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Monday  
20 July, 2009  
29 Asadha, 1931 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

# RAJYA SABHA

## OFFICIAL REPORT CONTENTS

Oral Answers to Questions (pages 1-22)

Written Answers to Starred Questions (pages 22-37)

Written Answers to Unstarred Questions (pages 37-193)

Papers laid on the Table (pages 193-99)

Matters raised with permission —

Alleged irregularities in functioning of AICTE (pages 199-200)

Firing at army recruitment centre in Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh. (pages 200-01)

Reported shifting of Patna BHEL office to Durgapur in West Bengal. (page 202)

Regional imbalance in the distribution of natural gas. (pages 202-03)

Flood situation in Kerala. (pages 203-04)

Reported scam in rice import (pages 204-07)

Special Mentions —

Demand to resolve the plight of Indians working in Spain (page 207)

Demand to give the fertilizer subsidy to farmers directly (pages 207-08)

Demand to expedite completion of National Highway No. 16 by the Border Road Organisation connecting Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh (page 208 )

Demand to take steps to make river Ram Ganga free of pollution (pages 208-09)

[P.T.O.]

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Demand for early completion of Railway Projects in tribal areas of Orissa, particularly in Mayurbhanj district (page 209)

Request to encourage the development of the Life Sciences Laboratories of DRDO (pages 209-10)

Demand for Central assistance to save the State of Nagaland from drought like conditions (pages 210-11)

Demand to provide additional stipend to the trainee doctors in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu (page 211)

Demand for strict regulations to control the confusing publications brought out by private publishers for children (pages 211-12)

Demand to amend section 304-A of the Indian Penal Code in view of various tragedies caused due to negligence (page 212)

Concern over widespread poverty and malnutrition in the country (pages 212-13)

Demand to give Dalit Muslims the status of Scheduled Castes (pages 213-15)

Demand to stop exploitation of rare medicinal herbs in the Himalayas (page 215)

Government Bill —

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2008 — *Passed* (pages 215-99)

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## RAJYA SABHA

*Monday the 20th July, 2009/ 29/Asadha, 1931 (Saka)*

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

**श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी :** सर, अभी उत्तर प्रदेश में ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति :** आप प्रश्न काल चलने दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव :** सर, मेरा भी एक नोटिस था ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री नन्द किशोर यादव :** सर, हम लोगों ने नोटिस दिया था कि प्रश्न काल स्थगित करके सबसे पहले उस पर चर्चा कराइए।

**श्री सभापति :** देखिए, यह सब प्रश्न काल के बाद होगा।

### Progress of IPI Gas pipeline project

\*221. SHRI D. RAJA: ††

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that satisfactory progress has not been made in discussions with Iran and Pakistan on the 7 billion dollar Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) gas pipeline project;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that Iran and Pakistan have already signed an agreement on this project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) and (b) India is pursuing the import of natural gas from Iran through Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) Gas Pipeline Project. Various important issues, viz., pricing of gas, delivery point of gas, project structure, payment of transportation tariff and transit fees for passage of natural gas through Pakistan, etc., are under discussion amongst the participating countries.

Such multilateral projects involve protracted discussions, as all the aspects have to be carefully examined and deliberated upon to the satisfaction of the participating countries to protect each country's interests and to avoid any problems in the future in the successful operation of the Project.

(c) and (d) According to official statements and media accounts, the Inter-Governmental Framework Declaration (IGFD) to support the Gas Pipeline Project between Iran and Pakistan has

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††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri D. Raja

been signed by Iran and Pakistan. Further, Gas Sale and Purchase Agreement (GSPA) between Iran and Pakistan has been concluded. Specifics of either IGFD or GSPA have not been made public.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, natural gas and oil are very important for the economic development in the contemporary history. Iran happens to be the second country which has the largest deposits of natural gas. The Government of India has admitted that the Iran-Pakistan-India Gas Pipelines Project is quite feasible and economically viable. If so, when Iran and Pakistan are entering into agreements and continuing their dialogue, why India is not participating in any such dialogue? I am asking this question precisely for one reason.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question, please. Question only.

SHRI D. RAJA: Yes, Sir. It is the United States of America which has been trying to keep Iran out of any Central Asian or South Asian joint gas pipeline project and openly opposing this Iran-Pakistan-India Gas Pipelines Project. The previous regime.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Rajaji, please, no statement; just one question.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, my question is very simple and straight. Why India has not been taking any pro-active role in realising this Iran-Pakistan-India Gas Pipeline Project? It is because of the US Pressure?

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Sir, first, I assure the hon. Member that the energy needs of our country are paramount and a decision will be taken in the best national interest of our country. There is no question of any external pressure as far as energy security is concerned.

The hon. Member talked about participation. I assure him that there were almost nine meetings at all levels, from the Energy Ministers of three countries to the Heads of States of the three countries. They had several meetings. And all of them decided that the project should go ahead. They are very sure that this project is good for India; it is good for Iran; and it is good for Pakistan. There are some problems which are coming up, and that is why it is delayed. But we are sure that we will be able to overcome all of them.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, my second supplementary is related to our domestic affairs. On the basis of the recommendation of the Twelfth Finance Commission, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken up the issue of profit from gas with the Central Government. It says that the profit from gas be shared between the Centre and the State. Whether the gas.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one question, Mr. Raja.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, this is related to domestic affairs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But is it related to the main question?

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, it is a comprehensive issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But the supplementary must arise out of the answer given.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I agree with you. We are trying to get natural gas from Iran. My point is: What are we doing to augment our own natural gas which is available? And, how do you engage the public

sector companies — the GAIL and the ONGC? This is my second supplementary.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Sir, I am sorry, it is a different question and it is not related to the main question.

DR. C.P. THAKUR: Sir, a survey was done and it was found that there was a large amount of gas in sub-Himalayan belt in Bihar. Had the Government done anything to explore that?

SHRI JITIN PRASADA: Sir, the question does not arise out of the question that has been answered. ...*(Interruptions)*... But, we will have a look at the matter. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to request the hon. Members to put questions focussed on the main question and the reply given.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, let me focus because whatever the hon. Minister has said about the paramount need of gas, there is no doubt about it. I would like to know from the hon. Minister: What is the time schedule? This is going on for years and years and years. Is there any time frame by which we can expect the supply of gas from Iran through this pipeline? How fast can we get it? That is what is more important.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: There is no doubt that this project has delayed considerably. But, there are various lacunae or problems which have come up. Some of them are that we have not been able to decide about the price formula, what will be the price, transportation tariff, guaranteed gas supply, transit fees, delivery point where it will be delivered, etc. Now, the major block is the delivery point. While India wanted it on India-Pakistan border, Pakistanis and Iranis wanted it on the other side of the border, that is, Pakistan-Iran border. This was a very important point. The project structure is also important. Still, a dialogue is going on among the three countries and we have not been able to decide about it. So, I assure the Member that we are trying our best. You are right that this project is very vital for the natural gas needs of the country.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, what is the time-frame? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MURLI DEORA: That's what I replied. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, the Minister has failed to specifically reply as to what is the time-frame. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JITIN PRASADA: Sir, the time-frame can only be committed when these bottlenecks are taken care of. If we are not sure where the gas will be given, whether it will be given on the Iran-Pakistan border or the India-Pakistan border, we cannot commit the time-frame. We can't commit until these problems are sorted out with regard to transportation tariff through Pakistan, what will be the rate, how much will it cost, what are the security concerns, etc. As far as Iran goes, we are still not sure. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... I think, the Minister has answered. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JITIN PRASADA: There are talks. Unless these issues are clarified, no time frame can be given. These are issues of vital importance. How can you set a time- frame when these issues have not been sorted out?

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव :** श्रीमन्, लोगों के मन में दो सवाल हैं, एक तो सिक्योरिटी का सवाल है और दूसरा सवाल अमेरिकन प्रेशर का है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस संबंध यूएस से क्या आपकी कोई वार्ता हुई है? आप कृपया इसका स्पैसिफिक जवाब देने की कृपा करें।

**श्री मुरली देवरा :** अमरीका के एनर्जी सेक्रेटरी श्री ब्रॉडमैन लास्ट ईयर जब भारत वर्ष आए, तब उन्होंने भी हमसे यह बात पूछी, लेकिन हमने उनसे क्लीयर-कट कहा और उनको यह मालूम भी था कि यह हमारा आपस का मामला है एवं ईरान, पाकिस्तान और भारत, तीनों ही इस बात पर सहमत हैं। इस बारे में अमरीका की तरफ से कोई भी एक्सपेक्शन नहीं है, लेकिन आपको मालूम है कि अमरीका में एक क्रायदा चल रहा है, जिसका नाम है, "ईरान-लिबिया सैंक्शन ऐक्ट"। इस ऐक्ट के अनुसार अगर कोई कंट्री या कोई कंपनी ईरान में 20 मिलियन डॉलर से ज्यादा इन्वेस्टमेंट करती है तो उस पर अमरीकन गवर्नमेंट की सैंक्शन्स लग सकती हैं। लेकिन हमारे यहां उसके लागू होने का कोई सवाल ही नहीं है। मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि इसमें किसी भी अमरीकन कंपनी का किसी तरह का कोई हाथ नहीं रहेगा।

\* 222. [The questioner (Ms. Sushila Tiriya) was absent. For answer *vide* page 22 *infra*]

#### Inclusion in ST List

\*223. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Mowar/Mauwar was enlisted in Scheduled Tribes (ST) list till 1950;
- (b) if so, the reasons for exclusion of this community from the ST list;
- (c) whether Government has received any representation from this community for consideration of their tribe to be included again in the ST list; and
- (d) if so, the present status of the case?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) No, Madam. The first list of Scheduled Tribes was notified on 06/09/1950 through the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950, wherein "Mowar/Mauwar" does not appear as a Scheduled Tribe in any of the listed States.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs received a proposal dated 22/08/2003 from the State Government of Chhattisgarh for inclusion of "Mowar" in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Chhattisgarh. The proposal has been processed as per modalities approved by the Government on 15/06/1999, which provides that the proposal of the State Government must be agreed to by the Registrar General of India and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes. The Office of the Registrar General of India has not supported this proposal *vide* its letter dated 27/03/2006. The Ministry of

Tribal Affairs communicated this to the State Government of Chhattisgarh on 31st May, 2006 followed by a reminder on 14th December, 2007 but no further justification in support of its proposal has been received from the State Government.

**श्रीमती वृन्दा कारत :** सर, मंत्री जी ने मेरे सवाल का जवाब दिया है कि 1950 में ही वह पहली सूची constitutionally निकाली गई थी और उसमें 'मोवार या मउवार' जाति का कोई नामोनिशान नहीं है। सर, मेरा सवाल यह था कि 1950 तक आदिवासियों की किसी सूची में क्या मोवार जाति का कोई नाम था? इस पर आपने कहा कि नहीं था, लेकिन हकीकत यह है कि उसका नाम था। नागपुर के 31 मार्च, 1949 मध्य प्रांत और बरार गवर्नमेंट ऑर्डर नम्बर 3662/777/12 में मवार का नाम सीरियल नम्बर 75 पर दर्ज है। इस तरह आदिवासियों की सूची में 1950 से पहले जो सरकारी ऑर्डर थे, उसमें मोवार जाति का नाम है। मैं यह जानना चाह रही हूँ कि मध्य प्रदेश और छत्तीसगढ़ में लगातार — पहले मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार ने सिफारिश की और उसके बाद छत्तीसगढ़ की सरकार ने भी सिफारिश की, तो इस तरह इस जाति के साथ यह बहुत बड़ा अन्याय है। ये आदिवासी हैं। इनका पूरा रहन-सहन ऐतिहासिक रूप से आदिवासियों के साथ है, ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question?

**श्रीमती वृन्दा कारत :** तो आज यह जो अन्याय है, कम-से-कम इसको हटाने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार कोई उचित कदम उठाएगी या नहीं?

**श्री कांतिलाल भूरिया :** माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय सदस्या की भावना को समझते हुए इनको यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि स्वतंत्र भारत में संविधान लागू होने से पहले देश में अंग्रेजों के समय में जन जातियों की कोई अनुसूचित सूची नहीं थी। जब देश आजाद हुआ, उसके बाद संविधान के अनुच्छेद 366 (25) में अनुसूचित जनजाति को परिभाषित किया गया तथा संविधान के अनुच्छेद 342 में जनजातियों को अनुसूचित करने की व्यवस्था उसमें रखी गई। मैं माननीय सदस्या को यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि अनुसूचित जनजाति की प्रथम सूची 06.09.1950 को संविधान के आदेश 1950 के माध्यम से अधिसूचित की गई, जिसमें मोवार जाति किसी भी राज्य में जनजातियों की सूची में सूचीबद्ध नहीं थी। इसके साथ ही उसमें जो बातें आई हैं, वे भी मैं इनको बता देता हूँ। दिनांक 06.09.1950 को संविधान (अनुसूचित जनजातियाँ) आदेश, 1950 के माध्यम से पहली सूची जो जारी हुई है, उसमें मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि आंध्र प्रदेश, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, असम, बिहार, गुजरात, गोवा, हिमाचल प्रदेश, कर्नाटक, केरल, मध्य प्रदेश — मध्य प्रदेश और छत्तीसगढ़ उस समय एक ही राज्य था— महाराष्ट्र, मणिपुर, मेघालय, मिजोरम, उड़ीसा, राजस्थान, तमिलनाडु, त्रिपुरा तथा पश्चिमी बंगाल की पहली सूची जारी हुई थी, उसमें यह नहीं है। यह मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ।

**श्रीमती वृन्दा कारत :** सर, मैं फिर यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि इनकी सूची गलत है। भूमि के सम्बन्ध में सरकार के जो डॉक्यूमेंट्स हैं, उनकी कॉपी मेरे पास यहाँ है। उसमें जनजातियों-आदिवासियों के नाम में 75 नम्बर पर मोवार जाति का नाम है। मैं आपको यह डॉक्यूमेंट दे देती हूँ। उसको आप देख लीजिए। अगर यह सच है, तो उसके बारे में आप कदम उठाइए। मैं यह उम्मीद करती हूँ कि आप उसमें कुछ जरूर करेंगे।

सर, मेरा दूसरा सप्लीमेंटरी यह है कि जनजातियों की स्वीकृति का जो सवाल है, उसमें अभी पूरे देश में ऐसी कितनी मिसालें हैं कि arbitrarily किसी स्टेट में वे ST के रूप में स्वीकृत हैं। जैसे मध्य प्रदेश में कोल जाति ST है,

جبکہ اتر پردیش میں کول جاتی SC ہے۔ میں کب سے اس بات کی مانگ کر رہی ہوں کہ انکو وہاں ST بنانا چاہیے۔ سر، اس میں جیتنے tea tribes ہیں، وہ باقی प्रदेशوں، جیسے بیہار اور झारखंड, میں ST ہیں، لیکن اس میں ابھی بھی انکی ڈائبلز کی ہئسیات سے کوئی سبکدوشی نہیں ہے۔ اس طرح کی بہت ساری میسائلے ہیں، میں یہاں انکی پوری سبکدوشی رکھ بھی سکتی ہوں، لیکن سبب کا اہم ہے۔ میرا یہ پوائنٹ ہے کہ کیا Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry اس کے بارے میں کسی کمیٹی کا گٹن کر کے اس سبکدوشی میں جیتنی بھی اس طرح کی anomalies ہیں، اسکو دیکھنے کا کام کریں گی؟ اس کے ساتھ ہی کیا اسکو ایک time bound framework میں کریں گے، تاکہ یہ جو \* ہے - یہ لفظ استعمال کرنا شاید غلط ہوگا... لیکن یقینی طور سے اگر آپ اسے एस.टी. کی نظر سے دیکھیں گے تو یہ \* ہے، وہ اپنے اہلکار سے دیئے ہیں۔ اس لیے کیا اس بارے میں ایک کمیٹی کا گٹن کر کے ان ساری دیکھتوں کی جانچ کروائیں گے؟

**श्री कान्हिलाल भूरिया :** माननीय सभापति महोदय, जैसा कि मैंने पूर्व में बताया है कि अनुसूचित जनजाति शब्द भारत के संविधान में पहली बार आया तो उस बात को लेकर हम यह कह सकते हैं कि उनकी प्रक्रिया अलग-अलग है। जो भी आवेदन राज्य सरकार को दिए जाते हैं, उन्हें राज्य सरकार भारत के महा-पंजीयक महोदय को देती है, उसके बाद वह अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग के थू हमारे मंत्रालय में आता है। फिर हम उसे कैबिनेट में रखते हैं और उसके बाद वह सदन में आता है। तो यह एक प्रोसेस है जिसके तहत ये सारी चीजें होती हैं। अनुसूचित जनजाति के लिए राज्य से प्रस्ताव प्राप्त होते हैं और प्रत्येक राज्य के प्रस्ताव पर अलग से यह प्रक्रिया चालू की जाती है। तो उसका भी एक प्रोसीजर चल रहा है, पर इस लंबी प्रक्रिया की वजह से हम तत्काल ऐसी कोई बात न कहें, जिस से कोई और बात आए, पर हमारी पूरी कोशिश है कि जो भी प्रस्ताव आए हुए हैं, उन्हें हम जल्दी से निपटाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। सभापति महोदय, इस में यह लंबी प्रक्रिया है जिस में प्रस्ताव राज्यपाल महोदय से लेकर राज्य सरकार से होकर प्रस्ताव आएगा तब जाकर यह clear होता है।

**श्रीमती वृन्दा कारत :** आप अपनी मिनिसट्री में कमेटी का गठन कीजिए जिस में लोग आकर मिलेंगे और आपको जानकारी होगी और आप कुछ कर पाएंगे।

**श्री कान्हिलाल भूरिया :** जो भी सुझाव आएगा, निश्चित रूप से हम उसे देखेंगे।

**डा. ऐजाज़ अली :** सर, सवाल पेश करने से पहले मैं माननीय मिनिसटर साहब से एक बात कह देना चाहता हूँ। मेरी बात में ही मेरा सवाल छुपा हुआ है। सर, हम जरा धीरे बोलेंगे। सर, scheduled caste reservation में religious binding लगा हुआ है जिसके चलते दलित मुसलमान, दलित ईसाइयों को रिजर्वेशन नहीं मिलता है, लेकिन scheduled tribe में किसी तरह का religious binding नहीं है।

ڈاکٹر اعجاز علی : سر، سوال پیش کرنے سے پہلے میں مائنسٹر صاحب سے ایک بات کہہ دینا چاہتا ہوں۔ میری بات میں بی میرا سوال چھپا ہوا ہے۔ سر، ہم ذرا دھیرے بولیں گے۔ سر، شیڈول کاسٹ ریزرویشن میں religious binding لگا ہوا ہے جس کے چلتے دلت مسلمان، دلت عیسائیوں کو ریزرویشن نہیں ملا ہے، لیکن شیڈول ٹرائب میں کسی طرح کا religious binding نہیں ہے۔

\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

شری سभापति : आप सवाल पूछिए।

डा. ऐजाज़ अली : पूरे देश में पठारी इलाकों के जो मुसलमान मूल निवासी हैं, जिनको आवाई मुसलमान कहते हैं, वे सब scheduled tribe origin के हैं, लेकिन सिर्फ लक्षद्वीप और जम्मू काश्मीर को छोड़कर बाकी हिंदुस्तान के जितने भी पठारी इलाके हैं, आप झारखंड देख लीजिए या मुर्शिदाबाद देख लीजिए, यहां के जो मूल निवासी मुसलमान हैं, उन्हें schedule tribe में नहीं रखा गया है। झारखंड की आबादी का 80 प्रतिशत मुसलमान, मूल निवासी मुसलमान tribal origin का है। वह किसी-न-किसी मुंडा, हो, पहाड़िया, रमजनिया ... (व्यवधान)...

ڈاکٹر اعجاز علی : پورے دیش میں پٹھاری علاقوں کے جو مسلمان نواسی ہیں، جن کو آبائی مسلمان کہتے ہیں، وہ سب schedule tribe origin کے ہیں، لیکن صرف لکھنؤ اور جموں کشمیر کو چھوڑ کر باقی ہندوستان کے جتنے بھی پٹھاری علاقے ہیں، آپ جہارکھنڈ دیکھ لیجئے یا مرشدآباد دیکھ لیجئے، یہاں کے جو مول نواسی مسلمان ہیں، انہیں شیڈول ٹرائب میں نہیں رکھا گیا ہے۔ جہارکھنڈ کی آبادی کا 80 فیصد مسلمان، مول نواسی مسلمان tribal origin کا ہے۔ وہ کسی نہ کسی منڈا، بو، پہاڑیا، نندیا ... (مداخلت)...

श्री सभापति : सवाल पूछिए।

डा. ऐजाज़ अली : सर, तो हम यह जानना चाहेंगे कि सिवाय लक्षद्वीप के मुल्क के किसी भी हिस्से से इस category के मुसलमानों को किसी भी हाउस में, चाहे स्टेट हाउस हो या पार्लियामेंट हो, कहीं भी representation नहीं है। तो हम आपके माध्यम से Ministry से जानना चाहेंगे कि क्या आप ने कभी इस point पर भी सोचा है कि देश के मुख्तलिफ इलाकों में जो लोग हैं, उनको tribal का दर्जा मिलना चाहिए और अगर आप ने सोचा है तो इस पर क्या कदम उठाया है?

ڈاکٹر اعجاز علی : سر، تو ہم یہ جاننا چاہیں گے کہ سوائے لکھنؤ کے ملک کے کسی بھی حصے سے اس کٹیگری کے مسلمانوں کو کسی بھی ہاؤس میں، چاہے اسٹیٹ ہاؤس ہو یا پارلیمنٹ ہو، کہیں بھی representation نہیں ہے۔ تو ہم آپ کے مادھیم سے منسٹری سے جاننا چاہیں گے کہ کیا آپ نے کبھی اس پوائنٹ پر بھی سوچا ہے کہ دیش کے مختلف علاقوں میں جو لوگ ہیں، ان کو ٹرائبل کا درجہ ملنا چاہیے اور اگر آپ نے سوچا ہے تو اس پر کیا قدم اٹھایا ہے؟

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

**श्री कांतिलाल भूरिया :** माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैंने पूर्व में भी निवेदन किया है। माननीय सदस्य ने जो प्रश्न पूछा है, वह मोवार, मउवार जाति के लिए पूछा गया है। आप अगर अलग से प्रश्न पूछेंगे तो हम उसका जवाब देंगे।

**श्री सिलवियस कौंडपन :** सभापति महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने second supplementary question का जो उत्तर दिया है, मैं उसी सिलसिले में पूछना चाहता हूँ कि बहुत सारी जातियाँ अपनी-अपनी original states से हिंदुस्तान के ही विभिन्न प्रदेशों में चली गईं, उनको ब्रिटिश शासन के समय में लिया गया। अब वहाँ जाकर backward class हो गए और अपने original state में schedule tribe रह गए। तो अभी जो constitutionally discrimination हो रहा है, इस पर पिछले 60 सालों में भी चिंता नहीं की गई। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से प्रार्थना करूँगा कि क्या सरकार इस बारे में चिंता करेगी?

**श्री कांतिलाल भूरिया :** माननीय सभापति महोदय, जैसा मैंने निवेदन किया था कि यह प्रश्न मोवार जाति और मऊवार जाति के लिए ही पूछा गया है और माननीय सदस्य ने अलग-अलग स्टेट्स की जो बात कही है, वह अलग से प्रश्न पूछें, हम उसका जवाब दे देंगे...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Smt. Kapila Vatsyayan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, the question is very much related to the original question. The Minister has not answered that... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: In narrow technicalities, the hon. Minister is right. Please go ahead.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will you broaden the technicalities?

DR. (SHRIMATI) KAPILA VATSYAYAN: Sir, I would like to endorse the second supplementary just asked by Shrimati Brinda Karat. I think there is a need for relooking. The Minister said, this is a question of State Governments. Sir, anyone knows from the history of this country that the Tribes go across national or State boundaries. Also, in this country, this will not be a static category at all. And may I suggest that a Committee be formed in order to relook at the entire question of the SCs/STs?

Thank you.

**श्री कांतिलाल भूरिया :** माननीय सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो प्रश्न किया है, उस मामले में यह जरूरी नहीं कि कोई एक राज्य दूसरे राज्य में भी एक ही मान्यता ...(व्यवधान)... जांच-पड़ताल करने के बाद ही ये सारी चीजें सामने आती हैं, इसलिए हम अलग से इस बात को ...(व्यवधान)... आप जो भी बात अलग से पूछेंगे, हम बताएंगे।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्रीमती वृंदा कारत :** सर, आप एक कमेटी के गठन का ऐलान तो कर दीजिए, इसमें क्या प्रॉब्लम है?

**श्री के. बी. शणप्पा :** सर, यह एस.सी. का मामला ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति :** आप बैठ जाइए।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री के. बी. शणप्पा :** बाकी के जो लोग हैं, वे लिस्ट में ऐड किये गए हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति :** प्लीज, आप बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज ...(व्यवधान)... जी ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठ जाइए।  
...(व्यवधान)... Let us get on with the Question Hour.

### Environmental sanction for mining projects

\*224.SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:††

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how many mining and other projects have not been sanctioned by the Ministry during the last three years; and

(b) the details of such projects and the reasons for not giving the permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### *Statement*

(a) During the last three years, it was decided that environmental clearance should not be granted due to substantive reasons to a total of 23 projects, including 15 projects in mining sector.

(b) The sector-wise break-up of the projects referred to in reply to part (a) above is as follows:

S.No.	Sector	2006-07 (July-June)	2007-08 (July-June)	2008-09 (July-June)	Total
1.	Mining	07	06	02	15
2.	River Valley	-	-	01	01
3.	Construction Sector	01	03	03	07
TOTAL :		08	09	06	23

Some of the reasons for not granting environmental clearance include:

- Location of the projects in the proximity to the National Parks/Wildlife Sanctuaries and eco-sensitive areas;
- Relocation and Rehabilitation of large number of families; and
- Inadequate information and poor quality of Environmental Impact Assessment Reports.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, the present Government has very big plans for developing new projects and development of the country in respect of mining, in respect of hydro projects, in respect of construction sector, but all these projects are being delayed heavily because of the environment clearance. Sometimes, the environment clearance takes years and years. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what plan does he have to sort out this problem. Sir, the multi-purpose hydro projects are also pending for a very long time. Does he have the time-bound programme to sort out this problem? The time-bound programme may be there, but the normal excuse is, information is

††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Santosh Bagrodia.

not given. Even in the reply, they have mentioned, 'inadequate information'. Now, at one go, if the Ministry ask all the questions as to what the problems are, it can be replied. But they are asking questions one after the other. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister one thing. He is a very efficient Minister. Whatever has happened in the past, I am not questioning that. Can he give an assurance that no project will be delayed because of delayed environment clearance in future?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, there is a common misperception that environment is a cause for delay of projects. I would like to categorically state here that this perception is wrong. Under the Environment Protection Act of 1986, a total time of 210 days is given to complete all formalities for environmental clearance. Under the Forest Conservation Act of 1980, a total of 150 days is given for total clearance. This question relates to environmental sanction, therefore, I will restrict myself to the environmental sanction alone. Over 90 per cent. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Are they concurrent?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: No, they are not concurrent, and this again is a common misperception which I want to dispel. Under the Environment Protection Act, the project authorities come for the clearance to the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Under the Forest Conservation Act, all proposals come to the Ministry of Environment and Forests from State Governments because the forests are owned by the State Governments. So, all applications, under the Forest Conservation Act, come from State Governments, whereas all applications, under the Environment Protection Act, come from project authorities, in the private sector, public sector, Central Government and State Governments. Over ninety per cent of the approvals are given within 210 days. However, I admit that there could well be, and there are, some cases that go beyond 210 days because these are extremely difficult cases. There are cases which are related to projects which may be close to a wildlife sanctuary, or, which are located in environmentally fragile zones. There are cases that could be related to complicated projects which require environmental safeguards. So, taking all these factors in mind, we are conscious of the fact that we must stick to the 210 days limit, as sanctioned by law. I want to inform the hon. Member that just last week, beginning the 30th of June, all pending projects are now up on the web site for public scrutiny. Anybody can go to the web site of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and find out why projects are being delayed, where these projects are, why they are still under consideration and what next steps will be taken to clear these projects. All this is in the public domain. I would also want to say that when I came to this Ministry on the 29th of May, there were 700 cases awaiting clearance. By the end of June, those 700 had come down to almost 250. So, there was a substantial acceleration. But there have also been new cases that have come forward. Today there are over 500 cases awaiting clearance. I want to assure the hon. Member that we are conscious of the time limits. But we will not adhere to the time limits at the cost of environmental safeguards, or, of the Environment Protection Act. We will stick to the law. But

we will ensure that we try to abide by the time limit of 210 days. Here, I must admit that there are some cases to which we, simply, will not be able to give the clearance within the stipulated time.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, I appreciate whatever the hon. Minister has said. I myself have said that he is an efficient Minister and he has done a good job. I congratulate him for that. But this time limit of 210 days, which the hon. Minister has mentioned, is an old story. Now, with this modern system, where information is readily available, should he not reduce it to 120 days or 150 days? That is where more efficiency is required. Otherwise, development process in the country cannot continue...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Put your supplementary, please.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Yes, Sir. I appreciate that it is now put on the web site and we will be able to find out all the information. I would like to know about multi-purpose hydro projects, as to how many are pending with the Ministry. We know that if these hydro projects do not come up, the problem of power shortage will only increase. I would also like to know whether he has got the Afforestation Fund under his Ministry. If that is so, what is the fund and what is its utilisation?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the hon. Member has put three supplementaries.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You answer only one.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: As regards 210 days, it is broken up as follows. There is the time period of sixty days stipulated for the Terms of Reference for the Environment Impact Assessment; forty five days is for public hearing; sixty days is for environment appraisal by the Environment Appraisal Committee, and there is the time period of 45 days for communicating the final decision. I am afraid I cannot give a commitment to compress this 210 days' schedule. Public hearing is, absolutely, essential; environmental appraisal is, absolutely, essential. Therefore, all that I can assure the hon. Member is that as for the 60 days' period for environmental appraisal in my Ministry, if it is possible to reduce it to 45 days, I will, certainly, examine this suggestion. Two hundred and ten days, to me, is sacrosanct. I may be able to reduce it from 210 days to 195 days. I will, certainly, examine the hon. Member's suggestion and ensure that whatever time period is taken in the Ministry of Environment and Forests is reduced. But let us not reduce the period for Environmental Impact Assessment, and, let us not reduce the period for public hearing. In fact, Sir, I would argue that we need to increase the period of public hearing because many times — I won't mind saying so — this public hearing is a match fixing. There is no meaningful public hearing that takes place. We need meaningful public hearing. We need meaningful Environmental Impact Assessment, and, I want to assure the hon. Member that the environment is not a drab on development. We must ensure that these projects go through environmental sanction.

**श्री जय प्रकाश नारायण सिंह :** सभापति जी, मंत्री जी ने 210 दिन की बात कही कि वे 210 दिनों में इन प्रोजेक्ट्स का निस्तार कर देते हैं, लेकिन झारखंड में बुरई सिंचाई योजना पिछले 15 सालों से लंबित है और अभी तक वन विभाग से इसका clearance नहीं मिला है। यह dam बनना है, लेकिन अभी तक इसका clearance नहीं मिला है। हमें 210 दिनों में clearance की बात पर doubt होता है, इसलिए मैं खड़ा होकर इस बात को आपके सामने रख रहा हूँ।

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the hon. Member has confused forest clearance and environmental clearance. Environmental clearance is within 210 days. Forest clearance is within 150 days, after we get clearance from the State Government. There are projects in Jharkhand where clearance has not been given even after three, four or five years. The hon. Coal Minister is sitting here. Sir, a large number of coal projects are stuck with the State Government. I am not blaming the State Governments. These are difficult situations. When you are going to divert thousands of acres of forest land, these are not decisions that we can take in a matter of days. We must spend a lot of time before coming to final decisions. I accept the fact that there are many projects on forestry which are taking time. Frankly, Sir, my sympathies are entirely with those who are asking for a slow approach on forestry clearance because if we start giving clearance in a businesslike, fast track manner, on forest grounds, forests are simply going to disappear.

**श्री कलराज मिश्र :** सभापति जी, मंत्री महोदय हिंदी सवाल का जवाब हिंदी में दे सकते हैं...(व्यवधान)...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Why can't they speak in English? ...*(Interruptions)*... This is domination. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, this has caused so many problems in the past. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री जयराम रमेश :** यह \* ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: You cannot force anybody. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री कलराज मिश्र :** जब मंत्री जी हिंदी में जवाब दे सकते हैं, तो उन्हें हिंदी में जवाब देना चाहिए, मेरा यह कहना है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति :** कलराज जी, प्लीज ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, it is a question of integrity of the country. ...*(Interruptions)*... It has become the order of the day. It has caused problems in the past. ...*(Interruptions)*... They want to kindle. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री सभापति :** प्लीज, आप लोग बैठ जाइए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Sir, it is domination. Why can't he answer in English? It is allowed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is allowed. सदन में दोनों जुबानें इस्तेमाल की जा सकती हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : हिंदी को \* ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : अब आप दूसरे subject पर मत जाइए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री वीर पाल सिंह यादव : सभापति जी, हिंदी \* ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : कृपया आप लोग बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : मंत्री जी ने हिंदी को \* ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : आप बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान) एक मिनट प्लीज़, आप लोग जरा मेरी बात सुनिए ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: You cannot compel. You cannot impose. ...*(Interruptions)*... This attitude has caused so many problems ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री वीर पाल सिंह यादव : हिंदी \* ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : आप बैठ जाइए, मेरी बात सुनिए ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: They should stop this domination. ...*(Interruptions)*... हम कहेंगे आप तमिल में बोलो, आप मलयालम में बोलो, आप तेलुगु में बोलो ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : जयन्ती जी, प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान) अरे भाई, आप लोग क्यों बौखलाहट पैदा कर रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान) प्लीज़ बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Don't challenge the integrity of the country. How can you compel? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नन्द किशोर यादव : सर, \* शब्द को रिकॉर्ड से निकालना चाहिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : आप लोग बैठ जाइए, मैं आपको रूल बता रहा हूँ ...(व्यवधान) आप बैठ जाइए! ...(व्यवधान) मैं कह रहा हूँ, आप बैठ जाइए! ...(व्यवधान) देखिए, सदन में दोनों ज़बानों का इस्तेमाल करने की इजाज़त है, नंबर एक और नंबर दो, यह सवाल जो है, यह अंग्रेजी में पूछा गया है, इसलिए मंत्री जी को पूरा हक है कि वे उसी भाषा में उसका जवाब दें! ...(व्यवधान) आपके पास interpretation facility मौजूद है! ...(व्यवधान) देखिए, जो बात settled है, उसको आप क्यों दोबारा ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, I have one small submission. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री वीर पाल सिंह यादव : सर, उन्होंने कहा कि हिंदी \*

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : सर, सप्लीमेंटरी क्वेश्चन हिंदी में था! ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : हिंदी \*, यह संसदीय भाषा नहीं है। हिंदी \* ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : किसने कहा? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : सर, मैं सॉल्यूशन बता सकता हूँ।

श्री सभापति : बताइए, क्या बता रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान) राम गोपाल जी, बैठ जाइए! ...(व्यवधान) Dr. Malaisamy, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, I have one small submission. ...*(Interruptions)*... सवाल किसी ...(व्यवधान) मलयालमी जी ...(व्यवधान)...

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\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you, please, resume your places? ...*(Interruptions)*... I think this is a totally unnecessary diversion. Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया** : सर, सवाल जो है, अगर मंत्री महोदय हिंदी में ही ...*(व्यवधान)*... एक मिनट .... ज़रा ठहरिए, मैं पूछ रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. I have requested you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया** : सर, मंत्री महोदय अगर अंग्रेजी नहीं जानते होते, तो interpretation service है और हमें पता है कि इसमें हिंदी-इंग्लिश दोनों में interpretation होता है। हमें यह भी मालूम है कि अगर तमिल में सवाल पूछा जाए, तो उसका भी जवाब मिलता है। माननीय सदस्य का एक हिंदीभाषी होने के नाते राष्ट्रभाषा के प्रति अधिकार था, इसलिए उन्होंने सवाल पूछा। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मंत्री जी अगर हिंदी नहीं जानते होते, तो वे अंग्रेजी में जवाब दे सकते थे, पर वे हिंदी जानते हैं और उन्होंने ऐसा नहीं किया, यह गलत है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति** : देखिए... देखिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... फसाद मत पैदा कीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया** : यह गलत है और ऊपर से हिंदी को \* कहा, यह और गलत है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह और गलत है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SHIVA: You cannot force. ...*(Interruptions)*... You cannot force. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री सभापति** : प्लीज़ ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप लोग बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... देखिए, जहां झगड़ा नहीं है, वहां झगड़ा मत पैदा कीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद** : हम लोग सभी भाषाओं का सम्मान करते हैं। तमिल का भी सम्मान करते हैं, लेकिन हिंदी को \* कहना, यह ठीक नहीं है। इसको आप expunge कीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... हिंदी को \* कहना, यह ठीक नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति** : देखिए... just one minute. अगर गलत शब्द इस्तेमाल किया गया है तो, वह expunge हो जाएगा, बात खत्म हो गई। ...*(व्यवधान)*... देखिए, अगर गलत शब्द इस्तेमाल हुआ है, तो वह expunge हो जाएगा, मैं रेकॉर्ड देखकर उस पर फैसला करूंगा। डा. कर्ण सिंह, बोलिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठ जाइए प्लीज़।

**डा. कर्ण सिंह** : सभापति जी, इस विषय में मेरा एक छोटा सा विनम्र निवेदन है कि हरेक भाषा मां सरस्वती की वाहिनी हुआ करती है और किसी भी भाषा का अपमान करना उचित नहीं है, चाहे वह अंग्रेजी हो, चाहे हिंदी हो।

Sir, may I ask the dynamic young Minister one question? I am very glad that he is taking such a lot of interest in environment and forests. Is he aware of the fact that in the Aravalli Hills, around Delhi itself, there is massive illegal mining going on? Everyday huge trucks are carrying illegal mining products everywhere हमारी आंखों के सामने? We can see that. I agree, he is doing very well, but please try and get this loot around Delhi under control. Will you do that?

**श्री जयराम रमेश** : सर, मैं अरावली के बारे में यह कहना चाहता हूँ ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया** : यही काम पहले कर देते तो ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

**श्री जयराम रमेश :** सर, पहले तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मैंने कभी हिंदी का अपमान नहीं किया है। मैंने हिंदी को \* नहीं कहा है। मैंने गलती से कह दिया \*, उसे मैं वापस लेता हूँ। मैंने गलती से कहा \*, मैं उसे वापस लेता हूँ और क्षमा चाहता हूँ।...(व्यवधान)... मैंने हिंदी का कभी अपमान नहीं किया है, हिंदी को \* नहीं कहा है।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया :** सर, यह तो और सीरियस है, उस सदन के सदस्य का नाम ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति :** उन्होंने वापस ले लिया है, बात खत्म हो गई है।...(व्यवधान)... बात खत्म हो गई।...(व्यवधान).... अहलुवालिया जी, बैठ जाइए, बात खत्म हो गई।

**श्री जयराम रमेश :** सर, अरावली के मामले में यह बात सही है कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट का एक आदेश है कि जो कुछ माइनिंग राजस्थान और हरियाणा में हो रही है, यह गैर-कानूनी है, पर इसमें एक छोटी सी जानकारी में माननीय सदस्य को देना चाहता हूँ कि minor minerals की जिम्मेदारी जो है, वह राज्य सरकार की होती है। और जो माइनिंग अरावली के पहाड़ों में हो रही है, वह ज्यादातर माइनर मिनिरल्स की हो रही है। हमने बार-बार राज्य सरकार को कहा है, उनको अवगत भी कराया है कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट का एक आदेश है, इसका उल्लंघन हो रहा है। दो हफ्ते पहले सारे टीवी चैनल्स पर दिखाया जा रहा था कि यहां पर अभी भी माइनिंग हो रही है। यह बात मेरी जानकारी में आई है। I cannt use my hands very freely. क्योंकि जैसा कि मैंने कहा कि मेजर मिनिरल्स हमारी जिम्मेदारी है, माइनर मिनिरल्स राज्य सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है। मैं माननीय सदस्य को आश्चर्य करना चाहता हूँ कि मैं खुद हरियाणा और राजस्थान के मुख्य मंत्रियों से बात करूंगा। अगर कोई ऐक्शन लेना है तो राज्य सरकार की ओर से लेना है, हम ऐक्शन नहीं ले सकते हैं। लेकिन हमारे Environment Protection Act - 1986 में प्रावधान है कि हम ऐक्शन ले सकते हैं। मुझे कुछ समय दीजिए, मैं वहां के मुख्य मंत्रियों से बात करूंगा। अगर राज्य सरकारों की ओर से कोई ऐक्शन नहीं लिया जाएगा तो केन्द्र सरकार जरूर ऐक्शन लेगी।

**श्री गंगा चरण :** सर, वैसे मैं मंत्री जी से काफी हद तक सहमत हूँ लेकिन एक सवाल यह है कि environment की अनदेखी करके बहुत सी जगह फाइव स्टार होटल्स बनाए जा रहे हैं, जंगल काटकर फाइव स्टार होटल्स बनाए जा रहे हैं। क्या मंत्री जी की नॉलेज में ये चीजें हैं? चाहे हिमाचल प्रदेश में हो, धर्मशाला में हो या उत्तराखंड में हो, आज environment का सवाल बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण सवाल है। आज जो सूखा पड़ा है, उसके पीछे भी हमारा environment है, जो प्रदूषित हो रहा है क्योंकि जंगल काटे जा रहे हैं। क्या मंत्री महोदय सारी जिम्मेदारी राज्य सरकारों पर डालकर जवाबदेही से बच सकते हैं? क्या केन्द्र सरकार पर्यावरण को बचाने के लिए कोई कानून बनाने जा रही है ताकि जंगलों को काटने से रोका जा सके और वन्यजीवों की रक्षा की जा सके।

**श्री जयराम रमेश :** सर, Forest Conservation Act - 1980 के तहत अगर कोई diversion होना है तो उसके लिए Central Empowered Committee और सुप्रीम कोर्ट की अनुमति की भी जरूरत होती है। अगर कोई मिसाल है जहां फॉरेस्ट एरिया को काटा गया है और फाइव स्टार होटल्स बनाए गए हैं तो मैं जरूर इसकी जांच करवाऊंगा। अगर माननीय सदस्य मुझे जानकारी देंगे।...(व्यवधान)... मेरी जानकारी में ऐसा कोई उदाहरण नहीं है जहां मोटे तौर पर वनों को काटा गया है और वहां फाइव स्टार होटल बने हैं।

**श्री गंगा चरण :** Resorts बने हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

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\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

**श्री जयराम रमेश :** यह जानकारी मेरे पास नहीं है। अगर कोई उदाहरण है तो मुझे दीजिए, मैं इस संबंध में जरूर कार्यवाही करूंगा।

#### **Illegal mining of coal**

\*225.SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:††

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to constitute a high level surveillance wing, involving the police, CISF and other intelligence departments, to check the rampant illegal coal mining in certain districts of West Bengal and Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether, due to indiscriminate illegal mining, Government is losing crores of rupees every year; and

(d) if so, to what extent the surveillance wing would curb the practice of illegal coal mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### ***Statement***

(a) and (b) No such decision has been taken by the Government to initiate joint action for the prevention of illegal mining. However, Task Forces have been constituted by the State Governments of Jharkhand and West Bengal, at the State and District level. Since law and order is a State subject, primarily it is the responsibility of State/District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb illegal mining. Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries are also associated closely with the concerned State and District authorities to deal with this menace.

(c) Illegal mining mostly takes place in old and abandoned mines, small and isolated patches, areas situated at remote/isolated places from mines, which are scattered over a large area, exposed coal seams and also in areas not in the leasehold areas of public sector coal companies. Due to clandestine nature of illegal mining activities, the exact quantum of coal, so mined and losses incurred on account of illegal mining cannot be ascertained. However, on the basis of raids conducted by the security personnel of coal companies as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the concerned State Government, the approximate quantity of coal recovered during 2008-09 and its value thereof were approximately 8,584 tonnes and Rs.1.02 crore respectively.

(d) Does not arise in view of the answer given to parts (a) & (b) above.

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Minister that in 2006, his predecessor had set up a High Level Committee to go into the issue to try and curb illegal mining, and, more recently, XLRI, Jamshedpur as well as the Indian School of Mines, at the behest of the

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††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri D. Raja

Government of Jharkhand, has conducted a study to assess where the mines are, what is the amount of coal and whether the coal is low-lying, whether it can be run on a cooperative basis. Sir, I would like to ask the Minister what are the major recommendations of both these Committees and what does the Government propose doing on the basis of these recommendations.

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जिस प्रश्न को पूछा है और जिस तरह से पूछा है, मैं इनकी भावनाओं से पूरी तरह से सहमत हूँ। जिस तरीके से इन क्षेत्रों में कोयले की चोरी हो रही है, स्वाभाविक रूप से यह प्रश्न उठता है कि कैसे इस चोरी को रोका जा सकता है, ऐसी कौन सी स्टडी कराई गई है। हमारे मंत्रालय ने इसके पहले Xavier Labour Relations Institute, Jamshedpur से स्टडी कराई थी। उन्होंने बहुत सारी रिकमेंडेशंस दी हैं, अगर आप इजाजत दें तो हम पढ़ दें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसके अलावा हमारी मिनिस्ट्री की जो Indian School of Mines हैं, उनसे भी स्टडी कराई गई है। उन्होंने भी बहुत सारी रिकमेंडेशंस दी हैं। माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो चोरी इन क्षेत्रों में हो रही है, पिलफ्रेज हो रही है, इल्लीगल माइनिंग हो रही है, इसके बहुत सारे कारण हैं। सबसे बड़ा कारण इन क्षेत्रों की गरीबी है, इन क्षेत्रों का पिछड़ापन और दूसरा कारण, इन क्षेत्रों में जिस ढंग से स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को इन चोरी को रोकने के लिए एक्ट करना चाहिए था, क्योंकि आप जानते हैं कि ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप अच्छी तरह जानते हैं कि ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt. ...**(Interruptions)**... We are running short of time, let the question be answered. ...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** माननीय सभापति महोदय, आप अच्छी तरह जानते हैं कि लॉ एंड ऑर्डर और पुलिस यह स्टेट सब्जेक्ट है। जितनी हमारी माइंस में चोरी होती है, उनको रोकने की हमारी सम्मिलित जिम्मेदारी है। लेकिन हमारी माइन्स के अलावा जो कोल प्रोपर्टीज में चोरी हो रही है, उसको रोकने की जिम्मेदारी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की है, स्टेट पुलिस की है और लॉ एंड ऑर्डर की है। हम स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से बराबर मिलते रहते हैं, अभी हमने जब से यह कार्यभार संभाला है, मैं जिन स्टेट्स में गया हूँ उन स्टेट्स के चीफ मिनिस्टर्स और गवर्नर्स से मिला हूँ। झारखंड के गवर्नर से मिला, वेस्ट बंगाल के चीफ मिनिस्टर से मिला और मैंने उनसे अनुरोध किया, हाथ जोड़कर अनुरोध किया कि सरकार की नाक के नीचे इतनी जबर्दस्त चोरी हो रही है, इसके बाद भी अगर सरकार कड़े कदम नहीं उठाती है, यह हमारे लिए दुर्भाग्य की बात है। हमें आश्वासन मिला है, झारखंड के गवर्नर साहब ने भी आश्वासन दिया है और पश्चिमी बंगाल के मुख्य मंत्री ने भी आश्वासन दिया है कि हम एक ऐसी कोऑर्डिनेशन कमेटी बैठाएंगे, जिसके माध्यम से कोयले के अवैध खनन में और कोयले की चोरी रोकने के लिए कड़े कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं। हम माननीया सदस्या को आश्वासन करते हैं कि जिस तरीके से हमने शुरू किया है, हम उम्मीद करते हैं कि आने वाले समय में इस चोरी पर कुछ न कुछ अंकुश जरूर लगेगा। हम यह तो नहीं कह सकते हैं कि हम चोरी रोक लेंगे, न हम यह कह सकते हैं कि इल्लीगल माइनिंग हम रोक लेंगे, लेकिन कुछ न कुछ ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री सभापति :** आप बैठ जाइए ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप बैठ जाइए। Please do not interrupt ...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** माननीय सभापति महोदय, इस पर कुछ न कुछ अंकुश जरूर लगेगा, यह आश्वासन हम जरूर देते हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us not waste any time, please resume your places. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Sir, I want to say...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The second supplementary now. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please do not interrupt, the floor has not been given to you. Please resume your place. If you wish to ask a question, there is a procedure for it.

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: The hon. Minister says that it is a State-subject but he would understand more than anyone else since he was in the Home Ministry in the previous tenure that it is the law and order subject as well. Therefore, would the Centre consider setting up some sort of a formal mechanism by which it becomes mandatory that the Centre and the States jointly start reviewing the progress made? This is going on for very long and to simply palm it off as the State-subject is not going to take us any further. So, would he set up a joint mechanism to jointly coordinate and take steps to prevent the illegal mining?

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** माननीय सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो कुछ कहा है, हमारे प्रश्न का जवाब खुद ही इन्होंने दे दिया है कि यह लॉ एंड ऑर्डर का सब्जेक्ट है और मैं यही कहना चाहता हूँ कि लॉ एंड ऑर्डर स्टेट सब्जेक्ट है। लेकिन जैसा कि माननीया सदस्य ने पूछा है, हम खुद इस बात की कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि हर स्टेट में वहां के मुखिया से मिलकर, वहां के मुख्य मंत्री से मिलकर और अगर वहां गवर्नर है तो उनसे मिलकर हम कैसे इस क्षेत्र में चोरी को रोक सकते हैं, इस क्षेत्र में कैसे इल्लीगल माइनिंग को रोक सकते हैं, यह प्रयास कर रहे हैं। इसके सकारात्मक प्रयास माननीया सदस्य को बहुत जल्दी दिखलाई पड़ेंगे।

SHRI N.K. SINGH: Sir, arising out of the Minister's reply to the first part to the first supplementary asked by the hon. Member, would the Minister concede that the basic cause which encourages illegal mining is the high profitability arising out of an over-regulated regime, which exists in the coal sector? Would the Minister, while considering detailed action of coordination between States, look to a kind of a regulatory framework which mitigates illegal mining, encourages productivity, and enhances overall availability of coal for the energy sector?

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** माननीय सभापति जी, माननीय सदस्य ने जो कहा है उसमें कोई शक नहीं है कि कोयले की चोरी उस क्षेत्र में उद्योग बन गया है। हजारों की तादाद में लोग इसको रोजगार का साधन बना चुके हैं। जैसा कि मैंने आपको शुरू में बताया कि यह सब कुछ गरीबी के कारण, पिछड़ेपन के कारण, अशिक्षा के कारण हुआ है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्रीमती वृंदा कारत :** मंत्री जी, उनका सवाल है कि आप illegal को legal बना रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति :** प्लीज़ ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप लोग बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप लोग बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please stop this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** सर, अगर माननीय सदस्य का सवाल है कि illegal को हम legal बनाएंगे, तो illegal को legal कोई नहीं बना सकता है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... माननीय सभापति जी, illegal को legal कोई नहीं बना सकता है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति :** प्लीज़, आप लोग बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... प्लीज़, आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please resume your place.

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** माननीय सभापति जी, illegal को legal कोई नहीं बना सकता है, लेकिन कुछ pragmatic कदम उठाने की सलाह दी जा रही है। जैसे - जिन क्षेत्रों में ज्यादा चोरी होती है, वहां पर कोआपरेटिव

सोसायटी बनाकर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स छोटी-छोटी coal प्रोपर्टी उनको दे दें और उनसे यह कहें कि वह कोआपरेटिव सोसायटीज़ बनाकर, उसमें वहां के किसानों को, गरीबों को भागीदार बनाकर, उन सोसायटीज़ के माध्यम से माइनिंग कराएं।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** जिससे कि उनको रोजगार का साधन भी उपलब्ध हो जाए और वास्तव में चोरी भी रुक जाए। इस तरह के प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं, लेकिन अभी हम कह नहीं सकते हैं कि इसमें कितनी सफलता मिलेगी, उसका कारण है कि इसमें बहुत बड़ा रिस्क भी इन्वाल्व है। अगर कोआपरेटिव सोसायटीज़ को माइनिंग करने के लिए दिया जाता है और उन किसानों से कहा जाता है कि आप लोग माइनिंग करिए। उन लोगों के पास न तो ऐसे उपकरण हैं, न ही उनके पास कोई ऐसी जानकारी है, न ही उनके पास कोई ऐसी ट्रेनिंग है। अगर माइनिंग करते समय कोई हादसा हो जाता है, तो उसकी भी जिम्मेदारी कहीं न कहीं सरकार पर आती है। हम लोग प्रयास यह कर रहे हैं कि कोई ऐसा तरीका निकाला जाए जिससे कि उस क्षेत्र के लोगों को रोजगार के साधन भी उपलब्ध हो जाएं और illegal माइनिंग पर अंकुश लग सके।

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I am on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am on the question of propriety. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order in the Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is the point?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, there is an insinuation that is being made by the Minister and that is गरीबी कारण है चोरी का। सर, यह कहना कि गरीब ही चोरी करता है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... If that is so, I will look into it. ....*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I want to submit जहां तक पता है अमीर लोग ही ज्यादा चोरी करते हैं। इस तरह से गरीबों का अपमान कर रहे हैं।... सर, मंत्री जी, इस सदन में गरीबों का अपमान नहीं करें। ...*(व्यवधान)*... उन्होंने गरीबों का अपमान किया है। इसके लिए मंत्री जी माफी मांगें। मंत्री जी ये शब्द वापस लें। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति :** आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** माननीय सभापति जी, माननीय येचुरी जी ने हमारी भावनाओं को और हमारे भाव को सही तरीके से नहीं समझा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति :** देखिए, आप वहां से ऐसा नहीं करेंगे। आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** आपने अगर यह अर्थ निकाला है कि गरीबी ही चोरी का कारण है, तो यह बिल्कुल अनुचित अर्थ है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मेरे कहने का आशय यह है कि जो illegal माइनिंग जो हो रही है, उसके पीछे उस क्षेत्र के पिछड़ेपन का, उस क्षेत्र की गरीबी का, उस क्षेत्र की बेरोजगारी का बहुत बड़ा कारण है। मेरे कहने का आशय यह है कि ...*(व्यवधान)*... इसमें अगर आप यह समझते हैं कि मैं यह कह रहा हूँ कि ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री तारिक अनवर :** पूरा देश जानता है कि कोयला चोरी होता है और इसमें माफिया शामिल होता है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you wish me to conclude the Question Hour, I will do so. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** सर, मैं इस बात को स्वीकार करता हूँ कि ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, I wish to submit something. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please allow me, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is that you wish to raise? ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** सर, मैं इस बात को स्वीकार करता हूँ कि ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति :** देखिए, आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... पाणि जी, आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... देखिए, आप बार-बार इंटरैक्ट कर रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप ऐसा मत कीजिए। आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** सर, क्या मैं जवाब दे सकता हूँ?

**श्री सभापति :** इनको सवाल पूछने दीजिए, तब जवाब दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** सर, जो सवाल सीताराम येचुरी जी ने उठाया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति :** वह सप्लीमेंट्री सवाल नहीं है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** सर, इस क्षेत्र में बड़े-बड़े माफिया सक्रिय हैं, इस बात को मैं पूरी तरह स्वीकार करता हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... उन माफियाओं के उकसाने पर ही ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं जवाब दे रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इन माफियाओं के उकसाने से ही वहां के क्षेत्रीय लोगों ने इस तरह की घटनाओं को अंजाम देना शुरू किया है। उन माफियाओं से निपटने का काम हमको भी करना पड़ेगा और राज्य सरकारों को भी करना पड़ेगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री बलबीर पुंज :** सर, उन्होंने पहले कहा कि गरीबी चोरी का कारण है, इसके लिए उनको माफी मांगनी चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not allowing me to ...*(Interruptions)*... मैं क्या करूँ? ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठ जाइए। आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मंत्री जी, आप बैठ जाइए। प्लीज़। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री बलबीर पुंज :** पहले कहा कि गरीब लोग चोरी करते हैं और बाद में कहा कि माफिया करते हैं। मंत्री जी को पहले बयान पर माफी मांगनी चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति :** आप बैठ जाइए, प्लीज़। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Stop interrupting please. बलबीर जी, आप बैठ जाइए, प्लीज़। ...*(व्यवधान)*... प्लीज़। ...*(व्यवधान)*... देखिए, पाणि जी, ...*(व्यवधान)*... I am afraid. ...*(Interruptions)*... Just one minute please. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Chair is now making a note. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. MALAISAMY : Sir, can I now...

**श्री सभापति :** आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री विनय कटियार :** क्या आप इनके उत्तर से सहमत हैं? एक तरफ गरीब को ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति :** देखिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... अगर उनके जवाब से आपको कोई एतराज़ है, तो आप अलग से पूछिए।

**श्री विनय कटियार :** सभापति जी, मैं आपका संरक्षण चाहता हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मंत्री जी ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**एक माननीय सदस्य :** वे क्षमा मांगें। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी :** अगर मंत्री जी ने गरीबों का अपमान किया है, ...*(व्यवधान)*... इनको खेद व्यक्त करना चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I can't hear anything.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Okay, let me finish my chance. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री सभापति :** देखिए, आप अपने साथी का हक मार रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री विनय कटियार :** सभापति महोदय, मैं आपका संरक्षण चाहता हूँ। सदन में गरीबों को ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति :** आप ज़रा बैठ तो जाइए, भाई। ...*(व्यवधान)*... बलबीर जी, प्लीज़। पाणि जी, प्लीज़। ...*(व्यवधान)*... प्लीज़। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have given the chance to me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute please, देखिए, टाइम जाया हो रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... The Chair is getting the impression that there is a concerted effort to disrupt the Question Hour and not allow the questions to be answered. If that is so, I will conclude the Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please put your question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Should I not get a chance? Everybody is interfering when my chance is given.

**श्री विनय कटियार :** आपका chance है, हम आपके chance को नहीं खोने देंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

DR. K. MALAISAMY: You wait. You speak when your chance is given. I should be given the permission. I should be allowed to speak. \*

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** सर, अभी तक इनका अनुवाद उपलब्ध नहीं है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, he will translate it for you.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: It is not possible for him to answer? Can he answer? I am trying to put my question in Tamil. Can he afford to speak in Tamil?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You did not give a notice. Please put your question in either Hindi or English,

DR. K. MALAISAMY: \*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please Dr. Malaisamy, no notice has been given.

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** सर, चूंकि ट्रांसलेशन उपलब्ध नहीं है, इसलिए मैं इनके प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं दे पा रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

DR. K. MALAISAMY: If he cannot understand Tamil I am capable of speaking in English also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do. You have taken too much time.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: As far as illegal mining is concerned, my information is, that this is being done with the active connivance and consent of your lower level officers. If that be the case, do you have any mechanism to control and contain that kind of malpractices?

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\* Hon. Member spoke in Tamil.

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** सर, इसमें कोई शक नहीं है कि जहां कहीं भी चोरी होती है, जहां कहीं भी illegal mining होती है, जहां कहीं भी कोई गलत कार्य होता है, उसमें कहीं न कहीं अधिकारी व वहां के लोगों की मिलीभगत होती है। इसलिए मैं आपकी इस बात को स्वीकार करता हूं।...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: The Minister knows English. When the question is in English, he should reply in English. Why does he not reply in English?

**श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल :** सर, मैं यह प्रयास करूंगा ...(व्यवधान)... सर, मैं यह प्रयास करूंगा कि संबंधित अधिकारियों से मिलकर और अपने कोयले अधिकारियों के साथ मिलकर, इस चोरी को रोका जाए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

### Clearance to new channels

\*222. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that Government has granted clearance to a number of new channels;
- if so, the details thereof;
- whether it is a fact that several existing channels have reduced their staff; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Approval of channels is a continuing process. As part of this process, 23 TV channels have been approved to uplink from India/downlink in India as per uplinking and downlinking guidelines during the month of June, 2009. The details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Government does not maintain information about the staff of Private channels.

### Statement

#### *Details of channels permitted to uplink/downlink from India*

Sl.No.	Name of the Channels	Name of the Companies	Date of Approval	Date of Permission
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Kanak Sambad	Eastern Media Ltd.	19.6.2009	23.6.2009
2.	Kalaighar Asia	Kalaighar Tv Pvt. Ltd.	26.6.2009	30.6.2009
3.	ABN-Andhra Jyothy	Aamoda Broadcasting Co. Ltd.	26.6.2009	30.6.2009

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Apnanews	Priyamda Media P. Ltd.	26.6.2009	8.7.2009
5.	E-Live Entertainments	Pride East P. Ltd.	26.6.2009	9.7.2009
6.	Nat Geo Music	Fox Channels (India) P. Ltd.	26.6.2009	2.7.2009
7.	Nat Geo Wild	Fox Channels (India) P. Ltd	26.6.2009	2.7.2009
8.	National Geographic HD	Fox Channels (India) P. Ltd.	26.6.2009	2.7.2009
9.	Nat Geo Adventure	Fox Channels (India) P. Ltd	26.6.2009	2.7.2009
10.	Fresh TV	Rama Associates Ltd.	26.6.2009	6.7.2009
11.	CNBC-TV 18 South	Tv 18 India Ltd.	26.6.2009	Required Fee has not been received as on 14.7.2009
12.	CNBC-TV 18 Gujarat	Tv 18 India Ltd.	26.6.2009	-Do-
13.	CNBC-TV 18 Channel 3	Tv 18 India Ltd.	26.6.2009	-Do-
14.	City Pulse	Anoli Holdings Pvt. Ltd.	26.6.2009	-Do-
15.	Krishna TV	Krishnaswamy Associates Media Renaissance	26.6.2009	-Do-
16.	Awam	Information Tv Pvt. Ltd.	26.6.2009	-Do-
17.	Samaj	Information TV Pvt. Ltd.	26.6.2009	-Do-
18.	Mumbainews	Information Tv Pvt. Ltd.	26.6.2009	-Do-
19.	Delhi News	Information TV Pvt. Ltd.	26.6.2009	-Do-
20.	Rhythm	Vijayanthi Televentures P. Ltd.	26.6.2009	-Do-
21.	Raj TV Asia	Raj Television Network Ltd.	26.6.2009	-Do-

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Pavitar	Pavitar Entertainment P. Ltd.	26.6.2009	-Do-
23	Vedic	Vedic Broadcasting Ltd.	26.6.2009	-Do-

#### **Nutrition delivery programme**

\*226.SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to revamp the Nutrition Delivery Programme, to check malnutrition; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State Government/UT Administrations have been requested to give their suggestions to improve the nutrition delivery programme.

#### **Price fixation of petro products**

\*227.SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to hand over the task of price fixation of petro products to oil P.S.U.s;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what would be the inbuilt regulatory mechanism to save the consumers from arbitrary fixation of prices by the companies; and

(d) what steps would be taken to insulate the domestic customers from volatile petro prices in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (d) With effect from 1.04.2002, the administered pricing mechanism in petroleum products was dismantled and it was decided that the pricing of all products, except PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG, would be market determined. However, in view of the steep increase and high volatility in the international oil prices since 2004-05, the Government has been modulating the retail prices of Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and domestic LPG, to protect the consumer from the inflationary impact of international oil prices. Oil PSUs fix the prices of other petro products.

#### **Ganga Action Plan**

\*228.SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) how much amount Government has already spent on Ganga Action Plan project, to clean the holy river Ganga;
- (b) whether it is a fact that despite so much effort, the river still remains completely polluted;
- (c) whether it means that the entire Ganga Action Plan has proved to be a complete failure; and
- (d) if so, whether Government plans to take action against the erring agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase I was launched as a centrally funded scheme in 1985 with the objective of improving the water quality of the Ganga to acceptable standards. Various pollution abatement schemes including Interception & Diversion of sewage and setting up of sewage treatment plants were taken up. GAP Phase - II which covered the tributaries of Ganga namely, Yamuna, Gomti, Damodar and Mahananda, besides Ganga, was approved in stages from 1993-1996. GAP Phase II was merged with the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) in December, 1996. The total expenditure incurred on conservation of river Ganga under the GAP Phase -I & II so far, is Rs. 816.47 crore.

Water quality monitoring carried out by reputed institutions such as, IIT, Kanpur, BHEL, Patna University, etc. indicates that, water quality of the river Ganga conforms to the prescribed standards in terms of key indicators, namely, Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Dissolved Oxygen (DO) at most of the locations, except in the stretch between Kannauj and Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh. However, the levels of fecal coliforms are reported to be exceeding the maximum permissible limit at a number of monitoring stations along the river Ganga.

Implementation and performance of river conservation plans is constrained by factors such as inadequate provisions for operation and maintenance of assets by State Governments and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), irregular power supply, under utilisation of sewage treatment plants, non-point sources of pollution, delays in land acquisition etc.

River conservation is an ongoing and collective effort of the Central and the State Governments. Sewage treatment capacity of 1007 million liters per day (mld) has been created so far under the GAP. Some treatment capacity has also been created under other central schemes, such as Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns, as well as State schemes. But there is still a large gap that remains to be bridged.

Several measures such as concurrent evaluation of schemes have been initiated to improve the performance of the River Conservation Plan. The Central Government has also set up the 'National Ganga River Basin Authority' on 20.2.2009 to ensure effective abatement of pollution and conservation of the river Ganga by adopting a holistic approach with the river basin as the unit of planning. The functions of the Authority include all measures necessary for planning and execution of programmes for abatement of pollution and conservation of the river Ganga.

### **Tiger breeding programme**

\*229.SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA:

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tigers with same genetic make-ups have been relocated from Ranthambore to Sariska recently; if so, the details of reports of the genetic studies carried out to ascertain this fact;
- (b) whether Government is considering breeding wild tigers inside enclosures;
- (c) in which areas this is being implemented and those being considered for implementation;
- (d) whether such an exercise takes away the pre-eminent focus on wild habitat conservation, wherein all bio-diversity is conserved alongwith the tiger;
- (e) whether such an exercise has been approved by the National Board for Wildlife; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) One tiger and two tigresses from the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve have been translocated to Sariska on 28.6.2008, 4.7.2008 and 25.2.2009, as a part of the recovery strategy suggested by the Wildlife Institute of India. As per the findings of the said Institute, the tiger population in Ranthambhore has a comparatively high heterozygosity of 0.52, highlighting the fact that the ill effects of 'inbreeding depression' has not manifested in the population.

(b) to (f) Advisories have been sent to eleven tiger reserves having low tiger density for *in-situ* build up of tiger and its prey populations within the tiger reserve as indicated in the given Statement (See below). This active intervention has been suggested Simply as an "augmentation process" to save tigers from local extinction on account of poaching and other causative factors including left wing extremism, without compromising the protection / safeguards for tiger population outside such enclosures. This is a managerial advisory which falls within the purview of the National Tiger Conservation Authority *vis-a-vis* the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

#### ***Statement***

Sl. No.	Name of the Tiger Reserve	State
1	2	3
1.	Dampa	Mizoram
2.	Kalakad Mundanthurai	Tamil Nadu
3.	Valmiki	Bihar
4.	Indravati	Chhattisgarh
5.	Manas	Assam

1	2	3
6.	Nagarjunasagar Srisaillam	Andhra Pradesh
7.	Namdapha	Arunachal Pradesh
8.	Sanjay Dubri	Madhya Pradesh
9.	Buxa	West Bengal
10.	Palamau	Jharkhand
11.	Similipal	Orissa

#### **Funds for ST welfare**

\*230. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister is aware of the Prime Minister's directive, in the 51st National Development Council meeting held on 27 June, 2005, for Special Component Plan (TSP) allocation for Scheduled Tribes' welfare;

(b) how much funds were allocated for STs during 2007-08 and 2008-09; and

(c) what efforts were made to obtain adequate allocations?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) As per information received from Planning Commission, during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09, an amount of Rs. 18503.07 crore and Rs. 20237.45 crore respectively have been earmarked by the respective TSP States / UTs for Scheduled Tribes under TSP.

(c) Following efforts were made by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs/ Planning Commission to obtain adequate allocation by the States for STs under TSP:

- i) Letters written to all the concerned States/ UTs to earmark funds as per the guidelines.
- ii) Planning Commission held review meetings to ensure that the State Governments earmark funds at least in proportion to the population of Scheduled Tribes.
- iii) Mid-term Appraisal is done by the Planning Commission.
- iv) Ministry of Tribal Affairs has requested the Planning Commission to emphasise for implementation of TSP while considering Annual Plan of the State.

#### **Liability of Kingfisher Airlines to oil companies**

\*231. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that Kingfisher Airlines owes Rs 160 crore to IOC, Rs 336 crore to HPCL and Rs. 290 crore to BPCL;

- (b) if so, for how long the dues are pending;
- (c) what action the Ministry has taken or proposes to take to recover its dues;
- (d) whether any note has been submitted to the Cabinet to encash bank guarantee of Kingfisher Airlines, so as to recover its dues; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) As on 31st May, 2009 M/s Kingfisher Airlines owed Rs.950.46 crore to Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), Rs. 37.36 crore to Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOC), Rs. 598.78 crore to Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) and Rs. 314.32 crore to Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL).

The outstanding dues of M/s Kingfisher Airlines as well as other airlines had started accumulating during the year 2008-09 because of the sharp rise in prices of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) in line with the crude oil prices to record highs during April to September, 2008.

(c) In case Airlines fail to pay their dues, OMCs take action for recovery of dues in line with the mutually agreed commercial terms between them and Airlines. These include putting on 'Cash and Carry' and interest is recovered on all overdue payments.

The issue of outstanding dues was also taken up with Ministry of Civil Aviation which has advised the airlines to clear their outstanding dues promptly.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Encashment of Bank Guarantee is a commercial decision for which the OMCs are fully empowered.

#### **Losses of petroleum companies**

† \*232. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the petroleum companies are facing huge losses;
- (b) if so, whether Government is taking any concrete measures to bailout these companies;
- (c) whether Government is also taking any measure for controlling unlimited official expenses of Ministers and officers, and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) To protect the domestic consumers from the volatility of international oil prices, Government modulates the retail prices of the four sensitive petroleum products; namely, Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG. As a result, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), viz. Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPC) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPC) have incurred under-recoveries of Rs. 1,03,292 crore on the sale of these sensitive petroleum products during the year 2008-09.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) To ensure the financial health of the OMCs, the OMCs were issued Oil Bonds for Rs.71,292 crore by the Government and the Upstream Oil PSUs contributed Rs.32,000 crore to them through price discounts on crude oil and finished products during the year 2008-09. In addition, the upstream oil companies also contributed Rs.943 crore towards import losses of OMCs. With this financial support in the form of Oil Bonds and upstream contribution, the OMCs were able to avoid going into losses, and reported meagre profits during 2008-09, as shown below:

	Rs. Crore
IOC	2950
BPC	736
HPC	575
TOTAL :	4261

In view of the OMCs' growing under-recoveries during 2009-10, the retail selling prices of Petrol and Diesel have also been increased by Rs.4/litre and Rs.2/litre respectively with effect from 2nd July 2009, which will have a positive impact on the financial health of the OMCs. Besides, it has been decided that under-recoveries on PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG during 2009-10 will be borne by the Government.

(c) to (d) The expenses of Ministers and Officers are regulated in accordance with the guidelines issued from time to time by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.

#### **River cleaning project**

\*233.DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to introduce another project for cleaning of different rivers, particularly the Ganges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Central Government by a Notification dated 20.02.2009, has set up the 'National Ganga River Basin Authority' (NGRBA) as an empowered planning, financing, monitoring and coordinating authority for the Ganga River, in exercise of the powers conferred under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The Prime Minister is the Chairperson of the Authority. Other members include the Union Ministers concerned, the Chief Ministers of the States through which Ganga flows, viz., Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. The functions of the Authority include all measures necessary for planning and execution of programmes for abatement of pollution and conservation of the river Ganga in keeping with sustainable development

needs. These include development of a river basin management plan, maintenance of minimum ecological flows, augmentation of sewerage infrastructure, catchment area treatment, etc. This initiative is aimed towards rejuvenating the collective efforts of the Centre and the States for cleaning the river. The Central Government has also initiated measures such as concurrent evaluation of schemes to improve implementation of National River Conservation Plan.

#### **Field trials of GM crops**

\*234.SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether open field trials of BT rice were conducted in Jharkhand, while the central regulatory body stipulates restricted trial, under controlled surroundings;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what measures Government has taken or proposes to take a check open field trials of Genetically Modified (GM) crops by MNCs, in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. M/s. Maharashtra Hybrid Company, Mumbai had conducted confined experiment field trials during Rabi-2007 to generate biosafety and agronomic data at 11 locations, viz. Anand in Gujarat, Bhandara and Rajgad in Maharashtra, South 24 Parganas and Midnapur in West Bengal, Gaya in Bihar, Ranchi in Jharkhand, Davangere and Mandya in Karnataka and Tanjore and Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu in accordance with the biosafety norms stipulated by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC).

(c) The Biosafety measures stipulated by the GEAC to prevent possible contamination due to gene flow during experimental field trials with GM crops by public and private institutions are subject to stringent norms such as; (i) maintaining a crop specific isolation distance as well as biological and physical barriers as per the 'Minimum Indian Seed Certification Standards' recommended by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research; (ii) submission of a validated event specific protocol to detect the level of contamination at 0.01% LOD before initiating the field trials as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court direction dated 8.5.2007; (iii) designating a lead scientist responsible for the field trials; (iv) monitoring of field trials by a monitoring committee; and (v) post harvest restrictions.

#### **Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management Authority**

\*235.SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management Authority (CAMPA);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether CAMPA has some issues with the Himachal Pradesh Government over outstandings, due to which it has not yet started releasing funds to the State Government for implementation of Compensatory Afforestation Scheme due to which Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) plans under implementation have been withheld;

(d) whether Government has received any request from the State Government to release funds till the outstanding issues are resolved; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) In pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated the 10.07.2009 in IA No. 2143 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202 of 1995 in the matter of T.N. Godavarman Thirumuilpad *Versus* Union of India & Others, It has been decided to set up the State CAMPAs in the concerned States/UTs. The State CAMPA is a three tier body. It has a Governing Body chaired by the Chief Minister of the concerned State/UT, a Steering Committee chaired by Chief Secretary of the State/UT and an Executive Committee chaired by the State Principal Chief Conservator of Forests. To oversee and monitor implementation of works and to resolve inter-State issues there is a provision of a Committee named as National CAMPA Advisory Council chaired by the Central Minister for Environment & Forests.

(c) to (e) There are no issues pending pertaining to Himachal Pradesh Government in the matter. As soon as, the State CAMPAs are constituted, funds would be released by Ad-hoc CAMPA for taking up works as per the approved Annual Plan of Operations (APOs) in accordance with the Order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 10.07.2009.

#### **Retail fuel price**

\*236.SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the companies retailing in fuel do not enjoy the freedom to fix fuel prices in line with International prices and, therefore, private fuel retailers in the country have to incur heavy losses;

(b) whether, keeping in view the high global crude oil prices, Government has any proposal to free petrol and diesel prices in the country; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, how they propose to compensate private oil retail companies, as is being done by Government in respect of public sector oil retailers for their losses?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (c) To protect the consumer from the increasing price volatility and uncertainty of the international oil prices, since 2004-05, Government has been modulating the retail selling prices of the four sensitive petroleum products sold by the three Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies, namely, Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation. However, the other marketing companies, including the private sector ones, are not subject to any price controls and are free to fix their retail prices as per market conditions and on commercial considerations. As the Private Sector Oil Companies are not subject to pricing restrictions by the Government, they are not compensated for losses on marketing of Petrol and Diesel.

At present, there is no proposal to free Petrol & Diesel price in the country.

#### Availability of coal

\*237.SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has carried out any study about the availability of coal taking thickness of the bed as the basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of coal reserves in the country, thickness-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Coal resources in the country are assessed/compiled by the Geological Survey of India under the Ministry of Mines. As per the present practice, coal bed (seam) thickness of 0.9 meter and above is considered for resource estimation. Though the thickness of the coal bed (seam) is taken into account for estimation of resources, resources are not compiled on the basis of the seam thickness. The total coal resources as on 01.04.2009 in the country stand at 267210 million tonnes. The state-wise coal resources are given below:-

(in million tonnes)	
State	Geological resources of Coal
Andhra Pradesh	18927
Arunachal Pradesh	90
Assam	387
Bihar	160
Chhattisgarh	44483
Jharkhand	76712
Madhya Pradesh	20981
Maharashtra	10154
Meghalaya	577
Nagaland	22
Orissa	65227
Sikkim	101
Uttar Pradesh	1062
West Bengal	28327
TOTAL :	267210

#### Circuit Benches of Supreme Court and High Courts

\*238.SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Justice of India (CJI) is reported to have stated that there is a sharp rise in the number of criminal cases and fall in civil disputes; if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(b) whether it is a fact that 71 percent of the cases pending in the lower courts are criminal cases;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there are any plans before Government for setting up of Circuit Benches of Supreme Court and High Courts, so as to address this problem; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) No such report has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. As per the reports received from the High Courts, about 71% of the cases pending in the Subordinate Courts are criminal cases. Some of the main reasons for pendency in Subordinate Courts as identified by various Commissions and Committees including the Law Commission are given below:

- (i) Population and Litigation Explosion.
- (ii) Institution of fresh cases.
- (iii) Inadequacy of Judges' strength.
- (iv) Delays in filling up of vacancies in the Subordinate Courts.
- (v) Inadequacy of staff attached to the Subordinate Courts.
- (vi) Granting of unnecessary adjournments.
- (vii) Frequent closure of courts on account of lawyers' strikes etc.

(d) and (e) According to Article 130 of the Constitution, the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint. The Government has not received any proposal from the Chief Justice of India for establishment of a Bench of the Supreme Court in any part of the country.

Setting up of Benches of High Courts away from their principal seats is considered by the Central Government on receipt of a complete proposal from the State Government which has the consent of the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. No such proposal has been received by the Central Government.

#### **Supply of coal for Kayamkulam plant**

\*239.SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kayamkulam plant of NTPC Ltd. has not been working to full capacity, due to short supply of coal;

(b) if so, the details of the capacity utilization during the years 2008 and 2009, and requirement and supply of coal to this plant during the same period; and

(c) the steps being taken to supply sufficient coal, to utilize the full capacity of the plant?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) The Kayamkulam plant (Rajeev Gandhi Combined Cycle Power Plant) (350 MW) of NTPC Limited operates with liquid fuel (Naphtha), not with coal. There has not been any shortage of fuel at Kayamkulam Station.

The capacity utilization *i.e.* Plant Load Factor (PLF) of this plant was 61.6% and 87.4% during the years 2008 and 2009 (Jan-June, 2009) respectively. The less capacity utilization is mainly due to low schedules given by the beneficiary state power utilities and not due to fuel shortage.

#### **Road-map for development of NER**

\*240.SHRI LALHMING LIANA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drawn up a concrete road-map for the development of the North Eastern Region; and

(b) if so, the details of Government's action plan in respect of rural infrastructure, generation of employment and power generation?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry for the Development of the North Eastern Region has prepared the North Eastern Region Vision 2020 document after extensive consultations with the State Governments of the North Eastern Region, Central Government Ministries, experts and civil society. The document was adopted by the North-Eastern Council in its 56th meeting held at Agartafa, on 12-13 May 2008. It was formally released by the Honourable Prime Minister on 2nd July 2008 in New Delhi. The Vision document provides a road-map, outlines the goals, identifies the challenges and suggests implementation strategies for various sectors for peace, prosperity and development of the North Eastern Region.

