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## RAJYA SABHA

*Friday, the 24th July, 2009/2 Shravana, 1931 (Saka)*

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### **Monetary benefit to medical staff for rural service**

\*301. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:††

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government, in consultation with the State Governments proposes to identify difficult, most difficult and inaccessible areas, particularly in the hilly States and tribal regions where medical personnel and para-medical staff would be encouraged to serve the poor and needy people;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to provide extra monetary benefits to medical and para-medical staff, who will serve in the rural and tribal areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### ***Statement***

(a) Yes.

(b) Some States/UTs have already classified regions within States/UTs on the basis of certain parameters such as terrain and difficult area which hamper the availability of manpower. However, in order to bring uniformity through out the country, this Ministry has requested State/UTs to propose classification of the areas of their States in the categories such as Difficult Areas, Most Difficult Areas and Inaccessible Areas.

(c) Yes.

(d) Many States are already implementing incentives for doctors and paramedics under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). This Ministry will examine all such further proposals in consultation with States to ensure that doctors and paramedics are provided incentives in such well defined areas.

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††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by the Shrimati Shobhana Bhartia.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 301.

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Sir, the answer does not really give any clarity on how the hon. Minister proposes to deal with this issue, which is actually leading to so many health centres being unmanned, or, with shortage of doctors. In his answer, he has said that many States and UTs have classified regions. Can he give us some idea as to which are the areas, how much are they proposing to give for people serving in the difficult or hilly terrains, how much is it going to be over and above the amount which they are earning. Sir, the State of Jammu and Kashmir had introduced this scheme whereby they were giving Rs. 8,000 to 9,000 per month, amounting to almost a lakh per year, and, no MBBS was wanting to take it up. So, the scheme was just on paper. So, can the hon. Minister please tell us as to what are the details and how much are they proposing over whatever is the current package?

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Sir, I am glad that the hon. Member mentioned about a particular State. See, this itself shows that since 'health' is really a State subject, the role of the Centre under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) or other schemes, becomes more of supplementing and giving whatever incentives are required. So, in this particular scheme also, we cannot, on our own, say that this is the classification of difficult area, most-difficult area, or, area which is unreachable. So, we have asked the States concerned to please let us know their definition. Ultimately, it is the States which will tell us about it, and, accordingly, between the Centre and the States, we will decide whatever the States suggest us to do.

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Sir, I think the Minister needs to take a holistic view of the issue. Even according to a WHO report, there is a huge shortage of doctors in the country. Sir, when there is a shortage of over six lakh doctors, naturally, they would like to serve in the urban areas as opposed to going and serving in the interiors.

Would the Government consider enhancing and augmenting the capacity thereby setting up more colleges; making it mandatory for every doctor before he can pursue a higher degree to serve in rural India for a minimum period of one or two years; and, look at upping the retirement age of doctors.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Sir, this is an excellent idea. But, if you see the pattern today, quite a few of the States themselves have made this compulsory for doctors to serve whether internship or during their programme for two to three years. I have all the details of various States. If the hon. Member wants, I can read it out. Most of the States are there. Would you want me to read out the details? Sir, I will give you some examples. Firstly, let us take the example of Arunachal Pradesh. As per the information which has come to me, it says, mandatory three years' service in the rural areas to regulate the nomination of serving doctors to various post-graduate and in-service training courses. So, here is one example of Arunachal Pradesh. Similarly, there are many other States. As far as HR incentives in the State PIP are

concerned, every State, in the beginning, gives what is known as Programme Implementation Plan for the State. In that plan, they give the details. As per the details, they get their envelope of incentives in terms of money.

Similarly, Sir, let us take the example of the State of Haryana. It has posted doctors in rural areas for two years. For doing any postgraduate course, five years posting is essential, out of which three years has to be rural posting. Appointment of doctors on contractual basis is there; still, regular-appointment could be made. Many such States are there. We are seized of the matter. I think, the whole country is seized of this problem, and, we all have to put our heads together to find a solution, whether it is augmentation of the seats.

The Government is doing it. The Ministry has also taken note of it. And we have already started many schemes whereby we are increasing the number of seats. For example, upgradation of AIIMS. Wherever you will have new AIIMS-like institutions, automatically, more seats for doctors would be there.

SHRI N.K. SINGH: Sir, considering that the problem of the Primary Health Centres in the hilly and inaccessible areas is an accentuated microcosm of the more endemic problems of the Primary Health Centres, would the Minister consider, what he has hinted in an interview recently given to a prominent newspaper, the adoption of some innovative ways to improve the Primary Health Centres? First and foremost, a website-based monitoring of the functioning of the Primary Health Centres. Two, outsourcing, considering the shortage of paramedics. And, more importantly, the constitution of a national council for human resources as far as paramedics are concerned in the health sector.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Sir, in this world of technology, as we all know, telemedicine has become very, very common in most of the developed countries. India is one of the foremost countries and it is number one in the IT area.

The website-oriented monitoring is one of the proposals where along with education we can very easily reach out to the people technologically. Suppose we have the medical history of somebody in the rural areas on some kind of, let us say, a chip and people have what would be known as perhaps an e-health card. But these are all at a conceptual stage. If somebody sitting in a far-flung area has access to technology, then a doctor sitting in Mumbai or Kolkata can easily reach out to that patient and tell that this is what the remedy could be. In another words, the rural people in the remotest area would have access to medical care.

**श्री गंगा चरण:** सभापति महोदय, मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि जो बेरोजगार डॉक्टर्स हैं, जो किसी भी ग्रामीण क्षेत्र, आदिवासी क्षेत्र और स्लम्स में अपनी डिस्पेंसरी खोलकर प्राइवेट प्रैक्टिस करते हैं, क्या सरकार के पास उनके लिए कोई योजना है? जो ये डॉक्टर्स पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में पांच साल या दस साल तक गरीबों की सेवा करते हैं, क्या सरकार के पास उनके जॉब की गारंटी की कोई योजना है?

**श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी:** सर, अभी जैसा कि हमने बताया है कि हर क्षेत्र में हर एक स्टेट की अपनी-अपनी स्कीम होती है। यदि कोई राज्य इस स्कीम को अपने आप लागू करता है, तो मुझे नहीं लगता है कि सेंटर को उस पर कोई आपत्ति होगी।

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, the Minister has highlighted the efforts made by the Government under the NRHM. I would like to draw the kind attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that some States like Andhra Pradesh introduced what is called a mobile clinic where the paramedical staff and doctors will go as per the schedule to a particular habitation and take care of the medical needs of the population, prepare a chart and then refer them to a city hospital or a district hospital. That is the only way to reach them till you complete this task of recruiting, promoting and giving incentives. We have seen this promotional incentive scheme. There was a concept of 'barefoot doctor.' You make it compulsory that before getting a job or allowing private practice, one should serve these areas. Could you not think of that possibility? One is mobile clinic and the second is this compulsory condition.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Sir, mobile clinic is prevalent in many States. And, as I just mentioned, many States on their own are adopting different methodology and this is a continuous learning process for all the States. Of course, I agree that it is a good thing to exchange ideas on which State is doing what and come up with the best solution.

