हमारा टेलीविजन हो, चाहे हमारा कम्प्यूटर हो, चाहे हमारा प्रिंटर हो, ये सारी चीजें हैं, इन सब में पॉवर सेव करने के लिए इनको पॉवर एफिसिएंट वाले बनाए जा सकते हैं। आप कभी नापकर देख लीजिएगा।

आपके मोबाइल फोन को नोकिया एक चार्जर देता है। इसके अलावा बाजार में चाइनीज चार्जर भी मिलता है। साथ में मीटर भी लगा दीजिए। आप देखेंगे कि नोकिया का चार्जर किस स्पीड से जा रहा है और दूसरा किस स्पीड से ले जा रहा है और कितना पॉवर कंज्यूम कर रहा है। जो घटिया किस्म की चीजें हैं तथा टेक्नोलॉजी में जो चीजें डवलप्ड नहीं हैं, यह इसलिए मैं आपको मोबाइल चार्जर का एक छोटा उदाहरण आपको दे रहा हूँ, परन्तु मैं वैसे ही बोलता हूँ कि जहां टेक्नोलॉजी अच्छी तरह से प्रयोग नहीं की गई है, उसमें ज्यादा ताकत लग रही है, ज्यादा पॉवर का कंजम्पशन हो रहा है, हमारे पॉवर के कंजम्पशन को कम करना है, रोकना नहीं है कि आप कंज्यूम मत करो। उनको देना है, जो अच्छी टेक्नोलॉजी के माध्यम से चल सकता हो। जैसे कभी जमाना था कि आपका टेबल फैन स्टील का, कॉस्ट आयरन का हुआ करता था तथा उसके ब्लेड कॉस्ट एल्यूमिनियम के होते थे। उस ब्लेड को घुमाने के लिए पंखे की मोटर की जो ताकत लगती थी, आज वह प्लास्टिक का ब्लेड हो गया, जिसके कारण अब कम ताकत लगती है तथा पहले से ज्यादा स्पीड से घूमता है। उसी तरह से अगर हमारी मशीनें, हमारे घर के एप्लॉयंसेज इसी तरह के हों, क्योंकि से चीजें कम नहीं हैं और पॉवर का डॉमेस्टिक कंजम्पशन 25 से लेकर 35 परसेंट ऑफ दि टोटल प्रोडक्शन है, उसमें अगर हम इन चीजों में टेक्नोलॉजी के माध्यम से कम करें, उसकी बराबरी होती है कि हमने इतना प्रोड्यूस किया। जो बचाएंगे उतना हमने प्रोड्यूस किया है। मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारे विद्वान मित्र श्री दर्डा जी ने एक अच्छी पहल की और एक अच्छी चीज लाए।

मंत्री महोदय को मैं एक दूसरी चीज कहना चाहता था कि जब हम विदेशों में जाते हैं और वहां देखते हैं कि 110 वोल्टेज पर भी बहुत सारी चीजें चलती हैं परन्तु हमारे यहां 220 के नीचे कोई चीज नहीं चलती है। मैं कोई टेक्नीकल आदमी नहीं हूँ। पर मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह वोल्टेज चेंज करने से जो 110 से चल सकती हो, उसके लिए 220 का बिजली प्रयोग करना सही है या नहीं है, क्योंकि हम घर पर देखते हैं कि एयर कंडीशनर चलाने के लिए 440 वाला बड़ा प्लग लगा रहता है तथा रेडियो व टी.वी. चलाने के लिए 220 वाला लगा रहता है। लेकिन कुछ चीजें ऐसी हैं जो 110 से भी चल सकती हैं। तो ऐसा परिवर्तन लाने से अगर हमें बिजली में बचत होगी या नहीं होगी, अगर होगी तो ऐसा टेक्नोलॉजिकल परिवर्तन भी हमें लाना चाहिए, क्योंकि यह सारे विश्व में है, हमारे यहां नहीं है। क्यों नहीं है? इसका कोई कारण मुझको नहीं मिला है। इसके लिए कंवर्टर मिलते हैं कि आप कंवर्ट कर लीजिए। इसको ऊपर नीचे करने के लिए क्या जरूरत है, स्टेप अप और स्टेप डाउन करने के लिए कंवर्टर मिल जाते हैं। किन्तु इसके लिए क्या जरूरत है, वह जरा देखने की जरूरत है।

महोदय, मेरा यही कहना है कि हम यूरेनियम, प्लेटेनियम का तो सपना देखें, किन्तु जहां तक थोरियम की बात है, हमारे देश में इतना थोरियम उपलब्ध है और हमारे इसरो के साइंटिस्टों ने थोरियम से बिजली का उत्पादन करने के बारे में अपने बहुत सारे आविष्कार कर लिए हैं। हमें थोरियम के बारे में तब पता चला जब केरल के beach से एक जहाज बालू ले जाता था। हमें इसके बारे में पहले से पता ही नहीं था, हमें अभी बहुत सारी चीजों के बारे में पता नहीं है। भारत में क्या-क्या सम्पदा है, हमें उसके बारे में पता नहीं है। केरल के beach पर एक खाली पानी का जहाज आता था, वह बालू लाद कर ले जाता था। बहुत दिनों तक ऐसा होता रहा, तब पता लगाया गया कि वह कहाँ जाता है। पता चला कि वह जापान जाता है। यह भी पता लगाने की कोशिश की गई कि वे बालू का क्या करते हैं? क्योंकि बालू की वहां कमी नहीं है, चारों तरफ coast है, उनको क्यों बालू चाहिए? इसके बारे में पता चला कि इसमें कोई शक्ति है। उस शक्ति को वैज्ञानिकों ने देखा कि वह थोरियम है। उस थोरियम से बिजली का उत्पादन किया जा

सकता है। हमारी सम्पदा नदियों के माध्यम से, समुद्र के माध्यम से असीम है, उसकी अभी भी गवेषणा करने की जरूरत है। हम समुद्र के किनारे टाइडल वेव से एनर्जी पैदा करने की सोचते हैं। उसके बारे में भी आविष्कार हुए हैं। समुद्र के किनारे गांव बसे हुए हैं, coastal area में लगे रहते हैं, वहां पर टाइडल एनर्जी प्रक्यूस की जा सकती है। इस पर मद्रास में चेन्नई के पास काफी रिसर्च हुआ है, वहां पर जो research laboratory है, उसने काफी काम किया है। जैसे हम सोलर एनर्जी के बारे में सोचते हैं, जैसे हम हाइडल एनर्जी के बारे में सोचते हैं, इसी तरह से हमें टाइडल एनर्जी के बारे में सोचना चाहिए। अगर इन सारी चीजों को देखा जाए, तो हम अपनी जरूरतों को पूरा कर सकेंगे। हमें आने वाले दिनों में ग्लोबल वार्मिंग के कारण काफी मुसीबतों का सामना करना पड़ सकता है। उन मुसीबतों से बचने के लिए हमें नये-नये प्राकृतिक संसाधन ढूंढने पड़ेंगे, जिनके माध्यम से हम बिजली पैदा कर सकेंगे। आजकल हमारे घर ऐसे बने हुए हैं कि सुबह sun rise होने के बाद भी, हमें कमरे में बत्ती जलाकर कमरे में देखना पड़ता है। ऐसे घरों का निर्माण होना चाहिए, जिनमें हवा, पानी और रोशनी, तीनों उपलब्ध हो सकें। इस तरह के मकान बनने चाहिए, जो गर्मी में तपे नहीं, क्योंकि तपिश के कारण उस कमरे को ठंडा करने में एयर कंडीशन की ताकत लगती है। इन सारी चीजों को ध्यान में रखते हुए, हमारे घरों के डिजाइन चेंज होने चाहिए, ताकि जितना हमारी बिजली का उत्पादन हो रहा है, उसी में हम अपनी खपत पूरी कर सकें। यही कहकर, मैं इस संकल्प का समर्थन करता हूं। धन्यवाद।

SHRI ARJUN KUMAR SENGUPTA (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am very happy that you have given me this opportunity to join the very powerful voice of my friend, Shri Vijay Darda, on a subject which is absolutely vital for the development of our country. I am also very happy to note that, now that for the next five years we have got in place a stable Government, everybody now is thinking in terms of real solutions to real problems. I very much welcome Ahluwalia's speech and also other contributions. Let us think about the problems seriously and not bring in all kinds of extraneous situations.