(b) I. The NER Vision 2020 suggests the following overarching strategies:

- (i) Empowerment of people for self governance and participatory development.
- (ii) Promote development through expansion and modernisation of agricultural and allied sector activity combined with expansion of non-farm economic activities to create jobs/employment opportunities.
- (iii) Development of sectors with comparative advantages based on resources available in the region particularly in hydroelectric sector and tourism.
- (iv) Capacity building of both Government and market institutions.
- (v) Creating a hospitable investment climate with state-of-art infrastructure for enhanced trade and commerce.

- (vi) Ensuring significant investment by both public and private sectors for strengthening physical and social infrastructure.

II. It also suggests the following broad objectives:

- (i) Improve the indices of development for the region to catch up with the rest of the country;
- (ii) Structural transformation of the economies of the NE States by effecting significant changes in development strategies to achieve higher growth rates of GSDP to equal to national averages;
- (iii) Poverty eradication based on participatory planning and with private sector participation for growth;
- (iv) Maximizing self-governance by building capacity of people, institutions and traditional / local institutions to enable participation in the growth process;
- (v) Harnessing available local resources for development;
- (vi) Substantial strengthening of infrastructure;
- (vii) Expand trade and commerce in the region;
- (viii) Effective governance for establishing peace and harmony.

III. The Ministry for the Development of the North Eastern Region implements the following schemes which contribute *inter-alia* to the development of rural infrastructure, generation of employment and power generation:

- (i) The Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) Scheme funds infrastructure development projects, *inter-alia*, for roads, bridges, power transmission and water supply in the North Eastern States. The Planning Commission has provided an allocation of Rs. 3095 crore under NLCPR scheme for the 11 Plan period.
- (ii) The North Eastern Council (NEC) implements projects, *inter-alia*, for roads, bridges, power transmission and water supply in the North Eastern States. The Planning Commission has allocated Rs. 7394.00 crore to the NEC for 11th Plan period. Out of this Rs.4298.38 crore, Rs. 957.22 crore and Rs. 139.57 crore are proposed to be utilized for transport and communication, power sector development and water supply schemes respectively.
- (iii) This Ministry also implements a Plan Scheme of Capacity Building and Technical Assistance under which vocational training is imparted through reputed institutes to the youth of North Eastern Region so as to provide them employable and entrepreneurial skills. Rs. 78.90 crore has been allocated by the Planning Commission under this, scheme.

IV. As per extant policy of the Government of India, 51 non-exempted Ministries and Departments of the Union Government are required to spend at least 10% of their Gross Budgetary Support for the NE Region.

V. For the improvement of rural infrastructure, the Ministry of Rural Development implements several schemes of rural development and poverty alleviation in the States of North Eastern

Region. These include, *inter-alia*, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) and Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) for poverty alleviation and employment generation in rural areas. The other schemes of the Ministry of Rural Development - Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Integrated Watershed Management Programmes (IWMP), Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) are also being implemented for providing basic amenities and area development for rural areas. These programmes are implemented in all the States and Union Territories including the North Eastern Region, NREGA, SGSY, IAY and ARWSP are implemented in programme mode and PMGSY, TSC and IWMP are implemented in project mode. Under PMGSY scheme, in new connectivity Stage-I, 15246 km roads are proposed to be constructed connecting 6781 habitations between 2008 to 2015.

- VI. The Department of Drinking Water Supply is implementing several schemes under the Bharat Nirman Programme. The Bharat Nirman Programme has covered 44457 habitations in NER and 4801 habitations remain to be covered. The Department, under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) has released Rs.2292.40 crore from 2005-06 to 2009-10 to the NER.
- VII. Ministry of Power is implementing various power generation schemes to augment power generation in the North Eastern Region. During the 11th Plan, a total of 6088 MW capacity addition is proposed to be added in the North Eastern Region including Sikkim. The power projects that are proposed to be developed in the North Eastern Region during 11th Plan include:
  - (i) Lower Subansiri (2000 MW) and Kameng (600MW) Power Projects in Arunachal Pradesh,
  - (ii) Bongaigaon (750 MW) and Lakawah (37.2 MW) Power Projects in Assam.
  - (iii) Myntdu Leshka (126 MW) and New Umtru (40 MW) Power Projects in Meghataya.
  - (iv) Palatana (726 MW) Gas based Power Project in Tripura.
  - (v) Teesta V-U 1,2,3 (510MW), Teesta III (1200 MW) and Chujachen (99 MW) Power Projects in Sikkim.
  - (vi) During the 12th Plan, Teesta VI (4 x 125 MW) and Rangit IV (3 x 40 MW) hydro power project are proposed to be taken up in Sikkim.
- VIII. Director General, Employment and Training (DGE&T), Ministry of Labour and Employment has implemented a scheme for North Eastern States wherein two new ITIs were set up and 35 existing ITIs upgraded at a cost of Rs.106.55 crore. Three more new ITIs are being set up in Assam and Sikkim which will increase the existing seating capacity from 7244 to 16,144. In addition, 15 more existing ITIs are being upgraded under the Vocational Training Improvement Project with World Bank assistance. These schemes are expected to improve skill levels of the youth and enhance their employability.

- IX. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion implements the North East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIPP), 2007 with a view to promote industrialization and employment generation in the region. NEIIPP 2007 has several components such as capital investment subsidy @ 30% of the investment in plant and machinery without any upper ceiling, interest subsidy of 3% on working capital loan availed by the industrial unit, 100% reimbursement of insurance premium and 100% income tax and excise duty exemptions etc. Under NEIIPP, 2007, 140 Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandums / Letters of Intent have been received in 2007-08 and 2008-09.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS UNSTARRED TO QUESTIONS

### Coal production

1641. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Ministry has reportedly asked the State Governments to fast-track coal output in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of coal blocks/mines allocated by Government during the last four years, indicating the number of such blocks that have become operational, as on date;
- (c) how many hectares of captive blocks are lying idle, indicating the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to appoint a coal regulator to help in expediting the process of coal production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The number of coal blocks allocated during the last four years is given below:-

Year	No. of coal blocks allocated
2005-06	43
2006-07	34
2007-08	53
2008-09	19

Out of the above coal blocks allocated, one coal block has come into production. Remaining blocks are at various stages of development.

- (c) Allocation of coal blocks is done on the basis of quantum of geological reserves. The coal blocks allocated upto May 2009 contains geological reserves of about 45 billion tonnes. 25 coal blocks containing geological reserves of about 2.29 billion tonnes have come into production so far. The remaining blocks are under different stages of development. Coal mining projects have a relatively longer gestation period on account of time involved in land acquisition, resettlement and rehabilitation and other statutory clearances.

(d) A proposal for setting up of an independent regulatory body for coal sector is under consideration of the Government. Setting up of a regulator involves enactment of legislation by the Parliament. Appointment of an independent regulator for coal sector would result in more optimal development and conservation of coal resources, more effective regulation, adoption of best mining practices, rational pricing, better distribution, evolution of a more competitive market etc. It would also help in creating a level playing field for new entrants in the coal sector.

#### **Allocation of coal blocks**

1642. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had allocated several coal blocks to power generation companies for exploration at their respective captive mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof, showing the size of coal blocks allocated to respective companies, the basic terms and conditions and consideration for such allotment, during the last five years, year-wise;

(c) whether these allottees have developed the mines, as per the terms of allotment;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the action taken and/or contemplated against those allottees who failed to comply with the conditions, showing their identities; and

(f) the salient details of revision in extant policy contemplated, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of coal blocks with geological reserves allocated to various public/private sector companies for power generation during the last five years is given in the Statement (*See below*). The basic terms and conditions of allocation of coal blocks, *inter-alia*, include that the coal extracted from the blocks should be used exclusively in the specified end-use by the allocatee and that the coal block has to be developed as per the milestones prescribed.

(c) and (d) The coal blocks allocated are in different stages of development.

(e) As per the guidelines, coal production from a coal block should commence within 36 months (42 months in case the area falls in forest land) in case of open cast mines and in 48 months (54 months in case the area falls in forest land) in case of under ground mine, from the date of allocation. If the coal block is not explored, additional two years are allowed for detailed exploration and preparation of geological report. The allocatees of coal blocks, who have not started production so far, are in various stages of obtaining statutory clearances and mining lease, preparing mining plan, acquisition of land, procuring machinery and equipment etc. for both mining as well as end-use project. Further, the progress of development of coal blocks and end

use projects of the allocattee companies are monitored and reviewed from time to time by the Ministry of Coal. The last such review meeting was held on 22nd and 23rd June, 2009.

(f) The Mines and Mineral (Development & Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2008, which seeks to introduce competitive bidding system for allocation of coal block, was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 17.10.2008. Once that system is adopted, the block allocattees would have to pay a premium by way of the bid amount which would act as an additional incentive to bring the coal blocks allocated into production expeditiously.

**Statement**

*Details of Coal blocks alongwith geological reserves*

*allocated to various companies*

Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Date of Allotment	Name of coal block allocated	End-Use	Geological Reserves (In MT)
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>2004-05</b>					
1	NALCO	27.08.2004	Utkal 'E'	Power	194
2	CSEB	23.09.2004	Gidhmuri	Power	80.27
3	CSEB	23.09.2004	Patoria	Power	269.25
4	NTPC	11.10.2004	Pakri-Barwadih	Power	1600
5	Damodar Valley Corporation	03.03.2005	Barjora (North)	Power	85.49
6	Damodar Valley Corporation	03.03.2005	Kagra Joydev	Power	196.15
7	Damodar Valley Corporation	03.03.2005	Kasta (East)	Power	105
<b>2005-06</b>					
8	WBPDCCL	26.04.2005	Pachvara North	Power	125.71
9	MCL	10.11.2005	Talabira II	Power	152.33
10	NLC	10.11.2005	Talabira II	Power	
11	Hindalco Industries	10.11.2005	Talabira II	Power	
12	MCL	29.11.2005	Utkal-A	Power	
13	JSW Steels Ltd./ Jindal Thermal Power Ltd.	29.11.2005	Utkal-A	Power	333.4

1	2	3	4	5	6
14	Jindal Stainless Steel Ltd.	29.11.2005	Utkal-A	Power	
15	Shyam DRI Ltd.	29.11.2005	Utkal-A	Power	
16	Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corpn. Ltd.	06.12.2005	Tadicherla-I	Power	61.28
17	Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Ltd.	13.01.2006	Gondulpara	Power	140
18	Damodar Valley Corporation	13.01.2006	Gondulpara	Power	
19	NTPC	25.01.2006	Talaipali	Power	965
20	NTPC	25.01.2006	Kerandari	Power	229
21	NTPC	25.01.2006	Chatti Bariatu	Power	243
22	NTPC	25.01.2006	Dulanga	Power	260
23	NTPC+CIL JV	25.01.2006	Brahmini	Power	1900
24	NTPC +CIL JV	25.01.2006	Chichro Patsimal	Power	356
25	GSECL	06.02.2006 Machhakata	Mahanadi	Power	480
26	MSEB	06.02.2006	Mahanadi Machhakata	Power	720
2006-07					
27	Essar Power Ltd.	12.04.2006	Mahan	Power	144.2
28	Hindalco Industries	12.04.2006	Mahan	Power	
29	Chhattisgarh State Electricity Board	02.08.2006	Parsa	Power	150
30	Maharastra State Mining Corpn.	02.08.2006	Gare Pelma Sector II	Power	768
31	Tamil Nadu State Electricity Board	02.08.2006	Gare Pelma Sector II	Power	
32	Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Limited	02.08.2006	Rajbar E&D	Power	385
33	Jharkhand State Electricity Board	02.08.2006	Banhardih	Power	400
34	NCT of Delhi	02.08.2006	Mara II Mahan	Power	477.50

1	2	3	4	5	6
35	Haryana Power Generation Corp Ltd.	02.08.2006	Mara II Mahan	Power	477.50
36	Power Finance Corporation Orissa UMPP	13.09.2006	Meenakshi	Power	285.24
37	Power Finance Corporation Orissa UMPP	13.09.2006	Meenakshi B	Power	250
38	Power Finance Corporation Orissa UMPP	13.09.2006	Dip side of Meenakshi	Power	350
39	Power Finance Corporation Sasan UMPP	13.09.2006	Moher	Power	402
40	Power Finance Corporation Sasan UMPP	13.09.2006	Moher-Amlori Extn.	Power	198
41	Power Finance Corporation Sasan UMPP	26.10.2006	Chhatrasal	Power	150
42	Essar Power Generation Ltd.	20.02.2007	Chakla	Power	83.05
43	Jindal Steel & Power Ltd.	20.02.2007	Jitpur	Power	81.09
44	Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corpn. Ltd.	20.02.2007	Anesttipali	Power	26.89
45	Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corpn. Ltd.	20.02.2007	Punkula-Chilka	Power	38.11
2007-08					
46	Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corpn. Ltd.	29.05.2007	Penagaddppa	Power	110.87
47	UPRVUNL	25.07.2007	Chendipada, Chendi-II	Power	794.5
48	CMDC	25.07.2007	Chendipada, Chendi-II	Power	500

1	2	3	4	5	6
49	MAHAGENCO Chendi-II	25.07.2007	Chendipada,	Power	294.5
50	Kerala State Electricity Board	25.07.2007	Baitarni West	Power	200.66
51	Orissa Hydro Power Generation Corp.	25.07.2007	Baitarni West	Power	200.66
52	Gujarat Power Generation Corp.	25.07.2007	Baitarni West	Power	200.66
53	Assam Mineral Dev. Corp.	25.07.2007	Mandakini B	Power	300
54	Meghalaya Mineral Dev. Corp.	25.07.2007	Mandakini B	Power	300
55	Tamil Nadu State Electricity Board	25.07.2007	Mandakini B	Power	300
56	Orissa Mining Corporation	25.07.2007	Mandakini B	Power	300
57	NTPC	25.07.2007	Chhati Bariatu South	Power	354
58	Damodar Valley Corporation	25.07.2007	Saharpur Jamarpani	Power	600
59	Orissa Power Generation Corporation	25.07.2007	Manoharpur	Power	181.68
60	Orissa Power Generation Corporation	25.07.2007	Dipside Manoharpur	Power	350
61	GMDC	25.07.2007	Naini	Power	500
62	PIPDICL	25.07.2007	Naini	Power	
63	JSEB	25.07.2007	Urma Paharitora	Power	437
64	BSMDCL	25.07.2007	Urma Paharitora	Power	263
65	RRVUNL	25.06.2007	Parsa East	Power	180
66	RRVUNL	25.06.2007	Kanta Basan	Power	180
67	Power Finance Corporation Talaiya UMPP Jharkhand	20.07.2007	Kerandari BC	Power	972

1	2	3	4	5	6
68	Hindalco	01.08.2007	Tubed	Power	189
69	Tata Power Ltd.	01.08.2007	Tubed	Power	
70	Essar Power Ltd.	06.11.2007	Ashok Karkatta Central	Power	110
71	Bhushan Power and Steel Ltd.	06.11.2007	Patal East	Power	200
72	AES Chhattisgarh Energy Pvt. Ltd.	06.11.2007	Sayang	Power	150
73	DB Power Ltd.	06.11.2007	Durgapur II/Sarya	Power	91.67
74	Balco	06.11.2007	Durgapur II/Taraimar	Power	211.37
75	Adani Power Ltd.	06.11.2007	Lohara West Extn.	Power	169.832
76	Monet Ispat and Energy Ltd.	09.01.2008	Mandakini	Power	96.84
77	Jindal Photo Ltd.	09.01.2008	Mandakini	Power	96.84
78	Tata Power Company Ltd.	09.01.2008	Mandakini	Power	96.84
79	Arcelor Mittal India Ltd.	09.01.2008	Seregarha	Power	83.33
80	GVK Power (Govindwal Sahib) Ltd.	09.01.2008	Seregarha	Power	66.67
81	CESC Ltd.	09.01.2008	Mahuagarhi	Power	110
82	Jas Infracture Capital Pvt. Ltd.	09.01.2008	Mahuagarhi	Power	
83	Jindal Steel and Power Ltd.	17.01.2008	Amarkonda Murgadangal	Power	205
84	Gagan Sponge Iron Pvt. Ltd.	17.01.2008	Amarkonda Murgadangal	Power	205
85	Sterlite Energy Ltd. (IPP)	17.01.2008	Rampia & Dip Side of Rampia	Power	112.22
86	GMR Energy (IPP)	17.01.2008	Rampia & Dip Side of Rampia	Power	112.22
87	Arcealor Mittal India Ltd., (CPP)	17.01.2008	Rampia & Dip Side of Rampia	Power	84.16
88	Lanco Group Ltd. (IPP)	17.01.2008	Rampia & Dip Side of Rampia	Power	112.22

1	2	3	4	5	6
89	Navbharat Power Pvt Ltd. (IPP)	17.01.2008	Rampia & Dip Side of Rampia	Power	112.22
90	Reliance Energy Ltd. (IPP)	17.01.2008	Rampia & Dip Side of Rampia	Power	112.22
91	JLD Yavatmal Energy Ltd.	23.01.2008	Fatehpur East	Power	99.12
92	R.K.M. Powergen Pvt. Ltd.	23.01.2008	Fatehpur East	Power	99.12
93	Visa Power Ltd.	23.01.2008	Fatehpur East	Power	99.12
94	Green Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.	23.01.2008	Fatehpur East	Power	99.12
95	Vandana Vidyut Ltd.	23.01.2008	Fatehpur East	Power	53.52
96	SKS Ispat and Power Ltd.	06.02.2008	Fatehpur	Power	73.85
97	Prakash Industries Ltd.	06.02.2008	Fatehpur	Power	46.15
<b>2008-09</b>					
98	MAHAGENCO (M/s Aurangabad Co. Ltd., SPY)	17.07.2008	Bhivkund	Power	100
99	Goa Industrial Development Corporation	12.11.2008	Gare Pelma Sector III	Power	210.2
100	West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited	27.02.2009 (Kalyaneshwari)	East of Damogoria	Power	337

**Environmental clearance to coal mining operations**

1643. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether prior clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests is presently mandatory for the coal mining undertakings to carry out mining operations;

(b) the details of proposals submitted by Coal India Ltd. and/or its subsidiaries for environmental clearance during the last five years, showing the number of proposals cleared and those pending, year-wise;

(c) whether Government is contemplating to streamline the procedure of clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests with a view to speed up implantation of coal mining projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the same is proposed, based on expert advice; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The year-wise details of proposals submitted by the subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd. for Environment Clearance (EC) during the last five years are given below:

Name of	2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
Subsidiary	Sub- mitted	Clea- red	Sub- mitted	Clea- red	Sub- mitted	Clea- red	Sub- mitted	Clea- red	Sub- mitted	Clea- red
ECL	0	0	1	1	5	0	10	4	1	7
BCCL	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	2	0
CCL	2	0	2	2	5	0	0	2	2	3
WCL	2	2	22	22	27	27	18	18	13	9
NCL	0	0	1	1	3	0	2	4	3	3
SECL	2	0	5	4	1	3	3	1	8	0
MCL	0	0	6	3	4	3	3	4	0	3
NEC	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	1	0	0

Detail of Pending Proposals.

Name of Subsidiary	Summary (2004-2009)		
	Submitted	Cleared	Pending
ECL	17	12	5
BCCL	10	0	10
CCL	11	7	4
WCL	82	78	4
NCL	9	8	1
SECL	19	9	10
MCL	13	13	0
NEC	4	1	3

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The procedure earlier followed in obtaining Environment Clearance as per Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 1994 notification has since been streamlined and superceded by EIA Notification, 2006.

(e) and (f) EIA 2006 notification is based on the recommendations of the Govindarajan Committee which was setup by Government of India to study the need for reforms in implementation procedures involved in Environmental Clearance. The following aspects have been taken into consideration while formulating EIA 2006.

- Necessary environmental safeguards have been taken at the planning stage.
- All stakeholders have been involved in the Public Consultation (PC) process.
- Development projects have been identified based on impact potential instead of investment criteria.
- No NOC is required for Environment Clearance.
- Scoping stage incorporates site clearance - No separate site Clearance is required
- Public Consultation has been structured and now has to be conducted by State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) and presided by District Magistrate (DM) and completed within 45 days. MoEF has the right to get the PC done by other independent agency. If SPCB fails to complete the same within 45 days. The proceedings of PC are to be video graphed and also the findings/observations are to be put in Public domain.
- Time limits with consequences at each stage have been fixed.
- Entire process of EC has to be completed within 210 days.

#### **Acquiring of overseas mining assets**

1644.SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is exploring to acquire mining assets overseas;
- (b) if so, the countries explored and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the financial implications in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has approved the formation of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) through a Joint Venture between Coal India Limited (CIL)/ Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)/ Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)/ National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC), which has been registered as "International Coal Ventures Private Limited" (ICVL). ICVL has been registered as a company on 20th May, 2009. The purpose of ICVL is to invest in coal resources abroad to meet the coal demand of the partner companies. The SPV has been approved to have an authorized capital of Rs.10,000 crore and an initial paid-up capital of Rs.3,500 crore. CIL's contribution in the initial paid-up capital will be Rs. 1,000 crore.

Australia, South Africa, Mozambique, United States of America (USA) and Indonesia have been prioritized for acquiring mining assets based on combination of factors like availability of good quality coal resources, infrastructure, favourable policy of FDI for coal mining etc. In addition, CIL has acquired two coal blocks in Mozambique through bidding process.

(c) Both ICVL and CIL's foreign venture initiatives are at the initial stage and it is not possible at this juncture to estimate the total financial implications in this regard.

### Allocation of coal mines to private companies

1645. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has allocated captive coal mines to a host of private companies and operators;
- (b) the number of such captive coal mines leased out during the last four years and the details of their locations, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has set targets of production and revenue for such captive coal mines;
- (d) whether the captive coal mines are just lying idle; and
- (e) if so, the steps proposed to retrieve the coal mines immediately and protect a national resource?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of captive coal blocks allocated to the private companies during the last four years and the details of their location, State-wise is given below:-

State of location of coal block	No of coal blocks allocated to private companies			
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Jharkhand	11	3	7	4
Chhattisgarh	7	-	5	3
Maharashtra	4	2	1	2
Orissa	5	4	3	2
Madhya Pradesh	-	4	4	3
West Bengal	-	1	1	-
<b>TOTAL :</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>

(c) As per the guidelines, coal production from a coal block should commence within 36 months (42 months in case the area falls in forest land) in case of open cast mines and in 48 months (54 months in case the area falls in forest land) in case of under ground mine, from the date of allocation. If the coal block is not explored, additional two years are allowed for detailed exploration and preparation of geological report. So far, production from 25 coal blocks has commenced. Extraction of coal from these coal blocks would be done over the life span of the said blocks, which would be determined when the mining plans are prepared and approved. The coal blocks are allotted for captive use and the Central Government does not earn any revenue out of the allocations made.

(d) and (e) The coal blocks allocated are in various stages of development viz. obtaining statutory clearances and mining lease, preparing mining plan, acquisition of land, procuring machinery and equipment etc. for both mining as well as end-use project. Further, the progress of

development of coal blocks and end use projects of the allocattee companies are monitored and reviewed from time to time by the Ministry of Coal. The last such review meeting was held on 22nd and 23rd June, 2009.

#### **Illegal coal mining**

1646. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the concrete steps taken to stop illegal mining of coal, either by extraction of coal without obtaining a valid mining lease or by mining in areas outside the lease-hold areas of coal companies;

(b) whether the extant laws are adequate to deal with coal mafia or any amendments or enactment of fresh laws are on the anvil; and

(c) whether the successful Chinese model of co-operative mining is being considered to maximize the extraction of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The following steps are being taken by the Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiary companies to prevent illegal mining within their command areas:

- (i) Rat holes created by illegal mining are being dozed off and filled up with stone and debris wherever possible.
- (ii) Concrete walls have been erected on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas.
- (iii) Regular raids/checks being conducted by security personnel and static security pickets including armed guards during the night hours are being deployed at pithead depots.
- (iv) Surprise raids/checks being conducted jointly by security personnel and law and order authorities of the concerned State Government.
- (v) Fencing is being constructed at the various illegal mining sites along with displaying of signboards mentioning "Dangerous and Prohibited Place".
- (vi) Dumping of overburden is being done on the outcrop zones, which are not required to be mined.
- (vii) Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action.
- (viii) Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents.
- (ix) Training of existing security personnel, refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security setup.
- (x) The coal companies maintain close liaison with the State Authorities.
- (xi) Committee/Task Force have been constituted at different levels (block level, sub-divisional level, district level, State level) at some subsidiaries of CIL to monitor different aspects of illegal mining.

(b) and (c) There are adequate provisions in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and other Statutes to deal with the problem of illegal mining. Section 23 C of the said Act empowers the State Government to make rules for preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals etc. No information about Chinese model of co-operative mining is available, nor is it being considered by CIL.

#### Position of coal reserves

1647. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the position of coal reserves as estimated during 2008-09, after keeping in view the extraction of coal during the last twenty years from 182 blocks worth 41,410 million tonnes allocated for extraction between 1987 and 2007;

(b) whether the objective of using coal as raw input for power generation and production of steel/sponge iron is being fully met from the indigenous resources; and

(c) how much coal has been imported, year-wise in 2006, 2007 and 2008?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The total coal resources as established by the explorations carried out by various agencies stood at 264.535 Billion Tonnes as on 01.04.2008 and 267.210 Billion Tonnes as on 01.04.2009. As per the present practice the estimated resources do not take into account the coal already extracted from the established resources.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The gap between the projected demand and domestic supply of coal is being met through imports. Details of year-wise coal imports as gathered from Coal Controller Organisation are as under:

#### *Coal imports in the Country (in Million Tonnes)*

Year	Coking Coal	Non-Coking Coal	Total Coal
2005-06	16.89	21.70	38.59
2006-07	17.88	25.20	43.08
2007-08	22.03	27.77	49.79
2008-09 (Provisional)	24.00	35.00	59.00

#### Plight of workers in coal mines

†1648. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the pathetic plight of workers working in coal mines;

(b) whether Government is aware that these workers give a large part of their wages to coal mafia.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government is aware that these coal mafia have got the backlog of high placed officials of NCL; and

(d) if so, the details of measures being taken by Government for these workers for their normal life and security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) The Government is aware of various problems faced by workers working in coal mines. Keeping in view the problems faced by the workers, various measures are undertaken from time to time to improve the working conditions and living conditions by the coal companies. They also undertake welfare activities and social security measures. Recently, Joint Bipartite Committee for the Coal Industry (JBCCI) comprising of representatives of the Central Trade Unions, *i.e.* INTUC, AITUC, HMS, BMS & CITU and the management signed the National Coal Wage Agreement (NCWA-VIII) which is effective from 1.7.2006 wherein there has been an increase in both wages and other fringe benefits including the components related to welfare and social security.

(b) No Sir. The Government is not aware of any such practice of workers giving a large part of their wages to coal mafia.

(c) No Sir.

#### **Modernisation of coal mines**

1649. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to modernise a number of its coal mines in the country and also to incorporate upgraded technology and machineries;

(b) if so, the details of losses/profits earned by each of the coal mines during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether most of the underground mines of the Eastern Coalfields Limited have been under losses for the last several years;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) to what extent the modernisation and upgradation of various coal mines is going to bring such coal mines out of the red?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. All the opencast mines (155 nos. in Coal India Limited (CIL) and 14 nos. in Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL)) are mechanized mines. In case of 294 underground mines in CIL; 112 mines are mechanized/semi mechanized; 84 mines are having both manual and semi mechanized working and the rest 98 are having manual.' workings. In Case of SCCL all 36 mines are mechanized/semi mechanized. CIL proposes to further mechanize 28 mines with longwall /continuous miner technology and 40 mines with t semi mechanization deploying side discharge loaders/load haul dumpers. The loss/Profit incurred by some of the mines proposed for mechanization are given in the table below:

(Rupees in crores)

Name of Mine	Company	Loss/Profit 2006-07	Loss/Profit 2007-08	Loss/Profit 2008-09
Moonidih	BCCL	-38.86	-38.51	-92.72
PB Project	BCCL	-2.46	-10.40	-51.45
Madhuband	BCCL	-1.96	-4.27	-21.00
Vindhya U/G	SECL	-1041.27	-803.42	-1532
Pinoura U/G	SECL	-349.27	-701.13	-1444
Kurja U/G	SECL	177.58	-38-85	-151.50
Kapildhara U/G	SECL	2051.06	2131.19	1277

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Most of the underground mines of Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) are loss making. The main reasons for suffering losses are inheritance of large number of work force in its underground mines at the time of nationalization; stiff resistance from trade unions for redeployment of personnel to potential mines and conducting of operations in underground mines with sand stowing in order to protect the surface features leading to increased cost of operations.

(e) Closing down of uneconomic mines, opening of green field underground mines with state of the art technologies; mechanizing the manual workings wherever feasible are some of the efforts being adopted for turning around loss making mines.

#### Share of private and public sector companies in coal

†1650. SHRI SUBHASH PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the share of private and public sector companies in coal mining projects and the criteria of their allotment;

(b) the number of coal projects approved during the last three years and in the current financial year and the criteria thereof;

(c) whether Indian companies have been ignored in the process of allotment;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the details of procedure for approving the coal projects; and

(f) the details of the outcome of recently concluded meeting of the Ministers of Coal and Environment and Forests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) 201 coal blocks with geological reserves of about 45 BT have been allocated (upto May, 2009) to various public and private companies registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1956 for different end uses specified in Section 3(3)(a) of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973. Out of the total 201 coal blocks, 97 coal blocks have been allocated to public sector companies and 104 coal blocks

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

have been allocated to private sector companies. Allocations of coal blocks are decided by the Government taking into account, inter-alia, techno-economic viability of end-use project, state of project preparedness, compatibility in terms of quality and quantity of coal in a block with the requirement of end user and track record of applicant company, recommendations of the State Government and Administrative Ministry concerned etc.

(b) The number of coal blocks allocated during the last three years and in the current financial year is given below. The criteria adopted for allocation of coal blocks are given in reply to part (a) above.

Year	No. of coal blocks allocated
2006-07	34
2007-08	53
2008-09	19
2009-10 (Upto June, 2009)	7

(c) No, Sir, only companies registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1956 have been allocated coal blocks.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply given at (c) above.

(e) The different procedures followed for allocation of coal blocks are given below:-

(i) **Government Company Dispensation Route** - Under this arrangement, applications are invited from the State Government/Central Govt companies/enterprises. Allocation of coal blocks to State/Central Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) is made under Section 3(3)(a)(i) of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973. Under this route, only Government companies are allocated coal blocks and no private company is eligible for allocation.

(ii) **Captive Dispensation Route**- Under this dispensation, blocks identified for allocation for approved end-use for captive mining are advertised in the major National/Regional newspapers calling applications from both public and private sector companies. The applications received are placed before the Screening Committee for its recommendation. Allocation of coal blocks in favour of public as well as private sector companies under Section 3(3)(a)(iii) of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 is done by the Government based on the recommendations of the Screening Committee which is an inter-ministerial and inter-governmental committee headed by Secretary(Coal). This Committee has representatives from Ministry of Power, Steel, Industry, Environment & Forests, Railways, Coal India Limited, Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited, Neyveli Lignite Corporation and the concerned State Government where the block is located.

(iii) **Allocation of coal blocks under Tariff Based Competitive Bidding**:- In this case, identified coal blocks are placed at the disposal of Ministry of Power which determines the linkage of coal blocks with the power projects proposed to be awarded on the basis of Tariff Based Competitive

Bidding by calling applications from eligible companies. Coal blocks are allotted by the Ministry of Coal to power projects on the basis of bidding for tariff on the recommendations of Ministry of Power under Section 3(3)(a)(iii) of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973.

(f) A meeting on 17.06.2009 was held between the Ministers of Coal and Environment & Forests.

The following major issues were discussed in the said meeting:

- i) To revisit the existing guidelines for exploratory boreholes in forest areas.
- ii) To identify "Go" and "No-Go" areas for coal exploitation.
- iii) To expedite environmental clearance of coal projects.
- iv) To expedite forestry clearances.
- v) To re-induct a representative from Ministry of Coal in the Environmental Appraisal Committee (EAC).

#### **Inspection of accounts book of big corporates**

1651. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is looking into the accounts of big corporates with huge turnovers to assess whether these firms are reflecting correctly the losses or gains arising from transactions involving foreign currency in their account books;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has asked the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) to check/scrutinize the accounts of big corporates; and

(d) if so, the details of discrepancies found by ICAI in the accounts of big corporates and further action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) and (b) The Ministry carries out scrutiny and inspection of accounts of companies as and when required as part of its responsibility of administration of the Companies Act, 1956. During this process, compliance with Accounting Standards is also checked and Accounting Standard 11 titled 'The effect of changes in foreign exchange rates' is a part of Accounting Standards. Further, auditors of every company have to *inter-alia* report on the compliance of Accounting Standards as required under Section 227(3)(d) of the Companies Act, 1956.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Inspection of accounts of Educomp Solutions Ltd.**

1652. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has ordered inspection of the books of accounts of Educomp Solutions Ltd., following report of manipulation of accounts to push share prices;

(b) if so, whether the inspection has been completed; and

(c) if so, the complete details in this regard and the action taken or proposed to be taken against the company for violations/ manipulation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir, the inspection of books of accounts of M/s. Educomp Solutions Limited was ordered under Section 209A of the Companies Act, 1956.

(b) and (c) The Inspecting Officer appointed under Section 209A of the Companies Act, 1956 has submitted the Inspection Report and the same is under examination.

#### **Operation of International Financial Reporting Standards**

1653.SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has set a deadline to operationalise International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS);

(b) whether more than 15,000 companies in almost 100 countries have adopted IFRS, including listed companies in the European Union;

(c) whether Government has taken initiatives to convert the existing accounting systems in public sector undertakings to IFRS; and

(d) if so, the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir. As per existing policy, the convergence of Indian Accounting Standards with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) is expected to be enabled by April, 2011.

(b) The Government is not maintaining any data in this respect.

(c) and (d) The Government has adopted the approach of convergence with IFRS, keeping in view the requirements relevant to Indian conditions and to enable Indian companies including public sector undertakings and regulatory bodies to transition to the new system smoothly. In pursuance of this approach, Government has notified the Companies (Accounting Standards) Rules, 2006.

#### **Vanishing companies**

1654.SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any mechanism to monitor fraudulent activities of various finance, plantation, corporate houses, builders and other such companies that have cheated the public worth thousands of crores of rupees over the last few years and have vanished;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the number of such companies inspected by Government during the last three years; and
- (d) the action proposed by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) Ministry of Corporate Affairs administers only those companies which are registered under the Companies Act, 1956. In addition to the various provisions of the Act, applicable in this context, a central Coordination and Monitoring Committee (CMC), co-chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Chairman, SEBI has also been set up to look into issues relating to companies that had come out with public issue and vanished and to monitor the progress of action taken against them. Specific criteria have been adopted for identification of such vanishing companies.

(c) On the basis of above criteria, no company that had raised funds from public through public issue has been identified as "vanished" during the last three years.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

#### **Powers to ICAI**

1655. SHRI N. K. SINGH:

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of sensational revelations of financial irregularities in Satyam Computer Services Ltd., the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has sought more powers to prevent such frauds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the chartered accountants, registered with the Institute would be held responsible if the frauds/financial irregularities are detected from the accounts of the corporates; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) No such proposal has been received in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

(c) and (d) The Chartered Accountants registered with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India associated with corporates in the capacity of Statutory Auditors/Internal Auditors or in any other professional capacity are liable for action under the provisions of section 21 and 22 of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 and the rules framed thereunder, if they fail to point out the irregularities in their Audit Report or on being found guilty of a professional or other misconduct mentioned in the First or Second Schedule of the Act.

#### **Projects sanctioned under NLCPR**

1656. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of NLCPR project sanctioned during 2008-09 and 2009-2010 in different States of the North Eastern Region and the amount released out of the amount sanctioned against each;

(b) in how many of these project, the implementation process is yet to be undertaken with how many completed by now;

(c) the names of the projects in Tripura not completed and remained pending for more than three years; and

(d) the reasons for delays in implementation and the remedial measures to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE):  
(a) and (b) The State-wise list of projects sanctioned for funding under Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 along with the amount sanctioned and funds released is given in the Statement-I (*See below*). The process of implementation of projects commences with its sanction. None of these projects have been completed so far.

(c) and (d) A list of NLCPR projects in Tripura whose completion is delayed by more than 3 years is given in the Statement-II (*See below*). The implementation of projects sanctioned under NLCPR is the responsibility of the State Government. As reported by Government of Tripura the reasons for their delay in completion *Inter-alia*, include shorter working period because of long rainy season in the State, remoteness of area and limitation of technical and professional expertise. The projects are being monitored regularly for their early completion and the State Government is asked to complete them on priority in a planned manner.

**Statement-I**

*Projects Sanctioned under NLCPR during 2008-09 and 2009-10*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Project/Scheme Name	Approved Cost	Total Release
1	2	3	4
<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>			
1.	Corpus Fund for R.K. Mission Hospital, Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh	22.22	20.00
2.	Construction of Road from Changlang to Khimiyang (36.10 Km)	8.59	2.54
3.	Construction of Road from New Mohong to Mahadevput Township via Nongkhbri (12 Km)	3.55	1.12
4.	Construction of Gacharn - Morshing Road (24.50 Km)	19.62	6.04
5.	Construction of Wak Liromoba Road (78 Km) - Phase I	6.60	2,.03

1	2	3	4
6.	C/o road from Hawai to MCL Bridge point (55.77 KM)	32.53	10.25
7.	Construction of Tamen-Tali road <i>via</i> Yirkoum (60 KM) Phase-I 0-49 Km (Kurung Kumey)	8.98	2.83
8.	Construction of road from Sangram to Phassang-Pailang <i>via</i> Nyapin (SDO HQ) - Phase-I (Kurung Kumey)	8.82	2.78
9.	Construction of Single lane bailey bridge (span 40 mtr) over Tasing river in between Borguli village and Seram in East Siang district	3.40	1.07
10.	C/o road from BRO road (4 KM point) on Anini Dambuine road to Etabe (12 KM) (Dibang Valley)	22.14	6.97
11.	Restoration and upgradation of 32 KM internal road at Ziro Township. (Lower Subansiri)	14.00	4.41
12.	Improvement & Extension of Dosing, Pareng, Sine, Yibuk, Liging road. (Phase-I)	18.26	5.75
13.	Construction of road from Kheti to Dadam (21 KM) (Tirap)	10.87	3.42
<b>Assam</b>			
14.	Construction of two storeyed building of SJN Government Homoeopathic Medical. College and Hospital at Panjabari, Guwahati	2.66	0.82
15.	Multi Level Parking in different parts of Guwahati	20.24	6.38
16.	Construction of Roadside drain cum footpath and provision of roadside streetlight illumination in Naharkaiia town in Dibrugarh Rural Road Division	6.45	1.99
17.	Strengthening of 11 kV HT and LT Line with 12 Meter Steel Tubular Pole including Illumination of Kokrajhar Town	5.20	2.89
18.	Construction of RCC bridge no. 10/1 & 18/1 on Bagals Road in Nalbari District with approaches	3.08	0.96
19.	Construction of RCC bridge no. 18/2 over stream Bahanigaon & bridge no. 19/1 over river Kachikata on Laluk-Narayanpur <i>via</i> Bihpuria Road in Lakhimpur District	2.09	0.66

1	2	3	4
20.	Construction of RCC bridge No. 4/1,7/1, 8/1 and i 11/1 over field canal / River Sakati on Abhyapuri Tilungia Road with approaches and protection works in Bongaigaon District	3.38	1.05
21.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 5/3 on Bhorbhogia Mikirbheta Dhing Road with approaches in Morigaon District	2.41	0.75
22.	Construction of RCC bridge No. 57/1 on Gaurisagar Moran Road and construction of RCC bridge No. 15/2 over River Disam on Naharkatia - Tinkhong Road under Dibrugarh Rural Road Division	4.06	1.27
23.	Improvement of Jalah Rupohi Saudorvitha Gobardhan Road in Baska District	21.21	10.61
24.	Conversion of SPT Bridge 20/1 over River Gangia into RCC Bridge on Gosaigaon Sapalgrara Road in Kokrajhar District	10.83	5.41
25.	Construction of RCC Br. No. 32/1 on AT road (old) including approaches with protection works in Goalpara	7.39	2.31
26.	Constn. of Br.No. 28/1 on Dehangi Dayangmukh Road over thajuwari Nala & Langlodisa Nala (PWD Roads Haflong Division)	3.55	1.12
27.	Construction of RCC Br. No. 7/1 on Dharamtul Dandua Road with approaches	2.48	0.77
28.	Improvement of Badlapara to Dharamjuli Road under Uclalguri Rural Road division	4.03	1.25
29.	Constn. of RCC Br. No. 22/1 over river Diffoloo on Chowkiholder Panjan Debitor Malasi Dirring Kohora (CPDMDK) Road with approaches and protection works	3.04	0.95
30.	Construction of District Sports Complex at Jlhagrapar in Dhubri District	3.78	1.17
31.	Construction of Chandi Barua Stadium at Barbapeta	2.90	0.90
32.	Augmentation of Greater Diphu Water Supply Scheme in Karbi Anglong District	27.67	8.55

1	2	3	4
33.	Stabilisation of Dispur Water Supply Scheme	7.30	2.25
34.	Greater Bokajan Water Supply Scheme	10.04	3.10
35.	Improvement of BBDC Road at 31 Km	40.17	12.17
36.	Construction of RCC Bridge No.8/6 over river Dirring, (b) No. 18/1 over river Borjan, (c) Bridge No. 19/1 over river Borjan, (d) Bridge No.23/3 over river Donjon, (e) Bridge No.27/3 over river Kokosang (2) Bridge No.2/1 over river Kohra in K.A District	11.38	3.51
37.	Construction of RCC Bridge No.2/1 on Nandina Karaimari road in Assam	6.58	2.04
38.	Construction of RCC Bridge No.4/1 on Garmari Gagalmari road in Assam	2.33	0.73
39.	Rupshir.Ali (Construction of Bridge Nos.3/2, 5/2 and 5/4) Manipur	2.10	0.66
40.	Installation of 2x12.5 MVA 132 KV S/Stn at Chandel in	13.26	4.16
<b>Manipur</b>			
41.	Installation of 2x12.5 MVA 33/11 KV S/Stn at Willong in Manipur	5.45	1.70
42.	Augmentation of water supply scheme at Riha Loute, (Ukhrul	3.49	1.10
43.	Construction of barrage across Itam river at Kharasom, Imphal East	3.61	1.14
44.	Barrage component of Loktak Downstream HE Project (66 MW)	109.59	34.50
4-5.	Installation of 2x5 MVA 33 KV S/Stn alongwith 33 KV line at Sekmaiin, Imphal West	3.78	1.19
46.	Installation of 2x1 MVA 33 KV S/Stn alongwith 33 KV line at Chakpikarong, Chandel	5.55	1.75
47.	Installation of 2x3,15 MVA 33 KV S/Stn alongwith 33 KV line at Sagolmang, Imphal East	3.40	1.07
48.	Installation of 2x5 MVA 33 KV S/Stn alongwith 33 KV line at Ukhrul Khunjao, Ukhrul	4.21	1.32
49.	Installation of 2x1 MVA 33 KV S/Stn alongwith 33 KV line at Henglep, Churachandpur	4.11	1.29

1	2	3	4
50.	Improvement of Sawombung-Sagolmang Road from 0 to 12 km.	2.23	0.70
<b>Meghalaya</b>			
51.	Construction, of School Building, Mendipathar Secondary School, East Garo Hills	1.21	0.38
52.	Construction of School Building, Ri-Bhoi Presbyterian Higher Secondary School, Nongpoh, Ri-Bhoi District	3.65	1.15
53.	Sanction of 30% Grant in the Project "Construction of Ganol Hydro Electric Project (22.5 MW) at Tura, West. Garo Hills	36.72	11.57
54.	Sanction of 30% Grant in the Project "New Umtru H.E Project (2x20 MW) at Ri-Bhoi District	48.29	15.21
55.	Construction of remaining portion of Mawsahew -Nongsteng - Umblai - Mawphu Road from 6th to 13th km in Meghalaya	9.54	3.00
56.	Improvement including Metalling & Blacktopping of Road from Sonapur (NH-44) to Lad Borsora (10 Km)" in Meghalaya	8.33	2.62
57.	Improvement/construction including Metalling and Blacktopping of a double lane road from Rymbai to Deichynrum (7Km)	6.03	1.90
58.	Construction of Shopping Complex cum Auditorium near Lumshad, Lad Mawgap	2.31	0.73
59.	Construction of New Nongstoin Market Complex at Nongstoin	5.29	1.63
<b>Mizoram</b>			
60.	Construction of Bridge over Tuichang on Keituum -Anahkawn road in Mizoram	2.59	0.81
61.	Construction of Longpuighat - Kukurduleya Road	11.52	3.45
62.	Road formation and restoration works at Lawngtlai Slided location.	2.24	0.69

1	2	3	4
<b>Nagaland</b>			
63.	Improvement and upgradation of 11 Government High School Buildings	9.99	3.08
64.	Utilization of ground water resources through Shallow Tube Well	0.63	0.20
65.	Construction of 66KV Transmission Line (charged at 33KV) from Ganeshnagar to Peren & construction of 5MVA, 33/11 KV S/S at Jalukie & Peren	21.78	6.73
66.	Construction of Link Roads to Mineral Deposit Areas in Nagaland	26.54	16.40
67.	Construction of road from Razeaba to Chizami via Thetsumi	25.73	8.10
68.	Construction of road from Ruzhazo to Phek town via Khumvophu	8.60	2.71
69.	Construction of T.Beam Girder Double Lane Bridge of IRC Class 'A' loading over river DZU-U on Rusoma to Kijumetuma road	5.44	1.71
70.	Upgradation. and Improvement of roads from Tourist Villages from major/minor hubs in Nagaland	4.90	1.53
71.	Construction of road from Tamlu Administrative Hq. to Shemnyuching in Nagaland	11.43	3.60
72.	Construction & Improvement of road from Zhekiye to Hokiye via Satoi (Zhekiye to Chokhuvt)-26 km in Nagaland	16.94	5.23
73.	Construction of road from NH-150 to Thiphuzu (25 km) in Nagaland	11.92	3.75
74.	Construction of road from Kephore to Kituskir (10 km) in Nagaland	7.49	2.31
75.	Construction of road from Agunato-Samator Road in Nagaland	15.97	4.94
76.	Construction of road from Noklak to Thnonoknyu via Sanglao in Nagaland	8.45	2.66
77.	Construction / Improvement of road from Tuophema to Kasha (8.5 km) in Nagaland	5.87	1.81

1	2	3	4
<b>Sikkim</b>			
78.	Construction of Multi Purpose hall library, computer laboratory and 12 class room building to various senior secondary schools in Sikkim	9.09	2.82
79.	Construction of pre- stressed Bridge over River Rangit on Legship Tashiding road in West Sikkim	13.92	4.30
80.	Pakyong- Machong - Rolep Road in East	33.39	10.29
81.	Extension of road from Chakhung Khanesherbong SPWD road to Majuwa village <i>via</i> . Chota Samdung-3kms length alongwith 2nos. of RCC bridges in West District	2.71	0.84
82.	Construction / improvement of 18.3 km road Sribadam-Deythang-Mangalbarey in West Sikkim	16.80	5.20
83.	Upgradation of LLHP to Nandok road. (4kms) in East Sikkim	3.63	1.13
84.	Improvement & widening of Tintek Dikchu Road - 12 km in East Sikkim	10.24	3.17
85.	Construction of link road from Passingdong P.H.E. to Lingthem Gumpha (Monastery) and Lingthem School-8km, upper Dzong, North Sikkim	7.66	2.41
86.	Augmentation of rural water supply scheme at Central Pandem, Sikkim	20.50	6.33
<b>Tripura</b>			
87.	Improvement of Teliamura Sub-Divisional Hospital in Tripura	7.32	2.31
88.	Establishment of a New College of Teachers' Education in North Tripura	21.10	6.65
89.	Improvement of State B.Ed. College	8.26	2.60
TOTAL :		1028.63	34933

**Statement-II**

*Projects whose completion is delayed by more than 3 years*

		(Rs. in crore)
Sl. No.	NLCPR Project	Approved Cost
1.	New Capital Complex Project at Agartala	50.00
2.	Sub-transmission schemes - Metering and Instrumentation	6.79
3.	Renovation & restrengthening of 132kv single circuit line from Agartala to Dharmanagar	10.00
4.	Tribal Development Project	28.80
5.	Super Speciality Block, G.B. Pant Hospital, Agartaia	8.88
6.	Upgradation of Halahali-Ambassa-Dangabari-Belonia road	156.03
7.	Drinking water supply scheme for Teliamura	6.21
TOTAL :		266.71

**NEC projects**

1657. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of NEC projects sanctioned during 2008-09 and 2009-10 and the amount of funds released out of the funds sanctioned against each;

(b) whether it is a fact that a good number of NEC projects have been lying pending in many North Eastern States for years together and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government contemplates to take for expediting implementation processes?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE):  
(a) and (b) The names of projects of the North Eastern Council, sanctioned during 2008-09 and 2009-10, funds sanctioned and released against each project and projects pending completion is available on the website of the North Eastern Council at [www.necouncil.gov.in](http://www.necouncil.gov.in).

(c) The steps being undertaken to expedite the completion of sanctioned projects of the North Eastern Council are as follows:

- (i) Ensure early release of sanctioned NEC funds to the implementing departments/ agencies by the concerned State Government.
- (ii) Regular monitoring of the progress of works of the project.
- (iii) Persuade implementing agency for timely submission of Utilization Certificates, Quarterly Progress Reports to NEC to expedite further release of fund.
- (iv) Undertaking regular inspection visits to the project sites to determine the actual progress of work.

#### **Emission cuts**

1658. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether US has initiated moves to impose additional tariffs on goods from countries like India that do not take on commitments to cut their greenhouse gas emissions;

(b) whether WTO has commented that trade concerns should be subjugated to climate change issues; and

(c) whether India is not obligated to undertake any mandatory emission cuts under the existing UN convention on climate change?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The US has proposed a legislation entitled 'American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009' which aims, *inter alia*, to reduce global pollution and transition to a clean energy economy. The proposed legislation has a provision for imposition of 'border adjustment' measures. Under these measures, foreign manufacturers and Importers including those from India would be required to pay for and hold special allowances to cover the carbon contained in US-bound products with a view to ensure that US manufacturers are not put at a disadvantage relative to overseas competitors.

(b) WTO, along with UNEP, has recently published a report titled 'trade and climate change' which states that more open trade will most likely lead to increased emissions which may not be fully offset by the change in the emissions caused by improvements or changes in the 'composition' and 'technique' of output. Although, the report does not say that trade concerns should be subjugated to climate change issues, it mentions that climate change can lead to shifts in the pattern of international trade based on comparative advantage of countries.

(c) All developing countries included India have no obligation under the UN convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol to make any mandatory emission cuts.

#### **National plan on air pollution**

†1659. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated a nationwide plan to check air pollution and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government plans to set up CNG filling stations, along all the national highways to contain air pollution and if so, the targeted time for completion of this project; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) with the help of concerned State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) is monitoring the ambient air across the country at 346 stations covering 130 cities and towns in 28 States and 04 Union Territories. The data is compiled and processed by the CPCB leading to air pollution control measures by the concerned agencies, *i.e.*, CPCB, SPCBs, Municipalities, Transport Departments, State Governments, etc.

The Government has taken various measures to control air pollution which *interalia* includes implementation of notified emission standards for industries and generator sets. Implementation of action plans for air quality management in 16 cities apart from Delhi is being undertaken.

Implementation of emission norms for new and in-use vehicles and fuel quality in accordance with the Road Map of the Auto Fuel Policy, introduction of cleaner fuel in public transport and strengthening of mass transportation are underway.

(b) and (c) The Government has recently announced in the Budget 2009-10 establishment of 'Gas Highways' which are long distance highways to facilitate a National Gas Grid. Setting up of 'Gas Highways' would pave the path for increasing the availability of natural gas infrastructure in all parts of the country, setting up of CNG stations along highways and to contain air pollution due to vehicles.

As a pilot project, GAIL GAS, a subsidiary company of the GAIL (India) Limited, has planned to set-up CNG stations at Panvel (Mumbai - Pune Highway) and Kovvur (Vijayawada - Rajahmundry Highway). The said CNG stations are proposed to be commissioned by the end of 2nd quarter of year 2009-10. However, it is difficult to allocate a time line for completion of this project.

#### **Relocation of villagers from tiger reserves**

1660. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1824, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 6th December, 2007 and state:

(a) whether Government has completed the enhancing of the relocation/rehabilitation package for villages in the core areas of tiger reserves; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger has been revised to include, *interalia*, an enhanced village relocation package (from Rs. 1.00 lakh/per family to Rs. 10.00 lakhs/per family), for relocation of villages from the core/critical tiger habitat of a Tiger Reserve, identified under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 towards providing inviolate space to tiger population.

#### **Tiger farming method**

1661. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the fast depletion of population of tigers in Indian forest and reserves, Government has decided to adopt tiger-farming method as prevalent in different countries like those in China;

(b) if so, the details of strategy contemplated; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No Sir. India has taken strong initiatives since 1972 for *in-situ* conservation of wild tigers in designated tiger reserves spread over different tiger States under 'Project Tiger'. The tiger farming, as prevalent in China, is meant for consumptive use of tiger body parts which is detrimental for wild tiger conservation. India has strongly appealed to China and other countries at the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) to restrict such operations in the interest of wild tigers.

(c) Question does not arise.

#### **Compensatory Afforestation Fund**

1662. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has not authorized *ad hoc* Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) to release funds to States/UTs for carrying out compensatory afforestation works;

(b) if so, whether Government has envisaged alternative means to meet the demand of funds for the purposes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, how the States/UTs would meet their requirement of funds for compensatory afforestation works, plantations, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) to (d) The Central Government in consultation with the State/UT Governments have prepared guidelines on State Level Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management & Planning Authority (State CAMPA). These guidelines, *inter alia*, envisage the constitution of State CAMPA in all concerned States/UTs. The State CAMPA would open an account in the nationalized banks and will receive funds from the *Ad hoc* CAMPA for taking up works as per the approved Annual Plan of Operations (APOs). The Supreme Court in its order dated 10.07.2009 in IA No. 2143 in WP(C) 202 of 1995 has also agreed with the guidelines on State CAMPA.

### **Regulatory Boards**

1663. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of people serving on regulatory boards of the Ministry are also directors of companies whose projects the boards, they are serving on, have appraised;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) what action Government has contemplated against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

- (c) Does not arise, in view of reply to parts (a) & (b) above.

### **Environmental clearance to projects**

1664. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has prescribed any time limit for according environmental clearance to industrial projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether applications of a number of SEZ developers from Gujarat are pending before the Ministry for clearance; and
- (d) if so, by when these applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Environmental Impact Assessment Notification of September, 2006 provides a time limit of 60 days for conveying Terms of Reference to the developmental activities including industrial projects to the applicant on receipt of application with all necessary documents. Further, a time limit of 105 days, after the receipt of the complete application with all necessary documents, has been provided for the appraisal and conveying the decision.

(c) and (d) There are two Special Economic Zone (SEZ) projects awaiting environment clearance from Gujarat. For the first project of SEZ at Dahej, site map indicating areas falling under Coastal Regulation Zone is awaited from the project proponent. In the case of the second "PhaEZ Park" SEZ project, requisite information has been received recently from the project proponent and the proposal is included for discussion in its Expert Appraisal Committee for New Construction Projects and Industrial Estates meeting scheduled to be held in August, 2009.

### **Water Pollution in Ganga**

†1665. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that basin water of the Ganges is getting increasingly polluted over the years;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and reasons for this basin water getting increasingly polluted;

(c) whether the Government are working on a plan to consider the measures for redressal of the reasons; and

(d) if so, details of the plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Water quality monitoring carried out by reputed institutions such as, IIT, Kanpur, BHEL, Patna University, etc. indicates that, water quality of the river Ganga conforms to the prescribed standards in terms of key indicators, namely, Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Dissolved Oxygen (DO) at most of the locations, except in the stretch between Kannauj and Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh. However, the levels of fecal coliforms are reported to be exceeding the maximum permissible limit at a number of monitoring stations along the river Ganga.

The pollution load has increased over the years due to industrialization and urbanisation. Abstraction of water for irrigation, drinking, industrial use, power and other purposes compound the challenge.

(c) and (d) Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase I was launched as a centrally funded scheme in 1985 with the objective of improving the water quality of the Ganga to acceptable standards. Various pollution abatement schemes including Interception & Diversion of sewage and setting up of sewage treatment plants were taken up. GAP Phase - II which covered the tributaries of Ganga namely, Yamuna, Gomti, Damodar and Mahananda, besides Ganga, was approved in stages from 1993-1996. GAP Phase II was merged with the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) in December, 1996. The total expenditure incurred on conservation of river Ganga under the GAP Phase -I & II so far, is Rs. 816.47 crore.

River conservation is an ongoing and collective effort of the Central and the State Governments, Sewage treatment capacity of 1007 million liters per day (mild) has been created so far under the GAP. Some treatment capacity has also been created under other central schemes, such as Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns, as well as State schemes. But there is still a large gap that remains to be bridged.

The Central Government has also set up the 'National Ganga River Basin Authority' on 20.2.2009 to ensure effective abatement of pollution and conservation of the river Ganga by adopting a holistic approach with the river basin as the unit of planning. The functions of the Authority include all measures necessary for planning and execution of programmes for abatement of pollution and conservation of the river Ganga.

#### **Pollution by dead bodies at Ganga Ghats**

1666. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that thousands of dead bodies are cremated at the Ghats of holy river Ganges, causing a huge pollution in the river;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to incorporate construction of electric crematorium at the Ghats at Brajghat (Ghaziabad), Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, etc. under the National River Conservation Programme (NRCP);
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether representations from some Members of Parliament have been received in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (f) Disposal of half and unburnt dead bodies into the river is one of the non-point sources of pollution of Ganga. To address this problem, three electric crematoria at Bhairon, Ghat, Bhagwat Das Ghat and Shuklaganj in Kanpur, two electric crematoria at Shankar Ghat and Daraganj Ghat in Allahabad and one electric crematorium at Harishchandra Ghat in Varanasi have already been set-up either from State Government funds or under the Ganga Action Plan.

Pollution abatement works under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) are sanctioned by the Ministry based on proposals received from the State Governments. No proposal from Hon'ble Members of Parliament/State Government for setting up of electric crematoria at Brajghat (Ghaziabad), Kanpur, Allahabad and Varanasi under the NRCP is pending in the Ministry.

#### **Environmental impact assessments**

1667. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA:

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering revisiting the provisions existing under the Environmental Impact Assessments carried out for major and minor projects in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether concerns of wildlife and natural eco-systems are not being given proper attention while carrying out EIAs; and
- (c) the details of steps being taken to take these issues into consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Ministry of Environment & Forests has proposed amendments in the

Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006, *vide* S.O. 195(E) dated 19th January, 2009 for obtaining comments / suggestions from all concerned. The proposed amendments, which are both clarificatory in nature and also to make the notification more comprehensive and rationalized, *inter-alia* include: (i) enhancement of threshold limit for construction projects from 20,000 sq.m. to 50,000 sq.m, (ii) modernization and expansion projects without increase in pollution load to be exempt from the provision of EIA Notification, 2006, (iii) prospecting of minerals to be exempt from EIA Notification, 2006, (iv) biomass based power plants upto 50 MW to be exempt from EIA, (v) category 'B' projects to be exempt from scoping for three years, and (vi) proactive / voluntary disclosure of information relating to grant of environmental clearance for ensuring effective implementation and enforcement of environmental regulation through the creations of societal vigil.

(b) and (c) The Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) reports prepared for obtaining environmental clearance comprehensively address various issues relating to different components of environment including wildlife and natural eco-systems. The terms of reference for undertaking detailed EIA studies are prescribed by the respective sectoral multi-disciplinary Expert Appraisal Committees taking into account the project location, the proposed developmental activity and the anticipated impacts thereof.

#### **Wild buffaloes**

1668.SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are only 5-6 wild buffaloes in the Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve;

(b) the details of wildlife census reports, including those of wild buffaloes, since 2000;

(c) the reasons is why Government failed to conserve wild buffaloes;

(d) whether it is also a fact that all the remaining Wild Buffaloes in the Udanti area have now been kept inside enclosures and if so, under plan of action prepared; and

(e) the details of the action plan alongwith the necessary reports relating thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) As per information received from the Government of Chhattisgarh, presently there are seven wild buffaloes (five adult male, one sub adult male and one adult female) in Udanti Wildlife Sanctuary. However, there are no wild buffaloes in Sitanadi Wildlife Sanctuary.

(b) The estimated population of wildlife in Udanti Wildlife Sanctuary since 2001, including wild buffaloes, is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The reasons for the decline in the population of wild buffalo are mainly attributed to habitat loss, biotic pressure and human-animal conflict.

(d) and (e) No, Sir, As informed by the State Government, only one female wild buffalo with her sub adult calf and one adult male are presently kept inside the enclosure for breeding purpose. The

breeding programme of wild buffalo in Udanti Wildlife Sanctuary has been taken up under the wild buffalo recovery plan as recommended by the Wild Buffalo Task Force constituted by the State Government in compliance of the direction given by the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) of Hon'ble Supreme Court.

**Statement**

*Estimated population of wildlife including wild buffaloes  
in Udanti Wildlife Sanctuary*

Sl. No.	Species	Number (over the years)				
		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
1.	Tiger	26	17	12	11	12
2.	Panther	109	36	24	26	23
3.	Cheetal	5352	509	370	385	716
4.	Sambhar	541	262	185	205	256
5.	Barking Deer	590	256	128	142	450
6.	Neelgai	301	160	150	145	126
7.	Gour	564	40	40	44	40
8.	Wild Buffalo **	72	72	77	67	61
9.	Wild Boar	170	497	-	-	998
10.	Wild Dog	25	-	20	30	36

\*\*As per the information received from the State Government, at present, there are 7 wild buffaloes in the Sanctuary.

**Forest clearance to Kerala**

1669.SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government had requested for Kuttiadi Augmentation Forest Clearance Scheme during June, 2005 along with compliance report and the clarifications regarding this had been done subsequently;

(b) if so, the details of action taken for the above stage-2 forest clearance;

(c) whether positive steps would be taken, to grant the above clearance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. However, the compliance report submitted by the Kerala

Government was incomplete and accordingly, the State Government was requested to submit complete compliance report which is still awaited.

#### **National Green Tribunal**

1670. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has mooted a proposal to set up a National Green Tribunal, to deal with civil issues related to environment and forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the exact number of cases pertaining to environmental and forest disputes pending in courts; and

(d) to what extent the creation of the Tribunal is likely to assist in disposing of cases relating to environment and forests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bill for establishment of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) is under finalization.

(c) As environmental cases are inter-sectoral and cross-cutting in nature it is difficult to exactly quantify the same.

(d) The NGT intends to reduce the load of environmental cases, of civil nature, pending in higher courts and to help in speedy disposal of such cases. Since the NGT is proposed to have Judicial Members as well as Expert Members, it is likely to result in effective disposal of environmental cases which involve multi-disciplinary issues.

#### **Van Gujjars in Tiger Reserves**

1671. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to depute trained Van Gujjars' and 'Villagers', instead of police personnel, in various tiger reserves and other wildlife sanctuaries all over the country to protect tigers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has held consultations with State Governments/Senior Forest Officers in providing security and safety to tigers; and

(d) if so, the outcome of such consultations and the manner in which tiger reserves and wildlife sanctuaries would be protected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Funding support under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger is provided to tiger States for antipoaching operations, *inter alia*, involving local people

and ex-army personnel/homeguards.

(c) and (d) Based on consultations with officers from tiger range States, guidelines have been issued for raising, arming and deploying a Special Tiger Protection Force in 13 tiger reserves, with 100% Central Assistance under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger.

#### **Ganga River Basin Authority**

1672. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up a corpus of Rs. 1000 crore for the Ganga River Basin Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a large amount spent by Government for implementation of the Ganga Action Plan has gone waste;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) to what extent the creation of corpus fund would help in cleaning Ganga?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a), (b) and (e) The Central Government by a Notification dated 20.02.2009, has set up the 'National Ganga River Basin Authority' (NGRBA) as an empowered planning, financing, monitoring and coordinating authority for the Ganga River, to ensure effective abatement of pollution and conservation of the river Ganga by adopting a holistic approach with the river basin as the unit of planning. The Notification provides for a Corpus of funds to be provided by the Central Government for implementing the projects, programmes and other activities of the NGRBA. No decision has been taken on the amount of funds to be provided for the Corpus.

(c) and (d) Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase-I was launched as a centrally funded scheme in 1985 with the objective of improving the water quality of the Ganga to acceptable standards. Various pollution abatement schemes including Interception & Diversion of sewage and setting up of sewage treatment plants were taken up. GAP Phase-II which covered the tributaries of Ganga namely, Yamuna, Gomti, Damodar and Mahananda, besides Ganga, was approved in stages from 1993-1996. GAP Phase II was merged with the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) in December, 1996. The total expenditure incurred on conservation of river Ganga under the GAP Phase - I & II so far, is Rs. 816.47 crore. Sewage treatment capacity of 1007 million liters per day (mld) has been created.

Water quality monitoring carried out by reputed institutions such as, IIT, Kanpur, BHEL, Patna University, etc. indicates that, water quality of the river Ganga conforms to the prescribed standards in terms of key indicators, namely, Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Dissolved Oxygen

(DO) at most of the locations, except in the stretch between Kannauj and Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh. However, the levels of fecal coliforms are reported to be exceeding the maximum permissible limit at a number of monitoring stations along the river Ganga.

#### **Lower Plain Ganga Project**

1673. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has approved the Lower Plain Ganga Project;
- (b) whether the local residents have approached the Ministry against the project since majority of gram sabhas have opposed the project; and
- (c) whether the present Government would review the approval in this context?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes Sir. Lower Painganga (not Plain Ganga) Project in district Yavatmal, Maharashtra was accorded Environmental and in principle Forest Clearance in May, 2007 and February, 2009 respectively.

(b) Some representations were received from Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) such as Nimna Painganga Dharan Virodhi Sangharsh Satmiti, Yavatmal Zilla Vikas Manch Yavatmal, and Lower Painganga Project Nirman Samasya Niwaran & Punarwasan Sanstha with differing views, both for and against, the project.

(c) No Sir. There is no such proposal.

#### **Emission reduction**

1674. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K.SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has openly rejected any emission reduction target period by developed countries;
- (b) whether Government has also decided to implement the National Action Plan on Climate;
- (c) if so, the details of modalities worked out for proper implementation of the action plan;
- (d) whether Government proposes to seek help of developed countries for reduction of emission levels and to implement the action plan on climate; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) There is no obligation for India under the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol to take any emission reduction target. On the other hand, India has urged developed countries to take deep and ambitious

emission reduction targets for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol commencing from 2013.

(b) and (c) The Government is committed to implement the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). NAPCC envisages eight national missions in specific areas and several other initiatives that will have co-benefits in terms of climate change. The National Missions are to be institutionalized and implemented by the respective Nodal Ministries. The Mission documents in respect of the National Missions are at various stages of finalization and will be implemented after approval of the Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change.

(d) and (e) National Action Plan on Climate Change provides for international cooperation including bilateral assistance programmes to support projects whose objectives are consistent with the objectives of the National Missions and other initiatives envisaged under the National Action Plan.

#### **Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authorities**

1675.SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a whopping Rs. 11000 crore would be spent in the country on afforestation and for that purpose all States would have to set up Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authorities soon;

(b) whether this amount has been received from parties who had used forest land throughout the country for non-forest purposes;

(c) whether this compensation had been given on the direction of the Supreme court; and

(d) if so, the total allocation made for this to each State and the concrete programme of action plan prepared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) In pursuance of the Supreme Court Order dated 10th July, 2009 in IA No. 2143 in Civil Writ Petition (C) No. 202 of 1995 in the matter of T.N. Godavarman Thirumulpad Vs Union of India and Others, it has been decided to set up State CAMPAs in the concerned States/UTs to undertake compensatory afforestation, penal compensatory afforestation, catchment area treatment plan, protection and conservation of natural forests, conservation and management of wildlife etc. by utilizing funds available with the *Adhoc* CAMPA received from the user agencies in lieu of diversion of forest land for non forestry purposes under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The money received from the States/UTs would be utilized by the respective States/UTs as per the approved Annual Plans of Operations (APOs) prepared by them.

#### **Pollution and emission of gases**

1676.SHRI O.T.LEPCHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENTS AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that due to pollution and emission of gases, the climate is changing in, general all over the country;

(b) the steps being taken to stop change in climate and increase in temperature; and

(c) whether it is a fact that different glaciers are melting due to increase in temperature and if so, the details thereof and how it is going to affect the environment, in general?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The concentrations of green house gases in the atmosphere are leading to global warming. The analysis of data for the period 1901-2008 by IMD suggests that annual mean temperature for the country as a whole has risen by 0.52°C over the period. Spatial pattern of trends in the mean annual temperature shows significant positive (increasing) trend over most parts of the country except over parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Bihar, where significant negative (decreasing) trends were observed.

(b) India is signatory to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol, and also has various partnerships with other countries under the UNFCCC. While India does not have any Green House Gases (GHG) abatement commitments under the Kyoto Protocol, a range of policies and programs have been followed that include improving energy efficiency & conservation as well setting up of Bureau of Energy Efficiency, power sector reforms, promoting hydro and renewable energy, promotion of clean coal technologies, coal washing & efficient utilization of coal, afforestation and conservation of forests, reduction of gas flaring, use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport, encouraging mass rapid transport systems and environmental quality management.

These measures help achieve better energy intensity while addressing climate change as co-benefit.

(c) As per Geological Survey of India, majority of the Himalayan glaciers are melting (receding) at varying rates during the twentieth century. Recession of glaciers is a complex phenomenon which may result due to several factors including rise in temperature, amount and time of snowfall in the catchment, higher temperature during summer, less severe winter or a combination of all of them. Thus, it is not possible to specify the role played by the rise in temperature alone in this shrinkage. The recession of glaciers may lead to reduction in the ice reserves of the glaciers, besides changes in the river hydrology, enhanced silt and debris production, ecological disturbances, rise in sea level, etc.

#### **Plan to increase tiger population**

1677. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) How Government plans to increase the tiger population in the country; and

(b) the details of steps being taken to save the tigers from the poachers, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Funding support under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger is provided to tiger range States for conservation of tigers. The steps taken by the Government of India to protect wild animals including tigers are given in the Statement.

***Statement***

*Milestone initiatives taken by the Government of India for protection /  
conservation of tigers and other wild animals*

**Legal steps**

1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for providing enabling provisions for constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau.
2. Enhancement of punishment in cases of offence relating to a tiger reserve or its core area.

**Administrative steps**

3. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to Tiger Reserve States, as proposed by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army personnel / home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication / wireless facilities.
4. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority with effect from 4.09.2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, *inter-alia*, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.
5. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from 6.6.2007 to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.
6. Declaration of eight new Tiger Reserves and in-principle approval accorded for creation of four new Reserves, namely Sahyadri in Maharashtra, Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh, Ratapani in M.P. and Sunabeda in Orissa.
7. The revised Project Tiger guidelines have been issued to States for strengthening tiger conservation, which apart from ongoing activities, *inter-alia*, include funding support to States for enhanced village relocation/rehabilitation package for people living in core or critical tiger habitats (from Rs. 1 lakh/family to Rs. 10 lakhs/family), rehabilitation/resettlement of communities involved in traditional hunting, mainstreaming livelihood and wildlife concerns in forests outside tiger reserves and fostering corridor conservation through restorative strategy to arrest habitat fragmentation.

8. A scientific methodology for estimating tiger (including co-predators, prey animals and assessment of habitat status) has been evolved and mainstreamed. The findings of this estimation/assessment are bench marks for future tiger conservation strategy.
9. An area of 29284.762 sq. km. has been notified by 15 Tiger States (out of 17) as core or critical tiger habitat under section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006 (Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal). Two tiger States (Bihar and Uttar Pradesh) have taken a decision for notifying the core or critical tiger habitats (2765.04 sq.km.). The State of Madhya Pradesh has not identified / notified the core / critical tiger habitat in its newly constituted tiger reserve (Sanjay National Park and Sanjay Dubri Wildlife Sanctuary).
10. Memorandum of Understanding developed for better/concerted implementation of conservation inputs through tiger reserve States.

#### **Financial steps**

11. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger and Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals.

#### **International Cooperation**

12. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.
13. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
14. During the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, with directions to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. The resolution was adopted as a decision with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming, and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance of continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.

#### **Reintroduction of Tigers**

15. As a part of active management to rebuild Sariska and Panna Tiger Reserves where tigers have become locally extinct, reintroduction of tigers /tigresses have been done.

#### **Creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF)**

16. The policy initiatives announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech of 29.2.2008, *inter alia*, contains action points relating to tiger protection, Based on the one time grant of Rs. 50.00 crore provided to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for raising, arming and deploying a Special Tiger Protection Force, the proposal for the said force has been approved by the competent authority for 13 tiger reserves. Rs. 93 lakhs each has been released to Corbett, Ranthambhore & Dudhwa Tiger Reserve for creation of STPF during 2008-09. Central Assistance will be provided to States for creation of STPF in remaining 10 Tiger Reserves in 2009-10.

#### **Issues at global climate change talks**

1678. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the major issues on which there is a lack of consensus at the global climate change talks and what is our position on those issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the major issues that are currently being discussed in pursuance of the Bali Action Plan relate to shared vision for long-term cooperative action including a global goal for emission reduction, mitigation, adaptation, technology and finance. Under the Kyoto Protocol, the negotiations are taking place with a view to determine the emission reduction targets for Annex I Parties to the Convention during the second commitment period (post 2012). Parties are negotiating on these issues and are expected to reach an agreed outcome at the 15th Conference of Parties scheduled in Copenhagen in December 2009.

India has argued at these negotiations that the developed country Parties must take actions in accordance with the principle of equity and "common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities" in order to achieve the objectives of the Convention. Such actions of the developed (Annex I Parties to the Convention) countries should include deep and ambitious targets for emission reduction in the second commitment period (Post-2012) of the Kyoto Protocol.

#### **Habitat for big cats**

1679. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 1,411 big cats are left in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken to give habitat for their sustenance in each State, especially in Andhra Pradesh forest areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As per the findings of the recent All India tiger estimation in 2008 using the refined methodology, the total country-level population of tiger is 1411 (mid value); the lower and upper limits being 1165 and 1657 respectively, as indicated in the given Statement (See below). The new findings are based on spatial occupancy of tigers and sampling such forests using camera traps in a statistical framework, which are not comparable to the earlier total count using pugmarks. The said findings indicate a poor status of tiger population in areas outside tiger reserves and protected areas. The tiger population, by and large, in tiger reserves and protected areas of the 17 tiger States are viable, while requiring ongoing conservation efforts.

(c) An area of 29284.762 sq. km. has been notified by 15 Tiger States (out of 17) as core or critical tiger habitat under section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, which also includes an area of 2527 sq.km. pertaining to the Nagarjunasagar Srisaillam Tiger Reserve in Andhra Pradesh. Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, funding support is given to tiger States, including Andhra Pradesh, for tiger conservation in designated tiger reserves.

**Statement**

*Forest occupancy and population estimates of tiger as  
per the refined methodology*

State	Tiger km <sup>2</sup>	Tiger Numbers		
		No.	Lower limit	Upper limit
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Shivalik-Gangetic Plain Landscape Complex</i>				
Uttarakhand	1901	178	161	195
Uttar Pradesh	2766	109	91	127
Bihar	510	10	7	13
Shivalik-Gangetic	5177	297	259	335
<i>Central Indian Landscape Complex and Eastern Ghats Landscape Complex</i>				
Andhra Pradesh	14126	95	84	107
Chhattisgarh	3609	26	23	28
Madhya Pradesh	15614	300	236	364
Maharashtra	4273	103	76	131
Orissa	9144	45	37	53

1	2	3	4	5
Rajasthan	356	32	30	35
Jharkhand *	1488	Not Assessed		
Central Indian	48610	601	486	718
<i>Western Ghats Landscape Complex</i>				
Karnataka	18715	290	241	339
Kerala	6168	46	39	53
Tamil Nadu	9211	76	56	95
Western Ghats	34094	412	336	487
<i>North East Hills and Brahmaputra Flood Plains</i>				
Assam *	1164	70	60	80
Arunachal Pradesh *	1685	14	12	18
Mizoram *	785	6	4	8
Northern West Bengal *	596	10	8	12
North East Hills, and Brahmaputra	4230	100	84	118
Sunderbans	1586	Not Assessed		
Total Tiger Population		1411	1165	1657

\* Population estimates are based on possible density of tiger occupied landscape in the area, not assessed by double sampling.

\*\* Data was not amenable to population estimation of tiger. However, available information about the landscape indicates low densities of tiger in the area ranging from 0.5 to 1.5 per 100 km<sup>2</sup>.

#### Pollution of Ramganga river

†1680. SHRI VEER PAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the place from where Ramganga river originates and the place at which it merges in the river Ganges;

(b) whether Government is aware that the water of the river Ramganga has become very polluted and if so, the measures being taken to check the same;

(c) whether thousands of cattle die and flora gets destroyed every year due to the polluted water of the river; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) which of the factories situated at Moradabad, Rampur, Bareilly directly discharge effluents in the river which causes this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Ramganga river originates in Almora district of Uttarakhand and merges with river Ganga near Kannauj in Uttar Pradesh. As per monitoring carried out by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the water quality of river Ramganga before its confluence with Ganga near Kannauj is not conforming with the prescribed water quality criteria. The Government has not received any report regarding death of thousands of cattle due to pollution of river Ramganga.

Pollution from industries on the banks of river is monitored by the CPCB and the concerned State Pollution Control Boards. Action is taken against defaulting industries under relevant provisions of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. CPCB has identified 21 grossly polluting industries in Moradabad, Rampur and Bareilly which directly discharge their effluent in river Ramganga. Out of these 21 industries, 17 industries have installed effluent treatment plants (ETPs) and are meeting the discharge standards, while the remaining 4 industries are closed due to various reasons.

#### **Rivers polluted in Assam**

1681. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some rivers in Assam have got polluted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of steps taken in this regard; and

(d) whether Government would consider to constitute a task force to study the rivers of the States, with a view to stop pollution therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As per information provided by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) based on their water quality monitoring reports of rivers, the polluted locations are river Bharalu at Guwahati, river Deepar Bill at Guwahati and river Burhidihing at Duliajan. Besides, occasional violation from desired standards has been noticed in respect of river Brahmaputra at Jogighopa, Nimaighat, Pandu, Kherghat and Dhubri, river Mora Bharali at Tezpur, river Digboi at Lakhimpathe, river Disang at Dibrugarh and Gundamghat, river Kolong at Marigaon and upstream of Anandram Dekian Phukan Bridge, river Kundli at spakhowa and river Manas at Barpeta.

(c) and (d) The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments towards cleaning of polluted rivers by providing assistance for creation of pollution abatement infrastructure. The centrally sponsored National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for conservation of polluted rivers

in the country presently covers identified polluted stretches of 37 rivers at 166 towns spread over 20 States. No proposal has been received from the State Government for inclusion of river of Assam under the NRCP.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB), Assam are taking necessary measures under the provision of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to tackle pollution in the rivers from industrial sources. The CPCB and SPCB are also implementing a mutually agreed time-bound plan for fulfillment of commitments under Corporate Responsibility on Environment Protection (CREP). A special drive for 17 categories of industries, monitoring of discharge of grossly polluting industries, setting up of Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) for cluster of small scale industries, promotion of low-waste and no-waste technologies and Environmental Auditing of polluting industries are also being undertaken.