**डा. नारायण सिंह मानकलाव:** सभापति महोदय, ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों और सुदूर क्षेत्रों में सदा मेडिकल डॉक्टर्स और नर्सिंग स्टाफ की कमी रहती है। सभी लोग यह मानते हैं कि इसके चलते स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं बहुत प्रभावित होती हैं। मैं मंत्री महोदय से आपके माध्यम से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आपकी सरकार राज्य सरकारों को इस प्रकार का निर्देश देने या ऐसी कोई योजना बनाने की सोच रही है, जिसमें ग्रामीण सेवा अलग से हो, उसका अपोइन्टमेंट ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में हो और वह यह सोचकर आए कि मुझे ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में ही काम करना है? दो या तीन साल का जो स्टे अरेंजमेंट किया जाता है, यह सक्सेसफुल नहीं हो रहा है। क्या ऐसा कोई उपचार है कि ग्रामीण सेवाओं, अरबन सेवाओं के लिए अलग से कोई व्यवस्था हो?

**श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी:** सर, एन.आर.एच.एम. प्रोग्राम में हमने ग्रामीण सेवा में प्राथमिकता दी है, फिलहाल जहां तक डॉक्टरों का सवाल है, सेंट्रली स्पॉन्सर्ड ऐसी कोई कम्पल्सरी स्कीम नहीं है। यदि आइडियाज अच्छे होते हैं और हम सब मिलकर सोचते हैं कि यह करना चाहिए, तो हमें इस पर डिसकशन करना आवश्यक होता है।

#### **Oxygen cylinders missing from RML hospital**

\*302. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:††

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

(a) whether a large number of oxygen cylinders are missing from the Anesthesia Department at RML hospital, New Delhi, which are required for influenza patients;

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

(c) whether a large number of equipments in various departments are either missing or not functioning in RML hospital;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) the corrective steps taken by Government to fix responsibility in case of missing of equipments as well as their nonfunctioning in RML hospital?

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††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by the Shrimati Shobhana Bhartia.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

***Statement***

The firm *i.e.* M/s Inox Air Products Ltd., supplying oxygen gas cylinders to Dr. RML Hospital, had complained that oxygen gas cylinders supplied to the hospital had not been returned to the company after consuming the gas. The company has alleged that these cylinders have been lost by the hospital administration. An enquiry committee was set up by the hospital administration to enquire into the complaint. The Committee recommended that enquiry into the alleged theft of cylinders may be handed over to some authorised investigating agency. Accordingly, an FIR has been lodged with Police Station, Mandir Marg, New Delhi. The Senior O.T. Technician in charge has, in the meanwhile, been placed under suspension. The health security of patients suffering from Influenza including H1N1 has in no way been compromised with. There is no report of any equipment being missing from the hospital. Only two equipments are reported to be non-functional in the hospital.

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister: Is it true that the trauma centre that was inaugurated at Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital in 2008 had three functioning Operating Theatres, out of which, two are not in use at all? They had procured over 80 highly specialised ICU beds. More than 50 per cent of these have rusted. Out of the ten x-ray machines, 2-3 are out of order at any given point in time. What corrective steps are you planning to take, and more importantly to fix the responsibility, in case of not only missing equipment but also in case of those equipment which malfunction? Hospitals are supposed to put up a notice of non-functioning equipment outside the relevant department, whether it is Operating Theatre or diagnostic room or OPD. Is this practice being followed on a regular basis?

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Your first question is factually incorrect because there were only two equipment which were non-functional and for your kind information, I would give you the details. First one, the name of the equipment is OT Table — FF OT, one quantity — which was non-functional from 17.8.2006 and action taken is, the Indian agent informed that OT table is working and it is under observation; Sister, IC, First Floor OT informed that the table is again not working. So, you know, it was a phase where it was working and not working. But, I agree with you that whatever equipment is not working, people have a right to know about them. But, the report which we have says that there were two equipment which were not functioning during that period. And the second one is known as Elisa processor with computer relating to microbiology. That was not functioning since 22.3.2005. Machine is under demonstration and trials, and whatever is required to be done for repairing of that machine, is being done.

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Sir, I beg to differ with that. That is absolutely not correct because 50 per cent of your beds in ICU have rusted. Your OTs do not function. My point is that

the hospital itself was unaware of even the missing cylinders until the AMC actually came in and told them that these have disappeared. How are they in a position even to give you accurate feedback? Although they own the cylinders, yet they did not know that they went missing. It's only when there was an outbreak of flu and the AMC had to come in that they realised that they are missing. There's no physical audit done. In the previous Government's time, the hon. Minister of Health even said that there was no physical verification of the assets. There is no audit or enquiry that goes in.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: What's the question?

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Sir, the question is that I do not think that there is even a system where they know what is missing. I want to ask him whether you planned to actually institute some sort of audit to take stock of what you have. The Government of Gujarat, the Government of Maharashtra have out-sourced this to very competent agencies as a counter check. So, would you consider making it mandatory for hospitals to conduct physical audit of the equipment that they have?

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Sir, again, factually, it is incorrect. Trauma Centres OTs are functional all the time, and there are 247 people who are on the job. Even if the smallest equipment in the OT is nonfunctional, that becomes very dangerous for whoever is undergoing operation. And if the OTs were non-functional, then how come we are having so many operations successfully done day-in-and-day-out? As far as the audit is concerned, it is because of the audit system which each hospital has, all these things rightly come to light.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, before I could ask the question, can I ask a clarification?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. Ask your supplementary, no more.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, some of the hon. Members are able to get the questions listed so nicely. For example, our nice friend, Shrimati Shobhana Bhartia, Shri N.K. Singh, Shri Santosh Bagrodia and Dr. Subbarami Reddy. These are the people who are able to get one or two questions listed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the hon. Member could solve the mystery, the Chair would be delighted.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will they tell us the technique, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask your supplementary.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: What is the technology?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I can ask that question too.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: I am also sending three questions per day. What is the technology to get it listed?

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, have special audit for that also.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: I am not blaming. Let them tell the technique.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Good point. Please go ahead.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, let us have special audit for that because some Members are getting questions and some are not.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, leave apart Dr. RML Hospital, there are umpteen number of Government hospitals throughout the length and breadth of the country and people are coming and going, thousands of patients are coming and going. In other words, hospitals are humming with a lot of activities. They are dealing with a number of items, including the medicines. My direct question is: whether there is any foolproof or scientific inventory management system in your hospitals. In other words, as a student of management, according to me, the inventory management is the most difficult task. We have come across several cases of misuse of medicines. In such a situation, according to me, your system is defective. I would like to know whether you will think of making a study through an expert and find out a foolproof inventory management system.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Hon. Chairman, you will agree that in this world, nothing is foolproof. But there is always a scope for improvement, and each and everyday is a learning process, and in this process, I totally agree with you that we can use lot of technology, lot of management system, lot of information system, and I am sure, most of the hospitals are run by professional people. They are seized with this. And if the hon. Member, being a management expert, has some ideas, we would most welcome that.

SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Sir, my question is a bit different. In fact, I wanted to raise a supplementary on the previous question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Oh! But we are now on this question. So, please ask a supplementary on this question.

SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: I have nothing to say on this question.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, when we buy these equipments, the equipments have a guarantee system. The sad thing is, even the latest equipments when they are bought in the hospitals, they never start operating, and if they operate, they go out of order immediately. So, we must have a proper monitoring system. Does he have the monitoring system? For example, Sir, there is a PET scan machine in AIIMS. I would like to know how many patients, on an average, are being handled, per day, — it is a very expensive and a very important equipment— on this machine and what the private operators are doing. On an average, they are handling, probably, one patient against fifteen or twenty in private hospitals. How can we improve this situation? This machine is being installed in the Hospital to help the poorest of the poor. If we have only one machine, naturally, the chance of a patient comes after a month. What does the Government plan to improve upon the maximum use of the equipment and how do we monitor to maintain it properly?



SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, I think, the questions raised by Shobhanaji and others, so also raised by Santoshji, are concerning the inventories, both our equipments and our medicines. It is true that, unfortunately, in Government hospitals, as is happening in many other Government institutions, we do not have that much perfect inventory system like one has in the private institutions because everybody thinks that it is a Government thing; they do not own any responsibility; its wear and tear the Government shall have to pay; If something is being stolen, the Government shall have to pay; there is no onus. But, I think, we have to do something; the responsibility has to be fixed not only in Government hospitals but all across the country as well, for all Government-owned equipments.

Now, it is a good suggestion that there should be outsourcing of inventories. If you give the inventory system to a person, who is doing the mischief, there is no fun in having an inventory. And I would like to confess, here, that we have been receiving complaints not only from 'A' hospital or 'B' hospital but also from all across the country; wherever an equipment, a costly equipment, is there in the hospital, that particular equipment is being made paralysed, is being made non-functional. So, there is connivance between the operator and the doctor with some private agency, and they sit on it; it has gone out of order. There are instruments/equipments worth Rs. 10 cores, Rs. 12 crores, Rs. 15 crores; they are not functioning! So, the private owner can charge Rs. 5,000/-, Rs. 6,000/-, Rs. 7,000/-. I have had a long discussion with a very reputed agency, and I have told them to come out with a proposal. It is an electronic equipment agency of national and international repute, based in Bangalore, of course, based across the world. I have told them to come out with a proposal so that they can put up the equipment; the Government does not have to buy the equipment. We will provide them a room; let them work for 24 hours. And it will be cost-effective also because our machines, our equipments do not work; if, at all, they work, they work for only two hours. First, the operators will come too late; then, they will go for lunch. They will turn up after three hours. The equipment will be out of order. So, if we put some agency with costly equipment and that runs for 24 hours in prestigious hospitals, I think, the people will be benefited and that particular private institution can also be benefited. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Sir, this is not the proper reply. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no discussion on this. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Kumar Deepak Das. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Whatever you are saying...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, whatever the hon. Member is saying...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Sir, that is a very dangerous proposal. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no; no discussion, please. *...(Interruptions)...* This is not an issue for agitation. *...(Interruptions)...* Please ask your question. *...(Interruptions)...* No, no, no. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: The problem is, you always oppose the Government's proposal. *...(Interruptions)...* By doing so, the poor will be benefited. *...(Interruptions)...* How are you opposing that? *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no; no discussion, please. *...(Interruptions)...* No discussion, please. *...(Interruptions)...* No discussion, please. I am sorry. *...(Interruptions)...* I am sorry. *...(Interruptions)...*

**श्री सभापति:** प्लीज़ आप बैठ जाइए *...(व्यवधान)...* आप बैठ जाइए *...(व्यवधान)...* Please ask your question....*...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Sir, the RML Hospital is a leading hospital *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: No. Let me make it clear. You should not jump into the conclusion. That is the problem. One should support a good system and not keep one's mind always closed. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Thank you. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: You should have an open system and unless you open yourselves, you will allow the things to deteriorate. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Let us not have a discussion on this. *...(Interruptions)...* Let us have the next supplementary. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Please, you have not asked the question and jumped into the conclusion.

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

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: I have said that if the agency has to work, that agency shall have to pay the same amount that the Government has to pay and nothing extra. *...(Interruptions)...* Without knowing, you have jumped into the conclusion. *...(Interruptions)...* Please don't keep a closed mind. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't interrupt. *...(Interruptions)...* Please. Let us have the question, please.

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Sir, the RML Hospital is a leading hospital in Delhi and most of the MPs usually visit this hospital. I have seen that it is not well-equipped and provided with good and renowned physicians. Modern facilities need to be provided in the units. What is the new proposal for the development of the RML Hospital?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, modernisation is a continuous process. It is not a one-day affair. It is a time-consuming thing. I have been saying, time and again, not only here but also

outside, that the pressure on these hospitals is tremendous, be that RML Hospital or be that the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. That is why the infrastructure is being developed at all the levels, at the block level and at the tehsil level and at the district level. New institutes like the All India Institute of Medical Sciences are being established across the country and the medical colleges are also being upgraded across the country, maybe, in a phased manner. Once these institutes and medical colleges are upgraded, and the district hospitals, sub-district hospitals and primary health centres are augmented, the pressure on the hospitals in Delhi will be eased to a great extent. I am afraid to say that unless infrastructure is provided at the block level and the district level, and in the State capital, the pressure will continue and the wear and tear of these equipment, which is also directly linked with the cleanliness of the hospital, will continue. What we shall have to do is that all of us should put our heads together and persuade the State Governments to build the infrastructure which is at various stages of augmentation in various parts of the country.

#### **Booking of food items by phone in trains**

\*303. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to introduce the system of booking food items by phone no. 139 in trains at the time of booking;

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

(c) by when it would be implemented in the South Central Railway in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### ***Statement***

(a) to (c) Railway is a vast organization operating 17,754 trains including 10,385 passenger carrying trains and carrying more than 18 million passengers per day throughout the country. Phone No. 139 is primarily meant for passenger enquiries pertaining to running of trains and reservation status. Due to the vastness of the system ordering of food through this telephone number is not feasible at present. However, orders for food are taken in the running trains and food, as per order, is supplied through pantry cars or at the serving stations.

**श्री मोहम्मद अली खान:** सर, मंत्री जी ने जो स्टेटमेंट हाउस में रखा है, मैं उससे मुत्तफिक नहीं हूँ, इसीलिए कि रेलवे कैटरिंग के एक जिम्मेदार ऑफिसर ने यह बयान दिया था कि टेलिफोन नं- 139 से फूड आइटम्स बुक कराने की भी फैसिलिटी मिनिस्टर साहिबा इंट्रोड्यूस करेंगी, उस बेसिस पर मैंने यह सवाल किया था। मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि अगर यह फूड की जिम्मेदारी रेलवे कैटरिंग की है, तो फिर ऑफिसर ने इस टाइप का स्टेटमेंट क्यों दिया? इससे अवाम में एक बेचैनी पैदा होती है। मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से चाहूँगा कि यह मुझे बतलाएँ कि इसमें 139 की फैसिलिटी हो रही है या नहीं?