We must also note that the Minister, in just a few years, has done a very signal job of increasing capacity generation. This is really a great achievement. I asked for the Table; and the Table quite categorically shows that during the last three or four years, there is a signal improvement in capacity generation. As a matter of fact, this Table also shows that for many years before that, there has been a gross neglect towards increase in power capacity. What we are facing today is the result of several decades of neglect. And, today, in just a few years' time, our Minister has tried to bring in new life into this whole programme, and he deserves the compliments for that. But then, Sir, I want to point out something which is not quite often appreciated. But, the time has now come for us for appreciating the situation. I think Dardaji started the whole speech by quoting the famous two sentences that anybody who has visited Moscow from Hotel Rossia would see "Soviet plus power is equal to Communism". There is a very big banner. Power is important all over the world, and very rarely power requires subsidy. This is one industry which should be able to generate its income, and that income should be sufficient to pay for the investments. This has been the case all over the world, Why is it not the case in our country? I am raising this issue because, as I said we are not now in a

mood of criticising or blaming this Government and that Government, but the question remains why have we not been able to increase our power generation capacity, The answer to this may be different. Maybe the people should think about it. But, I want to make a few suggestions which the Minister may kindly take into account.

There are three aspects of the power mechanism; generation, transmission and distribution. Now, distribution depends upon how much revenue you can get out of the people who are consuming that. Probably, in our country, there is a huge leakage in the distribution system. It is unfortunate, but we cannot avoid that. In a huge country like ours, there will be, again I say it is unfortunate, I am not supporting that, there will be leakages, there will be thefts, and also, several Governments either at the State level or at the Panchayat level would try to exempt specific categories of users from paying for the power. So, there is a leakage in the distribution system, which we should accept grudgingly, not permanently, but accept it within the parameters of the system.

Second is the transmission. Very rightly it was pointed out by Ahluwalia Saheb, and earlier also this question was raised by Shri Natchiappan, there is a huge transmission loss. This transmission loss is basically a technical phenomenon. Of course, when transmission loss is also due to leakages, connected with distribution, that is a different kind of issue. But, I am talking about a purely technical issue of transmission loss, and that transmission loss has to be taken care of by the Government, which is really in-charge of the transmission. The hon. Minister must take special action to see that, in the next report, the transmission losses come down in our system. Then, the question comes of generation. Sir, there is no reason why if an investor is assured of the income from power generation should not invest in power. All over the world, they do that. In fact, power industry is one of the most lucrative industries in any part of the world. The main reason for that, Sir, I might submit, is still we have not allowed the private sector a full free play in power generation. And, there is absolutely no reason for not doing that. In fact, I looked for this figure. Only 15 per cent of our power generation capacity is in the private sector, and that also has happened only in the last few years. Why? It is because if we do not allow the power generation to be done by the private sector, and if we do not allow the private sector to spend its money, energy to acquire the land, acquire the rights, acquire everything that is necessary with that and if we leave it to the Government, we are in a great trouble because, then, at every point, the Government is faced with problems which we have seen in different parts of our country. One of the reasons our Minister has not been able to move very fast on this is the question of acquisition of land, acquisition of special rights; building all these capacities is extremely difficult for the public sector. I would, therefore, submit, Sir, that let us have a new approach to power generation. Let us completely privatise it. There is a meaning to this statement.

Completely privatise means, the Government would of course help, the Government would provide the necessary support and some times, you may also support financially tax-wise. But, if any private party wants to set up a power generating capacity, it should get the full support from the Government with certain provisions.

We have some examples that people have taken charge of a coal mine in order to use coal for the power, then they are not producing the power; the coal mine is used for other purposes. I can give a number of such examples. This kind of abuses should be very specifically barred and there should be very specific action taken. But, once we have that kind of a system, then there should be only support for the private sector to do this and, the public sector, the Government, really has no place in that kind of a situation.

Sir, there is a very famous statement which is attributed to Mrs. Margaret Thatcher who said Government has no business in business. That is a false statement. That statement is not valid; it was not valid in England, it is not valid in India; it was never valid. But, there are certain businesses in which the Government has no place. For example, there is no reason why the Government should start hotels, or start some kind of a cosmetic production. This is not in Government's area. Similarly, in power, except for helping the private sector to come forward, in power generation the Government has no business.

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Rural areas.

SHRI ARJUN KUMAR SENGUPTA: Correct! Except for areas like the rural areas, rural electrification. Because, the revenue that will come out of that will have to be ...*(Interruptions)*... Except in rural areas, to recover the cost you have to have a situation which, I do not think, our people have not yet reached. So, we may have to continue with a subsidised pricing in the rural areas for quite some time. Therefore, in rural electrification and all other areas, the Government may have to play a very major role. I, therefore, suggest to the Minister that he may like to consider it. It requires some careful thinking and working out the cost and benefit of the whole thing that the Government should involve itself in the generation of power only in the rural areas. In rest of the places, the Government should only play the role of provider of service, provider of assistance. This is, again, Mr. Natchiappan's point; he referred to the German system. If we could do that, then there is absolutely economic viability, there is no problem; namely, if the transmission lines are completely under the public sector, everybody who is generating power has the capacity or the freedom to link it to the transmission line, to the national grid at a fixed cost. Whatever the cost, that can be decided, the expenditure can be recovered. The transmission lines should be entirely in the public sector. If there are losses in the transmission, the public sector must bear it. But, the generation should continue without any kind of a stop or hold. I am requesting this thing for the Ministry to take note of; I am quite sure, they have discussed this earlier. The plan would be to have a national grid

throughout the country where anyone who can generate power can put the power to the national grid at a cost-plus price so that they are completely governed. The grid should then give power to everybody and recover money from the users. If it fails to recover money from the users because of theft, because of its inability to force them, it is the Government's responsibility, not to be condoned, but I must say it should come out in Parliament, in the Assemblies that this is the loss because of people taking away of this money. Secondly, the transmission loss, which is entirely technical, which is entirely something taken care of by the public sector companies and engineers, should also be the responsibility of the Government. Sir, this is the bare skeleton of the plan that I am talking about and I hope the Minister may be kind enough to consider it carefully. Thank you very much.

MS. MABEL REBELLO (Jharkhand): Thank you, Sir. Speakers before me have spoken, many of them about the economy of energy, technological aspect of energy, Sir. I stand here to support Vijay Darda's Resolution. I want to speak on social sector perspective of energy. Sir, electricity is like medicine for both rural and urban, and agrarian and industrial sectors. Without energy quality of life cannot be improved because I see that day in and day out in Jharkhand. Sir, Jharkhand is a mineral rich, resource rich State, but it is known for all bad reasons—bad governance, poverty, malnutrition, high infant mortality rate, high maternal mortality rate, you name and it has it. Why is it so, Sir? It is because 90 per cent, if not 90, Sir, 80 per cent of people living in rural areas even today do not have electricity. It has plenty of rainfall, 1400 millimetre of rainfall. It has plenty of coal, more than even Chhattisgarh and Orissa. But coal is not exploited to its capacity. Jharkhand has three or four thermal power plants and they are so old and antiquated that they hardly produce electricity sufficient enough to supply to its current consumers. This is a sad plight. Even Dr. Swaminathan, the scientists, who is supposed to be the man who ushered in Green Revolution in the country, says if Jharkhand, Orissa and Assam, these three States, can produce so much food for the country that not only we can supply to the whole country and all the malnourishment of the country can be eradicated but we can even supply to the world market. But what is needed is energy, Sir. People of Jharkhand and even 70 per cent of Indians who are agrarians, who are farmers, they can produce plenty of food for this country and for the world market provided we give them electricity because they are very hardworking people. We have 365 days sunlight, we have got very good soil but what we need is electricity to lift water.