#### **Violation of rules in environmental clearances**

1682. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several NGOs have urged Government to look into the violation of rules while giving environmental clearances;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to ensure transparency in the environmental clearance process; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Ministry in the past, received some communications from NGOs complaining about the violation of rules regarding matters such as non-implementation of conditions stipulated in the environment clearance letter, non adherence to the prescribed standards, change in scope of the project and change of project location. The complaints regarding violations are duly examined and wherever necessary, site inspections are got conducted through the Regional Offices of this Ministry as also the Central / State / Union Territory Pollution Control Boards. Inputs from the respective State Governments are also obtained whenever required. The matters like those relating to change of scope of the project or change of location, any complaints received before the grant of Environment Clearance (EC) are referred to the Expert Appraisal Committees for obtaining their recommendations before taking a decision.

(c) and (d) In order to increase transparency in the clearance process, the information has been put in public domain, through the website of the Ministry, relating to (i) status of pending projects, (ii) schedule and agenda of the meeting of Expert Appraisal Committees (EACs), (iii) minutes of the EAC meeting, (iv) Environmental Clearance letters and (v) circulars, guidelines, instructions relating to Environmental Clearance.

### Coal mining in degraded forests

1683. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL :

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to allow coal mining in degraded forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is no category called 'degraded forests' in the Forest Survey of India; and

(d) if so, how Government proposes to identify degraded forests, for the purpose of giving approval for coal mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) So far, 254 proposals involving diversion of about 50,818 ha of forest land including degraded forests have been approved by the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The State-wise details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The Forest Survey of India classifies forests into Very Dense Forest (all lands having tree cover with canopy density more than 70%), Moderately Dense (all lands having tree cover with canopy forest density between 40% and 70%), Open Forest (all lands having tree cover with canopy density between 10% and 40%), and Scrub (all forest lands with poor tree growth mainly of small or stunted trees having canopy density less than 10 percent). The last two categories, namely, Open, and Scrub having forest canopy density less than 40% are commonly categorized as degraded forests. These forest areas have been identified by the Forest Survey of India.

### Statement

#### State-wise detail of Degraded Forests

Case Status: Approved + In Principle		As on: 16/07/2009
State/UT	Number of Proposals	Total Land Diverted (Ha.)
1	2	3
Andaman & Nicobar Island	0	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	43	12709.62
Arunachal Pradesh	2	43.57
Assam	0	0.00
Bihar	0	0.00
Chandigarh	0	0.00

1	2	3
Chhattisgarh	49	12579.12
Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0	0.00
Daman & Diu	0	0.00
Delhi	0	0.00
Goa	0	0.00
Gujarat	0	0.00
Haryana	0	0.00
Himachal Pradesh	0	0.00
Jammu & Kashmir	0	0.00
Jharkhand	57	7545.33
Karnataka	0	0.00
Kerala	0	0.00
Lakshadweep	0	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	60	10980.37
Maharashtra	13	1815.09
Manipur	0	0.00
Meghalaya	0	0.00
Mizoram	0	0.00
Nagaland	0	0.00
Orissa	23	2899.99
Pondicherry	0	0.00
Punjab	0	0.00
Rajasthan	0	0.00
Sikkim	0	0.00
Tamil Nadu	0	0.00
Tripura	0	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	4	1984.83
Uttaranchal	0	0.00
West Bengal	3	260.03
TOTAL :	254	50817.949

#### **Devastation of Forests due to Fire**

1684. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether vast areas of thick forests in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and other States have been ravaged and devastated by forest fires over the years;

(b) if so, the extent and areas of such forests at present; and

(c) the plans and strategy drawn out for restoration of such forests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The fires in the forest areas occur frequently during the dry season of the year and are of the nature of ground fires only. As such these fires do not cause devastation or ravaging of forests. In Hill States like Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh incidences of forest fire mostly occur in the Pine forest areas where dry Pine needles burn. Even such fires do not cause devastation or ravaging of forests.

(c) The State Forest Departments take preventive measures for warding off such fires by creating fire lines and generating awareness among the people about the fire hazards. In most States local people are involved through the Joint Forest Management Committees for prevention and control of incidences of forest fire. The Government of India under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes also provide financial assistance to States for forest fire control and management. As there being no devastation of forests, restoration works are not required to be planned. However, regeneration of younger crop is supplemented during rainy season.

#### **Biosphere reserves**

1685. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of potential sites are under consideration of Government for declaring as biosphere reserves;

(b) if so, their names, location-wise;

(c) by when these sites are likely to be sanctioned;

(d) whether, after declaring these sites as biosphere reserves, the fragile Himalayan environment region could be protected from hazardous activities occurring/likely to occur in the region; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Cold Desert biosphere reserve in Himachal Pradesh and Sheshachalam biosphere reserve in Andhra Pradesh are the sites identified for designation as biosphere reserves.

(c) After receipt of the consent and project documents containing delineation of areas for these biosphere reserves from concerned State Governments, these sites can be considered for

designation as biosphere reserves and sanction of financial assistance.

(d) and (e) Declaration of sites as biosphere reserve in itself would not protect the fragile Himalayan environment region from hazardous activities occurring/likely to occur in the region.

#### **Storage facilities for food processing**

1686. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 40 per cent of farm produce in the country is wasted due to inappropriate storage, lack of primary processing facilities and inefficient procurement and if so, the steps Government is taking to stop this huge wastage;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a country of the size of India has only 21.7 mt of cold storage facilities in operation, while it needs at least 9-10 mt more of the capacity; and

(c) if so, the action plan of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) It is estimated that the processing level in the food processing sector has gone up from 6% to 10% and value addition has gone up from 20% to 26% during last five years. The level of wastage of agricultural food items is estimated to be about Rs. 50,000/- crores occurring at various stages of handling after harvesting due to fragmented farming, lack of adequate post-harvest infrastructure such as lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage facilities etc.

In order to increase level of processing and to promote food processing industries to exploit both the domestic and international market potential for processed food products, Vision 2015 Document has been finalized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), which envisages tripling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20% value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015. An integrated strategy for promotion of agribusiness-Vision, Strategy and Action Plan for the Food Processing Sector has also been approved by the Government. There has been increase in substantial rate of growth of the food processing industry from 7% in 2003-04 to 13-14% in 2006-07, which has contributed to reduction of wastages and better value addition.

To encourage setting up of cold chain facilities and backward linkages in the country, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has a Plan Scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure during the 11th Plan to provide financial assistance to project proposals received from public / private organizations for cold chain infrastructure development. The scheme envisages financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid @ 50% of the total cost of plant and

machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 75% for North Eastern Region and difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs.10.00 crore. The initiatives are aimed at filling the gaps in the supply chain, strengthening of cold chain infrastructure, establishing value addition with infrastructural facilities like sorting, grading, packaging and processing for horticulture including organic produce, marine, dairy, poultry, etc. MFPI has been mandated to take up 10 such project proposals in first phase, which can be up-scaled to total 30 projects during the 11th plan period on successful progress in the initial 10 projects. Other agencies of the Government like National Horticulture Board (NHB), Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and State Government also provide assistance for cold storages under their respective schemes.

The Government, through its schemes for financial assistance and other promotional measures, facilitates creation of food related infrastructure including processing facilities aimed at reducing wastages, enhancing value addition and increasing shelf life. Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has been implementing various schemes for promotion and development of food processing industries in the country. Under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/ Modernization/ Establishment of Food Processing Industries, MFPI extends financial assistance to food processing units in the form of grant-in-aid @ 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakh in general area or 33.33% subject to maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakh in difficult areas such as Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and North Eastern States, A&N Islands, Lakshadweep and ITDP areas. In addition, under the Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern and Himalayan States, higher levels of assistance @ 50% upto Rs. 4.00 crore for setting up and Rs. 1.00 crore for Upgradation of fruit and vegetables processing is available. MFPI has also been implementing various other Plan schemes for promotion and development of food processing industries in the country. Under these schemes, financial assistance in the form of grant in aid is provided for development of infrastructure, human resource development, promotion of quality assurance and research & development and other promotional measures to encourage development of the food processing industries. Under the scheme of strengthening of institutions, various development activities have been undertaken in the area of Human Resource Development for sectors such as grapes, meat and poultry processing, through setting up of National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM), Indian Grape Processing Board, National Meat and Poultry Processing Board and upgradation of Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology (IICPT).

As per the information available with Directorate of Marketing & Inspection (DMI), Ministry of Agriculture, total number of cold storages in the country as on 31.12.2007 is 5316 having total capacity of 23.33 million MT. State-wise and capacity-wise details are given in the Statement.

**Statement**

*Sector-wise distribution of cold storages as on 31/12/2007*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Private Sector	Cooperative Sector	Public Sector	Total	Total Capacity			
		No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UT)	01	170	00	00	01	40	02	210
2.	Andhra Pradesh	260	830762	11	11598	10	3451	281	845811
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	01	5000	00	00	00	00	01	5000
4.	Assam	20	88706	01	1000	04	1120	25	90826
5.	Bihar	234	1233266	18	77200	00	00	252	1310466
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	05	11216	01	1000	00	00	06	12216
7.	Chhattisgarh	58	278636	01	29	01	41	60	278706
8.	Delhi	75	103210	02	5201	16	17680	93	126091
9.	Gujarat	351	1075148	21	30669	05	6437	377	1112254
10.	Goa	28	7105	00	00	00	00	28	7105
11.	Haryana	233	377319	04	3403	06	11399	243	392121
12.	Himachal Pradesh	08	11413	02	767	07	6195	17	18375
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	15	40689	03	2134	01	46	19	42869
14.	Jharkhand	35	142733	08	27415	00	00	43	170148

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
15.	Kerala	168	54095	06	1080	10	1590	184	56765
16.	Karnataka	122	380751	18	6689	17	9594	157	397034
17.	Lakshadweep (UT)	00	00	00	00	01	15	01	15
18.	Maharashtra	361	488667	55	25346	32	13724	448	527737
19.	Madhya Pradesh	160	671374	20	101348	05	2434	185	775156
20.	Manipur	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
21.	Meghalaya	01	1200	00	00	02	2000	03	3200
22.	Mizoram	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
23.	Nagaland	01	5000	01	1150	00	00	02	6150
24.	Orissa	83	206840	11	17400	00	00	94	224240
25.	Pondicherry (UT)	02	35	01	50	00	00	03	85
26.	Punjab	402	1298425	18	39092	00	00	420	1337517
27.	Rajasthan	97	310901	09	3832	01	14	107	314747
28.	Sikkim	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
29.	Tamil Nadu	122	224129	13	7562	04	5162	139	236853
30.	Tripura	03	12750	01	5000	07	11700	11	29450
31.	U.P. & Uttaranchal	1498	8749567	87	281480	03	8000	1588	9039047
32.	West Bengal	476	5634500	51	339000	00	00	527	5973500
TOTAL :		4820	22243607	363	989445	133	100642	5316	23333694

Source: DMI, M/o Agriculture

### Setting up food processing units

1687. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up food processing units during the next 100 days;
- (b) if so, the number of units proposed and the States in which Government plans to set them up;
- (c) whether Government would propose to involve more private sector investment by providing subsidy, with loan facility, for the development of food processing sector, since majority of agricultural products are getting waste due to lack of food processing units; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) For facilitating Setting up and Modernization of Food Processing Industries by entrepreneurs, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries extends financial assistance in the country in the form of grant-in-aid to implementing agencies/entrepreneurs @ 25% of the cost of Plant & machinery and Technical Civil Works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas and 33.33% subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakhs in Difficult areas under the Scheme of Setting up/Modernization/Expansion of food processing industries. The Ministry release the funds in the shape of grants-in-aid to the agencies/ entrepreneurs depending upon the availability of funds within the budget provision from year to year basis. In the 100 days agenda, Ministry proposes to facilitate for setting up of 350 new industries in the country in the sectors of processing of fruits and vegetables, Meat, dairy, fish, grain and consumer under the scheme.

(c) and (d) In order to reduce wastage of agricultural products, Ministry is implemented a Plan scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure during 11th Plan to provide financial assistance to project proposals received from public/private sector organizations or non-Government bodies including State Government for setting up of cold chain infrastructure development. The scheme envisages financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid @ 50% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 75% for North Eastern Region and difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs. 10.00 crore. The initiatives are aimed at filling the gaps in the supply chain, strengthening of cold chain infrastructure, establishing value addition with infrastructural facilities like sorting, grading, packaging and processing for horticulture including organic produce, marine, dairy poultry etc.

To strengthen the Food Processing Infrastructure, Government has approved a scheme for Mega Food Parks, Cold Chain, Value Added Centres and Modernization of Abattoirs. The Infrastructure scheme envisages a well-defined agri/horticultural-processing zone containing state of the art processing facilities with support infrastructure and well established supply chain. It aims to provide a mechanism to bring together farmers, processors and retailers and link agricultural production to the

market so as to ensure maximization of value addition, minimization of wastages and improving farmers' income. The primary objective of the scheme is to facilitate establishment of an integrated value chain, with processing at the core and supported by requisite forward and backward linkages.

Other strategic initiatives during 11th Plan include scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Preservation Infrastructure including Controlled Atmosphere/Modified Atmosphere Storage, Value Added Centres, Packaging Centres and Irradiation facilities. Benefits of the Scheme will also be available to integrated projects of value addition / processing / preservation of horticulture, dairy, marine, and meat sector. Another infrastructure development scheme is for setting up / up-gradation of food testing laboratories which would benefit all stakeholders including domestic industry, exporters, entrepreneurs, small and medium enterprises, existing academic & research institutions, food standards setting bodies.

Modernization of Abattoirs is a scheme targeting infrastructure for the meat processing industry. It aims to upgrade qualitative and quantitative capacities of the abattoirs, which will be linked, with commercial processing of meat, both for domestic consumption and exports. The financial assistance (grant-in-aid) is being extended at 50% and 75% of the cost of plant & machineries and technical civil works in general and difficult areas respectively subject to a maximum of Rs. 15 crores for each project. The Ministry has approved 'in principle' to set up ten abattoirs in the country with a total cost of Rs. 127.00 crores. An amount of Rs.7.94 crores has been released.

Further, the Ministry has several other schemes for promotion of the food processing industry. The Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/ Modernisation of Food Processing Industries is aimed at creation of new processing capacity and up-gradation of existing processing capabilities, modernization of Food Processing Sector to include Milk, Fruit & Vegetables, Meat, Poultry, fishery, cereal, consumer items, oil seeds, rice milling, flour milling, pulse etc.

Similarly Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, R&D and Promotional Activities, is aimed at motivating the food processing industries for adoption of food safety and quality assurance mechanisms such as TQM including ISO 14000, ISO 22000, HACCP, GMP, GHP, and preparing them to face global competition in post WTO Regime. The scheme is also aimed at ensuring that end product / outcome / findings of R&D work should benefit Food Processing Industries in terms of product and process development, improved packaging, value addition and leading to innovative products and processes, with commercial value.

The Scheme for Human Resource Development focuses on developing technologists, managers, Entrepreneurs and manpower for quality management in Food Processing. The scheme also aims at development of rural entrepreneurship and transfer of technology for processing of food products by

utilizing locally grown raw material and providing "Hands-on" experience at such production cum training centres, while according priority to SC/ST/OBC and women minorities candidates.

The Scheme for Strengthening of Institutions is aimed at strengthening of existing institutes like Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology & establishing National Institute of Food Technology and Entrepreneurship Management (NIFTEM). The objective of NIFTEM is to promote cooperation and networking amongst existing institutions both within the country & international bodies, create a complete data base on domestic resources and bring in international best practices for improving the food processing sector. Besides above mentioned institutions, two Boards have been set up under the Ministry *i.e* Indian Grape Processing Board and National Meat and Poultry Processing Board under the scheme.

In addition to the above mentioned schemes, certain fiscal incentives have been given to the food processing industry. Some of these are exemption to fruits and vegetable processing units from paying income tax, reduction of excise duty on ready to eat packaged foods and instant food mixes from 16% to 8%. There is automatic approval for 100% foreign equity in food processing sector.

#### **Financial assistance for FPIs in Rajasthan**

1688. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of applications received by Government during the last three years from Rajasthan, requesting financial assistance for setting up food processing units;
- (b) the total number of applications cleared, so far;
- (c) the total financial assistance, alongwith the subsidy, provided for those units, so far; and
- (d) the total number of beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) extends financial assistance in the country in the form of grant-in-aid to implementing agencies/entrepreneurs @ 25% of the cost of Plant & Machinery and Technical Civil Works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas and 33.33% subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakhs in Difficult areas under the Scheme of Setting up/Modernization/Expansion of food processing industries.

Earlier all the applications for such grants were received from all over the country through the State Nodal Agencies in the Ministry. These applications were then Centrally processed and grants disbursed in the Ministry itself. This used to involve avoidable delays. Hence, with a view to enlarge the outreach of this scheme to each hook and corner of the country, accelerate the pace of disposal and to take the Government to door steps of the people, the whole procedure of receipt of

application under the Scheme, its-appraisal and calculation of grant eligibility as well as disbursement of funds has been completely decentralized from 2007-08. Under this new procedure any entrepreneur /applicant can file application with the neighborhood Bank branch/Financial Institutions (FIs). The Bank/FIs then appraise the applications and then calculate the eligible grant amount as per the detailed guidelines given to them by the Ministry in this regard. Banks/FIs appraisal report and recommendation for the grant is transmitted to the Ministry through E-Portal which has been established for this purpose. After the recommendation is received from any Bank/FIs through the E-Portal Ministry sanctions the same and transfers the funds also through the same E-Portal.

Under the decentralized procedure, the applications are received directly by the Banks/FIs, hence the data for receipt of the applications for 2007-08 and 2008-09 is not maintained centrally by the Ministry. However, for the State of Rajasthan, during the last three years *i.e.* 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09, out of 152 applications received under the scheme, 107 applications were approved for which an amount of Rs. 1589.11 lakhs were disbursed.

#### **Viewership for Doordarshan**

1689.SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the current viewership for Doordarshan, including regional kendras, in comparison to other private channels;

(b) whether there has been any evaluation of the content and production quality of the Doordarshan programmes; and

(c) whether there is any plan of action/strategy to improve the quality of its production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) A Statement (*See below*) regarding TAM Rating of viewership showing comparison of Doordarshan National including Regional Channels with other Private Channels is enclosed.

(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that evaluation of content and production quality is a continuous process. Their Audience Research Units are doing evaluation of programmes from time to time.

(c) Prasar Bharati has informed that efforts are being made to improve the quality of its production by acquiring quality software from various professional software houses/producers through SFC Scheme; outsourcing good Feature Films for telecast on DD-1 on different themes; outsourcing better talent for in-house production of programme and improving transmission quality with digitalization of the studio equipment and transmission.

**Statement**

*TAM Rating of Doordarshan including regional DD channels  
and Private Channels in India (Total Market) among all 4+Years  
viewers for the period 28.12.2008 to 27.6.2009*

Doordarshan Channels	TVR %	Private Channels	TVR %
DD National	1.11	Aaj Tak	0.08
DD News	0.06	Colors	0.58
DD Delhi	0.06	CNN IBN	0.01
DD Patna	—	Star Plus	0.65
DD Punjabi	0.01	Soni Entertainment	0.20
DD Sahyadri	0.14	Zee TV	0.51
DD Gujarati	0.02	Zoom	0.04
DD Kashmiri	—	Zee News	0.04
DD Assamese	—	Zee Cinema	0.36
DD Rajasthan	0.01	MAX	0.58
DD Lucknow	0.03	NDTV Imagine	0.18
DD Malayalam	0.02	Ten Sports	0.07
DD Podhigai	0.01		
DD Oriya	0.02		
DD Bangla	0.04		
DD Telugu	0.02		
DD Chandana	0.02		

**Journalists' Welfare Fund**

1690. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount in the Journalists' Welfare Fund, as on date; and
- (b) the number of journalists and their families benefited during the last two years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) The total amount in the Journalists' Welfare Fund, as on 1st April 2009, is Rs.8,86,28,000.

(b) No cases have been recommended for relief under Journalists' Welfare Fund during the financial year 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.

**FDI in the print media**

1691. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to raise FDI ceiling in the print media, from 26 per cent to 49 per cent, as recommended by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI);

(b) if so, the details of the TRAI recommendations in this regard and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government has held any talks with the stakeholders, before arriving at a final decision on these recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has not made any recommendation for raising FDI ceiling in the print media from 26 per cent to 49 per cent.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **Blacklisting of production companies**

1692. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan had blacklisted 13 production companies for cheating, under Short-Term Acquisition Scheme 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details of the companies and the reasons for blacklisting them; and

(c) what legal course of action is to be taken by DD against the cheating production companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Details of the Black listed Production Companies are given in the Statement (*See below*). These were blacklisted by Doordarshan for submitting Blank/Repeat Tapes under Short-Term Acquisition Scheme 2006-07 to meet the deadline for submission of remaining episodes of the recommended programmes.

(c) Prasar Bharati has informed that they have banned these production companies for a period of 2 years from any further dealing with Doordarshan, since April, 2009.

#### *List of Production Companies Blacklisted*

Sl. No.	Producer/Banner
1	2
1	Sh. P.K. Srivastava M/s Rainbow Films, B-37, Soami Nagar, New Delhi-110 017

1	2
2	Ms. Madhu Rane M/s Matrix Entertainment, J-48, Pandav Nagar, Opp. Main Mother Dairy Delhi-110 092
3	S/Sh. Talat Syed & Javed Khan M/s Magick Works, Block No. B, Flat No. 6, Versova Heaven, J.P. Road, Seven Bungalow, Andheri(W) Mumbai-400 063
4	Sh. Deepak Bhardwaj M/s Vaishnu Films, D-899, Ground Floorm Type-A, Pocket-IIIrd, E.H.S. Bindapur, DDA Flats, Dwarka Project, New Delhi-110059
5	Ms. Rama Deepak M/s Tirupati Production, E-98, Kamla Nagar, Delhi-110007
6	Sh. Sandeep Grover M/s Shrey Media Enterainments, A-2/49, Aashirwad Apartments, Pachim Vihar, New Delhi-63
7	Ms. Rama Pandey M/s Montage Films, 332, 3rd Floor DLF Gallaria, DLF City, Phase-IV Gurgaon-122 002
8	Sh. Sudhir S. Jamwal M/s Astra Productions, 151-F Doordarshan Lane, Old Jainpur, Jammu (J&K)
9	Sh. Kiraj Kumar M/s Touchstone Communications, JE-31, Khirki Extension, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110 017
10	Sh. Usman Saif M/s Saif Entertainment, C-1, 32, Sandoipani Teachers Apt. Oshiwara. New Link Road, Jogeshwari(W), Mumbai-400102
11	Sh. Nandan Sharma M/s Meghna U-Matic Vision, 138, Maitri Apartments. IP Extension, Patparganj Delhi-110 092

1	2
12	Ms. Anuradha Prasad. M/s BAG Film & Media Limited, FC-23, Sector-16A, Film City, Nodia-201 301
13	Sh. Aman Bajaj M/s Bajaj Animation Kendra, A-5, Mayapuri, Phase-I, New Delhi

#### **Regulation of electronic media in emergent situations**

1693.DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has ruled out imposition of any regulatory mechanism on electronic media, in the wake of 26/11 like emergency situations;
- (b) whether the Ministry considers self regulation as the only way to tackle such emergencies;
- (c) whether the Ministry plans to set up a group of official spokespersons, headed by the Ministry, that can provide accurate information with media in news emergency situations;
- (d) if so, what other proposals Government is considering to bring legislation in regulating electronic media; and
- (e) whether the Ministry is also considering to have a five year tax break for digital TV services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) The Committee constituted for reviewing the Content Code has submitted its report to the Government in the form of draft 'Self Regulation Guidelines for the broadcasting sector (2008)'. Meanwhile, in the wake of 26/11, News Broadcasters Association representing 31 main private news channels, has come out with its self regulation guidelines for telecast of news during emergency situations.

(c) The officers of the Press Information Bureau(PIB), the official news agency of the Government functions as official spokespersons of the Central Ministries and Departments at New Delhi. However, a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is under consultation for facilitating the media on such occasions.

(d) The Government is consulting stakeholders on the proposed Draft Broadcasting Service Regulation Bill.

(e) No, Sir.

#### **Settlement of media issues**

1694. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether all issues held up with the Ministry regarding media would be addressed soon, in consultation with all stake-holders;

(b) whether consensus on contentious issue of Content Code, projecting India in a positive light to the world during Commonwealth Games and devising an acceptable mechanism to resolve demands of print and broadcasting industry, would be considered; and

(c) if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (c) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has constituted a media consultative committee for media facilitation under the Chairmanship of Secretary, I&B. The Committee includes media organisations, inclusive of both print and electronic media and also representatives of civil society.

The terms of reference of the Committee are as under:-

(i) To serve as a forum for regular consultations between Government and various professional media bodies.

(ii) To provide a platform for exchange of views on concerns of civil society.

(iii) To discuss concerns of media organisations on various regulatory/policy procedural matters.

(iv) The Committee will meet at least twice a year or as and when necessary. Wide consultations with stakeholders are required to arrive at broad consensus on the issue of Content Code. No time frame has been fixed for decision in the matter.

#### **News and entertainment private TV channels**

1695. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of news and entertainment private T.V. channels functioning in the country;

(b) the number of applications pending for opening new such channels from Assam; and

(c) the details of reasons for pendency of such proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) As on date, the Ministry has permitted 233 news and current affairs TV channels and 247 non-news and current affairs TV channels under uplinking and downlinking guidelines.

(b) One.

(c) Non-receipt of full or additional information from the applicant and requirement of inter-Ministerial consultations are the main reasons of pendency.

#### **Amendment of Cable Television Networks Regulation Act**

1696. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal from the Maharashtra Government regarding amendment of the Cable Television Networks Regulation Act, 1995 is pending with the Ministry;

(b) whether it is a fact that the lacunae in the Act has made it possible for a cable operation to be used for assisting terrorist activities; and

(c) the difficulties in approving the proposal and by when the proposal would be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However the Government has noted certain aberrations in the live coverage of the operations conducted by security forces during the 26/11 terrorist attacks in Mumbai thereby endangering the locations, movements, etc. of security forces. The Ministry has issued a directive to all the News and Current Affairs TV channels on 27.11.2008 so as not to broadcast the movement, location, numbers, strategy and other operational details of the security forces as the TV coverage is likely to jeopardize the operations mounted by the security forces. The TV channels were also issued an advisory on 3rd December 2008 in this regard.

(c) The amendment of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 in the light of the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India regarding "restructuring of cable services" received by the Government are under consideration of the Government. The proposal of the State Government will also be taken into consideration while deciding the matter. No time frame could be given in such policy matters.

#### **Working of Fast Track Courts**

1697. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Fast Track Courts (FTCs) have been able to help expeditious disposal of criminal cases, that require early disposal;

(b) if so, the number of cases settled by FTCs, so far;

(c) the number of additional FTCs proposed to be constituted in 2009-10; and

(d) the types of cases which are referred to FTCs?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) Fast Track Courts have been set up for expeditious disposal of long pending cases in the Sessions Courts and

the cases of undertrial prisoners. As per the reports received from the State Governments/High Courts upto March, 2009, 25,10,211 cases have been disposed of by the Fast Track Courts.

(c) and (d) Fast Track Courts are set-up by the State Governments in consultation with the respective High Courts depending upon the need. Respective High Court decide the types of cases to be transferred to Fast Track Courts.

#### **Tribunals for cheque bounce cases**

1698. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, after insertion of sections 138 to 147 in the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1981 pertaining to dishonor of cheques the court rooms are flooded with cases in the lower courts all over the country, which were already over-burdened, resulting in delay in justice, as a whole;

(b) if so, whether Government is planning to establish a separate tribunal to handle such cases, not only for speedy trial, but also for concerned and effective justice; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) Most of the High Courts have informed that there are a large number of cases related to bouncing of cheques pending in the courts under their jurisdiction. There is no proposal at present to establish a separate Tribunal to handle such cases, the 18th Law Commission in its 213th Report has also not made any such recommendation.

#### **Fast Track Courts for cheque bounce cases**

1699. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 18th Law Commission, headed by Justice A.R. Lakshmanan, has recommended for setting up of Fast Track courts, to dispose of over 38 lakh cases of cheque bouncing;

(b) whether the Commission has also suggested an amendment to Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, to compel the drawer of a bounced cheque to pay 50 per cent of the amount on receipt of summons; and

(c) if so, the action proposed by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) The 18th Law Commission, headed by Justice A.R. Lakshmanan, has recommended for setting up of Fast Track Courts of Magistrates to dispose of the dishonoured cheque cases under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

### **Transparent selection procedure for SC/HC judges**

†1700. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pending cases in different courts in the country, especially in High Courts and Supreme Court, as on date;
- (b) whether the main reason for the pending cases is the shortage of judges in High Courts and Supreme Court;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government is planning to make the selection procedure of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court simple, easy and transparent;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) by when the above plan is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) As per the information received from the Registry of the Supreme Court and the respective Registries of the High Courts, 50,659 matters were pending in the Supreme Court as on 1st June, 2009 and 3910858 cases were pending in the High Courts as on 31.12.2008.

(b) and (c) Vacancies of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court is one of the reasons for pendency in these courts. As on 10th July, 2009, against an approved strength of 886 Judges in the High Courts, 237 were vacant and there were 7 vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court against an approved strength of 31 Judges.

(d) to (f) The Government is preparing a road map for judicial reforms in the country for which consultations have already begun. A decision in the matter will be taken on completion of the consultation process.

### **Reforms in judiciary**

1701. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to review present system of appointment of Judges and action against corrupt Judges;
- (b) if so, the main reforms which are being considered in the judiciary;
- (c) whether any constitutional amendment would be required for this;
- (d) whether Government has also considered the views of Chief Justice of India (CJI) while making reforms in judiciary; and
- (e) Whether CJI has also agreed that all Judges shall declare their assets provided they are given legal cover?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) The Government is in the process of preparing a road map for judicial reforms in the country. In this regard, the Government has begun to hold wide consultations. The judiciary would be associated in this exercise. A decision in the matter will be taken thereafter.

(e) In the Writ Petition (C) No.288 of 2009 before the Delhi High Court, it has been submitted by the Registrar General, Supreme Court of India that the Judges of the Supreme Court are not opposed to declaring their assets provided that such declarations are made in accordance with due procedure laid down by a law which would prescribe (a) the authority to which the declaration would be made; (b) the form in which the declaration would have to be made along with a clear definition of what constitutes 'assets'; and (c) proper safeguards, checks and balances to prevent misuse of the information which would be made available.

#### **Corruption in judiciary**

1702. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

SHRI SABIR ALI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab Vigilance Bureau has released some tapes depicting the touts talking about cases being fixed in the Punjab and Haryana High Court;

(b) whether the reports passed on to the Chief Justice of India disclosed malpractices in the judiciary and manipulation in the High Court Registry through touts, which hint at arrangement-cum-purchase of judicial orders appointments, etc.;

(c) if so, what are the facts in this regard; and

(d) what is Government's scheme to eradicate corruption in judiciary?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) As per information received from the Supreme Court of India, the reports forwarded by the Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court were not authenticated.

(d) The Government is considering bringing a legislation for greater accountability of the Higher Judiciary. In respect of the subordinate judiciary, the responsibility rests with the respective High Courts and the State Governments.

#### **Pending cases in Supreme Court**

1703. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pendency of cases in Supreme Court has been steadily increasing from 34,649 in 2006 to 50,163 as on March 31, 2009;

(b) if so, the details of the cases pending, new cases filed, disposal off and pending, year-wise since 2006; and

(c) the steps being taken to reduce the backlog of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) As per the information available, the pendency of cases in Supreme Court has increased from 39780 at the end of the year 2006 to 50,659 as on 1st June, 2009. The details of the opening balance, cases instituted, disposed of and pending year-wise since 2006 is given below:-

Sl. No.	Year	Opening balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency at the end of year
1.	2006	34481	61839	56540	39780
2.	2007	39780	69103	61957	46926
3.	2008	46926	70357	67464	49819

(c) The following steps have been taken to reduce the backlog of pending cases:

- (1) Judges' strength in Supreme Court has been increased from 26 to 31.
- (2) Benches of Supreme Court were constituted for hearing urgent matters as well as old regular matters during summer vacation.
- (3) Five and more matters on Identical issues are treated as a group matter instead of 10 and more matters earlier, which has helped in achieving significant increase in the number of disposals.
- (4) Directions has been issued to streamline and to make effective the listing of cases before various courts.
- (5) Cases involving identical/common question(s) of law are posted before the appropriate Bench.
- (6) Three days of each week are earmarked for hearing regular matters.
- (7) A large number of matters have been taken up for final disposal instead of the usual course of granting leave and hearing in due course.
- (8) Constitution Bench and Larger Bench sit regularly to decide important Questions of law, particularly in a large number of matters involving common issues.
- (9) All the fresh matters are listed within 10 to 14 days of registration and many disposed of at the preliminary hearing.
- (10) Number of matters listed before each Bench on Miscellaneous Days has been increased.
- (11) More Division Benches now deal with criminal cases.

#### **Disclosure of assets by judges**

†1704. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the points on which the case pertaining to disclosure of assets by the judges of High Courts and Supreme Court moved by the Supreme Court, is pending with the Delhi High Court;

(b) whether the public disclosure of assets of judges comes under the purview of right to information; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether this questions the transparency of judiciary?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) A Writ Petition (C) No.288 of 2009 has been filed by the Registrar, Supreme Court of India in the High Court of Delhi against the decision dated 6th January, 2009 of the Central Information Commission directing to provide information as to whether any declaration of assets had been filed by the Judges of the Supreme Court or not, is pending consideration of the Delhi High Court.

(b) and (c) The matter is subjudice.

#### **Judicial reforms**

†1705. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to take steps for judicial reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government intends to make a legislation for declaration of assets by Judges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government is preparing a roadmap for judicial reforms in the country which aims, *inter alia*, at reducing pendency in the courts, at providing quick and effective justice, introducing accountability of the judges and bringing in transparency in judicial processes for the litigants. The details of the roadmap are being worked out.

(c) and (d) The matter is presently under examination.

#### **Grants for evening courts**

1706. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposals to give grants to the newly established evening courts;

(b) if so, whether such proposal have also been received from the Gujarat Government;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (c) whether Government is considering to give special grant-in-aid to evening courts, and
- (d) if so, the amount of grant-in-aid per court?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) The Government of India had received a proposal from the Government of Gujarat for providing special Central assistance of Rs. 5.00 crore for Evening Courts. The proposal could not be accepted as administration of Justice is primarily the concern of the State Government and there is no such scheme under which central assistance can be provided for Evening Courts.

#### **Benches of High Courts**

1707. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of special benches of High Courts proposed to be set up by Government in various States;
- (b) the cities/towns identified for setting up of these benches;
- (c) whether Government has received any proposal to set up a special bench at Guntur in Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) whether Government has fixed any criteria for setting up of these benches; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to set up special benches of High Courts by the Government anywhere in the country.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) In its report, the Jaswant Singh Commission suggested the broad principles and criteria to be followed while deciding the question of expediency and desirability of establishment of a Bench of a High Court away from the principal seat and the factors to be kept in view in selecting the venue of the said Bench. The report of the Commission was placed in the Parliament Library on 15.10.86 and was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha on 20.4.87 and 21.4.87 respectively, which may be referred to.

Setting up of benches of High Courts away from their principal seats is considered by the Central Government on receipt of a complete proposal from the State Government which has the consent of the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court.

#### **Special courts for offences against women**

†1708. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government is going to make a provision for constitution of special courts for hearing into offences against women or for their hearing in Fast Track Courts;

(b) if so the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to ensure justice for women?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) Government has no proposal at present for constitution of Special Courts as Fast Track Courts for hearing crimes against women. However, the State Governments can constitute special courts in consultation with the respective High Courts.

#### **Road-map for judicial reforms**

1709. DR. K. MALAISAMY:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the stage of the road-map for judicial reforms;

(b) the details as to the features of the proposed reforms; and

(c) whether such reforms would reduce the pendency of cases and ensure quick and effective justice to the aggrieved litigants?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) The Government is preparing a roadmap for judicial reforms in the country which aims, *inter alia*, at reducing pendency in the courts, at providing quick and effective justice, introducing accountability of the judges and bringing in transparency in judicial processes for the litigants. The details of the roadmap are being worked out.

#### **Pendency of court cases**

†1710. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pendency of cases runs into lacs and the main reason behind this pendency is the nature of present judicial procedures and the system, and the shortage of staff;

(b) if so, whether Government is working on any concrete and effective plan to expedite justice and for disposal of pending cases; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) Over three crore cases are pending in the courts. Vacancies in the subordinate judiciary and shortage of staff in the Subordinate Courts are among of the reasons for pendency.

(b) and (c) Expeditious disposal of cases is exclusively within the domain of the Judiciary. Government has, however, taken several steps to facilitate disposal of cases in the courts, including pending cases which include:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (1) Increasing the strength of judges in the High Courts and Subordinate Courts.
- (2) 'Fast Track Courts' extended upto 31.3.2010.
- (3) Introduction of some legislative measures for improvement in judicial procedure and for expediting disposal of civil and criminal cases in courts. The Civil Procedure Code and Criminal Procedure Code have been amended and the concept of 'Plea-Bargaining' has been introduced.
- (4) Alternative modes of disposal including mediation, negotiation and arbitration have been encouraged.
- (5) Other measures like grouping of cases involving common questions of law, constitution of specialized benches, setting up of special courts and organizing Lok Adalats at regular intervals have also been taken.
- (6) Steps have also been taken for modernization of the judicial infrastructure through computerization of courts. Government is implementing a scheme for computerization of District & Subordinate Courts and for upgradation of the Information and Communication Technology infrastructure of the Supreme Court and the High Courts.
- (7) Government has enacted the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 (Act 4 of 2009) which provides for establishment of nearly 5067 Gram Nyayalayas and will bring justice at the door step of the rural people.

#### **Drop in polling percentage**

1711. SHRI JAIPRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that voting percentage has decreased during the last general election;
- (b) if so, the main reasons for the voters not casting their franchise;
- (c) whether Government would consider the option of compulsory voting; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) A Statement showing the figures relating to total electorate, total no. of votes polled and percentage of votes polled in general elections to Lok Sabha held from 1952 to 2009 as provided by the Election Commission of India is attached herewith (*See below*).

(b) The Election Commission of India has intimated that there are no proven/established reasons that can be ascribed to voters not exercising their franchise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The matter of compulsory voting was considered by the Dinesh Goswami Committee on Electoral Reforms and did not favour it.

**Statement**

*Comparative statement showing voting percentages since the  
First General Election to the Lok Sabha*

Year	Total Electorate	Total no. of votes polled	Percentage of votes polled
1951-1952	173,212,343	105,950,083	44.87%
1957	193,652,179	120,513,915	45.44%
1962	216,361,569	119,904,284	55.42%
1967	250,207,401	152,724,611	61.04%
1971	274,189,132	151,536,802	55.27%
1977	321,174,327	194,263,915	60.49%
1980	356,205,329	202,752,893	56.92%
1984	379,540,608	241,246,887	63.56%
1989	498,906,129	309,050,495	61.95%
1991	498,363,801	282,700,942	56.73%
1996	592,572,288	343,308,090	57.94%
1998	605,880,192	375,441,739	61.97%
1999	619,536,847	371,669,104	59.99%
2004	671,487,930	389,948,330	58.07%
2009	716,676,081	417,158,644	58.21%

**Grant-in-aid for FTCs**

1712. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL :

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after September, 2006 Government had discontinued the status of Centrally sponsored scheme for Fast Track Courts (FTCs) functioning in the States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is aware that the grant-in-aid being provided to FTCs is very meagre, whereas the recurring and non-recurring expenditure is on a very high side;

(d) whether Government is contemplating to raise the grant-in-aid to FTCs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (e) No, Sir. Government has not discontinued the scheme of Central assistance to the States for Fast Track Courts. In fact while extending, the scheme for a period of five years beyond 31.3.2005, Government

enhanced the central assistance for non-recurring expenditure and made a provision for an additional amount of Rs. 8.60 lakh per court being given to the States for the first two years after 31.3.2005.

Central assistance to the States under the scheme is provided on the basis of the approved norm *i.e.* Rs. 4.80 lakh per court per annum towards the recurring expenditure. Some of the States have reported expenditure in excess of the assistance provided to them.

There is no proposal at present to increase the rate of Central assistance to the States for the Fast Track Courts.

#### **High Court Bench at Thiruvananthapuram**

1713. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI K.E. ISMAIL :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government has been demanding, for a long time the establishment of a Bench of Kerala High Court at Thiruvananthapuram, the capital city of that State;

(b) whether Government is aware that advocates of that city have been on an indefinite strike for more than a year on this demand; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government on this demand?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has received reports that the advocates of that city have been agitating for the establishment of a High Court Bench at Thiruvanthapuram.

(c) The Governor of Kerala has recommended establishment of a Bench of the Kerala High Court at Thiruvananthapuram. However, the then Chief Justice of Kerala High Court had intimated that the High Court does not approve the establishment of such a Bench as it is not suitable or feasible. Should the High Court be agreeable to change its stand, the matter would be reconsidered.

#### **Corruption in judiciary**

1714. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to bring a legislation to tackle issues relating to accountability and corruption in the judiciary;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received a large number of representations in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action contemplated by Government on such representations and its reaction to root out corruption from judiciary?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (e) Allegations of corruption in the higher judiciary have come to the notice of the Government from time to time. As for the subordinate judiciary, the administrative control over its members vests with the concerned High Courts and the State Governments as per the provisions of Article 235 of the Constitution of India.

The Government is in the process of preparing a road map for judicial reforms in the country. Consultations in this regard have already begun. Accountability in the judiciary is also one of the components of the judicial reforms. A decision in the matter will be taken on completion of the process of consultation.

#### **Amendments in MMDR and MCR**

†1715. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to bring amendments in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation), Act (MMDR) and Mining Concession Rules (MCR), for speedier and timely development of mineral resources available in States;

(b) if so, in which rules and sections;

(c) whether Government proposes to delegate all rights related to minerals mentioned in parts 'A' and 'C' of the MMDR Act to the States; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) The Government is considering a proposal to bring the legislative framework of the mineral and mines sector in consonance with the National Mineral Policy, 2008. Since the matter is at an interim stage, it is not possible at present to specify the nature and extent of changes in the legislative framework.

#### **Illegal mining**

1716. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of illegal mining detected during the last three years and the action taken against the culprits;

(b) whether the minerals and areas prone to illegal mining have been identified; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to stop illegal mining?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) The number of cases of illegal mining detected in the last three years by State Governments is given below:-

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
38013	40575	41793

No separate exercise has been undertaken to identify minerals or the areas prone to illegal mining as instances of illegal mining differ in each State. However, the Central Government has taken pro-active steps to prevent illegal mining and has devised a three-pronged action strategy, which includes ensuring that the State Government constitute Task Force/Flying Squads at both State and District level, asking the State Governments to frame rules for prevention of illegal mining and monitoring the instances of illegal mining through quarterly returns from the State Governments.

#### Iron-ore mines

1717. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of iron-ore mines in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the number and the details of mines captive to steel plants, mines (merchant mining) in public sector and mines (merchant mining) in private sector; and
- (c) the details under the above categories, as to who have set up beneficiation plans to upgrade iron-ore fines?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) As per available information the details of State-wise reporting mines of iron ore in 2008-09 is given below:

State	Number of Mines (Provisional)				
	Captive		Non-captive		State-wise Total
	Private Sector	Public Sector	Private Sector	Public Sector	
Andhra Pradesh	-	-	23	-	23
Chhattisgarh	1	5	1	3	10
Goa	-	-	72	-	72
Jharkhand	2	5	13	-	20
Karnataka	-	-	87	5	92
Madhya Pradesh	-	-	7	-	7
Maharashtra	1	-	9	1	11
Orissa	4	4	64	11	83
Rajasthan	-	-	1	-	1

TOTAL : 319

(Source: IBM)

(c) The following mine owners have set-up beneficiation plants to upgrade iron ore fines: M/s Sesa Goa Ltd., M/s D.B. Bandodkar & Sons Pvt. Ltd., M/s Sociedade Fomento Industrial Ltd., M/s Damodar Mangalji & Co. Ltd., M/s Chowgule & Co. Ltd., M/s Dempo Mining Corp, M/s V.M. Salgaocar & Bro Ltd., M/s R.V.S. Velingkar, M/s Minería Nacional Ltd., Smt. Ahilabai Sardesai, M/s SOVA, Smt. K.R. Gharse, M/s V.S. Dempo & Co, Sri Badruddin H. Mavani, M/s Bandekar Bros Pvt. Ltd., M/s Salgaocar Mining Industries, M/s Doddanavar Bros., M/s SAIL, M/s Tata Steel Ltd., M/s OMC Ltd., M/s Rungta Mines Ltd., M/s Sarda Mines Ltd., M/s Bonai Industrial Co. Ltd., M/s NMDC, M/s Mineral Sales Pvt. Ltd., M/s Bharat Mines and Minerals, Mineral Enterprises Ltd., M/s Bhilai Steel Plant.

#### **Illegal sand mining**

1718. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a spurt and increase in illegal sand mining in the recent past;

(b) if so, the States/Union Territories which are predominantly subject to this kind of illegal mining or malpractices or both; and

(c) the details of ill-effects of illegal sand mining in rivers and the measures taken or being taken to avert these kind of activities?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) As sand is a minor mineral, for which powers to regulate are delegated to the State Governments, details of cases of illegal sand mining are not centrally maintained, However, the State Governments are empowered to frame rules for curbing illegal mining. Further, the State Governments have been asked to frame rules for prevention of illegal mining, transportation, etc., and constitute Task Forces at State/District Level.

#### **Coordination between Central and State Governments on mineral issues**

1719. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) by when a separate forum would be constituted for better coordination between Central and State Governments in order to sort out the problem related to coal and other minerals;

(b) the measures adopted for proper exploration of available minerals wealth in the States;

(c) whether the State Governments are bearing heavy losses of revenue and registration charges from coal companies and what are the measures being taken in this regard;

(d) whether the above said provision would also be applicable on coal companies for sanctioned coal mining under MMRD Act, 1957; and

(e) if so, by when it would be enforced?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) The Government had constituted a Mineral Advisory Council in the year 2003 which includes important mineral producing States as members to advise on various aspects relating to exploration of minerals in land and on offshore areas, production, annual distribution and consumption of minerals, exports and imports of minerals, human resources development in the mineral sector, measures necessary for protection/restoration of environment and ecology against adverse effects caused by mining operations, mineral policy and legislation. Apart from this, the Government has set up a mechanism through Central Geological Programming Board and State Geological Programming Board for proper exploration of available mineral wealth in the States. Further the Government has taken up a Plan Scheme for promotional exploration of Coal through GSI, MECL and CMPDIL. A separate Plan Scheme is also undertaken for detailed drilling of coal in areas not under Coal India Limited (CIL).

(c) The Government is not aware about any loss of revenue being caused to the State Government towards registration charges from coal companies.

(d) and (e) Does not arise in view of reply to the above.

#### **Rise in mining projects**

1720. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether record 441 mining projects were cleared in 2008, compared to 269 projects approved in the calendar year 2007;

(b) if so, whether nearly 369 out of 441 projects have been proposed in eight States;

(c) whether the rise in mining approvals is specially due to Government's move allowing private sector in mining of 13 minerals;

(d) whether the rise in mining approvals is an outcome of the National Mineral Policy announced by Government in 2008; and

(e) whether Government proposes to take steps to felicitate mine developers and to explore integral mining to the mining projects?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Ministry of Mines has accorded prior approval to 272 mineral concession proposals during the calendar year 2008 in comparison to 230 prior approvals during 2007. Eight States namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Orissa account for the largest number of approvals, numbering 260 in 2008.

(c) Since the enunciation of the National Mineral Policy in 1993, mineral sector has been opened up for private sector investment including foreign direct investment for non-fuel and non-atomic minerals, and there has been an increase in the number of applications as well as approvals.

(d) The New National Mineral Policy was announced in March, 2008. Consequential amendments in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the Rules framed thereunder have not been carried out yet and as such the impact of the new Mineral Policy on the rise in the mineral concession approvals cannot be assessed.

(e) The Government is committed to taking all necessary steps to encourage mineral exploration and mining activities in accordance with the National Mineral Policy, 2008.

#### **Regional scale survey by GSI**

1721. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has conducted regional scale survey for mineral resources during 2006-07 to 2008-09; and

(b) if so, what are their findings in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI) has conducted regional survey using Geological, Geophysical and Geochemical methods in search for mineral resources of the country. GSI has carried out investigations for minerals like coal, iron ore, gold, basemetal and phosphorite in the State of West Bengal. The details of findings of the investigations carried out during Field Seasons 2006-07 to 2008-09 (upto March '09) are as below:

#### **Coal:**

- (i) In Nabasan block, Raniganj coal field, eleven coal seams have been recorded. Thickness of coal seams varies from 0.40m to 8.35m between the depth 230.80m and 687.70m. Investigation is completed.
- (ii) In Kapasdanga-Bharkata sector, Birbhum coal field, four regional coal seam zones (cumulative thickness varying from 17.35m to 86.00m) have been recorded at depth between 300m and 720m. Investigation is completed.
- (iii) In Mahallah area, Birbhum coal field two lignite seams (cumulative thickness 5.50m) have been recorded within Tertiary sediments between 174m and 185m depths. Investigation is under progress.
- (iv) In Binodpur-Bhabaniganj block, Raniganj coal field four coal seams with thickness ranging from 0.50m to 10.75m have been recorded between 336.45m and 489.27m depths. Investigation is under progress.
- (v) In Makdumnagar area, Birbhum coal field, three regional coal seams with cumulative thickness 68.80m has been recorded below 293m depth. Investigation is under progress.

#### **Gold:**

- (i) Preliminary investigation for gold has been carried out at Rudra area, Bankura district. Analytical result of soil samples yielded gold values ranging from 31ppb to 0.26 g/t.

- (ii) Prospecting for gold in and around Tilakanali and Kelipathar, Bankura district indicated that results of samples received so far from Tilakanali area is not encouraging. Investigation is under progress.

**Base Metal:**

Investigation for basemetal in Tamakhun-Thakurdungri area, Purulia district is being carried out by large scale mapping, pitting-trenching and sampling.

**Iron Ore:**

Geophysical Survey for iron ore (magnetite) in Saltora-Mejia block, Bankura district was carried out along 41 traverses. The result is not encouraging except the delineation of a magnetic zone near Niyamatpur. Investigation is completed.

**Phosphorite:**

Investigation of Apatite (Calcium Phosphate) and associated minerals in Cholwari and adjoining areas of Purulia district is being carried out by mapping, pitting-trenching, drilling and sampling.

In addition to the above, Geochemical Mapping under the National Geochemical Mapping (NGCM) programme is being carried out in Purulia district, West Bengal. Preparation of anomaly maps of different elements are in progress along with the mapping programme for identifying the positive areas for mineral investigation. Similarly geophysical mapping employing regional gravity and magnetic methods are also being conducted in parts of Purulia district to identify subsurface mineralization.

**Naxal attack at NALCO**

†1722. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the recent naxalite attack on National Aluminium Company (NALCO), a navratna company;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and
- (c) whether Government is contemplating any measures to avert the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The mines of National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) located at Damanjodi in district Koraput of Orissa were attacked by a large number of naxalites at about 9.30 PM on 12th April, 2009, apparently with the intention to loot weapons or explosives stored in the Explosive Magazine House. As a result of the determined action by the Central Industrial Security Force(CISF) personnel deployed at the site, the naxatites were pushed back by the morning of 13th April, 2009. However, there were 10(ten) casualties of CISF personnel and some casualties among the naxalites during the night long operation.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) This matter was immediately reviewed by this Ministry in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs and CISF and in order to prevent occurrence of such incidents, all stakeholders including the State Government of Orissa, the representative organization of mining industries, namely Federation of Indian Mining Industries(FIMI) as well as all Public Sector Undertakings under the administrative control of this Ministry, have been suitably advised to take precautions, strengthen security cover and ensure proper coordination with different security agencies. Regular watch is being kept in the matter. Specific directions have been given to NALCO, which include:-

- (i) Strengthen the security in and around the mines, particularly by construction of morchas/watch towers, fortification of magazine area by laying concertina barbed wires, power fencing, better illumination of magazine area by providing high mast outward focused lights, proper/secure accommodation for the CISF personnel alongwith required amenities, such as supply of bullet proof jackets, helmets, vehicles, etc.
- (ii) Shifting of the magazine to a more secure location from the present site.
- (iii) Initiate measures for blast free mining operations, through the use of surface miners/continuous miners.
- (iv) Keeping minimum stock of explosives in the magazine.
- (v) To maintain close liaison with the State Government as well as other security agencies.

#### **Complaints to NCM**

1723.SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the complaints of harassment and discrimination received by the National Commission for Minorities during the last two years and this year;

(b) the action taken thereon; and

(c) the details of plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The details of complaints received during the last two years and this year (upto 30.06.2009) are as under:

Years	Number of Complaints
2007-08	1508
2008-09	2250
2009-10	472
(up to 30.06.2009)	

(b) and (c) The National Commission for Minorities takes up all such complaints in accordance with the procedure laid down and with the concerned authorities for appropriate redressal of the grievances. Whenever necessary, summons are issued and hearings are held by the Commission.

### Defining the linguistic minorities

†1724. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any fixed criteria for deciding the linguistic minorities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any concrete plans have been formulated by Government for collective development of linguistic minorities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of States/Union Territories where Nepali speaking people have been recognized as a linguistic minority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) Linguistic minorities have not been defined in the Constitution or by any statute. They get defined when their mother tongue differs from the regional language of the area. They are identified by State Government/Union Territory on the basis of Census data.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities has reported that there is no procedure/rule for recognition of a minority language group, including Nepali, by the states/Union Territories. However, on the basis of inputs received from the various State Governments and census records, Nepali is spoken in the States of Assam, West Bengal (major language in Darjeeling District), Meghalaya, Sikkim (regional language) and Mizoram.

### Academic and housing diversity statistics

†1725. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the expert committee appointed by Government has submitted its report on academic and housing diversity statistics of Sachar Committee;
- (b) if so, whether the Central Statistical Organization (CSO) has given its comments on it;
- (c) whether it is a fact that CSO has pointed towards various shortcomings therein and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the plan to address these shortcomings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The Expert Group appointed by the Government to recommend an appropriate 'diversity index' to promote diversity in living, educational and work spaces has submitted its report.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In its comments, Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) has drawn attention towards the weak points in the formulation at the micro and macro levels and towards statistical challenges.

(d) The report of the Expert Group and comments received thereon have been considered in the light of the proposal for setting up an Equal Opportunity Commission.

#### **Settlement of dues of Maharashtra Government**

1726. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal from the Maharashtra Government is pending with the Ministry, regarding payment of funds for the non-conventional energy projects successfully implemented since 2002-03;

(b) whether it is a fact that the amount due to the State Government amounts to around Rs. 500 crore; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay and by when the claim is likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, proposals for release of Central Financial Assistance totaling around Rs. 10 crore under the Biogas programme for the period 2002-03 onwards have been received. There are pending settlement due to discrepancies/non-receipt of Audit reports. The State Government has been advised to clarify and fulfill the requirements at the earliest.

#### **Electrification of Remote Villages**

1727. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of achievements made in the backward districts of the country under the Remote Village Electrification Programme, till May, 2009;

(b) whether any installation cost has been fixed for solar energy devices and setting up of bio-gas plants under the National Bio-gas and Manure Management Programme as well as subsidy given to the people below poverty line; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether there is any special price list for the North Eastern Region?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) The Remote Village Electrification Programme is being implemented in those remote, unelectrified villages/hamlets where grid connectivity will not be feasible in near future. These villages generally lie in economically, socially or industrially backward regions of the country. The details of villages/hamlets covered under the Programme as on 31st May, 2009 are given in the enclosed Statement-I (See below).

(b) and (c) The Ministry has not laid down installation costs for solar energy devices under the Remote Village Electrification Programme as well as for setting up of biogas plants under the National Bio-gas and Manure Management Programme. Instead, the levels of Central Financial Assistance (CFA)/subsidy are specified. The details of CFA/subsidy levels, including those applicable for beneficiaries belonging to below poverty line category and to those in the North Eastern Region are given in the Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise Details of Villages/Hamlets Covered as on 31st May 2009,  
for Financial Support under Remote Village Electrification Programme*

S.No.	State	No. of Villages/ Hamlets
1	Andhra Pradesh	13
2	Arunachal Pradesh	298
3	Assam	1986
4	Chhattisgarh	588
5	Gujarat	38
6	Haryana	286
7	Himachal Pradesh	22
8	Jammu & Kashmir	235
9	Jharkhand	477
10	Karnataka	79
11	Kerala	607
12	Madhya Pradesh	274
13	Maharashtra	353
14	Manipur	240
15	Meghalaya	97
16	Mizoram	20
17	Nagaland	3
18	Orissa	306
19	Rajasthan	327
20	Sikkim	13
21	Tamil Nadu	184
22	Tripura	755
23	Uttarakhand	718
24	Uttar Pradesh	250
25	West Bengal	1186

**Statement-II**

*Central Financial Assistance (CFA) for various renewable energy options under Remote Village Electrification Programme*

**I- Solar Photovoltaic Systems**

Maximum Central Financial Assistance, Amount in Rupees

SPY System	General Category States	Special Category States including North Eastern Region
Homelighting System Model I	5895	6165
Homelighting System Model II	11250	11250
Streetlighting System	19602	20578
Power Plants	3,15,000 per KW including modules, batteries, electronic systems, internal cabling, structures, all civil works, fencing, etc. An additional CFA worked out on the basis of Rs.3150 per household will be given towards the cost of distribution lines, service connections, fittings and fixtures inside the houses.	

For BPL households, the above amounts will be multiplied by a factor of 1.11.

The above CFA values are based on the costs which include supply of the systems at the site, installation, commissioning and onsite Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for five years including warranty for parts and components such as battery, electronics, lamps, etc. For PV modules, the warranty will be for ten years.

**II - Small Hydro Projects**

Region	Capacity	Maximum CFA/ kW (Rupees)
Plain & other regions of all other States	Upto10 kW	98100
	Above 10 kW and upto 100 kW	92700
	Above 100 kW and upto 1000 kW	68400
Notified Hilly regions of all other States & Islands	Upto10 kW	1,07,100
	Above 10 kW and upto 100 kW	1,01,700
	Above 100 kW and upto 1000 kW	77400
N.E. Regions, Sikkim, Uttaranchal, J&K and Himachal Pradesh (Special Category States)	Upto10 kW	1,16,100
	Above 10 kW and upto 100 kW	1,10,700
	Above 100 kW and upto 1000 kW	86400

The above prices are inclusive of all civil works, distribution network within the village transportation, installation and commissioning charges and Annual Maintenance Contract for 5 years. The cost of transmission lines from the power plant to the village are not included.

### III- Biomass Gasifies Project

Maximum Central Financial Assistance/kW, (Rupees)				
Type of System	Gasifier rating	Plain	Hilly areas	North-East
100% Producer Gas	Upto 10kWe	68040	71442	74844
	>10 upto 20kWe	48528	50954	53380
	>20 upto 50 kWe	49500	51975	54450
	>50 kWe	43726	45912	48099
Dual fuel	Upto 10 kWe	60466 (63,000)	63489 (66150)	66512 (69300)
	>10 upto 20kWe	40,500	42525	44550
	>20 upto 50kWe	36000	37800	39600
	>50 kWe	31500	33075	34650

- Note:
- Figures in brackets include increases in cost on account of oil ghani.
  - Prices are inclusive of 5 year AMC (2years warranty + 3 years), distribution network within the village, all civil works, transportation charges and installation and commissioning charges.

*Current pattern of Central Subsidy for Different categories of beneficiaries/ areas under National Biogas and Manure Management Programme*

Category	Amount of Central subsidy per plant
North Eastern Region States and Sikkim (except plain areas of Assam).	Rs.11,700/-
Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand (excluding terai region), Nilgiris of Tamil Nadu; Sadar Kursoong and Kalimpong sub-divisions of the Darjeeling district (WB), Sunderbans, Andaman and Nicobar Islands.	Rs.4,500/- (Restricted to Rs.3,500/-for 1 Cu. M. fixed dome type )
Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, desert districts, small and marginal farmers, landless labourers, terai region of Uttarakhand, Western Ghats and other notified hilly areas	Rs.3,500/- (Restricted to Rs.2,800/- for 1 Cu.M. fixed dome type)
All Others	Rs.2,700/- (Restricted to Rs.2,100/- for 1 Cu.M. fixed dome type)
Plain Areas of Assam	Rs.9,000/-
Additional Central subsidy for cattle dung based biogas plants linked with sanitary toilet in individual households	Additional subsidy for linking cattle dung based biogas plant with sanitary toilet is payable @ Rs. 500/- per plant.

#### **Improving the wind power capacity**

1728.MS. MABEL REBELLO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India slipped to 5th position in total wind power installed capacity at the end of the last year, with China overtaking it by a huge margin in terms of both new capacity and total installed capacity;

(b) if so, whether according to the Global Wind Energy Council, India added 1800 mw during this year taking the installed capacity to 9645 mw whereas China, in comparison, added 6300 mw, second only to US in new additions, taking its installed capacity at the end of the year to 12210 mw; and

(c) the steps Government proposes to take to improve wind capacity in the country?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India was able to maintain a steady growth of 1800 MW capacity addition per year in 2008 also. According to Global Wind Energy Council, China doubled their capacity addition to 6300 MW in the year 2008.

(c) The Government continues to promote wind energy generation in the country through fiscal incentives such as accelerated depreciation, concessional import duty on certain components of wind electric generators, excise duty exemption, ten years' tax holiday on income generated from wind power projects, and loan from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and other financial institutions. Technical support, including detailed wind resource assessment to identify further potential sites, is provided by Ministry's Centre for Wind Energy Technology (C-WET), Chennai. This apart, preferential tariff is being provided to increase wind energy generation in the potential States.

#### **Reduction in capital cost of solar power**

1729.SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of reduction in the capital cost of solar power (Rs./kw) over the last five years globally and in India; and

(b) what are projections for it during the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) The cost of solar photovoltaic (PV) modules has reduced during the last five years. As per some of the estimates the reduction is from average cost of US \$ 4,200 per kW to US \$ 2,700 per kW. During the same period, in India the average cost has reduced from about Rs. 1,80,000 per kW to Rs. 1,45,000 per kW. The present trend indicates that the cost will continue to decline due to global

R&D efforts, expanded utilization of solar PV modules for various applications and volume production. Some of the international reports have projected that in the next five years, the cost of PV modules could come down to US \$ 1,000-1,500 per kW. Indian cost of PV modules is also expected to reduce on the same line to Rs. 60,000-80,000 per kW by that time.

#### **Floating rates for diesel and petrol**

1730. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to introduce floating rates for diesel and petrol;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) what are the reasons for not declaring the hydrocarbon pricing policy, so far; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (d) With the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism, with effect from 1.4.2002, Government has decided that pricing of petroleum products, except for PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG will be market-determined. However, in view of the steep increase and volatility in international oil prices since 2004-05, Government has been modulating the retail prices of the four sensitive petroleum products, namely, Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG.

#### **Increase in oil production**

1731. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country's oil production would be increased by about 25 per cent to match the future requirements;
- (b) if so, the details worked out, so far; and
- (c) the role of such production in Andhra Pradesh as well as State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) During the X Plan period (2002-2007) country's actual crude oil production was 166.569 Million Metric Tonne (MMT). In the XI Plan period (2007-2012) the crude oil production is projected at 206.763 MMT, which is about 24% higher than the actual production in X Plan.

In 2008-09, the actual crude oil production was as follows :

(Figures in MMT)	
State/Regions	Total
Offshore	22.231
Andhra Pradesh	0.289
Arunachal Pradesh	0.103
Assam	4.674
Gujarat	5.945
Tamil Nadu	0.265
<b>TOTAL :</b>	<b>33.507</b>

#### **Scheme of cooking gas**

1732.SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is working on a new scheme for cooking gas for rural poor;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what is the basis for giving the same to SC/ST in agency areas of each State, especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) In order to increase rural penetration and to cover remote as well as low potential areas, a new scheme is proposed to be implemented. Details of the scheme including the details relating to the provisions for reservation for SC/ST and other categories will be notified shortly.

#### **LPG connections in Andhra Pradesh**

1733.SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of domestic LPG connections in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the number of applications in the waiting list; and
- (c) the details of LPG connections released in the State during the last three years, year-wise, company-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that as on 01.06.2009 they are serving 115.8 lakh domestic LPG customers in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

- (b) While Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have nil waiting list in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Indian Oil Corporation Limited

(IOC) has reported that there is a waiting list of 30035 as on 01.07.2009 for release of new connections with their LPG distributors in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) OMCs have released 15.22 lakh new LPG connections during the last three years in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The details are as under:-

	(Figs. In lakh)		
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
IOC	2.27	3.14	2.05
BPCL	0.58	1.01	1.45
HPCL	1.23	2.17	1.32
<b>TOTAL :</b>	<b>4.08</b>	<b>6.32</b>	<b>4.82</b>

The district-wise details are available with Directors (Marketing) of OMCs concerned.

#### **Investment in gas field in Iran**

1734.SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that ONGC is planning to invest US\$ 3 billion in the Farzad gas field in Iran;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposed investment;
- (c) the amount of gas that ONGC could extract from the above gas field; and
- (d) how Indian companies are competing with China to grab more and more oil fields in Iran?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) ONGC Videsh Ltd.(OVL) has submitted Master Development Plan (MPD) of Farzad — B gas field, Persian Gulf, Iran to the Iranian Offshore Oil Company (IOOC) in compliance to the provisions of the Exploration Service Contract (ESC) for Farsi Block. The amount of the investment will depend on the approval of MDP by Iranian authorities.

(c) The potential of the gas production from Farzad — B gas field in 30 years is about 9.7 Trillion Cubic Feet (TCF). Since the Farsi block is being operated by OVL under ESC, the amount of gas has not been committed to OVL.

(d) As there are number of opportunities for companies desiring to invest in Iran, at present Indian National Oil Companies are not competing with China to acquire oil field in Iran, however, competition cannot be ruled out in future as it will depend on the type and quality of opportunity being made available.

#### **Profit of ONGC**

1735.SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC's net profit dropped by 16 percent in its net profit in the quarter ended March 31 due to subsidy burden;

(b) whether ONGC's share of subsidies to oil marketing companies like IOC, HPCL, BPCL for selling petrol, diesel, LPG and Kerosene was 852 crore in the fourth quarter;

(c) if so, the details thereof?

(d) whether the operating income of the company also fell to Rs. 13,833 crore from Rs. 16,699 crore in the fourth quarter of the previous year, and oil production declined to six and half million tonnes in the fourth quarter, against seven million tonnes a year ago; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The decline in net profit of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) during fourth quarter of 2008-09 by 16 percent as compared to the fourth quarter of 2007-08 is mainly due to fall in operating income during fourth quarter of 2008-09.

(b) and (c) ONGC's share of subsidies to oil marketing companies viz Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) in the fourth quarter of 2008-09 was as follows:-

Company	Amount in Rs Crore
IOC	55.15
HPCL	237.85
BPCL	559.00
TOTAL :	852.00

(d) and (e) Operating income of ONGC decreased by Rs. 1,865 crore (from Rs. 15,699 crore in fourth quarter of 2007-08 to Rs. 13,834 crore) in fourth quarter of 2008-09. ONGC's actual crude oil production (excluding Joint Ventures) during fourth quarter of 2007-08 and 2008-09 were 6.449 Million Metric Tons (MMT) and 6.030 MMT respectively. The reasons for less oil production in the fourth quarter of year 2008-09 by ONGC are as under:

- i) Less base potential, less input in terms of side track wells in Mumbai High.
- ii) Delay in installation of platforms under Heera Redevelopment project.
- iii) Less gain from Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) fields of Balol and Santhal at Mehsana.
- iv) Less than envisaged gain from workover in Ahmedabad, less than envisaged gain from the development and workover wells in Assam, and Less than envisaged gain from Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) schemes of Assam asset.

#### **Rationalizing of prices**

1736. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the period, when the international crude prices were ruling at around US \$ 44 a barrel, provided an opportunity to Government to implement the recommendations of B.K. Chaturvedi Committee on rationalizing oil prices;

(b) whether the country has deferred implementation of Chaturvedi Committee Report indefinitely, in the wake of international oil prices rising again; and

(c) whether, instead of taking *ad hoc* decision on oil pricing, based on volatility of global crude prices, Government would come out with time-bound action plan, as recommended in the Chaturvedi Committee Report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Government has not deferred implementation of the recommendations of Chaturvedi Committee Report indefinitely.

(c) To protect the consumer and the economy from the increasing price volatility and uncertainty of the international oil prices since 2004-05, Government is modulating the retail selling prices of the four sensitive petroleum products; namely Petrol, Diesel, Domestic LPG and PDS Kerosene as an administrative measure.

Government is closely monitoring the international oil prices and will take appropriate pricing decisions, to protect the interest of the consumer, particular the weaker sections of society.

#### **Profit of oil refining companies**

1737. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil refining companies in the country earned net profit during the last one year;

(b) if so, the amount of net profit per barrel earned by the public sector refineries during the last one year;

(c) the quantum of oil refined by these public sector refineries during 2008-09; and

(d) the quantum of production achieved against the installed capacity of these crude oil companies during the above mentioned period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Except Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited, all other Public Sector oil refining companies have reported a net profit during the year 2008-09.

(b) The Gross Refining Margins (GRM) of the public sector refineries for the year 2008-09 is as under:

Name of the Public Sector Undertaking	\$/bbl
Indian Oil Corporation Limited	3.69
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited - Mumbai	4.48
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited - Kochi	6.27
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited - Mumbai	6.11
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited - Vizag	2.42
Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited	5.33
Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited	1.22
Numaligarh Refinery Limited*	1.21

\*Net of freight and CST under recoveries

(c) The total quantum of crude oil refined by Public Sector Undertaking refineries during 2008-09 was 112.2 MMT (Provisional).

(d) The quantum of petroleum products produced by the Public Sector Undertaking refineries during 2008-09 was 104.80 MMT (Provisional) against their combined installed capacity of 105.47 MMTPA as on 1.4.2008.

#### Construction of National Gas Highways

1738. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to construct the national gas highway;
- (b) if so, the details worked out so far;
- (c) the route connecting the south and west in the gas highway; and
- (d) the aims and objectives of such gas highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) There is an existing natural gas transportation network in the country. The network has trunk pipelines of more than 9,000 km. The pipelines are owned and operated by Central & State Public Sector Undertakings, as also Private Companies.

Dahej-Uran and Dabhol- Panvel pipelines have been commissioned by GAIL. Further, Kakinada-Hyderabad-Uran- Ahmedabad pipeline has been commissioned by Reliance Gas Transportation Infrastructure Limited (RGTEL). Further, authorization has been issued for Dabhol- Bangalore, Kochi-Kanjirkkod-Bangalore/ Mangalore, Vijaywada- Nellore- Chennai, Chennai-Tuticorin and Chennai-Bangalore-Mangalore Pipelines.

The pipeline network has to be further augmented to connect new sources of indigenous gas & Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) to customers in new areas/States. As laying of natural gas trunk pipelines allows growth of natural gas-based industries, it spurs economic development in the

area. Hence, efforts are being made to further develop natural gas transportation network in the country, for which no specific scheme has been formulated by the Union Government for the same, as of now.

#### Impact of hike in oil prices

†1739. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government agrees that increase in crude prices at international level over the last six months has impacted the country most;
- (b) if so, the measures being taken by Government to avoid this;
- (c) the security blanket currently available to prevent Indian market and consumers from the repercussion of huge rise and fall in the prices of crude oil at international level; and
- (d) the extent to which oil bonds issued to compensate losses to public sector oil marketing companies is effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) The crude oil prices have been steadily increasing since December 2008 and the Indian basket, during July 2009 is \$ 63.27 per barrel (up to 15th July 2009). The month-wise average prices of Indian Basket of Crude Oil since December '08 is tabulated below:

	\$/bbl
December'08	40.61
January'09	43.99
February'09	43.22
March'09	46.02
April'09	50.14
May'09	58
June'09	69.12
July'09 (up to 15.07.09)	63.27

In view of the sustained increase in international prices of crude oil and petroleum products, the retail selling prices of Petrol and Diesel were increased by Rs. 4/litre and Rs. 2/litre respectively at Delhi, with corresponding increases in the rest of the country, effective 2nd July'09.

As passing on the entire impact of the steep increase in the oil prices to the consumers would have resulted in sharp increase in the domestic prices, aggravating the inflationary conditions and weakened the high growth momentum of the economy, the Government took measures to ensure that the burden was shared by all the stakeholders, namely, the Government, the Upstream Oil Companies, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and the consumers in the following manner:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- Government, through issue of Oil Bonds
- Public Sector Upstream Oil Companies, through price discounts to OMCs.
- OMCs to bear a portion of the under-recoveries, and
- Consumers, through minimal price increases.

The OMCs were issued Oil Bonds for Rs.71,292 crore towards under-recoveries on sale of sensitive petroleum products, namely Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG during the year 2008-09, which improved their financial position.

#### **Sale of natural gas for PMT**

1740. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI:

SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that Panna Mukta Tapti (PMT) JV partners invited bids for sale of natural gas upto 4 MMSCMD from 1 April, 2006 from various companies;
- whether it is also a fact that GSPCL offered the highest price for gas amongst the bidders;
- whether the Gujarat Government has made any representation to Government to follow the rules of tender procedure and offer gas to GSPCL, since their bid was the highest; and
- what is Government's reaction to the representation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The Production Sharing Contract (PSC) signed between the Government and the Joint Venture (JV) provides that the entire gas would be sold to the Government nominee.

However, during 2004-05, Government allowed PMT JV to directly sell 4.6 mmscmd gas, while the remaining about 6 mmscmd gas continued to be supplied to power & fertilizer consumers through GAIL. Further, it was decided that the position would be reviewed at the end of the year. In the meantime, perhaps on the understanding that the gas being marketed by GAIL might be released for direct marketing to JV from 2006-07, PMT JV solicited Expression of Interests (Eoi) from prospective buyers to purchase gas up to 4 mmscmd from 1st April, 2006 for a period of two years with a caveat that the JV reserved the right to decide the quantity to be sold. As informed by PMT JV, GSPC and another buyer offered the highest price for this gas. The issue of continuing gas supplies to the power and fertilizer sector consumers by GAIL beyond 31.3.2006 was reviewed in the Ministry in March 2006 and it was decided that this arrangement needed to be continued for a further period of 2 years, *i.e.*, up to 31.3.2008, as then there were no alternative sources of gas supplies and any disruption in gas supplies would have resulted in idling of the existing assets in these important sectors.

Subsequently, it was decided in 2007 that, in accordance with the provisions of the PSC, all gas produced by PMT JV would be sold to Government nominee, *i.e.*, GAIL, from 2008-09. Accordingly,

the entire production of PMT JV is being supplied to GAIL from 1.4.2008.

(c) and (d) This Ministry had received through Prime Minister's Office a copy of the letter dated 8.3.06 addressed to the Prime Minister by Members of Parliament. As mentioned above, it has been decided in 2007 that, from 2008-09, all gas produced by PMT JV should be supplied to GAIL for marketing according to Government's directions.

#### **Petroleum production in Rajasthan**

†1741. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of locations in Rajasthan where the mining and production of petroleum products is likely to be started;

(b) by when the production of petroleum products is going to start and the places where such production would start; and

(c) the details of the share of State Government fixed by the Central Government in the profit earned from the production of the petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Crude oil production from Block RJ-ON-90/1 in Barmer district of Rajasthan is likely to commence in the second half of the year 2009. Natural Gas production from Block RJ-ON-90/6 in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan is likely to commence in the year 2010.

(c) State Government gets 100 % share of royalty on Crude Oil and Gas Production from the State. As per the Production Sharing Contracts, profit petroleum payments are received by the Union of India.

#### **Petroleum production in Barmer**

†1742. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) by when commercial production of petroleum is likely to be commenced in Barmer district of Rajasthan and at which site the production is expected to start;

(b) the details about the estimated amount of crude oil present there; and

(c) the details of percentage share in the profit earned through the production of oil and gas that Rajasthan would get?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Crude oil production from Block RJ-ON-90/1 in Barmer Sanchor Basin in the district of Barmer in Rajasthan is likely to commence in the second half of the year 2009.

(b) Oil Initially In Place (OIIP) reserves in Barmer are estimated at 301.2 Million Metric Tonne (MMT).

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Government of Rajasthan will get one hundred percent (100%) share of Royalty on production of oil & gas from the state. As per the Production Sharing Contracts, profit petroleum payments are received by the Union of India.

#### **Gas grid at national level**

†1743. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a decision to make a gas grid at national level is being taken by Government;
- (b) if so, whether pipelines will have to be laid therefor in the country;
- (c) if so, how many gas lines and their length that would have to be laid under this plan; and
- (d) the number of cities and villages in the country to be supplied gas therefrom and the total amount to be incurred on laying the entire pipeline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) There is an existing natural gas transportation network in the country. The network has trunk pipelines of more than 9,000 km. The pipelines are owned and operated by Central & State Public Sector Undertakings, as also Private Companies.

Dahej-Uran Pipeline (DUPL) & Dabhol-Panvel pipeline (DPPL) (581 km), Jagoti-Pitampur (200 km), Vijaipur-Kota (180 km) and Kelaras-Malanpur (120 km) pipelines have been commissioned by GAIL in July 2007, March 2007, January 2007 and July 2006 respectively. In 2009, Reliance Gas Transportation Infrastructure Limited (RGTIL) has commissioned Kakinada-Hyderabad-Uran-Ahmedabad pipeline (1385 km) for transporting gas from KG basin to consumers in other parts of the country. Dadri-Panipat pipeline (133 km) is under implementation by Indian Oil Corporation (IOC).

GAIL has been issued authorizations for Dadri-Bawana-Nangal Pipeline (610 km), Chainsa-Gurgaon-Jhajjar-Hissar Pipeline (310 km), Jagdishpur-Haldia Pipeline (876 km), Dabhol-Bangalore Pipeline (730 km) and Kochi-Kanjirkod-Bangalore/Mangalore Pipeline (822 km). Reliance Gas Transportation Infrastructure Limited (RGTIL) has been granted authorizations for Kakinada-Basudebpur-Howrah Pipeline (1100 km), Vijaywada-Nellore-Chennai Pipeline (600 km), Chennai-Tuticorin Pipeline (670 km) and Chennai-Bangalore-Mangalore Pipeline (660 km).

To encourage investment in the sector and to regulate the same in a non-discriminatory manner, the Government of India has enacted 'The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006'.

The pipelines are owned and operated by Central & State Public Sector Undertakings, as also Private Companies. The pipeline network has to be further augmented to connect new sources of indigenous gas & Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) to customers in new areas/states. As laying of natural gas trunk pipelines allows growth of natural gas-based industries, it spurs economic

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

development in the area. Hence, efforts are being made to further develop natural gas transportation network in the country, while no specific scheme has been formulated by the Union Government for the same, as of now.

#### **Deregulation of prices of petroleum products**

†1744. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI SHIVANAND TTWARI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fixing of consumer sale prices of petroleum products in the country by Government, is being proposed to be deregulated;

(b) if so, when the proposal came up for consideration and by when it has been decided to be implemented; and

(c) for which petroleum products the fixing of sale price is outside Government control, at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) The Government abolished the Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) with effect from 1st April 2002 and decided that pricing of all petroleum products, except PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG, would be market-determined. In order to provide PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG at affordable prices, the Government formulated subsidy schemes, which are in operation since April 2002.