جناب محمد علی خان : سر، منتری جی نے جو اسٹیٹمنٹ ہاؤس میں رکھا ہے، میں اس سے متفق نہیں ہوں، اسی لئے کہ ریلوے کیٹرنگ کے ایک ذمہ دار آفیسر نے یہ بیان دیا تھا کہ ٹیلی فون نمبر 139 سے فوڈ آئٹمز بک کرانے کی بھی فیسلٹی منسٹر صاحبہ انٹرویو کریں گی، اس بیس پر میں نے یہ سوال کیا تھا۔ میں منتری جی سے یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ اگر یہ فوڈ کی ذمہ داری ریلوے کیٹرنگ کی ہے، تو پھر آفیسر نے اس ٹائپ کا اسٹیٹمنٹ کیوں دیا؟ اس سے عوام میں ایک بے چینی پیدا ہوتی ہے۔ میں منسٹر صاحب سے چاہوں گا کہ یہ مجھے بتلائیں کہ اس میں 139 کی فیسلٹی ہو رہی ہے یا نہیں؟

SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, phone No. 139 is only meant for getting information, enquiries and to know whether the PNR number has been confirmed or not, whether the trains are running and whether the trains are leaving and arriving on time. Phone No. 139 is purely meant for getting this kind of information and not for booking food.

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान : साहब, मेरा दूसरा सवाल यह है कि रेलवे के अंदर जो फूड पैसंजर्स को supply किया जाता है, वह standard food नहीं होता है। कई दफा ऐसा होता है कि राजधानी वगैरह के अंदर भी एक-एक महीने तक एक ही फूड रोजाना दिया जाता है, उसी फूड का मीनू supply किया जाता है। इसलिए मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या रेलवे कैटरिंग कॉर्पोरेशन के अंदर क्वालिटी डिपार्टमेंट है, जो रोजाना अलग मीनू के हिसाब से फूड supply करे और देश की आवाम और पैसंजर्स, जो ट्रेन में सफर करते हैं, उन की सेहत को बरकरार रखने के लिए क्वालिटी फूड और अच्छे फूड की supply करे?

SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far as food is concerned, the taste of people is different. The South Indian people travelling in trains expect South Indian dishes and the North Indian people expect North Indian dishes. They have different tastes. We are very carefully in monitoring and inspecting all these things. We are doing it sincerely. The following steps have been taken to improve the quality of catering services in mobile units over Indian Railways Network: Customer Satisfaction Survey has been conducted through M/s IMRB. Zonal Officers and the concerned licensees have been advised to take necessary action for improvement in the rating. Food Audit has been done by M/s TUV SUD South Asia on 572 units including premium trains, base kitchen and Food Plazas. Concerned Licensees and Zonal Officers have been instructed to implement the short-term, medium-term and long-term recommendations. Apart from this, Quality Control Processionals are also working on this line. Assistant Manager, Mobile Catering has been appointed in each zone/region. We are fully aware of these things. We have taken necessary steps to improve the quality food.

श्री राम नारायण साहू: सर, अभी मंत्री जी ने बताया कि दक्षिण भारत के लोग अलग खाना पसंद करते हैं, उत्तर भारत के लोग अलग खाना पसंद करते हैं और पश्चिम के लोग अलग खाना पसंद करते हैं, यह तो सवाल को टालने की एक कोशिश है। सर, यहीं सदन के अंदर सारे खाने की व्यवस्था रेलवे डिपार्टमेंट देखता है जिस में क्वालिटी का भी ध्यान रखा जाता है।

† [ ] Transliteration in Urdu Script.

**श्री सभापति:** सवाल पूछिए।

**श्री राम नारायण साहू:** और यहां कोई शिकायत नहीं आती है, लेकिन जब वही डिपार्टमेंट रेलवे के अंदर खाना supply करता है, तो वह खाना सही नहीं होता है।

**श्री सभापति:** सवाल क्या है?

**श्री राम नारायण साहू:** सर, यह सभी सदस्यों की शिकायत है। क्या मंत्री जी इस पर ध्यान देंगे?

SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA: Sir, I have already said that we have taken steps to maintain the quality of food. It depends upon the taste of the people, region-wise. We are supplying food. There is no problem. If the hon. Member has any suggestion, we are ready to take extra steps to improve the things further.

**श्री के.बी. शणप्पा:** सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि In the Karnataka Express, which goes from Delhi to Bangalore, there is no First Class facility. But in the Rajdhani Express, there is the facility of First Class. As an MP, when we travel in the First Class, they ask us to write the name of the spouse. When we write it as companion, they do not allow us. हमारी वाइफ नहीं आना चाहती, लेकिन companion allow नहीं है, तो काहे को आप ने यह procedure रखा है?

**श्री सभापति :** देखिए, यह सवाल दूसरा है। वह आप अलग पूछ सकते हैं।

**श्री सभापति:** देखिए, यह सवाल दूसरा है...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री के.बी. शणप्पा:** सर, इस पर answer तो दे सकते हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** नहीं, आप इस पर सवाल पूछिए...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री के.बी. शणप्पा:** सर, इस पर भी वह जवाब दे देते।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** नहीं-नहीं, यह इससे related नहीं है।...(व्यवधान).... प्लीज़...(व्यवधान).... श्री वी. हनुमंत राव।

**श्री वी. हनुमंत राव:** सर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि ट्रेनों में क्वालिटी के वास्ते चेक होता है। मैं एक मर्तबा नहीं बल्कि दस मर्तबा ए.पी. एक्सप्रेस और राजधानी एक्सप्रेस से हैदराबाद गया हूँ, लेकिन मैंने एक मर्तबा भी यह नहीं देखा कि उसमें कोई चेक करने वाला भी है। जब अच्छा खाना नहीं मिलता तो हम पैसेंजर्स खुद जाकर इसकी complaint करते हैं।

**श्री सभापति:** आप सवाल पूछिए।

**श्री वी. हनुमंत राव:** सर, मैं सवाल यह पूछ रहा हूँ कि मैंने आज तक यह नहीं देखा कि कहीं क्वालिटी कंट्रोल के लिए चैकिंग हुई हो। आप जरा मुझे इसके बारे में बताइए।

SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, if there is any specific complaint, and the hon. Member brings it to my notice, we will correct it.

#### Closure of vaccine PSUs

\*304. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:††

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

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††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by the Shri Mahendra Mohan.

(a) whether Government had suspended the licence of three crucial public sector suppliers of vaccines last year;

(b) if so, whether due to the suspension order on vaccine manufacturing public sector suppliers, the shortage of vaccines has affected Universal Immunization Programme;

(c) if so, the facts thereof;

(d) whether Government has since taken any steps to revive the public sector units to meet the demand of vaccines, particularly for newborns; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

***Statement***

(a) Yes. The manufacturing licenses of three Vaccine Institutes namely, the Central Research Institute, Kasauli, Himachal Pradesh, the Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor, Tamil Nadu and BCG Vaccine Laboratory, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, which are under the administrative control of the Ministry were suspended by the Drugs Controller General of India [DCG(I)] in January, 2008, since they were not found in compliance with the Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) as provided under Schedule M of Drugs and Cosmetic Rules, 1945.