If that is so, we can have not only one rain-fed crop but also definitely we can have three crops throughout the year. We can go even for off-season vegetables, fruits, and all that, Sir. Sir, somebody recently conducted a study perhaps it was Washington-based organisation known as IFTRI - and he says that out of 188 developing countries, India ranks 166th country on Hunger Index.

We are not able to produce food enough for our people. Sir, 32 crores of Indians daily go to bed without dinner and 25 crores of women and children are malnourished in our country. All this can be wiped off, everybody can have sufficient food, everybody can have sufficient nourishment provided they have electricity and we produce a lot of food. Similarly, 30 per cent of our fruits and vegetables are wasted because we do not have cold storages, because there is no cold chain, the food is getting wasted instead of going to our women and children. For all these things, the remedy is electricity. That is why I say we need to produce a lot of electricity. Not only we produce, our distribution should also be taken care of. What happens is that when some poor man puts a small wire and steals electricity, we make a big issue, 'Oh, the slum man, slum dwellers are stealing electricity.' But major chunk of electricity is stolen by industrialists. Big people steal. The steel producers need a lot of electricity. With the connivance of Electricity Board officials, small officials steal plenty of electricity. I know of some of the industrial houses. This is what is happening and all these needs to be contained. Otherwise, we will always have problems. Sir, the national average of irrigation is 40 per cent whereas we have got only six per cent irrigation in Jharkhand. So much of waterfall is there. We do not have dams. There is no money. Earlier Jharkhand was a colony of Bihar and after that Jharkhand has become a State. Unfortunately, there was no governance at all. There was no political stability. That is why three crores of people suffer and they migrate and we talk about Naxalism. What is Naxalism? Naxalism is a socio-economic problem because people do not have employment, particularly, the youth. Sir, last month I was in Hazaribagh and there was a meeting of a lot of people at night and I also participated and they told me, Mam, more girls are joining Naxal movement than boys. That is because of this socio-economic problem. We are not able to create employment. If there is sufficient electricity, agricultural sector can create a lot of jobs. Similarly, lot of industrial houses can come to Jharkhand and can set up a base there, start various type of industries, specially, coal based. Since we have lot of coal, steel plants can come up there but the problem again is the Naxal problem. Naxal problem is a vicious circle. Naxal problem is again connected with electricity, with power, with energy. If these things can be settled properly, yes, lot of socio-economic problems can be settled. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one or two small problems. Jharkhand has Jharsuguda mines, uranium mines and I do not know, although I have asked questions to the scientists, they say there is no leakage at all, but, still I have some apprehension that there is some leakage from these Jharsuguda Uranium mines into the water bodies of Jharkhand because Jharkhand has physically and mentally challenged children, something like more than 10 per cent and the national average is only three per cent. So, why is that in Jharkhand so many of Jharkhand children are physically and mentally challenged? There is something wrong somewhere. There is some leakage into the water bodies. I would request the hon. Minister that in Jharsuguda mines there is some leakage. You please address this problem.

Similarly, Sir, there are plenty of thermal plants in a place in Madhya Pradesh known as Singrauli. Sir, there are plenty of thermal plants and particle dust is settling all over the fields of the poor farmers and because of this the fertility of the land is going on decreasing and they are not able to produce sufficient grains. Besides that, there is particle matter in the atmosphere and because of that people are having respiratory diseases, even TB and such diseases. These PSUs, NTPC and others who are having these plants are not installing sufficient machinery to contain pollution. This is must. It should be made mandatory so that they are able to produce electricity. No pollution, no particle should come out of the factory and that the hon. Minister should ensure so that people living in and around do not have problems. Otherwise, those people will sell their land and will go all over the country as landless labourers and, again, one more socio-economic problem will be created for us. Sir, coming to alternative sources of energy, I personally feel that our country, definitely, do not have that much money to spend on research and development on Solar Photovoltaic Cells. But the rich countries should produce the technology. They are talking about the global warming, climate change, etc. They are responsible for all that. We are not responsible. Sir, 70 per cent of our people do not even light a bulb. So, we don't produce that much of pollution. It is the rich countries that are producing much pollution in the world and climate change is affecting our environment. Now, we do not have even sufficient rainfall. Our farmers are looking up and are suffering. So, I would request the hon. Minister that he should urge the developed countries in various international fora to spend sufficient money on research and development on solar energy so that Photovoltaic Cells really become cheaper and poor man can also adopt and have this technology, produce electricity for himself and for the community. This is my request.

Sir, with your permission, I wish to raise one more small issue. It is about Tripura. Sir, a State like Tripura has got plenty of gas. It does not know what to do with that. Large power plants should be installed there so that we can produce electricity in Tripura and transmit the same to the mainland. When we are thinking of one country, wherever there are resources...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We have 25 minutes. There is one more speaker and the Minister. And, then, Mr. Darda has to speak.

MS. MABEL REBELLO: So, Sir, I do not take much time. The hon. Minister should take care of it. As I said, in Tripura, gas is flowing out. I appeal that let this natural resource be used. It is a national resource. This resource should be converted into power and it should be given to the people.

Similarly, other social sector problems that accompany in producing electricity have to be addressed. We need electricity. We need energy. I am fully for that. But, whenever industrialists produce it, whether it is a PSU or the private sector, they should use sufficient pollution control machinery so that it does not affect the people in and around the plant. Thank you.



**डा. प्रभा ठाकुर** (राजस्थान) : धन्यवाद, उपसभापति जी। आपने टाइम एलोकेशन करके पहले ही मुझे आगाह कर दिया...

**श्री उपसभापति** : नहीं, यह एलोकेटेड है। इसमें तो कोई कुछ नहीं कर सकता।

**डा. प्रभा ठाकुर** : सर, मैं जानती हूँ कि समय की सीमा है, इसलिए मैं ज्यादा समय नहीं लूंगी। मैं माननीय सदस्य श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा जी द्वारा प्रस्तुत इस संकल्प के समर्थन में कुछ बातें रखना चाहती हूँ।

महोदय, वैसे तो राजीव गांधी विद्युत परियोजना के तहत गांवों के विद्युतीकरण के लिए सरकार काफी काम कर रही है। अनेक गांवों का विद्युतीकरण हुआ है और हो भी रहा है। हमारे माननीय विद्युत मंत्री, श्री शिंदे साहब, स्वयं अनुभवी और योग्य हैं। वह बिजली की कमी की समस्याओं से अच्छी तरह से परिचित हैं। महोदय, मैं यही कहना चाहूंगी कि जब लोक सभा में परमाणु ऊर्जा के लिए एग्रीमेंट पर चर्चा हो रही थी, तब वहां के सदस्यों ने जो कुछ बातें कहीं, राहुल जी ने भी कहीं, वह एक बहुत संवेदनशील बात थी कि आज अगर हम गांवों के बारे में सोचें, तो वहां पर बच्चे बिना बिजली के कैसे पढ़ेंगे, यह एक बड़ी जबरदस्त समस्या है। इसके साथ ही आज जबकि 8-8 महीने भयंकर गरमी पड़ती है और ऐसे समय में गांवों में गरीबों के घर में रात-रात भर लाइट न आने से एक पंखा तक नहीं चल सकता। पंखे के बिना कोई सो नहीं सकता। आज पंखा एक जरूरी आवश्यकता है। कूलर भी आज के समय में कोई लगजरी नहीं रह गया है। इसलिए मैं माननीय विद्युत मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूंगी कि सौर ऊर्जा का जितना ज्यादा इसमें प्रयोग किया जा सके या फिर गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे जो लोग रह रहे हैं, गांवों में जो गरीब लोग रह रहे हैं, अगर उनको कुछ इस तरह का एक छोटा-सा इन्वर्टर कुछ सब्सिडाइज्ड रेट में दिया जा सके ताकि उससे कम-से-कम रात में उनके यहां बिजली के दो बल्ब जल सकें तथा दो पंखे चल सकें। इससे उन्हें राहत मिल सकेगी। आज तो किसान बरसात की कमी के कारण पानी की मार से वैसे ही परेशान हैं और कभी बरसात हो गई तो वह बिजली की कटौती से परेशान है। वह सिंचाई कैसे करेगा? इस तरह यह एक ज्वलंत समस्या है। महोदय, हमारा देश एक कृषि प्रधान देश है और हमारी सरकार किसानों के हित की बात करती है। इसीलिए बजट में भी, manifesto में और अपने एजेंडा में भी सरकार ने गांवों के विकास और किसानों के सशक्तीकरण को प्राथमिकता दी है।