To protect the consumer and the economy from the increasing price volatility and uncertainty of the international oil prices since 2004-05, Government is, however, modulating the retail selling prices of the four sensitive petroleum products; namely Petrol, Diesel, Domestic LPG and PDS Kerosene as an administrative measure.

Except the prices of four sensitive petroleum products, the prices of all other petroleum products are determined by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies, based on commercial considerations.

#### **Exploration of crude oil and natural gas**

†1745. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that exploration of reserves of crude oil and natural gas in the country is an ongoing process;

(b) the number of crude oil and natural gas reserves found in the country till June, 2009, with available quantity of crude oil and natural gas; and

(c) the annual average crude oil and natural gas produced by public sector oil companies during the last five years, and the quantity produced in the private sector?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on 1.4.2009 initial in place Oil and Gas reserves established by ONGC, OIL and Private JV Companies are 9550 MMTOE. Balance crude oil reserves are 730.07 MMT and Natural Gas reserves are 1117.73 BCM.

(c) The annual average crude oil production in last five year, by Public Sector Oil Companies was 27.071 MMT. In the corresponding period, average Natural gas production by Public Sector Oil Companies was 24.771 BCM per annum. The annual average crude oil and natural gas production by Private/JV Companies was 4.69 MMT and 7.38 BCM respectively.

**Increase in prices of diesel and petrol**

1746. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI K. E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has announced an increase in prices of diesel and petrol recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it would affect the common people very badly, who are already facing price rise of essential commodities; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and remedial measures proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In view of the rising international oil prices, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), namely, Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPC) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPC) were projected to suffer heavy under-recoveries of Rs.49,266 crore during 2009-10, on the sale of Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG, based on the Refinery Gate Prices effective 1.7.2009. To meet the under-recovery, the retail prices of four sensitive petroleum products were required to be increased by Rs.6.94 per litre on Petrol, Rs.4.11 per litre on Diesel, Rs. 16.01 per litre on PDS Kerosene and Rs.96.68 per 14.2 kg Domestic LPG cylinder. However, the Government has marginally increased the prices of Petrol by Rs.4/- per litre and Diesel by Rs.2/- per litre only.

The retail prices of Domestic LPG and PDS Kerosene, which are used by the common man for cooking and lighting needs, have not been increased.

Government is closely monitoring the international oil price situation and will take appropriate pricing decisions to protect the interest of the common man, particularly the vulnerable sections of society.

### City gas network

1747. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of entities which are there in the city gas network laying business in the country;

(b) in how many of these entities, the GAIL alone and with other oil PSUs has stakes, the details of such entities and the description of stakes held by GAIL and other oil PSUs;

(c) whether the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) Act restricts oil and natural gas producing, refining and marketing entities from entering into pipelines business and if so, the details of such provisions; and

(d) whether PNGRB has taken a view over setting up of such subsidiaries in similar business, as it may hamper competition in the sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) According to information available, there are 22 entities engaged in City Gas Distribution business.

(b) The details of such entities are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

### Statement

*Entities engaged in city gas distribution business*

Sl. No.	Name of JVC	JV Partners	Equity Stake (As per JVA)
1	2	3	4
1	Indraprastha Gas Ltd.	GAIL (India) Limited & BPCL	GAIL: 22.5%, BPCL: 22.5%, Delhi Govt: 5%, FIs/FIs/ Public and othes: 50%
2	Mahanagar Gas Ltd.	GAIL (India) Limited & British Gas	GAIL: 35% (Current 49.75%), British Gas: 35% (Current 49.75%), Maharashtra Govt.: 10% (Current 0.5%), Public: 20% (Current - Nil)
3	Bhagya Nagar Gas Ltd.	GAIL (India) Limited & HPCL	GAIL: 22.5%, HPCL: 22.5%, State Govt: 5%, FIs/FIs/ Public and othes: 50%
4	Tripura Natural Gas Ltd.	GAIL (India) Limited, AGCL & TIDC	GAIL: 29%, TIDC: 10%, AGCL: 10%, Public and others: 51%

1	2	3	4
5	Central U.P. Gas Ltd.	GAIL (India) Limited & BPCL	GAIL: 22.5%, BPCL: 22.5%, State Govt: 5%, FIs/FIs/ Public and othes: 50%
6	Green Gas Ltd.	GAIL (India) Limited & IOCL	GAIL: 22.5%, IOCL: 22.5%, State Govt: 5%, FIs/FIs/ Public and othes: 50%
7	Maharashtra Natural Gas Ltd.	GAIL (India) Limited & BPCL	GAIL: 22.5%, BPCL: 22.5%, State Govt: 5%, FIs/FIs/ Public and othes: 50%
8	Avantika Gas Ltd.	GAIL (India) Limited & HPCL	GAIL: 22.5%, HPCL: 22.5%, State Govt: 5%, FIs/FIs/ Public and othes; 50%
9	GAIL (India) Limited	Not a JV	—
10	GAIL Gas Limited	A 100% subsidiary of GAIL (India) Limited	GAIL: 100%

#### LNG terminal at Kochi

1748.SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agreement to establish LNG terminal at Kochi had been signed on 12 March, 2009;

(b) if so, whether the price of LNG at Kochi is linked to the prevailing crude oil price and US \$ exchange rate;

(c) whether it would affect the cost of power as per dollar exchange rate fluctuation and crude oil rate fluctuation;

(d) if so, whether Gujarat Petronet is providing LNG at administered price and LNG is available at Gujarat at cheaper rate compared to that at Kochi;

(e) if so, whether steps would be taken to make LNG available at the administered price; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Petronet LNG Ltd. (PLL) has executed Port Concession Agreement with Cochin Port Trust for land lease and port lease on March 12, 2009.

(b) PLL has tied up 1.5 mmtpa LNG for Kochi LNG terminal on term basis. Sale Purchase Agreement (SPA) is likely to be executed in August 2009. The price of LNG is linked to the then prevailing crude price. Further, it is in US\$ terms.

(c) Supply of LNG to Kochi under (b) above would start in 2014. The price of delivered gas and consequently the price of power would depend upon the conditions prevailing then, including *inter alia* crude oil price, exchange rate and Government policy.

(d) to (f) LNG is not supplied at administered price. Further, Kochi LNG terminal is not in operation; it is under construction and is planned to be commissioned in 2011-12. As the supply of RLNG from Kochi LNG terminal has not yet commenced, therefore no comparison can be made between the price of LNG available at Gujarat and the LNG to be available at Kochi at this stage.

#### **Supply of gas cylinders at door-steps**

1749. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether gas agencies are supposed to supply gas cylinders at the door-steps of consumers so that they could get satisfied of any damage/leakage of cylinders and the weight of the cylinders;

(b) if so, what is the rule prevailing in that regard;

(c) whether some gas agencies in Kerala, are not following the rules and consumers are forced to take cylinders with their own conveyance and, many a times, the cylinders do not have proper weight; and

(d) if so, what action would be taken against those errant agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have given instructions to their LPG distributors to ensure that their delivery men carry with them a spring balance and the weight of the cylinder is shown to the customer while supplying the LPG cylinder. OMCs have also given instructions to their LPG distributors to connect the filled cylinders to the LPG installation and check for leakage in the presence of the customer. If during inspection any deviation is found or any instances of any distributor forcing the consumers to take delivery at the godown brought to the notice of the OMCs, suitable action would be taken against the LPG distributors in accordance with the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG). In case any under-weight cylinder is received by the customer, such cylinders are replaced free of charge by the OMCs.

#### **Bursting of cylinders**

†1750. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that accidents due to bursting of gas cylinders and cylinders used in CNG operated vehicles are occurring in the country, thereby causing loss to life and property;

(b) if so, the measures being taken by Government to check such accidents; and

(c) the details of norms and parameters thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) has reported an accident involving bursting of an LPG cylinder in Hyderabad during the month of March, 2009. No body was killed or injured in the accident as no one was present in the house when the blast occurred.

As informed by GAIL (India) Limited, no incident of bursting of genuine CNG cylinder has been reported in the country. A few accidents reported in the newspapers were due to rupture of fusible burst disc installed on the valve of the CNG cylinders in the vehicles. The possibility of accidents arises on account of installation of spurious fusible burst disc in the cylinder valves.

(b) and (c) The following procedure is in place to prevent accidents involving LPG cylinder and cylinders used in CNG operated vehicles:-

- LPG is filled in LPG cylinders manufactured as per BIS specifications and certified by them.
- LPG cylinders are periodically tested for safety as per norms of the Chief Controller of Explosives, Petroleum and Explosive Safety Organisation (PESO), Government of India.
- Filled LPG cylinders are checked for leakage before dispatch from the LPG bottling plants.
- LPG distributors of OMCs carry out pre-delivery check on the cylinder at the time of its delivery to customers.
- Customers are educated on safety through demonstration at the time of release of new LPG connection. Instructions are also printed on the Gas Customer Card and safety leaflet provided to the customers.
- OMCs carry out mandatory check of the LPG installation at the customers premises once in two years.

CNG cylinders are approved as per the Gas Cylinder Rule, 2004 before installation in the vehicles. Further, as per the Motor Vehicle Act and Rules, all vehicles are required to obtain fitness certificate from Transport Department before plying the vehicle on road. This certificate is required to be renewed as per the time prescribed in the Motor Vehicle Act.

#### **Price Stabilisation Fund**

1751. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken by Government to establish a Price Stabilisation Fund, as recommended by a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas, to insulate the common man from the vagaries of the global crude oil price fluctuation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the plan of action to tackle the effect of global crude oil price fluctuation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) The Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas has recommended establishment of a Price Stabilization Fund, to insulate the consumers from the adverse impact of volatile international oil prices. The recommendations of the Committee were sent to the Ministry of Finance. However, Ministry of Finance has intimated that such a Fund may not be essential in view of the existing arrangements.

(d) Since passing on the entire impact of the increase in the oil prices to the consumers would result in a steep increase in the domestic prices of the four sensitive petroleum products, viz. Petrol, Diesel, Domestic LPG and PDS Kerosene, the Government has been modulating the retail selling prices of these petroleum products. An equitable Burden Sharing Mechanism is being followed, to ensure that the burden of under-recoveries of the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) on this account is shared by all the stakeholders, namely the Government, the Public Sector Oil Companies and the consumers. By adopting this approach, the Government has ensured that not only are the consumers protected from high international oil prices, the financial health of the OMCs also remains sound.

During 2008-09, to compensate the OMCs for their under-recoveries incurred on the sale of Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG, Government issued Oil Bonds of Rs.71,292 crore to the OMCs while the Upstream Oil PSUs, viz. ONGC, OIL and GAIL contributed Rs.32,000 crore in price discounts on crude oil and petroleum products. In addition, ONGC and OIL also contributed Rs.943 crore through price discounts towards the import losses of OMCs.

#### **Petroleum Vision 2009**

1752. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Petroleum-Vision 2009 formulated by the Ministry to check diversion of kerosene and gas into black market and misuse of subsidy being given on kerosene;

(b) the modalities set for implementing it; and

(c) the cities in Andhra Pradesh which are likely to get pipeline gas facility under it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) There is no Petroleum-Vision 2009 formulated by this Ministry. However, this Ministry has formulated Vision-2015 "Consumer Satisfaction and Beyond" for the Oil Sector which includes the following measures to check diversion of PDS Kerosene and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) to black market and misuse of subsidy being given on Kerosene:

- (i) Introduction of Anti Pilferage device for LPG throughout the country.
- (ii) To ensure that the Kerosene reaches the targeted beneficiaries, distribution against biometric smart cards beginning with large urban cities.
- (iii) Smart card programme to be implemented by all oil companies in association with the State Governments.
- (iv) Possibility of direct cash transfer of subsidy on kerosene to beneficiaries account to be studied in rural areas and if found feasible to be expanded to other areas.
- (v) Feasibility of introducing packaged supply of Kerosene in 5 litre recoverable pack to be studied to prevent diversion of PDS Kerosene.
- (vi) Global Positioning System (GPS) on all Kerosene tankers and utilization of this data to improve quality of service.

(c) The expansion of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) infrastructure in different cities in the country including Andhra Pradesh is being taken up in a phased manner depending on the proximity of natural gas trunk pipeline and economic viability.

#### **Power supply to Kerala**

1753. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to restore eligible quota of power supply from the Central Pool to Kerala;
- (b) if so, the present status thereof; and
- (c) if not, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) Power from Central Generating Stations (CGSs) is allocated to States/UTs (including Kerala) in two parts, namely firm and unallocated. While the firm power once allocated is generally not changed, the 15% unallocated power in CGSs, available at the disposal of the Government is redistributed on a dynamic basis to meet the seasonal and overall requirements of States/UTs. There is no quota earmarked for any State.

#### **Electricity for BPL people in Jharkhand**

1754. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any proposal to provide electricity for domestic consumption to the people living Below Poverty Line in Jharkhand; and
- (b) if so, the relevant details thereof, district-wise, with schedule of its implementation and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), 22 projects covering release of electricity connections to 16,91,797 Below Poverty Line (BPL) households have been sanctioned for

the State of Jharkhand. All the projects are scheduled for completion within the 11th Plan period. So far, electricity connections to 3,35,639 BPL households have been released. The district-wise details of BPL connections released under RGGVY in Jharkhand as on 02.07.2009 is given in the Statement.

**Statement**

*District-wise details of BFL connections released under RGGVY in Jharkhand*

(As on 02.07.2009)

S.No.	Name of the District	No. of Connections to BPL Households	
		Coverage in No.	Achievement No.
1	Bokaro	39564	9637
2	Chatra	84279	0
3	Deoghar	16363	11218
4	Dhanbad	74089	21091
5	Dumka	193106	8527
6	Garhwa	110607	16809
7	Giridih	131143	10814
8	Godda	130892	469
9	Gumla	105666	21569
10	Hazaribag	125996	18366
11	Jamtara	32218	16611
12	Kodarma	30554	11545
13	Latehar	78267	37823
14	Lohardaga	8186	0
15	Pakaur	14208	0
16	Palamu	115068	23216
17	Pachchimi Singhbhum	123481	42016
18	Purbi Singhbhum	70773	39954
19	Ranchi	41083	434
20	Sahibganj	20585	1526
21	Saraikela Kharsawan	86250	22371
22	Simdega	59419	21643
TOTAL :		1691797	335639

### **Electricity for all**

1755. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Electricity Act, 2003, mandates to provide electricity to all by 2010;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the National Electricity Policy envisages that the entire electricity demand of the country has to be met by 2012; and

(c) if so, what is the progress in respect of part (a) above and what measures the Ministry is taking or proposes to take to meet the demand in full by 2012?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Following steps have been taken by the Government to increase availability of power in the country to meet the demand in full by 2012:

- (i) A capacity addition target of 78,700 MW from conventional energy sources has been set for the 11th Plan. Out of this, capacity of approximately 15,325 MW has already been commissioned as on 13.07.2009.
- (ii) A capacity of about 14,000 MW is planned to be added from renewable energy sources.
- (iii) Development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4,000 MW each.
- (iv) Harnessing surplus captive power of about 12,000 MW into the grid during 11th Plan.
- (v) Launching of 50,000 MW hydro initiative for accelerated development of hydro power in the country.
- (vi) Renovation, Modernization & Life Extension of old and inefficient generation units.
- (vii) Augmentation of manufacturing capacity of power project equipment manufacturers.
- (viii) Promoting demand side management, energy efficiency and energy conservation measures.
- (ix) Development of an extensive network of high voltage transmission commensurate with the capacity addition programme and new inter-regional transmission capacities through the development of a National Grid.

### **Setting up of power projects**

1756. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any request from State Governments, particularly from Tamil Nadu, as it is facing power shortage, for setting up of power projects in their States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) by when these requests are likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) As per Electricity Act, 2003, Techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is not required for setting up of thermal projects by the States.

After enactment of the Electricity Act, 21 proposals were received for setting up of Hydro-electric projects in various States. Of these, three were concurred and 18 returned to respective States for want of clarifications/tying up of various inputs. The State-wise status of the proposals is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Out of the proposals returned, one related to setting up of Kundah Pumped Storage Scheme is from Tamil Nadu. At this stage, no proposal (Detailed Project Report) from the State Governments for setting up of Hydro Electric Projects in the State Sector is under consideration in CEA for concurrence.

**Statement**

*Status of State Sector Proposals (April 2006 onwards)*

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	State	Capacity (MW)	Status	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Concurred</b>					
1	Pala Maneri	Uttarakhand	480	Concurred on 23.02.2007	Concurred on 23.02.2007
2	Lower Jurala	Andhra Pr.	240	Concurred on 24.07.2007	Concurred on 24.07.2007
3	Gundia	Karnataka	200	Concurred on 25.04.2008	Concurred on 25.04.2008
<b>Under Examination</b>					
-Nil-					
<b>Returned</b>					
4	Sawalkot	J&K	1200	Returned in 5/06	Returned due to no response to various observations such as hydrology, hydro planning, cost of civil works, geological aspects etc.
5	Kirthai-I	J&K	240	Returned in 01/08	Returned due to non availability of updated hydrological data & cost estimates, inadequate geological investigations.

1	2	3	4	5	6
6	Baglihar-II	J&K	450	Returned in 01/08	Returned due to non availability of updated hydrological data & cost estimates, inadequate geological investigations.
7	Bowala Nand Prayag	Uttarakhand	300	Returned in 02/08	Returned due to questions on hydrology, gate design, cost of civil works, geological aspects etc.
8	Bhaironghati	Uttarakhand	381	Returned in 02/08	Returned due to incomplete geological investigations.
9	Sainj	HP	100	Returned in 12/07	Returned due to non availability of updated hydrological data & cost estimates, inadequate geological investigations.
10	Shongtong Karcham	HP	402	Returned in 12/07	Returned due to non availability of updated hydrological data & cost estimates, inadequate geological investigations.
11	Integrated Kashang	HP	243	Returned in 01/08	Returned due to incomplete geological investigations.
12	Integrated Kashang St-I	HP	130	Returned in 08/08	Project withdrawn by HPSEB
13	Kundah Pump Storage HEP	Tamil Nadu	500	Returned in 12/07	Returned due to lack of interstate clearance.
14	Lower Kopili	Assam	150	Returned in 05/08	Returned due to non availability of updated hydrological data, inadequate geological investigations.
15	Karbi langpi (Upper Borpani)	Assam	60	Returned in 12/08	Returned due to involvement of inter State aspects with Meghalaya, updated hydrology not been utilized for carrying out power potential study, cost estimates not framed at current PL and inadequate geological investigations etc.

1	2	3	4	5	6
16	Integrated Kashang St-II & III	HP	130	Returned in 06/09	Returned since cost less than Rs. 500 crs. and does not require CEA concurrence.
17	Dhukwan (*)	UP	30	Returned in 06/06	-do-
18	Koyna left bank (*)	Maharashtra	80	Returned in 06/06	-do-
TOTAL :			5316.00		

(\*) - Received prior to 01.4.2006.

#### Power capacity target

1757. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry would be able to achieve the power capacity targeted for Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) During the 11th Plan, a capacity addition of 78,700 MW has been set. Of this, 15325 MW has already been commissioned up to 13.07.2009. Projects aggregating to 65285 MW are under construction. Following steps have been taken to ensure timely completion of these projects in the 11th Plan:

- Rigorous monitoring of the projects by Central Electricity Authority and the Ministry of Power at the highest level besides monitoring through the Power Projects Monitoring Panel.
- All clearances obtained and fuel linkages accorded for the entire capacity.
- Enhancement of main plant equipment manufacturing capacity by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL).
- Widening the vendor base by BHEL through outsourcing.
- Formation of Joint Venture company by NTPC Ltd. and BHEL, M/s L&T and MHI, Japan, M/s JSW and Toshiba, M/s Bharat Forge and Alstom, and M/s BB Engineering and Ansaldo for manufacture of various power plants equipments.
- All stakeholders have been sensitized towards enlarging the vendor base so as to meet the Balance of Plants (BoP) requirements.
- To overcome the shortage of skilled manpower, 'Adopt an ITI' initiative has been taken up.
- Monitoring mechanism in the Ministry has been strengthened. The progress of generation projects for completion 11 Five Year Plan is reviewed intensively in periodical meetings by Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Power and Power Projects Monitoring Panel (PPMP).

### Funds for rural electrification by REC

1758. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance given by Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) to implement Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) through which houses built for BPL families, under 'Indiramma Scheme' are being electrified, year-wise;

(b) the total number of house-holds provided electricity, so far, in Andhra Pradesh under RGGVY, year-wise and district-wise; and

(c) by when all the remaining houses built under Indiramma Yojana, are likely to be electrified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Under RGGVY, free electricity connections are provided to BPL households. The year-wise details of grant given to the States to release BPL connections under RGGVY is given in the Statement-I (See below).

(b) The district-wise BPL connections released under RGGVY in Andhra Pradesh as on 02.07.2009 is given in the Statement-II (See below).

(c) The remaining BPL connections covered under the sanctioned projects are likely to be released within the 11th Plan period under RGGVY.

### Statement-I

*State-wise & Year-wise details of Financial assistance for  
BPL connections under RGGVY*

(Rs. in lakhs)

As on 30.06.2009

Sl. No.	Name of State	BPL financial assistance released during 2004-05 & 2005-06	BPL financial assistance released during 2006-07	BPL financial assistance released during 2007-08	BPL financial assistance released during 2008-09	BPL financial assistance released during 2009-10	Total BPL financial assistance released upto date
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	912.00		12649.81	3617.78	116.88	17296.47
2	Arunachal Pradesh	225				346.862	571.862
3	Assam	180		551.34	3215.009479		3946.349479
4	Bihar	326		30	15530.65641		15886.66
5	Chhattisgarh	1044.00			2102.83	1895.39	5042.22
6	Gujarat	23.00		526.52	2157.80	542.42	3249.74
7	Haryana	74.00			1438.58		1512.58

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8	Himachal Pradesh	18.00			101.46		119.46
9	Jammu & Kashmir						
10	Jharkhand	144.00		352.06		10785.94	11282.00
11	Karnataka			3446.05	1328.97	518.96	5293.98
12	Kerala	1500.00			83.51		1583.51
13	Madhya Pradesh	202.00			295.70	1358.62	1856.32
14	Maharashtra	40.00			2651.22	72.19	2763.41
15	Manipur				86.68		86.68
16	Meghalaya				265.71		265.71
17	Mizoram	63.00					63.00
18	Nagaland	27.00		133.17	489.36		649.53
19	Orissa			2550.10	20962.07		23512.17
20	Punjab	300.00			1047.97		1347.97
21	Rajasthan			4835.59	7261.68	1104.60	13201.87
22	Sikkim						
23	Tamil Nadu				1772.47		1772.47
24	Tripura	108.00					108.00
25	Uttar Pradesh				2408.63		2408.63
26	Uttaranchal	360.00			1390.01		1750.01
27	West Bengal				16337.53	2024.60	18362.13
	Total (All states)	5546.00		25074.64	84545.62	18766.46	133932.72

**Statement-II**

*District-wise details of BPL connections released under RGGVY in Andhra Pradesh*

(As on 02.07.2009)

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Implementing Agency	No. of Connections to BPL Households	
			Coverage	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5
1	Adilabad	NPDCO AP	103184	80923
2	Anantapur	CPDCO AP	51408	73880
3	Chittoor	SPDCO AP	120186	130221
		RESCO	14835	0
	Chittoor (Total of 2 DPRs)		135021	130221

1	2	3	4	5
4	Cuddapah	SPDCO AP	104205	105165
5	East Godavari	EPDCO AP	245334	54916
6	Guntur	SPDCO AP	135273	177331
7	Karimnagar	NPDCOAP	19417	53590
		CESS	9220	0
	Karimnagar (Total of 2 DPRs)		28637	53590
8	Khammam	NPDCO AP	132334	69088
9	Krishna	SPDCO AP	87774	115084
10	Kurnool	CPDCO AP	135203	96222
11	Mahbubnagar	CPDCO AP	220158	102912
12	Medak	CPDCO AP	34367	36550
13	Nalgonda	CPDCO AP	78352	43029
14	Nellore	SPDCO AP	121931	113168
15	Nizamabad	NPDCO AP	60036	60810
16	Prakasam	SPDCO AP	127633	135058
17	Rangareddi	CPDCO AP	14883	24412
18	Srikakulam	EPDCO AP	194941	120930
19	Visakhapatnam	ARCOOP	39368	0
		EPDCO AP	204113	97360
	Visakhapatnam (Total of 2 DPRs)		243481	97360
20	Vizianagaram	CRCOOP	29200	0
		EPDCO AP	149755	99931
	Vizianagaram (Total of 2 DPRs)		178955	99931
21	Warangal	NPDCOAP	71199	45864
22	West Godavari	EPDCOAP	87831	63918
TOTAL :			2592140	1900362

#### Power problems

†1759. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government to relieve the public of power problems; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) which power projects are targeted to be approved by Government, keeping in view the demand of power in the years 2016 and 2020?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) To relieve the public from power problems, the following steps have been taken/are being taken by the Government:

- (i) A capacity addition target of 78,700 MW from conventional energy sources has been set for the 11th Plan. Out of this, a capacity of approximately 15,325 MW has been commissioned as on 13th July, 2009;
- (ii) Development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4,000 MW each;
- (iii) Harnessing surplus captive power into the grid. A capacity of 12,000 MW of captive power is likely to be added to the system during 11th Plan;
- (iv) A target of 14,000 MW of grid interactive renewable power capacity has been set for the 11th Plan against which around 4230 MW has been added during the first two years of the Plan;
- (v) Launch of 50,000 MW hydro initiative for accelerated development hydro power in the country;
- (vi) Renovation, Modernization & Life Extension of old and inefficient generating units;
- (vii) Import of coal to bridge the gap between anticipated demand and domestic production of coal;
- (viii) Reduction of T&D losses;
- (ix) Augmentation of inter-regional transmission capacity for transfer of power from surplus to deficit areas.

(b) To meet the projected demand in full, as forecasted by 17th Electric Power Survey (EPS) Report, a tentative capacity of about 1,00,000 MW each is required to be added during the 12th Plan (2012-17) and 13th Plan (2017-22).

- Formation of Joint Venture company by NTPC Ltd. and BHEL, M/s L&T and MHI, Japan, M/s JSW and Toshiba, M/s Bharat Forge and Alstom, and M/s BB Engineering and Ansaldo for manufacture of various power plants equipments.
- All stakeholders have been sensitized towards enlarging the vendor base so as to meet the Balance of Plants (BoP) requirements.
- To overcome the shortage of skilled manpower, 'Adopt an ITI' initiative has been taken up.
- Monitoring mechanism in the Ministry has been strengthened. The progress of generation projects for completion 11 Five Year Plan is reviewed intensively in periodical meetings by Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Power and Power Projects Monitoring Panel (PPMP).

### Setting up of new power plants

1760. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has permitted establishment of new power plants in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of private plants that have been given approval, till date, in the country, and the locations thereof; and
- (d) the details regarding the status and progress of those private plants which have already got clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) As per Electricity Act, 2003, Techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is not required for setting up of thermal projects.

After the enactment of Electricity Act, 2003, CEA has accorded concurrence to 32 proposals of 14250 MW capacity, including 5 of 2219 MW capacity in the Private Sector, for setting up of Hydro-electric Projects. Details of the projects are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Details and status of Private Sector projects are given in the State-ment-II

### Statement-I

*Hydro Electric Schemes concurred by CEA  
(After enactment of Electricity Act, 2003 onwards till date)*

Sl.No.	Name of Scheme	State	Sector	Installed CapacityDate of CEA		
				Unit x MW	Capacity (MW)	Concurrence
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Tipaimukh	Manipur	Central	6x250	1500	02.07.2003
2	Kishanganga *	J&K	Central	*3x110	330	06.8.2003
3	Chamera St-III	H.P.	Central	3x77	231	10.10.2003
4	Parbati St-III	H.P.	Central	4x130	520	12.11.2003
5	Teesta LD St-IV	W.B	Central	4x40	160	23.12.2003
6	Uri-II	J&K	Central	4x60	240	11.02.2004
7	Nimoo Bazgo	J&K	Central	3x15	45	16.03.2004
8	Chutak	J&K	Central	4x11	44	23.04.2004
9	Loharinagpala	Uttarakhand	Central	4x150	600	11.08.2004

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10	Tapovan Vishnugad	Uttarakhand	Central	4x130	520	11.08.2004
11	Matnar	Chhattisgarh	State	3x20	60	19.08.2004
12	Athirappilly	Kerala	State	2x80+2x1.5	163	31.03.2005
13	Kishanganga*	J&K	Central	3x110	330	31.08.2005
14	Rampur	H.P.	Central	6x68.67	412	16.12.2005
15	Lata Tapovan	Uttarakhand	Central	3x57	171	08.02.2006
16	Teesta St-III	Sikkim	Private	6x200	1200	12.05.2006
17	Pakal Dul Vishnugad	J&K	Central	4x250	1000	03.10.2006
18	Pipalkoti	Uttarakhand	Central	4x111	444	21.9.2006
19	Rammam St-III	W.B.	Central	3x40	120	12.09.2006
20	Kotlibhel St-IA	Uttarakhand	Central	3x65	195	03.10.2006
21	Kotlibhel St-IB	Uttarakhand	Central	4x80	320	31.10.2006
22	Kotlibhel St-II	Uttarakhand	Central	8x66.25	530	30.11.2006
23	Loktak D/S	Manipur	Central	2x33	66	15.11.2006
24	Teesta St-VI	Sikkim	Private	4x125	500	27.12.2006
25	Pala Maneri	Uttarakhand	State	4x120	480	23.02.2007
26	Lower Jurala	A.P.	State	6x40	240	24.07.2007
27	Rangit St-IV	Sikkim	Private	3x40	120	06.07.2007
28	Pare	Arunachal Pradesh	Central	2x55	110	24.09.2007
29	Dibang	Arunachal Pradesh	Central	12x250	3000	23.01.2008
30	Gundia	Karnataka	State	1x200	200	25.04.2008
31	Singoli Bhatwari	Uttarakhand	Private	3x33	99	11.07.2008
32	Alaknanda	Uttarakhand	Private	3x100	300	08.8.2008
TOTAL :					14250	

\* This scheme was revised from 'Storage' to 'ROR' type. As such concurrence was accorded two times.

**Statement-II**

*Details of HE Schemes concurred by CEA in Private Sector  
(After enactment of Electricity Act, 2003 onwards till date)*

Sl. No.	Name of the Project Nos. of unit x size	Installed Capacity (MW)	Location (State)	Executing Agency	Date of concurrence by CEA	Status
1.	Teesta III 6x200	1200	Sikkim	Teesta Urja Ltd.	12.05.2006	Under Construction
2.	Teesta VI 4x125	500	Sikkim	Lanco Energy Pvt. Ltd.	27.12.2006	Under Construction
3.	Rangit IV 3x40	120	Sikkim	Jal Power Corp. Ltd.	6.07.2007	Under Construction
4.	Singoli Bhatwari 3x33	99	Uttarakhand	L&T Uttarakhand Hydro Power Ltd.	11.07.2008	To be taken up for construction
5.	Alaknanda 3x100	300	Uttarakhand	GMR Energy Ltd.	8.08.2008	To be taken up for construction
TOTAL :		2219				

**Shutting down of hydropower units**

1761. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether, due to delay in monsoon, a number of hydropower projects in the country have got badly affected which has made the units to shutdown completely;

(b) if so, the names of the hydropower projects which has their power generation reduced, State-wise; and

(c) the total loss resulted due to the same, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) No hydro power project above 25 MW has been shutdown completely due to delay in monsoon.

**Increase in power generation**

1762. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any concrete action plan to increase the power generation, to meet the rapidly growing demand of power in the country, particularly in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) The following measures have been/are being taken to enhance the power generation in the country:

- (i) A capacity addition target of 78,700 MW from conventional energy sources has been set for the 11th Plan. Out of this, a capacity of approximately 15,325 MW has been commissioned as on 13th July, 2009;
- (ii) Development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4,000 MW each;
- (iii) Harnessing surplus captive power into the grid. A capacity of 12,000 MW of captive power is likely to be added to the system during 11th Plan;
- (iv) A target of 14,000 MW of grid interactive renewable power capacity has been set for the 11th Plan, against which around 4230 MW has been added during the first two years of the Plan;
- (v) Launch of 50,000 MW hydro initiative for accelerated development of hydro power in the country;
- (vi) Renovation, Modernization & Life Extension of old and inefficient generating units;
- (vii) Import of coal to bridge the gap between anticipated demand and domestic production of coal;
- (viii) Augmentation of gas supply to utilize the stranded capacity of gas based power stations;
- (ix) Reduction of T & D losses;
- (x) Augmentation of inter-regional transmission capacity for transfer of power from surplus to deficit areas.

Out of the capacity addition for likely benefits during the 11th Plan, projects aggregating 4,690 MW are in the State of Maharashtra, comprising 740 MW in the Central Sector, 2,500 MW in State Sector and 1,450 MW in the private sector. Details of these projects are given below:

Sl. No.	Plant	Sector	Agency	Status	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Ratnagiri (Dhabol) JV	Central	NTPC	Commissioned	740
2	Ghatghar PSS Unit 1, 2	State	GOMID	Commissioned	250
3	New Parli Extension Stage 2	State	MAHA GEN	Under construction	250
4	Paras Extension Unit 1	State	MSPGCL	Commissioned	250
5	Paras Extension Unit 2	State	MAHA GEN	Under construction	250

1	2	3	4	5	6
6	Khaper Kheda Extension	State	MAHA GEN	Under construction	500
7	Bhusawal	State	MAHA GEN	Under construction	1000
8	Trombay Thermal Power Station	Private	TATA Power	Commissioned	250
9	JSW Energy, Ratnagiri	Private	JSW	Under construction	1200
TOTAL :					4690

**Power capacity addition**

1763. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether findings of a recent mission of the Ministry of China has revealed that India lags behind China in power growth;

(b) whether it is a fact that India has not been able to add even 10,000 MW of capacity in a single year whereas China was adding 1.0 to 1.5 lakh MW of power capacity every year;

(c) if so, what was country's capacity addition during 2007-08, 2008-09 and likely to be during 2009-10 as against the target fixed during each year; and

(d) if not, what concrete steps Government is taking to achieve the targeted capacity during the remaining part of the current Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A team of officers from Central Electricity Authority and NTPC Ltd. had visited China in March, 2009. During discussions the team had gathered that China had commissioned on an average one station of 2000 MW every week, thus adding about 1,00,000 MW in a year. It is a fact that India has not been able to achieve capacity addition of 10,000 MW in any single year so far.

(c) The capacity addition targets and achievements for the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 are as given below:

(In MW)			
Year	Original Target	Revised Target	Achievements
2007-08	16335	12039	9263
2008-09	11061*	7530	3453

\* Revised to 7530 MW due to change in definition of commissioning. Earlier unit synchronized was considered as commissioned which was changed to full load operation in 2008-09.

The capacity addition target for the year 2009-10 is 14507 MW against which the achievement is expected to be over 10,000 MW.

(d) Following steps have been taken to ensure timely completion of the projects in the 11th Plan:

1. Monitoring mechanism has been strengthened to achieve targets by designating a nodal officer in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for each project. The nodal officers keep track of construction activities and make frequent visits to the power plant to have on the spot assessment of progress of work. The bottlenecks if any are identified and solutions thereof are decided in consultation with project authorities and executing agencies.
2. A Power Projects Monitoring Panel (PPMP), comprising of independent consultants has been constituted specifically for the purpose of field visit, review and reporting on the projects under implementation.
3. The progress of the projects is also reviewed intensively periodically at the highest level by the Central Electricity Authority and the Ministry of Power.
4. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) is a major indigenous manufacturer for main plant equipment in Public Sector. BHEL has enhanced its capacity to deliver 10,000 MW of main plant equipment per annum, have put in place an action plan to enhance capacity to deliver 15,000 MW per annum by December, 2009 and may raise this capacity upto 20000 MW by 2011 depending upon the market demand.
5. A Joint Venture Agreement has been signed between NTPC Ltd. and BHEL to take up work related to Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) for power plants and other infrastructure projects.
6. M/s L&T has already formed a Joint Venture Company with MHI, Japan for manufacture of supercritical steam generator and steam turbine generators in India.
7. All stakeholders have been sensitized towards enlarging the vendor base so as to meet the Balance of Plants (BoP) requirements.
8. Pre-qualification requirement for super critical unit manufacturers has since been modified so as to qualify new Joint Venture between Indian company and the technology provider company.
9. Bulk ordering of 11 units of 660 MW each with supercritical technology with mandatory phased indigenous manufacturing Programme is also planned to promote indigenous manufacturing.
10. To overcome the shortage of skilled manpower, 'Adopt an ITI' initiative has been taken up.

#### **Power crisis**

1764.MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the country is facing severe power crisis;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that traffic signals in various cities are closed because of the power crisis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) There is an overall shortage of power in the country and in all the States both in terms of energy and peaking power. The shortages vary from State to State on month to month, day to day and hour to hour basis depending upon the demand and supply of power. The energy and peaking shortage in the country during 2009-10 (April to June, 2009) was 9.8 % and 12.3 % respectively.

The main reasons for shortage of power in the country are:

- (i) Growth in demand for power outstripping the growth in generation and capacity addition.
- (ii) Low Plant Load Factor of some of the thermal generating units, mostly in the State Sector.
- (iii) High Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses including theft of electricity.
- (iv) Poor financial position of State Utilities rendering it difficult for them to raise the resources necessary for making required investments to create adequate generation, transmission and distribution system.
- (v) Inadequate availability of gas, coal and nuclear fuel.

(c) and (d) The operation of traffic signals in various cities is under the purview of concerned State Government. Closing of traffic signals in various cities due to power crisis has not been reported to the Government.

#### **Sanction of hydro-electricity projects**

1765. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of procedure for sanctioning of hydro-electricity projects across the country;
- (b) whether Government proposes to make any uniform policy in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) As per Section 8 (1) of the Electricity Act, 2003, concurrence of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is required for setting up of hydro electric schemes, depending on the limits of capital expenditure for such schemes as fixed by Central Government, from time to time, by notification.

As per Government notification dated 18.4.2006, the following limits of capital expenditure have been fixed for hydro electric schemes, requiring CEA concurrence:

- (i) Rs.2500 crores, provided that -
  - a) the scheme is included in National Electricity Plan (NEP) as notified by CEA and conforms to the capacity and type.
  - b) the site for setting up the hydro generating station has been allocated through the transparent process of bidding in accordance with the guidelines issued by Central Government.
- (ii) Rs.500 crores for any other scheme not covered by para (a) and (b) above.

After the concurrence accorded by CEA and clearance accorded by other authorities for different aspects like, environmental and forest aspects by Ministry of Environment and Forests, defence aspects by Ministry of Defence, etc., the developers obtain sanction from concerned authorities depending on their sector as given below:

**(1) Central Sector**

The Central Sector projects are sanctioned by the Government as per the guidelines of Ministry of Finance issued *vide* O.M. No. 1(3)/PF-112001 dated 15.11.2007.

**(2) State Sector**

The State Sector projects are supposed to be sanctioned by the concerned State Government as per their respective procedures.

**(3) Private Sector**

The Private Sector projects are supposed to be sanctioned by the concerned project developers.

(b) to (d) The Government has not felt any need to deviate from the current procedure.

**Demand and supply of power**

†1766. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is a huge gap between demand and supply of power in more than half the number of States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action plan of Government to implement effectively the National Electricity Policy, providing electricity for all by 2012, and to curb corruption; and

(d) the steps Government is going to take to check transmission and distribution losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) There is an overall shortage of power in the country and in the States both in terms of energy and peaking power. The shortage varies from State to State on month to month, day to day and hour

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

to hour basis depending upon the demand and supply of power. The energy and peaking shortage in the country during the period 2009-10 (April to June, 2009) were 9.8 % and 12.3% respectively. The State-wise power supply position both in terms of energy and peak demand during the period April to June, 2009 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The National Electricity Policy envisages "Power to all by 2012". The steps being taken to achieve this include:

- (i) A capacity addition target of 78,700 MW from the conventional energy sources during 11th Plan. Capacity aggregating to 15,325 MW has been commissioned as on 13th July, 2009 and capacity of the order of 65,285 MW is under various stages of construction for likely benefits during the 11th Plan;
- (ii) Harnessing surplus captive power into the grid - a capacity of 12,000 MW of captive power is likely to be added to the system during the 11th Plan;
- (iii) A target of 14,000 MW of grid interactive renewable power capacity has been set for the 11th Plan against which around 4320 MW has been added during the first two years of the Plan;
- (iv) Renovation, Modernization and Life Extension of old and inefficient generation units; and
- (v) Promoting demand side management, energy efficiency and energy conservation measures.

The following measures are being taken to check corruption in supply of electricity:

- Making theft of electricity a cognizable offence under the Electricity Act, 2003;
- Installation of meters in according with CEA's regulations;
- Emphasis on 100% consumer metering, feeder metering and distribution transformer metering;
- Establishment of consumer grievance forum and appointment of ombudsman for protecting consumer's interest;
- Establishment of special courts, police stations, etc.;
- Emphasis on Energy Audit; and
- Implementation of High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS).

(d) The Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) introduced by the Government in 2002-03 *inter-alia* aimed at reduction of Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses to 15% in five years to begin with in urban and high-density consumption areas. The Government have approved the continuation of APDRP during the 11th Five Year Plan with revised terms and conditions as a Central Sector Scheme with focus on actual, demonstrable performance in terms of loss reduction. In the project area, the State Power Utilities are expected to achieve Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) loss reduction target of 15%. Utilities are also to achieve the following target of AT&C loss reduction at Utility level:

- Utilities having AT&C loss above 30%: Reduction by 3% per year
- Utilities having AT&C loss below 30%: Reduction by 1.5% per year.

**Statement**

*Power Supply Position*

(Figures in MU net/MW net)

State/System/ Region	April to June, 2009			April to June, 2009				
	Requirement (MU)	Availability (MU)	Surplus / Deficit (-) (MU)	Peak Demand (%)	Peak Met (MU)	Surplus / Deficit (-) (MU)	(MU)	(%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Chandigarh	404	404	0	0.0	287	287	0	0.0
Delhi	6,488	6,406	-82	-1.3	4,476	4,107	-369	-8.2
Haryana	7,717	7,313	-404	-5.2	6,085	5,226	-859	-14.1
Himachal Pradesh	1,317	1,307	-10	-0.8	940	900	-40	-4.3
Jammu & Kashmir	2,921	2,279	-642	-22.0	2,000	1,388	-612	-30.6
Punjab	11,139	9,842	-1,297	-11.6	9,078	7,131	-1,947	-21.4
Rajasthan	9,736	9,321	-415	-4.3	5,971	5,500	-471	-7.9
Uttar Pradesh	17,770	14,476	-3,294	-18.5	11,080	8,563	-2,517	-22.7
Uttarakhand	2,071	1,968	-103	-5.0	1,348	1,228	-120	-8.9
<b>Northern Region</b>	<b>59,563</b>	<b>53,316</b>	<b>-6,247</b>	<b>-10.5</b>	<b>35,491</b>	<b>29,574</b>	<b>-5,917</b>	<b>-16.7</b>
Chhattisgarh	3,323	3,234	-89	-2.7	2,819	2,703	-116	-4.1

Gujarat	17,031	16,735	-296	-1.7	8,975	8,481	-494	-5.5
Madhya Pradesh	9,951	7,950	-2,001	-20.1	6,522	5,250	-1,272	-19.5
Maharashtra	32,359	26,193	-6,166	-19.1	18,645	14,853	-3,792	-20.3
Daman & Diu	468	418	-50	-10.7	280	255	-25	-8.9
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	914	814	-100	-10.9	488	451	-37	-7.6
Goa	819	787	-32	-3.9	455	400	-55	-12.1
<b>Western Region</b>	<b>64,865</b>	<b>56,131</b>	<b>-8,734</b>	<b>-13.5</b>	<b>35,315</b>	<b>30,031</b>	<b>-5,284</b>	<b>-15.0</b>
Andhra Pradesh	18,811	17,305	-1,506	-8.0	11,325	9,934	-1,391	-12.3
Karnataka	11,273	10,511	-762	-6.8	7,196	6,352	-844	-11.7
Kerala	4,412	4,238	-174	-3.9	3,045	2,837	-208	-6.8
Tamil Nadu	18,426	17,406	-1,020	-5.5	10,161	9,675	-486	-4.8
Puducherry	539	508	-31	-5.8	316	266	-50	-15.8
Lakshadweep #	6	6	0	0	6	6	0	0
<b>Southern Region</b>	<b>53,461</b>	<b>49,968</b>	<b>-3,493</b>	<b>-6.5</b>	<b>29,216</b>	<b>26,369</b>	<b>-2,847</b>	<b>-9.7</b>
Bihar	3,014	2,444	-570	-18.9	2,249	1,568	-681	-30.3
DVC	3,575	3,509	-66	-1.8	1,823	1,823	0	0.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Jharkhand	1,397	1,322	-75	-5.4	1,088	947	-141	-13.0
Orissa	5,231	5,166	-65	-1.2	3,029	3,015	-14	-0.5
West Bengal	8,795	8,538	-257	-2.9	5,270	5,197	-73	-1.4
Sikkim	116	98	-18	-15.5	84	84	0	0.0
Andaman-Nicobar #	60	45	-15	-25.0	40	32	-8	-20
<b>Eastern Region</b>	<b>22,128</b>	<b>21,077</b>	<b>-1,051</b>	<b>-4.7</b>	<b>12,913</b>	<b>11,904</b>	<b>-1,009</b>	<b>-7.8</b>
Arunachal Pradesh	79	59	-20	-25.3	87	66	-21	-24.1
Assam	1,247	1,134	-113	-9.1	850	809	-41	-4.8
Manipur	111	78	-33	-29.7	110	79	-31	-28.2
Meghalaya	340	277	-63	-18.5	270	224	-46	-17.0
Mizoram	85	65	-20	-23.5	66	64	-2	-3.0
Nagaland	139	111	-28	-20.1	91	76	-15	-16.5
Tripura	220	196	-24	-10.9	175	172	-3	-1.7
<b>North-Eastern Region</b>	<b>2,221</b>	<b>1,920</b>	<b>-301</b>	<b>-13.6</b>	<b>1,620</b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>-240</b>	<b>-14.8</b>
ALL INDIA	202,238	182,412	-19,826	-9.8	111,066	97,355	-13,711	-12.3

# Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands are stand- alone systems, power supply position of these, does not form part of regional requirement and availability.

NOTE: Both peak met and energy availability represent the net consumption (including the transmission losses) in the various States. Net export has been accounted for in the consumption of importing States.

#### **Installation of three phase energy meters**

1767. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the sponsored scheme of Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), three-phase energy meters are to be provided to industrial units;

(b) if so, the reasons for installation of single phase energy meters to industrial units in Jharkhand; and

(c) whether Government would issue directions for providing three-phase energy meters to industrial units in Jharkhand under the Central Government schemes, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) programme involves electrification of villages and providing access to electricity to rural households besides providing free electricity connections to BPL households. RGGVY does not cover industrial units, hence installation of energy meters for industrial units does not fall under the scope of RGGVY.

#### **Allocation of power to Gujarat**

1768. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government reduced the unallocated quota of power by 210 MW in February, 2006 from the Central Generating Stations of Gujarat and restored only 55 MW in 2007;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Gujarat Government has represented for restoration of the remaining quota of 155 MW; and

(d) if so, when the remaining quota would be restored by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (d) The unallocated power of Central Generating Stations is limited and fixed. Allocations and modifications of allocation, within the States/UTs in the region and made generally keeping in view the emergent or seasonal nature of the requirement, the relative power supply position, utilization of existing generation and power resources, performance and payment capacity. The allocation of power from the unallocated power of Central Generating Stations (CGSs) in the Western Region (WR) and Eastern Region (ER) was revised in February, 2006 and power to the tune of 151 MW was allocated to more deficit States/UTs in the Region by reducing the allocation of Gujarat and Goa, due to their relatively comfortable position. Subsequently, keeping in view the request of Gujarat for allocation of additional power and relative power supply position of constituents of Western Region, the unallocated power to Gujarat was enhanced by 5 % (around 55 MW) in January, 2007.

The Government of Gujarat had requested in September, 2007 for reinstating 155 MW unallocated power to the State. The reasons for reductions in the allocation had been communicated to the State Government. There is no quota earmarked for any State.

**Hike in electricity tariffs by NTPC, Kayamkulam**

1769. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kayamkulam plant of NTPC Ltd. is likely to hike the tariff of electricity it supplies to Kerala and Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the present tariff and by how much it is proposed to be increased; and

(c) what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The tariff for all Central Generating Stations including that for the Rajiv Gandhi Combined Cycle Power Project, Kayamkulam of NTPC Ltd., are determined by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission through a transparent process involving all the stakeholders. The present tariff for this Generating Station is as below:

Fixed charges for 2008-09 at 80% Plant Load Factor	:	79.16 P/kWh
Variable charges	:	307.72 P/kWh
Fuel Price Adjustment	:	266.98 P/kWh

This tariff is due for re-determination with effect from 1.4.2009 and shall be determined by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission.

**Shortage of coal**

1770. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether acute shortage of coal, that is hampering power generation at several plants of the National Thermal Power Corporation, the country's largest power producer, may force to shut down some units temporarily;

(b) whether NTPC is running hand-to-mouth situation and there is no stock of coal for the last three months;

(c) if so, whether the Kahalgaon, Farakka, Talcher and Singrauli plants are running 20 per cent below capacity; and

(d) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to meet coal shortages so that several power plants are not shut down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Some of the NTPC's power stations, namely Farakka, Kahalgaon, Talcher (STPS), Sipat & Korba faced coal shortages during the last three months (April - June 2009).

However, power generation has not stopped in these plants due to coal shortage except in one unit of Sipat, which was temporarily shut down for five days in May 2009. Coal stock position of NTPC power stations, as on 14th July 2009, as well as the generation loss reported by NTPC in their thermal power stations during April to June, 2009 are enclosed is given in the Statement (See below).

(c) Of the power plants at Kahalgaon, Farakka, Talcher (STPS), Talcher (Old) and Singrauli, only Kahalgaon Power station has reported capacity utilization/Plant Load Factor (PLF) of less than 80%, primarily on account of planned maintenance carried out during the period April - June 2009. However, the power plant has reported loss of generation to the tune of 126 million unit due to coal shortage during the period.

(d) Following steps are being taken to augment coal supply for NTPC stations:

- The coal supply position to thermal power stations is rigorously monitored by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Ministry of Power as well as an Inter-Ministerial Committee comprising representatives from Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Power and CEA to optimise coal supply to the plants having stock upto 7 days.
- The Infrastructure Constraints Review Committee, headed by Secretary (Co-ordination) in the Cabinet Secretariat, reviews the coal production and supply to thermal power stations in the country every month.
- Fuel Infrastructure Committee, under the Chairmanship of Member (Power), Planning Commission, regularly reviews the status of supply of fuel to power stations in the country.
- In order to bridge the gap between demand and indigenous supply of coal for the current year 2009-10, power utilities have been advised to import 28.7 Million Tonne (MT) coal including import of 12.5 MT by NTPC. They have already imported 3.6 MT coal upto 30th June 2009 against the order placed during 2008-09.
- Towards ensuring long term fuel security, NTPC has entered into captive coal mining and is in the process of developing six coal blocks allocated to it. NTPC is also exploring the possibility of acquiring stakes in the coal mines from abroad for sourcing coal supply for its power plants.

International Coal Venture Pvt. Ltd. (ICVL), a joint venture company amongst NTPC, RINL, SAIL, NMDC and CIL has been formed for securing metallurgical and thermal coal assets from overseas.

**Statement**

*Coal stock position at thermal power stations of NTPC and  
generation loss due to shortage of coal*

Sl.No.	Name of Thermal Power Station	Capacity (MW)	Normative Stock Required (Days)	Daily Linkage in '000 tonne	Actual Stock in '000 tonne	*Generation In Days	Loss# (In Million Unit)
1	Badarpur TPS	705	30	13.4	56	4	
2	Dadri (NCTPP)	840	30	14.5	95	7	
3	Rihand STPS	2000	15	34.5	467	14	
4	Singrauli STPS	2000	15	31	723	23	
5	Tanda TPS	440	25	8.1	172	21	
6	Unchahar TPS	1050	25	19.4	178	9	
7	Korba STPS	2100	15	31	169	5	4.1
8	Sipat STPS	1000	20	15.2	75	5	142.5
9	Vindhyachal STPS	3260	15	50	690	14	-
10	Ramagundem STPS	2600	15	37.9	657	17	-
11	Simhadri	1000	25	18.7	121	6	-
12	Kahalgaoon TPS	1840	15	34.7	58	2	126.1
13	Talcher (OLD) TPS	470	15	8.1	140	17	-
14	Talcher STPS	3000	15	58.1	28	0	199.6
15	Farakka STPS	1600	15	33.9	78	2	-

\* As on 14th July, 2009

# During April to June, 2009

**Plan allocation for power**

1771. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the total Plan outlay for the Tenth Five Year Plan;
- (b) the proposed plan outlay for the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has approved the proposed Plan outlay for the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(d) whether the Ministry has moved to the Planning Commission for enhancement of Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) component in the total outlay since the third year of the Eleventh Plan is already in operation; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The outlay for the power sector for the 10th Five Year Plan was Rs.2,70,276.35 crore.

(b) and (c) The Planning Commission's Working Group on Power for the 11th Plan has assessed a total fund requirement for generation, transmission, distribution, R&M etc. of Rs. 10,59,515 crore (inclusive of private sector). However, the allocation as per the Eleventh Five Year Plan document approved by the National Development Council is Rs.5,54,766 crore (exclusive of private sector).

(d) and (e) At this stage, the Ministry of Power has not made any proposal for enhancement of Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) component in the total outlay for the 11th Plan.

#### **Sanctioning of power projects**

1772. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of power projects sanctioned in Phase-I of the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) the number of free connections given to BPL house-holds, so far, upto March, 2009?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) 327 projects have been sanctioned in Phase-I of 11th Five Year Plan under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY).

(b) Cumulatively, free electricity connections to 53,78,558 BPL households had been released under RGGVY upto 31st March, 2009.

#### **National fund to curb T & D losses**

1773. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Electricity Fund, to cut glaring transmission and distribution losses in country's power sector, is likely to become operational soon;

(b) whether Rs.2,72,000 crore is required to upgrade T & D system;

(c) if so, whether out of this Rs. 72,000 crore is proposed to be arranged by States from their own resources and from financial institutions;

(d) whether Eleventh Five Year Plan envisages increase in power generation capacity by 78,577 MW by March 2012, from 1,45,000 MW installed capacity;

(e) if so, whether State power utilities have decided to cut down transmission losses by 2011-12; and

(f) if so, the steps taken in this regard, at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The creation of National Electricity Fund (NEF) was announced in the Budget Speech 2008-09. In pursuance of announcement, Government had constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Member (Power), Planning Commission to consider various aspects of establishing the NEF. The concept note on establishment of NEF has been circulated by Planning Commission. Ministry of Power is examining the concept note.

(d) A capacity addition target of 78,700 MW has been set for the 11th Five Year Plan. As on 31.03.2007, the installed capacity was 13329 MW. Thus, the installed capacity would be 2.11,029 MW by March, 2012.

(e) and (f) Prior to year 2001-02, utilities used to monitor Transmission & Distribution (T&D) losses. The concept of Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) loss was introduced in 2001-02. AT&C loss captures not only the technical losses but also the theft, pilferages and commercial losses due to poor metering and billing and non-realization of dues. The following steps have been taken to check T&D losses:-

(i) The Government had launched APDRP in the year 2002-03 with the objective of encouraging reforms, reducing AT&C loss, improving quality of supply of power and improving consumer satisfaction. AT&C loss has come down in towns where APDRP has been implemented. Further, some of the utilities which adopted various interventions as envisaged under the programme have shown significant reduction in AT & C loss.

(ii) In the 11th Plan, the APDRP scheme has been restructured with revised terms and conditions as a Central Sector Scheme with emphasis on actual demonstrable performance in terms of sustained loss reduction. Establishment of reliable and automated system for sustained collection of accurate base line data and the adoption of Information Technology in the areas of energy accounting have been made necessary pre-conditions before sanctioning of any projects. The scheme aims to reduce AT & C losses to 15% by end of the programme.

(iii) Restructuring of State Electricity Boards is mandated under the Electricity Act, 2003.

(iv) For controlling of theft, punitive provisions are available under the Electricity Act, 2003. Special Courts are set up to deal with cases relating to theft of electricity.

#### **Approval of power projects**

1774. SHRI P. RAJEEV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any prior approval is required from the Central Electricity Authority for taking up power projects in the country;

(b) if so, whether any criteria has been decided by CEA;

- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any changes have been made regarding the criteria; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the details of notifications, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) As per Electricity Act, 2003, concurrence of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is not required for setting up of thermal power projects. However, as per Section 8(1) of the Electricity Act, 2003, any generating company intending to set up a hydro generating station shall prepare and submit to the Central Electricity Authority for its concurrence, a scheme estimated to involve a capital expenditure exceeding such sum, as may be fixed by the Central Government, from time to time, by notification. The present capital expenditure limits for hydro electric schemes requiring CEA's concurrence are as follows:

1. Rs.2500 crore, provided that-

- (i) the scheme is included in the National Electric Plan (NEP) as notified by CEA and conforms to the capacity and type;
- (ii) the site for setting up the hydro generating station has been allocated through the transparent process of bidding in accordance with the guidelines issued by Central Government.

2. Rs.500 crore for any other scheme not covered by para (i) and (ii) above.

(d). No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Environment impact assessment of hydro-electric projects**

1775. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) has been completed at the downstream of all the hydro-electric projects being executed by NHPC, NEEPCO or others for all the ongoing and new projects in pipeline, that are coming up in Arunachal Pradesh and Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof, project-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) According to available information in respect of Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project (2000 MW) being executed by NHPC, Environment Impact Assessment for an area of 7 km. downstream of dam site with respect to land use, *flora and fauna*, has been completed. However, the NHPC has appointed Guwahati University to study the downstream impact of the Project. This study is under progress. For Kameng Hydroelectric Project (600 MW) being executed by NEEPCO, Comprehensive Environment Studies of the Projects were carried out as per the guidelines of Ministry of Environment & Forest, wherein Environment Impact Assessment of Downstream was not specifically included.

In addition to the above projects, seven new Hydroelectric Project, all in Arunachal Pradesh, are in the pipeline for development. The details including present status are as under:

Sl.No.	Name of the Project/Executing Agency/State	Sector	Installed Capacity (MW)	Status of CEA Concurrence	Status of EIA studies/Environment clearance yet to be accorded
1.	Dibang, NHPC, Ar. Pradesh	Central	12x250=3000	Concurred on 23.1.2008	EIA studies already completed. Environment clearance yet to be accorded.
2.	Pare NEEPCO Ar. Pradesh	Central	2x55=110	Concurred on 24.09.2007	Environment clearance accorded.
3.	Demwe Lower, Athena demwe power private Ltd. Ar. Pradesh	Pvt.	5x326=1630	Under Examination	EIA studies are likely to be completed soon.
4.	Siang Lower, Jaiprakash Arunachal Power Ltd. Ar. Pradesh	Pvt	8x300=2400	Returned in Jan, 09. The modified DPR likely to be submitted soon.	As per DPR, EIA studies are under progress
5.	Tato-II, Tato Hydro Power Pvt, Ltd. Ar. Pradesh	Pvt	5x140=700	DPR received is under scrutiny for acceptance for examination.	As per DPR, EIA studies are under progress
6.	Nyamjang Chhu, Ar. Pradesh	Pvt	6x150=900	-do-	As per DPR, EIA studies are under progress
7.	Dibbin KSK Dibbin Hydro Power Pvt. Ltd. Ar. Pradesh	Pvt	2x60=120	-do-	As per DPR, EIA studies are under progress

#### **Pace of rural electrification**

1776. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether, under the rural electrification programme, Government is financing various schemes under RGGVY also;

(b) if so, whether the rural electrification works in Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa are getting delayed due to pending forest clearances;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps Government proposes to take to clear the pending rural electrification programmes and implementing them in an effective way?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), Government of India is providing 90% capital subsidy for electrification of villages and free electricity connections to BPL households. The balance 10% is provided by Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) Ltd. as loan.

(b) and (c) The implementing Agencies have informed that 35 Villages in Gajapati District of Orissa and 2048 villages in Bokaro, Koderma, Hazaribagh, Giridih district of Jharkhand are affected due to forest clearance issue.

(d) For effective implementation of RGGVY, the following steps have been taken:

- i) An inter-Ministerial Monitoring Committee review the progress of implementation.
- ii) States have been advised to set up district committees to monitor the progress of rural electrification works. All the States have notified formation of district committees.
- iii) The Government of India as also Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), conduct frequent review meetings with all the stakeholders; the concerned State Governments, State power utilities and implementing agencies for expeditious implementation of the scheme on the agreed schedules.
- iv) For speedier and effective implementation of projects, execution has been taken up on turnkey basis.
- v) To ensure qualitative execution of rural electrification works, a three tier quality control mechanism has been enforced under RGGVY.
- vi) Fund flow has been streamlined.
- vii) Chief Ministers have been requested for expeditious implementation of the scheme.
- viii) Chief Secretaries of States have been requested to resolve a State level issues by holding State level Coordination Committee meetings for expeditious implementation of the scheme.
- ix) Grant amount of BPL connection has been enhanced to Rs.2200/- from Rs.1500/-
- x) To take care of the cost escalation, cost norms for village electrification have been revised upward.

#### **Change in power distribution policy**

1777. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to change the power distribution policy to define the share of home State from a power plant located in its territory; and

(b) if so, what would be the distribution ratio?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) An in-house thinking process has been initiated in the Ministry of Power recently for examining the need to review the present arrangement relating to allocation of power. As the process is at very initial stage, the probable distribution ratio of power cannot be spelt out at this stage.

#### **NSSO survey on consumer expenditure**

1778.DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether, on the basis of the data of 61st Round (2004-05), large sample survey of consumer expenditure, conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation, the number of people not having two square meals a day throughout the year was 2.4 percent in rural areas and 0.5 percent in urban areas, at national level;

(b) if so, what was the actual number of such people and what was their daily income; and

(c) whether the above is a grim scenario for the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As per NSS Report No. 512 entitled "Perceived Adequacy of Food Consumption in Indian Households 2004-05" based on NSS 61st round conducted during July 2004 to June 2005, the percentage of households 'not getting enough food every day in any month' and 'not getting enough food every day only some months of the year' during the period of survey and corresponding number of households and their Monthly Per Capita Expenditure (MPCE) are given in the table below:

**Table: Percentage of households by food availability status**

All-India	Rural		Urban	
	not getting enough food every day in any month	not getting enough food every day only some months of the year	not getting enough food every day in any month	not getting enough food every day only some months of the year
% of households	0.4	2.0	0.1	0.4
Estimated number of households	6,74,000	30,26,300	77,100	2,12,000
Monthly Per Capita Expenditure (MPCE) Rs.	334.51	389.16	371.22	440.99

It may be clarified that NSSO does not conduct income surveys.

(c)Corresponding to the results of the earlier quinquennial NSS surveys conducted during 1999-2000 (55th round) and 1993-94 (50th round) , these percentages have gradually declined. The percentage distribution of households by food availability status over time may be seen in the given statement.

**Statement**

*Percentage distribution of households by food availability status over time*

					All-India
Sector/round	% of households				
	Getting enough food everyday throughout the year	Not getting enough food Some months of the year	not everyday recorded All months of the year	All	
					<b>Rural</b>
NSS 61st round (July 2004 -June 2005)	97.4	2.0	0.4	0.2	100
NSS 55th round (July 1999 -June 2000)	96.2	2.6	0.7	0.5	100
NSS 50th round (July 1993- June 1994)	94.5	4.2	0.9	0.4	100
					<b>Urban</b>
NSS 61st round (July 2004 -June 2005)	99.4	0.4	0.1	0.1	100
NSS 55th round (July 1999 -June 2000)	98.6	0.6	0.3	0.4	100
NSS 50th round (July 1993 -June 1994)	98.1	1.1	0.5	0.3	100

**Functioning of MPLADS**

1779.SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reviewed the functioning of Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme;

(b) if so, the details of the feedback obtained by Government;

(c) whether Government proposes to increase the quantum of MPLADS funds from the existing rupees two crore per annum;

(d) whether the State Governments have not framed special procedure for scrutinising and executing recommendations under MPLADS;

(e) whether Government has given any directions to State Governments, regarding the procedure to be followed with respect to MPLADS projects, as distinguished from State projects implemented under PWD manual; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Under para 6.2(iv) of the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) guidelines, the Ministry holds meetings in the States and at the Centre to review the implementation of the MPLAD Scheme. To assess the impact of the Scheme at the ground level and verify some sample works executed under the Scheme physically, the Ministry has engaged an independent agency NABARD Consultancy Services (NABCONS). The agency has found that the MPLAD Scheme is a unique scheme for economic and social infrastructure building. The local community has accepted the scheme due to its inherent strong elements, and it has had a positive overall impact on the economic and social life of the people, both in rural and urban areas including SCs and STs and other sections.

(c) The proposal to enhance the quantum of MPLADS funds was sent to the Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission for their approval. The Planning Commission has informed that they would appraise the project only after a judgement is delivered by the Supreme Court in this regard and also when there is clarity on availability of additional funds.

(d) to (f) The MPLAD Scheme has its own set of guidelines. Funds are directly sent to the district authorities, who examine and implement the eligible developmental works recommended by the Members of the Parliament as per the established procedure laid down by the State Government for implementation of such works subject to the provisions of the MPLADS Guidelines.

#### **Delay in Central projects**

1780.SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 866 Central projects, 297 are running behind schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the delay has increased the estimated cost of the projects; and

(d) if so, the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As on March, 2009, out of 925 projects costing Rs. 20 crore and above on the monitor of the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, 423 projects of different infrastructure sectors are running behind their latest approved schedule. The State-wise details of number of delayed projects is given in the Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) The delay in projects is one of the main reasons for increase in cost. Cost overrun in 423 delayed projects is Rs. 38663.67 crore, which is 15.35% of the latest approved cost of Rs. 251912.73 crore.

**Statement**

*State-wise summary of the delayed projects*

(Status as on 31 .3.2009)

Sl.	State Name No. Expenditure	No. of	Original Projects (Rs. Crore)	Approved Cost (Rs. Crore)	Anticipated Cost (Rs.Crore)	Cumulative Cost (Rs. Crore)
1	Andhra Pradesh	31	14367.05	14561.68	19370.36	8600.63
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2	8782.23	8782.23	10429.24	3844.19
3	Assam	36	9696.48	11224.79	16686.79	7199.47
4	Bihar	22	20428.70	20436.84	21354.18	11773.22
5	Goa	1	80.00	80.00	80.00	48.35
6	Gujarat	15	3053.44	3520.66	4464.82	2748.29
7	Haryana	8	14695.29	14876.14	17158.37	9126.70
8	Himachal Pradesh	6	13621.66	13621.66	13052.65	6239.77
9	J & K	13	8132.35	9576.99	18042.81	7731.21
10	Karnataka	13	7090.30	7501.01	6617.98	4732.78
11	Kerala	9	3971.54	4020.96	5405.33	1897.18
12	Madhya Pradesh	16	2371.27	2373.36	2372.65	854.90
13	Maharashtra	37	28420.91	29071.35	33601.66	12366.01
14	Manipur	1	24.80	24.30	24.30	22.51
15	Meghalaya	1	25.62	25.62	25.62	4.77
16	Mizoram	1	368.72	368.72	689.81	271.35
17	Orissa	16	8420.48	8463.46	9132.28	2191.52
18	Punjab	5	1087.38	1137.38	1210.71	711.94
19	Rajasthan	17	8259.25	8259.25	9043.57	6745.74
20	Tamil Nadu	31	27017.19	27017.19	27941.36	23786.25
21	Tripura	1	34.55	35.83	34.55	30.95
22	Uttar Pradesh	32	7353.02	7363.69	7385.54	5716.11
23	West Bengal	23	6661.52	6661.52	8711.04	5122.03
24	Chandigarh	1	77.97	77.97	77.97	31.44
25	Delhi	10	9884.79	10397.41	9920.73	8963.16
26	Lakshadweep	1	20.44	20.44	20.44	14.45
27	Chhattisgarh	21	15835.33	15835.33	16662.69	7290.16
28	Jharkhand	13	2182.95	2322.88	3087.17	1475.59
29	Uttaranchal	6	6238.62	6263.27	6291.00	2169.81
30	Multi State	34	17866.16	17990.80	21680.78	11346.46
TOTAL :		423	246070	251913	290576	153057

#### **Inclusion of Muslims in S.T. list**

1781. DR. EJAZ ALI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government recognises the Muslims in Tribal zone, the aboriginal Muslims; and
- (b) if so, the reasons for not including them, the aboriginal Muslims in the Scheduled Tribe fold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The Scheduled Tribes are notified in terms of the provisions of Article 342 of the Constitution. The criteria for determining of a community as Scheduled Tribe are indications of primitive traits, distinctive culture, geographical isolation, shyness of contact with the community at large and backwardness. The list of Scheduled Tribes is State/UT specific and the Scheduled Tribes may profess any religion. Thus, it is the name of tribe/community which fulfills the aforecited criteria that is included in the list of Scheduled Tribes after it has been agreed upon by all the concerned agencies in terms of the modalities approved by the Government on 15-6-99.

#### **Funds for development projects for tribals**

1782. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is lacking the Government funds, due to which many good NGO and trusts are not getting funds for different social activities and development projects for the tribals;
- (b) how much funds have been allocated to the Ministry for different schemes, for new projects, during the last three years; and
- (c) the details of total funds granted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) Ministry of Tribal Affairs gives grants under its schemes being implemented through NGOs only on receipt of recommendations of the Multi-Disciplinary State Level Committee along with inspection report of the concerned District Collector, utilization certificate of previous grant and complete proposal of the organisation. Preference is given to ongoing projects over the new projects. New projects are considered subject to availability of funds. Since last year no new projects could be considered under the major scheme of Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes mainly due to shortage of funds.

(b) and (c) There is no special allocation exclusively for new projects. Details of the funds allocated to the different schemes of the Ministry being implemented through NGOs and releases there under during the last three years are given in the Statement.

**Statement**

*Details of the funds allocated and funds granted to the different Schemes of the Ministry being implemented through NGOs during the last three years*

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Year-wise allocation and total funds granted								
		2006-2007			2007-2008			2008-09		
		B E	R E	Total funds granted	B E	R E	Total funds granted	B E	R E	Total funds granted
1	Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes	24.00	26.77	30.267	34.00	34.00	34.00	36.60	39.60	39.60
2	Coaching for Scheduled Tribes (NGO component)	0.50	0.20	0.1976	1.30	1.30	1.2999	2.50	3.00	2.6088
3	Strengthening Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts	32.00	8.00	7.9130	19.75	19.75	19.75	60.00	40.00	40.00
4	Vocational Training Centre in Tribal Areas (NGO component)	1.50	1.50	1.50	2.25	2.25	2.25	3.00	1.50	1.47
5	Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PTGs) (NGO component)	4.00	4.00	3.8879	6.00	6.00	5.4389	4.00	4.00	3.0412

#### Criteria for scheduled tribes

†1783. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that many tribes in the country have not been included in the list of Scheduled Tribes despite their being of tribal nature;
- (b) whether there are certain criteria for defining the term 'tribes';
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has any proposal to include Nepali speaking Rai and Gurung people and the Dhimal community; who are tribe by nature, in the category of Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The tribes or tribal communities or parts of, or group within such tribes having the tribal characteristics are notified as Scheduled Tribes under Article 342 of the Constitution if they fulfill the following criteria, and the proposal for their inclusions are justified as per the modalities laid down in 1999:-

1. Indications of primitive traits
2. Distinctive culture;
3. Geographical isolation;
4. Shyness of contact with the community at large, and
5. Backwardness

(d) This Ministry had received the proposals for inclusion of Khombu (Rai), Gurung and Dhimal communities in the State's list of Scheduled Tribes from the Government of West Bengal. Proposals for inclusion of Kirat Khambu Rai and Gurung communities in the State's list of Scheduled Tribes have also been received from the State Government of Sikkim. These proposals have been processed as per the modalities approved by the Government of India on 15.06.99 for deciding claims for inclusion in, exclusion from and other modifications in the Orders specifying Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Lists.

#### Patronage for destitute children

†1784. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the destitute children of the country do not have any patronage;
- (b) whether Government is aware of the reasons for increase or decrease in the number of such children;
- (c) whether the Child Protection Scheme planned for destitute children has been approved or not; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) at which places the temporary shelter homes have been established to impart counselling with education and professional education to destitute children and the number of destitute children availing of this facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) The Government is seized of the problem of destitute children in the country and is therefore implementing various schemes and programmes for the welfare & rehabilitation of these children.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has been implementing the following schemes:

(i) "An Integrated Programme for Street Children" which aims at prevention of destitution and withdrawal of children from life on the street and their placement in to national mainstream.

A child helpline, viz Childline is also being assisted under the said scheme. Childline is a 24 hours toll free service and any child in distress or any adult on his/her behalf can dial 1098 to obtain assistance for immediate relief and restoration to family or referral to institutions for long-term care. This service is at present available in 83 cities.

(ii) The Ministry of Women and Child Development is providing financial assistance to the States/UTs under the scheme "A Programme for Juvenile Justice", for establishment and maintenance of children's homes set up under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 as amended in 2006 which is the primary law for care and protection of children who are in need of care and protection in the country. These homes can be established and run by the State Government itself or in association with voluntary organizations.

Recently, the Ministry has introduced a new Centrally sponsored scheme namely 'Integrated Child Protection Scheme(ICPS)' for care and protection of children who are in need of care and protection as well as children in conflict with law, in the country.

While there are multiple reasons for destitution of children, no specific data is available on the increase or decrease in the number of such children.

(c) The competent authority has approved the 'Integrated Child Protection Scheme' on 26.02.2009.

(d) The details of the organizations being assisted under the scheme 'An Integrated Programme for Street Children' for running street children centres are available in the Ministry's website- [www.wcd.nic.in](http://www.wcd.nic.in)

#### **Cooked meals in Anganwadis**

1785.SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to provide hot cooked meals in Anganwadis;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) Government of India have issued guidelines on 24th February, 2009 to the State Government Union Territory Administrations to provide hot cooked meal to the children in the age group of 3-6 years in Anganwadis Centres (AWCs) and Mini-AWCs under the integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Order dated 22nd April, 2009 has also directed the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to provide hot cooked meal to the children as per guidelines contained in Government of India's letter dated 24th February, 2009, preferably by 31st December, 2009.

(c) Under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, an amount of Rs.3045.50 crore has been earmarked for the year 2009-2010 for supplementary nutrition.

#### **Anaemic children in Tamil Nadu**

1786.SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that seven out of every 10 children below the age of five in Tamil Nadu, have iron deficiency anaemia according to the report of the National Family Health Survey;

(b) if, so whether Government has analysed the reasons for such undernourishment among children; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to eradicate such alarming level of malnutrition among children in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) As per National Family Health Survey, (NFHS-3) of 2005-06, 64.2% children (6-59 months) in Tamil Nadu suffer from anaemia.

(b) Malnutrition is a multifaceted problem, the determinants of which include food insecurity, female illiteracy, poor access to health-care, safe drinking water, sanitation and poor purchasing power. Early marriages of girls, teenage pregnancies resulting in low birth weight of the new borns, poor breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices, ignorance about nutritional needs of infants and young children and repeated infections further aggravate the situation.

(c) The Ministry of Women and Child Development is addressing the problem of under nutrition in children below 6 years through the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS). The ICDS provides a package of six services namely supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-up, referral services, pre-school non-formal education and nutrition & health education.

The ICDS programme has since been revamped wherein the nutritional feeding and financial norms have been enhanced. The revised norms are as under:

Category	Revised Rates	Revised (per beneficiary per pay)	Nutritional Norms	
			Calories (Kcal)	Protein (g)
(i) Children (6-72 mths)		Rs. 4.00	500	12-15
(ii) Severely malnourished children (6-72 mths)		Rs. 6.00	800	20-25
(iii) Pregnant women and nursing mothers		Rs. 5.00	600	18-20

Besides the ICDS programme, Government is implementing a number of programmes throughout the country, which directly or indirectly improve the nutritional status of women and children. A list of the schemes being implemented by various Ministries is given in the Statement.

#### ***Statement***

##### *Schemes/Programmes to improve the nutritional status of children:*

- Promotion of appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices - Increased emphasis is given to:
  - Initiation of breastfeeding immediately after birth, preferably within one hour.
  - Exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months.
  - Complementary feeding and continued breast feeding from six months onwards.
  - The National Guidelines on Infant and Young Child Feeding have been developed and disseminated all over the country.
  - Implementation of The Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act 1992, also known as the Infant Milk Substitute (IMS) Act.
- Reproductive & Child Health Programme under the National Rural Health Mission being implemented by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has interventions for proper growth, development and survival of children which include:
  - Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) to promote institutional deliveries, improved coverage and quality of Antenatal care, skilled care to pregnant women, etc.
  - Immunization
  - Integrated Management of Neonatal and Child Hood Illness
  - Specific Programmes to prevent and combat micronutrient deficiencies of Vitamin A and Iron & Folic Acid through Vitamin A Supplementation for children till the age of 5th years and Iron & Folic acid Supplementation for infants, preschool children, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women. Iodised salt is being provided for combating Iodine Deficiency Disorders.

- Treatment of severe acute malnutrition through Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs) set up at public health facilities.
- 3. Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free food grains to undernourished adolescent girls by Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- 4. Nutrition and Health Education to increase the awareness and bring about desired changes in the dietary practices including the promotion of breast feeding and dietary diversification. Food and Nutrition Board of the Ministry of Women & Child Development is engaged in advocacy, trainings and generating awareness on important nutrition issues among different level of functionaries and the masses.
- 5. National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meal Scheme) by the Department of School Education & Literacy.
- 6. Availability of essential food items at subsidized cost through Targeted Public Distribution System, Antodaya Anna Yojna by the Department of Food & Consumer Affairs.
- 7. Other measures include:
  - Improving agricultural and horticulture produce.
  - Improving the purchasing power of the people through various income generating scheme.

#### **Anganwadis in GOA**

1787. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Anganwadis functioning in Goa, taluka-wise;
- (b) the number of Anganwadi workers employed in these Anganwadis, Taluka-wise and post-wise;
- (c) the remuneration paid to them by Government and the contribution made by the Goa Government to their remuneration; and
- (d) whether there is any proposal to increase their remuneration and for improving their service conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) The Number of Anganwadis Functioning in Goa, taluka-wise, is as under:

Taluka	No. of Anganwadis functioning
1	2
Tiswadi	103
Bardez	149
Pernem	71

1	2
Bicholim	96
Sattari	103
Ponda	164
Sanguem	83
Quepem	80
Salcete	170
Mormugao	108
Canacona	79
TOTAL	1206

(b) Taluka-wise and post-wise number of Anganwadi workers (AWWs) and Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) in 1206 Anganwadis in Goa is as under :

Taluka	No. of AWWs	No. of AWHs
Tiswadi	103	102
Bardez	149	142
Pernem	71	70
Bicholim	96	95
Sattari	103	103
Ponda	164	154
Sanguem	83	82
Quepem	80	76
Salcete	170	165
Mormugao	108	103
Canacona	79	77
TOTAL :	1206	1169

(c) The rates per month of honoraria being paid to Anganwadi Workers/Helpers by Government of India and Government of Goa is as under :

**Honoraria to Anganwadi Workers:**

Service	Government of India		Government of Goa	
	Matric	Non-matric	Matric	Non-matric
0-5 years	1500	1438	2000	1752
5-10 years	1531	1469	2400	2119
10-15 years	1563	1500	2800	2486
15-20 years	1563	1500	3000	2664
20 & above	1563	1500	3200	2816

**Honoraia to Anganwadi Hepers:**

Service	Government of India	Government of Goa
0-5 years	750	1000
5-10 years	750	1200
10-15 years	750	1400
15-20 years	750	1500
20 & above	750	1600

(d) No, Sir.