(b) Yes.

(c) For some months in 2008, there were shortage of Diptheria-Pertussis-Tetanus (DPT), Tetanus Toxoid (TT) and Diptheria Tetnus (DT) in some States due to non-fulfillment of supply commitments by manufacturers. These were overcome by October, 2008, since then there have been no shortage.

(d) and (e) Yes. Government has decided to revive these units. The licenses of these units can be revived and production of vaccines can be restarted after compliance with GMP requirements. The renovation/upgradation of the new building constructed at CRI, Kasauli, to meet GMP norms for manufacture of Diptheria-Pertussis-Tetanus (DPT) group of vaccines is in progress. The project is expected to be completed by June, 2010. The project reports for revival of BCG, Guindy, and PII, Coonoor, are being prepared.

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Sir, the Government has stated in the reply that these public sector units were not following the Good Manufacturing Practices. Hence these had to be closed down in 2008, as the World Health Organisation threatened action against the National Regulatory Authority. It is surprising that the unit at Kasauli, which was 103 years old, the second unit, which was 100 years old and the third, which was 60 years old, had to be closed down. Since when has it been in the knowledge of the Government that these units were not following the GMP norms? Since they were Government units, it was the responsibility of the Government to see to it that they meet the international quality norms, as India exports vaccines to 151 countries, and 80 per cent of the vaccines were supplied from these units. Why were these old

laboratories not upgraded? And what has been the Drug Controller doing for so many years? What action has been taken against him?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, it is very difficult for me to say why the process of upgradation had not started. It should have started long back, but it did not start. That is why, ultimately, the Drug Controller of India was forced to cancel licences of these units, under pressure from the WHO, because they had not fulfilled the Good Manufacturing Practices, which each manufacturing unit was supposed to follow. And, I don't think that for any unit to continue for more than 100 years is possible. There should be a process of upgradation after every 10 or 15 or 20 years. At least, two of these units went by without any upgradation for more than 100 years...*(Interruptions)*... It is not for me to say why it was not done. Out of these 100 years, 40 years were during the pre-independent period...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: That is not the issue. The issue is under the Health Ministry, and they cannot ignore it...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: If it has not been done, then, it is the Ministry's fault...

**श्री सभापति:** अहलुवालिया जी, आप जवाब देने दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Six months before the WHO team came, they gave a certificate to the Institute at Coonoor that they were doing such good work...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Karat, let the Minister reply.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Day before yesterday, the hon. Member, Shrimati Brinda Karat, did mention about it while participating in the debate. I think, before going into rigmarole of it, she had said that there is something dangerous in this. Now, I am sure, another supplementary will come from Brindaji. There is something wrong that these vaccine producing units were producing 80-90 per cent of the vaccines in one year, and suddenly, in the next year, the production comes down to zero. And next year, they come to zero. I do not find any reason why a unit, whether in the private sector or public sector, in any part of the world, producing a particular medicine to the tune of 80 per cent of the total requirement in one year, should produce only 10 to 15 per cent in the very next year. There is certainly something wrong there. That is one thing. Whatever you may say, I will never hide anything; be assured of that.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Then, Sir, you should have an enquiry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. Please.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: The second thing is that there almost seems to be the same nexus, which I have mentioned, so far as equipment in hospitals is concerned. I can smell some nexus between these units and the private units. When that particular unit places orders for vaccines, it is at the normal price, but the next year, there is almost a hundred per cent increase in the price by private vaccine manufacturers. And so these units were paralysed in one year. This needs to be gone into in depth through some external agency. This is what I am going to do.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second Supplementary.

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Sir, the Minister has already accepted that there is a nexus. I would like to know why this nexus is not being broken. During the period of closure there was an acute shortage, as stated by the hon. Minister, and, as per the report, the cost of DPT and BCG for the year 2008-09 went as high as Rs. 64.29 crores, whereas it was only Rs. 32 crores earlier. There was a clear nexus because of which supplies were made at a very high price. Later on, when the Central Research Institute at Kasauli...

**श्री सभापति:** आप सवाल पूछ लीजिए।

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: My question is, renovation has been quoted at only Rs. 15 crores. Why has all this not been taken into account? I think the Minister should place a report on this in the House. My next question is...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can't have an introductory speech before a question.

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Okay. My question is very...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has given a very...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Well, all this speculation has been put to rest. I have gone deep into the issue and tried to find out how, all of a sudden, within two years' time, these public sector units got paralysed and how the private sector units increased their prices within one year, to the extent of 60, 70 or even 100 per cent. There is something wrong; this can't happen in the normal circumstances.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Fine. The answer has been given.

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Sir, my second supplementary is...

**श्री सभापति:** आपने second supplementary पूछ लिया।

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: It should be investigated and a report should be given.

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Sir, the problem of immunisation has less to do with availability and more to do with effective implementation, getting mothers to come to ensure that children are vaccinated, for instance. Our track record is poorer than that of even Africa. I would like to know from the hon. Minister if he would consider devising some method to track the entire immunisation programme. I would also like to know whether this new scheme of the Government to have Unique Identity Numbers for every one, would, at some point, converge in helping you track every citizen in this country, including every child, so as to ensure that these vaccines are indeed given to children.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, this is what the NRHM, through ASHA, has to do. I would like to say that, in the past, ever since the NRHM came into being, there has been a great relief and a great increase in immunisation; and that will continue. I am sure that with NRHM in place, immunisation will cover, to a great extent, children across the country.



SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, when the hon. Member put the question, the hon. Minister is simply saying, 'yes', it will not suffice. The Minister is expected to cause an inquiry and come to the House and then share the information with the House, what has gone wrong and who has done it. Sir, now, my question to the hon. Minister is, will he give an assurance about a time-bound inquiry to find out what has gone wrong, who is responsible, why has the Drug Controller not conducted periodical inspections? There are certain guidelines of the GMP set even by the WHO also. Were those guidelines followed? If not, who is responsible for it? Then, what is the time-limit for the inquiry report? As the Minister himself is saying, and we are all feeling happy, 'ok, fine', because he said that it is being done to help the private sector. It is a fact. I am not disputing what he is saying. When are you going to complete the inquiry, and, then, let the House know about it?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, I did not say that it was done to help the private sector. I said, 'there seems to be a possibility of it'. I said so because normally it is not possible for a particular unit that all of a sudden it will stop producing vaccines or medicines.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: All three, Sir.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Therefore, I have already said that I will go through it. This question has come only today. I have gone through...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: No, Sir, I raised the entire details and demanded an inquiry into it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Yes, you raised it the day before yesterday. ...*(Interruptions)*... Brindaji, it is not one year or six months or even one month. You raised it the day before yesterday, and I have gone through it yesterday, read it. I can't say anything — it is a huge Ministry — as to what has happened two years back or ten years back, or for that matter, what is happening even today. I can't say what is happening in my Ministry today in any part of the country. It cannot say about it spontaneously, unless it is brought to my notice. And, since it has been brought to my notice, first through your speech, and now through the question, and this is what made me to go deep into this. I myself have come to the conclusion that there is something wrong in it. I have already said that we will have the inquiry done, and as soon as the inquiry is through, I am sure, it is not possible to complete the inquiry within this Session because this Session is hardly of ten days, and also I don't want to come before the House with an inquiry which is half cooked and half baked and not based on the truth. So, as soon as the inquiry is complete, I will come before the House.

SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Sir, the alternate for this is contract manufacturing. If the Government can get these vaccines manufactured on contract basis through private manufacturers, I think that can be a good suggestion. ...*(Interruptions)*... I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he is thinking something on these lines because it will be cost-effective also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put your question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: As I said earlier about pool purchase, even contract manufacturing can also be a good suggestion.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Member that there is no dearth of these vaccines now. The private manufacturers do manufacture it, but the question is of only the cost. After these manufacturing units were closed, the cost of these vaccines has been raised sky-high by the private manufacturers. So, we have to see how this vaccine is made cost-effective, if not close to the cost at which we were producing it, but, at least, somewhere nearly close to that. An increase of hundred per cent should not be done.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, while I appreciate that the Government has decided to revive these units...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask the question quickly because we are running out of time.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, I am just coming to my question. I appreciate that the Government has taken a decision to revive these units, and I also appreciate the point that if the price of these essential vaccines is kept under control, even being produced by the private sector,...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sen, please put your question.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, I am coming to my question. Let me complete the sentence and my question will be complete. The existence of a strong public sector will act as a countervailing weight to keep the price low. My specific question is this. The Kasauli unit project is expected to be completed by 2010. The closure order was done in January, 2008, and the upgradation and completion of the Kasauli unit is expected by 2010. But, why in other two units, at Chennai and Coonoor, it is still at the stage of preparing the project report? This is my specific question. Why these two are neglected?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, it is not a one day or one month job. It is not only purchase of just a particular equipment, it also involves new construction. For example, I am talking about Kasauli. Earlier, about 6-7 years back, about Rs. 15 crores was spent on the construction. After that, an inspection took place and it was seen that the construction was not enough to give a completion certificate. Another Rs. 15 crores was given for undertaking more construction. That construction is under progress. It is not just the money that is involved, but also the time is involved for construction, for upgradation, and for equipment. You need money and time, both. That is why, in a phased manner, it is being done. One is under construction, renovation, upgradation; in the meanwhile, the project report of other two is also being prepared.

### Vacant post of Unani Advisor

\*305. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) since when the post of Advisor (Unani) has been lying vacant at the AYUSH Head Quarters' Office, Delhi;
- (b) the reasons for the vacancy; and
- (c) steps taken to fill up the post early?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The post of Advisor (Unani) has been lying vacant in the Department of AYUSH since 02.12.2006.

(b) and (c) The vacancy arose after repatriation of the incumbent officer on expiry of his contractual appointment. In the meantime, the department had initiated amendment to the Recruitment Rules for the said post for widening the scope for selection. The proposal for the amendment was sent to the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) for concurrence. However, the UPSC has suggested certain changes in the amendment proposal. Action has been initiated for finalizing the amendment to the Recruitment Rules and filling up the post.

**श्री मोहम्मद अदीब:** सर, जनाब-ए-आली ने बताया कि तीन साल से वह पोस्ट खाली है। मेरा यह सवाल है कि वह पोस्ट कब भरी जाएगी, क्योंकि तीन साल का वक्त बहुत अधिक होता है। AYUSH हेल्थ मिनिस्ट्री का एक अहम हिस्सा है। जैसा आपने फरमाया कि वहां तीन साल से पोस्ट खाली है। मुझे इससे मतलब नहीं है कि आपने UPSC में भेजा है या कहां भेजा है। मेरा स्पेसिफिक क्वेश्चन यह है कि यह पोस्ट कब भरी जाएगी?

**جناب محمد ادیب :** سر، جناب عالی نے بتایا کہ تین سال سے وہ پوسٹ خالی ہے۔ میرا یہ سوال ہے کہ وہ پوسٹ کب بھری جائے گی، کیوں کہ تین سال کا وقت بہت زیادہ ہوتا ہے۔ آیوش، ہیلتھ منسٹری کا ایک اہم حصہ ہے۔ جیسا آپ نے فرمایا کہ وہاں تین سال سے پوسٹ خالی ہے۔ مجھے اس سے مطلب نہیں ہے کہ آپ نے یو۔پی۔ایس۔سی۔ نے بھیجا ہے یا کہاں بھیجا ہے۔ میرا اسپیسفک کونشنن یہ ہے کہ یہ پوسٹ کب بھری جائے گی؟

**श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी:** मैं ऑनरेबल मੈबर से बिल्कुल सहमत हूँ कि तीन साल हो गए हैं, लेकिन हमारी दुविधा यह है कि जब तक UPSC के अमेंडमेंट के संबंध में सजेशन नहीं आता है, तब तक थोड़ी मुश्किल है। हम जरूर उनको इस संबंध में लिखेंगे और जल्द से जल्द कोशिश करेंगे कि यह पोस्ट भर दी जाए।

**श्री मोहम्मद अदीब :** जनाब-ए-आली ने अभी तक इस बात का जवाब नहीं दिया है, जो मैं स्पेसिफिक पूछना चाह रहा हूँ कि अगर UPSC दो साल और ले लेगी तो क्या आप दो साल तक और कोई तकल्ल नहीं करेंगे?

**جناب محمد ادیب :** جناب عالی نے ابھی تک اس بات کا جواب نہیں دیا ہے جو میں اسپیسفک پوچھنا چاہ رہا ہوں کہ اگر یو۔پی۔ایس۔سی۔ دو سال اور لے لیگی تو کیا آپ دو سال تک اور کوئی تقرر نہیں کریں گے؟

†[ ] Transliteration in Urdu Script.

**श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी :** जी नहीं। हम दो साल तक नहीं रुकेंगे।

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, again I must confess before anybody comes and...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I wish all answers were so candid!

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: So candid! Sir, there is transparency. I think, we should be transparent ourselves. Unfortunately, it is not only one vacancy lying vacant for the last two years, but there are three vacancies lying vacant. One is in ayurveda, the other is in homoeopathy and another is in unani. So, they are three different disciplines. The total number of advisers is supposed to be four. Out of four, in ayurveda, one post is already filled and one is vacant. In homoeopathy and in unani, also, one each is lying vacant, unfortunately, for the last more than two years. I am very sorry to say that the existing recruitment rules for advisors, for all these posts, provide either for promotion or even for a short-term contract. I can imagine that for promotion. I totally agree with the Ministry that filling it by promotion you are left with a limited choice because it is filled from Deputy Advisors or CMOs; these can get upgraded to the level of Advisors. Adviser is equivalent to Joint Secretary. Any CMO just being upgraded as an Adviser with limited clinical experience and for such a vast thing is not enough. I totally agree with the Ministry that they wanted somebody as Adviser to be selected by the Union Public Service Commission, maybe, outside CMO who is not having limited experience of clinic but has vast experience of the subject. But having said this, there is another provision that till such time you can have a short-term contract. That has not been availed of so far. What I will do that I would avail of the second part, that is, the short-term contract and we shall go ahead with it, till the other longterm things are sorted out.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Sir, I am happy that the hon. Minister has got lot of claps for सच का सामना ...*(Interruptions)*... सच का सामना किया है। मगर मंत्री जी, आपसे सवाल यह है कि हमारे देश के अंदर आयुर्वेद, सिद्धा और यूनानी की वर्षों से, सदियों से नॉलिज है।