महोदय, मैं माननीय विद्युत मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहूंगी कि दर्डा जी के संकल्प में एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय बिजली की चोरी है। महोदय, बिजली की चोरी मिली-भगत के बिना नहीं हो सकती। इसलिए जिन कर्मचारियों, अधिकारियों व जिन उपभोक्ताओं द्वारा यह चोरी की जाती है, इसे रोकने के लिए उनके अधिकारियों को जवाबदेह बनाना जरूरी है। जब तक उनकी जवाबदेही तय नहीं होगी, उनके ऊपर मार नहीं पड़ेगी तब तक चोरी चलती रहेगी वरना अगर इस के आधार पर उन का प्रमोशन रुक जाए या उनका तबादला हो जाए या उन पर किसी तरह की penalty लग जाए तो इस देश में बिजली की चोरी बंद हो जाएगी और बाकी जरूरतमंद लोगों व किसानों को बिजली मिलेगी।

महोदय, बिजली की कटौती के लिए भी समय निश्चित होना चाहिए। यह कटौती गर्मियों में अलग समय पर हो और सर्दियों में अलग समय पर हो। अब अगर गर्मियों में भरी दोपहर में बिजली काट दी जाए तो लोग कैसे जिएंगे। महोदय, कई क्षेत्र में ऐसी गर्मी पड़ती है कि लोगों को सांस लेना मुश्किल हो जाता है। इसलिए मानवीय संवेदना के नाते कुछ ऐसा समय निश्चित करें कि सुबह 5 बजे से लेकर 11 बजे तक कटौती कर दी जाए जोकि बर्दाश्त की जा

सके। इसी तरह रात को 6 बजे से लेकर 8 बजे तक कटौती कर दी जाए। मैं कहूंगी कि इस तरह का मानवीय दृष्टिकोण रखते हुए जनहित में बिजली की कटौती की जाए।

महोदय, जैसा कि अपने संकल्प में दर्ज जी ने सुझाव दिया है कि एन.टी.पी.सी., डी.वी.सी., राज्य क्षेत्र तथा निजी क्षेत्र द्वारा चलाई जा रही समस्त विद्युत परियोजनाओं को केन्द्र सरकार के अंतर्गत समकालिक बनाए तथा ग्रामीण, जनजातीय तथा पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों, में इसमें जोड़ना चाहूंगी, "तथा रेगिस्तान क्षेत्रों" सहित समस्त क्षेत्रों में विद्युत आपूर्ति सुनिश्चित करे। महोदय, आज जहां पन-चक्कियां लगायी जाती हैं, जैसा कि माननीय अहलुवालिया जी बता रहे थे कि एक भ्रांति फैला दी गई कि बिजली निकाल ली जाएगी तो पानी में शक्ति नहीं रहेगी और कृषि उपज में भी शक्ति नहीं रहेगी। इसी तरह पवन चक्कियों के बारे में भी भ्रांति फैलाई जाती है कि जहां पवन चक्कियां लगेंगी, वहां मानसून डिस्टर्ब हो जाएगा और पानी नहीं बरसेगा। इन भ्रांतियों को मिटाए जाने के लिए भी एक awareness लाए जाने की जरूरत है।

महोदय, अंत में मैं यही कहना चाहूंगी कि इस समस्या का समाधान प्राथमिक तौर पर किया जाए और आम आदमी को कम-से-कम बिजली व पंखे की सुविधा मिले, किसानों को सिंचाई की सुविधा मिले। महोदय, हमारे उद्योगों में लोगों को रोजगार मिलता है, नौजवानों को रोजगार मिलता है, इसलिए वे भी फलें-फूलें और विकसित हों। इस संबंध में अमेरिका के साथ जो परमाणु करार हुआ है, यह कब से लागू होगा, यह कब से कारगर हो सकेगा, यह भी बताने का कष्ट करें? इस करार का पूरे देश ने स्वागत किया है और सभी इस करार की ओर बड़ी आशा की नजर से देख रहे हैं, अतः इस बारे में जल्द से कोई योजना बनाकर कृपया देश को बताएं ताकि हमारा देश और प्रगति करे व लोग खुशहाल रह सकें। महोदय, बिजली ही विकास की कुंजी है। बिजली शक्ति और इसके बिना कोई भी देश सबल नहीं हो सकता। महोदय, डा. मनमोहन सिंह जी ने देश के सशक्तीकरण के लिए सरकार तक को दांव पर लगा दिया था और आज वह समय आ गया है कि इस विषय को प्राथमिकता पर लेते हुए प्रस्तुत संकल्प के अनुसार सरकार कार्यवाही करे। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

**विद्युत मंत्री (श्री सुशील कुमार शिन्दे) :** उपसभापति जी, मैं मेरे साथी श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा जी को बहुत धन्यवाद देता हूं। साथ ही जिन साथियों, चाहे वे हमारे पक्ष के या विरोधी दल के हों, उन सभी ने इस संकल्प के बारे में जो भाष्य दिया और बिजली विभाग में जो काम चल रहा है, उस सब के बारे में सूचना दी व मुझे और ज्यादा काम करने के लिए प्रोत्साहन दिया, इसलिए मैं उस सभी को बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद देता हूं।

महोदय, आज की चर्चा एक ऐसे स्तर पर पहुंची कि किस सरकार ने किस तरह का काम किया, इस बारे में टीका-टिप्पणी नहीं की गई। महोदय, यह देश के लिए एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय है और जो संकल्प हमारे दर्डा जी ने इस सदन में रखा है, मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से आप सभी को यह बताना चाहूंगा, नहीं तो मुझे भी यह मौका नहीं मिल पाता। मैं उनको बहुत धन्यवाद देता हूं। उन्होंने केवल एक नहीं बल्कि ए, बी, सी, डी, ई, एफ.... हालांकि ज़ेड तक लेकर नहीं गये, केवल तीन-चार ही बाकी रहे हैं, लेकिन उन्होंने सभी बातें, जैसे बिजली के क्षेत्र में क्या करना चाहिए, सरकार क्या कर रही है, उसके बारे में पूछा और सूचनाएं भी दीं। मैं उन सदस्यों को भी धन्यवाद दूंगा कि उन्होंने मेरी वैयक्तिक प्रशंसा की। उन्होंने यह बोल कर भी मुझे सर्टिफिकेट दिया कि मैं अच्छा काम कर रहा

हूँ। आज के पत्र में भी कुछ चीजें आ गई थीं, जिनका उल्लेख श्री ज्ञान प्रकाश जी ने किया। इसके साथ ही उन्होंने यह बोला कि मेरे साथ यह अन्याय है, इसके लिए भी मैं उनको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। ऐसे बहुत कम मौके मिलते हैं जब विरोधी दल का कोई सदस्य सत्ता में रहने वाले आदमी को या मंत्री को इस प्रकार का प्रशस्ति-पत्र देता है। इसके लिए मैं उनका बहुत आभारी हूँ।

उपसभापति जी, यह बात सही है कि इस देश में बिजली की कमी है। पहले तो यह समझना चाहिए कि यह सब्जेक्ट क्या है? यह सब्जेक्ट Concurrent List में है। हमारे देश के जो राज्य हैं, उन राज्यों को बिजली-निर्माण का काम करना चाहिए। यह काम भारत सरकार का नहीं है। अर्जुन सेनगुप्ता जी कह रहे थे, मैं उनको बहुत धन्यवाद दूंगा। यह परिस्थिति हमारे देश में आज क्यों आ गई है? राज्यों ने बिजली नहीं बनाई है, इसकी वजह से यह सब नुकसान हो गया है।

उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपको यह बताना चाहूंगा कि मैं तो 2006 तक आंध्र प्रदेश का गवर्नर था। उस समय दुर्दैव से बिजली मंत्रालय में हमारे साथी सईद साहब बीमार थे, इसलिए इस डिपार्टमेंट में कुछ काम होता भी था या नहीं होता था, उस वक्त का मुझे मालूम नहीं है। लेकिन, मुझे वहां से इस्तीफा देकर बुलाया गया और 2 फरवरी, 2006 को मैंने इसका कार्यभार संभाला। आज तीन साल हो गए हैं। यानी दसवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के मध्य में मैं यहां आ गया। उन ढाई सालों में मैंने उसको देखा तो पाया कि हमने यह प्रोजेक्ट किया था कि हम दसवें प्लान में 41,110 मेगावाट बिजली उत्पादन क्षमता स्थापित करेंगे। लेकिन, मैंने यह देखा कि फरवरी, 2006 में केवल 20,000 पर काम हो रहे थे, लेकिन वहां तो डेढ़ साल आगे जाना था और केवल 20000 मेगावाट के काम हो रहे थे। जब हमने रिव्यू लिया तो 25000 मेगावाट के आर्डर्स फिर गये। यदि हम 41000 मेगावाट का टारगेट बनाते हैं और जब हमारे आर्डर्स ही 20000 के जाते हैं, तो लक्षित बिजली-उत्पादन कैसे हो सकेगा? इसलिए हम बैठे, हमने introspection किया। हमारे डिपार्टमेंट में हम सब लोगों ने introspection किया। गलती कहां है, हमने यह देखा।

महोदय, हमने देश को दसवीं योजना में 41000 मेगावाट बिजली देने का आश्वासन दिया था, उसमें कमी आ रही है, यह हमारे देश के लिए अच्छा नहीं है। विशेषतः प्रधान मंत्री जी ने मुझे जब वहां का गवर्नरशिप छोड़ कर यहां बुलाया, तो इस संबंध में मैं ज़रा ज्यादा ही एक्टिव था। हमने यह सोचा कि क्या-क्या गलतियां हैं। हमने यह देखा कि टारगेट देने में और आर्डर्स करने में gap है। हमने इसे correct किया। सर, दूसरी जो सबसे बड़ी बात थी, वह यह थी कि जो प्रोजेक्ट आते हैं, तो उसे देखने के लिए, उसके inspection के लिए मॉनिटरिंग के लिए हमारे सिस्टम में सुधार लाना है। तीसरी जो सबसे महत्वपूर्ण बात थी, वह यह थी कि बिजली-निर्माण का हमारा टारगेट बहुत बढ़ रहा है। हमारी जो फैक्टरियां हैं, जिनके बारे में बहुत सारे सदस्यों ने बताया, उस वक्त हमारे देश में इन फैक्टरियों की बिजली के मुख्य संयंत्र बनाने की कैपेसिटी 6000 मेगावाट प्रति वर्ष की थी। जबकि हम औसतन 8000 मेगावाट बिजली क्षमता प्रतिवर्ष बनाने जा रहे थे और यहां यंत्र-सामग्री 6000 मेगावाट की है। इसलिए इन तीन चीजों पर हमने बहुत गौर से विचार किया और पहली बार 11वें प्लान में हमने 78,700 मेगावाट क्षमता का टारगेट दे दिया। तो सबसे पहली बात हमने यह करी कि जब टारगेट दे दिया तो शुरुआत में ही उसके आर्डर हमने किए। आज 80,000 मेगावाट बिजली क्षमता का काम एक्ज्युअल चल रहा है, ऑर्डर प्लेस हो गए हैं। यह काम पहले कभी नहीं हुआ। मैं आपके मालूमात के लिए इतना ही बताऊंगा कि 10वीं, 9वीं, और 8वीं, इन तीन पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में, 15 साल में, हमारे देश में केवल 56,000 मेगावाट बिजली क्षमता का निर्माण हुआ था। मैं किसी को दोष नहीं देना चाहता, इतना ही बताना चाहता हूँ कि यह सब देखते हुए कि देश में बिजली बहुत जरूरी है और हमारे साथियों ने कहा कि हमारा

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per capita consumption 600 यूनिट है, UPA सरकारने, हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी ने और हम सबने इस देश को आश्वस्त किया है कि हम 2012 तक 1000 यूनिट per capita consumption तक लेकर जाएंगे। जब 1000 यूनिट per capita consumption तक हम लेकर जाएंगे तो फिर बिजली का निर्माण उतना होना चाहिए और मुझे खुशी इस बात की है कि आज इस समय भी हमारे कई प्रान्तों में इससे ज्यादा consumption हो रहा है। इसलिए हमने 78,700 मेगावाट का प्लान बनाया और यह बात सही है कि इसमें कुछ slippage आने वाली है, यह मुझे भी पता है क्योंकि इसमें इतनी difficulties आती हैं जैसे कहीं जमीन नहीं मिलती है, कहीं पानी की प्रब्लम होती है, कहीं गैस नहीं मिलती है, कहीं कोयला नहीं मिलता है, तो इससे capacity में कमी आने वाली है, लेकिन अगर टारगेट हम पहले ही कम कर देंगे, तो देश को बिजली कैसे देंगे और आज मैं इस confidence में हूँ कि 80,000 मेगावाट बिजली के निर्माण पर कार्य चल रहा है। तो जिस तरह से आज हम monitoring कर रहे हैं और मैं हर महीने बैठक लेता हूँ, अभी-अभी देश के सभी Power Ministers के साथ मैंने बैठक की है और सबसे चर्चा करके मैं अभी इस विचार पर आ गया हूँ कि कम से कम इस देश में हमारी, जो 78,700 मेगावाट क्षमता का लक्ष्य रखा है, तो कम से कम 60 से 65 हजार तक ...**(व्यवधान)**... और आपने यह देखा कि उसमें captive है, captive यदि 12,000 मेगावाट का लक्ष्य और non conventional का 14,000 मेगावाट का लक्ष्य जोड़ लें तो हमारा जो टारगेट है, वह बढ़ सकता है, काफी बढ़ सकता है और जो देश को हमने आश्वस्त किया है, उसे हम पूर्ण कर सकते हैं। इसलिए मैं केवल इस capacity addition पर इतना ही बोलूंगा कि एक वक्त ऐसा था कि 15 साल में हम 56,000 मेगावाट बना रहे थे और आज हम 78,700 का ध्येय बना रहे हैं और आज इस घड़ी में 15,075 मेगावाट बिजली हम 11वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में निर्माण कर रहे हैं।

उपसभापति जी, मैं आपको बताऊंगा कि 10वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में हमने खाली 21,000 मेगावाट जोड़े थे। अभी हम 15,075 मेगावाट पर हैं और स्पीड पर हमारा काम आ गया है। इसलिए मालूम होना चाहिए कि बिजली मंत्रालय इस रफ्तार से आगे चल रहा है और मुझे पूरा विश्वास है तथा उसी विश्वास से मैं सदन को यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि हम और भी आगे जाएंगे।

गरीबों को बिजली देने के लिए इस UPA की सरकार ने प्रोग्राम बनाया है और भारत निर्माण का प्रत्येक महत्वपूर्ण प्रोग्राम जो हमने बनाया है, उसमें राजीव गांधी ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण का कार्यक्रम है। अभी हम सभी लोग कहते थे कि देहात में बिजली नहीं है, देश की स्वतंत्रता के इतने बरस बाद भी देहात में बिजली नहीं है। हमारे यहां 1,18,000 देहात में बिजली नहीं थी और उससे भी ज्यादा हैं क्योंकि अभी हमने थोड़ा सा प्रावधान बदल दिया है कि 100 पापुलेशन वाली जो झुग्गी-झोंपड़ियां या hamlets हैं, उनको भी हमने बिजली देने का प्रयास किया है।