**Trafficking of women and children**

†1788. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has become a hub of human trafficking, comprising 70 per cent of women and children and if so, their number at present; and

(b) if so, the details of the plan Government is working on to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) There is no country-wide census data on the number of women and children trafficked for prostitution. However, the study on "Girls/Women in Prostitution in India" (conducted between 2002-2004) sponsored by the Ministry of Women and Child Development estimated that there are about 2.8 million prostitutes in the country.

(b) The Immoral Traffic(Prevention) Act, 1956 (ITPA) supplemented by the Indian Penal Code prohibits trafficking in human beings including children for the purpose of prostitution and lays down severe penalties for trafficking. The Ministry of Women and Child Development conducts advocacy, awareness generation, sensitization programmes for prevention of trafficking of women and children. A Central Advisory Committee to combat trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation has been set up under the Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is also implementing the scheme of 'Ujjawala' wherein financial assistance is provided for prevention of trafficking and for rescue, rehabilitation, and reintegration of victims of commercial sexual exploitation. The Ministry also runs Swadhar Shelter Homes which provide shelter, food, clothing, emotional support, counselling, rehabilitation and other facilities to women in difficult circumstances including trafficked victims.

**Malnutrition of under-three children**

1789.DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the findings of the Third Indian Institute of Population Sciences and NFH-III survey regarding alarming scenario of malnutrition of wider-three children;

(b) whether the survey also found that women, especially those in rural areas, were underweight;

(c) whether the survey also states that what is alarming is the poor performance is ORS and breast-feeding practices; only 26 percent of kids with diarrhoea received ORS and 23.4 percent of mothers initiated breast-feeding in the first hour; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to save children of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) As per National Family Health Survey, (NFHS-3) of 2005-06, the percentage of underweight children under three years in the country is 40.4%.

(b) The National Family Health Survey does not provide information specifically for underweight women. However, using cut-off point of BMI Below 18.5 which is used to define thinness or acute undernutrition, 40.6% of women in rural areas compared to 25% in urban areas are undernourished.

(c) The Survey revealed that 26% of children with diarrhoea received ORS and 24.5% of mothers initiated breastfeeding in the first hour.

(d) The Ministry of Women and Child Development is addressing the problem of undernutrition in children below 6 years through the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS). The ICDS provides a package of six services namely supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-up, referral services, pre-school non-formal education and nutrition & health education.

The ICDS programme has since been revamped wherein the nutritional feeding and financial norms have been enhanced. The revised norms are as under:

Category	Revised Rates (per beneficiary per pay)	Revised Nutritional Norms	
		Calories (Kcal)	Protein (g)
(i) Children (6-72 mths)	Rs. 4.00	500	12-15
(ii) Severely malnourished children (6-72 mths)	Rs. 6.00	800	20-25
(iii) Pregnant women and nursing mothers	Rs. 5.00	600	18-20

Besides the ICDS programme, Government is implementing a number of programmes throughout the country, which directly or indirectly improve the nutritional status of women and children. A list of the schemes being implemented by various Ministries is given in the Statement. [Refer to Statement appended to answer to USQ No. 1786 part (c)]

#### Committee on status of women

1790. PROF. ALKA BALARAM KSHATRIYA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had set up a high powered committee comprising eminent persons and experts to study the status of women in the country in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the committee;
- (c) whether Government has since examined the recommendations and proposes to implement/adopt the same; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### Contractors under ICDS

1791. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that contractors are flourishing in Rs. 2,000 crore plus supplementary Nutrition Programme under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), despite apex court orders; and
- (b) if so, in which States contractor Raj is actively functioning and the details of action Government has taken against those States in the interest of crores of children and expecting mothers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) The Hon'ble Supreme Court, *vide* its Order dated 7th October, 2004 had, *inter alia*, directed all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations that "the contractors shall not be used for supply of nutrition in Anganwadis and preferably Integrated Child Development Services(ICDS) funds shall be spent by making use of village communities, self-help groups and mahila mandals for buying of grains and preparation of meals". This was also reiterated by Hon'ble Supreme court *vide* its Order dated 13.12.2006 and 22.4.2009.

(b) The information is being gathered and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Workshops and seminars of NCW

†1792. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of workshops and seminars organized in the country by the National Commission for Women (NCW) during the last five years and on which subjects thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the details of the total amount spent by NCW on workshops and seminars; and

(c) the results of those workshops and seminars the decisions taken for the benefit of women therein or the improvement in the standard of living of women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) The details are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) Details given in the Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

*Details of workshops conducted by the NCW during the last five years the expenditure thereon*

Year	Expenditure in Rupees	Subjects
1	2	3
2004-05	1,21,12,261.00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. National Seminar on Implementation of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.</li> <li>2. Meeting on Review of the Immoral Trafficking Prevention Act, 1956.</li> <li>3. Review of the provisions relating to Rape.</li> <li>4. Review of labour laws.</li> <li>5. National Consultation on Media women and the laws.</li> <li>6. National Conference on Impact of Globalization on Women.</li> <li>7. National Consultation on Status of women working in Media and Indecent Representation of Women in India.</li> <li>8. Regional workshop on Gender Sensitization for heads of Police Training Institutes.</li> <li>9. Regional Workshop on Child Marriage.</li> <li>10. Workshop on gender and credit, Economic Empowerment of Women.</li> <li>11. Public hearing on Impact of Globalization of Women, Public hearing on Violence Against Scheduled Caste Women, Meeting of experts on NRI marriages, Workshop on development and empowerment of Muslim Women.</li> </ol>

1	2	3
2005-06	1,72,96,276.00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. National Conference on implementation of the PC PNDT Act.</li> <li>2. National workshop on women's rights to adequate housing land and livelihood.</li> <li>3. Meeting on Compulsory Registration of Marriages Bill.</li> <li>4. Meeting of women Members of Parliament.</li> <li>5. National Conference on Sexual Assault Bill.</li> <li>6. National Conference on review of Dowry Prohibition Act 1961.</li> <li>7. Meeting of the Expert Committee on North East.</li> <li>8. Meeting on the Domestic Violence Bill.</li> <li>9. Meeting on framing rules relating to protection of women from domestic violence Act.</li> <li>10. Launching of the Programme 'Chalo Gaon Ki Ore'.</li> <li>11. Approx.125 numbers of Legal Awareness Camps conducted in various parts of the Country.</li> </ol>
2006-07	2,25,54,122.00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990.</li> <li>2. Regional Seminars on Integrated Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Human beings.</li> <li>3. National level workshops on problems faced by Indian Women deserted by NRI husbands.</li> <li>4. National Seminar on mentally challenged women.</li> <li>5. Workshops on Implementation of the Domestic Violence Act.</li> <li>6. Meeting on scheme for relief and rehabilitation to victims of rape.</li> <li>7. National conference on draft Bill relating to sexual harassment of women at workplace.</li> </ol>

1	2	3
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. State level Workshop on tribal women land rights and livelihood, saving the girl child, domestic workers, violence against women of OBC and other communities in North East.</li> <li>9. Workshop on Women performing artist and handicraft makers in rural areas, Seminar on Women's Health, State level Workshop on female foeticide, Prohibition of Child Marriage.</li> <li>10. Legal Awareness Programmes organized in various parts of the Country.</li> </ol>
2007-08	1,42,11,979.00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Regional Seminar on land and resource rights of Indigenous women in North East India.</li> <li>2. National Conference on Dayan Pratha.</li> <li>3. Regional workshop on Women and land rights in Northern India.</li> <li>4. Seminar on Status of Women Sanitary workers in Tamil Nadu.</li> <li>5. Seminar on declining sex ratio on Haryana.</li> <li>6. National Seminar on Gender Equality, State level Seminar on Women Political Participation.</li> <li>7. National Consultation on the draft Integrated Plan of Action to combat trafficking.</li> <li>8. National Consultation on Relief and Rehabilitation to Victims of Acid Attacks.</li> <li>9. National Consultation on Review of the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition ) Act. 1986.</li> <li>10. Implementation of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence at Jaipur, Guwahati, Mumbai, Bangalore and Delhi.</li> <li>11. Public hearing on fisher women, women with disability, women in politics, Workshop on Art of counseling.</li> </ol>

1	2	3
		12. National level Seminar on Dayan Pratha at Ranchi.
		13. Seminar on laws relating to Marriage.
		14. National Consultation on Domestic Workers Bill.
		15. Consultation on Review of the Dowry Prohibition Act Amendments.
		16. Consultation on agriculture policy.
		17. Legal Awareness Camps.
2008-09	2,43,35,006.00	1. Seminar on HIV/AIDS.
		2. Seminar on Assistance and Rehabilitation to Victims of Rape.
		3. Seminar on Violence against Women.
		4. Consultation of Surrogacy and Assisted Reproductive Technologies.
		5. National Consultation of women working in night shifts with special reference to IT/BPO Sector.
		6. State level Seminar on Role of Media in Women Empowerment.
		7. Meeting of State Home Secretaries on Sexual Assault Bill.
		8. Legal awareness camps.
		9. Review of indecent representation of women Act.

**Statement-II**

*Details regarding result achieved through seminars and workshops*

Sl. No.	Laws reviewed by National Commission for Women	Status
1	2	3
1.	The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987 (3 of 1998) 6-80/97	The recommendations were examined by the Government and no action proposed.
2.	Amendments to The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 (28 of 1961)	NCW has been advised to re-examine their recommendations.

1	2	3
3.	Scheme Compensation to Rehabilitation of Victims of Rape and Sexual Assault	Contours of the scheme have been finalized.
4.	Amendments to Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986	Being finalized by the NCW
5.	The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956	Under consideration
6.	National Commission for Women Act, 1990 (20 of 1990)	Under consideration
7.	Compulsory Registration of Marriages Bill, 2005	Under consideration
8.	Amendments to the Laws relating to Rape and related provisions	Under consideration
9.	The Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Bill, 2006	Draft bill is being finalized.
10.	Prevention of offences (by acids) Act 2008	Under consideration
11.	Action plan to combat trafficking in women and children.	Under finalisation
12.	Protection of women from domestic violence Rules	Implemented
13.	Agriculture policy	Under consideration with NCW
14.	Scheme for Minority Women	Contours of the scheme have been finalized.
15.	Protection of women from domestic violence Act	Implemented
16.	Domestic Workers Bill	Under consideration with NCW

#### **Funds for child welfare schemes**

1793.SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds release and spent for child welfare schemes, State-wise, especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the details thereof, rural and urban-wise in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the benefits reached to the poor people like minority Muslims in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing the following Plan schemes for welfare of the children in need of care & protection and children in conflict with law, in the country.

- (i) An Integrated Programme for Street Children .
- (ii) Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection.
- (iii) A Programme for Juvenile Justice; and
- (iv) A Scheme of Assistance to Homes for Children (Shishu Greha) to Promote In-country Adoption.

The details of funds released, including funds released for projects in Andhra Pradesh, under the schemes at (i), (ii) & (iii) above to the State Government/UT Administrations and Non-Governmental Organizations/ institutions are available at Ministry's website- [www.wcd.nic.in](http://www.wcd.nic.in) and for scheme (iv) above at Central adoption Resource Agency's website- [www.adoptionindia.nic.in](http://www.adoptionindia.nic.in).

The projects under the schemes at (i) & (ii) above are set up in urban areas and in case of schemes at (iii) & (iv) no separate data is maintained for rural and urban areas.

(c) The benefits under these schemes are provided to all children who are in need of care & protection and children in conflict with law, in the country irrespective of religion, caste, etc.

#### **Chairman and members of NCW**

†1794. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Commission for Women (NCW) is a statutory institution and whether being the Chairman or Member of NCW one can also remain a Member of Parliament or a Member of Legislative Assembly;
- (b) whether the Chairman and Members of NCW can remain in position despite being Members of Parliament or Legislative Assembly; and
- (c) whether Government has kept the Chairman and Members of NCW out of the purview of office of profit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) The National Commission for Women (NCW) is a statutory body.

Under the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959 Act No. 10 of 1959, the office of the Chairperson of National Commission for Women (But not the office of Member, NCW) shall not disqualify the holders thereof for being chosen or for being Member of Parliament.

#### **Leadership training to minority women**

1795. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Central Government plans to train women from minority communities, especially muslim women, on the leadership qualities required to participate in civic polls and benefit from Government schemes; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

12.00 NOON

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The contours of the scheme have been finalised.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Before we go to the next item on the agenda I would like the hon. Members to introspect very seriously, a totally extraneous matter was raised which has resulted in a loss of precious time. Now, Papers to be laid on the Table. Before we proceed to next item on our agenda, I would like the hon. Members to introspect very seriously. A totally extraneous matter was raised which has resulted in a loss of precious time.

Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

- I. **Notifications of the Ministry of Mines**
- II. **Memoranda of Understanding (2009-10) between Government of India and various Corporations and Company Limited**

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Mines Notification G.S.R. 96 (E), dated the 17th February, 2009, amending the Second Schedule of the Mines and Mineral (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, under sub-section (1) of Section 28 of the said Act. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 387/15/09]
- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:
  - (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region) and the North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited (NERAMAC), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 386/15/09]
  - (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region) and the North Eastern Handicrafts & Handlooms Development Corporation (NEHDC) Limited for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 385/15/09]
  - (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Mines) and the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 384/15/09]
  - (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Mines) and the National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 383/15/09]

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair)

**Memorandum of Understanding (2009-10) between the Government of India and the National  
Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation**

**जनजातीय कार्य मंत्री (श्री कांतिलाल भूरिया) :** उपसभापति जी, मैं आपकी अनुमति से निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ। I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Tribal Affairs) and the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 329/15/09]

**I. Notifications of the Ministry of Coal**

**II. Memorandum of Understanding (2009-10) between Government of India and the Coal India Limited**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Coal, under Section 7A of the Coal Mines Provident Fund Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1948.
  - (1) G.S.R. 154 (E), dated the 5th March, 2009, publishing the Coal Mines Pension (Amendment) Scheme, 2009. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 408/15/09]
  - (2) G.S.R. 822 (E), dated the 24 March, 2009, regarding exemption of the executive cadre employees of the Coal India Limited from the Coal Mines Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 409/15/09]
  - (3) G.S.R. 348 (E), dated the 22nd May, 2009, publishing corrigendum to G.S.R. 154 (E), dated the 5th March, 2009. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 408/15/09]
- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Coal) and the Coal India Limited, for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 255/15/09]

**Notification of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, under sub-section (3) of Section 63 of the Competition Act, 2002: [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 255/15/09]
  - (1) G.S.R. 338 (E), dated the 15th May, 2009, publishing the Competition Commission of India (Number of Additional, Joint, Deputy or Assistant Director-

General, other officers and employees, their manner of appointment, qualification, salary, allowances and other terms and conditions of service) Rules, 2009.

- (2) G.S.R. 439 (E), dated the 23rd June, 2009, publishing the Competition Commission of India (Number of Additional, Joint, Deputy or Assistant Director-General, other officers and employees, their manner of appointment, qualification, salary, allowances and other terms and conditions of service) Amendment Rules, 2009. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 292/15/09]
- (ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, under sub-section (3) of Section 79 of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 :
- (1) G.S.R. 891 (E), dated the 31st March, 2009, regarding the enforcement of the certain sections of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 with effect from the 31st March, 2009. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 287/15/09]
  - (2) G.S.R. 229 (E), dated the 1st April, 2009, publishing the Limited Liability Partnership Rules, 2009. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 288/15/09]
  - (3) G.S.R. 1323 (E), dated the 22nd May, 2009, publishing the date from which certain provisions of the Act shall come into force. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 287/15/09]
  - (4) G.S.R. 1324 (E), dated the 22nd May, 2009, publishing the date from which certain provisions of the Limited Liability Partnership Rules, 2009, shall come into force. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 290/15/09]
  - (5) G.S.R. 385 (E), dated the 4th June 2009, publishing the Limited Liability Partnership (Amendment) Rules, 2009. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 288/15/09]
- (iii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs Notification G.S.R. 386 (E), dated the 4th June, 2009, publishing the Alteration in the Second, Third and Fourth Schedules to the Limited Liability. Partnership Act, 2008, under sub-section (3) of Section 78 of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 289/15/09]
- (iv) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, under sub-section (3) of Section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956:
- (1) G.S.R. 183 (E), dated the 20th March, 2009, publishing the Companies (Central Governments) General Rules and forms (Amendment) Rules, 2009.
  - (2) G.S.R. 225 (E), dated the 31st March, 2009, publishing the Companies (Accounting Standards) Amendment Rules, 2009.

- (3) G.S.R. 284 (E), dated the 24th April, 2009, publishing the Companies (Central Governments) General Rules and forms (Third Amendment) Rules, 2009.
- (4) G.S.R. 257 (E), dated the 17th April, 2009, publishing the Companies (Central Governments) General Rules and forms (Second Amendment) Rules, 2009.
- (5) G.S.R. 251 (E), dated the 15th April, 2009, publishing the Companies (Issue of Indian Depository Receipts) (Second Amendment) Rules, 2009. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 286/15/09]
- (v) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs Notification G.S.R. 226 (E), dated the 31st March, 2009, publishing the Amendment to the Schedule-VI to the Companies Act, 1956, under sub-section (3) of Section 641 of the Companies Act 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 291/15/09]

**I. Notifications of the Ministry of Environment and Forests**

**II. Reports and Accounts (2007-08) of Board and Institute.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, under Section 26 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986:
  - (1) G.S.R. 97 (E), dated the 18th February, 2009, publishing the Environment (Protection) Amendment Rules, 2009. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 258/15/09]
  - (2) S.O. 1355 (E), dated the 27th May, 2009, amending S.O. 683 (E), dated the 23rd March, 2001, to substitute certain entries in original Notification.
  - (3) S.O. 1356 (E), dated the 27th May, 2009, amending S.O. 1174 (E), dated the 18th July, 2007, to substitute certain entries in original Notification. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 257/15/09]
  - (4) S.O. 2728 (E), dated the 25th November, 2008, amending S.O. 1174 (E), dated the 18th July, 2007, to substitute certain entries in original Notification. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 257/15/09]
  - (5) G.S.R. 149 (E), dated the 4th March, 2009, publishing the Environment (Protection) Second Amendment Rules, 2009. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 411/15/09]
- (ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, under sub-section (3) of Section 62 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002:

- (1) S.O. 783 (E), dated the 19th March, 2009, notifying the list of endangered species and prohibition and regulation on their collection for the State of Himachal Pradesh.
- (2) S.O. 997 (E), dated the 23rd April, 2009, notifying the list of endangered species and prohibition and regulation on their collection for the State of Kerala.
- (3) S.O. 998 (E), dated the 23rd April, 2009, notifying the list of endangered species and prohibition and regulation on their collection for the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (4) S.O. 999 (E), dated the 23rd April, 2009, notifying the list of endangered species and prohibition and regulation on their collection for the State of Uttarakhand. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 259/15/09]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Animal Welfare Board of India, Chennai, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 256/15/09]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, Almora, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of above Institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 450/15/09]
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the, delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 450/15/09]

**I. Notifications of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas**

**II. Memorandum of Understanding (2009-10) between the Government of India and various Corporations, Limited, Company Limited**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA) : Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I (i) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Notification S.O. 2832 (E), dated the 2nd December, 2008, publishing Corrigendum to S.O. 1110 (E), dated the 8th May, 2008, under Section 62 of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 308/15/09]
- (ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Notification S.O. 586 (E), dated the 2nd March, 2009, appointing Company

Secretary of M/s Balmer Lawrie & Co, Ltd. to be the Estate Officer of the Company, under sub-section (3) of Section 18 of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 309/15/09]

II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the following Papers:

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 304/15/09]
- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and M/s Biecco Lawrie Limited for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 301/15/09]
- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and M/s Balmer Lawrie and Company Limited for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 302/15/09]
- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 307/15/09]
- (v) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and Engineers India Limited (EIL) for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 300/15/09]
- (vi) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 306/15/09]
- (vii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 303/15/09]
- (viii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and Oil India Limited for the year 2009-10 [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 305/15/09]

**Memorandum of Understanding (2009-10) between Government  
of India and various Corporations**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- (1) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Power) and the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited (NEEPCO) for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 340/15/09]
- (2) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Power) and the Rural Electrification Corporation Limited, for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 163/15/09]

- (3) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Power) and the Tehri. Hydro Development Corporation Limited (THDC), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 162/15/09]

**I. Reports and Accounts (2007-08) of the Film and Television Institute of India and related papers**

**II. Reports and Accounts (2007-08) of the Prasar Bharti and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- I (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune, for the year 2007-08 together with the Auditors Report thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 397/15/09]
- II (a) Annual Accounts of Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India), New Delhi, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts, under sub-section (4) of Section 21 of the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 396/15/09]

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**MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION**

**Alleged irregularities in functioning of A.I.C.T.E.**

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, with your permission, I wish to raise the issue regarding the irregularities in the functioning of the AICTE.

Sir, AICTE is the apex body to look after the standards of technical education in the country. There have been allegations that the Chairman, Members, Secretary and other officials are involving in corrupt practices and getting bad name, not only to the AICTE but also to the standard of education. Proving this correct, the CBI has caught red-handed one Member while accepting Rs. 5 lakhs as bribe from the management of an engineering college at Hyderabad. The CBI has also registered a case against the Chairman, Adviser and Regional Advisors on charges of corruption and nepotism.

The Minister of State for HRD has also written a letter to the Minister of HRD. With your permission, I wish to quote the letter. It says, "It is very sad that the AICTE, which is to strive for the progress of higher education in the country, is standing as a hurdle. All the technical institutions in the country have become frustrated. There is a delay in giving permission. Members and officials have become irresponsible. There is a high-level corruption. As a result, the technical institutions in the country are disillusioned. So, I request you to immediately take steps for overhaul of the entire AICTE set up."

This clearly shows the pathetic condition of the functioning of the AICTE. So, I request the hon. Minister to change the guidelines for sanctioning of engineering colleges. I also request for instituting an enquiry on the availability of quality of infrastructure, whether the qualified staff is available in engineering colleges and also the standard of education in the permitted colleges. Thank you.

#### **Firing at army recruitment centre in Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh**

**श्री नन्द किशोर यादव** (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति जी, धन्यवाद। मेरा विषय सेना में जवानों की जो भर्ती होती है, उसमें दलालों का वर्चस्व है, उसमें धांधली होती है, के संबंध में है। यह बहुत ही गंभीर प्रश्न है। दिनांक 19 जुलाई को चंदौली जनपद, उत्तर प्रदेश में सेना में भर्ती हो रही थी। इस भर्ती का कार्यक्रम 13 जुलाई से चल रहा था और 20 जुलाई तक चलने वाला था। रक्षा विभाग की ओर भर्ती का काम सेना के अधिकारी और कर्मचारी कर रहे थे। 17 जुलाई को भर्ती का जो काम हुआ, उसमें धांधली हुई, इसका आरोप वहां भर्ती होने के लिए जो युवक आए थे, वे लगा रहे थे। उस समय चन्दौली प्रशासन और सेना के अधिकारियों ने कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया। 19 जुलाई को चन्दौली और पूर्वांचल के आसपास के 15 जिलों, गाजीपुर, आजमगढ़ और देवरिया आदि के 20 हजार नौजवान वहां भर्ती होने के लिए उपस्थित हो गए। यह भर्ती की प्रक्रिया सुबह 4 बजे से प्रारंभ कर दी गई। 7 बजे से लेकर 9 बजे तक दौड़ का एक कार्यक्रम था, जिसमें 4 राउंड लगाने होते थे। जो बच्चे 4 राउंड लगा लेते थे, उनको qualify कर दिया जाता था। जब आखिरी राउंड की दौड़ हो रही थी, तो सेना के अधिकारियों ने अपने चहेते बच्चों को, जिनको वे भर्ती करना चाहते थे, आखिरी राउंड में दौड़ाने का काम किया। इसी बात को लेकर वहां जो युवक भर्ती होने आए थे, वे आक्रोशित हो गए। इसके बाद वहां भगदड़ मच गई। भगदड़ में वहां firing हुई। बड़ी हास्यास्पद स्थिति है कि वहां सेना के जो उच्च अधिकारी थे, वे कहते हैं कि हमने firing नहीं की है; जिला प्रशासन जिसका काम law and order maintain करना था, वह कह रहा है कि हमने वहां पर firing नहीं की है। चन्दौली से जो समाचार मिल रहे हैं, उसमें 4 लोगों के मरने की बात सामने आ रही है। जिला प्रशासन कह रहा है कि वहां केवल एक आदमी मरा है। वस्तुस्थिति यह है कि उसमें कम-से-कम 4 लोगों की मौत हुई है और 1,000 लोग घायल हुए हैं। 7 घंटे तक पूरे चन्दौली जनपद का प्रशासन एकदम मूक दर्शक बना रहा और पूरा जनजीवन ठप रहा।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से यह चाहता हूं कि इस पूरे प्रकरण की उच्चस्तरीय जांच कराई जाए कि सेना की तरफ से गोली चलाई गई है या स्थानीय प्रशासन की तरफ से गोली चलाई गई है। मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि सेना में जो भर्ती हो रही थी, उसमें युवकों द्वारा धांधली लगाने का जो आरोप है, वह सही है या गलत है?

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि** (उड़ीसा): सर, मैं अपने आपको इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

**श्री रघुनन्दन शर्मा** (मध्य प्रदेश): सर, मैं अपने आपको इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव** (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मैं अपने आपको इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

**श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी** (बिहार): सर, मैं अपने आपको इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

**श्री महेन्द्र मोहन** (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मैं अपने आपको इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Shri Kalraj Mishra to associate.

**श्री कलराज मिश्र** (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मैंने नोटिस दिया है।

**श्री उपसभापति :** आपने नोटिस दिया है, लेकिन विषय वही है, तो आप associate कर दीजिए।

**श्री कलराज मिश्र :** सर, मैं अपनी बात रखना चाहता हूँ।

**श्री उपसभापति:** ठीक है, आप एक मिनट में अपनी बात रख दीजिए।

**श्री कलराज मिश्र :** सर, मैंने नोटिस दिया है और मेरी नोटिस स्वीकार भी हुई है। चूंकि मेरी नोटिस स्वीकार हुई है, इसलिए मैं 3 मिनट बोलने का अधिकारी हूँ।

मान्यवर, मैं आपको बताना चाहूंगा कि उत्तर प्रदेश में गत कई वर्षों से जब भी सेना में भर्ती शुरू हुई, तो किसी-न-किसी कारणवश वहां हादसा हुआ है। चाहे फैजाबाद हो, चाहे लखनऊ हो, वहां भी भर्ती के दौरान इसी प्रकार का किसी-न-किसी ढंग से पक्षपातपूर्ण रवैया अपनाने के कारण उपद्रव हुआ और हादसा हुआ। उसी तरीके से चन्दौली में 13 तारीख से लेकर 20 तारीख के बीच जो भर्ती अभियान प्रारंभ हुआ, उस भर्ती अभियान के अन्तर्गत 17 तारीख को युवकों को लगने लगा कि किसी-न-किसी प्रकार से पक्षपातपूर्ण रवैया अपनाया जा रहा है। इसलिए लोगों ने अपनी बात कहनी चाही, लेकिन उस समय किसी ने सुना नहीं। जैसा हमारे श्रीमान् यादव जी ने बताया कि 19 तारीख को लगभग 15 जिलों के लोग आए हुए थे और काफी संख्या में लोग थे। वहां एक पॉलिटैक्निक विद्यालय है। वहां काफी लम्बी लाइन लग गई थी। जब यह दौड़ हो रही थी और चौथा राउंड प्रारंभ हुआ, तो उस समय सेना के कुछ लोगों के द्वारा, जैसा वहां जो लोग भर्ती होने के लिए गए हुए थे, वे लोग बताते हैं कि उसमें कुछ लोगों को लगा दिया गया, ताकि उनके चहेते चयनित किए जा सकें। जब अधिकारियों से लोगों ने अपनी बात कहनी चाही, तो अधिकारियों ने उनको **(समय की घंटी)** श्रीमान्, अभी तीन मिनट नहीं हुए हैं।

**श्री उपसभापति :** नहीं, आपको तीन मिनट नहीं दिए गए हैं।

**श्री कलराज मिश्र :** श्रीमान्, अधिकारियों ने उनकी बात अनसुनी कर दी। परिणाम यह हुआ कि भगदड़ मची, लोगों ने पथराव करना शुरू किया और हवाई फायरिंग नहीं हुई, बाकायदा गोली चलाई गई। उसमें 4 लोगों के मौत की अपुष्ट सूचना है, लेकिन एक की मृत्यु हो गई, ऐसा वहां के जिलाधिकारी ने बताया है।

श्रीमान्, दूसरा पक्ष यह है कि भगदड़ शुरू हो जाने के बाद वहां जो न्यायालय था, उसे लोगों ने जला डाला और कई वाहनों को फूंक डाला। वहां 4-5 घंटे तक अराजकता का माहौल बना रहा। उत्तर प्रदेश की पुलिस एक तरफ हो गई, सेना के अधिकारी एक तरफ हो गए, जिसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि नौजवानों ने बिल्कुल खुले तौर पर उपद्रव किया और एनएच को भी रोक डाला। किसी ने उनको नियंत्रित करने की कोशिश नहीं की। अगर दोनों का तालमेल बनाकर यह कार्य किया गया होता, तो शायद ऐसी स्थिति पैदा नहीं होती।

श्रीमान्, मेरा कहना केवल इतना है कि सेना में युवकों का जाना आवश्यक है। इसके लिए लगातार भर्ती की प्रक्रिया होनी चाहिए और जिला स्तर पर अभियान चलाकर पूरे देश भर में नौजवानों की भर्ती के लिए योजना बननी चाहिए एवं उसके लिए केन्द्र खुलने चाहिए। यह क्रम लगातार होना चाहिए, प्रतिवर्ष होना चाहिए, ताकि इस प्रकार के हादसे न हो सकें।

महोदय, इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस मामले की उच्चस्तरीय जांच होनी चाहिए और जो मारे गए हैं, उनको निश्चित रूप से पांच लाख से दस लाख रुपये मुआवजे के रूप में दिए जाने चाहिए।

#### Reported Shifting of Patna BHEL office to Durgapur in West Bengal

**श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार):** महोदय, पटना में पावर प्लांट से संबंधित BHEL की एक इकाई है, लेकिन उसको वहां से शिफ्ट करके दुर्गापुर ले लाया जा रहा है।

महोदय, हम आपको बताना चाहते हैं कि जो बरौनी और कांटी थर्मल पावर स्टेशन हैं, वहां अभी 800 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से उनके रेनोवेशन का काम चल रहा है। क्या तुक है कि इसी बीच में इस पावर प्लांट यूनिट को पटना से उठा करके दुर्गापुर ले जाया जाए। यह क्या साजिश है? क्या आप चाहते हैं कि बिहार में आज जो बिजली का संकट है, बिजली की scarcity है, उसको और भी गहरा बना दिया जाए? हर स्टेट में इस तरह का एक सर्विस सेंटर होता है। बंगाल में ऑलरेडी एक सेंटर है। दुर्गापुर को आप एक और सर्विस सेंटर देना चाहते हैं, तो दे दीजिए, हम लोगों को कोई एतराज नहीं है, लेकिन बिहार से उठा करके आप उस सर्विस सेंटर को क्यों वहां पर ले जा रहे हैं?

महोदय, इसके कारण पटना में आंदोलन हो रहा है। कांटी, मुजफ्फरपुर और पूरे बिहार में इसके लिए आंदोलन हो रहा है। लोग धरने पर बैठे हुए हैं, प्रदर्शन कर रहे हैं। यह एक उकसाने वाली बात है क्योंकि पहले से वहां पर विकास का काम हो रहा है और बहुत मुश्किल से वह एक ट्रैक पर आया, जिससे लोगों ने चैन की सांस ली। भारत सरकार आखिर क्या चाहती है? वह क्यों वहां पर डिस्टर्बेंस पैदा करना चाहती है? अगर आप ऐसा करते हैं तो उससे इम्प्लॉइमेंट के जो ऐवीन्यूज बनते हैं, उन पर भी इसका असर पड़ने वाला है और जो राजस्व की प्राप्ति होती है, उस पर भी इसका एडवर्स इफैक्ट पड़ेगा।

महोदय, इसलिए हम कहना चाहते हैं कि केन्द्र सरकार इस तरह की हरकत से बाज आए, वरना हम लोग इस बात को कतई बर्दाश्त नहीं करेंगे। सरकार की तरफ से मंत्री महोदय जवाब दें और इस सदन को आश्वासन दें कि वह ऐसा काम नहीं करेंगे और उसे वहां से उठा करके शिफ्ट नहीं किया जाएगा।

**श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार):** महोदय, मैं इनका समर्थन करता हूं। इस पर मंत्री महोदय से जवाब दिलाया जाए।

**श्री एन.के. सिंह (बिहार):** महोदय, मैं भी इनका समर्थन करता हूं।

**डा. सी.पी. ठाकुर (बिहार):** महोदय, मैं भी इनका समर्थन करता हूं।

#### Regional imbalance in the distribution of natural gas

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of this august House to the fact that the Government of India has gone on record rightly in asserting that the country's natural gas reserves including the gas of KG Basin is a national asset and the interest of the national economy cannot be held hostage to the benevolence and mercy of some private players. This had been widely reported in the media yesterday. I highly appreciate, and welcome such firm assertion by the Government of India and also by the hon. Minister who is sitting over here. Such a firm assertion, if we have to remain consistent with, needs urgent action in the matter of a proper, transparent and rational pricing and, at the same time, a proper distribution mechanism under the control of the State. Sir, natural gas is our property; it is

growing in our land and there is, absolutely, no justification of pricing the product linked with the international price of altogether a different product, the crude oil. This is being done by the empowered group of Ministers, raising the price to US \$ 4.32 per MMSCMD. I demand this is not rational and that must be reviewed downwards and revised if this national asset, as rightly said, is to be properly harnessed for national goal.

Sir my second point relates to distribution. Sir, my State West Bengal and the entire Eastern region is gas starved. They are being made to use costlier LPG for their public transport instead of CNG. So, I demand to have a proper distribution. The Southern Region is also suffering from that. So, Sir, in the face of the surreptitious and unauthorised bid of appropriating country's sovereign natural resources as family property — these are all coinage from the Government statement — by some private players, the need of the hour — and I demand — is a Government takeover, rather, nationalisation of the distribution and marketing of natural gas, including that of KG-D6 basin by the Government. We welcome the announcement of the Government to have a National Gas Grid. So, that National Gas Grid has to be put in place. The distribution and marketing of natural gas at the wellhead must be taken over by the Government and operated through that National Grid, as is being done in the case of electricity by the Power Grid Corporation of India. Then only, this vital national asset can be properly harnessed. Thank you, Sir.

#### **Flood situation in Kerala**

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

I would like to draw the attention of the House to the serious flood situation in Kerala. During the past 24 hours, eight persons have died in monsoon-related disaster. With that, the total number of people killed during the monsoon in the State has risen to 96. In a primary assessment, the loss would run into more than Rs. 300 crores, around 650 houses have collapsed totally and 1500 houses have collapsed partially. The heavy rain has caused damage to agriculture crops of more than 2000 hectares; 10,000 people have been shifted to relief camps in various parts of the State. The State Government has initiated relief programme in an urgent manner.

So, I request the Central Government, to sanction immediate debt relief to the State of Kerala. It was a normal practice that a Central Team is sent only after sometime, after the disaster occurs. So, I urge the Central Government to send a special team to the State of Kerala urgently to assess the damage caused by heavy rain and flood, etc. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kurien, associate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Kerala): Sir, I always associate with whatever would be said, but this being such a serious subject, Sir, nearly 100 people died due to flood that is there for the last two-three days in Kerala. Then, loss to the cultivation is more than 10,000 hectares and Rs. 300 crores is the estimated loss. What I want is, the Government of India should immediately intervene and release assistance to the State of Kerala. That's all.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with it.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with it.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with it.

**श्री भगवती सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) :** महोदय, मैं अपने को इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All associate.

#### **Reported scam in rice import**

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I am raising an issue which is very important. The Outlook journal and some other journals have reported a newsitem regarding the export of rice to the African countries which appears to be a very big scam. The Government of India banned the export of non-basmati rice in 2007. Subsequently, we witnessed a steep rise in the rice prices in the international market. More than 20 African nations have been exempted from the ban. On their requests, some of these countries named some private traders such as a Delhi-based company, Amira Foods (India) Limited and another Delhi-based rice-exporting company Shivanth Rai Harnarain (India) Ltd. They were allowed to procure foodgrains at lower prices and to sell at higher prices, thereby making huge profits. Government did not procure it through the Food Corporation of India, and it did not transport it through the Shipping Corporation of India. These private traders were responsible for hoarding in the country, even hiking prices of food grains in the domestic market and weakening the public distribution system in the country. I think, both the Ministry of Food and Public Distribution and the Ministry of Commerce must be held responsible for such a situation. Now, there is an enquiry in Ghana, one of the African nations. The deal with another African nation, Sierra Leone, is shocking. Instead of the Letter of Credit coming from its Government, it came from a Switzerland based company called Novel Commodities. Going by the reports, it appears that the scam would run to the tune of Rs. 2500 crores. That is what the journals are reporting. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to order a thorough enquiry and this loot must be exposed. Those who are responsible for such a scam and loot must be prosecuted and punished because at the time when our Government, the Congress-led UPA Government, has been talking about food security and bringing a legislation on food security, you cannot allow these private traders to loot not only India, but also other countries. It is a shame on India. Such scams should not happen. I appeal to the entire House to demand from the Government, in one voice, to order an enquiry.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

DR. CHANDAN MITRA (Nominated): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. Shri Balbir Punj.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ (Orissa): Mr. Deputy Chairman Sir, I am grateful to you for having allowed us to raise this very important issue. The issue has been raised at two levels. First, the latest issue of a very prestigious magazine of India, Outlook, which Mr. Raja has referred to, has detailed the entire issue, to the last comma. Secondly, the scam, as it happened in the case of Bofors, did not break in India. The story first broke out in Ghana, one of the countries involved, where the earlier regime had been the beneficiary of the loot which originated in this country. And after the earlier Government demitted office, the subsequent Government conducted an inquiry and when the then Deputy Prime Minister of Ghana was investigating, it turned out that he got involved with an export house called Amira Exports of India, and made a request to the Government of India for the import of rice at concessional price. Rice export was banned in India; but a loophole was kept. Prices were allowed to increase in India from three hundred and odd dollars to almost one thousand dollars in the international market. Now, two things happened. One, after the export was banned, prices in India got depressed and prices in the international market sky-rocketed. The Ghana Government placed an order on Amira Exports. The three public sector undertakings, the STC, the PEC and the MMTC, which are governed by the Commerce Ministry and were under the charge of Mr. Kamal Nath at that point of time, were asked not to get into this and to, instead, just nominate Amira Exports and this entire shipment was made. But it never reached Ghana. And, it is not only Ghana, similar deals were made with twenty other countries also. The foodgrains and the rice never reached the target countries and, instead, those foodgrains and rice were sold on the high seas at a very high price. Two consequences followed. One, unscrupulous traders in India, the highest levels in the Government, of bureaucracy — and I am not hinting at the political bosses — made a killing and the amount, as has been mentioned by Shri Raja and estimated by the Outlook magazine, is Rs.2,500 crores.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Point number two, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... It will not be recorded. ...*(Interruptions)*... It will not be recorded. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: \*

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: I am associating with him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Sir, it is very important. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Both the hon. Members have clearly made their points. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, it is for the Government to take note of it. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Please associate. ...*(Interruptions)*.. You have made your points. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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\*Not recorded.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: \*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please associate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I am associating with it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर** (महाराष्ट्र) : सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री विक्रम वर्मा** (मध्य प्रदेश) : सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**डा. सी.पी. ठाकुर** (बिहार) : सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री शान्ता कुमार** (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि** (उड़ीसा) : सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ। मैं तो आगे जाकर कहता हूँ ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह दूसरा बोफोर्स कांड है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: I just want to make one point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You just associate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: I am associating. The main point is that the Government gave grains at PDS prices. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is the issue. They gave it at PDS prices. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, we associate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are other ways of raising it and seeking the Government's response. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please do it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: They gave it at subsidised prices. ...*(Interruptions)*... Can you imagine? ...*(Interruptions)*... It is given at PDS prices. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It has been said. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is no point in saying it again. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now we are taking up Special Mentions. The legislative business will be taken up at 2 o'clock. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: We want a statement from the Government. It is very serious. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ahluwalia, the Government ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: It is a serious issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government should come out with a statement. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: They gave it at PDS prices. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is this? ...*(Interruptions)*... There is a procedure for Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, it is a serious issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the Minister respond. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the Minister respond. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री उपसभापति** : आप बैठिए। आप सब के उठ कर खड़े हो जाने से क्या रिस्पांस मिलेगा? ...*(व्यवधान)*... आपकी तरफ से आपके डिप्टी लीडर बोल रहे हैं। अगर आप सब उठ कर खड़े हो जाएंगे तो क्या होगा?

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\*Not recorded.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; THE 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, there is an agreement that we don't respond immediately to Zero Hour mentions. I have taken note of the issues raised by the hon. Members. I will bring it to the attention of the Government.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we are taking up Special Mentions, as a special case, because there is still time left. The legislative business will be taken up at 2 o'clock.

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : दो बजे से ...(व्यवधान)... मंत्री तैयार थे, मगर ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठिए न। इसमें विवाद किस बात का है? ...(व्यवधान)...

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#### SPECIAL MENTIONS

##### Demand to resolve the plight of Indians working in Spain

SHRI AVTAR SINGH KARIMPURI (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House to an issue of public importance concerning the plight of over 5000 Indians, majority of them from Punjab, who are earning their livelihood by working in Spain in the hotel industry, agricultural and piggery farms. But their livelihood is at stake due to the changes made by the Spanish Government in the immigration rules by stipulating that the immigrants have to produce Police Clearance Certificate (PCC) issued by the Union Government of the country of the immigrant for permanent immigration purposes.

But this long pending demand of the immigrants for getting the PCC from the Union Home Ministry in New Delhi was not heeded to and they had to stage a protest *dharna* outside the Indian Consulate in Barcelona on Monday. They have also been compelled to launch a hunger strike in front of Indian Embassy in Madrid.

I request the Union Home Ministry to immediately address the needs of Indians working in Spain by issuing the said Police Clearance Certificate immediately by amending its rules. I also request the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) to intervene in this matter and direct the Indian High Commission in Spain to liaise with the Spanish Government through diplomatic channel to protect the rights of Indians working there immediately.

सरदार तरलोचन सिंह (हरियाणा) : सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको संबद्ध करता हूँ।

##### Demand to give fertilizer subsidy to farmers directly

श्री मोती लाल वोरा : उपसभापति महोदय, मेरे विशेष उल्लेख का विषय है - खाद सब्सिडी सीधे किसानों को दिया जाना।

महोदय, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्रालय द्वारा वर्तमान में सब्सिडी का 80 प्रतिशत भाग संबंधित उर्वरक उत्पादन करने वाली कम्पनियों को सीधे दिया जा रहा है और मात्र 20 प्रतिशत भाग राज्य सरकारों की जांच रिपोर्ट आने के बाद दिया जाता है। दुखद स्थिति यह है कि निजी उर्वरक कम्पनियों द्वारा जाली दावे बनाकर रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्रालय से सब्सिडी ली जा रही है, जबकि वास्तव में उनमें से अधिकांश का अस्तित्व ही नहीं है।

Economic Offence Wing (EOW) द्वारा की गई जांच के समय न तो इन कंपनियों ने अपने उर्वरक उत्पादन संबंधी कोई दस्तावेज प्रस्तुत किए और कई स्थानों पर तो तथाकथित कंपनियों का अस्तित्व ही नहीं था। इस प्रकार उर्वरक उत्पादक कम्पनी के नाम पर सरकारी धन की खुलकर लूट की जा रही है। EOW की जांच में यह भी एक खुलासा हुआ है कि जो कुछ उर्वरक की आपूर्ति की भी गई, वह दुपाहिया या तिपाहिया वाहन के द्वारा की गई तथा उसे सरकारी दस्तावेजों में ट्रक दर्शाया गया। EOW के अनुसार प्रतिवर्ष केवल उत्तर प्रदेश में ही 1200 करोड़ का घोटाला है तथा पूरे देश में लगभग 1,20,000 करोड़ का है।

मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि उर्वरक कम्पनियों को दी जाने वाली सब्सिडी पर तत्काल प्रभाव से रोक लगाई जाए, कम्पनियों को अब तक दी गई सब्सिडी की जांच कराई जाए तथा सब्सिडी सीधे किसानों को उपलब्ध कराई जाए।

**श्री महेन्द्र मोहन** (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं अपने आपको श्री वीरा जी के स्पेशल मेशन के साथ एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

**Demand to Expedite Completion of National Highway No: 16 by The Border Roads Organisation connecting Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh**

**श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास** (छत्तीसगढ़) : उपसभापति महोदय, मेरे स्पेशल मेशन का विषय है — सीमा सड़क संगठन छत्तीसगढ़ व आंध्र प्रदेश को शीघ्र जोड़े।

महोदय, सभी जानते हैं कि छत्तीसगढ़ व आंध्र सर्वाधिक नक्सल प्रभावित हैं। छत्तीसगढ़ में बस्तर के केन्द्र जगदलपुर से आंध्र के निजामाबाद तक का राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग क्रमांक 16 का काम सीमा-सड़क संगठन को 2001 में दिया गया था। निर्माण कार्य की धीमी गति होने के कारण वह निर्धारित अवधि, यानी 2010 तक पूरा होता नहीं दिखता। क्षेत्र के नक्सल ग्रस्त होने के कारण साधारण ठेकेदार उसे कर भी नहीं सकते। चूंकि सड़क निर्माण क्षेत्र की सुरक्षा व विकास के लिए शीघ्रतिशीघ्र आवश्यक है, मेरा सरकार से आग्रह है कि वह सीमा सड़क संगठन को न केवल काम पर बनाए रखे वरन् उसके काम में आ रहे अवरोधों को भी दूर करे।

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि** (उड़ीसा) : महोदय, मैं श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास जी के इस विशेष उल्लेख को एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

**Demand to take steps to make River Ram Ganga free of pollution**

**श्री वीर पाल सिंह यादव** (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं इस विशेष उल्लेख के माध्यम से रामगंगा नदी के प्रदूषण के विषय में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ।

महोदय, रामगंगा नदी उत्तराखंड के कालागढ़ बांध से निकलकर उत्तर प्रदेश के जनपद मुरादाबाद, रामपुर, बरेली के शाहजहांपुर होते हुए फर्रुखाबाद जनपद में गंगा नदी में मिल जाती है। उक्त नदी में उक्त जनपदों में रहने वाली जनता की उतनी ही आस्था है, जिस तरह से आम जन की गंगा नदी में आस्था है, वहां दशहरा व पूर्णिमा को

गंगा स्नान करते हैं, परन्तु इस नदी में जनपद मुरादाबाद, जे.पी. नगर, रामपुर व बरेली की कई फैक्ट्रियों का गन्दा व प्रदूषित पानी व उक्त शहरों के गन्दे नाले मिलकर हालत यह बना देते हैं कि उक्त आस्था की नदी भी नाला बन जाती है और उसका पानी इतना प्रदूषित हो जाता है कि स्नान करने मात्र से चर्मरोग हो सकते हैं व उसका पानी जंगली अथवा पालतू जानवर पी लेते हैं तो वह मर जाते हैं। राम गंगा के खादर में रहने वाले हजारों पशु-पक्षी इसका पानी पीने से मौत का शिकार हो चुके हैं व इसके आसपास उगने वाली वनस्पति व पेड़-पौधे भी नष्ट हो गए हैं और आगे जाकर यह नदी गंगा नदी को भी प्रदूषित करती है।

अतः मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि उक्त रामगंगा नदी को स्वच्छ बनाने की कृपा करें, जिससे वहां की जनता की आस्था को ठेस न पहुंचे। धन्यवाद।

**श्री महेन्द्र मोहन** (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं अपने आपको श्री यादव जी के स्पेशल मेशन के साथ एसोसिएट करता हूं।

**Demand for early completion of railway projects in tribal areas of Orissa particularly in Mayurbhanj district**

SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI (Orissa): Sir, in the Railway Budget, 2009-2010, presented by the Government, the people of Mayurbhanj District of Orissa State have been neglected, as the tribal people of this region have got nothing.

During NDA regime, only a major work of broad gauge line conversion from Rupsa to Bangariposi was sanctioned which is also pending. Now, therefore, the people of the tribal dominated area of Mayurbhanj District of Orissa have four major demands. Firstly, the super fast train from Baripada to Bhubaneswar has to be extended up to Puri. At present, there is no AC coach in this train. So, the demand is that AC coach has to be provided in the train. Secondly, there is an urgent need of a passenger train from Baripada to Howrah, a big market in Kolkata, for business class people. Third demand is construction of a new line from Baripada to Jamshedpur via Gorumahisani, which will be a major support for this area's development, and, fourth is that the Tata-Badampahar rail line should be extended up to Keonjhar.

I, therefore, request the Government to take immediate steps to fulfil the above mentioned demands of the people of Orissa.

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY (Orissa): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

**Request to encourage the development of Life Sciences Laboratories of DRDO**

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the unsung and often underestimated contribution of the nine life-sciences laboratories of DRDO in providing protection to our Armed Forces against hazardous environment. The mandate of these DRDO labs is to enhance survivability, sustainability, efficiency and lethality of our 13 million soldiers operating in extreme environmental conditions. Out of the total Defence R&D

Budget of Rs. 6,000 crores, the share of the life sciences laboratories is meagre one per cent of this amount. The life sciences laboratories of DRDO have developed composite herbal preparation to supplement nutritional requirements as also the treatment of high altitude maladies and cold injuries to enhance survivability. A path-breaking research has led to improvement of blood oxygen level and has saved more than 500 lives of the troops in extreme high altitude areas. With high altitude agriculture, 4000 metric tonnes of fresh vegetables have been produced, catering to 56 per cent of total requirements of the troops in western Himalayas. Considering the steep freight charges of transporting vegetables, it is a saving for the exchequer. About Rs. 400 crore worth nuclear-biological-chemical products, developed with a meagre investment of Rs. 30 crore by these laboratories, have been inducted into the services. The processed food technologies developed for soldiers have also been transferred to food processing industries in civil sector as spin off. Considering the handicap, our forces would have to suffer without these products. I, therefore, request the Government to see that instead of dismantling, these institutions should be further developed and strengthened.

**Demand for Central assistance to save the State of Nagaland  
from drought like conditions**

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI (Nagaland): Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government towards the drought-like condition in the State of Nagaland.

Sir, the current monsoon season has recorded the lowest rainfall during the last five years in the State of Nagaland. The unprecedented drought situation has adversely affected the current season's paddy transplantation as well as *jhum* cultivation, which is entirely dependent on seasonal rains. The horticulture crops have failed to flower with reports of unusual pest and insect infestation. Like other parts of the country, Nagaland is also facing a very high monsoon deficit. Against an average rainfall of 750.50 mm normally received during the period from January to 15th July, only 471.18 mm of rainfall has been received this year, indicating a deficit of about one-third. This has already affected 25 per cent of *Jhum* cultivation and 50 per cent of Wet cultivation. Normal life in the State has also been severely affected, with more and more people afflicted with drought-related diseases and sickness. Many have lost their livelihood because agricultural activities have come to a standstill. Due to a lack of enough fodder, the livestock are also dying. Crops have failed and a possible famine and shortage of food are looming large in the State.

Keeping in view the grave situation arising out of the drought-hit conditions, the State Government had already declared the State as a 'drought-hit' State for the current season. The State Government has set up State-level and District-level Task forces to assess the situation and provide relief to the affected people.

Sir, the situation is somewhat alarming, and intervention of the Central Government is absolutely necessary for providing relief and rehabilitation to the drought-affected people of the State. Short-term measures for providing immediate relief and long-term measures like providing irrigation facilities, borewells, etc., have to be given top priority to prevent such situations in future.

I, therefore, appeal to the Central Government, through you, Sir, to come to the rescue of the State Government and the affected people of Nagaland which will go a long way in tiding over the current situation in the State.

**Demand to provide additional stipend to trainee doctors in  
entire country, particularly Tamil Nadu**

SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would like to request the Central Government to provide additional stipend to the trainee doctors since the stipend provided by some State Governments is meagre. In Tamil Nadu, the provision of stipend for trainee doctors is so meagre that last week it resulted in a serious situation when trainee doctors went on an indefinite hunger strike unto death. In general, engineering courses with lesser capitation fee and time period for the completion of the course, and good employment opportunities with higher salary are treated as profit-oriented professional courses. But medical graduation has five-and-a-half years of duration with unimaginable capitation fee and additional education expenditure. It is also treated as a life-saving professional course with the motto of 'serving the society without any parity'. So, it is the duty of the Government to give more importance to medical students. Presently, the stipend provided in some States, especially Tamil Nadu, is not adequate in comparison to the huge expenditure, duration of course and the never-ending service. Last week, this provision of low stipend forced the trainee doctors to undertake indefinite hunger strike unto death. Many hospitals in Tamil Nadu were running without trainee doctors, especially the outpatients in Government hospitals were facing severe difficulty due to this strike. So, I urge the Government that it is its duty to consider to provide additional stipend in addition to the State Governments', keeping in view the service of the doctors who studied medical courses by spending a huge amount of money and longer duration.

SHRI S. ANBALAGAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI A. ELAVARASAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

**Demand for strict regulations to control the confusing publications  
brought out by private publishers for children**

**श्री कलराज मिश्र** (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपकी विशेष अनुमति से इस विषय को सदन में उठाना चाहता हूँ। देश में प्राइवेट प्रकाशकों की किताबें बच्चों में भ्रम पैदा करने के साथ-साथ वर्णमाला के ज्ञान की जगह उनके बालमन को सिनेमा की ओर धकेल रही हैं। उक्त वर्णमाला में "ऋ" से ऋषि की जगह ऋतिक रोशन और "ऐ" से ऐनक की जगह ऐश्वर्या राय पढ़ाया जा रहा है तथा उनका चित्र भी उक्त पुस्तक की वर्णमाला के क्रम में प्रकाशित है। प्रकाशकों की लापरवाही यहीं नहीं रुकती है बल्कि महान वैज्ञानिक जगदीश चन्द्र बोस की

जन्मतिथि को लेकर भी भ्रम पैदा कर रही है। एक प्रकाशक द्वारा 2004-05 के संस्करण में उनकी जन्मतिथि 30 नवम्बर 1858 तथा 2008-09 के संस्करण में 13 नवम्बर 1858 दर्शायी गयी है। छात्र किस जन्मतिथि को सही मानें?

केन्द्रीय मान्यता प्राप्त और राज्य सरकारों की मान्यता के अधीन संचालित विद्यालयों के प्रबंधकों द्वारा एनसीईआरटी की पुस्तकों की कमी का बहाना बनाकर प्राइवेट प्रकाशकों की किताबें स्कूल में पढ़ायी जाती हैं और अभिभावकों का शोषण किया जाता है।

मैं सदन के माध्यम से मांग करता हूँ कि उसके ऊपर प्रभावी निगरानी रखी जाए तथा शिक्षा के साथ खिलवाड़ करने वाले प्रकाशकों को दंडित किया जाए।

**Demand to Amend Section 304-A of Indian Penal Code in view  
of various tragedies caused due to negligence**

**श्री महेन्द्र मोहन** (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, उपहार सिनेमा हाल त्रासदी पीड़ित संघ ने गत शुक्रवार, दिनांक 10 जुलाई, 2009 को राष्ट्रपति महोदय को एक ज्ञापन दिया है जिसमें यह मांग की गई है कि अगर कोई आदमी अपने कार्य से बहुत से आदमियों के जीवन को खतरे में डालता है तो इस तरह के अपराध की जांच और न्यायाधिक कार्यवाही के लिए एक नया कानून होना चाहिए। यह ज्ञापन उन घटनाओं को मद्देनजर रख कर दिया गया है जिसमें मनुष्य ने अपने लालच और लापरवाही से हजारों लोगों की जान ली। भोपाल गैस त्रासदी में 1000 लोगों की जानें गयीं, हरियाणा डबवाली में 452 आग की लपटों में झुलस कर मर गए, उपहार सिनेमा त्रासदी में 59 लोगों ने जानें गवायीं, प्राइमरी के 90 बच्चे कुम्भकोणम में आग की लपटों में समा गए और मेरठ के विक्टोरिया पार्क के मेले में 59 आदमी मर गए। ये सभी घटनाएं मैनमेड हैं, मनुष्य की गलतियों का नतीजा हैं। इन त्रासदियों से हमने कुछ नहीं सीखा और सब कुछ ज्यों का त्यों चल रहा है। इन घटनाओं के जिम्मेदार रहे कितने व्यक्तियों को सजा मिली? इस समय के कानून के अनुसार इस तरह के जुर्म करने वाले व्यक्ति पर भारतीय दंड संहिता की धारा 304-क के तहत मुकदमा चलाया जाता है जो लापरवाही से किसी व्यक्ति की मृत्यु होने पर लगता है। यह कानून व्यवस्था का मजाक है कि जिस व्यक्ति ने अपना पैसा बचाने और लालच के चलते सैकड़ों आदमियों की जान ली, उस पर सिर्फ लापरवाही का मुकदमा हो जिसकी सजा सिर्फ दो साल है। 1860 में बनी भारतीय दंड संहिता में इस तरह के अपराधों का कोई प्रावधान नहीं है। 304-क एक साधारण प्रावधान है जो कहीं भी लगा दिया जाता है। आवश्यकता है कि हम इस colonial कानून से बाहर आकर सोचें और इस विषय पर एक सख्त कानून बनाएं। अतः मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध है कि इस दिशा में उचित कदम उठाए और आवश्यक कार्यवाही करें।

**Concern over widespread poverty and malnutrition in the country**

**DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE (Maharashtra):** Sir, India aspires to be an economic world power. Despite recession and meltdown, our economy is not threatened. The Economic Survey 2008-09 paints a very rosy picture of India. But, the other side is dismal and dark. We have 260 million under-nourished people in India. They constitute 27 per cent of the world's under-nourished. About 46 per cent children under three years suffer from malnutrition. Hunger and disease are our greatest enemies.

What is the root cause of this malady? It is, of course, poverty and inequality. Poverty and inequality have been our age-old curse. They are responsible, by and large, for malnutrition,

unemployment and health problems. We have failed in providing the basic needs of life.

Small children in *adivasi* and remote areas suffer from hunger and malnutrition. The Government of India has passed the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act which ensures employment to the BPL families for one hundred days in a year. But, this is not enough. Like primary education, work also should be made compulsory. It should be a Fundamental Right.

The labour classes can hardly meet their basic needs. Can we think of an inclusive society in such a situation? Unless we generate employment in rural sector, we cannot give justice to the poor people. It is said that India is the richest nation of the poorest of the poor. It should be a welfare nation and we have to take care of that. Thank you, Sir.

SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH (Haryana): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Dr. Janardhan Waghmare.

#### **Demand to give dalit muslims the status of scheduled castes**

**डा. ऐजाज़ अली** (बिहार) : महोदय, दलित मुसलमानों अरज़ाल को अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल करने की मांग गत डेढ़ दशक से की जा रही है। सच्चर कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार अरज़ाल मुस्लिमों की जनसंख्या का लगभग 0.8 प्रतिशत है। इस समुदाय की शैक्षिक, आर्थिक एवं सामाजिक स्थिति अत्यंत दयनीय है। यद्यपि 1936 से 1950 तक इसाई समुदाय को छोड़ बाकी सभी धर्म में दलितों को अनुसूचित जाति का दर्जा हासिल था। राष्ट्रपति आदेश 1950 द्वारा इसे केवल हिन्दू-दलितों के लिए सीमित कर दिया गया और मुस्लिम, सिख तथा बौद्ध धर्मों के दलितों को इस दर्जे से वंचित कर दिया गया। दलित मुस्लिम (अरज़ाल) को अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल करने की संस्तुति सच्चर कमेटी के अतिरिक्त रंगनाथ मिश्र आयोग, राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जाति आयोग एवं राष्ट्रीय अल्पसंख्यक आयोग ने भी की है। ज्ञात हो कि 1950 के प्रेसीडेंशियल आर्डर में बाद में दो बार संशोधन किया गया है, जिसके द्वारा 1956 में सिख दलितों को एवं 1990 में नवबुद्धिष्ट को अनुसूचित जाति में दोबारा शामिल कर लिया गया। परन्तु दलित मुस्लिम (अरज़ाल) को आज तक शामिल नहीं किया गया है, जबकि 1950 के पहले सिख एवं बौद्ध की तरह वे भी अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल थे। महोदय, दलित मुस्लिमों को अनुसूचित जाति में रखने का प्रश्न केन्द्रीय काबीना में विचाराधीन है। सभी प्रमुख संवैधानिक निकायों ने अरज़ाल को अनुसूचित जाति में रखने की सिफारिश की है। फिर भी इस पर कोई निर्णय नहीं हो पा रहा है।

महोदय, मेरा सरकार से निवेदन है कि दलित मुसलमान (अरज़ाल) को अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल करने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार प्रेसीडेंशियल आर्डर 1950 में संशोधन करते हुए उसमें हिन्दू, सिख एवं नव-बौद्ध के साथ मुस्लिम शब्द को भी जोड़े, जिससे केवल 0.8 परसेंट जनसंख्या वाले इस वर्ग को भी अपना शैक्षिक, आर्थिक एवं सामाजिक स्तर सुधारने का अवसर मिले, ताकि वे भी सम्मान से अपनी जिंदगी गुजार सकें और अन्य धर्म के दलितों की तरह मुख्य धारा में शामिल होकर राष्ट्र निर्माण में सहयोग दे सकें। शुक्रिया।

ڈاکٹر اعجاز علی : مہودے، دلت مسلمانوں ارزال کو انوسوچت جاتی میں شامل کرنے کی مانگ پچھلے ڈیڑھ دسکوں سے کی جا رہی ہے۔ سچر کمیٹی کی رپورٹ کے مطابق ارزال مسلموں کی جن سنجہ کا لگ بھگ 0.8 فیصد ہے۔ اس سمودائے کی شیکشک، آرٹھک اور سماجک استھتی اتینت دینے ہے۔ یڈھپی 1936 سے 1950 تک عیسائی سمودائے کو چھوڑ کر باقی سبھی دھرم کے دلتوں کو انوسوچت جاتی کا درجہ حاصل تھا۔ راشٹر پتی آدیش 1950 دوارا اسے کیول بندو-دلتوں کے لئے سیمت کر دیا گیا اور مسلم، سکھ اور بودھ دھرموں کے دلتوں کو اس درجے سے ونچت کر دیا گیا۔ دلت مسلمان (ارزال) کو انوسوچت جاتی میں شامل کرنے کی سنستتی سچر کمیٹی کے اتیرکت رنگ ناتھن مشرا آیوگ، راشٹریہ انوسوچت جاتی آیوگ اور راشٹریہ الپ سنخیک آیوگ نے بھی کی ہے۔ گیات ہو کہ 1950 کے پریڈیٹیشنل آرڈر میں بعد میں دو بار سنشودھن کیا گیا ہے، جس کے دوارا 1956 میں سکھ دلتوں کو اور 1990 میں نو-بڈھشت کو انوسوچت جاتی میں دوبارہ شامل کر لیا گیا۔ پرنٹو دلت مسلم (ارزال) کو آج تک شامل نہیں کیا گیا ہے، جبکہ 1950 کے پہلے سکھ اور بودھ کی طرح وہ بھی انوسوچت جاتی میں شامل تھے۔ مہودے، دلت مسلموں کو انوسوچت جاتی میں رکھنے کا پرشن کیندریہ کابینہ میں وچارادھین ہے۔ سبھی پرمکھ سنودھاتک نکایوں نے ارزال کو انوسوچت جاتی میں رکھنے کی سفارش کی ہے۔ پھر بھی اس پر کوئی نرنٹے نہیں ہو پا رہا ہے۔

مہودے، میرا سرکار سے نویدن ہے کہ دلت مسلمان (ارزال) کو انوسوچت جاتی میں شامل کرنے کے لئے کیندر سرکار پریڈیٹیشنل آرڈر 1950 میں سنشودھن کرتے ہوئے اس میں بندو، سکھ اور نو-بودھ کے

ساتھ مسلم شہد کو بھی جوڑے، جس سے کیول 0-8 فیصد جن سنجھ والے اس ورگ کو بھی اپنا شیکشک، آرٹھک اور سماجک اسٹر سدھارنے کا اوسر ملے، تاکہ وہ بھی سمن سے اپنی زندگی گزار سکیں اور انٹے دھرم کے دلتوں کی طرح مکھنے دھارا میں شامل ہو کر راشٹریہ نرمان میں سہیوگ دے سکیں۔ شکریہ۔

**श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) :** महोदय, मैं अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

#### Demand to Stop Exploitation of Rare Medicinal Herbs in Himalayas

**श्री भगवती सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) :** महोदय, उत्तराखंड की हिमालयी पर्वतमाला आयुर्वेद औषधियों के लिए धनी क्षेत्र रहा है। सरकारी उदासीनता के कारण यह क्षेत्र उजड़ रहा है। अविवेकपूर्ण दोहन से वनों का जबरदस्त कटान और बिगड़ते हुए पर्यावरण ने संकट खड़ा कर दिया है। हिमालय से लेकर शिवालिक क्षेत्र में वैध और अवैध रूप से सैकड़ों ठेकेदार जड़ी-बूटी संग्रह में लगे हुए हैं। दवा निर्माता कंपनियां भी इस क्षेत्र में सक्रिय हैं। आयुर्वेद औषधियों तथा सौन्दर्य प्रसाधनों की बढ़ती हुई मांग के कारण तस्करी बड़ी पैमाने पर हो रही है। विदेशों में भी आयुर्वेद के प्रति आकर्षण बढ़ा है। इस कारण जड़ी-बूटियों की तमाम प्रजातियां संकटग्रस्त हैं। भारतीय वनस्पति सर्वेक्षण विभाग ने भी स्वीकार किया है कि जड़ी-बूटियों की करीब एक हजार प्रजातियों के मिलने का उल्लेख किया है, जिनमें तमाम प्रजातियां मिलती ही नहीं और 200 प्रजातियां विलुप्त अवस्था में हैं। हमारी सरकार से मांग है कि दुर्लभ जड़ी-बूटियों के भंडार को बचाने के लिए प्रभावकारी कदम उठाएं। धन्यवाद।

**श्री वीर पाल सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) :** महोदय, मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned for lunch till 2.00 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at fifty-five minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House re-assembled after lunch at two minutes past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

#### GOVERNMENT BILL

##### The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2008

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2008. Mr. Kapil Sibal to move the motion for consideration.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I beg to move:

That the Bill to provide for free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years, be taken into consideration.

*The question was proposed.*

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला (राजस्थान) :** सभापति महोदय, मंत्री जी ऐसा बिल लेकर आए हैं कि जिसको कोई oppose करेगा ही नहीं। बच्चों की तालीम को तो कोई oppose करेगा नहीं। जब मैं राज्य सभा में चेयर पर थी,

तब सन् 2002 में डा. मुरली मनोहर जोशी जी ने 80th अमेंडमेंट लाकर, इसको फंडामेंटल राइट से कांस्टीट्यूशन अमेंडमेंट चेंज में लेकर, फंडामेंटल राइट बनाया। इसलिए हम तो इसका oppose करेंगे ही नहीं। हमें दुख इस बात का है कि इसके आने में इतना वक्त क्यों लगा? यह बिल 2005 में आ जाना चाहिए था, मगर नहीं आया। मंत्री जी इसको 2005 में न लाकर अब लाए हैं। कोई बात नहीं, आप इसको लाए हैं, हमें इस बात की खुशी है। उपसभापति महोदय, मैं तो भोपाल में पैदा हुई हूँ। भोपाल में लड़कियों के लिए कोई एजुकेशन फीस नहीं थी। उनके लिए फ्री एजुकेशन थी। मंत्री जी, मैंने Ph. D तक एक पैसा खर्च नहीं किया। हम केवल पूअर स्टूडेंट्स फंड में पैसे देते थे। भोपाल की तारीख में चार महिलाएं रही हैं, जो वहां पर हुकूमत करती थीं। वे मुसलमाल औरतें थीं। जो वहां की आखिरी रानी सुलतानजहां बेगम थी, उनका ध्यान एजुकेशन और खासकर गर्ल्स एजुकेशन के ऊपर बहुत था। उन्होंने हिन्दुस्तान में शायद पहली बार लड़कियों को लिए जबरिया स्कूल, कम्पलसरी एजुकेशन का कंसेप्ट दिया, जो कि भोपाल में था। लड़कियों को घरों से ले जाकर स्कूल में दाखिल करा देते थे और उनके मां-बाप को stipend देते थे, ताकि वे कोई बहाना न करें कि ये घरों में काम करेंगी। उन्हें वजीफा दिया जाता था। मैं भी भोपाल में पैदा हुई, यह मेरी तकदीर थी, चूंकि मेरी दादी जी मौलाना अबुल कलाम आजाद की बहन थी, उनको सुलतानजहां बेगम भोपाल लेकर आईं। वे उतनी ही पढ़ी-लिखी थीं, जितने कि उनके भाई थे। उन्हें भोपाल लेकर आईं और लड़कियों की एजुकेशन का इंजार्च बनाया। उन्हीं के जमाने में भोपाल में लड़कियों के टेक्नीकल स्कूल खुले। हमारे घर का एजुकेशन से शुरू से ही ताल्लुक रहा है और उसी को अहमियत दी है। हमने लड़का-लड़की में कभी फर्क महसूस नहीं किया। मैं यहां मंत्री जी की बात से सहमत हूँ कि कुछ स्टेट्स ने इसे माना है, कुछ स्टेट्स ने इसे नहीं माना है। आपने जो युनिवर्सल एजुकेशन की बात कही है, वह बहुत सही है। आपने जो स्टैण्डेडाइजेशन और एग्जामिनेशन की बात कही है, वह बहुत सही कही है, क्योंकि कंपीटिशन में एक लेवल प्लेइंग ग्राउंड मिलना चाहिए। बहुत से लोगों ने इस पर एतराज किया है। बहुत सी स्टेट्स ने इसे नहीं माना है। वे यह समझते हैं कि इससे उनके जो एग्जामिनेशन बोर्ड्स हैं, उनकी वैल्यू खत्म हो जाएगी। मैं यह समझती हूँ कि यह बहुत जरूरी है कि मुल्क में युनिवर्सल एजुकेशन हो। 1948 में, शायद अप्रैल 27 या 28 को हिंदुस्तान के पहले एजुकेशन मिनिस्टर श्री मौलाना अबुल कलाम आजाद ने कांस्टीट्यूट असेम्बली को खत लिखा था। जब एजुकेशन की ग्रांट्स मांगी जा रही थीं, तब उन्होंने कांसेप्ट ऑफ युनिवर्सल एजुकेशन की बात कही थी। उन्होंने यह सोचा था, कहा था कि मुल्कआजादी के पहले जिन हालात से गुजरा है, जिस divisive और fissiparous tendency से गुजरा है, उस संदर्भ में यह बहुत जरूरी है कि देश की एकता और अखंडता को कामय रखने के लिए एक युनिवर्सल एजुकेशन होनी चाहिए। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि education should be treated on par with defence क्योंकि जब मुल्क पर कोई आपत्ति आती है, तो कहीं न कहीं से मुल्क अपनी हिफाजत के लिए साधन जोड़ लेता है, परंतु अफसोस की बात यह है कि ऐसा हो नहीं पाया। उन्होंने सेंटर-स्टेट के बारे में भी लिखा कि 30% सेंटर को स्टेट की मदद करनी चाहिए, परंतु वह भी हो नहीं पाया है। सर, सबसे अफसोस की बात यह है कि जब पहला ड्राफ्ट बना, जब हमने फाइव ईयर प्लान की नीति बनाई, तो जो फर्स्ट प्लान का ड्राफ्ट बना था, उस ड्राफ्ट के अंदर एजुकेशन का कोई जिक्र ही नहीं था। उसकी वजह यह बताई गई कि उसका क्विक रिटर्न नहीं होता है। यह अफसोस की बात है कि आजादी के बाद मुल्क क्विक रिटर्न की बात सोचे। आज जो एजुकेशन का वैश्वीकरण हो रहा है, जिसमें लोग कमा रहे हैं, उससे लोगों को क्विक रिटर्न मिल रहा है। प्राइवेट इंस्टीट्यूशन्स को मिल रहा है। ये लोग कैपिटेशंस फीस ज्यादा लगाकर

बच्चों से फीस ज्यादा भरकर चला रहे हैं। मैं एलिमेंट्री एजुकेशन पर एक आर्टिकल पढ़ रही थी। जब मैं अमरीका में शिकागो में युनिवर्सिटी की कांफ्रेंस में गई थी, तो वहां मैंने इंटरनेट पर आर्टिकल पढ़ा और मुझे खुशी हुई कि कपिल सिब्बल साहब ने एजुकेशन के स्टैंडर्ड बढ़ाने के लिए फॉरेन युनिवर्सिटी के साथ कॉ-ऑपरेशन की बात कही है। इस पर लोगों ने एतराज क्यों किया, यह मुझे समझ नहीं आया। बाद में खबर आई कि आपने उसे ठंड बस्ते में डाल दिया है। आपने युनिवर्सल एजुकेशन की बात कही, उस पर एशियन एज में मैंने एक आर्टिकल पढ़ा "Sibal's reforms must pass language test." यह पूरा आर्टिकल पॉजिटिव है। जहां इस आर्टिकल में आपकी तारीफ की है, वहां एक बात और भी कही है कि प्रो. यशपाल की कमेटी की जो रिपोर्ट थी, इसमें उसका भी जिक्र है और language के बारे में बात की है। यह बात ठीक है कि हमारे मुल्क में जो provinces बनीं, स्टेट्स बनीं, वे language की बुनियाद पर बनीं। यह बड़े फख्र की बात है कि हमारे मुल्क में इतनी जबानें हैं। सिब्बल साहब, आप आज व्हेश्चन ऑवर में नहीं थे, यहां तकरीबन एक हंगामे का माहौल पैदा हो गया था। वह कोई हिन्दी, अंग्रेजी या तमिल की लड़ाई नहीं है। अंग्रेजी हमारी, कहिए, मजबूरी है; अंग्रेजी हमारी जरूरत है और अंग्रेजी हमारी strength भी है। उसका कोई झगड़ा नहीं था, मगर सवाल उठाया गया कि अंग्रेजी में जवाब दे रहे हैं, वह हिन्दी में देते। उस पर शायद तमिल के लोग सोचें कि तमिल के खिलाफ है। जहां अंग्रेजी-हिन्दी की बात है, Tamil has nothing to do with it because Tamil is a very rich language and we are proud of the fact that we have so many language in our country. Every time I travel abroad I carry one or two small currency notes to see how many languages we have in our country. न सिर्फ हमारे मुल्क में अलग-अलग जबानें हैं, बल्कि लिपियां भी हैं। They are languages with their own scripts. We are proud of it. मंत्री जी, मैं समझती हूं कि elementary education mother tongue में देनी चाहिए, मादरे जबान में elementary education देनी चाहिए। जब बच्चा पैदा होता है और अपनी mother tongue में बोलता है, तो उसको grammar नहीं सीखनी पड़ती। वह खुद-ब-खुद सही grammar बोलता है, सही tense बोलता है, सही gender बोलता है। मैं अपनी मिसाल दूं। मैंने मैट्रिक तक उर्दू में तालीम हासिल की। मुझे इस बात का फ़ख्र है कि मैंने अपनी मादरे जबान में तालीम हासिल की। But, English is a strong subject. I studied it as a language. मैट्रिक के बाद जब मैंने कालेज/यूनिवर्सिटी में switch over किया, तो मुझे कोई तकलीफ नहीं हुई, मुझे कोई problem नहीं हुई। My record is that I was a first-class throughout and I topped in my post-graduation in my university. जब 22 साल की उम्र में मैंने अपनी PhD की डिग्री ली, तो मैंने अंग्रेजी में अपनी thesis submit की। अंग्रेजी से कोई लड़ाई नहीं है, मगर सवाल यह होता है कि जब हम अपनी मादरे जबान में पढ़ते हैं, तो उसके साथ-साथ हम अपना culture भी सीखते हैं। अंग्रेजी जबान में पढ़ेंगे, तो यकीनन शेक्सपीयर एक बहुत बड़े playwright थे या वड्सवर्थ की 'Daffodil' के बारे में हम पढ़ेंगे, तो as a literature हम पढ़ेंगे, मगर जब हम हिन्दी में पढ़ेंगे, तो हमें कालीदास की 'मेघदूत' भी याद आएगी और सर मोहम्मद इकबाल की सारे जहां से अच्छा हिन्दोस्तां हमारा भी या इसी तरह तमिल के किसी बहुत बड़े poet के बारे में या तेलुगु के बारे में पढ़ेंगे, तब भी। मैं आपको एक reference देना चाहती हूं कि अंग्रेजों ने हिन्दुस्तान पर हुकूमत क्यों और कैसे की। 1935 में मैकाले ने कहा था and I quote him, "I do not think that we would ever conquer this country, India, unless we break the very backbone of this nation which is her spiritual and cultural heritage and, therefore, I propose that we replace her old and ancient education system, her culture,

for, if the replace think that all that is foreign and English is good and greater than their own, they will lose their self-esteem, their native culture and they will become what we want them, a truly dominated nation". यह अंग्रेजों का ख्याल था। मगर जैसा मैंने कहा कि अंग्रेजी हमारी जरूरत है, हमारी ताकत है, हमारी necessity है। 1951 में पटना यूनिवर्सिटी में मौलाना अबुल आजाद ने यह बात कही थी कि देश को जोड़ने के लिए and communication between North and South, East and West, we have to have English. स्ट्रेंथ इसलिए है कि एक बार जब मैं मिस्टर ली पेंग से बात कर रही थी कि हमने अपने पार्लियामेंट को कैसे कंप्यूटराइज्ड किया, कैसे सब मैम्बर्स ने कंप्यूटर को अपना लिया, तो उन्होंने कहा "Because you people have English as a link language. We are teaching English in China for them to adopt the computer, the modern technology." आज हम ग्लोबलाइज्ड वर्ल्ड में रहते हैं। इस बात में कोई शक नहीं है कि हमें अंग्रेजी पढ़नी है, मगर हमें हिन्दी, उर्दू, तमिल और मराठी पढ़ कर नॉलेज हासिल करने में कोई बाधा नहीं आती। मुझे नहीं लगता कि नॉलेज या ज्ञान किसी लैंग्वेज के अंदर बंधा हुआ है। एक छोटे बच्चे को अगर ऐलिमेंटरी ऐजुकेशन आप उसकी मातृभाषा में देंगे, तो यह बेटर होगा, यूनिवर्सल होगा। वह बच्चा अपने कल्चर की कद्र करेगा। वह सिर्फ हैरी पॉटर नहीं पढ़ेगा, वह पंचतंत्र की कहानियां भी पढ़ेगा, जिसका ट्रांसलेशन सदियों पहले इब्न बतूता ने अरेबिक में किया था। हिन्दुस्तान हमेशा नॉलेज का सेंटर रहा है। चाहे चाइना के ह्वान सांग या फाहियान हों या फिर इब्न बतूता हों, वे हमारी तक्षशिला और नालंदा यूनिवर्सिटीज में पढ़ने के लिए, इल्म हासिल करने के लिए हिन्दुस्तान आते थे।

जब अंग्रेजी अपने nascent stage पर थी और यूरोप जहालत के अंधकार में डूबा था, उस समय हिन्दुस्तान में ये यूनिवर्सिटीज थीं और बेस लैंग्वेज संस्कृत थी। इस लैंग्वेज की ग्रामर को रशियन और लैटिन इत्यादि दूसरी ज़बान के लोगों ने भी अपनाया।

मंत्री जी, आपने इसमें बहुत सी बातें कही हैं। एक बात आपने इसमें नेबरहुड स्कूल की भी कही है, लेकिन नेबरहुड स्कूल की डेफिनेशन आपने नहीं बताई। हमारी जो पार्लियामेंट की स्टैंडिंग कमेटीज हैं, उनमें आप अपने लैजिस्लेशन्स को मेजते हैं। सर, ये स्टैंडिंग कमेटीज क्यों बनीं? ये इसलिए बनीं, ताकि मैम्बर्स ऑफ पार्लियामेंट किसी बिल के ऊपर जिन बातों को हाउस के अंदर ध्यान न देख सकें, स्टैंडिंग कमेटीज उन सब बातों के ऊपर अच्छी तरह से विचार करें। मैं यहां पर एक बात और कहना चाहूंगी कि एजुकेशन को आजादी के बाद बहुत इम्पॉर्टेंट दर्जा दिया गया। पंडित जवाहर लाल नेहरू जी ने अपने सीनियर मोस्ट साथी, मौलाना अबुल कलाम आजाद को एजुकेशन मिनिस्ट्री दी। लेकिन 1958 में उनके जाने के बाद एजुकेशन की वह अहमियत नहीं रही। उनके जमाने में एजुकेशन के साथ Science and Technology, Culture, Sports and Youth सब कुछ जुड़ा था। हमारी साहित्य अकादमी, ललित कला अकादमी, संगीत नाटक अकादमी, ICCR, Council of Scientific and Industrial Researchs इत्यादि भी उन्हीं दिनों में कायम हुए। उनके बाद भी कुछ इम्पॉर्टेंट लोग एजुकेशन मिनिस्टर रहे, जैसे प्रो. हुमायूं कबीर, प्रो. नुरुल हसन, श्री एम.सी. छागला इत्यादि। ये सब काबिल लोग थे, आप भी काबिल हैं और एक अच्छे वकील भी हैं। मुझे यकीन है कि इस मिनिस्ट्री में रह कर आप हमारे लीडर की तरह अपनी इस मिनिस्ट्री के लिए सुप्रीम कोर्ट में अच्छा आर्गुमेंट करेंगे। मुझे इस बात की खुशी भी है कि मनमोहन सिंह जी ने सैम पेद्रोडा के अंदर एक नॉलेज कमिशन बनाया और साथ ही आपको यह मंत्रालय दिया। पिछले 37-38 साल में एजुकेशन के बारे में कोई ज्यादा बात नहीं हुई। 1985 में जब स्वर्गीय राजीव गांधी प्रधान मंत्री बने, तो वे एक न्यू एजुकेशन पॉलिसी लाए। वह new education policy लाए और उन्होंने अपने सबसे सीनियर साथी नरसिम्हा राव जी को यह मंत्रालय सौंपा तथा concept of human resource development की स्थापना की। मुझे याद है कि जब विज्ञान भवन में

उन्होंने new education policy का introduction किया, तो उन्होंने वहां यह कहा कि human resource development का यह कंसेप्ट मौलाना आजाद का था। ये राजीव गांधी जी के अल्फाज थे। उन्होंने बहुत अच्छा किया। उन्होंने उसमें न सिर्फ एजुकेशन रखा बल्कि कल्चर, स्पोर्ट्स, वूमैन और हेल्थ भी उसी में जोड़ा। मुझे याद है कि नरसिम्हा राव जी के साथ तीन महिला मंत्री थीं। मंत्री जी, आपके साथ भी एक महिला मंत्री हैं। She is very good. She answers questions with a lot of confidence. We never have any problem about her answers in the House. We know her commitments. उस जमाने में new education policy के बाद Operation Black Board हुआ। उस समय मैंने नरसिम्हा राव जी को एक चिट्ठी लिखी थी। उस चिट्ठी में मैंने उन्हें लिखा था कि हमारे मुल्क में बहुत से ऐसे इलाके हैं - डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, आपका कर्णाटक है, फारुख अब्दुल्ला साहब कश्मीर से आते हैं, तमिलनाडु के लोग मेरे साथ बैठे हैं। बनारस में साड़िया बुनी जाती हैं। यह जो हमारे traditional crafts हैं, जो हमारी indigenous crafts हैं, जो हमारे आर्ट्स हैं, जैसे कानी शाल को बुनने का या कारपेट बनाने का या बनारस की साड़ियां बनाना या तमिलनाडु में जो साड़ियां बनती हैं अथवा पत्थर पर नक्काशी या खुदाई होती है या लकड़ी पर खुदाई या inlay work आपके यहां कर्णाटक में होता है और मैसूर में होता है, उनके कारीगरों के जो बच्चे हैं, उनको ये आर्ट और क्राफ्ट्स नसलन-बारा-नसलन, generation-to-generations विरासत में मिलती हैं। मगर उनके बच्चे स्कूल और कॉलेज की तालीम हासिल करने के बाद white collar unemployed के ग्रुप में आ जाते हैं। सरकार उन्हें एक तरफ तो नौकरियां नहीं दे सकतीं और दूसरी तरफ उनके जो traditional crafts हैं, उनको भी ये छोड़ देते हैं, इससे वे भी खत्म हो जाती हैं। आज फारुख साहब मुझे बताएंगे कि कश्मीर में ऐसे कितने लोग हैं, जो कानी शॉल बुनना जानते हैं या दोरुखी बुनते हैं? ऐसे कितने लोग हैं, जो ये काम कर पाते हैं? मैंने नरसिम्हा राव जी को लिखा था कि आप जब new education policy बना रहे हैं तो इसे curriculum में डालिए। आप चाइल्ड लेबर के तौर पर - जैसे अमेरिका में उन दिनों एक बिल आया था कि चूंकि चाइल्ड लेबर का उसमें इस्तेमाल होता था इसलिए हम हिन्दुस्तान का कारपेट नहीं खरीदेंगे, तो आप curriculum के तौर पर उन्हें उनका हुनर सिखाइए, जिससे कि बच्चे स्कूल में उसे सीखें ताकि जब वे बाहर निकलें, तो उन्हें इस बात पर फख हो कि हमने एक हुनर सीखा है। मुझे मौलाना साहब ने अपनी एक चिट्ठी में यह लिखा था कि तुम जो भी तालीम हासिल करना चाहो करो, चाहे वह जूते सीने का ही इल्म क्यों न हो। तुम अपने हुनर में अपने को माहिर करो कि लोग तुम्हें तुम्हारे इल्म व हुनर की वजह से पहचानें। इस तरह हमारे वे बच्चे जो कश्मीर, तमिलनाडु या बंगाल अथवा यू.पी. से निकलेंगे, वे अपने हुनर की वजह से पहचाने जाएंगे। वे unemployed Graduate नहीं होंगे।

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): Could I just inform the hon. Member? The people who make carpets - अगर मैं हिन्दी में बात करूंगा तो शोर हो जाएगा।

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** क्योंकि मैं अभी हिन्दी में बोल रही थी...(व्यवधान)...