It is an indigenous knowledge of our country. The whole world is adopting Yoga, Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani Medicines while in our country due to some minor provisions, nobody bothered about it. Your responsibility is not over by just saying the truth. The thing is when are you going to change all the discrepancies, all the mistakes, and all the omissions in your Ministry?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Well, I think, God only can do it because no human being can do it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला:** अल्लाह मियां पर सब छोड़ दिया है।...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Removal of all the discrepancies in any area, only God can do it. But I can assure the House that whatever best I can do and whatever best my colleagues can do, we will do that.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: It should be done in a time bound manner.

**श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी:** थैंक्यू सर, ऑनोरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब ने बहुत ही सफाई से यह एडमिट किया है कि हेल्थ डिपार्टमेंट के अंदर यह गवर्नमेंट का फेल्योर है। सच बोला है, उनके पास हर तरह की इंफार्मेशन है।

**श्री सभापति:** टाइम खत्म हो रहा है, जल्दी कीजिए।

**श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी:** लेकिन अभी तक एक भी किसी मुद्दे पर, किसी भी बिन्दु पर एक्शन नहीं है, यह भी सच है। इंफार्मेशन है, लेकिन एक्शन नहीं है। तो हम आदरणीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहते हैं कि आम आदमी की जो यह सरकार है, यह आम आदमी के लिए एक एडवाइजर को भर्ती करने के लिए तीन साल से एक नियमावली तैयार कर रहे हैं। तो यह कब तक सम्भव हो सकेगा? क्या आप समयबद्ध कार्यक्रम तय कर देंगे कि इतने समय में यह नियम तैयार हो जाएंगे या यह भी भगवान के ऊपर ही छोड़ना है? धन्यवाद।

**श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद:** सर, पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन से हमारे ऑफिसर की एक मीटिंग हुई है एक सतह पर, और दूसरे लेवल पर और होने वाली है। अगर यह जल्दी तय हुआ तो तुरन्त करेंगे, अगर नहीं हुआ तो जो पहले वाला सिस्टम था उसी सिस्टम में इन जगहों को जितना जल्दी हो सकेगा, भर दिया जाएगा।

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Thank you, Sir. If you see the reply, it is very general. Would the Minister go into it and find out when recruitment rule amendment proposal started, how long it took to send it to the UPSC, when it came back from the UPSC with objections and how much time you have taken to ascertain the fact that inordinate delay at every stage has taken place?

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** यह तब से चल रहा है जब पहले आप पार्लियामेंट्री मिनिस्टर थे।

**श्री सभापति:** टाइम खत्म हो रहा है।

**श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद:** इतना दूर तो नहीं होगा, जाहिर है कि यह जगह दिसम्बर, 2006 में खाली हुई और 2007 से यह प्रक्रिया शुरू हुई है। इसलिए मैंने बताया कि इसमें दो-ढाई साल इंतजार नहीं करना चाहिए था। सलेक्शन का दूसरा प्रोविजन भी था कि पूरा सलेक्शन करने में अगर पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन को देर लगेगी, तो वह कांट्रेक्ट पर ले सकते थे। जाहिर है कि इसमें एक-डेढ़ साल से पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन और मिनिस्ट्री के बीच में काम चल रहा है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

### Patenting of indigenous coarse-grains by foreign companies

† \*306. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign companies have got/are in the process of getting, the patents of indigenous varieties of coarse-grains, which are able to withstand drought, flood and salinity of water;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the Indian farmers have demanded that no indigenous technique, which is adaptive to changing climate, should be allowed to be patented;

(c) if so, whether Government is taking any measures to thwart patenting of such indigenous varieties in the interest of Indian farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir. The varieties of coarse grains are excluded from patenting under India's Patents Act 1970, as amended up to date.

According to this Act's provision in Section 3(j), the inventions relating to plants in whole or any part thereof including seeds, varieties and species and essentially biological processes for production or propagation of plants are not patentable. However, plant varieties are protected under the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001.

Therefore, even if any application for patent claiming varieties of coarse grains is filed by any person or entity, whether domestic or foreign, the same can not be allowed for the grant of patent.

(b) No, Sir. No such information is available according to Government of India's Patent Office and Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

(c) and (d) The Question does not arise.

#### **New rail line projects in Rajasthan**

\*307. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry has not accepted the proposal of some new rail line projects in Rajasthan because of paucity of funds; and

(b) looking to the poor railway network in the State whether Government is going to accept the projects to link Bhiwadi to Delhi-Ahmedabad Broad Gauge railway line and Jaisalmer to Sanu for industrial, mining and tourism development of the State?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) Rajasthan has the second largest route kilometres among all the states of the country. Projects for new line are sanctioned based upon their financial viability, operational advantages, regional development, socio-economic considerations, etc.

An updating survey for a new line linking Bhiwadi to Delhi-Ahmedabad BG line (27 kms) has been completed recently. As per the survey report, the cost of this new line has been assessed as Rs. 153.73 crore. North Western Railway has been asked to review the cost of the proposed new line. A separate survey for Jaisalmer-Sanu (25 kms) new Broad Gauge (BG) line has not been taken up.

### Sick SMEs

\*308. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of small and medium enterprises have become sick in the last three years;

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

(c) whether production and productivity in this sector has declined;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The data on sickness in micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) sector is compiled by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). As per the data compiled by the RBI from the scheduled commercial banks, the position regarding number of sick MSMEs in the country for the period March, 2006 to March, 2008 (latest available) is as under:—

As at the end of	Number of sick MSMEs
March 2006 *	1,26,824
March 2007	1,32,081
March 2008	99,941

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

The main reasons for sickness are inadequate and delayed credit, obsolete technology, marketing problems, infrastructural constraints, managerial deficiencies, etc.

(c) and (d) The production and employment in the MSE sector is estimated to be Rs. 3,72,938 crore and 287.55 lakh persons in 2004-05 and Rs. 4,71,663 crore and 312.52 lakh persons in 2006-07 (latest available) respectively. This works out to production per person of Rs. 1.30 lakh in 2004-05 and Rs. 1.51 lakh in 2006-07.

(e) To facilitate the promotion and development of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and enhance their competitiveness, the Government has announced a 'Policy Package for Stepping up Credit to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)' in August, 2005 which envisages public sector banks to fix their own targets for funding MSMEs in order to achieve a minimum 20 per cent year-on-year growth in credit to the MSME sector. The Government has also announced in February, 2007 a 'Package for Promotion of Micro and Small

Enterprises' with an objective to provide support in areas of credit, technology upgradation, marketing, infrastructure, etc. Further, the Government has enacted the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006, which has come into force from 2nd October, 2006, for promotion and development of MSMEs and to enhance their competitiveness. In addition, the Government is also implementing several schemes/programmes, which include the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme and schemes relating to credit, infrastructural development, technology upgradation, marketing, entrepreneurial/skill development, etc. aimed at enhancing competitiveness and productivity of the MSMEs.