ये जो 1,18,000 देहात हैं, उनमें से आज तक हमने राजीव गांधी ग्रामीण विद्युतीकरण योजना के अंतर्गत 61,990 देहातों का विद्युतीकरण कर दिया है और 86,353 का intensified electrification हो गया है, और 62 लाख BPL households electrified हो गए हैं। इसी तरह हमने 2 करोड़, 34 लाख BPL households को बिजली का कनेक्शन योजना में देना है। मैं इस सदन में इतना ही बताना चाहूंगा कि हमारे इस कार्यक्रम के लिए भारत सरकार ने अभी 7,000 करोड़ रुपए इस साल दिए हैं और 28,000 करोड़ Phase-I के लिए दे दिए हैं, अभी phase-II का काम बाकी है और इसका काम हम जल्दी से जल्दी करने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं। कई साथियों ने कहा कि यह काम जल्दी से जल्दी होना चाहिए। इस काम में थोड़ा सा समय और लग जाएगा, हमें यह काम 2009 में पूरा करना था,

जब 2010 के अंत तक या ज्यादा से ज्यादा 2011 के आरंभ तक यह काम हो जाएगा, क्योंकि DPR आने के बाद ये सैंक्शन देते हैं और उसके बाद काम शुरू होता है, तो 18 महीने उसमें लगते हैं। कई लोगों के मन में यह डर था कि इन लोगों को बिजली नहीं मिलेगी, हमने हर स्टेट से यह अंडरटेकिंग ले लिया है कि 6 से 8 घंटे तक इन लोगों को बिजली देनी पड़ेगी, तभी हम यह योजना वहां दे रहे हैं। 90 परसेंट यहां सब्सिडी है और इतनी बड़ी स्कीम हम पूरे देश में चला रहे हैं और मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि 2011 के अंत तक हमारा यह काम पूरा हो जायेगा और देश के सभी लोगों को बिजली मिल जाएगी।

उपसभापति जी, हमारे कई साथियों ने कहा और विशेषकर दर्दा जी ने कहा कि रशिया में 1917 में जब सरकार आई, तभी बिजली पर उन्होंने जोर दिया, क्योंकि बिजली इतनी महत्वपूर्ण है। श्री सेनगुप्त जी जैसे अर्थशास्त्री ने भी जिस तरह का विचार रखा और उसको appreciate भी किया, उसका मैं समर्थन करता हूं। यह बिजली, देश का उत्पादन बढ़ा देती है, देश का ग्रोथ रेट बढ़ा देती है और देखा जाए तो जब हमारा देश स्वतंत्र हुआ, तब 1,362 मेगावाट बिजली पैदा होती थी और आज हमारी installed कैपेसिटी 1 लाख, 50 हजार मेगावाट की है और हम इसे और बढ़ाना चाहते हैं, इस काम को हम और जोर से करना चाहते हैं, हम चीन की बात करते हैं, चीन की जो सरकार है, वहां किसी प्रकार का objection नहीं आता है, अड़गा नहीं आता है। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं कि मैं कई बार चीन गया हूं, मैं 1992 में पहली बार चीन गया था, तब मुझे बीजिंग से The Great Wall तक जाना था, उस समय उसमें ढाई घंटे लगे। बाद में मैं वर्ष 2000 में वहां गया, उस समय मेरे साथ जो लोग थे, मेरे एम.पी. मित्र थे, उन्होंने कहा कि हम The Great Wall देखने चलते हैं, मैंने कहा कि वहां जाने में ढाई घंटे लगते हैं, ढाई घंटे में जाना, ढाई घंटे में आना, आधे घंटे में देखना, अभी हमारी पास उतना वक्त नहीं है, इसलिए हम वहां नहीं जाएंगे। तो उनका जो सेक्रेटरी था, वह कह रहा था कि नहीं, वहां जाने में आधा घंटा लगता है। मुझे आश्चर्य हो रहा था कि कैसे, तब वह आदमी आया और उसने कहा कि अब चेंज हो गया है। हम गए और आधे घंटे में वहां पहुंच गए। मैंने उनसे पूछा कि यह कैसे हो गया, पहले तो यहां आने में ढाई घंटे लगते थे? उन्होंने कहा कि एक दिन सरकार ने तय किया कि हम एक विशिष्ट दिन में एनाएंस करने वाले हैं, यहां जो भी रहने वाले हैं, वे अपना घर देखें, नहीं तो जिस दिन हम आर्डर करेंगे, उस दिन से हमने जो कैंप बनाए हुए हैं, उनको वहां रहना पड़ेगा। और वह दिन आने के बाद बुल्डोजर लगाया और सब साफा किया। इसमें कोई litigation नहीं हुआ, कोई आंदोलन नहीं हुआ। वहां कम्युनिस्ट की सरकार है। कॉम्युनिस्ट सरकार की नीति एक अलग तरह की है, लेकिन यहां पर डेमोक्रेसी है। आपने आज बहुत अच्छी बात की है। आपने आज environment की बात की है। आप हिमालय की बात कर रहे थे। मैं आपको क्या बताऊं, मैं बताना नहीं चाहता था, लेकिन मेरे साथी ने बहुत अच्छी तरह से श्री बागड़ी जी का उदाहरण देकर बताया है। अभी-अभी की बात है, गंगोत्री पर छह सौ मेगावाट का एक प्रोजेक्ट हो रहा है, वहां पर लोग आंदोलन पर बैठे, आई.आई.टी. के लोग बैठे। इस घटना से मुझे बहुत आश्चर्य हुआ, लेकिन मुझे उन लोगों को सुनना पड़ा। उस प्रोजेक्ट को बीच में स्टे देना पड़ा। मैं आपको क्या कहूँ, अहलुवालिया जी। मुझे बहुत प्रसन्नता है कि आप वह भूले नहीं हैं। यह जो misunderstanding है, गंगोत्री माँ की शुद्धता देने की जो एक भूमिका है, इस तरह से कभी-कभी श्रद्धा स्थान इस तरह से जुड़ाए जाते हैं, तो इससे हम लोगों को भी बहुत दिक्कत हो जाती है। इसलिए हमें पानी का flow देने के लिए उस प्रोजेक्ट से बिजली उत्पादन कम करना पड़ रहा है, क्योंकि हम श्रद्धा के साथ खेलना नहीं चाहते हैं। अपने बहुत अच्छी बात की है, क्योंकि वहां पर बैठकर श्री बागड़ी जी के बारे में बोलना बहुत दिक्कत की

बात होती है। यहां से बागड़ी जी के बारे में अहलुवालिया बोल सकते हैं ...(व्यवधान)...। इसके लिए मैं उनका बहुत अभिनंदन करता हूं। हम एक तरफ technology के लिए भाग रहे हैं, 21वीं सदी की नई भूमिका हम देख रहे हैं और दूसरी तरफ जब हम 18वीं सदी की बात करेंगे, तो यह कैसे होगा? आज हमें उसी रफ्तार से चलना होगा, इसलिए मैं उनको धन्यवाद दे रहा हूं।

उपसभापति महोदय, मैं "बिजली बचाओ" के बारे में बार-बार कहता हूं कि बटन आदि बंद करके जाओ। उन्होंने टी.वी. पर मुझे बोलते हुए सुना होगा। यह बहुत अच्छा है कि एक अहलुवालिया जैसा हमारा साथी सुनता है, तो इसका मतलब है कि देश के बहुत लोग सुन रहे हैं और मुझे इस बात की खुशी है। हमने यह जो योजना बनाई है कि "power saved is power generated" यह avoided capacity है। आज हमारे bureau of energy की जो standard and labelling है, आपने रेफ्रिजरेटर की बात की, एयर कंडीशनर की बात की, अभी हमने 5 स्टार, 4 स्टार, 3 स्टार लेबल लगाया है, जिससे कम electricity consumption होती है। इसके अलावा building code आ गया है। जो बिल्डिंग बनाते हैं, उसका भी एक कोड आ गया है और उससे बिजली की बचत होती है। Energy conservation building code आ गया है। हम किसानों के लिए Agricultural DSM pump energy के माध्यम से बदल कर दे रहे हैं। इस तरह से जो हमारे Bureau of Energy Efficiency है, उसके माध्यम से जो बिजली बचत का काम चल रहा है, वर्ष 2007-08 में 3 हजार मिलियन यूनिट से ज्यादा की बिजली की बचत हो गई है। मैं Bureau of Energy Efficiency के इन लोगों का अभिनंदन करता हूं। इस तरह का जो काम वे कर रहे हैं, वे बहुत silently काम कर रहे हैं। इस देश के 6-6 लाख, 10-10 लाख बच्चे बिजली बचत के लिए competition में ड्राइंग करने आते हैं। हम समझते हैं कि इस काम के लिए वे Ambassador काम कर रहे हैं। वे अपने साथ अपने parents वगैरह को भी लेकर आते हैं। "लाइट बन्द करो", "बटन बन्द करो", इसका बहुत उपयोग हो रहा है। यह काम इस तरह से भी हो रहा है।