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH : All these people who are artisans, who do work on the carpets, we started schools for them. A part of the time, they were taught. When the blackboard thing was brought by hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhiji for our border people because they are the ones who are the most neglected lot, it helped a lot. This is just for information to say how these two programmes really took education further.

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** शुकिया फारुख साहब, आपने बताया, बहुत अच्छा किया। दो दिन पहले मैंने एक तस्वीर देखी जोकि दिल्ली के आसपास कहीं की थी, उस फोटो में छोटे-छोटे बच्चे दरदोजी का काम कर रहे थे। मुझे यकीन है कि दरदोजी का काम यू.पी. में बहुत अच्छा होता है, पत्ती का काम अलीगढ़ में होता है। क्या

अलीगढ़ और मुल्क के दूसरे हिस्सों में भी आप इसी तरह की स्कीम लागू कर सकते हैं?

सर, दूसरी चीज जो मैंने नरसिम्हा राव जी को उस समय लिखी थी, वह यह थी कि हमारे यहां आजादी के बाद से educational tool kits नहीं बने, specialised tool kits नहीं बने। सर, आप आगरा में जाकर देखें, वहां खुदाई का काम, inlay का वैसे ही करते हैं। उनके पास कोई बेंचेज नहीं होतीं जिन पर कि बच्चों को सिखाया जाए और वे सीख सकें कि inlay work क्या होता है। लकड़ी पर खुदाई के काम के लिए कोई tools हमने डवलप नहीं किए जो हमारे आर्ट और क्राफ्ट के काम को दुनिया में और मशहूर कर सकें व हम उनको कायम रख सकें।

सर, dignity of labour बहुत बड़ी चीज है। अगर dignity of labour होगी तो किसी को भी कोई काम करने में एहसास-ए-कमतरी नहीं होगा।

They would never feel any inferiority complex when they learn any art and craft, which is pride of our nation, and also keep it as their pride possession.

सर, दूसरी बात मुझे आप से neighbourhood स्कूल्स के बारे में पूछनी है। इस neighbourhood का concept क्या है? यह बात हमारी Standing Committee ने भी आप से पूछी थी। आपने उनकी recommendation मानी या नहीं मानी, यह बात बिल से पता नहीं लगी। I will read the recommendations of the Committee. The Committee, however, would like the inclusion of distance and time for commuting as one of the criteria for the neighbourhood school so that children do not have to commute long distance which may cause exertion. This criteria can be different for plain, mountain region, desert, etc. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the term 'neighbourhood school' should be defined properly. Neighbourhood आप नंबर ऑफ inhabitants पर रखेंगे, सिटीज और गांवों में distance पर रखेंगे जैसे कि स्टैंडिंग कमेटी ने कहा है, आप किस तरह से neighbourhood को define करेंगे? इस के बारे में मंत्री जी कृपया बताइएगा।

Women education के ऊपर आपने भी जोर दिया है, शुरू से जोर दिया गया है। मुझे हैरत होती है, मौलाना साहब न सिर्फ एक पढ़े-लिखे आदमी थे वरन् एक religious leader भी थे। उन्होंने औरतों की एजुकेशन पर बहुत जोर दिया था। आज अलकायदा वाले औरतों को पढ़ाना नहीं चाहते। खुदा का शुक्र है कि वे हमारी बॉर्डर के बाहर हैं, लेकिन कहीं-न-कहीं खतरा लगा ही रहता है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : How much more time would you need because one more Member from your party has also to speak? ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: How much time have I taken, Sir?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You have already taken 29 minutes and only another 13 minutes are left for the BJP.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: I will just finish. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Your party has 13 minutes more but you have one more speaker.

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** इस के लिए finances आप कहां से लेकर आएंगे? The Central Advisory Board of Education Report, 2005 estimated that an additional funding of Rs. 3.25 lakh crore to Rs. 4.36 lakh over six years was required.

सर, हमने एजुकेशन के ऊपर "सेस" लगायी। "सेस" का कितना पैसा जमा हुआ, कितना खर्च हुआ? हमारे जो विद्यालय हैं और हमारा सर्व शिक्षा अभियान का कार्यक्रम है, उस के ऊपर कितना खर्च हुआ? इस में पैसे की सेंट्रल की कितनी जिम्मेदारी रहेगी और स्टेट की जिम्मेदारी कितनी रहेगी? सर, यह बहुत important है कि आप सेंटर और स्टेट को कैसे पैसा देंगे?

सर, आपने सीटर रिजर्वेशन करने की बात कही है। वहां minority institutions में आप जो कर रहे हैं, जो आर्टिकल 30 के अंतर्गत आते हैं, उनका क्या रोल होगा? मेरा ऐसा ख्याल है और यह जो पैसे की बात है, आप ने एक सवाल के जवाब में 3-4 दिन पहले कहा है कि जो पैसा सेंट्रल से गया था, उसका misappropriation हुआ। कहीं तो उस पैसे को खा लिया गया, कहीं गबन कर लिया गया और कहीं पैसा divert कर दिया गया। आप finances पर कैसे control रखेंगे, इसको आप बताएं। करप्शन के ऊपर आप कैसे - क्योंकि State subject होगा। यह राजीव जी के जमाने में Concurrent subject हुआ, स्टेट से सेंट्रल में आया। अब आप वापिस सेंट्रल से स्टेट में डाल रहे हैं। आप क्या कर रहे हैं, आपने कुछ clarify नहीं किया है। अभी तीन दिन पहले AICTE के डायरेक्टर embezzlement में बहुत पैसे के साथ पकड़े गए। जब ऐसे हालात हों, लाखों-करोड़ों रुपये - मैंने सौ करोड़ रुपया सुना है, लेकिन आज तक सौ करोड़ इकट्ठा देखा भी नहीं है कि कितना होता है? उसके बारे में आप क्या करेंगे? मुझे डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब ने चुप रहने के लिए कह दिया है, जो काम में करती रही...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री उपसभापति :** जो आप कर रही थीं, वही मैं कर रहा हूँ।

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** सर, आप अच्छा कर रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)... आप बहुत अच्छा कर रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)... सर, आप यह notification कब करेंगे? यह 2002 में आया है और 2005 में इसके ऊपर अमल होना था, लेकिन यह नहीं हुआ। When are you going to notify it because until and unless you notify, it cannot be operative and I seek assurance from the Minister that the Government will frame all the required rules under Section 34 within six months, and, with it in this period Finance Commission will be able to devise the formula for developing Grant-in-aid to States and the Government will notify this Fundamental Right as soon as it is passed by Parliament. सर, यहां मेरे साथ अरुण जेटली जी बैठे हुए हैं। आप भी बड़े वकील हैं, आप वहां बैठे हैं। आप चाहे इसे Fundamental Rights में रखिए या Directive Principles में रखिए, सवाल नीयत का है, Nomenclature का नहीं है। अगर आप इसे Fundamental Rights में रखते हैं और उस Fundamental Right को किसी ने नहीं माना और इस पर क्या disputes होंगे, क्या इसके बारे में आपने सोचा है? Under Fundamental Rights क्या बच्चे मां-बाप पर मुदकमा दायर करेंगे? क्या सरकार पर करेंगे? क्या स्टेट्स गवर्नमेंट पर करेंगे या टीचर्स पर करेंगे? आपने इसके बारे में क्या सोचा है? चाहे आप इसे किधर भी रखिए। आप Fundamental Rights में रखिए, वह तो है ही। मैं पैदा हुई हूं तो मैं खान तो खाऊंगी ही। That is my Fundamental Right. केवल Constitution में इधर से उधर घुमाने से आपकी नीयत की पूर्ति तो नहीं हो जाती है? अगर आपने इसे Fundamental Right कर दिया तो इसका मतलब यह नहीं हो गया कि मुझे एजुकेशन मिल ही जाएगी, कोई आसमान से आकर मुझे पढ़ा ही देगा। सवाल यह है कि आप उस Fundamental Right की पूर्ति करने के लिए क्या

करने जा रहे हैं? With these words, I support it with an apprehension, with a lot of riders, which I have spoken before you. We have lot of hopes from you. Even Mrs. Bill Clinton in a meeting in Mumbai at St. Xavier's College, where Aamir Khan was sitting...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal) : Leave out 'Bill'. Call her 'Hillary'.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA : Okay, Hillary Clinton. मैंने छोड़ दिया। मैं बिल पर बोल रही हूँ, इसलिए "बिल" की याद आ रही है। मतलब, बिल तो याद आ ही जाता है! इस हाउस में हम कुछ भी करें, बिल नहीं छोड़ सकते। चाहे वह महिला का बिल हो जो बिल में चला जाता है या ऐसा बिल हो, जिस पर हम बात करते हैं। Legislation में हमारा काम ही है बिलों पर बात करना। तो उन्होंने भी आपकी बड़ी तारीफ की है, आपको dynamic minister बताया है। हम सब लोगों को आपसे उम्मीद है। डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, जब किसी से उम्मीदें बढ़ जाती हैं, उसकी खाहिश उन पर depend करती तो उन सारी उम्मीदों की पूर्ति करना difficult हो जाता है। All our good wishes are with you. I hope you will be able to solve these problems. I hope there will not be many disputes where my Leader of the Opposition will have to take the recourse of going to the court because we want him to sit here in the House, not going to the courts. Thank you very much.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, only eight minutes are left for the next speaker, I am just reminding the Members because time is the major factor now.

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेतपुल्ला :** सर, आप क्या एजुकेशन पर टाइम की बात करते हैं?

**श्री उपसभापति :** हम क्या करें? आप ही ने time fix किया है।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir.

I rise to support the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2008. I find the Statement of Objects and Reasons extremely meaningful. They are most desirable. Even if it is a bit too late to bring it before the House, I would say that it is never too late for the country. The crucial role of universal elementary education for strengthening the social fabric of democracy through provision of equal opportunities to all has been accepted since inception of our Republic. To achieve this goal, every child has a right to be provided full-time elementary education of satisfactory and equitable quality. The next purpose is, compulsory education casts an obligation on the Government to provide and ensure admission, attendance and completion of elementary education. How is it going to be achieved? I don't know. I am sure, the hon. Minister is an efficient Minister and will be able to find ways to ensure all these things and take steps to make education completely free. No kind of fee or charges or expenses may prevent him or her from pursuing and completing elementary education. Sir, I stick to elementary education, because my predecessor, Najmaji, has covered a very vast subject. She has considerable time at her disposal. But, I am short of time. So, I will not be able to cover all those points. I would say that I will agree with some points that have been raised and on some points I have difference of opinion. Now, this responsibility, according to the Statement of

Objects and Reasons, is not merely the responsibility of schools run or supported by the appropriate Government, but also of schools which are not dependent on Government funds. It is a very important object. I do not know how the hon. Minister will be able to handle this. Equitable quality education is every child's birth right as Madam Najmaji has mentioned and education cannot be taken as a joke. The minds of children are at stake. As she mentioned, in what language should we start the elementary education? She has also mentioned that it has not been taken very seriously. Sir, I will just quote what Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has said. He said, "No subject is of greater importance than that of education. It is the men and women in the country that make and build a nation and it is education that is supposed to build those men and women." This is the sentiment and this is what our first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, had said. And, the same thing has been further pursued later by late Smt. Indira Gandhi and then, as has been mentioned by Najmaji, by our late Shri Rajiv Gandhi through different schemes in different years and this objective is going on and on. I know we have not been able to achieve as much as we wanted to be. We have not been able to achieve, probably, because in most of the sectors our needs have been much more than what we could achieve. The only thing that we have achieved is population growth. This is the area where there is a great achievement. But, otherwise, in all other aspects of our lives, much more improvement is needed and we have to achieve much more. I find a few provisions in this Bill which I would like to mention first. Sir, the hon. Minister is a very prominent lawyer. Still, I don't know whether it is correct Constitutionally. The provision for 25 per cent reservation in private schools for children from economically weaker sections may violate the Constitution. Sir, the 93rd Amendment enables the Government to require private educational institutions to reserve seats for SC/ST and socially and educationally backward classes. This does not include economically weaker groups in the society. I request the hon. Minister to look into this aspect. There is no point of having a law which is not as per the provisions of the Constitution.

The second point is very, very important. The Bill does not exempt the minority institutions.

The Bill of 2000 had explicitly exempted these institutions. But 2008 Bill does not do so. This provision could violate article 30 of the Constitution. This also may have to be looked into. As Najmaji has mentioned, it is good that we want schools; we want education for every child. There is nothing like it. But how to handle it? The Bill specifies that the Central Government and the State Governments will have concurrent responsibility for implementing the Bill. It does not explicitly specify the share of funding that each Government will provide. It leaves this determination to be made by the Central Government, from time to time. It has been noticed that whenever any scheme or anything is concurrently handled by the State Governments and the Central Government and when the finances are to be shared, the State Governments say that they don't have the finances. The result is that even the proportionate fund does not come from the Central Government also. So, that particular State suffers. In fact, a number of schemes, where entire funding was done by the Central Government, had suffered because these were handled by different States in different ways. Here,

when the funding is done by both, the State Government as well as the Central Government, I really don't know whether we would be able to achieve this noble aspect of the Bill. I would like the hon. Minister to look into this and explain to the House and the country as much as possible on this aspect so that we are sure that every child is really, really educated. Now, for example, if we refer to the Budget, the new Budget offers them only 4.15 per cent share of all allocations quota. This is 0.78 per cent less than what it was in 2007-08, and only 0.02 per cent more than what the Budget of 2008-09 had allocated. Is this sufficient attention to 41 per cent of the total population? This education will cover 41 per cent of the total population. With 4.15 per cent, do we have enough funds? I shall come a bit later on what is the situation in other countries. But enough funds and enough resources are a must, either it is for health or it is for education. Most of the countries have got more than 6 per cent. Unless 6 per cent of the GDP is provided for it, we will be having a big problem in achieving our goals. Our funding allocation is about half of that, about 3 per cent. This aspect has also to be looked into.

Sir, it is unfortunate that for everything, even in administrative matters also, the Supreme Court has to come into picture. This is our responsibility. It is not the responsibility of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has ruled that the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) should be universalised by 2008 to cover all the children of 0-6 age group. But the Budget proposes an increase of only Rs. 361 crores in the ICDS funding. The Plan has projected an estimate of Rs. 45,000 crores, needed for the eleven lakh additional *aanganwadis*, proposed in the Plan. So, according to the Plan, you need eleven lakh additional *aanganwadis*. But the fund provided for the purpose is not good even for 3.5 lakh *aanganwadis*. Then, what is the use of this kind of planning unless it is synchronised with the allocation of funds? We know that we need it, but we do not have the funds. Then, we can make planning with whatever funds we have and whatever resources we have. Shri Narayan Murthy of Infosys has said, "the outlay for health, nutrition, women and children is inadequate." Around 45 per cent of our children are below the age of five and suffer from malnutrition. We cannot afford this kind of a situation. These aspects have to be really synchronised with all the aspects of development of the country. One Department says something else and the other Department says something else. This way, we are not going to really achieve the results we want to achieve. A half-page advertisement appeared in a national daily on 6th July declaring ICDS as a flagship scheme, announcing expansion of ICDS coverage from 10.5 lakh *aanganwadis* to 14 lakh *aanganwadis*, but I said only 3.5 lakhs. This is not really going to help us. We have not been able to tackle even infant mortality. These are all the things which have to be seen when we are talking about universal education, or, elementary education for all. I agree that schemes like the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, which is one of the best schemes of the world today, are of great help. But, still, if you

see the figures, Sir, you will find that in 1991-92, the drop-out rate was about 50 per cent. Even today, the drop-out rate is the same, that is, 50 per cent. I am saying this based on some figures; I can give the references. If I am wrong, I would like to be corrected by the hon. Minister, but this is based on some figures provided by some experts. Sir, out of the total allocation earmarked for children in the Union Budget 2009-10, 71.3 per cent is meant for child education schemes. About 71.3 per cent is a good allocation because out of this less capital available, at least, a large chunk is for education. In 2009-10, the total allocation earmarked for children has increased by Rs.5193 crores. These are, Sir, in absolute terms. There are no visible measures which have been taken for strengthening the ICDS system in the States. We want the ICDS not only at the Centre, but it also has to be developed in the States. But there is no visible action by which this system is being improved. Sir, sector-wise, if we look at the total allocation earmarked for children in the Union Budget, we will find that 71.3 per cent, as I have said, is for education; for health, it is 11.1 per cent; for child development, it is 16.7 per cent and for child protection, it is 0.8 per cent. Unless the children are protected, all these allocations become meaningless. So, the hon. Minister may look into this as to how do we protect the children.

Sir, allocation of food subsidy by the Centre and all the States is nutrition security for the children. As regard this subsidy, in 2004-05, there were allocations of Rs. 23,280 crores and that of the States was Rs.1199 crores. Every year, it has been going down. In 2007-08, the State allocation was only Rs.861 crores. In this situation, the responsibility of the Centre becomes much higher. The Centre's allocation is Rs. 25,696 crores. Why do not we take the full responsibility if the States are not willing to participate in this scheme? At least, we will be sure that every child is getting proper nutrition. Sir, when our hon. Minister was, in the earlier Government, the Minister of Science and Technology and all that, his Committee of Central Advisory Board of Education. ...*(Interruptions)*... I said that ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: 'And all', that is a very big holder;

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, the whole problem is this. At this stage, my sisters — I will mention about Najmaji first. She mentioned that she had studied in Urdu up to-Class Xth. After that, she did English and she stood First; she is a Gold Medallist and Doctorate. She has a super intelligence. But that is what is not applicable to most of the children in our country. Sir, most of children are very weak like me. ...*(Interruptions)*... They are very weak like me. Sir, she had mentioned that education should be given in local language. I will like to give here a specific example. I don't know whether I should mention the name of a person, who is a Minister in our Cabinet today.

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** मिनिस्टर हैं तो ले सकते हैं।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Let me complete. I know it legally. But I am not talking about it legally. I don't know whether I should mention it. I don't think it would be good to mention the name. But this Minister was campaigning that up to Class VIII only, the education should be given in local language. See the result. What happened, the children did not get any jobs. They were not suitable for any jobs. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bagrodia, just to remind you, the time allotted to you is ...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, it is 20 minutes. You let me know at the eighteenth minute, I will sit in two minutes.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am rightly reminding you at the seventeenth minute. So, you have another three minutes.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: So, I have three minutes. So, I will take only three minutes. In that case, I will not go into these details. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** सर, क्या मैं एक मिनट में जवाब दूँ? मेरा नाम लिया है।

**श्री उपसभापति :** मत दीजिए। उनका टाइम खराब हो जाएगा।

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** उनके हिसाब से नहीं, मेरे हिसाब से दे दीजिए।

**श्री उपसभापति :** आपका टाइम खराब हो गया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** मेरा नाम लिया है। मैंने कहा कि अंग्रेजी पढ़ाओ, यह थोड़ा ही कहा है कि मत पढ़ाओ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: So, I will not go into this argument in which language, they should be given education. I would first like to mention about the kind of allocation that we have got. As is said, this particular Bill is good in intention, but the delivery is very difficult. Sir, in literacy and enrolment, I will just mention what is happening all over the world, in Japan, it is 100 per cent; in France, it is 99; in United States, it is 92; in Brazil, it is 95; in Bangladesh, it is 94; in Sri Lanka, it is 97; these are our nearby countries. Even a country like Kenya has got 90 per cent; India has 89 per cent and when I mention the drop-out rates ... *(Interruptions)*...

**श्रीमती वृंदा कारत :** केरल पर आइए।

**श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया :** कृपया मुझे बोल लेने दीजिए। हमें दो-तीन मिनट का टाइम मिला है। मैं आपसे हाथ जोड़कर अनुरोध करता हूँ।

**श्री उपसभापति :** आप इधर देखिए।

**श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया :** मुझे discipline मँटेन करने दीजिए। मैं फटाफट बोल देता हूँ।

**श्री उपसभापति :** आप मेरी तरफ देखिए, वहाँ क्यों देख रहे हैं?

**श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया :** अब मैं किस-किसको देखूँ?

**श्री उपसभापति :** आप सिर्फ मुझे देखिए।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, the dropout rates in 1990-91 for boys was 59.1 per cent and now, in 2004-05, it is 50.4 per cent. For girls, earlier it was 65.1 per cent and now it is 51.3 per cent. What I mean to say, this has not been reduced as much as it should have reduced. That is why we must take necessary steps to see to it that these are monitored properly. The hon. Prime Minister has already put up a special delivery monitoring unit — I compliment him for that — where along with the hon. Minister even the Prime Minister would be involved in monitoring. As I said earlier, the Bill has good intentions, but how do we deliver? Lord Macaulay might have said anything, but it has not worked. We have not changed. We still remain the same. All over the world, wherever we may go, nobody can touch Indian culture. You may relax, my sister, whatever he might have said... (*Interruptions*)... we are now independent and we will continue to be independent. Nobody in the world can touch our culture; our culture will continue. Wherever you go, you take your own food; - you wear your own clothes!

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, conclude.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, I fully agree with the inclusion of art and craft as a curriculum, but it has to be made lucrative. Unless it is made lucrative, the training in art and craft is not going to help. Lastly, the 'neighbourhood' point has to be defined. I fully support whatever she has said on this. It has to be clearly defined. Sir, in Rajasthan, people have to travel ten to twenty kilometres; in some areas like Barmer, they have to travel even up to 40-50 kilometres; there is no transportation available. If that is called 'neighbourhood', then I do not think we will be able to achieve anything, particularly in a place like Rajasthan. That has to be defined.

Thank you very much, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri P. Rajeeve. You have 14 minutes.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Mr. Deputy Chairman Sir, though late, I would like to congratulate the Central Government for presenting this Bill before this august House. The Bill is actually a product of the last UPA Government. The last UPA Government had some specialities; I do not wish to go into the political specialities of the last UPA Government! Nevertheless, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for continuing the process.

Sir, right to education has been universally recognized since the universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948. At the time of framing our Constitution, it was placed only in Part IV of the Constitution under the Directive Principles of State Policy. If we look into the Constituent Assembly debates, we would find that even at that time there were strong arguments to include the right to education as a fundamental right in our Constitution. We had to wait for more than 50 years to make an amendment to the Constitution making education a fundamental right in our Constitution. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2008, seeks to give effect to this cherished goal.

3.00 P.M.

Sir, the right to education is an enabling right. It is entirely different from other rights because education creates the voice through which the right can be claimed and protected. In a historical judgement, the Supreme Court of India, in the Unnikrishnan case, 1993, held that all children up to the age of 14 years have got the fundamental right to education. It was propounded in the judgement that the fundamental right to life enshrined in Article 21 of the Constitution should be read along with the Directive Principles of State Policy in Article 45 to provide free and compulsory education to children aged zero to 14 years, including those below six years. However, the 86th Constitutional Amendment, which incorporated Article 21A into our Constitution, limited the fundamental right to education to 6-14 years, and this Bill has repeated the mistake by not recognizing the importance of pre-school training. This is in contradiction with India's own commitment at the Jomtien Conference, 1990, acknowledging expansion of early childhood care and developmental activities as an integral part of education for all. There is a global recognition that the early years of childhood are very important and crucial years for lifelong development. Some studies on the development of the human brain have shown that neglect during early years can often result in irreversible reduction in the development of the brain's potential. Section 11 has stated, 'the appropriate Government may make necessary arrangements for providing free pre-school education for such children'. The word 'may' has reflected the real intention of the section! It is only a face-saving sentence. This should be re-drafted in a proper way to ensure free pre-schooling to all children as a fundamental right. Now the education structure is totally changed. Minus-2 to plus-2 is the well-known structure of our school system. Normally, there is no other chance for financial assistance for plus-2 studies. India is a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Child, which recognises the right to education for everybody up to the age of 18 years. Education for 14-18 age groups can be tailored to provide such skills in the form of education to go for higher education or additional vocational education. So, I request the hon. Minister through you, Sir, to ensure that the free education system contemplated here should cover all schools, from pre-primary school to plus-two stage. I also support the points raised by hon. Najmaji regarding the neighbourhood school system. It should be defined in a proper way.

Sir, this Bill is not clear on financial allocations. Universalisation of primary education remains a mirage till today because the Centre was not ready to bear the burden, of that. The allocation for school education in the current Budget is only Rs.200 crore. If this is the approach, right to education would be a dream unfulfilled. The major liability should be carried by the Central Government. But the provision for this in the finance memorandum stated that 'the Central Government may make a request to the President of India.' I urge the Government to change the way and say, 'the Central Government shall ask the President to make a reference to the Finance Commission to make allocations to State funds needed to implement provisions of this Bill.'

The Saikia Committee has estimated financial requirement of Rs.40,000 crore to bring 6.3 crore out-of-school children into school over a period of three years. However, the expert group constituted by the Government of India on the recommendations of Saikia Committee has estimated that Rs.1,36,000 crore would be required to implement fundamental right to education over a period of ten years. There should be a detailed financial statement for defining the primary and major responsibility of Central Government in this regard. Unless the Government commits that certain minimum expenditure per pupil, say that, of the Kendriya Vidyalayas, the provision of free education will not serve any purpose. If this is not done, it is clear that the Government is interested to provide 'namesake' education to all but good quality education to only elite groups of our country. The cumulative gap building up since Kothari Commission's recommendations in 1966 is to be filled up within the next five years, followed by maintenance of annual educational expenditure at the level of 6 per cent of the GDP.

Regarding financing, I would like to add one more point. Till now the Central Government has been applying the same norms and guidelines to all States without taking into consideration the varied nature of their requirements. In Kerala, access and equity, as far as primary education is concerned, are more or less achieved. But quality is a big problem. So, each State may be allocated with sufficient funds for achieving the objectives contemplated in this Bill.

Sir, we are discussing this Bill in a knowledge-based society or a knowledge-based economy. Enclosure of the treasure by enclosure of the knowledge is a well-known slogan of globalisation. My point of view is entirely different. I am standing for democratisation of knowledge and according to my opinion education should be used for the benefit of common man and entire society. Despite the difference of opinion in this regard, it is a fact that knowledge has played a major role in this era. Article 1(2) of Declaration of 1960 UNESCO Convention is against discrimination in education and it has been clearly stated that there shall be no discrimination in "all types and levels of education including access to education, the standard and quality of education and the conditions under which it is given." This means quality education is not a privilege 'but it is the right of the children.' It is true that under *explanation* (g) to sub-clause (a) of Section 8 states about the meaning of compulsory education as ensuring good quality elementary education to the standards and norms specified in the Schedule. In my point of view, this is not sufficient. The title of the Bill should be changed as the Right of Children to Free, Compulsory and Quality Education. Getting admission and receiving education of equitable quality in the neighbourhood school should be the fundamental right of every child.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN, (PROF. P. J. KURIEN, in the Chair)]

Right to education Bill fails to define 'equitable quality' unequivocally. Though certain norms are mentioned about the physical infrastructure, yet nothing is said about the learning process. For ensuring quality in education, one provision should be strictly incorporated in the Bill that 'no school shall have norms and standards relating to infrastructure, teachers, pupil-teacher ratio, curriculum and teaching lower than that of Kendriya Vidyalayas, Qualified teachers are a pre-requisite for the

quality of education. Qualifications for appointment and terms and conditions of service of teachers are specifically stated in section 23 of the Bill. But, from a bare reading of the provision itself, it is crystal clear that there are enough loopholes and space for diluting the qualifications. So, I suggest that all the teachers should qualify a national level eligibility test such as NET conducted by UGC. Proper allocation of funds should be made in the Budget itself for conducting teachers training programmes. But, it was shocking that the current Budget allotted only Rs.1 crore for teachers training institutes.

As per the provisions of the Bill, a school needs to have only a minimum of two teachers and two classrooms. At present, usually, primary schools have five grades. If they are accommodated in two classrooms and attended by only two teachers, what will be the quality of education that we can guarantee? The present Bill should have necessary provisions to ensure that there should be a classroom and a teacher for each grade of students. It may be noted that the children belonging to Scheduled Tribes and other vulnerable sections of the society are the students of these multi-grade schools. The parents of these children are not in a position to provide any family support to the education of these children. ...(Time-Bell)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Only two more minutes.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: I am going to raise very important point. Please give me five more minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): What can I do?

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: The Bill must strive to work against creating a parallel and discriminatory system of alternative, non formal education, into which are enrolled children from most disadvantaged circumstances, for example, street and working children, and children with disabilities.

All the sections of the society should have a proper representation in the teaching community. So, the reservation principle should be mandatory in all schools which are availing the financial support from appropriate Government agencies. There are some such private schools, but actually, it is public financing, private management schools. This reservation system should be implemented in those schools also.

Section 29 has elaborated on framing of curriculum but failed to stress one important point, that is, the perspective of curriculum should be progressive, secular and democratic. There has to be common content, common method of transaction and evaluation on the lines of National Curriculum Framework, 2005, which has to be followed by all schools in the country. ...(Time-Bell)...

Sir, I have one more point regarding private cost of education. Actually, 47 per cent of the expenditure of States and Union Territories is on household expenditure. There should be some provision for stipend and scholarship to meet this private cost of education.

I want to make some more points. This Bill is a law which lacks tooth and the authorities cannot be hauled up in a court of law for violation of the provisions of the Bill. The responsibility of the Government for protecting the rights should be mentioned in this Bill. Under clause 35, in case of complaints against violations by private schools, one must seek the permission of an authorised Government officer. This is dilution of the provisions of the Bill. Clause 36 states provision in case of violation of rights or provisions by an officer occurs in spite of good will and good intentions. This clause is intended to dilute the interest of the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): One more point only.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: I would like to raise one more point regarding physically challenged children. This Bill, in a very complicated manner, defines the physically challenged children. It is silent on facilities needed to enable children with disabilities to attend schools such as ramps, Braille readers, etc. In this Bill, the disability has the meaning as assigned in the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995, which does not include such other disabilities as defined by the National Trust Act, 1999, such as autism and cerebral palsy. It should be incorporated in the Bill in a proper way.

I hope the hon. Minister will look into these points raised by me and take necessary steps to accommodate these points.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): The last point was the best point. Other points were also good.

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन):** श्री ब्रजभूषण तिवारी। तिवारी जी, आपकी पार्टी के 13 मिनट हैं और दो स्पीकर्स हैं।

**श्री ब्रजभूषण तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश) :** ठीक है, जितना हो पाएगा, हम उतना पूरा करेंगे।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन):** आप सात मिनट लीजिए। आपके सहयोगी भी हैं।

**श्री ब्रजभूषण तिवारी :** ठीक है, यदि समय बचेगा तो मैं बोलूंगा। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, यह बिल बहुत ही अच्छा है। इसका जो उद्देश्य इस बिल में दिया गया है, "प्रस्तावित विधान को विश्वास के आधार पर तैयार किया गया है कि समता, सामाजिक न्याय और लोकतांत्रिक मूल्य तथा एक न्यायसंगत और मानवीय समाज का सृजन केवल सभी व्यक्तियों के लिए समावेशी प्राथमिक शिक्षा के उपबंध के माध्यम से ही संभव है", इस विधेयक में यह जो बात कही गई है, मुझे इस पर विश्वास नहीं हो पा रहा है कि क्या इस उद्देश्य को इस विधेयक के जरिए हासिल किया जा सकता है। यह अच्छा विधेयक है और जैसा कि माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा कि संविधान में भी इसका प्रावधान था, डायरेक्टिव प्रिंसिपल फोर स्टेट पॉलिसी में भी बहुत स्पष्ट तौर पर कहा गया है, कई बार इस संबंध में कानून बनाने के भी प्रयास किए गए, परंतु ले-देकर कोई नतीजा नहीं निकला। यह सही है कि हमारे जो माननीय शिक्षा मंत्री हैं, ये बहुत ही उत्साही हैं और शिक्षा में सुधार लाने के लिए बहुत ही जल्दी में भी हैं, मगर यह बिल दो अंतर्विरोधों से ग्रस्त है। एक तरफ तो मंत्री जी इस विधेयक के जरिए हर किसी को शिक्षा का अधिकार देना चाहते हैं, फंडामेंटल राइट के तहत हर बच्चे को पढ़ने का अधिकार है और दूसरी तरफ उन्मुक्त बाजार की बात भी करते हैं। ये कहते हैं कि क्योंकि सरकार के पास इतने साधन उपलब्ध नहीं हैं, इसलिए निजी लोगों को भी स्कूल खोलने की इजाजत हो, विदेशी शिक्षण संस्थाओं को भी देश में संस्थाएं खोलने की अनुमति दी जाए। एक तरफ शिक्षा का अधिकार और

दूसरी तरफ शिक्षा का उन्मुक्त बाजार, ये दोनों बातें एक-दूसरे के अंतर्विरोध में हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को बताना चाहता हूँ कि जो उन्मुक्त बाजार होता है, यह कभी भी गरीब के लिए नहीं होता है। यह बाजार हमेशा ताकतवर और धनी के लिए होता है। इसीलिए आज जो वस्तुस्थिति है, जो जमीनी हकीकत है वह यह है कि हमारी जो प्राथमिक शिक्षा है, यह बहुत ही दयनीय स्थिति में है। आज प्राथमिक शिक्षा में कौन पढ़ता है? जो समाज का निर्धनतम व्यक्ति होता है या अनाथ व्यक्ति होता है, उसी का बच्चा पढ़ता है। प्राथमिक शिक्षा में पढ़ाने वाले अध्यापक भी अपने लड़के को प्राथमिक स्कूल में नहीं पढ़ने देना चाहते हैं। हम सभी लोग प्राइमरी स्कूलों से पढ़कर निकले हैं। पहले प्राइमरी स्कूल में हर वर्ग के लोग पढ़ते थे, परंतु आज यह स्थिति है कि समाज का जो सबसे निर्धनतम, सबसे उपेक्षित, दलित और गरीब व्यक्ति है, प्राइमरी स्कूल में केवल उसी के बच्चे पढ़ते हैं। इसलिए यह जो भेदभाव या गैर बराबरी है, इससे मुझे नहीं लगता कि समावेशी विकास का, समावेशी विकास का जो लक्ष्य हम प्राप्त करना चाहते हैं, हम उसे प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। हम देखते हैं कि दुनिया के जितने भी विकसित देश हैं, अगर उन्होंने तरक्की की है, तो वह तरक्की इसी आधार पर की है कि जो प्राथमिक शिक्षा है, उसे समान रखा है। हम यह बराबर मांग करते रहे हैं कि प्राथमिक शिक्षा समान हो। हमारे नेता डा. राम मनोहर लोहिया, जिनकी हम जन्मशती मनाने जा रहे हैं, वे अक्सर कहा करते थे कि आर्थिक बराबरी हासिल करना कठिन है, सामाजिक बराबरी हासिल करने के लिए भी लंबी लड़ाई लड़नी पड़ेगी, मगर जो दिमागी बराबरी है, हम उसे हासिल कर सकते हैं, अगर प्राथमिक स्तर के विद्यालय एक समान हों, जिसमें गरीब-अमीर का फर्क नहीं हो, जिसमें गरीब का भी बेटा पढ़े और अमीर का भी बेटा पढ़े। जब यह बात कही जाती थी तो जो समाज के ताकतवर लोग थे और निहित स्वार्थ के लोग थे, वे कहते थे लोहिया यहां की अच्छी पढ़ाई को खराब करना चाहते हैं। हम लोगों की मान्यता थी कि दो प्रकार के प्राथमिक विद्यालय नहीं चल सकते हैं। एक तरफ अच्छे विद्यालय अंग्रेजी माध्यम के खर्चीले स्कूल, जहां पर संपन्न लोग, बड़े लोगों के बच्चे पढ़ें और दूसरी तरफ प्राथमिक स्कूल। आज हम उसका नतीजा देख रहे हैं कि प्राथमिक स्कूलों की क्या स्थिति है और जो निजी स्कूल हैं, वे किस तरीके से फलते-फूलते चले जा रहे हैं। यह सबसे बड़ी जरूरत है कि आखिर इस भेदभाव को, इस गैर-बराबरी को हम कैसे खत्म कर सकें।

दूसरी बात यह है कि इस समय स्कूल में पढ़ने वाले विद्यार्थियों की संख्या करीब 19 करोड़ है, जिनमें से 4 करोड़ मान्यता प्राप्त निजी स्कूल में पढ़ रहे हैं और यह 'शिक्षा का अधिकार' कानून अमल में आ जाए, तो एक करोड़ अतिरिक्त बच्चे निजी स्कूलों में पढ़ने जाएंगे। अब सवाल यह पैदा होता है कि इन 14 करोड़ बच्चों का क्या होगा? कहां से विद्यालय आएंगे? मैं ऐसा मानता हूँ कि सरकार के दिमाग में यह बात बैठ गई है कि शिक्षा और स्वास्थ्य सरकार के काम नहीं हैं। सरकार के दिमाग में यह बात बैठ गई है कि सब बच्चों को गुणवत्तापूर्ण समान शिक्षा नहीं दी जा सकती है। इसलिए केवल झुनझुना थमा कर, केवल लम्बी बातें करके, केवल कानून पास करके, हमारा मुंह बन्द करने की कोशिश की जाए, तो इससे कोई नतीजा नहीं निकलता। इसलिए आज आवश्यकता यह है कि हमें इसके बारे में दिमाग साफ करना पड़ेगा।

विश्व बैंक द्वारा सर्व शिक्षा अभियान शुरू किया गया। इसने हमारी व्यवस्थित शिक्षा प्रणाली को और भी नष्ट-भ्रष्ट कर दिया। हमें पैसा मिला, गांवों में भवन तो बन गए, परन्तु प्राथमिक स्कूल के जो अध्यापक हैं, वे नदारद हैं। एक-एक अध्यापक दो-दो, तीन-तीन क्लासों को पढ़ाते हैं। नए अध्यापकों की नियुक्तियां नहीं होतीं। एक पैरा-शिक्षक (समय की घंटी) जो शिक्षा मित्र हैं, जो अप्रशिक्षित हैं, पूरे तरीके से पढ़े-लिखे नहीं हैं, अस्थायी और कम वेतन पाते हैं। ऐसे लोगों की वहां नियुक्ति होती है और उससे भी हमारी प्राथमिक शिक्षा का बहुत ही नुकसान होता है।

मान्यवर, इसी के साथ-साथ मैं माध्यम के बारे में भी कहना चाहता हूँ। अभी हमारा जो बिल है...(व्यवधान)...

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन):** तिवारी जी, आपकी पार्टी के दूसरे स्पीकर भी हैं, उनके लिए बाकी टाइम है।

**श्री ब्रजभूषण तिवारी :** महोदय, मुझे अपनी पूरी बात खत्म करने दीजिए, हमारा समय पहले है।

मान्यवर, शिक्षा के माध्यम के बारे में इस विधेयक में यह बात कही गई है, जरा इस पर गौर करिएगा, कि शिक्षा का माध्यम जहां तक साध्य हो, बाल की मातृभाषा होगी। अब यह बड़ी होशियारी की बात कह दी गई है कि जहां तक साध्य हों। इसके मायने कि अंग्रेजी माध्यम के जो तमाम प्राथमिक स्कूल चलते हैं, वे अबाध गति से चलेंगे। हां, जहां गरीब के लिए संभव होगा, वहां मातृभाषा में पढ़ाई होगी। मैं बिल्कुल साफ तौर पर कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह देश के लिए और देश की जनता के लिए बहुत बड़ा धोखा है। मैं यहां डा. लोहिया की बात नहीं करना चाहता, मगर मैं यहां महात्मा गांधी को quote करना चाहते हूँ। मैं quote करता हूँ। कोलकाता में 27 दिसम्बर 1917 को महात्मा गांधी ने कहा, "यदि हम अंग्रेजी के आदी नहीं हो गए होते, तो यह समझाने में हमें देर नहीं लगती कि अंग्रेजी के शिक्षा के माध्यम होने से हमारी बौद्धिक चेतना जीवन से कट कर दूर हो गई है। हम अपनी जनता से अलग हो गए हैं। जाति के सर्वश्रेष्ठ विभागों का विकास रुक गया है (समय की घंटी) और जो विचार हमें अंग्रेजी के माध्यम से मिले हैं, उन्हें जनता में फैलाने में हम नाकामयाब रहे हैं। पिछले 60 वर्षों से हमने विचित्र-विचित्र शब्दों को केवल रटना सीखा है। तथ्यपूर्ण ज्ञान पचाने के बदले शब्दों का उच्चारण सीखा है। जो विरासत में हमें अपने बाप-दादों से हासिल हुई, उसके आधार पर नवनिर्माण करने के बदले हमने उस विरासत को भूलना सीखा है।"...(व्यवधान)...

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन):** तिवारी जी कृपा करके आप समाप्त कीजिए।

**श्री ब्रजभूषण तिवारी :** सर, बस मैं खत्म कर रहा हूँ। अब गांधी जी को कोई नहीं याद करता, सब नेहरू को ... (व्यवधान)...

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन):** अब मैं क्या करूँ। आपके साथी के लिए केवल तीन मिनट बाकी हैं।

**श्री ब्रजभूषण तिवारी :** मान्यवर, मुझे उनका उद्धरण पूरा कर लेने दीजिए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Tiwariji, please conclude. I am speaking for your other colleague. He will get only three minutes.

**श्री ब्रजभूषण तिवारी :** सर, हमें अपनी बात पूरी कर लेने दीजिए। अगर समय मिलेगा, तो उनको समय दीजिएगा। तो मान्यवर मैं कह रहा था, "तथ्यपूर्ण ज्ञान पचाने के बदले शब्दों का उच्चारण सीखा है। जो विरासत में हमें अपने बाप-दादों से हासिल हुई, उसके आधार पर नव-निर्माण करने के बदले हमने उस विरासत को भूलना सीखा है। इस दुर्गति की मिसाल सारी दुनिया के इतिहास में नहीं है। यह तो राष्ट्रीय शोक अथवा ट्रैजेडी का विषय है। आज की पहली और सबसे बड़ी समाज-सेवा यह है कि हम अपनी देशी भाषाओं की ओर मुड़ें और हिन्दी को राष्ट्रभाषा के पद पर प्रतिष्ठित करें। हमें अपनी सभी प्रादेशिक कार्यवाहियां अपनी-अपनी भाषा में चलानी चाहिए तथा हमारी राष्ट्रीय कार्यवाहियों की भाषा हिन्दी होनी चाहिए।" गांधी जी ने यह बात बहुत पहले कही थी।

दूसरी बात यह है कि आप इसके लिए वित्त अथवा पैसा कहां से देंगे? राज्य सरकारें कहती हैं कि यह केन्द्र की जिम्मेदारी है और केन्द्र कहता है कि इसमें राज्य और केन्द्र का हिस्सा होना चाहिए, इसलिए इस चीज़ को भी समझना होगा। शिक्षा पर जीडीपी का 6% खर्च करने का वादा हमने कितने दिनों से किया है, लेकिन हम 4% तक भी नहीं पहुंच पाते हैं कि सरकार का दम फूलने लगता है और वे कहते हैं कि हमारे तो हाथ-पांव फूलने लगे हैं। इसका मतलब यह है कि सरकार कम से कम शिक्षा पर भी उतना पैसा खर्च नहीं कर पाती। कितने समय पहले

कोठारी कमिशन की सिफारिश थी कि शिक्षा पर बजट का कम से कम 6% खर्च होना चाहिए। आप शिक्षा पर खर्च नहीं करेंगे और छोटे बच्चों की पढ़ाई को आप केवल बाजार के सहारे छोड़ देंगे, तो आप समावेशीय विकास नहीं कर सकेंगे। इस तरह तो आप केवल विशिष्ट वर्ग आधारित समाज की रचना करेंगे, जो लोकतंत्र और समता के बुनियादी सिद्धांतों के खिलाफ होगा। इसलिए मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि यह जो जमीनी हकीकत है, आपको उसका अहसास करना चाहिए। हम लोग समान शिक्षा की मांग करते रहे हैं और आज भी करते हैं कि जब तक एक प्रकार की प्राथमिक शिक्षा और एक प्रकार के समान स्कूल नहीं होंगे, तब तक इन विधेयकों का कोई मतलब नहीं रहेगा, साथ ही सरकार के ऊंचे-ऊंचे ख्यालों और उनके उद्देश्यों का भी कोई मतलब नहीं रहेगा। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात खत्म करता हूँ, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Now, Shri Ganga Charan. You have ten minutes.

SHRI GANGA CHARAN : Sir, fourteen minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, Ten minutes. That is why I am telling you in advance.

**श्री गंगा चरण** (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री के द्वारा यह जो बिल लाया गया है, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। वैसे तो यह बिल आज से 50 साल पहले आ जाना चाहिए, लेकिन बहुत देरी से आया है, इसके लिए हमें अफसोस है, फिर भी मैं सिब्ल साहब को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि देर आए दुरुस्त आए।

शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में आज हम दुनिया में बहुत पीछे हैं और शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में पीछे होने के कारण ही आज आर्थिक क्षेत्र में भी हम बहुत पीछे हो गए हैं। मेरे मन में एक सवाल आ रहा है, जिसे मैं सिब्ल साहब से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इस बिल में आपने जो व्यवस्था की है, वह बहुत अच्छी व्यवस्था है, लेकिन माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने जो बजट दिया है, क्या उस बजट से आपका जो बिल है और इसके जो प्रावधान हैं, उन्हें आप पूरा कर पाएंगे? उन्होंने शिक्षा पर मात्र 2000 करोड़ रुपये अतिरिक्त बजट दिया है। उसी पर आपको Higher Education, Technical Education और Primary Education की सारी जरूरतों को पूरा करना है। इस कम बजट के कारण हमारे मन में संदेह पैदा होता है कि आप यह जो "The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill, 2008" ला रहे हैं, उसकी मंशा को आपका बजट पूरा नहीं कर पाएगा। मैं तिवारी जी की कुछ चीजों से बहुत सहमत हूँ कि डा. लोहिया ने शिक्षा के लिए हमेशा 10% बजट की बात की है, यानी टोटल बजट का 10% एजुकेशन पर खर्च होना चाहिए। इसके लिए हम अपना डिफेंस का बजट कम कर सकते हैं, दूसरे बजट कम कर सकते हैं, लेकिन एजुकेशन पर बजट कम नहीं किया जा सकता है। इस बिल के संबंध में मेरे मन में कुछ चीजें संदेह पैदा कर रही हैं। जैसे इस बिल में प्रावधान है कि कहीं भी आस-पास के विद्यालयों में 6 साल से लेकर 14 साल के बच्चे प्रवेश लेना चाहें, तो उन्हें प्रवेश मिलेगा। सर, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो निजी स्कूल हैं, क्या उनमें भी हमें प्रवेश लेने का अधिकार होगा या जो सरकारी स्कूल हैं, क्या उनका स्टैंडर्ड उन निजी स्कूलों के बराबर होगा? हम डी.पी.एस. के बगल में रहते हैं या उसके बगल की झोपड़पट्टी में रहते हैं, तो क्या हमें डी.पी.एस. में प्रवेश लेने का अधिकार होगा? यदि हम लॉरेटो कॉन्वेंट के बगल की झोपड़पट्टी में रहते हैं, तो क्या उसमें रहने वाले बच्चों को उसमें प्रवेश लेने का अधिकार होगा? जो सरकारी स्कूल हैं और गांवों के स्कूल हैं, क्या आप उनकी पढ़ाई का स्टैंडर्ड निजी संस्थाओं के पब्लिक

स्कूल्स के बराबर लाएंगे? क्या वहां पर कम्प्यूटर एजुकेशन होगा और वहां इंग्लिश एजुकेशन होगा? इस चीज को भी आपको स्पष्ट करना पड़ेगा।

महोदय, आज उत्तर भारत के लोग या उत्तर भारत के नेता जो पिछड़ गए हैं या उत्तर भारत आज जो पीछे जा रहा है, उसकी सबसे बड़ी कमजोरी मैं यह मानता हूं बुरा न मानें, तिवारी जी — डा. लोहिया का अंग्रेजी-विरोधी आन्दोलन चला था, वे स्वयं तो जर्मनी से पढ़ कर आए, लेकिन आजादी के बाद उन्होंने जो अंग्रेजी-विरोधी आन्दोलन चलाया, तो उसका सबसे बड़ा कारण रहा उत्तर भारत का पिछड़ना। हमारे गांवों में आज भी ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैंने तो आपको इन्टरप्ट नहीं किया था ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, गांवों के स्कूलों में आज अंग्रेजी नहीं पढ़ाई जाती। गांव के स्कूल से हम पढ़ कर जब शहर में आते हैं, तो हमको ए, बी, सी, डी.. सिखाई जाती है। जो बच्चे कॉन्वेंट के पढ़े होते हैं, वे शुरू से ही ए, बी, सी, डी.. सीखते हैं। इसलिए हमारे गांव के जो बच्चे हैं, वहां पर उनकी रैंगिंग होती है, उनको 'देहाती बच्चे', 'मगहिया बच्चे' आदि बोलते हैं।

सर, जायसवाल जी हमारे एक बहुत ही पुराने मित्र हैं। जब वह हिन्दी में बोल रहे थे तब उनसे कहा गया कि नहीं, जब आपसे अंग्रेजी में सवाल किया गया है, तो आप जवाब भी अंग्रेजी में ही दीजिए। शायद हमारे जायसवाल जी भी हिन्दी माध्यम से पढ़े होंगे। उनको अंग्रेजी नहीं आती है, यह तो मैं नहीं कहता हूं, लेकिन वह अंग्रेजी स्पीकिंग नहीं है। बेचारे उत्तर भारत के जो नेता हैं, उनमें आज भी इंग्लिश स्पीकिंग नहीं है, इसलिए उनकी परफॉरमेंस वीक रहती है और वे अपने को हीनभावना से ग्रसित महसूस करते हैं। हमारे जो तमाम मिनिस्टर्स हैं, वे इंग्लिश बोलना सीख रहे हैं, वे कोशिश कर रहे हैं। हमारे जायसवाल जी ने ओथ तो टाई-वगैरह बांध के ली थी। उन्होंने ओथ इंग्लिश में ली थी, पढ़ कर ली थी। मुझे यह लगता है कि एक-दो दिन उन्होंने ओथ पढ़ी होगी, तब वह वहां बोल पाए होंगे। वह बुरा न मानें। मैं जानता हूं, क्योंकि वह मेरे दोस्त रहे हैं, उनकी इंग्लिश स्पीकिंग नहीं है। वहीं सलमान साहब ऑक्सफोर्ड से पढ़ कर आए हैं, लेकिन उन्होंने हिन्दी में ओथ ली। उन्होंने हिन्दी में इसलिए ली कि सब जानते हैं कि सलमान साहब बहुत अच्छी इंग्लिश जानते हैं। आज मैं सिब्बल साहब से कहूंगा कि वह अंग्रेजी को जरूर अनिवार्य करें। अब हम इसके बगैर आगे नहीं बढ़ सकते हैं। हमारा देश इसके बगैर आगे नहीं बढ़ सकता है। हिन्दी हमारी मातृभाषा है। यह हमारी राष्ट्रभाषा है। इसे हमें मां के पेट से सीख कर आते हैं। उसमें हम सिखाने की जरूरत नहीं पड़ती है। बंगाल में रहने वाले बंगाली मां के पेट से बंगला सीख कर आते हैं, तमिल लोग मां के पेट से तमिल सीख कर आते हैं, पंजाबी लोग अपनी मां के पेट से पंजाबी सीख कर आते हैं। इस प्रकार हमारी जो State languages हैं, regional languages हैं, उन्हें सिखाने की जरूरत नहीं है। लेकिन, इंटरनेशनल मार्केट में या ग्लोबल मार्केट में हमारे बच्चों को कम्पीटीशन फेस करना है, इसलिए हमारे लिए इंग्लिश जरूरी है। आज साउथ इंडिया के जो लीडर्स हैं, वहां के जो बैकवर्ड लोग हैं, वे वहां छा गए हैं, क्योंकि उनकी भाषा अंग्रेजी है। इसीलिए मैं देख रहा हूं कि कांग्रेस पार्टी में उत्तर भारत के लीडर्स की अपेक्षा जो साउथ के लीडर्स हैं, वे अब हावी रहते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... चूंकि उनकी इंग्लिश अच्छी है। वहां ओ.बी.सी. के लोग ज्यूडिशियरी में हैं, यहां नार्थ इंडिया के लोग ज्यूडिशियरी में नहीं हैं। कुरियन साहब जानते हैं, वह भी इसे समझते हैं, क्योंकि वह साउथ के हैं।

हम लोग कैसे बराबरी पर आएँ? यह देश कैसे जुड़े? आज मैं कह सकता हूं कि अंग्रेजी — महात्मा गांधी कहते थे कि हिन्दी हम सब को एक सूत्र में जोड़े हैं, लेकिन आज हिन्दी के नाम पर जो रोज झगड़ा हो जाता है, इससे मुझे नहीं लगता कि हिन्दी हमें एक सूत्र में जोड़े हैं, मुझे लगता है कि अब अंग्रेजी हमें एक सूत्र में जरूर जोड़ सकती है, यदि अंग्रेजी को हम लोग आज उत्तर भारत में भी — क्योंकि चाहे वे बंगाल के लोग हों, तमिलनाडु के लोग हों या

गुजरात के लोग हों या भारतीय जनता पार्टी के लोग हों, इसके सारे लीडर्स इंग्लिश में बोलते हैं, लेकिन हिन्दी की बात हो तो एकदम से लड़ाई कर लेते हैं, लेकिन जब भी आप लोग प्रेस कांफ्रेंस करते हैं, तो आप यह दिखाते हैं कि हम हिन्दी भाषी नहीं हैं, बल्कि हम भी इंग्लिश में बोलना जानते हैं। सर, इनके लीडर्स का english प्रेम किसी से छिपा नहीं है। आज reality यही है कि अगर हमें देश को एक रखना है तो हमें अपनी basic education में अंग्रेजी अनिवार्य करनी पड़ेगी। यह मेरा पहला सुझाव है।...(समय की घंटी)... सर, हमारी पार्टी के 14 मिनट्स हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : You have only ten minutes. Eight minutes are over.

**श्री गंगा चरण:** सर, मेरे कुछ सवाल हैं, मैं चाहूंगा कि माननीय मंत्री जी अपने जवाब में उन्हें शामिल करें।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन):** आप के दो मिनट बाकी हैं। आप को दो मिनट में भाषण खत्म करना है।

**श्री गंगा चरण:** सर, आज शिक्षा व्यापार बन गयी है और Right to Education का मकसद भी यही है कि शिक्षा व्यापार न बनने पाए, लेकिन सवाल यह है कि आप गरीब-से-गरीब बच्चों को शिक्षा कैसे दिला पाएंगे? सर, देश में 14 करोड़ बच्चे हैं। आप स्लम में रहने वाले बच्चों के लिए कहेंगे कि हम एकल विद्यालय चला रहे हैं। वहां एक टीचर है, भवन नहीं है, ब्लैक बोर्ड नहीं है, फर्नीचर नहीं है, कंप्यूटर नहीं है और आप कहेंगे कि Right to Education आना चाहिए। सर, मुझे नहीं लगता कि आप 5 साल में Right to Education के इस बिल को लागू कर पाएंगे। आप वित्त मंत्री जी व प्रधान मंत्री जी से बात करिए। जब इसके लिए बजट बढ़ाएंगे तभी आपका यह सपना साकार हो सकता है। सर, आपने Slumdog Millionaire देखी होगी। उसमें स्लम्स का क्या हाल दिखाया है? आज दिल्ली की स्लम बस्तियों की क्या हालत है? आज हम सड़क पर निकलते हैं तो देखते हैं कि बच्चों का एक हुजूम छोटे-छोटे बच्चों का, भिखारियों का निकल पड़ता है। आप उनको education कैसे देंगे? क्या आप उनके लिए रोटी, कपड़ा व पुस्तकों की व्यवस्था करने जा रहे हैं? आज बच्चे घर का चूल्हा जलाने का माध्यम बन गए हैं। वे भीख मांगकर लाते हैं, काम करते हैं, आप child labour को रोक नहीं पा रहे हैं। उसके लिए कानून है, लेकिन आप जहां भी जाइए वहां देखेंगे कि child labour काम कर रही है और घर का चूल्हा बच्चों की मेहनत से ही जल रहा है।

इन सारी चीजों पर आज गंभीरता से विचार करने की जरूरत है। आप उन बच्चों को काम से छुटकारा दिलाकर स्कूल में कैसे ला सकते हैं? पहले आप को उनके लिए भोजन का प्रबंध करना पड़ेगा, कपड़े का प्रबंध करना पड़ेगा, पुस्तकों का प्रबंध करना पड़ेगा और फिर उनके guardians का भी प्रबंध करना पड़ेगा। ये बहुत सारी जिम्मेदारियां आप के ऊपर हैं तभी आपका इस बिल का सपना साकार हो सकेगा। इस बिल को हमारा पूरा समर्थन है, पूरा सहयोग है। इस विषय में पूरा हाउस आप के साथ है, लेकिन बिना बजट के यह संभव नहीं है।...(समय की घंटी)... सर, मेरी पार्टी के 14 मिनट हैं।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन):** आपकी पार्टी का पूरा समय खत्म हो गया है।

**श्री गंगा चरण:** सर, मुझे 14 मिनट बताए थे।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन):** आपकी पार्टी का 10 मिनट का समय है। मैं क्या करूं हरेक पार्टी का टाइम allot है।

**श्री गंगा चरण:** तो सब से पहले तो आपको इस दोहरी शिक्षा पद्धति को खत्म करना होगा। आज स्टेट्स के अपने-अपने शिक्षा बोर्ड हैं, सी.बी.एस.ई. है, आई.सी.एस.ई. है। मैंने सुना है कि आप इनको खत्म कर के इंडिया में

एक syllabus ला रहे हैं। यह देश को एक करने के लिए बहुत अच्छी बात है। आज देश में आर्थिक विभाजन हो गया है, आर्थिक आरक्षण हो गया है जिस में बड़े आदमियों के बच्चे सी.बी.एस.ई. व आई.सी.एस.सी. में पढ़ेंगे व गरीब आदमी का बच्चा स्टेट बोर्ड में पढ़ेगा। फिर वह competition फेस नहीं कर पाता है। ये सारे बोर्ड भंग होकर एक syllabus होना चाहिए तभी देश में समान शिक्षा लागू हो सकती है। सर, जब तक देश में समान शिक्षा लागू नहीं होती तब तक इस Right to Education Bill का कोई मतलब नहीं है। सर, आज गांवों के झोंपड़ों में रहने वाले आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में स्कूल की दुर्दशा किसी से छुपी नहीं है। मैं एक ही अनुरोध के साथ अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं कि समान एजुकेशन हो और शिक्षा का व्यापार खत्म हो। धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Okay. Thank you very much. Now, Dr. K. Malaisamy. ...(*Interruptions*)... Dr. K. Malaisamy. You are enjoying the speech! Dr. Sahib, your time is seven minutes.

DR. K. MALAISAMY (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I had a sigh of relief when you came and occupied the Chair! When I hear your comments, I do not know whether my relief is well-founded or ill-found!

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Say only points!

DR. K. MALAISAMY: How many minutes I have been given, Sir?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Seven minutes.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: What is your considered view, Sir?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): My personal view has no role here!

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Okay, Sir. Our age-old Indian Constitution, through its Directive Principles of State Policy, has envisaged free and compulsory education to children. It was to be done within ten years. But, unfortunately, even after 60 years, it is yet to happen. The Bill has come only now. Besides the Constitution, the Supreme Court has also come to our rescue and prompted us to do something on this aspect. Some concrete development has taken place by virtue of an amendment making this policy into a fundamental right. In spite of all that, none of the Governments seemed to be very keen to achieve this goal, probably, for want of political will or skill to get it done. Whatever it is, my observation is that it has come belatedly. Though it is the felt-need of the society for long, it has come late. 'Better late than never'. In that sense, I am happy about it.

Secondly, being a subject under the Concurrent List, the object, probably, has been diluted, and that is why one is not very keen on that. Whatever be the reason, it has come too late. Anyway, 'better late than never'.

Before we appreciate the Bill, let us come to the composition of the child population. As rightly stated by some of our colleagues who spoke before me, the children constitute 41 per cent of the total population. Many of the children are street dwelling; they are child labourers; they are working children who earn to supplement the income of the family. They are all living in different difficult situations. Apart from that, the total drop-out is considered to be 53 per cent. So, this is the sum and substance of the composition of the children about whom we are going to talk.

As far as the features of the Bill are concerned, I thought, by virtue of his background as a bureaucrat, by virtue of his background as an eminent lawyer, by virtue of his background as a legislator, ably supported by the Minister of State, that the it would be free from defects and deficiencies. When I look at the broad features, I am happy to note some of the highlights. I concede that. But his contribution in the preparation of the Bill might not have been available because the Bill seems to have been prepared much before he took over as HRD Minister. The Bill envisages free and compulsory education to children, rational deployment of the teachers without regional imbalances, appointment of trained teachers, norms and standards for schools and working days and working hours for teachers and institutions. These are the aspects which this Bill seeks to provide. Then, there are certain prohibitions also. It envisages prohibition of punishment and harassment of the students. The screening of students and parents has been prohibited. Collecting capitation fee has been prohibited. Expulsion and detention of the children have been prohibited. Deployment of teachers for non-educational purpose has been prohibited. If all these prohibitions are invoked, I mean, if they do that, it is subject to penal action.

So, you have divided it into three parts. One is positive, the second is negative and the third is the mandatory provision that all the private schools should necessarily reserve, at least, 25 per cent of the total seats for this purpose. These are all the major features.

Now, coming to the omissions, defects and deficiencies, the Minister for Human Resource Development has rightly said in his Press report and all that this is a national priority. As far as primary education is concerned, as far as this Bill is concerned, he has come out with a version that it is a national priority. But when I read the Budget, the Finance Minister has given the priority not to primary education but to higher education. According to the Finance Minister, it is higher education and, according to the HRD Minister, it is primary education. What I am trying to understand is, what their real priority is. What is the policy of the UPA Government? Are they going to give priority for higher education, or, for primary education? This may be clarified. My second point is, as I mentioned to you, there are various compositions of children. So, they are subject to poverty, deprivation of basic needs, etc. If we look at their composition, some may be working in factories; some of them could be child labour; some of them are under parent care, etc. So, they are spread everywhere. In such a situation, I would like to know whether you will be able to organise the whole group, and bring them under one umbrella for your purpose. That is my point. Thirdly, Sir, health and poverty seem to be the greatest handicap in the implementation of the scheme. As we all know, 38 per cent of the total population is still below-the-poverty-line. Farmers are committing suicides. Sir, I don't want to elaborate on it, when you are constantly looking at the time. So, the children, who belong to these poor families and are suffering, have to come out of their homes for this purpose. How can this happen with this 41 per cent of the population? Then, Sir, talking about disparity between Government schools and private schools, whether one likes it or not, disparity is bound to be there. Everybody knows about the quality of education in private institutions and Government

institutions. In such a situation, I would like to know whether you can bridge the disparity between the private institutions and the Government institutions in terms of education. It is another challenge before you. My fourth point is about the norms and standards of schools. You have stated that you are trying to create good infrastructure in schools by way of library, computers, etc. I felt very happy when I went through the Bill. My point is whether you are capable of building these infrastructures, is it possible? Then, Sir, when we look at tribal areas, — in the morning also, there was a question on it — people are scattered around, with ten or fifteen families at one place. Now, how are you going to bring all of them together? No doubt, you have talked of setting up of neighbourhood schools. How many neighbourhood schools can be created? Sir, I want one minute...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Okay, you take one minute more.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: I want one minute on this particular issue. I was in the Committee of Industry. The Committee was making a study tour, and we happened to go to Andaman & Nicobar Islands. We went into forest areas, and to be honest with you, what we saw was shocking — the Chairman and several Members of the Committee were there was young men and women, walking naked on the lanes. I am sorry to say that this is the plight of these people there. I would like to know whether the tribal children could be brought into the fold, whether it is possible to create infrastructure in tribal areas. Sir, in tribal areas, there is a big assumption that toilets should not be constructed. This is their conviction; this is their sentiment. So, Sir, there are social, cultural and economic problems which the children face, and there is this gender disparity, a wide discrimination amongst girl children.

Then, Sir, coming to 19 crores of our population out of children.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No new points, please.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Out of 19 crores, 4 crores of children are going to private schools; the rest 15 crores of people have to depend on our Government schools. Now will there be equality among the children who have studied in private schools and Government schools?

Sir, how many minutes more would you give me? I have always co-operated with the Chair. Shall I take one minute or two minutes?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): You finish in one minute.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, the early child care, which is an integral part of the scheme, is for children between six and fourteen years of age. Now what are you going to do about children less than six years old? Is it so easy? What I am trying to say is that it is not that easy to implement the scheme. The Bill is good, in theory. In practice, it would be very difficult, Sir. There are umpteen provisions which are not very practicable. Now, you talk about the prevention of the capitation fee. How are you going to prevent it? A number of things are happening. Private tuitions...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): All right. It is over now.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Finally, the Bill is short of transparency and accountability and it focuses on very minor issues. Sir, according to me, it is the felt need of the society, though it has come late. Let

us wait and see how it is going to work out and how it is going to be implemented.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI N. K. SINGH (Bihar): Hon. Vice-Chairman, Sir, let me begin by complementing the Minister of Human Resources Development for the alacrity he has shown in fulfilling his 100 days promise and bringing this Bill to the House so early. Of course, perhaps, in his sincerity to do so, there are serious infirmities which the hon. Minister has overlooked. I have one broad comment and four points to make, Sir.

My one broad comment is this that you will recall that this Bill was introduced in this House and was despatched to the Standing Committee on HRD with a direction from the hon. Chairman that the Standing Committee must report within a stipulated period of just 30 days. The Standing Committee had three sessions, fulfilled its promise and made far-reaching recommendations. I regret to say that although that Standing Committee's Report was introduced in this House on the 18th of February by Shri Janardhan Dwivedi and in the Lok Sabha by Shri Rahul Gandhi, none of those recommendations has been at all effected in the Bill which is before us. Sir, it is a sad reflection on the working of the Standing Committee because they remain the principle arm of parliamentary oversight. And if Standing Committee's recommendations are so grossly overlooked, really, Sir, this is something that does not fill us with any sense of pride. My four important points: first, on finance. The Standing Committee had pointed out that before the Bill is brought to the House the memorandum on financial matters should be settled, namely, the sharing formula between the Centre and the States — currently it is 65:25, Sir — whether that would remain or it would change; the kind of burden sharing in the course of the next five years and adequacy of budgetary provisions, I say this, Sir, because there are, at least, four different estimates. The Draft 83rd Amendment Bill, 1997, calculated Rs. 47,000 crores in five years; the Tapas Majumdar Committee Report of 1999 calculated Rs. 1,36,000 crores; the 93rd Amendment Bill, 2001 calculated Rs. 98,000 crores; the CABE Committee Report, 2005, calculated Rs. 4,36,000 crores over a course of six years. Which of this is accurate? And, considering the fact that the hon. Finance Minister has, in fact, lowered the budgetary provision for *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*, I plead to the Minister that the financial arithmetic of this should be reflected more accurately in the Financial Memorandum which is appended to the Bill.

My second point, Sir, relates to learning outcomes. The Bill, Sir, as you know, stipulates that no child will be held up until completion of elementary education, *i.e.* till the 8th standard. Now, this, Sir, as we can see, has serious adverse outcomes as have been brought out in the recent NCERT report that children who complete up to eight years are still remaining illiterate; they are securing exceedingly poor numbers in mathematics, in languages. So, I think that with the view of ensuring that nobody is held back, what does the Bill have to ensure that the outcome of teaching really meets the kind of desired standards? This is not a unique feature to us, Sir. All over the world, for instance, in the United States, there is a Bill called 'No Child Left Behind Act', which while saying the same

thing, stipulates that the children would be graded, records would be kept and some kind of an outcome would be imposed on the schools really as a kind of a consequence of this.

My third point is that the Bill stipulates private schools having 25 per cent mandatory reservations. Whereas my Party, in general, does not oppose reservations for the disadvantaged and for the weaker sections, the calibration of this must be done in a manner which is socially non-disruptive and the phasing of this must be done in a manner which does not really kindle and kill any urge for private investment coming into the sector and is able to foster public-private partnership. Moreover, Sir, the manner of reimbursement of this has been left at the average of Government schools. This is really an unfortunate outcome because the Standing Committee had made, hon. Minister, a very specific recommendation that this reimbursement should be fixed on normative norms by whom, by group of experts, to be determined by the Planning Commission to ensure that the burden of cross-subsidy does really fall on the rest of the 75 per cent in terms of raising the fee.

Sir, my fourth point is about the norms for the schools. Now, differential standards are being applied on norms for schools — for public schools and private schools. Moreover, I think, that in ensuring the teacher-pupil ratio there is no provision in the Bill which improves teaching outcome, teacher training facility and the manner in which this requirement under the Bill will be calibrated with the requirement of filling the number of required teachers within the stipulated three years which the Bill requires.

I will end by saying, Sir, that this Bill really reminds me of the famous saying of "Chamfort on Maxims and Thoughts, in which he said, "Education is construed on two prongs, the prong of morality and the prong of prudence. Morality in order to assist virtue and prudence in order to protect you against the vices of others. In tipping the scale towards morality, you merely produce dupes and martyrs. In tipping the other way, you produce egotistical schemers." It is my contention that the Bill in its present form does not appropriately balance the requirement of morality and prudence. Mr. Minister, time will pass, so will this Bill. But time will tell us that this Bill in its present form does not address the multiple challenges connected to the rights of children for free and compulsory education. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, this is a very important Bill. In fact, our country has a number of traditions, both positive and negative. One of the negative traditions that our country has is that education was denied to vast sections of our people in the name of castes, in the name of religion too. We can be proud of our civilization which is 5000 years old, but vast sections of our people were denied to have access to education. After Independence, it took more than 60 years for the Government to think of making education compulsory at primary level, at least, which we are discussing now. Having said that, Sir, I must say this Bill falls short of many things. One may appreciate the intent of the Bill, but when you go into the contents of the Bill, it has many weaknesses which need to be strengthened. Due to constraint of time, I would run through certain

points. This Bill must be routed in the framework of a fully public funded common school system, based on neighbourhood schools from pre-primary to class 12, which will place equal obligations on all categories of schools. Diversity, equality and democratisation being the touchstone; otherwise the claim of right of children to free and compulsory education will remain a claim, and we cannot realise it in real practice.

Now, Sir, the Bill has several chapters. It has got six chapters. In order to help the Minister to go into the issues in concrete terms, I first take up the first chapter. When you discuss schools, I think, all schools must be brought under this Bill. All schools shall be neighbourhood schools with representation of disadvantaged sections, weaker sections, gender and minorities. On Chapter-II, when you discuss the elementary education, it is not merely elementary education.

The Government should think of schooling from pre-school to higher secondary. There, I suggest, in Chapter-II, clause 4, the Minister should apply his mind and the Government should apply its mind that 0-3 years, we need our children provided with nutrition and proper health care. You will have to protect the children. 0-3 is the very sensitive and delicate period. Children should have provisions for nutrition and health care.

Then for the period of 3-6, we need pre-schooling care for children. That is the very important formative period in the life of any human being and all your skills and other aptitudes grow at that point of time. In this very House, I recall our hon. colleague, Swaminathan, who spoke on this issue. When he discussed the food security he meant that children must have food and nutrition. That is an important period.

Then, Sir, 6-12 years, is also very important. Here, the Bill really focuses up to 14 years. I think, this Bill must cover class 1 to higher secondary. I do not know what would be the objective of this Bill if it stops at 14 years. Then, what happens next? This Bill must be a comprehensive one.

Then, coming to Chapter-III, many people talked about education being on the Concurrent List. Both Centre and States have responsibilities in this subject. I am not here going to define what should be the responsibility of the Centre or the States. But, I would like to underline a point. The previous UPA Government made a promise that the Budgetary provisions will be made education up to 6 per cent of the GDP. Here, I think, till now, the spending on education still remains at almost 3 per cent. Here, the elementary education must have priority. I think, one can spend 50 per cent on elementary education, some 25 per cent towards higher secondary, some 25 per cent on higher education. I am not saying that it should be accepted, but I am saying that it can be considered, discussed, on how to distribute the funds on various systems.

4.00 P.M.

Then, Sir, clause 9 talks about norms or standards. I think, all schools must have at least the level of Kendriya Vidyalayas. We should strive for providing the standard or quality of education which is available at the Kendriya Vidyalaya level. Then, Sir, I am going to Chapter-IV. On the neighbourhood schools, it is said that all schools should have a provision of pre-school education and provide for admission to all children in neighbourhood with proportionate representation to all disadvantaged sections. Here, many Members raised the issue of street children, children who are working children who are termed as child labour, how to cover them. Then, Sir, the other thing is, there are many issues which I can go on commenting. But, one issue is the teacher-pupil ratio. The teacher-pupil ratio should undergo some drastic change. With this, I try to conclude, Sir. The teacher-pupil ratio, it should be at least 1:30. At least one teacher per class. We should have a target. It should improve to 1:20 over a period of 6-7 years.

Teachers must be trained and they must have continuous training and equipment. Here the non-educational jobs given to teachers must be defined. Now under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan teachers are asked to perform some 30 jobs, which can be called as non-educational jobs. That also should be considered by the Minister. ...(Time-bell rings)... Finally, Sir, when you talk about Chapter IV, 12C, it is about reservation. I do not agree with Mr. N.K. Singh when he talked about this because the Bill says, 'to the extent of, at least, 25 per cent of the strength of that class, children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups.' Here, you will have to define it because 'to the extent' means, it can be 20, it can be 15'. ...(Time-bell rings)... You will have to categorically define it and it must be made obligatory because, ...(Time-bell rings)... Sir, one last point. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): How many 'lasts'?

SHRI D. RAJA: You please wait for some more time. ...(Interruptions)... The Standing Committee has given its report. That report talks about dropouts. In 2005-06, gross enrolment ratio for all children at the elementary stage stood at 94.92 per cent while dropout rate in Class I to VIII was as high as 48.71 per cent, dropout rate among Scheduled Castes children was 55.25 per cent ...(Time-bell rings)... For, Scheduled Tribes, it was 62.95 per cent.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Okay. That is all.

SHRI D. RAJA: It makes very imperative on the part of the Government to make it clear and they must clearly mention the 'disadvantaged' sections. You must clearly mention it. It should go to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe children then only it will be defined. ...(Time-bell rings)... Otherwise, the Bill will fail to solve the problem. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Shri Shyam Bengal. Shyamji, I do not know what to do. ...(Interruptions)... Shyamji, the position is very difficult. ...(Interruptions)... You can speak

for five minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*... I think five minutes will do. ...*(Interruptions)*... Okay.

SHRI SHYAM BENEGAL (Nominated): Thank you, Sir. It is okay. I have just got a couple of points to make, really. I am not going to deal with the lacunae and the various other things about which people, more competent than I, have already spoken about as far as the Bill is concerned. It takes me back to couple of experiences of my own. Thirty-five years ago, I was involved in doing a series of television programmes, learning programmes, extramural learning programmes for children in the SITE programme. You know we had this particular satellite that we had borrowed and there were footprints in our country that were selected for telecast in the year 1975, I remember. At that time, it was felt that we should create some learning programmes for children particularly in those rural areas where they have hardly have any schools. At that time, I created 30 programmes for Chhattisgarh, which were under the UNICEF. These were shown in many villages in that region and the most important thing that happened or that emerged from this were two things, which I remember very vividly. Firstly, when it comes to literacy, when it comes to literate education and when it comes to oral education, oral education is natural, happens to everybody naturally but the only thing about it is that it is limited to the environment of a child in which a child or adult lives in. This, of course, is fine when we think in terms of a purely agrarian society or a purely tribal society because that kind of learning is not only adequate but is probably perfect for those circumstances. But we are talking about a society like ours, which is fast urbanising and on top of it, an industrialising society, obviously, we cannot think in terms of oral education alone. The second thing that we discovered was that the moment you bring literacy to a child, the oral learning valve closes.

The oral learning is a kind of valve and when the learning valve is opened for children for oral learning, the moment you bring literacy into that the oral learning valve closes. So the problem is that a child persists or is made to persist through literacy over a period of time. You will have children — like for instance, at that time in Chhattisgarh I remember, where 80 per cent was the drop-out rate after the first standard and 80 per cent after having done one year of school meant that all these children who had gone to school for one year were made infirm by a very simple thing because they had to learn literacy properly on the one side and on the other hand they themselves had lost the ability to learn from the environment. So, we have this kind of a problem and it is not a problem that has been solved even to this day. It is a serious problem. We have a drop-out rate now of 50 per cent but the fact is we are talking about 50 per cent of these children who have lost the ability to learn. It is not just a question of learning through literacy. They have lost the ability to learn even orally and this, I think, is really the problem and somewhere we need to address this. I think, we have not yet understood the balance between oral and literacy learning, and, I think, one of the things that we can and we should and must do is to use television because television is one area through which you can get to every single small village of this country and we can do it, we have the capability for it and you need that kind of support system for the schools because I know ten years ago, I remember I was making a film in Sagar district in Madhya Pradesh and every little village I went to, children would

be there, there would be no teacher and the children would be there playing around in the school only because they were getting a mid-day meal. Otherwise, they would not have come at all. There were no teachers because teachers would just go to Sagar town to collect their salaries every month. They were not there in the schools and these are real problems and these are problems in many parts of India. The South is a better maybe from the North, but, essentially these are the serious problems we are dealing with. This is a macro thing when you talk to Right to Free Education as a Bill which will become an Act. This is wonderful, but, I do believe that if it has to work, it has to work on a micro level where the problem really is and, I think, unless we address those particular issue we are not going to really resolve anything at all. It will just be a very pious statement which we will keep on making year after year. We will show wonderful statistics but this would prove nothing. The truth is, that we have to think of what we have by way of resources and how are we going to balance between oral forms of learning and literate forms of learning and not think that people who are literate are educated and people who have learnt orally are illiterates. That is not the comparison at all. It is a comparison between the kind of education we require to face our future or the kind of education we have that will keep us like little frogs in our own little ponds. It really is the difference between these two things, and, I think, if we don't have either it is the worst and that is what is happening to our children today because if we have 50 per cent drop outs it means that 50 per cent of our children are really unable to deal with life itself. That is all I have to say. Thank you very much.

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR (Karnataka): Sir, I rise to support the objectives of this Bill completely and wholeheartedly.

Sir, like many other Bills that we pass in Parliament, it is yet another Bill that is no doubt driven by good intentions and will clearly entail significant spending, but, I think, it raises more questions than it provides answers to critical issues like education outcomes, financial sharing, delivery of education etc.

Sir, we all accept that this is the single biggest investment we can make for the future of our nation. But there is a need to go beyond the rhetoric and vision into what will make or unmake the goals that we are setting for ourselves and the promises that we are making to our children in this Bill. So, therefore, I will make a few brief points to add to what my hon. Colleagues have already said in Parliament.

Sir, we all accept that despite the work of the Kothari Commission which was appointed in 1964, with broadly the same set of goals, the country has achieved very little of the goals and objectives set out by the Indian Education Commission of the 1960s. Understanding the 'why' of this will be very important if we are to make this Bill a success on the ground. I look forward to hearing from the hon. Minister, his views on what went wrong in the last 60 years.

Sir, one of the big mistakes we are making is to assume that education is simply about building more schools or bringing private sector into elementary education. That would be, in my humble opinion, naive. The education problem in our country is more about capacity building through the entire education value chain which includes, at the core of it, teachers and faculty as much as school infrastructure — the software and the hardware of education. This Bill seems to focus, predominantly, on the hardware of education *i.e.*, schools.

The biggest crisis facing education in India, in my opinion, is the decline in profession of teaching, both in terms of numbers and in terms of quality. I would urge the Government to focus on this issue in more than passing way, as it has in the Bill so far. What is the total number of teachers required? What kind of capacity for training and developing teachers of tomorrow is the Government envisaging through this Bill? What the Government is going to make teaching an attractive profession for upcoming students? I would like to hear from the hon. Minister his strategy on these issues.

Sir, the second one is the issue of Government school system itself. Somehow, I get the sense that the hon. Minister and the Government's strategy is to use private schools to increase competition and quality in Government schools. Sir, with the greatest respect to this dream, I would say that this is not going to happen as an automatic consequence of private school and investor's entry into elementary education. The Government school system needs top to bottom reform and restructuring, starting with faculty compensation, infrastructure improvement, improvement in facilities and creating a cadre of teachers and principals that can do jobs with sufficient oversight, but with little political interference.

Sir, unless the existing Government school system is invested in, reformed and modernized, it will suffer the fate that it is already suffering *i.e.*, the students are moving to private schools for better quality education. Without fixing the current Government school system, widespread entry of private schools will hasten the demise of the Government schools. If you don't believe this theory, please look around you in other areas like hospitals, airlines, telecom where private sector competition, without preparing the Government entity, do not result in any improved quality or competitiveness on the part of the public entry, rather it hasten its decline into irrelevance.

Sir, finally, there are many more ambiguities with regard to the role of local Government, State and Central Governments in discharging this obligation of universal education which needs clarity and addressing. As we all know, many Bills have been passed by this House that have resulted in increased litigation due to broad interpretative and administrative discretion and grey areas in the draft of legislation itself.

Sir, in conclusion, I request the hon. Minister to address these issues to make the dream of universal education a reality. Otherwise, it will remain an empty promise and make this Bill yet another case of 'when in doubt, legislation. Thank you.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA : Sir, I have a point of order. Sir, when I was sitting in the Chair, if time allocated for discussion, for example, is 4 hours *i.e.*, 240 minutes, we used to calculate one minute per Member of the House. Suddenly, how come the BJP has got only 41 minutes and other parties have got less time and where 30 minutes have gone? We are giving 30 minutes less time to Members! I have calculated. The staff members were also there. I think there is some mistake in the calculation of time. Sir, four hours means, 47 minutes for the BJP and similar time for the Congress. It is also getting less time. Others are also getting less time. We should think about it. Sir, 30 minutes given for the Minister has to be excluded from the time allocated for the debate. You should look into it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Najmaji, you have raised a relevant point. What has been done is, 30 minutes, out of the total time allocated to the debate, has been allocated for the Minister for his reply. So, the remaining time has been divided among the parties as per the rules. I would say that your suggestion is noted. I have no objection. It should be considered.

Now, Shri Jois.

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS (Karnataka): Sir, at the outset, I wholeheartedly support this Bill. It is the most important legislation. But, it is unfortunate that the Bill has come up after 58 years of the commencement of the Constitution, though it should have come, as my learned friend has said, 58 years earlier. I congratulate the Government for bringing forward this Bill, at least, now, for it is never too late to improve. In fact, it would have been better if the Bill were titled 'Duty of State to Provide Primary Education', as children cannot enforce their rights. Then, we always hear, in public speeches, the popular saying that children of today will be citizens of tomorrow. That means by mere lapse of time, that is, by attaining 18 years of age they are going to become citizens. But the question is: What type of citizens? If we want good citizens, we can secure this only through good education. Thus, a good primary good education is the very foundation of good education. Earlier, the 'education' was under the Directive Principles of State Policy, under article 45 of the Constitution. It was raised to the level of the Fundamental Rights by the Supreme Court in the case of Unnikrishnan. In fact, I had an opportunity of arguing that case in the Supreme Court. Then, the Bench put me a question, "What is the basis for saying that education is a part of Fundamental Rights?" Then, I quoted a *shloka*, written by Bharithari, who was the king of Ujjain, and later became a saint, in the *Nitishatika*,

विद्या नाम नरस्य रूपमधिकं  
प्रच्छन्नं गुप्तं धनं  
विद्या भोगकरी यश सुखकरी  
विद्या गुरुणां गुरुः  
विद्या बंधु जनो विदेश गमने  
विद्या परा देवता  
विद्या राजसु पूजित ननुनं  
विद्या विहीनः पशुः

I told that it meant, *Vidya* is a special attribute of latent in man. It is a hidden treasure, provides pleasure (it is the teacher of all teachers) a real friend when one goes abroad, it is God-incarnate, honoured by State, not money. A man without education is just like an animal." Basing my arguments on article 21 A said that every citizen has a Right to Personal Liberty, and personal liberty included education. If education is not given to him, he will be just like an animal. It is quoted in the judgement (AIR 1993, S.C. 2178). The Supreme Court said, "What more is necessary to say that education is a Fundamental Right." This judgement was delivered on 8.12.1993. But the Constitution was amended after nine years and article 21 (a) was added through 86th Constitutional Amendment of 2002. Again, this Bill is coming up after six years after the 'education' was added as a Fundamental Right, Earlier, it was in the Part-IV of the Constitution. Another important article has been added in the Constitution in place of earlier article 45, that is, provision for early childhood care and education below the age of 6 years. It says, "The State shall endeavour to provide early childhood care and education to all the children until they complete the age of six years." So, now, from birth to the completion of six years, it is the duty of the State to provide education. This is regarded as 'pre-primary oral education'. It has been in our culture, before a child would go to school, sufficient knowledge about history, environment, geography, arithmetic, names of months, days, seasons, etc. was provided by the parents. But, unfortunately, that entire system is not in existence now. Therefore, something has to be done to provide primary education. In fact, I still remember two *shalokas*, which my father had taught me when I was a boy of just 3 years,

उत्तरं यत्समुद्रस्य  
हिमाद्रेश्चैव दक्षिणम्  
वर्षं त्वभारतं नाम  
भारती यत्र संतति

"The country that lies to the North of the sea and south of the Himalayas is Bharat and we are all bharatiyas." 'We are one people', this concept itself was a part of education. And, then,

नमस्ते शारदा देवी  
काश्मीर पुर वासिनी  
त्वमहं प्रार्थये देवी  
विद्या दानं च देहिमे।

This used to be the first verse at the time of विद्यारम्भा. It means, "The Sharada Devi, whose abode is Kashmir, should bless me". Like this, the country's unity was also made a part of education. Then, article 51 (j), that is, every citizen should strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity so that the nation constantly rises to higher level of endeavour, and achievement was added to the Constitution as part of Fundamental Duties, *vide* Part-IV A. How can a citizen discharge this onerous fundamental duties unless he is given very good education? Therefore, a citizen can discharge his duties only if he is properly educated. According to the 1984

Government of India Report on Education, there were more number of illiterate citizens in India than the total population of the country at the time of Independence. It was 33 crores in 1947. It was more than 33 crores of people who were illiterate by 1994.

Sir, now I come to the language of primary education. I have studied all the Reports of the Committees and Commissions right from 1947 onwards from Koithain Commission Acharya Rama Moorthy Committee and now the Yash Pal Committee. They are all unanimous in saying that primary education must be imparted in the mother tongue of the children. They were all unanimous in that opinion. Mahatma Gandhi said like this as early as in 1928, "We may not without committing national suicide neglect the mother tongue and make English the vehicle of our progress. In no other country do we find the state of things as we do here. We have paid dearly for having learnt all these years everything from medium of English language. We have strayed away from the path of our education." Again, he said, "Whatever I have learnt in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics in English medium in a period of four years, I would have learnt the same in just one year if the medium was my mother tongue, Gujarati." Then, Rabindranath Tagore, though he himself was a great scholar in English, said, "the language of the children and the language of learning are different only in India, When a student is learning in the foreign language, he will not be able to get control over the subject of learning and he will just memorise the lessons." Mahatma Gandhi said, "Just as breast milk is necessary for a newly-born child, the primary education should be in mother tongue for the children." Then, the Supreme Court has expressed very strongly in a case where some people formed an Association called English Medium Students' Parents Association. They came to the Supreme Court in a writ petition against the Karnataka Government order which said, "Primary education shall be in mother tongue." And, this is what the Supreme Court said, "All education experts are uniformly of the opinion that people should begin their schooling through the medium of their mother tongue. There is great reason and justice behind this where the tender minds of the children are subjected to an alien medium, the learning process becomes unnatural. It inflicts strain on the children. It makes the entire transaction mechanical. Besides, the educational process becomes artificial. The basic knowledge can easily be imparted through the mother tongue. The introduction of a foreign language can threaten the development of mother tongue." So, these are the opinions of experts like Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindra Nath Tagore and the Supreme Court of India. After all, that now you are bringing forward this Bill, I am glad that in clause 27 of this Bill, there is a specific provision that as far as practicable, primary education shall be imparted in mother tongue. That is the best part of this Bill. ...**(Time-bell)**... As far as the doubt about the implementation of the Bill is concerned, I say that if there is a will, the Bill, will, certainly, be implemented. I am sure with a dynamic Minister like Shri Kapil Sibal, whatever may be the hurdles, the Bill which becomes a law and it will be implemented. The latest Yash Pal Committee Report also says, "the child from its

birth learns the language at home, the mother tongue, speaks with parents, relatives, friends and neighbours. There is no need to teach singular, plural, or, gender, whatever it is. Everything is learnt by the child on its own, but all this becomes a waste when the child goes to a school where he has to study in some other language." Therefore, this is one of the good provisions of the Bill. As a Judge and a lawyer, wherever I have worked, what I have found is this. If you look at the Forest Officers' office or a Junior Engineer's office, you will find that they are well equipped but if you go to a primary school, you will find that they are a dilapidated structure. There is no furniture. In many cases, children sit on the floor. That is the fate of the primary schools. That is the importance given by all these years and that has been reason for the large number of drop-outs. Mr. Raja has already given the numbers. As far as drop-outs are concerned, I don't want to repeat the same thing. A large number of drop-outs are taking place because of this. I now come to the other very important aspect, *i.e.*, quality of teachers. Sir, I compare teachers to construction workers, national construction workers. As the Supreme Court Justice Mohan has said in one case, "The real nation is built in the school rooms." The quality and qualification of teachers is of utmost importance. The qualification is there. It is said, "He must have passed pre-University or he has a Degree." But what about the other thing, *i.e.*, disqualification? Particularly, at the primary level, the teachers' disqualification must be there that they should not be alcohol addict; they should not be having smoking habits because the children learn more by emulation than instruction. If the teacher is smoking or he is an alcohol addict, then, naturally, it will be followed by children. Therefore, it is particularly - I am not speaking about the other Departments - important that as far as primary school teachers are concerned, disqualification should also be prescribed because first, the students learn character, honesty, etc., from the teacher. ...(Time-bell)... Sir, I will take only one or two minutes more. Sir, what is happening in a large number of single-teacher schools is that thousands of posts of teachers are kept vacant. This is the situation in the so-called single-teacher schools. Regarding single-teacher schools, here there is a report in which it is said, "In many countries, teacher absenteeism and attrition remain persistent problem. A 2003 World Bank Study revealed that investigations making random visit to 200 primary schools in India found no teaching activity at all."

Sir, I was Governor in Patna. In Raj Bhavan, there was a primary school run by the Government. For eight classes, there was only one teacher. This is the importance given to the primary education. ...(Interruptions)... That was the position of a Government school attached to Raj Bhavan and you can understand the situation elsewhere.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN); Please conclude.

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: One minute more. Sir, the teachers are not appointed at all. The Government always raises the question of economy in appointment of teachers. I can understand if in a Revenue Office, one or two persons are not there, some other person can do the work. But if

teachers are not there, how can the school be run? But that is all what is happening. Therefore, utmost importance has to be given to primary education because that is the very foundation. Unless you give proper education at the primary level, they cannot pick up at the higher level. These matters should be given utmost importance. As I said, the Bill contains all these provisions. But the question is, it should have financial backing. Mr. N.K. Singh and others have already mentioned regarding financial backing, etc. There may be certain other drawbacks.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): You have taken fourteen minutes in place of nine. Now, please conclude.

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: Sir, I have already covered most of my points and I have to make only one more small submission. There is the latest report of the Yashpal Committee. I would like to quote para 3.1.2 of this report. I may be permitted to quote this. Otherwise, they will say, this was not mentioned. That is why I am referring to para 3.1.2 in which the Yashpal Committee Report, to which Mr. Kapil Sibal also referred recently, says "Care must be taken to honour and respect the child's home language, *i.e.*, mother tongue — he calls it as a home language — because the child would have acquired sufficient knowledge in the home language and that should be continued in the education system." And, there are two types of educational institutions. Sir, I want to make this one point more. There were Government schools. I come from old Mysore State where person started private school. But parents were not prepared to send their children to a private school because they always considered that Government school was the best school; they were being run properly with good teachers. पर यह अब उल्टा हो गया। Now, they say, "Who goes to Government school. When good private are available there. The private schools are increasing who making money. Though the English rule has gone, the slavish mentality has not gone." I am forced to speak in English because our national leaders did not introduce our own language in the educational system when we were studying. I remember a dialogue between Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Please conclude.

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: Jawaharlal Nehru said he would introduce Hindi step-by-step; Mahatma Gandhi said, 'यदि करना है तो इसे एकदम से करिए, एक-दो-तीन कर के नहीं।' But we did not immediately change ...(Time-bell rings)... and evolve our language policy in that we did not specify as to what is the area for the use of where the regional language and what is the area of the national link language, Hindi etc. We have not earmarked all these areas. The resultant position is utter confusion and now many people think that they cannot survive without English. That is the pitiable situation of our country as far as education is and have note policy are concerned. There should be thorough reforms. Primary education must be strengthened.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Hon. Members, this is a very important Bill. Unfortunately, the time allotted is only four hours and quite a large number of Members are yet to

speak. Unless you stick to the time-limit, it would take a lot of time. A large number of speakers are there.

DR. K. KESHAHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh) : It should have been more than four hours.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : It should have been. Yes. I agree. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is correct. Now, Dr. Keshava Rao. Doctor saab, take only fifteen minutes.

DR. K. KESHAHA RAO : Sir, actually, I was recommending it to you that we must go back to BAC and ask them to give us more time because as you have yourself said from the Chair, it is an important Bill. Anyway, I shall not take much time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Still, please, take only 15 minutes.

DR. K. KESHAHA RAO: All right, Sir. Having been invited at this stage of the debate, when all the people have spoken about various issues, I don't think there is much left to me but nonetheless, I shall confine only to the principles and the philosophy behind what my friends have said. I would like to take Mr. Shyam Benegal first. It has always been discussed but let me tell you, Sir, perhaps, education is the only subject under the Sun about which everything, sense and nonsense, has been spoken by everybody — father is an expert; son is an expert; student is an expert; neighbour is an expert; everybody is an expert in education. There are a lot of educationists here; there are a lot of academicians here; and there might be a few unfortunate people like me who have handled the portfolio of education for long, longer than perhaps necessary. And none of us has ever addressed any issue about academics except Service transfers, salary payments and those sort of things. So, education really needs some kind of a focus. But education is something which everybody has been talking about. Now, I shall go to Shrimati Najma Heptullah; she has talked about knowledge-based education. The same thing has been talked about by Shri Jois. Now, you had comprehensive and integrated personality to be built up. I am not trying to quote Vivekananda and say, look, after all, the latent thing has to be brought out; it has to be mid-wifery. Whatever it is; other than mid-wifery there also has to be something more. Now, Mr. Shyam Benegal has made a very important point, that is, the oral and literacy. Now, we have been fighting on this point for long. While he has spoken about this, I would like to take him to the other experience of all of us. We had two schooling systems in this country. One is the school where Mr. Kapil Sibal wants us to go; another is what Shyam Benegal controls. While in my book I am told that I must speak the truth, while I am told that I should do this and I should do that and respect my parents and so on, there is another school that is known as cinema. He referred to only the TV, but I am referring to cinema. You sit for three and a half hours. Any person who has a baby, a girl, and is a smuggler, a villain, is now elevated to a style where, for two and half hours, he becomes the hero of every youth and adolescent, adolescent in the maladjustment stage. So much so, that in the last one sentence, if at all that boy is able to take care, he repents and the hero comes into the picture. Now, we have all the schools with all the money that is being spent, money to the tune of Rs.34,000 crores, but we have the other system in the hands of the few who can as well challenge you. Now, these things are going on. So, when Najma Heptullah

and other hon. Members raise the issue as to what exactly it should mean, we must differentiate between the oral knowledge and literacy. Sir, let me say one thing whether it is good or bad, because N.K. Singh sahib had brought in all the infirmities and a few issues which should be looked into by the Minister, as far as this Bill is concerned. Mr. N.K. Singh *sahab* has brought in all the infirmities. I would say 'infirmities'. Still there are few issues which will be looked into by the hon. Minister as far as this Bill is concerned. He has brought in four points plus another oversight point. I would not repeat them. But where there is necessity, I would only highlight them. Mr. Bagrodia has given all the figures — the budgetary figures and allocations from the day one to this day. Although I have got all the right, but I thought I would be only speaking on the kind of hypocrisy that we have and the kind of absolutely dual personality that we have developed over education. Now, what exactly is the education that we are talking about? I am not trying to go into education canvas and all that. I would say, today we are talking over the greatest thing. If destiny had any meaning, this is the tryst with sentiments and happy tryst wherein we would like to take all the children to some system known as education and try to see that they transform themselves from that type of environmental condition to what is futuristic. That is what we exactly meant with this.

Mr. Raja wanted to say something about 0 to 3 and 3 to 6. So far as 0 to 3 and 3 to 6 are concerned, ICDS is looking into that. That is the primary education. What this Bill is trying to attempt or address is a fundamental right or a legal right that should be given to children who are born here. Be it a rich man or a poor man, he has a right to go and have an education. That is what we are trying to achieve. About infirmities I would talk later on. This Bill refers to age and language. The Bill says, 'As far as possible, the primary education shall be in the mother tongue.' I don't know what 'as far as possible' connotes. When you talk to me, first of all, I listen to you in your language, the language you speak and try to understand it in my language, or, to understand it, or, assimilate it in two languages — one what you spoke and the language that I understand, then assimilate it, and then reproduce it in a language that you are trying to teach me without my grammar and all blundering contents. Let me submit, Sir, that language is a concept. Unfortunately, we have made language an issue, a subject. It is a concept. It is a cultural concept. If somebody says in London that Mr. Shyam Benegal is a good boy, people think that he is alert, he has etiquettes, he is punctual, he respects and bows down to people and he knows how to conduct himself. If you say the same thing in India, that means he is truthful, he cares for his mother, he respects elders and he is God-fearing. So, there is entire difference from A to Z. We have not understood that culture that he represents. All that we are trying to talk about is language. And then at what age? You said that it is a particular age when a boy is trying to transform himself. If that is the age when he does not understand the language which he is supposed to understand and try to assimilate it and reproduce it in other language, what would happen to language? Mahatma Gandhi said, as you have just now quoted, "Four years I took to understand Science and Mathematics. Had it been in my own Gujarati I

could have understood it in one year." I am telling you that it is true. I have been a teacher, I have been a lecturer, I have been an academician and I have been holding the portfolio of education, and I am telling you that that is true. I have been associated with most of the committees right from Kothari Commission. As you have said, Kothari Commission said, "the nation is re-building the classrooms." He did not mean the blackboard, he did not mean the soulless desks that lie before the students and he did not talk about the chalk. He talked of human element as a teacher who is there. He did not try to talk about the brick and the mortar that made the classroom. He talked about the love that was to build in; but that we have forgotten.

Today, coming down to Bill that I thought we would be able to discuss when the Demands for Grants were here, but, unfortunately, the Demands are being guillotined here and the Bill has come. Before I take up the Bill, I would like to raise one thing. It is a very serious issue which has already been raised. I am joining my colleagues here. What exactly is the Standing Committee's job? When we thought of a standing committee, we thought of it as not only oversight committee, but as a mini parliament. Because we don't have time so, in Committees, we go and discuss things among ourselves; we call the experts and know from them what exactly we need to be told and explain our stand. Thus they try to marry the two — one is the people's version and another is the technical difficulties. One is the people's version. The other aspect is the technical difficulties. Then, how does the Standing Committee comes with these reports? Is the Standing Committee thrown out? Is the Standing Committee has given you 21 recommendations in the report that you have which you have discussed? I think, they even asked the Chairman for extension of time. That has not been taken care as Mr. N.K. Singh said. It hurts us. It is not because we are Members of the Standing Committee, but we are dealing with a subject which touches something like 20 crore people in that age group. Now, Shri Santosh Bagrodia stated some figures about dropout rates. I am not disputing his figures that dropout rates have come down. Sir, let me tell you that there are two-three types of figures. The World Bank gives one figure. The Minister gives the other figure. The NGOs give some other figures. And, the NCERT gives other figures. So, let us not really bother about these figures, and it is true also. The dropout figures, which you are trying to object to, up to fifth standard, it is 32 per cent. The Government has agreed to 28 per cent. All right, some kind of neighbourhood is there. Now, up to seventh standard, one study says that is 68 per cent, although we are saying that it is 48.7 per cent. Please, look into that. And, why are these dropout rates? Regarding appointment of teachers, through you, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one important clause of the Bill which says that appointment of teachers will be done by the Central Government. What are the requirements in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh State? Unity does not mean uniformity. The educational needs of our people in hilly areas, the educational needs of people in tribal areas, the educational needs of people in plain areas are different from that of those living in Kashmir. This has been said not once but many times. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to beg and submit to hon. Minister, it has been said umpteen times by almost all the Committees. That is why, education is a State subject. It comes to Concurrent List where you want

to maintain some kind of unity, uniformity and coordination. This coordination is being stretched to a level where you want to appoint a teacher for a school in Jharkhand. A tribal lady in Jharkhand is to be told as to who will teach her. And, you will tell them what will be the qualification of a teacher. Quite possible that a particular school in Jharkhand does not require A,B,C to be taught as literacy. It wants something else to be taught which prepares a ground for them to understand A,B,C. Education is a step-wise evolution. So, this aspect must be understood by the Government. All these things have already been discussed by educational experts. Now, coming to the Bill, he has referred to only four points. Reviewing your fourth point, I would like to tell what is happening about the teachers. Sir, he mentioned about curricula, I just don't know what this National Curriculum Framework is. I have also objected to this in the Standing Committee, What is this National Curriculum? You have been talking about Europe; you have been taking the example of Japan and America. It is all right when it comes to graduation and post-graduation level. But, at matriculation level, or less than matriculation, or upper primary, what is needed is personality development, the assimilation of the knowledge, assimilation of, as Mr. Shyam Benegal said, the environment in which we live, and our responses towards it, and the society's response to your responses. These are the two main criteria which can only be implemented when you totally de-link, de-couple your entire educational sphere and educational philosophy from that. Now, former U.G.C. Chairman, Prof. Yashpal, gave a report. I am not trying to dispute him or join issue with him at this stage. Now, somebody just now said we give priority to higher education. Because the Bill is before us, we are giving priority to primary education. But, let me tell you, if it was in my hand, I would have had put an end to everything, put a big full stop to everything. Let the primary education, the secondary education, this basic education be given to everybody and they become responsive enough to future's challenges. Then, I get up to your bigger challenges of the professions, bigger challenges of technology and other things. What exactly the FICCI has said. The FICCI said that there would be something like 4.7 lakh direct appointments through the IT companies. It is all right in the foreign trade, foreign mercantile; you have more people. Few of you can speak English and can stay in those houses, but please don't penalise us for that and ask us to go through the curricula and the subjects that we should read. That is why, I am trying to tell you that there is a lot of difference.

Coming to the Bill, I have not understood the Section 2. I am mixing up all the things because of lack of time. Mr. Minister may please excuse me for jumping from one issue to the other. Sir, coming to private schools, kindly look into clause 2(n), if you are asking them to go by your own norms, that you have given, it will stand the scrutiny of the law because clause 13 is also there, which comes to the picture, and, this will be looked into. ...(Time-bell)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Dr. Rao, the time is over. Please.  
...(Interruptions)...

DR. K. KESHAHA RAO : Sir, we are talking about the quantity. We are trying expansions. I believe, this morning, and, I stand to be corrected if it is not so, the Minister seems to have said, we will have three thousand neighbouring schools. What is this three thousand? I have not understood. Today, we have something like nearly one crore schools all over the country for something like 18.24 lakh school habitats. If the figure of 3,000 is true, then, I think, it is too meagre and it makes no sense as far as this Bill is concerned.

Now, what exactly we must welcome is that this is the first Government which has accepted that it is the responsibility of the State to educate a boy or a girl, to care for a boy or a girl. According to me, education here is to care for a boy or a girl, take him or her along with you so that he or she has a big canvass, vision and he or she can walk alone. For that, you require quality.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Please. ...(Interruptions)... There are three more speakers from your party.

DR. K. KESHAHA RAO: Sir, I will take only a minute more. Sir, take for example the geography book that is taught to us only at class third. We get dropped out at the eighth class. First chapter says that the earth is round. For a person who is getting dropped out, whether it is round or flat, what difference does it make? Friedman says, 'the brain power'. The second chapter says about the longitudes, which neither you nor I have seen. But this chapter runs into four pages. Next chapter says, the world is divided into six continents. Whether it is six or twelve, what difference does it make to me, Sir? Fourth chapter starts with Europe, what is there in Liverpool; what does Eskimos wear; what can be grown; and, you will have all those things. Coming to Australia, you will know as to how the sheep are bred. Then comes Canada to tell you about the wheat which is there. So, all over the world, what can be produced, what is the weather, what is the climate, will be taught. Then it mentions Asia in the last chapter. Only if the time is left, the teacher would take it up. Sir, even in Asia, India is the last lesson. ...(Time-bell)... In India, your State is not there. Even if it is there, it will not come up at all because 230 days are over. Even if it comes up, what can be grown or produced in your village has not been taught. When this is not being taught, of what use it would be for me, Sir. You can understand.

So, firstly, Sir, please look into the needs of the boy, needs of the society in which you live, and, secondly, please see that when you are appointing teachers, it need not be your authority from Delhi or some other State. Why not let the school appoint its own teachers. As far as community schools are concerned—actually, I experimented with this — I said, let the local authorities or communities appoint, and, automatically, that man is there. So, these are few points. As you said, it is an important subject. I cannot take up in the plate all the things at the breakfast time but nonetheless it

requires for you to understand it because education is not talking about 34 clauses that you have brought in, or, something which you think that we have discussed it like a great policy in the Standing Committee. It requires an incisive insight by you. You have some kind of committee. But I would still require that whatever be the Expert Committee — the people sitting here know the people - you call a meeting of the Members of Parliament and let there be a two-three days' seminar and discuss all the things. Thank you very much.

**श्री महेन्द्र मोहन (उत्तर प्रदेश) :** उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सर्वप्रथम मैं माननीय मंत्री, श्री कपिल सिब्बल जी को इस बात के लिए बधाई देना चाहूंगा कि वे बालकों का निःशुल्क और अनिवार्य शिक्षा अधिकार विधेयक, 2008 लाए हैं। कम से कम आजादी के 60 सालों के बाद सरकार की समझ में यह बात आई कि ऐसा विधेयक होना चाहिए और उसमें ये व्यवस्थाएं होनी चाहिए। यदि ये व्यवस्थाएं पहले हुई होतीं, तो आज हमारे देश की स्थिति दूसरी होती और भारत का स्थान दूसरे स्थानों पर होता। इस विधेयक के जो उद्देश्य हैं, वे बहुत अच्छे हैं - समता, सामाजिक न्याय, लोकतांत्रिक मूल्य, न्यायसंगत एवं मानवीय समाज का सृजन, ये सब उद्देश्य हैं, लेकिन हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी जो चाहते हैं, क्या उस तरीके की व्यवस्था हमारे यहां है, क्या हमारे यहां उतने स्कूल हैं, जहां पर हम ये व्यवस्थाएं कर सकें, अपने यहां के सारे बच्चों को प्राइमरी एजुकेशन दे सकें? यह बहुत अच्छा सुझाव है कि प्राइमरी एजुकेशन अपनी मातृभाषा में ही होनी चाहिए। इसके साथ ही साथ यह देखना होगा कि हम किस प्रकार से अपनी एजुकेशन को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए इस क्षेत्र में private investments को लाएं। जब तक और ज्यादा स्कूल नहीं बनेंगे, तब तक स्कूलों के अंदर शिक्षकों और विद्यार्थियों का रेशियो ठीक नहीं होगा। मैं समझता हूं कि किसी भी विद्यालय में 25 बच्चों के ऊपर एक शिक्षक होना चाहिए, तभी उसे सही शिक्षा दी जा सकती है। अगर इससे अधिक विद्यार्थी होते हैं, तो सही शिक्षा नहीं दी जा सकती है। करप्शन की जो हालत है, व्यक्तिगत investment के द्वारा जो विद्यालय खोले जाते हैं, उनको परमीशन लेने के लिए कितनी कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ता है, उस ओर मंत्री जी को ध्यान देना होगा। इसके अलावा हमें इस ओर भी ध्यान देना होगा कि जो हमारे सरकारी स्कूल हैं, उनकी क्वालिटी ऑफ एजुकेशन क्या है? जैसे कि मुझसे पहले बहुत से साथी वक्ताओं ने ये चीजें कहीं कि वहां क्वालिटी ऑफ एजुकेशन बहुत खराब है, अब लोग अपने बच्चों को सरकारी स्कूलों में नहीं, बल्कि प्राइवेट स्कूलों में भेजना चाहते हैं। हमें अपने सरकारी स्कूलों को इस तरह का बनाना पड़ेगा, ताकि लोग यह चाहें कि उनके बच्चे सरकारी स्कूलों में जाएं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, नेबरहुड स्कूल का विचार बहुत अच्छा है, लेकिन नेबरहुड स्कूल के लिए यह आवश्यक है कि हर क्षेत्र में और हर सीमा में स्कूल खोले जाएं। इसके साथ-साथ मैं एक बात और कहना चाहूंगा कि गवर्नमेंट की यह पॉलिसी है कि जो non-aided schools हैं, वहां पर ये 25 परसेंट का रिजर्वेशन लाना चाहते हैं, अगर वे ऐसा करेंगे, तो शिक्षा को और पीछे ले जाएंगे, शिक्षा को आगे नहीं बढ़ा पाएंगे, क्योंकि वहां पर वे 25 परसेंट बच्चे निःशुल्क पढ़ेंगे और उनका burden या तो बाकी 75 परसेंट बच्चों पर पड़ेगा या फिर उसमें लोग आएंगे नहीं और स्कूलों को नहीं खोलेंगे। रिजर्वेशन बहुत अच्छी चीज है, बच्चों को रिजर्वेशन दिया जाना चाहिए, हरेक को शिक्षा का अधिकार मिलना चाहिए, लेकिन इसके लिए ऐसी व्यवस्था बनाई जाए कि अच्छे स्कूल हों, अच्छे टीचर्स हों और टीचर्स की ट्रेनिंग की भी व्यवस्था की जाए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका आभारी हूं कि आपने मुझे इस बिल पर बोलने के लिए समय दिया और मैंने कोशिश की कि मैं उसी समय में अपनी बात पूरी करूं। धन्यवाद।

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN):** Shrimati Shobhana Bhartia, Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan has an appointment with the Prime Minister. She has requested to speak early. So let her speak now. I will call you after her.

DR. (SHRIMATI) KAPILA VATSYAYAN (Nominated): Sir, this bench has been called 'the mute wisdom bench.' As I heard all my colleagues speaking, I was speechless.

This Bill is very important and I think we need more time to discuss it. I have four points. I don't write, but I wrote seven pages.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair)

Let me begin with history. History is not only Mahatma Gandhi. History goes back to Wood's Report of 1861, the Hunter Commission's Report of 1886, Mahatma Gandhi's *Hind Swaraj* of 1909, Tagore's speech of 1909, Arobindo's Uttarpara speech of 1906, and then Independent India's Reports of the Radhakrishnan Commission, the Mudaliar Commission, and the Kothari Commission, and the NPE. Each of these Commissions has recommended three important things, not the Hunter Commission which wanted European knowledge to come here. One of them is 'character-building.' Second is 'value.' What kind of a future generation do we want? A generation of Indians who will be rooted, as Gandhiji said, both in India and the world. And that can only happen if we take cognizance of everything that has happened in educational pedagogy over the last 60 years. *देर आयद दुरुस्त आयद, वह तो सब ठीक है, लेकिन आज देर आए, दुरुस्त आए, तो क्या आए?* There are multiple intelligences. As Shyam has said, oral learning and literacy have to be brought together. There is a vast fund of oral knowledge in this country and I urge upon you to read one article, the article of A.K. Kumaraswamy which talks about the bugbear of literacy and education.

Then, there is the question in terms of how will we take the great human resource that we have in our communities. All these three leaders said that education is for the individual; it is for the community and the world. How do you bring the community into the schools? We have failed. I have been a cog in the wheel for many decades. Sir, I don't speak as someone who is just giving a speech. I have heard this with pain and agony. I have heard this because we have failed. I have heard this because I also recommended this Bill. But, it will have a very rocky part. I have sat there and I know what it means to implement this Bill.

Sir, questions regarding language have been raised. We are genetically a multilingual country. Why are we making this into either a unique, lingual or a prioritised language? We all speak four languages. We all can communicate in multiple languages. There is no question of prioritisation of one language or the other. And finally, Sir, a group of educationists sent a petition to the Standing Committee. This was considered in two days and seven hours in the IIC and cognizance may have been taken of those recommendations. That is all. I have much more to say on the details of this Bill. But, there is no time because we are regulated by the calendar time for matters which are of value. What kind of a citizen do we want for the future? Do we want people only speaking ungrammatical English at the end of 20 years? Do we want Indians rooted and yet able to grasp the world on their own terms and with their own civilisation? Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman.

5.00 P.M.

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA (Nominated): Sir, the Right to Education Bill has had a long journey and is a historic legislation. The enactment of a law making the right to education a Fundamental Right has become necessary in view of the fact that the goal of universal elementary education eludes us despite it being a Directive Principle for over half a decade. But, there is no better time than this for us to enact such a Bill as India is poised to take advantage of its demographic dividends. But, Sir, while I praise the Minister for introducing this Bill and to do so, so soon, I would like to urge upon him that we all want to make a few suggestions. Do not lose this opportunity and just get numbers. We need to create minds if India has to become a knowledge economy.

Sir, to my mind, the Bill is over-skewed and focusses too much on enrolment as opposed to quality of education and the basic minimum standards that are required. Any legislation that does not accord importance to learning outcomes, to my mind, remains slightly incomplete. Thus, this approach of input as opposed to the outcome is bound to actually slip into a vicious cycle that leads to the dropout rate, increasing it at every successive level like, from the primary level to the secondary level. So, by the time, you actually turn out as graduates, Sir, it becomes abysmally small number and even there, only a handful of them are actually employable. So, the Bill has to address the twin problems of low quality of education and the high dropout rate which have plagued our country for the last many, many decades. In this context, Sir, there are three important issues that I would urge upon the Minister to consider the basic minimum qualification for teachers, the desired learning levels for students and the benchmarking of schools on the basis of quality. Sir, there is a very useful study that was conducted by McKenzie for the American system of education which actually quantifies the academic learning gap.

And it says that the lack of productivity and innovation due to this learning gap is actually translating into 16 per cent of their GDP. Sir, America is the highest spending country in terms of per capita on education yet it ranks twenty-five. The lesson in that for us is that it is not only money, and it is not only availability that matters, it is a quality of education that matters.

Sir, the next point is that whereas the Bill actually focuses on the student-teacher ratio and in terms of the requirements of infrastructure, it remains silent in terms of the most important thing, and that is the basic teacher requirement. What are the minimum standards that we expect from teachers? What are the qualifications? Even there, the Central Government and its appropriate authorities have the flexibility to keep changing the requirements that we need from teachers. This low grade turnout of teachers which even UNESCO says today only 20-25 per cent of the teachers are actually fit to teach, these teachers are not given any in-house training and the result is that the learning of students in the Government primary schools is abysmally low. More than 50 per cent of the students cannot perform a simple mathematical solution; they cannot read a simple paragraph; a

lot of this comes with sheer indifference and the paltry salaries that are paid to these teachers.

Sir, another point that I wanted to flag with the non. Minister was that the Bill also makes it mandatory for non-Government schools to gain a certificate from the Government which actually means putting a lot more power in the hands of many bureaucrats which will become a tool for harassing schools. In a country like ours where we need to encourage the best and the brightest, any number of learning institutions, to my mind, is inadequate. On the other hand, there are no penalties for the Government schools if they fail to meet the required infrastructure or the student-teacher ratio, no penalty has been spelt out. Also, the implementation of this fundamental right is left to the State Government and the Local Government. It does not specify who is going to be accountable by being vague about it and saying that it is left to the State and the Centre, I believe, Sir, the issue might fall between two schools and nobody would be held accountable. Unlike some of the other Bills which the Government has introduced, whether it is the RTI or the NREG, accountability has been fixed either in terms of identifying people or in terms of punitive clauses. So, my request to the Minister is to please try and consider how best he can try and focus on who would be held accountable. The Bill also places the onus on the Government to ensure enrolment of all the children, but once again, it does not specify who in the Government or which agency is responsible for this. Therefore, it is unclear who would be the appropriate authority, for example, to monitor that working children, children who are living on the streets, who do not have parents, who do not have guardians, who would ensure that these children are enrolled in schools.

Sir, the last point is that the Government has given a three year window for the schools, for the State Governments to implement and roll out this plan in the neighbourhoods though what constitutes the neighbourhoods have not even been defined. I would like to urge the Minister that if India has to meet its millennium development goals by 2015, then perhaps, this window of three years is too long a time. It is a time we cannot afford, and I would urge him to re-look at that and try and upfront it more.

And lastly, Sir, once again, I would like to congratulate the Minister, but in all humility, I urge him not to rush through this Bill until and unless he is confident that what he will be producing for this country are not just numbers of enrolments but minds that can help take India to the next level.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Sir. In a country where there has been discrimination on the basis of gender, caste and class, and children have not been allowed education for centuries in the name of law, in the name of the ruler, I think, this Bill is a Bill which has come here to make a wrong which has been carried forward for centuries as a right. So, I really welcome this Bill as a product, and as a Member of the DMK party which is a continuation of the social justice movement.

Sir, one of our greatest leaders today, Nelson Mandela says: Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

The recent Yashpal Committee Report says: "A lot is taught, but little is learnt or understood." These two statements are clear indications of what we should aspire for and what we are. "We will bring children from our rural areas" — commented one of our educators Mr. Vijay Kumar from Tamil Nadu — "who are very happy playing and rearing cattle. We bring them into the system. We try to educate them, but, after a few years, we tell them, "You are no good. You are good for nothing. Go back to the place where you came from!" Sir, this, actually, spoils their confidence throughout their life.

Sir, education is encouragement. It should awaken the natural curiosity of the young minds. We concentrate more on confining the curious young minds to classrooms and prescribed textbooks. The Bill places a great importance to the provision of physical infrastructure and other inputs, but there is no mention of an assessment of outcomes and learning achievements. With the provision 'that no child be held back, expelled or required to pass a board exam until completion of elementary education', which is a very welcome provision, it should not leave out the objective assessment of the child, learnt abilities.

"Right to Schooling" should take care to ensure that it is a "Right to Learning" also. But when we say "assessment", it should not mean what we have in the present way of examining the students. A child goes to school, and to learn a subject or a concept, it takes ten years. But we examine the child in just three hours, and are not bothered about what the child's state of mind is in that three hours, what his health conditions are or whether it is taken over by a fear. We try to examine, whatever the child has learnt over ten years, in just three hours. Actually, these examinations do not test the comprehension, the articulation or the capability of the child to apply the concept in real life. No child's ability can be tested this way. Actually, it is only a test of the child's writing skills.

Today, in a newspaper, there was a report which says that 44 per cent of students in Class V cannot read Class II books fluently. It also says that a survey done in ten districts in the country shows that 25 per cent of our teachers could not solve simple problems in Maths and less than 50 per cent could comprehend a Class V level textbook and summarise it.

Sir, I would also like to mention here what the Yashpal Committee Report says again. "Inadequate programme of teacher preparation leads to unsatisfactory quality of learning in schools." The continuing education and assessment of teachers must be stressed and incorporated into the Bill. Sir, as already mentioned by a lot of Members who spoke here, I also request that the Bill should expand its definition of "a child" and include "pre-primary education" too into it, and the age of the child for "compulsory education" and 'the Right to Education' has to be changed to 3-14 years of age.

Section 7 in Chapter III of this Bill states: "The Central Government and the State Governments shall have concurrent responsibility for providing funds for carrying out the provisions of this Act."

The responsibility and the limits of the Central and State Governments should be made very clear, and how the funding for the various projects undertaken to be implemented under this Bill should also be included in the Bill. Changes, of course, can be incorporated later.

Chapter III also mentions about "neighbourhood schools", it is very important to define "a neighbourhood school" because in every State, it could differ. And the Bill also says that there is a time of three years for these "neighbourhood schools" to happen. The most important thing is what is going to happen to these children in these three years. As it regards children who have to go to a school, how are we going to provide for their education? Are we going to send them to some nearby private school? And is the Government going to pay for it on the transport That has to be clarified. *...(Time-bell rings)...*

In Chapter IV, section 12C of the Bill says that 25 per cent of seats in a class have to be allotted to children belonging to weaker sections. I request that reservation also for the socially backward classes and sections has to be incorporated into it. It is a very important thing because it is just not that they have been discriminated monetarily, their discrimination is further than that. In a country like India, I think, discrimination on the basis of social systems is still very rampant. So, that has to be included. The Bill hardly mentions anything about out-of-school children. How are these children, who are drop-outs or never enrolled, going to be put in the mainstream? Now the SSA actually in its 'Back-to-School Scheme' has a bridging force which mainstreams these children. But with the SSA getting over in 2010, who will take the responsibility of these children?

The Bill states that the children will not be denied admission on account of any disability. It fails to acknowledge the additional facilities such as ramps, hurdle-free environment, special toilets, specially trained teachers, etc., which need to be provided. Moreover, slow-learners and children who need specialised ways of teaching are not mentioned in the Bill at all. What kind of provisions are we going to make to ensure the inclusion, of these children?

My last point is, Chapter VI says that National and State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights will inquire into complaints relating to a child's right to free and compulsory education and take necessary steps. We are all aware of the fact that in our culture child abuse and child sexual exploitation have never been brought up in public. But now things are changing and slowly these things have started being reported. For any child it is a very traumatic experience. *...(Time-bell rings)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Sir, I am concluding. An incident like this in a school premises would deter them from education for ever and leave them scarred. How would we deal with grievances like this when child sexual abuse cases are still dealt with by using the laws enacted for adults? I request the Chair for a discussion on this here. I hope some Members would support it. It is very important.

Unless these laws are changed, we can't protect our children. Thank you, Sir, and once again I would like to congratulate the Government for bringing in this Bill.

**डा. राम प्रकाश (हरियाणा) :** उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आपने इस महत्वपूर्ण विधेयक पर अपनी बात कहने का मौका दिया है। यह एक ऐसा ऐतिहासिक विधेयक है जिससे न केवल बच्चों के व्यक्तित्व का विकास होगा, बल्कि इस देश में बाल मजदूरी की जो कुप्रथा है, उसे भी समाप्त करने में मदद मिलेगी। जब हम अपने आपको इस बात के लिए तैयार कर रहे हैं कि पूरे देश में बच्चों को शिक्षा दी जा सके, तो इसके लिए मेरा यह सुझाव रहेगा कि जिस तरह से श्री राजीव गांधी जी ने अपने समय में एक सर्वे के आधार पर "चैलेंज ऑफ एजुकेशन" एक डायग्नोस्टिक तैयार करवाया था, उसी आधार पर सरकार प्रदेशवार सर्वे करवाए कि कितने प्रतिशत बच्चे स्कूलों में दाखिला लेते हैं? और पांचवीं तथा आठवीं के बाद कितने प्रतिशत बच्चे स्कूल छोड़ देते हैं? वे स्कूल क्यों छोड़ जाते हैं? इसके पीछे सामाजिक पृष्ठभूमि क्या है और उसका कारण क्या है? देश में आज जो आठवीं तक के स्कूल विद्यमान हैं, उनकी स्थिति क्या है? पुस्तकालय है, चारदीवारी है, ब्लैक बोर्ड है, अध्यापक है, कमरे हैं या नहीं हैं? साथ ही यह भी देखा जाए कि "सर्व शिक्षा अभियान" जो चलाया गया, उसका क्या परिणाम रहा है? पांचवीं के बाद अधिकांश बच्चे पढ़ाई छोड़ जाते हैं, आठवीं के बाद कुछ और बच्चे छोड़ जाते हैं, इसका कारण क्या है? मैं समझता हूँ कि इसके दो मुख्य कारण हैं। एक, समाज का नजरिया, जागरूकता का अभाव, शिक्षा के प्रति कम आकर्षण और दूसरा कारण संसाधनों का अभाव है। विशेषकर गांवों में लड़कियों के माता-पिता दूसरे गांव में लड़की को पढ़ने के लिए भेजने को तैयार नहीं होते हैं और इसीलिए बच्चे आगे पढ़ने से रह जाते हैं। इसके अन्य कारण भी हैं, जैसे - गवर्नमेंट स्कूलों में योग्य अध्यापक होते हुए भी, सुविधाएं होते हुए भी, पढ़ाई ना के बराबर है। जहां उसमें अध्यापक जिम्मेदार है, वहां सरकार भी, जो उनसे अनेक प्रकार के काम लेती है, जिसमें से कुछ कामों पर रोक भी लगाई गई है, मैं समझता हूँ कि अध्यापकों से कोई गैर-शैक्षणिक काम नहीं लिया जाना चाहिए। उसका अपना काम बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है और उसे वही काम करके देना चाहिए। जो बच्चे स्कूल नहीं जाते हैं, उनमें से बहुत से बच्चे स्लम एरिया के हैं और कुछ बच्चे माइग्रेटरी लेबर के हैं। जब उनके मां-बाप मजदूरी करने जाते हैं तो बड़ा बच्चा छोटे बच्चे की देखभाल करता है। इस वजह से वह स्कूल जाने से रह जाता है। हमें फ्री स्कूल एजुकेशन के लिए ज्यादा आंगनबाड़ियां खोलनी चाहिए और उनके नार्मर्स बदलने चाहिए। 500 की आबादी पर एक आंगनबाड़ी की बजाय हमें बच्चों की संख्या तय करनी चाहिए क्योंकि जिस इलाके में अमीर घराने ज्यादा हैं, वहां पर पढ़ने वाले बच्चों की संख्या कम होगी और जहां गरीब बच्चे रहते हैं, वहां पर तादाद ज्यादा होगी। आंगनबाड़ी का भवन स्कूल के अंदर होना चाहिए, स्कूल से बाहर नहीं होना चाहिए। इससे बच्चे को स्कूल में जाने की आदत पड़ती है। महोदय, मैं इसके साथ यह भी कहना चाहूंगा कि नजमा जी ने जो एक बहुत अच्छा मुद्दा उठाया है कि प्राइमरी एजुकेशन का आरंभ मातृ भाषा से होना चाहिए। दूसरी भाषा कोई भी हो, वह किसी और क्लास से भी पढ़ाई जा सकती है। भाषा का व्यक्ति की संस्कृति से बड़ा गहरा संबंध है। मेरे एक बहुत सात्विक, निष्ठावान जैन बंधु मुझसे बातचीत करते-करते अपने बारे में कहने लगे, "I have killed two birds with one stone." मैंने उनसे पूछा, आपने पक्षी मारने कब से शुरू कर दिए? वे झेंप गए और कहने लगे कि दोष मेरा नहीं है, यह भाषा का दोष है। अगर मैं हिन्दी में बोलता तो मैं "आम के आम, गुठलियां के दाम" कहता।

महोदय, मैं आप से दूसरी बात यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हरियाणा के अंदर श्री भूपेन्द्र सिंह हुड्डा के मुख्य मंत्रित्व काल में कांग्रेस की सरकार ने एक तजुर्बा किया है, जो बहुत कामयाब रहा है। हमारे यहां हरियाणा सरकार ने यह नियम बनाया कि कोई भी शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट बच्ची अगर पहली से पांचवीं क्लास तक स्कूल जाएगी तो उसे 150

रुपए प्रति माह वजीफा मिलेगा और यदि लड़का जाएगा तो उसे 100 रुपए मिलेगा। छठी क्लास से आठवीं तक के लड़के को 150 रुपए और लड़की को दो सौ रुपए मिलेंगे। पांचवीं क्लास तक लड़कियों की वर्दी के लिए 300 रुपए और पांचवी क्लास के बाद आठवीं तक वर्दी के लिए 500 रुपए दिए जाएंगे। यह जो नियम है, यह अनुसूचित जाति और बैकवर्ड क्लास, जिसको हरियाणा में BCA कहते हैं, मैं OBC की बात नहीं कह रहा हूँ, BCA और BPL के ऊपर लागू किया जाए। इसका परिणाम यह निकाला कि आज हरियाणा के अंदर एनरॉलमेंट लगभग शतप्रतिशत है और ड्रॉपआउट रेट बहुत कम है। क्योंकि जो गरीब मजदूरी करने जाता है, उसे इस बात का पता है कि मेरा बच्चा स्कूल में जाएगा, पढ़ेगा और साथ कमाकर लाएगा। हमें इस तर्ज के ऊपर काम करना चाहिए। हरियाणा में ऐसे सभी बच्चों के बैंक एकाउंट्स खोल दिए गए हैं और उनका पैसा सीधे उसमें जमा कर दिया जाता है।

महोदय, मैं आप से एक और निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। मैं नेबरहुड के बारे में यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर हम इसे लागू करना चाहते हैं तो कम से कम हर गांव में पांचवीं क्लास तक का स्कूल होना चाहिए। अगर आठवीं क्लास तक की बच्चियों के लिए व्यवस्था कर सकें तो बहुत उचित रहेगा। यहां हम माता-पिता कर्तव्यों की बात करते हैं कि उन्हें अपने बच्चों को स्कूल में भेजना चाहिए, सवाल यह है कि अगर कोई मां-बाप अपने बच्चे और बच्ची को स्कूल में पढ़ने के लिए नहीं भेजते हैं तो उनको क्या दंड मिलना चाहिए? हम उनको अलग-अलग स्कीमों के आधार पर जो सुविधाएं देते हैं, हमें उनसे वे सुविधाएं वापस ले लेनी चाहिए। इसी तरह मैं यह निवेदन भी करना चाहूंगा और जिस बात की चर्चा इस बिल के अंदर नहीं है कि जो व्यावसायिक घराने हैं, जो औद्योगिक घराने हैं, उनकी यह जिम्मेवारी होनी चाहिए कि जो वहां लेबर काम करते हैं, जो उनके लो पेड एम्प्लॉइज हैं, उनके बच्चों के लिए स्कूल की व्यवस्था वे औद्योगिक घराने करें। इसको उनके साथ कम्पलसरी किया जाए, क्योंकि बिना कम्पलसरी किए हमारे औद्योगिक घराने R&D पर उतना खर्च नहीं करते, जितना उन्हें करना चाहिए। यह व्यवस्था भी की जानी चाहिए। इसके साथ ही मैं यह बात भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमें किसी न किसी क्लास में या आठवीं क्लास में इम्तिहान की व्यवस्था जरूर करनी चाहिए। यहां पर यह बात कही गई है कि हम उसको किसी क्लास में रोकेंगे नहीं। अगर एक बच्चे को चौथी क्लास का हिसाब नहीं आता है, आप उसे छठी क्लास में बैठा देते हैं, तो वह क्या सीखेगा? इससे अच्छा तो आप उसे चौथी क्लास में ही रखिए, ताकि कम से कम वह चौथी क्लास तो पास कर ले। अगर वह बिना कुछ जाने छठी क्लास में बैठेगा, तो वह अपने आस-पास के बच्चे को भी पढ़ने से खो देता है। आप इम्तिहान से कहां तक बचेंगे? जीवन अपने आप में एक परीक्षा है। यह आदमी को सफलता और विफलता के बीच में संतुलन बनाने में मददगार रहती है। मैं यह समझता हूँ कि फेल न करना, रियायती पास लिख देना, इससे उसकी योग्यता का किसी किस्म का कोई मापदण्ड नहीं होता है। इससे बच्चे नकल करते हैं, वे जिम्मेदार नागरिक नहीं बन पाते हैं, उनकी योग्यता पर किसी किस्म का कोई भरोसा नहीं हो पाता है। मैं अंतिम बात यह कहना चाहूंगा कि यहां पर क्वालिटी एजुकेशन का प्रश्न उठता है। मैं यह समझता हूँ कि चैप्टर 1 में जो परिभाषाएं दी गई हैं, उनमें अगर आप एलिमेंट्री एजुकेशन को डिफाइन करते वक्त, जैसे वहां लिखा है, elementary education means education from class 1 to class 8. अगर आप इसमें क्वालिटी एजुकेशन शब्द यही जोड़ दें तो समस्या का समाधान होता है। मैं इस बात का पक्षधर हूँ कि सभी बच्चों को, वे जब किसी स्कूल में पढ़ने के लिए जाएं, उनका खान-पान, पहरावन सब बराबर होना चाहिए, शिक्षा की पद्धति बराबर होनी चाहिए। अलग-अलग प्रदेशों के हिसाब से उनका सिलेबस भिन्न हो सकता है। यदि हम उन्हें एक अच्छा नागरिक बनाना चाहते हैं तो हमें इस बात की ओर ध्यान देना पड़ेगा।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं यूपीए सरकार को इस बात के लिए बधाई देता हूँ, जिन्होंने बहुत उत्साह के साथ यह बिल पेश किया है। मैं यह समझता हूँ कि यदि सभी मिलकर प्रयास करें तो हिंदुस्तान के माथे पर जो अनपढ़ता का कलंक है, वह दूर किया जा सकता है। आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया, एक बार फिर आपका बहुत धन्यवाद।

DR. BIMAL JALAN (Nominated): Thank you, Sir. I shall try to be brief because a lot has been said. The most important point that I want to make is, if India wants to do it, it can. The question is not of what we want to do, which the Bill tells us, which the Directive Principles tell us, the Constitutional provisions of 2002 tell us; it is the method of how to do it. Here, Sir, since we have Mr. Kapil Sibal as the new Minister for education, I would make two sets of suggestions, very briefly. One is about knowing what to do, and in knowing what to do, we have to take into account the fact that we now have more than 60 years of experience in trying to do what we want to do. In many areas we have achieved success: Space, Nuclear Energy, Right to Information, Democracy, Elections. There are a lot of areas where India has done what it wants to do. So, there is no reason why we can't do what we want to do in the field of primary education. So, I believe that we can do it. My suggestion to Mr. Sibal, to the Department of Education is: one, we must do a survey in each district. I am bringing here some of my own experience from other fields to this field of primary education. If you look at each district in our country, there would be some parts of that district where the education system works, where the drop out rate is low. As we know, the rate of drop outs varies from 15-20 per cent to 70-80 per cent in different districts. So, we want to know why is it that in the same State, with the same rules, with the same amount of money, some areas work better than others. This is a matter of research which can be done and I can tell you that we have the institutions which can do a sample survey to tell you on the ground what works and why it works in some places in the same district and doesn't work in others. I know it. We have done this kind of a study for bridges, tubewells, water availability, failure of irrigation, and we found that in the same district, we found it worked in some areas while in other areas it did not work because the methods were different. What works in Meghalaya may not work in Karnataka; what works in Karnataka may not work in Tamil Nadu. So, we need a decentralised ground-level study. The second related suggestion to the Minister of Human Resource Development is: let us do a survey of teachers; it is not about opinions; it is about the problems that the teachers face in all parts of the country. Take a representative random sample. This study may take about six months but we can try and get the views of the teachers from all over India. This can be segmented by both, levels of income in different areas as well as the type of hinterland that we have. The rural areas may be different, the urban areas may be different, but we have institutions that can do this kind of study. Based on this study, I think, we can make a programme which will actually work and give us the results.

Now, Sir, I would like to say two other things from the user's point of view, which have worked in other areas. It is, why can't we also have — I would suggest to the hon. Minister — the Right to

Education PCO, similar to the Public Call Office. If somebody in a family, some student in a family, is not getting the education of the type which want him to drop out, they can go to that PCO. There can be a PCO at every ten kilometres, which helps the person who goes there and says, 'I want to go to this school. My interest is this, and where can I do it?' So, there should be this advisory service available to him or her or the family to do what needs to be done. If there is a problem in getting that education, if there is a problem in getting something, they can, at least, Sir, report that and then the solution can be found. It is not a complaint centre but a help centre. It is trying to find a solution to a problem, and we can do that.

Finally, Sir, we should understand, what every school needs are two things. One is teachers; the second is the method of teaching; the trained teachers and the method of teaching. You need paper; — I have been to many, many of these schools — you have blackboards without chalks; you have drawing Teachers without paper. So, what I would suggest to Mr. Sibal is to find a methodology whereby the Principal is allocated resources, a certain amount of autonomous resources which would give them the empowerment. So, provide these resources, and these resources would be per-pupil in a school. That is, in addition to all the other infrastructure and payment for teachers and so on, what is the amount of money which is needed to provide all the services to that student in terms of other things, paper, equipment and so on and so forth? So, I would make that suggestion to Mr. Sibal. These are all just ideas, vague ideas, at the moment, but I am sure that they can be crystallised. So, we know what needs to be done. We must have the belief that we can do it. It may not be done in five years, in ten years, but we can certainly deliver. India can do what it wants to do. And the second is to find a methodology, whereby we have a PCO-type of arrangement, where somebody can go 30, get the advice, get the best service. We should also provide for empowerment of the Principals. If the Principals want to change the infrastructure, to do something, to provide something, they don't have to go to the State Government or the District Collector, but the Principal herself or himself can do it. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Sharad Joshi. You have five minutes.

SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI (Maharashtra): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, now we are almost at the end of this debate, and there has been no dissenting voice as regards the objective of the Bill, that there should be access to education for all children in this country and they should have a right to compulsory education. This was stated in the Directive Principles of the Constitution itself. It is after 58 years, Sir, that we realise that despite what is said in the Directive Principles, we have not succeeded in achieving even universal literacy, forget about universal primary education. And, under these circumstances, having wasted 58 years, we are now trying to rush in. The Report of the Standing Advisory Committee was kept aside, and even now we are being doled out a minute or two

minutes for saying whatever is important. I think in the last one hour, there has been a definite qualitative improvement in the inputs that were made in the Rajya Sabha debate and I still feel, strongly feel, that we have 58 years behind us, and nothing is going to be lost even if the Bill is passed tomorrow. You will have to alter the List of Business. But this is a very important Bill because this is an area where for the last 58 years we have failed, and the Bill that has come before us, Sir, I regret to say, is not a Right to Education Bill, it is a right to formal schooling Bill. It is not a Right to Education Bill. One must make a difference between what is education, what is knowledge, what is three Rs. and what is schooling. What we are being offered is schooling and neither knowledge nor education.

Sir, I have a number of points, but I will only make a couple of points so that I stick to the time. I remember, Dr. White, an eminent Australian pedagogue mentioned that 'my father wanted me to have good education. Therefore, he never sent me to school'. The idea that in the school you get education and you become wise is a very old idea. It is not necessarily true. You may pick up certain rudiments of three Rs, but that also means that some of the knowledge that you have earned earlier before going to the school is lost.

Sir, what is the hard core of the problem? We have the tribals who have difficulty in going to the school, we have the bonded labour children who have difficulty in going to the school, then we have, Sir, the migratory labour who have difficulty in going to the school. The most important hard core of the problem is, the children from agricultural families who have difficulty in going to the school. Now, the approach should be quite different of course, there should be a word like right or responsibility; but the important thing is, are we providing the facilities for schooling? This is number one. Are we giving them any enabling instruments that will encourage them to go to the school.

Sir, let me talk about my experience about the children of farmers. The farmers do not like to send their children to the school because their impression is, once they go to the school, they lose the habit of hard work that is required by agriculture; they start dressing well and do not like to work on the agriculture at all. Not only that, the instinctive knowledge that they had about the agriculture is also lost when they go to the schooling. Schooling often becomes negative knowledge rather than positive knowledge.

Sir, under these circumstances, I would say that there are a number of contradictions, a number of holes in the Bill as it has come today. I will just read out the points so as not to take more time.

Firstly, there is a distinction between providing a right and providing a facility. There is no positive action taken to enable children who cannot go to the school to come to the school. For example, this is going to be a flagship programme of the UPA. That is why we are trying to rush it in 100 days. Sir, if we only combine two flagship programmes and widen the scope on NREGA to include in NREGA work on the agricultural fields where a child has been compulsorily sent to the school, the father will

not have any complaint about sending the child; he cannot send the child to the school today because there is nobody to work in the fields. If NREGA and this flagship programme is combined, it will make it much easier for the farmers to send their children to the school.

Sir, there is one very important point which was raised recently. There are two schools of thoughts among the pedagogues; there is a nurturing school of thought, which is, I think, like the Lady Montessori, who believe in nursing the children. And there is a school of thought which believes that their instinctive gut feeling, instinctive enterprise of the children should be encouraged.

Abolition of examinations starting from the first standard to the last standard is a very negative step; and at the time when the hon. Minister for Human Resources is trying to bring in foreign universities in this country, I think, we will make a very poor show. We want to expose ourselves to globalisation and, at the same time, wish to take away all the competitive elements that exist in our present system.

Sir, there are a number of contradictions. In clause 4-5, for example, they say that special tuitions ought to be provided; in clause 28 it is said that all kinds of private tuitions would be banned. I do not know how this kind of a contradiction could have come in there.

Then, Sir, the neighbourhood school has not been defined. Najma Heptullaji has pointed that out. Unless the neighbourhood school, particularly for the girl child, is less than 3 kms. away, it is not to be left to anybody; but 3-5 kms. away does not constitute a 'neighbourhood school'.

Sir, the last point that I would like to make is that there are certain clauses which are brought in and there will have to be some correction done about it; for example, the reservations for economically weak classes is something that is not in the system. I do not know how it got its way in the Bill. We will have to do something; because, otherwise, on this particular clause, the whole Bill may get rejected in the judiciary. I think, the Minister will at least comment on this and say where did he get the idea that the reservation for weaker section can be introduced in the Bill.

Sir, we are in a country where 50 per cent of the voters vote; we are in a country where only 40 per cent of the girls marry before the age of 14. In this kind of a situation, if you think that by merely saying there is a legislation and by merely saying that there is a right and compulsion in the act and that there would be a qualitative change, you are living in a fools paradise. Fifty years hence, I am afraid, we still will be in the same position and will still be talking of why India is half illiterate. Thank you.

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE (Maharashtra): Thank you, Sir, for giving me an opportunity. I rise to congratulate Shri Sibalji and also support the Bill. Sir, universalisation of primary education has been a long dream for us and we could not fulfil it for hundred years. In 1910, Gopal Krishan Gokhale had introduced a Bill in the Imperial Council but that was defeated. The dream was deferred and

deferred for a very long time and now our hon. Minister, Sibalji, has got the historic moment to introduce this Bill in this House. Sir, it is our desire, of the Indian people. All the social reformers, national leaders, all of them have talked about universalisation of education, that is, primary education. But now we are going to have a chance. We have always been saying that Indian education is at crossroads and for 100 years, even after 60 years of our independence, we could not cross the crossroads. But now this Government has the moment of crossing the crossroads. So, that is why it has got its own historical importance. All children of marginal sections, deprived sections are going to get a chance, a right to education. But only by passing the Bill, perhaps, all of them will not get education as a right. For that we have to try our best. You have not given me much time but this particular Bill has many salient features, many provisions have been made. The teacher is the focal point in the system of education. What I feel is that the teacher is Achilles' heel in our education system. He has to be trained. His training must be given as much importance as we give importance to the education for children. Unless he knows his trade it is not possible to have quality education in this country. So, accountability has to be fixed on the teacher. Some clause has to be inserted about it. There are two or three things to which I would like to draw the attention of the House. The Bill does not mention the medium of instruction. We have been talking about it, the Kothari Commission also talked about this. We have a clear-cut language policy that primary education has to be given in the mother tongue. We have 22 languages, which we have recognised as Official Languages in this country. So, that has to be made very clear in this particular Bill. Sir, one shortcoming, which I have come across, is that there is no clause of goals and objectives of primary education. Definitions have been given but especially in such Acts there is a clause, a section, an article defining the objectives and goals of primary education. There are many things; for instance, we have to inculcate cultural values in the minds of the students. Ours is a secular society, we have to inculcate the ethos of secularism, the rights of citizens and all that. So, this also should be there. After all, we are going to march towards an inclusive society. So, this is there. Development of personality is the primary goal of education. 'The destiny of India is being shaped in the classrooms'. This is the sentence with which the Kothari Commission reports opens. So, classroom is very important. School is micro society or micro community, and, therefore, we have to build this particular community. So, there are various ways but the destiny of India primarily depends on education. This is my submission. Thank you very much.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I rise to support this Bill and I congratulate the hon. Minister. I compliment him. Sir, as I share my friends' comments that this is a historical occasion where this country has been denied the facility of learning to a section of the members of the community. That century old injustice is sought to be removed or annulled by various measures right from the day we got independence and even earlier through various large hearted social reformers and also as enshrined in the Constitution in the form of Directive Principles by Dr. Ambedkar. Sir, we must remember the noble deeds of liberals like the work of Mahatma Phule. I

would like to say, Sir, that the State is taking the role of a parent. In short, you are providing a right to a child to learn or the Right to Opportunity to Learn. But, Sir. I would like to know is it okay if you just provide a right or is it a right if the right is not exerciseable. There are certain concerns which make me feel that there are discriminations, different forms of discriminations. If we look at today's newspaper, a *dalit* girl was asked to sit separately in a classroom in Uttar Pradesh and an NGO conducted a study.

**श्री गंगा चरण** (उत्तर प्रदेश) : आप असत्य बोल रहे हैं। यह उत्तर प्रदेश में नहीं हो रहा है।

**श्री जेसुदासु सीलम** : आप शांत रहिए, बैठिए।

**श्री गंगा चरण** : आप गलत आरोप लगा रहे हैं।

**श्री जेसुदासु सीलम** : आप शांत रहिए, बैठिए। There is a report. It could be verified that a girl was earlier sitting next to the members of the same community in the village but the teacher asked about her caste. She was then asked to go and sit in a corner. The NGO reported that almost 40 per cent of the schools in Uttar Pradesh report some sort of discrimination of this kind. This is what I read. If it is not correct, I will be happy.

**श्री गंगा चरण** : आप असत्य बोल रहे हैं, गलत आरोप लगा रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री वीर सिंह** (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उत्तर प्रदेश में ऐसा कुछ नहीं है।...(व्यवधान)... आप गलत आरोप लगा रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री उपसभापति** : आप बैठिए। वह अखबार से कुछ बोल रहे हैं। आप उसे deny करिए।

**श्री जेसुदासु सीलम** : वह किधर भी हो ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री उपसभापति** : यह क्या बात है? आप बैठिए।

**श्री वीर सिंह** : यह उत्तर प्रदेश में नहीं है, यह राजस्थान में हो रहा है।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री जेसुदासु सीलम** : आप शांत रहिए। उत्तर प्रदेश में नहीं है तो ठीक है।

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Seelam, you go ahead.

**श्री वीर सिंह** : तो ऐसा नहीं बोलना चाहिए।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री उपसभापति** : वह मैम्बर कह रहे हैं, आप उसको deny कीजिए ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठिए न।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री जेसुदासु सीलम** : आप शांत रहिए। उत्तर प्रदेश में ...(व्यवधान)... तो ठीक है।

**श्री गंगा चरण** : सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Seelam, you please go ahead. ... (Interruptions)...

**श्री गंगा चरण** : क्या उनके पास इसका proof है? ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री उपसभापति** : आप उसको deny कीजिए बस। वह यहां proof लाकर क्या देंगे? वह अखबार की बात कर रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री गंगा चरण** : आप अखबार की बात पर believe कर सकते हैं? यह तो कोई भी लिख सकता है।

**श्री उपसभापति :** आप भी उठाते हैं, वह भी उठाते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... बैठ जाइए।

**श्री गंगा चरण :** सर, जब हम गलत बोलते हैं तो वह भी विरोध करते हैं।

**श्री उपसभापति :** यह बात उठाने की नहीं है। बैठिए, प्लीज़।

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, I am not saying for the sake of saying. It can be verified, I will leave it to the Chair. But, there are certain concerns. If you look at the Definition, Clause 2(c), (d) and (e) enumerates who is 'Child.' There are certain special categories of children mentioned by the earlier speakers. They are: orphans, disabled, domestic workers, agriculture labourers, etc. Still, we see the dropout rate, as per the Report of the Standing Committee on the HRD, stood between 55 per cent and 60 per cent among the girls belonging to SC/ST communities. All this is because most of them still work as agriculture labourers and their parents depend on their wages, to some extent, for their subsistence. Despite the Mid-Day Meal Scheme on a large-scale, there are dropouts. So, there is a need to improve the situation as per the objectives of this Bill.

Secondly, Sir, I come to the quality of learning. If you look at the existing infrastructure, this Bill is not very clear and has not clarified what will happen to the existing infrastructure. There are certain norms for infrastructure. Are you going to upgrade the existing infrastructure, especially in the villages where a large number of Government schools does not have the basic facilities? Are you going to upgrade them, or, are you going to convert them to suit to your norms? It is not clear in the Bill.

Thirdly, Sir, I come to 25 per cent reservation combining with economically weaker sections, SC/ST, OBC and also with other sections. It is defined. Whenever such reservations are made, it is an all-inclusive. We would like it to be clearly demarcated what percentage will go to the most deprived sections. That is necessary, because on some pretext or the other, it is being challenged. I agree with Shri Joshi when he meant a new criterion is evolved. Sir, the Constitution (Ninety-third) (Amendment) is partly fulfilled when the reservations are made in the Government educational institutions. Reservation in the private institutions is still to be brought about.

This is about the minority institutions. Sir, Madam Najmaji and other hon. Members have mentioned about Article 30 of the Constitution. We are not going to ask them for reservation. The Muslim minority institutions can give reservation to Dalit Muslims. The Christian minority institutions can give reservation to Dalit Muslims. It does not prevent them from accommodating the less fortune among the same minority communities. ...**(Time-bell rings)**... This Bill is not very clear about the percentage. Sir, there is going to have a situation...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: ...in private institutions. Suppose, you are not reimbursing 25 per cent to private institutions matching to their calculation and if you are giving them at the Government rate, you are going to have an unequal situation of different types. Today also, in Delhi, there are

certain elite public schools running two sessions — one for the poorer sections and another for the affluent. You want this system to continue? Or, you want equal environment where everybody can learn together? These things have not been enumerated clearly in the Bill. However, I hope, these concerns could be reflected either in the rules to be made or make them part of the Bill. This may kindly be clarified. In the end, I, once again, compliment the hon. Minister for bringing forward this Bill. I also hope that the 93rd amendment would be implemented with the induction of reservation in the private sector, in the field of education, not only up to 14 years, as enumerated here, but up to 17 years.

Thank you very much, Sir.