उपसभापति महोदय, मैं APDRP के बारे में बोलूंगा। ये जो पुराने संच है, ये भी हमें बहुत नुकसान देते हैं। बिजली की capacity addition में काम नहीं देते हैं। ये जितनी भी पुरानी हैं, इनको बदलने के लिए हमने ARDRP स्कीम की है। पहले तो यह स्कीम थी, अभी हमने दूसरी स्कीम बनाई है। इस स्कीम में Restructured ARDRP स्कीम से हम काफी पैसा दे रहे हैं, जिससे देश को अच्छी पावर में मिलेगी। जो पुरानी स्कीम थी, उससे और नया टेक्नालॉजी का डाटा कलेक्ट करके उससे जुड़वाने का काम वे कर रहे हैं, ताकि हमें सब तरह का पता चल जाए कि किस तरह का क्या काम हो रहा है? अभी पीक डिमांड वगैरह में मैं ज्यादा वक्त नहीं लूंगा कि कैपेसिटी एडिशन राज्यों ने नहीं किया है इतनी बार बोलने के बाद भी, इसलिए मैं समझता हूं कि यह जो इस प्रकार की चर्चा हो रही है, तो अब हमारे सभी साथी अपने-अपने प्रांतों में जाकर इसके बारे में मालूम कर लेंगे।

सर, जो रीस्ट्रक्चरिंग ऑफ इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड के बारे में भी चर्चा हो रही है, जो आपने कहा, मैडम ने भी कहा कि इलेक्ट्रिसिटी की जो चोरी होती है, उसमें बोर्ड के ऑफिसर्स भी इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स से हाथ मिलाते हैं। यह बात सही है कि इसकी एक accountability होनी चाहिए, इसके लिए जो 2003 का इलेक्ट्रिसिटी एक्ट है, उसमें हमने जो कानून बनाया है कि इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बोर्ड separate होना चाहिए, रीऑर्गेनाइज्ड होना चाहिए, ताकि ट्रांसमिशन अलग, जेनरेशन अलग और बाकी भी अलग करके accountability आएगी और पता चलेगा कि कहां नुकसान है। मैं

बताना चाहूंगा कि कितना फायदा रीऑर्गेनाइजेशन से हुआ है। ....

**श्री उपसभापति :** मंत्री जी, प्राइवेट मैम्बर्स का समय तो समाप्त हो गया है।

**श्री सुशील कुमार शिन्दे :** मैं पांच-छः मिनट में खत्म करता हूं।

सर, रीऑर्गेनाइजेशन के बारे में मैं बताना चाहूंगा कि रीऑर्गेनाइजेशन से जो प्रॉफिट मेकिंग हुआ है, तो आंध्र प्रदेश को 341 करोड़ का फायदा हो गया है, गुजरात को 102 करोड़ का फायदा हो गया, कर्नाटक को 301 करोड़ का फायदा हो गया, महाराष्ट्र को 675 करोड़ का हो गया, उड़ीसा को 755 करोड़ का फायदा, वेस्ट बंगाल को 372 करोड़ का फायदा हो गया है। कई बार हमारे साथी कहते हैं कि unbundling करो, मैं कहता हूं कि यह रीऑर्गेनाइजेशन है और रीऑर्गेनाइजेशन करने से इस तरह का फायदा है। उससे काफी इलेक्ट्रिसिटी बच जाती है और जो theft भी है, उसमें भी कंट्रोल रहता है और निगरानी रहती है। आज यह सब देखा जाएगा, तो इन सब जगहों में जो हमारी लो टेंशन (415 वोल्ट) वायर लगी हुई है, उसमें चोरी ज्यादा होती है। अब हम ऐसे प्रयास कर रहे हैं जिससे 415 वोल्ट सिस्टम में चोरी करने का ज्यादा उनको कोई चांस ही नहीं होता है। यह सब सुविधा हम कर रहे हैं। जो ग्रिड है, enter signal ट्रांसमिशन ग्रिड हम कर रहे हैं और नेशनल ग्रिड की बात की है। Last year यह 17,000 मेगावाट था, आज 20,800 मेगावाट हो गया है और उसमें टोटल 37,000 मेगावाट का नेशनल ग्रिड से ट्रांसमिशन system कर रहे हैं by the end of 11th year plan, का लक्ष्य है।

उपसभापति महोदय, दिल्ली के बारे में अभी कहा गया था, तो मैं इतना ही कहूंगा कि दिल्ली की आज की highest demand है, लगभग 4400 मेगावाट और अहलुवालिया जी, आप दिल्ली में रहते हो, लेकिन मैं आपको बताऊंगा कि अक्टूबर 2010 तक इस दिल्ली में, क्योंकि कॉमनवेल्थ गेम्स हैं, इसलिए हम बड़े प्रोजेक्ट्स में से बिजली देने जा रहे हैं। मैं बताना चाहूंगा कि यह एन.टी.पी.सी. दादरी में, इंदिरा गांधी सुपर थर्मल पावर प्लांट झज्जर से, मेजा से है, वेस्ट बंगाल में दुर्गापुर से है और कोडरमा से है और चन्द्रपुर से है। यह सब देखा जाए तो 5000 से 6000 मेगावाट तक बिजली आने वाले अक्टूबर 2010 तक कॉमनवेल्थ गेम्स से पहले मिलेगी और मुझे लगता है कि इतनी बिजली होगी कि दिल्ली उसको consume नहीं कर पाएगी, क्योंकि हमारे यहां open access है, तो दिल्ली अपनी बिजली बाहर बेच सकेगी और दिल्ली को इसका काफी फायदा हो जाएगा। यह बात सही है कि अभी फिलहाल हमारे पास दिक्कत है, क्योंकि कभी-कभी ऐसा वक्त आता है कि जहां इतना करने के बाद, कितना लोड डिस्पैच सेंटर पर काम करने के बाद भी यह काम नहीं हो पाता है, लेकिन महोदय, बिजली में सुधार हो रहा है, मैं इतना ही कहूंगा। प्राइवेट इनवेस्टमेंट की बात हमारे माननीय साथी श्री अर्जुन कुमार सेनगुप्त जी ने कही थी। यह बहुत अच्छी बात है। मैं बताना चाहूंगा कि अभी तक जो नहीं हो रहा था, the private sector capacity, at present, is 24,000 MW, that is, sixty per cent of the total capacity. While in the Tenth Plan, there was a capacity addition of only 1,930 MW in the private sector, in the Eleventh Plan, projects of over 21,000 MW are already under execution, against which 3,740 MW has already been commissioned. देखा जाए जो प्राइवेट सेक्टर में जिस तरह की capacity आ रही है, और investors आ रहे हैं, ऐसा कभी नहीं हुआ। इससे हमारे देश की ग्रोथ रेट बढ़ेगी या स्लो हो जाएगी। बहुत अच्छा सवाल है। यहां पर पेपर

की रिपोर्ट के बारे में कहा गया। इससे ग्रोथ रेट बढ़ेगी। जिस तरह की चर्चा आपने की, इससे मुझे बहुत खुशी हुई। महोदय, मैं आपका ज्यादा वक्त नहीं लूंगा। मैं इतना ही कहूंगा कि हमारे साथी विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा जी एक दृष्टिमान जवान हैं। वे "वर्तमान" पत्र चलाते हैं, journalist हैं, journalist यानी वह इंसान जो बहुत दूर तक देख सकता है, लिखान देख सकता है। इस तरह से उन्होंने जो काम किया, हमारे विद्वान मित्र कह रहे थे, मैं उन्हें भी अभिनंदन देता हूँ कि इतनी अच्छी तरह से उनको ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री उपसभापति :** पिलानिया जी ने कहा कि उनको doctorate भी देना है।