**श्री साविर अली (बिहार) :** मैं इस बिल को सपोर्ट करने के लिए खड़ा हूँ, सपोर्ट करना मजबूरी नहीं, जरूरी है, क्योंकि अपोज करने वाले लोग दिखाई नहीं दे रहे हैं।

सर, मैं समझता हूँ कि मुझसे पहले सदन में एजुकेशन पर, हर बात पर लोगों ने, सीनियर मैम्बर्स ने, सब लोगों ने अपनी बातें रखी हैं। मैं कुछ न कहकर, Persian का एक शेर कहना चाहता हूँ कि:

इल्म चन्दा के बेशतर-खानी  
चूं अमल गर तु नेस्त नादानी॥

शायर कहता है कि चाहे तु इल्म जितना भी पढ़ ले, अगर तुझमें अमल नहीं है तो तू बेवकूफ है। सर, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे यहां यह इतना बड़ा मंत्रालय है, जिसमें देश की आने वाली नस्लों का और अभी जो नस्लें हमारी 14 साल से नीचे हैं, सबका भविष्य इस पर टिका हुआ है, बहुत बड़ा यह मंत्रालय है। मंत्रालय ने बहुत बड़े पैसे का allocation भी किया है - फरवरी में जो रिपोर्ट आई उसमें लिखा हुआ है, 2,00,000 करोड़ रुपये के ऊपर की allocation है। सर, मैं जो सर्व शिक्षा अभियान चलाया जा रहा है, उस पर जाने से पहले एक बिहार की मिसाल देना चाहता हूँ। मैं स्टेट को टारगेट नहीं कर रहा, मैं मिसाल दे रहा हूँ कि हमारे यहां 2,00,000 टीचर्स की बहाली हुई है, मैं दावे के साथ यह कहता हूँ कि इन 2,00,000 टीचर्स में पांच परसेंट भी ऐसे टीचर्स नहीं हैं, जिनको टीचिंग का experience है या up to the mark हैं। यह सच्चाई है। ऐसे टीचर्स हैं, जिनको न तो हिन्दी में ही, न उर्दू में, न इंग्लिश में चार sentence लिखने आते हैं, यह ज़मीनी हकीकत है।

सर कांग्रेस के एक बड़े मैम्बर ने आंगनवाड़ी का जिक्र किया, आंगनवाड़ी की स्थिति ऐसी है कि 95% आंगनवाड़ी का कहीं वजूद नहीं है, सिर्फ पेपर पर है और उस पर पैसा कितना आता है, आंगनवाड़ी के शिक्षक और उनके ऊपर जो supervision करने वाले लोग हैं, वे सिर्फ calculate करते हैं कि किसमें कितने percent पैसा जाएगा। सर, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम चाहे जितनी बात करें, चाहे जिस system की बात करें, आज जो स्थिति है, आप देख लीजिए, जितनी भी metropolitan cities हैं, छोटे शहर हैं, बड़े शहर हैं, वहां लोग अपने बच्चों के admission के लिए भागे-भागें फिर रहे हैं। आज जितने स्कूल हैं, उनमें स्थिति यह है कि वहां admission के लिए बच्चों के मां-बाप त्राहि-त्राहि मचा रहे हैं, लेकिन admission नहीं मिलता है। हम इस पर जोर क्यों नहीं लगाते कि हमारे यहां जितने भी पढ़ने वाले बच्चे हैं, उनको आज कम से कम admission मिल जाए। आज मां-बाप अपने पूरे काम-काज को छोड़कर 10-10, 20-20 दिन एक-दूसरे के यहां घूमते हैं। हमारे यहां लोग आते हैं, जब हमारे जैसे लोगों के पास 20-20 लोग आते हैं, तो हम समझ सकते हैं कि आप लोगों की क्या सिचुएशन है। जहां पर केन्द्रीय विद्यालय है, एक-एक केन्द्रीय विद्यालय में admission के लिए दो-दो सौ लोग वहां पर धक्के खा रहे हैं, admission नहीं मिलता है। सर, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे यहां जो system है, उसकी पूरी pipeline

जकड़ी हुई है। आज allocation हो रहा है, लेकिन इसमें जो माफिया लोग हैं, allocation होने से पहले, सरकार के announce करने से पहले, जो माफिया लोग हैं, वह allocation उनका target बन जाता है, उनका system बिल्कुल तैयार है कि पैसा कैसे आएगा, percentage कैसे बंटेगी और पैसा कहां जाएगा! सरकार अपनी scheme बनाती है, announce करती है, लेकिन उसके पहले माफिया लोगों द्वारा अपना target fix कर दिया जाता है।

सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय को कहना चाहता हूँ ....(समय की घंटी).... सर, मैं बहुत ज्यादा वक्त नहीं लूंगा ...

**श्री उपसभापति :** आप ले चुके हैं, आपका वक्त समाप्त हो चुका है।

**श्री साविर अली :** आप उस सिस्टम में कहीं सुधार लाने की व्यवस्था करें। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आज यहां से एजुकेशन के लिए जो पैसे अलॉट किए जा रहे हैं, वह ग्रास रूट तक पहुंचें, शिक्षा की जो बात की जा रही है, वह लोगों तक पहुंचें, उसके लिए क्या स्कीम है? हमारे यहां कहने से ज्यादा करने की जरूरत है, चाहे जितना भी पैसा, 2,00,000 करोड़ रुपए नहीं, बल्कि अगर आप 8,00,000 करोड़ रुपए भी allocate कर देंगे, वह पैसा भी कम पड़ेगा, क्योंकि आपका पूरा सिस्टम माफिया से घिरा हुआ है, पूरा सिस्टम बिगड़ा हुआ है। उसको बदलना होगा, अगर आपको भारत की तकदीर बदलनी है, तो अपने कामों को बदलना होगा।

इन्हीं अलफाज़ के साथ, सर, मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया। I, once again, congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing forward this Bill, which is expected to bring revolution in the field of education.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri M.V. Mysura Reddy, you have five minutes. There are some more speakers also.

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I will be a disciplined speaker on this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know, but it is my duty to remind you.

SHRI M. V. MYSURA REDDY : Sir, I rise to support this Bill on behalf of my Party. No doubt, this Bill is a good Bill. But, I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister two, three grey areas. Sir, the intention and objective of the Bill should not be on paper; it should be implemented in letter and spirit. Sir. I got this doubt after seeing the Budgetary allocations.

Secondly, Sir, in the Bill, stress has been laid on some guide posts, but I doubt whether provisions are sufficient to achieve this goal. For example, in clauses 24, 26, 27 and 28, there are a lot of do's and don'ts for the teachers. There is only one sub-section which is about students' standard: "Assess the learning ability of each child...." That means, Sir, from first class to the eighth class, only assessment will be made. Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the ACR survey. Sir, according to this survey, 33 per cent students of the fifth class were not able to pass the first class test and 40 per cent of the students were not able even to do subtraction. That is the standard of education, Sir. If we apply these principles, I am afraid, Sir, that we will be only giving them certificates for promoting them to the next standard, without any knowledge or standard of education.

My next point is regarding duty of the parents, if they do not fulfil their duties of sending their children to schools, what will be the consequences? This is not mentioned in the Bill. Then, Sir, it does not address the reasons because of which the parents do not send their children to school, for

6.00 P.M.

example, child labour, lack of learning, begging, migrant labours, etc. So, these issues need to be addressed. If this issue had been addressed, this would have been a perfect Bill.

Sir, these are my points. As I promised that I will be a disciplined speaker, I conclude, Sir. Thank you..

**श्री उपसभापति :** अलका जी, आप बोलिए, आपके पास 5 मिनट का समय है।

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** इनको पहले बुलवाना चाहिए था, ये प्रोफेसर हैं।

**प्रो. अलका क्षत्रिय (गुजरात) :** मैडम, बाद में भी केवल 5 मिनट ही मिले हैं। हमारा भारत देश, युवाओं का देश माना जाता है। यहां 25 वर्ष से कम उम्र की आबादी के 50 करोड़ लोग हैं, जो यूरोप की आबादी से बहुत अधिक हैं, उसकी कुल आबादी से भी अधिक दोगुना है और यह कहा जा सकता है कि अमरीका की आबादी से भी ज्यादा हैं, लेकिन यहां की सबसे बड़ी समस्या यह है कि जो युवा लोग हैं, उनमें से जो 14 साल से कम उम्र के बच्चे हैं, उनमें पढ़ाई का रेशियो बहुत कम है। गरीब लोगों और खासकर पिछड़े लोगों, अनुसूचित जाति-जनजाति के लोगों और मुस्लिम लोगों में आज भी शिक्षा का प्रसार बहुत कम है। गरीब लोग अपने बच्चों को मज़दूरी के लिए भेजते हैं, उनके लिए कमाई करना बहुत जरूरी है। जब हमने यह प्राथमिक शिक्षा अनिवार्य बनाई है, तो सबसे पहले मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि आप अनिवार्य शिक्षा किसे कहते हैं? मैं जिस स्टेट से आती हूँ, गुजरात से, वहां आजादी से पहले बड़ौदा स्टेट था, जो गायकवाड़ी स्टेट माना जाता था, मेरा महसूस भी गायकवाड़ी स्टेट के अंतर्गत आता था और वहां यह व्यवस्था थी कि प्राथमिक शिक्षा कंपलसरी थी। उस समय यह कहा जाता था कि जब बच्चा पैदा होता था, तो उसकी वहां नोंध होती थी और जब बच्चा स्कूल जाने लायक उम्र का होता था, तो उस बच्चे के पेरेंट्स को उस बच्चे को स्कूल भेजना कंपलसरी कर दिया गया था।

अगर parents बच्चे को स्कूल नहीं भेजते, तो parents को दंड का प्रावधान था, यानी बच्चा जब स्कूल जाने लायक होता था, स्कूल में दाखिले के बाद अगर स्कूल में वह कुछ दिनों के लिए भी गैर-हाज़िर रहता था, तब भी उसके parents को दंड का प्रावधान था, इसलिए dropout ratio भी बहुत कम था। तो क्या इसके अंदर ऐसा कोई प्रावधान करना चाहते हैं जिससे अनिवार्य शिक्षा का मतलब सिद्ध हो सके?

महोदय, दूसरी बात मैं क्वालिटी एजुकेशन के बारे में कहना चाहती हूँ। हम जानते हैं कि जो पैसे वाले लोग हैं, उनके बच्चे तो प्राइवेट स्कूलों में पढ़ते हैं या जो केंद्र सरकार के कर्मचारी हैं, उनके बच्चों के लिए केन्द्रीय विद्यालय, नवोदय विद्यालय बनाए गए, सैनिकों के बच्चों के लिए सैनिक स्कूल बनाए गए, लेकिन गरीबों के बच्चे तो सरकारी स्कूलों में पढ़ते हैं और सरकारी स्कूलों की स्थिति क्या है? वहां कैसी एजुकेशन दी जाती है, उसकी क्वालिटी कैसी है? वहां शिक्षकों की कितनी कमी है और सरकारी स्कूलों में कमरों का पूरा प्रावधान है या नहीं - ये सब बातें आप जानते हैं और आपने इस विधेयक में उनका प्रावधान भी किया है - शिक्षकों की संख्या कितनी होनी चाहिए, स्कूलों के रूम्स के बारे में सब उसमें है, लेकिन क्वालिटी की बात आपने नहीं बताई, इसलिए हम चाहते हैं कि उन बच्चों को भी ऐसी ही क्वालिटी एजुकेशन मिलनी चाहिए, जो पैसे वालों के बच्चों को या केंद्र सरकार के कर्मचारियों के बच्चों को मिलती है।

महोदय, तीसरी बात में पाठ्यक्रम के संबंध में बताना चाहती हूं कि अभी हम देखते हैं कि बच्चों पर शिक्षा का बहुत ज्यादा बोझ है। हम देखते हैं कि छोटे-छोटे बच्चे स्कूल जाते समय इतना भारी बस्ता उठाकर चलते हैं कि ऐसा लगता है कि उनका बस्ता उठाने के लिए उनके साथ एक आदमी भेजना पड़ेगा। तो आपने इस बारे में क्या सोचा है? साथ ही गरीब आदमियों के बच्चों को क्वालिटी एजुकेशन के साथ-साथ उनके काम से संबंधित शिक्षा देना भी जरूरी है।

महोदय, मुझे से पूर्व अभी माननीय सदस्यों ने बताया कि प्राथमिक शिक्षा मातृभाषा में होनी चाहिए। अब मैं अपने स्टेट की बात बताऊं कि हमारे यहां प्राथमिक शिक्षा गुजराती में होती है जो कि हमारी मातृभाषा है। दूसरी नेशनल लैंग्वेज हिंदी हमें सिखाई जाती है और तीसरी इंटरनेशनल लैंग्वेज अंग्रेजी हमें सिखाई जाती है। लेकिन कुछ हिंदीभाषी स्टेट्स ऐसे हैं, जहां उनके बच्चों को दो ही लैंग्वेज सीखनी होती हैं - हिंदी और इंग्लिश, इसलिए हमारे यहां के बच्चों पर एक लैंग्वेज ज्यादा सीखने का बोझ पड़ता है। इस वजह से अब की बार हमारी सरकार ने, हिंदी जो कंपलसरी होती थी, उसको optional बना दिया है। इससे आगे जाकर बहुत बड़ी तकलीफ यह होने वाली है कि केंद्र सरकार ने केंद्र की भाषा राजभाषा हिंदी बना दी है और यह प्रावधान किया है कि केंद्र सरकार के ऑफिसों के अंदर जो भी कामकाज होगा, वह हिंदी में होगा। अगर हिंदी को इस तरह से optional बनाकर निकाल दिया जाएगा, तो भविष्य में हमारे यहां के बच्चों की क्या स्थिति होगी? इसलिए मैं चाहती हूं कि इस बात पर भी जोर दिया जाए कि सभी जगहों पर रीजनल लैंग्वेज, नेशनल लैंग्वेज और इंटरनेशनल लैंग्वेज, तीनों सिखाई जानी जरूर है।

सर, मैं एक और बात एग्जाम के बारे में कहना चाहूंगी कि एग्जाम होना भी बहुत अनिवार्य है। बच्चों को अगली कक्षा में भेज दिया जाएगा, लेकिन यदि उसे निचली कक्षा की पढ़ाई पूरी नहीं आती होगी और उसे अगली कक्षा में भेज दिया जाएगा, तो वह बच्चा कभी भी कंपीट नहीं कर पाएगा।

महोदय, एक और बात यह है कि शिक्षकों से जो गैर-शैक्षणिक कार्य लिया जाता है, वह जो प्रयोजन आपने किया है, इसके बारे में मैं कहना चाहती हूं कि आपने प्रावधान किया है कि कुल इतने ही काम लिए जाएंगे। उसमें आपने जनसंख्या की गणना की बात की है या आपने बताया कि लोकल, स्टेट या केंद्र के जो इलेक्शन होंगे, उनसे संबंधित जो कार्य होंगे, वे उनसे लिए जाएंगे। मैं अपने स्टेट की बात जानती हूं और इसीलिए यह कह रही हूं कि आपको ध्यान होगा कि आपने जो आंगनवाड़ी वर्कर्स की बात की थी, उनके लिए भी आपने कुछ काम निर्धारित किए थे, लेकिन हालत यह है कि हमारे यहां के आंगनवाड़ी वर्कर्स से इतने ज्यादा अलग-अलग काम लिए जाते हैं कि उनका जो निर्धारित काम है, वे उसे कर नहीं पाते हैं। इसलिए उन आंगनवाड़ी वर्कर्स ने गुजरात सरकार को एक ultimatum दिया है कि आप सितम्बर तक अगर हमारे निर्धारित काम से ज्यादा काम लेंगे, तो वह काम हम नहीं करेंगे। इसलिए इसके बारे में भी आपको सोचना चाहिए क्योंकि हम कानून तो बना लेते हैं, लेकिन कानून का अमल किस तरह से होता है, उसको भी देखना जरूरी है।

महोदय, आखिरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहती हूं कि छोटे बच्चों के लिए सबसे बड़ी बात होती है कि उनमें सिविक सेंस होना बहुत जरूरी है। मुझे लगता है कि छोटे बच्चों को सिविक सेंस, लैंग्वेज और पर्यावरण से संबंधित बातें अगर प्राथमिक शिक्षा में बताई जाएं और बाकी बातें हम प्राइमरी के बाद की शिक्षा में, माध्यमिक शिक्षा में या उच्च शिक्षा में ले जाएं, तो ज्यादा अच्छा होगा। अगर इन सब बातों पर ध्यान दिया जाएगा, तो मुझे लगता है कि बच्चों के लिए जो हम अनिवार्य शिक्षा की बात कर रहे हैं, वह अनिवार्य, मुफ्त और क्वालिटी एजुकेशन मिलेगी, धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Kumar Deepak Das. You have got just three minutes.

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS (Assam): Sir, the Directive Principles of State Policy enshrined in our Constitution lay down that the States shall provide free and compulsory education to all children up to the age of 14 years. It has taken us 58 years, but better late than never. Ultimately, we have a Bill which seeks to achieve this objective. It is a welcome move, Sir. On behalf of the Assam Gana Parishad, I support this Bill. Passing the Bill alone will not serve the purpose or objectives of the Bill. Effective steps need to be taken and sufficient budgetary allocation made for the effective implementation of this Bill. Our able and efficient Minister would be able to get this Bill passed successfully.

Sir, we are talking about the right of all children between the age of six and 14 years to free and compulsory education. In Assam, there is an established procedure of opening up a school: some villagers get together and open primary schools for which they acquire or purchase land. They construct buildings and open up school buildings for children. Thereafter the Government comes forward and the Director of Elementary Education gives permission to run such schools. A few years later, the school gets recognised and after 10-15 years, the school is provincialised on the condition that it has a good building and sufficient number of teachers, land is made available. What is provincialisation in our State? The salaries of teachers is borne by the Government. But, in the last 15 years there are more than 3000 schools which have not been provincialised so far by the Government of Assam. These schools are still running without making free books available to the children, without providing mid-day meals to the children, without building grants, without paying salaries to teachers. The poor teachers used to have only Rs. 300-400 per month's remuneration. Sir, 80 percent of the students studying in these schools belong to BPL families and disadvantaged groups or weaker sections. I would like to know whether this Bill would give some kind of relief to those school-families. The hon. Minister for Education will enlighten us in this regard.

With these few words, I conclude, and compliment the Bill.

**श्री उपसभापति :** श्री राजनीति प्रसाद।

**श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) :** सर, मुझे कितना समय अलॉट हुआ है?

**श्री उपसभापति :** चार मिनट।

**श्री राजनीति प्रसाद :** सर, क्या मेरा समय घट गया है? पहले यह पांच मिनट था।

**श्री उपसभापति :** आप बोलिए। ....(व्यवधान)... वह बहुत disciplined हैं, चार मिनट कहा है तो चार मिनट ही बोलेंगे।

**श्री राजनीति प्रसाद :** मैं तीन मिनट में समाप्त करूंगा। महोदय, हमारे यहां एक शिक्षाविद् हुआ करते थे, वे अभी नहीं हैं। वे वेस्ट बंगाल में गवर्नमेंट में थे - नूरुल हसन साहब - यहां शिक्षा मंत्री भी थे। उनका एक लेख मैंने पढ़ा था। उस लेख में उन्होंने कहा था कि एक साल से पांच साल के बच्चे को अगर प्रॉपर ट्रीटमेंट नहीं दिया गया,

उसकी नर्सिंग नहीं की गई, उसको मां के द्वारा शिक्षा नहीं दी गई तो वह लड़का आगे जाकर कुछ भी नहीं कर सकता। अभी जो आपने शुरू किया है कि आप 6 वर्ष से प्राइमरी एजुकेशन देंगे, तो इस प्रकार एक साल से पांच साल तक का जो गरीब बच्चा है, उसका क्या होगा?

नम्बर-2, आपने यह बताया है कि कम्पलसरी एजुकेशन। What is the meaning of compulsory education? कम्पलसरी एजुकेशन का मतलब, जो 6 वर्ष से 14 वर्ष के गरीब लोग हैं, क्या वे कोर्ट में जाएंगे और कहेंगे कि हमको एजुकेशन दो। विमल जालान साहब ने जो कहा है, वह सही कहा है कि आपको सर्व करना चाहिए तथा सर्व करके पता लगाना चाहिए कि हम लोगों को कैसे एजुकेशन दे सकते हैं। सर, चूंकि आपने समय कम दिया है इसलिए मैं नटशैल में कहना चाहूंगा, हमारे सदस्य साबिर अली साहब ने बताया कि इससे पहले भी उनको आंगनवाड़ी दिया है। आंगनवाड़ी में गांवों में जाकर बच्चों को सिखाते हैं, उनको पढ़ाते हैं, उनको खिलाते हैं, उनके लिए पैसा मिलता है, यह आपने पहले भी दिया है। उसके बाद आपने सर्व शिक्षा अभियान भी चलाया है। सर्व शिक्षा अभियान में आपने करोड़ों रुपया लगा दिया, लेकिन, सर, उसके जो टीचर्स हैं, उनके बारे में आप जरा देखिए। हमारे साबिर साहब ने बताया है कि वे मैट्रिक पास भी नहीं हैं, वे गलत जगह से सर्टिफिकेट ले आए हैं। आपने कहा कि सर्व शिक्षा में सब को सामान्य शिक्षा दो, लेकिन उसमें टीचर का अपोइंटमेंट आपने नहीं किया। आपने उसमें क्लॉज छोड़ दिया। तो अभी भी जो आपने सर्व शिक्षा अभियान बनाया है, जो कम्पलसरी एजुकेशन का बनाया है Sir, I think it is meaningless because कम्पलसरी तो उनके लिए होगा, गरीब के लिए होगा, लेकिन गरीब की तो आवाज ही नहीं होगी। सर, मेरा यह कहना है कि यहां दो तरह की शिक्षा होगी, पहली शिक्षा जो गरीब के लिए है और दूसरी शिक्षा के लिए कोई कम्पलसरी की जरूरत नहीं है, क्योंकि उनको तो शिक्षा मिलती ही है, वह तो डोन बासको में पढ़ते ही हैं, डी.पी.एस. में पढ़ते ही हैं। तो उनके लिए कम्पलसरी की जरूरत नहीं है। इसलिए विमल जालान साहब ने जो कहा है, बहुत अच्छा कहा है कि पहले सर्व करिए कि कैसे-कैसे लोगों को हमको कम्पलसरी एजुकेशन देना है, उनको चूज करिए, उनको इकट्ठा करिए और इकट्ठा करने के बाद टीचर्स का अपोइंटमेंट करिए। दुनिया के हर देश में टीचर की इज्जत होती है। अमेरिका में जो प्राइमरी टीचर होता है उसको प्रोफेसर से ज्यादा पैसा मिलता है, ज्यादा जनख्याह मिलती है, उसके रहने की व्यवस्था होती है, लेकिन हमारे यहां पर जो प्राइमरी टीचर्स होते हैं वे सातवीं पास भी नहीं होते हैं, आठवीं पास भी नहीं होते हैं और वे कम्पलसरी एजुकेशन में आ जाते हैं और हमारे यहां बच्चों को पढ़ाने लगते हैं। इसलिए, सर, मैं विमल जालान साहब की बातों का समर्थन करता हूं। मैं एक दूसरी बात और कहता हूं, क्योंकि यहां बहुत काबिल वकील हैं, बहुत बड़े वकील हैं, हमें उन पर नाज है। सर, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि सामान्य शिक्षा का प्रोविजन होना चाहिए, यानी अमीर का बच्चा भी और गरीब का बच्चा भी एक साथ एजुकेशन पाएगा। डा. राम मनोहर लोहिया ने कहा था कि \* के बेटे को भी और महारानी के बेटे को भी एक साथ एजुकेशन मिलना चाहिए। लेकिन जब तक dual policy of education होगा, हमारे देश में कुछ भी नहीं हो सकता है। इसलिए रिसर्च करिए।

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** उनके द्वारा वह वर्ड नहीं बोलना चाहिए।

**श्री उपसभापति :** \* वर्ड अनपर्सनल्लिटी है उसे निकाल दीजिए।

**श्री राजनीति प्रसाद :** \*डा. लोहिया साहब ने कहा था कि एक सामान्य शिक्षा होनी चाहिए। सामान्य शिक्षा यह है कि यानी \* का बेटा और महारानी का बेटा और गरीब का बेटा ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री उपसभापति :** \* निकाल दिया गया है।

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\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

**श्री राजनीति प्रसाद :** सर, मैं यह अपनी बात नहीं कर रहा हूँ, यह डा. लोहिया जी की बात कर रहा हूँ। गरीब का बेटा, जो have-nots है उसका बेटा और अमीर का बेटा सब की एक समान शिक्षा होनी चाहिए। इसलिए मैं कह रहा हूँ कि आपने ऐसा नहीं किया है।

सर, मैं आखिरी बात कहना चाहता हूँ। आप रिसर्च करिए कि गरीब का बेटा और अमीर का बेटा तथा कलेक्टर का बेटा और चपरासी का बेटा दोनों एक ही जगह पढ़ेंगे तो उस स्कूल का एजुकेशन सही होगा, उसमें पढ़ाई ठीक होगी, वहां पढ़ाई की क्वालिटी भी अच्छी होगी। इसलिए मैंने कहा कि अगर आपने \* शब्द को निकाल दिया तो कोई बात नहीं है।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री उपसभापति :** वह शब्द तो निकाल दिया है, आप रिपीट क्यों कर रहे हैं?

**श्री राजनीति प्रसाद :** मैंने कहा है, उसका गरीब से मतलब है। \* मैंने कोई अजीब शब्द का इस्तेमाल नहीं किया है।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री उपसभापति :** आप उस शब्द को बार-बार क्यों बोलते हैं?

**श्रीमती वृंदा कारत :** आप बेटी शब्द क्यों नहीं बोलते हैं?

**श्री राजनीति प्रसाद :** हां, बेटा कहा है। बेटा और बेटी दोनों एक ही बात होती है, इसलिए दोनों में कोई खास फर्क नहीं है।...(समय की घंटी)... सर, अंत में, मैं एक बात कहता हूँ कि मैंने कभी यह नहीं कहा कि आप हिन्दी में बोलिए या अंग्रेजी में बोलिए। मैंने ऐसा नहीं कहा था। पढ़ाई हिन्दी में हो, अंग्रेजी में हो, उसके बारे में, मैंने नहीं कहा था। जिन लोगों को हिन्दी आती है, जो लोग हिन्दी बोल सकते हैं, उनको हमारे यहां हिन्दी में बोलना चाहिए। केवल शो करने के लिए मत करिए कि हम अंग्रेजी जानते हैं। सर, मैंने यह सब बातें कही हैं। हमारे एजुकेशन मिनिस्टर साहब यहां बैठे हैं। वह कुछ नया रिसर्च करें, वह नया करिश्मा करें, ताकि गरीब का बच्चा भी एजुकेशन पा सके। धन्यवाद।

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT (Maharashtra): Sir, I wish to congratulate hon. Minister and the Government for bringing in this path-breaking Bill, though I am afraid that my vote of congratulation will go futile because this is going to be a non-starter. This Bill going to be a non-starter because its provisions, though well intended, are far from reality and, therefore, I wish that hon. Minister again takes a look at the Bill, takes discussions into account and bring in a fresh Bill which will be more comprehensive and more effective. Sir, when I was in the primary school, at that time, the Kothari Commission report came in. That was the Nehru-Shastri era. If this Bill would have come at that time, then it would have been much more effective. But many years have passed in between and most of the time, this Government has not been able to bring this Bill. This Bill provides for compulsory education between the age group of 6-14 years up to eighth standard. What happens next? Once a child completes his education up to eighth standard, what happens after that? Is he really educated to the real parameters of eighth standard? I come from Maharashtra which is the most progressive State in the country. In my State, when hundred children go to school in the first standard, only eighteen reach up to the level of SSC, So, the rest eighty-two students drop out in

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\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

between. In Maharashtra, we have provision of free education for girls. It means that the girls do not get out of school for want of money. Then, what is the reason of these dropouts? This is for many reasons. Firstly, there are socio-economic conditions which are outside the school, or, the education that is given in the school is sub-standard or irrelevant to the students. That could be irrelevant because children and parents are not interested in the academic education that they get in the school. My request to the hon. Minister is that when we are talking of compulsory education, please bring in vocational education in the curriculum. This pure academic education does not mean anything to many students in their real life. So, give them education of many trades which can be used by them immediately after the schooling is over, after the eighth standard is over. I hope this provision can give much better sense to the purpose of the Bill.

Sir, there is clause 33 which talks of National Advisory Council and an amendment which talks of the State Advisory Councils. It is a good thing that you are bringing in a council of fifteen members coming from the field of education to govern the situation. My request to the hon. Minister is to give them some powers, some executive powers. As far as advisory powers are concerned, we all know what happens to the advices given by the advisory committees. Those advices remain only on the file. Therefore, give some executive powers by which they can implement this Bill more effectively.

You have made provision for the National Council and the State Councils. I think, again, there would be crisis. Many States perhaps those which are being governed by the Opposition parties — will not go with the National Council. Since this is a Central Bill, there should be only one Council, only one National Advisory Council, which should govern everything. You can set up sub-committees which will work under the Council.

Sir, there is a schedule in which what type of education, what type of teachers, what type of buildings, and, all that is mentioned. Sir, the Minister comes from one class of society, and, I am afraid that he does not realise the ground realities. You have given the norms about what type of teachers, or, what type of school buildings are required. Let me tell you, Sir, in Maharashtra, there are still 7,500 schools which are one-teacher schools. What are you talking, Sir? Sir, you are talking of one teacher behind every thirty students. There is only one teacher from class one to seven. What are we talking? What is the reality? How are you going to implement it in three years? Sir, another thing is school buildings; you have given a very good list of what type of schools are required. Yes, it is a model school. I am happy if these types of schools come into effect in India. But, Sir, in Maharashtra, in rural areas, in semi-rural areas, schools are run in stables, in the *verandas* of the village Panchayat, under the trees. When are you going to construct the buildings? Why do you give such dreams to the people and add to their injuries. Sir, I think, you should sit back and give a relook to this Bill. **...(Time-Bell rings)...** Sir, I will take one minute only.

Sir, there is a memoranda regarding delegated legislation. Sir, since this Bill will be implemented at the State level, there are many delegated legislations, subordinate legislations, like sub-clause (2) (d) empowers the appropriate Government to make rules to provide for manner of reimbursement of expenditure to the school, or, sub-clause 2(h) empowers the appropriate Government to provide the form, the period, the manner and the conditions for issuing certificate of recognition.

These are very vital things which will make the enactment successful or failure. I have a request, Sir. We have subordinate legislation committees in both the Houses. Send it to the Subordinate Legislation Committee. Let them scrutinise it. Let them see what are the lacunae in this. Let them

take witnesses at the State level, *taluka* level, or, village level. Bring them in, and, bring much more comprehensive Bill. Thank you very much, Sir.

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला (राजस्थान) :** सर, मैं मंत्री जी से एक बात पूछना चाहती हूँ। मंत्री जी भी इस बात से खुश होंगे।

**श्री उपसभापति :** वह खुश तो होंगे, लेकिन टाइम का भी ख्याल रखिएगा।

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** माननीय मंत्री जी, आपको याद होगा, जब उड़ीसा में तूफान आया था, तो राज्य सभा के सब सदस्यों ने रुपए दिए थे। मुझे लगता है कि आप भी मैम्बर थे, आपने भी दस लाख रुपए दिए थे। उससे राज्य सभा के सदस्यों ने उड़ीसा में स्कूल बनवाया। मैं अपना experience बता रही हूँ। इस स्कूल में हम लोगों ने ये इंस्ट्रक्शन दिए थे कि खास तौर पर लड़कियों के लिए toilets बनने चाहिए। जब बाद में, स्टडी की, तो पता चला कि लड़कियों का ड्रॉप आउट कम हो गया क्योंकि वहां पहले toilets नहीं थे। अगर वहां पर proper toilets की फैसिलिटी नहीं होती है, तो गांव के स्कूल से लड़कियां ड्रॉप आउट होती हैं और शहरों के स्कूलों से भी होती हैं। आप जब कभी भी कोई स्कीम बनाएं, उसमें लड़कियों के टॉयलेट के बारे में सोचेंगे तो ड्राप आउट कम हो जाएगा।

**SHRI KAPIL SIBAL :** Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am deeply grateful to the hon. Members of the House for their very valuable participation on a matter, which, I think, is not just of national importance, but will determine the course of India in the 21st Century. And, therefore, I am exceptionally grateful to the hon. Members who have both supported the Bill and, at the same time, expressed their concerns about how it is going to be implemented.

I think that we must recognise the fact that this is not an easy task. What we are embarking upon is a national enterprise. 1937 में महात्मा गांधी ने यूनिवर्सल एजुकेशन की बात कही थी, इसको 72 साल हो गए, 1947 में आजादी मिली, उसको भी 62 साल हो गए, कई Commissions बने, 1993 में सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने निर्णय लिया कि एलीमेंट्री एजुकेशन एक मानव अधिकार है और डायरेक्टिव प्रिंसिपल में आर्टिकल 45 के अंतर्गत जो लिखा गया था, वह लोगों को मिलना चाहिए। उसके बाद भी कुछ नहीं हुआ। 1993 के बाद उन्नीकृष्णन् जजमेंट के बाद भी कुछ नहीं हुआ। 2002 में 86th कांस्टीट्यूशन अमेंडमेंट पारित हुआ। हम सभी ने सहयोग दिया। आर्टिकल 21A बना और उसमें लिखा गया कि हां, हम इस मानव अधिकार को असलियत बनाएंगे और उसके लिए एक विधेयक लाएं। कोई विधेयक नहीं लाया। वर्ष 2002 बीत गया, 2003, 2004 बीत गया, उसके बाद यू.पी.ए. सरकार आई, तब CABE कमेटी बैठी। जब CABE कमेटी बैठी तो मैं उसका चेयरमैन बना। मेरी अध्यक्षता में यह बिल ड्राफ्ट हुआ। उसके बाद भी कुछ नहीं हुआ। चर्चा हुई, कैसे पैसा लिया जाए, कहां से लिया जाए, कहां से आएगा, कैसे करेंगे, एक मॉडल बिल सर्कुलेट हुआ। उसके बाद भी कुछ नहीं हुआ। अब उन्नीकृष्णन् की जजमेंट को भी सोलह साल हो गए हैं। अब और कितने दिन इंतजार करें? क्या और पचास साल? देश के भविष्य का क्या होगा? बच्चों के भविष्य का क्या होगा?

Some people said, 'Send it to the Committee on Subordinate Legislation, Let us do this. Let us wait for another opportunity. How many years we will think about this? Which national enterprise is easy? Is bringing down Co2 levels in the atmosphere easy? To deal with global warming, if we require a consensus, nationally and internationally, is it easy? To deal with meltdown in the economy and what kind of packages we give to people of our country, is that easy? Think of NREGA. Is that

easy? Nothing is easy. We are dealing with one billion people. Some people have said that it is not easy and it is difficult to implement. I agree that it is difficult to implement. But we have to be partners in that national enterprise.

प्रदेश, केंद्र में सरकार, बच्चे, माता-पिता, स्कूल कमेटीज़, टीचर्स जब तक हम इकट्ठे होकर यह काम नहीं करेंगे तब तक देश का भविष्य कभी उज्ज्वल नहीं हो सकता है। यह हमें करना है, अवश्य करना है। यह हमें सोलह साल पहले करना चाहिए था, आज बहुत देर हो चुकी है। हम इसे करेंगे और करके रहेंगे। पहली बात तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ।

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि we must understand the meaning of this Bill and the title makes it quite clear — the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education. It's only talking of a right and an obligation—the right of the children to free education and the compulsion or the obligation on the Government to impart that education to the children. It doesn't talk about content of education. This is not a Bill dealing with the content of education. यहां बार-बार बात आ रही थी कि बच्चों को किस किस की शिक्षा दी जाएगी। यह इसके बारे में थोड़े ही न है! इसके बारे में इस बिल में यह प्रावधान रखा गया है। मैं आपका ध्यान सेक्शन 29(2) की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। Section 29(2) says, "The academic authority, while laying down the curriculum and the evaluation procedure under sub-section (1), shall take into consideration the following, namely:- (a) conformity with the values enshrined in the Constitution; (b) all round development of the child; (c) building up child's knowledge, potentiality and talent; (d) development of physical and mental abilities to the fullest extent;...." वह सब लिखा है। It further says, ".....(f) medium of instructions shall, as far as practicable, be in child's mother tongue; (g) making the child free of fear, trauma and anxiety....." जो आप बस्तों की बात कर रहे थे। यह सब इसमें है। That's not the part of this Bill because this Bill is concerned only with two issues — the right of the child to be educated and the obligation on the Government to give him that education. The rest of it is yet to be implemented because we will formulate a policy to ensure that all the children in the schools get the kind of education that is required to make them good citizens of this country. इसमें कोई दो राय नहीं हो सकती। हमारा Constitution हमारे सामने है, हमारी values हमारे सामने हैं। उसके अंतर्गत हम यह काम करेंगे। National Curriculum Framework है। कुछ लोग कह रहे हैं कि National Curriculum Framework के कोई मायने नहीं हैं। Uniform School System बिल्कुल नहीं है। The NCF of 2005 is based on the system of education which is capable of responding to India's diversity of geographical and cultural milieus while ensuring a common core of Constitutional values along with academic component. This is NCF. This is what is going to be taught to the children of our country. Now, it's not easy because there are twenty crore children; out of which, some estimates suggest that ten crore are out of school. Now we need to get them to school. यह कहना कि हम यह कल कर लेंगे, परसों कर लेंगे, यह भी सम्भव नहीं है। हमने एक बहुत बड़ा अभियान शुरू किया है, एक बहुत बड़ा national enterprise शुरू किया है। When you have a dream, you don't build a garden so that everybody can walk. You look at the sky so that people can aspire. So, we need to go forward and I need everybody's support.

Yes, you will have your doubts and you should have your doubts. Yes, you should make suggestions and tell us how best to implement it. अभी माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि State Advisory Committee बनाएंगे, तो जहां आपकी Centre की पार्टी पॉवर में नहीं है, वह इसमें सहयोग नहीं देगी। अगर आप भी यहां संसद में यह कहेंगे, तो कौन सहयोग देगा? आपको कहना चाहिए कि हम सहयोग देंगे, क्योंकि यह बीजेपी, कांग्रेस या किसी और पार्टी का सवाल नहीं है, यह देश के भविष्य का सवाल है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** हम लोग सहयोग दे रहे हैं।

**श्री कपिल सिब्बल :** उन्होंने कहा कि आप क्यों State Advisory Committee बनाते हैं, वहां गड़बड़ हो जाएगी। यह कोई political मामला है ही नहीं, इसमें कौन-सी politics है? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** इसे initiate ही हम लोगों ने किया।

**श्री कपिल सिब्बल :** आपने 2002 में constitutional amendment लाया, उसके बाद कोई law नहीं बनाया। 3 साल बीत गए। आपको मालूम था कि आप implement कर ही नहीं सकते थे। मैं इस विवाद में नहीं पड़ना चाहता। मैं इस पर बहस भी नहीं करना चाहता। हम political parties के above होकर यह बहस करेंगे। तो नजमा जी, आपने जो पहला सवाल उठाया, आपने कहा था कि मुझे नेबरहुड स्कूल का कॉन्सेप्ट समझा दीजिए। अगर आप बिल को सही तरीके से पढ़ेंगे तो आपको जवाब मिल जाएगा और कानीमोझी जी ने जवाब दे भी दिया था। आप ही ने पूछा था कि चूंकि डिफरेंट स्टेट्स में डिफरेंट परिस्थितियां हैं, इसलिए आप नेबरहुड स्कूल को कैसे डिफाइन करेंगे? वह सवाल तो आपने दे दिया है, लेकिन बिल में हमने लिखा है कि नेबरहुड स्कूल का डेफिनेशन एप्रोप्रिएट गवर्नमेंट करेगी। अब किसी देहात में नेबरहुड स्कूल कहां पर बनना चाहिए, वह केन्द्र सरकार को तय नहीं करना है और न ही वह करना चाहती है। इस चीज को राज्य सरकार तय करेगी कि वहां आपका नेबरहुड स्कूल होना चाहिए। यह हक हमने राज्य सरकार को दिया है in section 37, sub-clause 2(b), which says: The area or limits of establishment of a neighbourhood school under section 6.

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** कौन से सैक्शन में है?

**श्री कपिल सिब्बल :** यह section 37 है। The appropriate Government will frame rules in respect of that because we want partnership with the States to move forward; we want partnership with the community. In this Bill, for example, there is a provision which says that there will be a management committee of the school comprising of civil society, and that management will actually suggest to the appropriate Government of building plan for the school for the future. So, we want active civil society participation in actually the management of the facilities provided in the school. तो जहां तक नेबरहुड स्कूल का सवाल है it is quite clear in the legislation that this is something that will have to be decided upon by the appropriate Government but the condition is that there should be a school in every neighbourhood. ताकि गरीब का बच्चा हो, अमीर का बच्चा हो, देहात का हो, किसान का हो, झुग्गी-झोंपड़ी का हो, कहीं का भी बच्चा हो, उसके लिए शिक्षा उपलब्ध होनी चाहिए। फिर आपने कहा कि आप फिनांसिज कहां से लाओगे? अभी तो बिल पारित ही नहीं हुआ है, तो हम उसको प्रोवीजन पहले कैसे कर दें? जब बिल पास हो जाएगा, तब बात आएगी कि हम फिनांसिज कहां से लाएंगे और उसके लिए हमने बात शुरू कर दी है। Our National University for Education, Planning and Administration is already on the job preparing up the estimates of funds required for implementing the provisions of the Bill. Once the Bill is enacted, we

will make a demand for additional resources in revised estimates 2009-10, and we have already presented our fund requirements before the 13th Finance Commission calculated on the basis of parent teacher norms of the RTIE Bill.

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** यह कहाँ पर लिखा है?

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: What is the Centre-State share?

**श्री कपिल सिब्बल :** अभी मैं आपको सब बताऊंगा, आप देखिए मैं जवाब दे रहा हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has not concluded. He has just started.

**श्री कपिल सिब्बल :** मैं जवाब दे रहा हूँ, सभी चीजों का जवाब दूंगा। बिल में लिखा क्या है कि जब यह पारित होगा तब हम तय करेंगे कि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट का इसमें क्या हिस्सा होगा और अन्य स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स का क्या शेयर होगा। वह अभी तक हमने तय नहीं किया है। लेकिन ...(व्यवधान)... One Second. Please don't interrupt. One Second ...(Interruptions)... वह अभी हमने तय नहीं किया है, उसे तय करेंगे। जो आज के दिन अगर सर्वशिक्षा अभियान की बात करते हैं, the ratio is 65:35, and by the end of the Eleventh Plan, it is going to be 50:50. So, we will have to decide a figure as to what should be the contribution of the Central Government and what will be the contribution of the State Government, and once we decide that, if a State Government, we believe, does not have the finances to actually meet the requirements and the obligations under the Bill, we have the right to refer that to the Finance Commission, and the Finance Commission before November 2009 will be able to suggest to that State Government as to what is the way forward for the purposes of those finances. All that is provided, all that is set out in section 7. So, once Parliament passes a Bill, it is a fundamental right of the child to get education, there is no way in the world that we don't have finances to implement. This has to be. It shall be done. Now, you are worried as to what should be the State share and what will be the share of the Centre. That is something we will decide. That is exactly what we are going to decide in the very near future. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, there has ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him complete. ...(Interruptions)... नहीं, उन्हें बात पूरी करने दो, अभी उन्होंने अपनी बात पूरी नहीं की है ...(व्यवधान)... उन्हें पूरी बात करने दो ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्रीमती वृंदा कारत :** सर, मैं डेट बनाना है ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री एस. एस. अहलुवालिया (झारखंड) :** सर, इसके बारे में इन लोगों ने जो एप्रिहेंशन डायरेक्ट किया ...(व्यवधान)... फाइनांसिज की क्या व्यवस्था है ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री उपसभापति :** उन्होंने कह दिया है ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री एस. एस. अहलुवालिया :** अब मंत्री जी कह रहे हैं कि बिल इनैक्ट होने के बाद राज्यों से बात करेंगे और तब वह डिसाइड करेंगे। ...(व्यवधान)... राज्यों से तो पहले बात करनी चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री कपिल सिब्बल :** नहीं-नहीं, मैंने यह नहीं कहा ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री उपसभापति :** नहीं-नहीं ...(व्यवधान)... उन्होंने कहा कि फाइनांस कमिशन ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री कपिल सिब्बल :** अगर आप मुझे ध्यान से सुनेंगे, मैंने कहा कि शेयर के मामले में हम डिसाइड करेंगे ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया :** फंडामेंटल प्राइज़ में आप ज्यादा ही ले लेंगे ...**(व्यवधान)**... और फिर उसके बाद आप शेयर डिसाइड करेंगे। शेयर क्यों डिसाइड करेंगे? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री कपिल सिब्बल :** शेयर के मामले में हम डिसाइड करेंगे, यह कहा था मैंने ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्रीमती वृंदा कारत :** एकतरफा तय करेंगे ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री कपिल सिब्बल :** मैंने शेयर के मामले में कहा था कि आप बोल सकते थे और आपको बोलना चाहिए था ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया :** नहीं-नहीं शेयर तो पहले डिसाइड करना चाहिए था ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री उपसभापति :** ऐसा नहीं है। Let him reply. Then you can speak clarifications.

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** सर, जब बिल मूव किया जाता है, तो मंत्री पहले उसकी introduction देता है। मंत्री जी ने तो कुछ बताया ही नहीं। अब हम लोगों को उनके दिल की बात कैसे मालूम कि ...**(व्यवधान)**... शुरु में ही बता देते तो हम क्यों पूछते? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री कपिल सिब्बल :** सर, ठीक कहा नजमा जी ने ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं सोचता हूँ कि शायद इस बिल को अगर पढ़ा जाता तब neighbourhood schools का तो पता चल जाता। ...**(व्यवधान)**... और सेक्शन 7 'finance provisions' का भी पता चल जाता ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** नहीं, आपकी कमेटी की जो रिपोर्ट है, ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप उसको भी तो पढ़ लीजिए।

**श्री उपसभापति :** नहीं। इसमें टोका-टोकी मत कीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Section 7 is quite clear. It is in bold letters. It is quite clear as to what the procedure is going to be.

Anyway, Sir. The two questions that the hon. Member has raised are: as to how the finances are going to be taken care of and what is the definition of "a neighbourhood school"? . There is one reference that the hon. Member has made to Dr. Macaulay. I am given to understand that actually - and she should check it out - that that is a fake quotation, and it is proven to be so. But that is something that we can talk about later.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: When you say that it is a 'fake' quotation, you must prove it.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: No, no; I said, "I am given to understand"

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: No, no; you must prove it; I mean, what is there.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I said 'I am given to understand.'

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: I know who has given you.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I know that.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: One of your colleagues has given you.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Now, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the next point raised by Mr. Bagrodia is. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: You just prove that it is fake. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is on the net.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I said, "I am given to understand that it is a fake quotation. She should check it out."

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: No, no; if it is a fake quotation then you must say that; authenticate it.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I did not say that. I only said, "I am given to understand."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ahluwalia, he said, "I am given to understand." That is okay.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: That is all. Nothing wrong with it!

Sir, Mr. Bagrodia raised the other point, which several other Members have also raised, that 25 per cent of this reservation is violative of the Constitution. I want to just inform the hon. Member that under the Delhi Education Act, there is, already, a 15 per cent reservation on these very terms, and that is being upheld by the Court, So, I don't think, we should worry about any possibility of it being declared 'unconstitutional'. But I would like to mention. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: How do you define that? That is the issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... How do you define that?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: That is, again, left to the State Governments because they provide appropriate guidelines as to how the 'reservation' is to be done. Everything is not going to be done under the Central Government. As I said, the Central Government only provides for two things - that the States and the Central Government must be in partnership to provide free and compulsory education to all children in this country. There are many areas; that will have to be sorted out in terms of how to reimburse the reservation that is to be done.

SHRI D. RAJA: That is why it is liable to different interpretations.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: No, no; it is not liable to any different interpretations; "25 per cent reservation" is not liable to any different interpretations; "25 per cent reservation" is a 25 per cent reservation; there is no liability. The issue is that we have also set out. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: What about the minority institutions?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: We have also set out a formula as to how the reimbursement is to take place. For every 'reservation' that is done, the reimbursement will take place on the basis of a norm which is based on the amount that the Government spends on that child in a Government school. And that is the amount of reimbursement; that will be given to that private school which teaches that child who is in the 'reserved' category. And that child has to be from the neighbourhood, which has, already, been done in the Delhi Education Act.

As far as minority institutions are concerned, the Supreme Court judgment quite clearly says that the minorities can have 50 per cent of their own community in an educational institution. And I think

that minorities will not object to serving the interests of communities in the fashion that is set out in this Bill.

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला :** आप सोच रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)... आपने बात की है क्या?

**श्री कपिल सिब्बल :** आप फिक्क न कीजिए। हमने बात की हुई है।

As far as Mr. Bagrodia is concerned, I just wanted to mention this fact to him. He talked about six per cent of GDP. And if the States continue to collaborate with the Central Government and increase their levels of investment in education, over the years, I think, by the end of the Eleventh Plan, we will have, almost, a 5.86 per cent of GDP in education. As far as the Central Government is concerned, it is increasing its investment in education. We never had the kind of investment in education in the history of this country as we had in the UPA Government since 2004. It is now almost 19 per cent of the Budget, where the GDP has gone up substantially. So, this kind of money that has been allocated to education has never been given before in the history of the country. The only problem is that the States' share is declining. If the States' share does not decline and they also consider themselves as partners in the national enterprise, I am sure, we will reach the figure of six per cent of the GDP by the end of the Eleventh Plan.

We talked about Plan allocations for higher education and other things. We are not really concerned with those issues here. Rajeeveji also talked about neighbourhood school system. जिस के बारे में मैंने अभी बता दिया है और financial allocations की लगभग वही बात उन्होंने भी कही। तिवारी साहब ने कहा कि आप दोनों चीजें - एक Education For All और Free Market Economy नहीं चला सकते। अब मुश्किल यह है कि इस देश में अगर 100 बच्चे स्कूल जाते हैं तो केवल 12 बच्चे यूनिवर्सिटी तक पहुंचते हैं, 88 बच्चे तो यूनिवर्सिटी जाते ही नहीं और सरकार के पास तो इतने साधन नहीं हैं कि सब-के-सब के लिए स्कूल खुल जाएं, क्वालिटी स्कूल खुल जाएं। तो Private Enterprises को निश्चित रूप से आना पड़ेगा, उन को भी सहयोग देना पड़ेगा और मैं चाहता हूँ कि वे सहयोग दें और वे दे भी रहे हैं। तो मैं नहीं समझता कि इन दोनों चीजों में कोई contradiction है। अगर हम चाहें, क्योंकि 2020 में, जैसे विश्व चल रहा है, हमारे देश में लगभग 47 मिलियन सरप्लस बच्चे होंगे। उन को employment कैसे दें और जहां यूरोप में declining population है, हमारे देश में वह सरप्लस है, तो in a way, we will be producing citizens in this country who will, in fact, not only just serve India but also the global community. If we want the citizens to serve India and the global community, we must make them competitive; otherwise, we will not be able to do that.

Then I come to the issue of language that has been raised. It is very important for the child to be taught in his mother tongue. It is exceptionally important because that gets him closer to his roots. That is all about Indian culture. But it is equally important for him to be educated in Hindi, to learn Hindi language, because that integrates him with the rest of the society in India. So, his mother tongue takes him into his roots and Hindi integrates him with the rest of India. But if he needs to move across the borders, if he needs to have trans-national opportunities, then he needs English.

So, all the three are important: your mother tongue for your roots, Hindi for integration and English for moving across the boundaries for realising opportunities both in terms of employment and competing with the rest of the world. You can't denigrate anyone of them. Therefore, it must start at that level. Therefore, I am happy that you raised the issue of language and I got this opportunity to put the Government's thoughts before the hon. Members of this House.

फिर डा. मलयसामी साहब ने कई बातें कहीं और कहा कि this is a belated legislation. मैं तो नहीं समझता कि belated है। As I suggested at the outset, this is many, many years too late. He has also mentioned that we must clarify as to what is our primacy. Is it elementary education or is it higher education? Again, my answer is that both are equally important. You can't do one without the other. If you don't have a critical stock of young educated people in Class-XII, you would not be able to do much in higher education. So, the base, the foundation, of higher education is a critical mass of people at the level of elementary education. एक बात जो सभी माननीय सदस्यों ने कही कि आप जीरो से 5 साल के जो बच्चे हैं, उनके बारे में कुछ नहीं सोच रहे हैं और जो 14 साल के बाद जो education होने वाली है, उसके बारे में कुछ नहीं सोच रहे हैं। Now, this Bill that has been initiated here is under article 21A of the Constitution? What does article 21A say? It says, "The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of 6 to 14 years in such a manner as the State may by law determine". So, this is a legislation under article 21 A, and we have to provide for education for children between 6 and 14 years. It has nothing to do with children between 0 and 5 years of age. At least, this legislation cannot go beyond article 21 A. Therefore, in this legislation, you cannot incorporate provisions outside 21 A, nor can you incorporate provisions beyond 14 years. We have the माध्यमिक शिक्षा अभियान, in which we are moving forward...

THE LEADER OF OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Article 21A is an enabling provision. It is not a bar that you cannot do it.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL : I am not saying that. This is an obligation that we are fulfilling under article 21A. So, the legislation is in the context of 21 A, and, that is why, we have not dealt with 0-5 years. We have the plenary powers to deal with any subject. But I am only talking about this legislation being under article 21 A, and, that is why, 0-5 and above 14 years has not been dealt with in this. I just wanted to clarify that for the hon. Members of this House. कई माननीय सदस्यों ने migrant labours के बारे में बात की। मैं भी कल अपनी constituency में गया था। एक जगह मैंने देखा कि वहां कई बच्चे थे और वह मंडी में बैठे थे। मैंने उनसे पूछा कि आप किस स्कूल में जाते हैं? उनका कोई जवाब नहीं आया, क्योंकि ये migrant labourers बाहर से आते हैं, बिना families के आते हैं। मैंने सुना है कि कुछ migrant labourers मध्य प्रदेश से महाराष्ट्र में भी जाते हैं। जब cotton picking season हो तो वहां भी बच्चे जाते हैं। इनको वेतन भी नहीं दिया जाता। This is a very serious problem. यह कहना कि यह Bill उस Problem को solve कर देगा, यह भी गलत होगा, लेकिन यह एक शुरुआत है। इस शुरुआत में हम सबको भाग लेना है और इसको आगे बढ़ाना है। And, to the extent that we have provided for in this Bill, if there is any violation of the Right to Education Act,

then, to that extent, the National Commission on Protection of Child Rights will take cognisance of it and take action. We have provided for that in the Bill. So, it is not that we are not taking cognisance of that fact. But it is not something that will be removed overnight. So, we are dealing with it and we are taking cognisance of it. Actually, this Bill performs ten functions, according to me. First, as I mentioned, free education for the child; second, the obligation of the State to provide free education; third, the nature of curriculum being consistent with our constitutional obligations that is also provided for in the Bill — and fourth, quality of education. Why do I say quality? There is a provision of this Bill as to what the eligibility conditions of a teacher will be. That is also going to be provided, and standards are going to be set. I will just refer you to that provision of the Bill. Clause 23 (1) of the Bill states: "Any person possessing minimum qualifications, as laid down by the academic authority, authorised by the Central Government, by notification, shall be eligible for appointment as a teacher." So, the academic authority will set out the minimum qualifications; वही teacher appoint होगा। अन्य कोई teacher appoint हो ही नहीं सकता। साथ-साथ यह भी लिखा है कि अगर उसके पास ऐसी कोई qualification नहीं है तो पांच साल में उसको वे qualifications लेनी पड़ेगी। Clause 23 (2) states: "Where a State does not have adequate institutions offering courses or training in teacher education, or, teachers possessing minimum qualifications as laid down under sub-section (1), are not available in sufficient numbers, the Central Government may, if it deems necessary, by notification, relax the minimum qualifications for appointment as a teacher for such period not exceeding five years, as may be specified in that notification." So, we are taking care of quality that there will be minimum qualifications, and if you don't have them, the maximum period given to you will be five years. That is the next point, I wanted to make, that you are going to get quality teachers. And we have set out obligations of a teacher as well, as to what a teacher is going to do. अब States में क्या हो रहा था कि States have stopped recruiting teachers because there was a ban on regular appointments. So, there used to be recruitments on contract basis, on *ad hoc* basis, without qualifications, and that has created the problem. That is the real reason. अब हम यह कह रहे हैं कि इस विधेयक के अंतर्गत उनको कह रहे हैं कि अगर आप पढ़ाना चाहते हैं तो आपको ये qualifications लेनी पड़ेगी। अगर आप नहीं लेंगे तो आपकी नौकरी चली जाएगी। इस प्रकार, quality का भी हम ध्यान रख रहे हैं। What we have provided here was that every neighbourhood school shall be constructed within a period of three years from the passing of this Act. Three years are given. Somebody said, three years is too long a period. I don't believe so. I think if we can accomplish this task in three years, it would be a great credit to the country and to everybody who is participating in this national enterprise. Then, apart from quality education, quality teachers, we are looking at sixth, social responsibility. Without social responsibility you can't take the entire community with you. So, it is very important to have that reservation provision. And, as I said, the point is India is so diverse, and we will have different inputs from various States in this country about the working of this Bill that we will have to have the kind of flexibility that we need to ensure

that it is implemented in a reasonable and efficacious manner, and that flexibility we will have. So, social responsibility is a very important aspect of this Bill. And, of course, as I said, this also, in a way, tries to attempt to deal with the issue of child labour. We cannot resolve it, but it attempts to deal with it. So, that is the seventh aspect of this Bill. The eighth aspect is, it de-bureaucratises the system. आपको ट्रांसफर सर्टिफिकेट चाहिए तो आपको कोई इंकार नहीं है? यह नहीं कि साहब, हम ट्रांसफर नहीं देंगे। स्कूल में जाते हो, वह कहता है कि एडमिशन नहीं करेंगे, वह नहीं कह सकता, तो यह de-bureaucratisation इस विधेयक में है। And, as I said, ninth aspect is participation of civil society in educating our people. The children are our national assets. They will be running the country in the years to come, and we need to give them respect, we need to give them choices, we need to give them opportunities. That is very important, and this Bill attempts to do that. As I said, what is important is this. Then, everybody agrees that this is something that must be done. Yet, there are, of course, differences, and they should be in a democracy, as to how you will achieve this. And that is where we need the support of all Members of this House and all State Governments and civil society to ensure that we actually move forward in the right direction. And, as I said, last of all, this Bill itself represents a great national enterprise. I am glad that it has happened at last, and we must remember this that ultimately education is all about inspiring children; it is all about a national vision, and knowledge must attract the child. The child must run after knowledge. It must not be foisted on the child. That is the kind of education system that we want. It is part of our National Education Policy. We are looking at accreditation system within the schooling system; we are looking at changing courses; we are looking at doing away with the kind of oppressive examination system that we have in this country. But, of course, you have to have exams. But, it does not mean that the exams determine what the child does. आजकल क्या होता है कि 10वीं की बोर्ड परीक्षा में बैठकर बच्चा पास हो जाए, उसके साइंस स्ट्रीम में अच्छे नम्बर आ जाएं तो बोलेंगे कि अब तुम साइंस स्ट्रीम में चले जाओ, उसके कॉमर्स स्ट्रीम में अच्छे नम्बर आ जाएं तो अब तुम श्रीराम कॉलेज आफ कॉमर्स ज्वाइन कर लो, तभी तो जेटली साहब ने कॉमर्स ज्वाइन किया। क्योंकि अगर इम्तिहान में नम्बर आ जाएं तो वही काम करो, मतलब कि the result of the exam decides your career, instead of the child decides. वह भी हमें बदलना है। हमें एक किस्म की क्रांति लानी है और मैं समझता हूँ कि जो क्रांति इकॉनॉमिक सैक्टर में हम लाए थे, वही क्रांति एजुकेशन सैक्टर में हमें लानी है।

...(व्यवधान)...

**श्रीमती वृंदा कारत :** इकॉनॉमिक सैक्टर में क्रांति! ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री कपिल सिब्बल :** वृंदा जी कभी मुझसे सहमत नहीं होंगी। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्रीमती वृंदा कारत :** सर, कम से कम शब्द तो ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री कपिल सिब्बल :** उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आज के दिन कम से कम इतना ही चाहूंगा कि मैं ...(व्यवधान)...

हम क्रांति लाएंगे, आप शांति लाइए। हम इस पर बहस कर लेंगे, लेकिन आज तो यहां एजुकेशन पर बहस हो रही

7.00 P.M.

है। एक बात और महत्वपूर्ण है कि we have provided a provision here in section 26, which says that the appointing authority must ensure that the vacancy of a teacher in school under its control shall not exceed 10 per cent of the total sanctioned strength. होता क्या है कि जैसे कई माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा कि सब टीचर नहीं रहते हैं, one teacher school हैं। We have also ensured it. Now, there is a mandatory provision that their vacancy provision in a school shall not be ever more than 10 per cent. So, we have tried very hard and it has taken a lot of work; it is not as if we have done something overnight, as I said, I also gave you the history at the beginning of my response or my reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not providing anything. I am very happy that they are a hundred per cent, and I am very happy that they are doing well. The point is, we must recognise that we are sitting on a great opportunity for our children and for our nation. We need to grasp that opportunity. If we lose it, I do not know what will happen to our country; because, if 47 million children are not educated, I think, the consequences of that would be disastrous; we need to seize the opportunity. We do what we can. Even if there are any provisions in this Bill, which requires a different orientation and implementation, we are open to suggestions. But, the thing is, we must move forward, and we must send a message to the rest of the world and to our children that we will ensure that they are provided with the quality education. By the time they are 14 years of age, we will provide them further passage to move forward beyond 14, Class-XII; and, of course, by providing higher education and quality education, we give them an avenue so that they can together take the country forward.

Thank you very much.

SHRI D. RAJA : Just one clarification, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Would the debate start once again?

SHRI D. RAJA: No, Sir, just one clarification. There is a financial memorandum attached to this Bill which says that clause 7 of the Bill provides that the Central Government and the State Governments shall make available the funds for carrying out its provision. Then, at the end it says, it is not possible to quantify the financial requirement on this account at this stage. I would like to understand this. What is that you are proposing? What is the commitment of the Central Government? What do you expect from the State Governments? This is number one.

Secondly, you were talking about 25 per cent; when I spoke, I mentioned it. It says, 'To the extent, at least 25 per cent of the strength of the class, children belonging to the weaker sections and disadvantaged groups in the neighbourhood and provide free and compulsory elementary education till its completion...' This is where I am saying, already there is a provision of reservation to SCs/STs/OBCs. You can very well mention. This weaker section can be interpreted in different ways by different people. How can you implement this provision?

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: We want reservation, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: They will all be done by the State Governments. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Seelam, I have not identified you. Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): During the reply, the hon. Minister referred to article 21A of the Constitution; it was pointed out that it is an enabling provision. But, Sir, the pointed issue is this Bill aims at children between the age group of 6-14. The Bill says that it has not made provisions for below 6 and above 14. But, if you look at clause 11, it says at page-5, 'With a view to prepare children above the age of 3 for elementary education and provide early childhood care and education for all, children until they complete the age of 6 years, the appropriate Government may make necessary arrangements for providing free school education for such children. You have already incorporated a clause. ...*(Interruptions)*... Listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... My only point is, Sir, if this is the clause and you want to make it functional and effective, then, why don't you link it with the expansion of Anganwadis in every school. Every neighbourhood school that you are starting, you have an Anganwadi associated with it so that this problem can be taken care of.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Where a school provides education below six, the provision in the Bill says that that should continue. That is all.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Nothing has been explained about cost of education, that is, cost for clothing, travelling, textbooks, and other things. ...*(Interruptions)*... The second point is...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is very difficult because there will again be a debate. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Minister cannot answer every Member in the House...*(Interruptions)*... There cannot be a new debate on this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, on the issue of what is to be provided, the Schedule in the Bill provides for the kind of things that will be provided to the children. For example, item 5 under 'building' talks about teaching, learning equipment shall be provided to each class as required. About library it says that there will be a library in each school providing newspapers, magazines and books on all subjects including storybooks. Play materials, games, and sports equipments shall be provided. All these things are there. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**डा. राम प्रकाश :** सर, मैं एक बात जानना चाहता हूँ।

**श्री उपसभापति :** मैं बुलाऊंगा, आप बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री गंगा चरण :** सर, मुझे भी ...

**श्री उपसभापति :** आप बैठिए, मैं बुलाता हूँ अभी। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठिए ज़रा ... मेरे पास दूसरे नाम हैं, आप उठकर खड़े हो जाते हैं! ...*(व्यवधान)*..

**श्री गंगा चरण :** सर, मैं आरक्षण पर बोलना चाहता हूँ।

**श्री उपसभापति :** आप बोल चुके हैं।

**श्री गंगा चरण :** सर, 25 परसेंट आरक्षण दिया है ...

**श्री उपसभापति :** मैंने आपको identify नहीं किया है। मैं आपको बुलाऊंगा, प्लीज़ ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: I also have one more point for clarification on judicial remedy and the relevance of clause 85 and 86. Who is responsible? ...*(Interruptions)*... In all Fundamental Rights, if there is any violation ...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has already replied your point. He cannot go on answering because he has already replied your query. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have not participated, ...*(Interruptions)*... This is another way of seeking clarifications. ...*(Interruptions)*... Those who have participated, we can allow only them to seek clarifications. In the name of clarification, I cannot allow every Member. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री रघुनन्दन शर्मा** (मध्य प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि उन्होंने अपने उत्तर में बहुत बड़ी बात कह दी है कि वे शिक्षा में क्रांति लाना चाहते हैं और शिक्षा में क्रांति का अर्थ होता है - आमूलचूल परिवर्तन।

**श्री उपसभापति** : देखिए, इसके ऊपर क्लैरिफिकेशन मैं allow नहीं करूंगा। बिल के बारे में पूछिए। उन्होंने क्या कहा, उस पर ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री रघुनन्दन शर्मा** : मैं अपना स्पष्टीकरण पूरा कर लूं, फिर उत्तर नहीं देना हो तो न दें, लेकिन मैं अपना स्पष्टीकरण तो पूरा कर लूं!

**श्री उपसभापति** : इसका मतलब यह नहीं कि मैं हर चीज़ allow कर दूँ! ...*(व्यवधान)*... अब क्रांति लाने की बात उन्होंने बिल में कही है, तो उसमें क्या क्लैरिफिकेशन है?

**श्री रघुनन्दन शर्मा** : सर, उन्होंने क्रांति लाने की बात की है और क्रांति लाने का अर्थ है आमूलचूल परिवर्तन। तो क्या वे अंग्रेजों द्वारा स्थापित शिक्षा नीति में आमूलचूल परिवर्तन करने जा रहे हैं?

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, I would like to ask about clause 29 and clause 30. The hon. Minister read out clause 29, which is about curriculum and evolution procedure, and clause 30 is about examination and completion. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, when you got the Report of Prof. Yashpal and prior to that you got the Report of the National Knowledge Commission and subsequently you reacted on TV also that you want to get rid of the examination system. Here also you have mentioned that no child shall be required to pass any Board examination till the completion of the elementary education. Now we have seen that Y2K problem of the entire world was solved by Indian children. After passing this Board examination and then plus two examination without the help of any Government ...*(Interruptions)*... I am coming to that. You said that after getting Prof. Yashpal's Report you will get rid of board examination and there will be no tension for the students. My point is, on this 12th of June and in the month of March the President of America, Barack Obama, while addressing in Chicago said, "Buck up. Look, these Chinese and Indian students are invading America. You must adopt the Indian education system to compete with them." He was praising the Indian system and now you want to change the whole system. You are today laughing at me but you will become the laughing stock for the nation.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Assam) : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order in this. This is not a debate. Shri Ram Gopal Yadav.

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव** (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, माननीय मंत्री जी ने vacancies के संबंध में appropriate

authorities से appointment की बात जो की है, उसके संबंध में मैं यह स्पष्टीकरण चाहता हूँ कि vacancy टीचर और स्टूडेंट के ratio के आधार पर तय होती है। कहीं-कहीं गवर्नमेंट जितनी पोस्ट्स अप्रूव करती है, उसके आधार पर माना जाता है कि कितनी वैकेंसीज़ हैं। इसलिए कौन सा तरीका आप मानेंगे कि कितनी वैकेंसीज़ हैं, टीचर-स्टूडेंट का ratio या गवर्नमेंट जितनी पोस्ट्स अप्रूव करे, उसे?

**श्री कपिल सिब्बल :** सर, teacher-student ratio का शैड्यूल में अगर आप देखेंगे तो उसमें लिखा है कि कितने टीचर्स कितनी क्लास में होने चाहिए। पांचवीं क्लास तक कितने होने चाहिए और छठी से लेकर आठवीं तक कितने होने चाहिए, उसी के अंतर्गत vacancies का ratio डिसाइड होगा।

**श्री राम प्रकाश :** माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप अपने मजदूरों और कम paid employees के बच्चों को पढ़ाने की जिम्मेदारी औद्योगिक घरानों की बनाएंगे या नहीं? क्योंकि औद्योगिक घराने ज्यादा फीस के पब्लिक स्कूल को खूब खोल रहे हैं, वे स्कूल money minting machine बन गए हैं लेकिन उनकी यह जिम्मेदारी भी होनी चाहिए कि अपने यहां काम करने वाले गरीबों के बच्चों की पढ़ाई की व्यवस्था करें। जब हम कंपलसरी एजुकेशन की बात कर रहे हैं, ऐसे में क्या आप इस तरह के स्कूल खोलने के लिए उन्हें बाध्य करेंगे या नहीं?

SHRI N. K. SINGH: There are two things, I am grateful to the Minister. He has indicated flexibility in the working of Clause 12. Based on experience he will see what can be done. My question and clarification is a specific one. I refer to the financial memorandum. Now, Mr. Raja has also mentioned this. On the overall financial liability on which there are widely different figures — the hon. Minister has indicated that a group is already working on the likely financial liability. I wish to just point out to the Minister that the 13th Finance Commission mandatorily will submit its recommendations to the Government by the 31st of October. So, I seek a confirmation that before the Finance Commission submits its recommendations, it will have the financial data from this specialised body.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Absolutely, I am grateful to the hon. Member. That is exactly what I said. I said that this term is coming to an end and we want to do this exercise very quickly so that all that can be dealt with by the Finance Commission.

**डा. राम प्रकाश :** सर, मेरे प्वाइंट का जवाब नहीं आया है।

**श्री गंगा चरण :** सर, मैं मंत्री जी का ध्यान अध्याय चार के सेक्शन 12 (ग) की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि "विद्यालय पहली कक्षा में दुर्बल वर्ग और असुविधाग्रस्त समूह को उस कक्षा में बालकों की कुल संख्या के कम से कम 25 प्रतिशत की सीमा तक प्रवेश देगा।" "असुविधाग्रस्त और दुर्बल वर्ग" क्या एससी, एसटी और ओबीसी के लिए है, कृपया इसको क्लैरीफाई करें। अगर जनरल है तो किसको दुर्बल वर्ग और असुविधाग्रस्त माना जाएगा।

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: As I said, this is something that we will allow the State Government to do and this incidentally applies to private schools, to Kendriya Vidyalayas and to all schools because the definition of school includes every school in this country. So, even in Kendriya Vidyalayas, you are now going to have 25 per cent of neighbourhood children. So, how is that to be done? We will leave it to the State Government to define.

**श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी :** सर, हमने आदरणीय मंत्री जी को लिखित में भी सजेशन दिया था। चूंकि एजुकेशन में चिल्ड्रन का जो ड्रॉप रेट है, उसमें माइग्रेंट लेबर का बहुत बड़ा रोल है। हम यह सजेस्ट करना चाहते हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री उपसभापति :** आप क्लेरिफिकेशन पूछिए।

**श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी :** हम यह सजेस्ट करना चाहते हैं, क्लेरिफिकेशन नहीं, हम सजेशन देना चाहते हैं।

**श्री उपसभापति :** सजेशन नहीं होगा, क्योंकि सजेशन की बात आपने कर दी है।

**श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी :** हम यह चाहते कि इसमें हॉस्टल की प्रोविजन बेशक डिस्ट्रिक्ट पर हो, कमिश्नरी लेवल पर हो, ताकि जो माइग्रेंट लेबर के बच्चे हैं, उनके रहने और एजुकेशन की कोई व्यवस्था परमानेंटली हो सके। इसके साथ हम मंत्री जी से यह भी क्लेरिफिकेशन चाहते हैं कि जो रिजर्वेशन के बारे में है, वह स्टेट के ऊपर छोड़ दिया गया है। अगर मंडल कमीशन की रिपोर्ट के बारे में हम स्टेट का एक्सपेरिमेंस देखें तो बहुत स्टेट्स ने उसको अभी तक इम्प्लीमेंट नहीं किया है। तो बहुत स्टेट्स में इसकी वॉयलेशन हो सकती है। तो क्यों नहीं इसमें एस.सी., एस.टी. और ओ.बी.सी. का प्रावधान किया गया है? यह होना चाहिए। It should be added in the Bill.

**SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA :** Sir, I have a very simple point to make. Hon. Shri S.S. Ahluwalia, while seeking his clarifications, referred the hon. Minister as 'Baba.' I would like to know whether the word 'Babal' is a Parliamentary word. If it is Unparliamentary, it should be expunged.

**श्री एस. एस. अहलुवालिया :** अरे, नो बाबा।

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :** We will see. If it is Unparliamentary, we will expunge it. Mr. Seelam. Your point has already been discussed.

**SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM :** Sir, there is no specific provision for penalty on any authority if it fails to provide this right.

Secondly, why do we need a clarification on reservation? It is because it is likely to be challenged in the court of law. Every time it happens. ...**(Interruptions)**... Sir, let me complete. When we are clubbed it with others, it may create problems. In the Constitution, economic backward classes are not recognised, if I am correct. He is an expert in law. But, if it is combined, there is likelihood of keeping SC/ST and OBC in abeyance. This is the problem. You are mixing apples and oranges! Please separate them.

**SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT :** Sir, it is a universal right and every child in this country has the right to education, compulsorily. I don't understand why the hon. Minister is causing confusion by adding such things in the Bill. I don't understand. If you say that there will be no discrimination on the basis of caste to keep any child out of school, it is correct. It is because, today, there are many, many examples of Dalit children being kept out of schools and are not given access even to water in schools. Therefore, this Bill wants to protect the rights of Dalit children. It has to say, 'any discrimination on the basis of caste, etc., is punishable under this Bill, apart from the Constitutional requirements.' Otherwise, where is the question of reservation? I do not quite understand.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, I just want to inform the hon. Members that if you look at Clause 2(e), which deals with child belonging to weaker section, it is clear. It says, "child belonging to weaker section" means a child belonging to such parent or guardian whose annual income is lower than the minimum limit specified by the appropriate Government, by notification." This is what I was telling you. It is left to the Government.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the question is:

That the Bill to provide for free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years, be taken into consideration.

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2 to 6 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 7 — Sharing of financial and other responsibilities.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 7, there are four amendments (Nos. 10-13) by Shri Moinul Hassan. Are you moving?

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (West Bengal): Sir, I move:

10. That at page 4, line 3 *after* the words, "The Central Government", the words "and the State Governments" be *inserted*.
11. That at page 4, *for* lines 5 to 7, the following be *substituted*, namely:  
"(3) The Central Government shall provide to the State ' Governments, as grant-in-aid of revenues, at least seventy-five per cent of expenditure referred to in sub-section (2)".
12. That at page 4, line 8, *for* the word, "may" the word "shall" be *substituted*.
13. That at page 4, lines 13 to 16, be *deleted*.

*The questions were put and the amendments were negatived.*

*Clause 7 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 8 — Duties of appropriate Government.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 8, there is one amendment (No. 14) by Shri Moinul Hassan. Are you moving?

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Sir, I move:

14. That at page 4, line 34, *after* the words, "fourteen years" the words "and also supply free text-books, copies, learning aids, uniforms, mid day meal and the like" be *inserted*."

*The question was put and the amendment was negatived.*

*Clause 8 was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 9 and 10 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 11 — Appropriate Government to provide for pre-school education*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 11, there is one amendment (No. 15) by Shri Moinul Hassan. Are you moving?

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Sir, I move:

That at page 5, line 36, *for* the word, "may" the word "shall" be *substituted*."

The question was put and the amendment was negatived.

*Clause 11 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 12 — Extent of school's responsibility for free and compulsory education.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 12, there is one amendment (No. 16) by Shri Moinul Hassan. Are you moving?

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Sir, I move:

16. That at page 5, line 48, *for* the word, "twenty-five" the word "fifty" be *substituted*."

*The question was put and the amendment was negatived.*

*Clause 12 was added to the Bill. Clauses 13-18 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 19 - Norms and standards for school.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 19, there is one amendment (No.3) by Shri Kapil Sibal.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL : Sir, I move:

3. That at page 7, line 15, *for* the words, "established or" the word "established, or" be *substituted*."

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

*Clause 19, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 20 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 21 — School Management Committee*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 21, there is one amendment (No.4) by Shri Kapil Sibal.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL : Sir, I move:

That at page 7, *after* line 39, the following proviso be *Inserted*, namely: -

"Provided also that fifty per cent of Members of such Committee shall be women"

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

*Clause 21, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 22 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 23 — Qualifications for appointment and terms and conditions of service of teachers.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 23, there is one amendment (No. 17) by Shri Moinul Hassan. Are you moving?

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Sir, I move:

That at page 8, *after* line 3, the following proviso be *inserted*, namely:-

"Provided that these minimum qualifications conform to the norms and guidelines under the National Council For Teacher Education Act, 1993 and the pay scales and services of the teachers conform to the latest Pay Commission".

*The question was put and the amendment was negatived.*

*Clause 23 was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 24-31 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 32 — Redressal of grievances.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 32, there is one amendment (No.5) by Shri Kapil Sibal.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL : Sir, I move:

That at page 9, line 44, *for* the words "as early as possible" the words "within a period of three months" be *substituted*.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

*Clause 32, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 33 was added to the Bill.*

*New Clause 33A - Constitution of State Advisory Council*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is one amendment (No. 6) by the hon. Minister for insertion of new clause 33(A)

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL : Sir, I move:

6. That at page 10, *after* line 9, the following new clause be *inserted*, namely:

"33A. (1) The State Government shall constitute, by notification, a State Advisory Council consisting of such number of Members, not exceeding fifteen, as the State Government may deem necessary, to be appointed from amongst persons having knowledge and practical experience in the field of elementary education and child development.

(2) The functions of the State Advisory Council shall be to advise the State Government on implementation of the provisions of the Act in an effective manner.

(3) The allowances and other terms and conditions of appointment of Members of the State Advisory Council shall be such as may be prescribed.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

*Clause 33A was added to the Bill.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause 34. There is one Amendment (No.7) by Shri Kapil Sibal.

*Clause 34 — Power to issue directions*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir I move:-

That at page 10, line 12, *for* the words, "issue guidelines and give such directions" the words "issue such guidelines" be *substituted*.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

*Clause 34, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 35-36 were added to the Bill.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause 37. There is one Amendment (No.8) by Shri Kapil Sibal.

*Clause 37 - Power of appropriate Government to make rules*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL; Sir, I move:

That at page 11, *after* line 16, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

"(r) the allowances and other terms and conditions of appointment of Members of the State Advisory Council under sub-section (3) of section 33 A,"

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

*Clause 37, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Schedule of the Bill. There are three amendments, (No. 9 by Shri Kapil Sibal) and Nos. 18 and 19 by Shri Moinul Hassan. First, we shall take up amendment no. 9 by Shri Kapil Sibal.

*The Schedule*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, I move:

That at page 13, line 12, in column 2 *for* the words

"teaching plus preparation hours" the words "teaching including preparation hours" be *substituted*.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Sir, I move:

That at page 12, *after* line 5, the following words be *inserted* namely:-

"There shall be at least one teacher per class for first class to fifth class."

That at page 12, line 38, *for* the words, "every teacher" the words "every class" be *substituted*.

*The questions were put and the amendments were negatived.*

*The Schedule, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause 1. There is one Amendment No. 2 by Shri Kapil Sibal.

*Clause 1 - Short Title, extent and commencement*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, I move:

That at page 1, line 6, *for* the figure "2008" the figure "2009" be *substituted*.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

*Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up the Enacting Formula of the Bill. There is one amendment no. 1 by Shri Kapil Sibal.

*Enacting Formula*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, I move:

That at page 1, line 1, *for* the word "Fifty-ninth", the word

"Sixtieth" be *substituted*.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

*The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.*

*The Title was added to the Bill.*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, I move:

*That the Bill, as amended, be passed.*

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

The House then adjourned at twenty-eight minutes past seven of the clock till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 21st July, 2009.