**श्री सुशील कुमार शिन्दे :** डॉक्टरेट देना है, पटना यूनिवर्सिटी उनकी है, वह देंगे। महोदय, इस देश में यह सवाल बहुत अच्छा सवाल था जो हमारे दर्डा जी आज हमारे सदन में लेकर आए। इसकी वजह से इस सदन में इस विषय पर बताने का मुझे मौका मिला, वरना मुझ पर टीका-टिप्पणी होती थी। इससे तीन साल में जो छोटा सा काम मैंने किया है, उसके बारे में मैं देश को नहीं बता पाता। आप सब लोगों ने जो सहयोग दिया, दर्डा जी ने जो सहयोग दिया, उसके लिए मैं उन्हें धन्यवाद देता हूँ और उनसे अनुरोध करता हूँ कि उनका जो resolution है, उस पर मैंने जो बात रखी, उससे कुछ समाधान हुआ होगा। सर, न्यूक्लीयर के बारे में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारी यूपीए सरकार, विशेषतया प्रधान मंत्री डा. मनमोहन सिंह जी ने जिस तरह का प्रयास किया है, उसे देश भूल नहीं सकता है। जो गरीब हमें सत्ता में लेकर आए, उनसे हमारा कमिटमेंट है लेकिन यह अरेंजमेंट करने के लिए, agreement करने के लिए कुछ समय लगता है, उसके लिए मशीनरी लेने में भी समय लगता है। अहलुवालिया जी, मैं आपको assure करता हूँ - आप तो एक आध बार उधर लोक सभा में भी आएंगे। मैं कभी इधर रहता हूँ, कभी लोक सभा में जाता हूँ। अगली बार जब वे लोक सभा में आएंगे तो उनको पता चलेगा कि डा. मनमोहन सिंह जी इस देश को कितनी ऊँचाई पर लेकर गए हैं। बड़े गर्व के साथ यही अहलुवालिया जी तब उनका समर्थन करेंगे, यही कहकर मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

**श्री उपसभापति :** दर्डा जी, समय नहीं है।

**श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा :** सर, मैं केवल एक मिनट लूंगा। मैं अपने प्रस्ताव के जरिए देश के अत्यंत गंभीर और महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर ऊर्जावान ऊर्जा मंत्री जी का और सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता था। ऊर्जा हमारे देश में हर प्रकार के विकास की आवश्यकता है। अगर उपायुक्त मात्रा में विद्युत उत्पादन और वितरण नहीं होगा तो उससे हमारी economic growth प्रभावित होगी। इस बात को हमारे माननीय सदस्य पिलालिया साहब ने भी बहुत अच्छे ढंग से व्यक्त किया। तीन विषयों पर in fact मेरा प्रस्ताव था। हमारे सीनियर मिनिस्टर शिन्दे साहब यहां पर हैं, मैं उनका आभारी हूँ। अगर फारूख अब्दुल्ला जी और श्री पृथ्वीराज चव्हाण साहब भी यहां होते तो अच्छा होता। स्वयं ऊर्जा निर्माण के क्षेत्र से जुड़े होने के कारण मेरे जो भाव थे, वे मैंने आपके सामने रखे। विशेष रूप से मैं उन सब माननीय सदस्यों को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ....। जिसमें ज्ञान प्रकाश पिलानिया जी थे, गंगा चरण थे। इसके अलावा राजनीति प्रसाद, डा. नाचवीयप्पन भी थे। अहलुवालिया जी ने मुझे विद्वान कहा, जिसके लिए मैं उनका आभारी हूँ। इसमें अर्जुन सेनगुप्त जी ने भी भाग लिया, सुश्री रिबेलो जी ने अपनी फायरिंग वाली आवाज में सबको हिलाने का प्रयास किया। इसमें डा. प्रतिभा ठाकुर ने भी भाग लिया था। माननीय मंत्री जी, मैं एक बात आपके ध्यान में लाना चाहूंगा कि इसमें इंसेंटिव पर भी आप विचार करिए। अगर कोई समय पर काम करते हैं तो उनको इंसेंटिव देने की भी योजना होनी चाहिए, जिससे लोग समय पर काम कर सकें। आज सवाल यह भी है कि जब हम टारगेट लगातार ...(व्यवधान)...



**श्री सुशील कुमार शिन्दे** : महोदय, मैं इनके सजेशन को स्वीकार करता हूँ, क्योंकि यह बहुत अच्छी सजेशन है।

**श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा** : चूंकि आपने मेरे इस प्रस्ताव पर विचार करने का आश्वासन दिया है, इसलिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देते हुए अपना प्रस्ताव वापिस लेता हूँ और सदन को फिर एक बार धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आपने मुझे मौका दिया।

*The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Special Mentions.

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#### SPECIAL MENTIONS

##### **Demand for inclusivity of *Aam Admi* and percolation of envisaged benefits to target groups in Government allocations**

SHRI V1JAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA (Maharashtra): Sir, from an outlay of Rs.36,000 crore in 2003-04, Government's spending on social sector and anti-poverty programmes had increased to Rs. 1,20,000 crore in 2008-09. Outcomes have not been commensurate with outlays. Therefore, the present Government has decided to make inclusive growth through overreaching objectives in the Eleventh Five Year Plan. No doubt, UN Human Development Index makes a disturbing reading as we are just two places where we were 15 years ago. This objective can only be achieved through effective participation of ground level organisations. The present bureaucratic delivery machine forecloses convergence and consumes in administrative expenses. Our beloved Prime Minister, late Shri Rajiv Gandhi, had once remarked in late 1980s that only 15 paise out of a rupee actually reaches the intended beneficiaries. This well-structured and realistic conceptualisation has now been further eroded.

This existing system needs to be replaced by participatory democratic development process. With the experience gained by implementing National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, the elected Panchayats, responsible to their rural-based electorates through Gram Sabhas, can be entrusted with this job as pilot project in selected areas. This project may be monitored by an independent authority once in two months as a mandatory requirement. If found feasible within a year or so, the system can be replicated extensively. Vision of new Congress-led UPA Government can thus be redeemed by launching a relentless campaign to make economic reforms central to the long-term agenda for achieving the envisaged inclusive growth.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government for taking steps for inclusivity of *aam admi* and percolation of envisaged benefits to target groups in Government allocations.

##### **Demand to take effective measures to check the increasing number of crimes in Delhi**

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE (Maharashtra): Sir, Delhi is the Capital of India. But it has become a capital of crimes. Not a single day passes without a crime or two. It is a city of horrors. If you have a casual glance over the headlines in the newspapers, they indicate crimes. Delhi has lost

its safety. Only the day before yesterday a Nepali young woman was gangraped. The same day, a senior citizen named Yashpal Soli, a chartered accountant, was murdered. Such crimes have, however, made Delhi a horrendous place. They create ripples of shock and horror in our minds. The streets and public places at odd hours are not safe, especially for young girls and women. Vicinities of the airport, railway station and bus stations are not safe in the nights. The Nepali woman was gangraped by an auto rickshaw driver and two other persons. She had hired the auto rickshaw from the Delhi airport. The image of Delhi is tarnished. Who is responsible for this? The responsibility lies mainly with the police. It lies with the citizens like you and me also. In the recent years, Delhi has developed a culture of crimes which is most ugly in its face and soul. Robbery, rape, gang rape, sexual assault or abuse, murder, kidnapping, etc., have become common crimes which have disturbed our life. Delhi is not safe for women.

The Government should take ruthless steps to deter the criminals from committing such crimes which are a blot on humanity.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet at 11.00 a.m. on Monday, the 13th July 2009.

The House then adjourned at twenty-three minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, 13th July, 2009.