#### **Basic health facilities for tribal areas**

309. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the efforts made to provide basic health facilities in tribal areas;
- (b) the steps taken towards improvisation as well as infrastructure development and proposal for health insurance coverage, if any, for tribals; and
- (c) the status and the funds earmarked for the purpose on State-wise basis?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) To strengthen the basic health facilities and public health system in rural areas including the tribal areas and make health care accessible, affordable and accountable, the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) was launched in April, 2005.

The Mission seeks to establish functional health facilities in the public domain through revitalization of the existing infrastructure and fresh construction or renovation wherever required. The Mission also seeks to improve service delivery by putting in place enabling systems at all levels addressing issues relating to manpower planning as well as infrastructure strengthening.

It also aims at bridging the gap in Rural Health care services through a cadre of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) and improved hospital care, decentralization of programme to district level to improve intra and inter-sectoral convergence and effective utilization of resources. The ASHA would reinforce community action for universal immunization, safe delivery, newborn care and prevention of water-borne and other communicable diseases, nutrition and sanitation. As per the Implementation Framework for NRHM, ASHA is being provided in each village in the ratio of one per 1000 population. For tribal, hilly, desert areas, the norm could be relaxed for one ASHA per habitation depending on the workload.

Given the concentration of Tribal inhabitation in far-flung areas, forest lands, hills and remote villages, to better support infrastructure development, the population norms have been relaxed at different levels of health facilities:—

- Sub-centers are permitted for 3000 population in tribal areas as against 5000 population in general areas.



- Primary Health Centers are provided for every 20,000 population in tribal areas as against 30,000 population in general areas and
- Community Health Centers are provided for every 80,000 population in tribal areas as against 1,20,000 population in general areas.

The programmes/schemes implemented in the health sector are available across all areas and segments of societies. However, as Yaws is a specific disease affecting tribal population, Yaws Eradication Programme was launched as Central Sector Scheme to meet the specific needs of tribal and other vulnerable population and this disease has been eradicated in 2006.

Under the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP), the norms have been relaxed for the provision of services in the tribal areas. The relaxed norms include *inter-alia* (a) Establishing T.B. Units as well as appointment of Senior T.B. Treatment Supervisor (STS) and Senior T.B. Laboratory Supervisor (STLS) for every 2.50 lakhs population against the usual norm of 5 lakhs (b) establishing microscopy centre for 50000 population against established norm of one lakh population (c) reimbursement of travel claims of patient and attendant for taking treatment at DOTS Centre, (d) Opening of more DOTS centers. Grant-in-aid is also being given to voluntary organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes with the prime objective of the scheme being to enhance the reach of the Government welfare schemes and fill the gaps in service deficient tribal areas such as education, health, drinking water etc.

No national level health insurance coverage exclusively for tribals is under consideration.

As allocations are made for implementation of health programmes across all segments of society, State-wise allocation of funds is not made exclusively for tribals. However, allocations made by the Union Government under tribal sub-plan in 2009-10 (BE) are given below:—

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	2009-10 (B.E.)
1	2	3
1.	National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme	79.61
2.	National Programme for Control of Blindness	25.00
3.	Revised National T.B. Control Programme	22.94
4.	National Leprosy Eradication Programme	0.49
5.	Infrastructure Maintenance	250.10
6.	Supply of Drugs and Contraceptive	16.79

1	2	3
7.	Immunization	126.62
8.	IEC	15.09
9.	Area Projects	4.05
10.	Flexible Pool for State PIPs	576.09
	TOTAL	1116.78

#### Availability of fertilizers

†\*310. SHRI VEER PAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether D.A.P. and N.P.K. fertilizers are available in sufficient quantity for paddy crops;

(b) if so, details thereof State-wise;

(c) if not, the measures being taken by Government; and

(d) the measures being adopted by Government to prevent their black marketing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) If State-wise, month-wise requirement, availability and sales of DAP and complex fertilizers (NPK) during Kharif 2009 (April — July, 2009 (upto 20.7.09) is given in the Statement below (*See below*). As can be seen, the availability of DAP has been adequate enough to sustain the sales. There is no shortage of DAP in the country, however, there may be little tightness in availability of complex (NPK) fertilizers because of lower level of indigenous production and also as these can not be imported as they are not covered under existing concession scheme. However, the shortage of complex (NPK) fertilizers is being compensated by additional supplies of DAP.

(d) The State Governments, as the enforcement agencies, are adequately empowered under Fertiliser Control Order, 1985 to take appropriate action against any offender who indulges in any kind of malpractices including black marketing.

**Statement**

*State-wise, Month-wise Requirement, availability and Sales of DAP during Kharif 2009*

**Kharif 2009**

21.7.09	DAP										<000'MTs>		
	April, 2009			May, 2009			June, 2009			July, 2009			
	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability upto 21.07.09	Sales as on 21.07.09
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	25.00	35.55	19.79	60.00	126.15	84.50	80.00	193.74	107.46	150.00	199.86	68.00	
Karnataka	30.00	61.83	60.92	75.00	144.07	135.73	123.30	164.33	127.68	85.00	110.53	73.53	
Kerala	2.00	1.50	1.38	2.00	2.18	2.18	4.50	10.27	9.77	4.50	1.00	0.23	
Tamil Nadu	22.00	29.32	26.76	23.00	34.03	26.18	30.00	55.65	53.17	35.00	17.80	13.90	
Gujarat	33.80	58.47	52.47	97.80	161.31	70.87	100.00	201.07	111.33	77.80	106.46	85.90	
Madhya Pradesh	31.50	67.15	44.78	139.50	147.06	64.26	112.50	212.57	144.16	58.50	124.01	88.61	
Chhattisgarh	27.00	26.17	23.33	27.00	45.44	33.19	40.50	55.37	43.63	27.00	42.22	21.86	
Maharashtra	30.23	268.86	251.92	124.86	326.65	311.81	126.85	149.93	146.05	114.95	55.50	13.72	
Rajasthan	13.00	21.32	12.87	18.00	59.97	53.81	60.00	78.66	72.49	100.00	59.97	37.06	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Haryana	10.00	24.36	14.78	40.00	106.28	98.72	85.00	87.75	74.42	65.00	52.33	22.99
Punjab	60.00	28.50	28.13	30.00	96.81	88.03	75.00	73.78	58.58	35.00	59.79	23.32
Jammu and Kashmir	6.79	0.00	0.00	14.37	10.53	10.52	9.26	7.91	7.51	3.96	0.40	0.03
Uttar Pradesh	50.00	57.17	36.75	50.00	205.56	149.28	100.00	245.33	163.97	100.00	214.73	88.93
Uttarakhand	2.00	3.07	3.05	2.00	4.64	4.63	2.20	7.88	5.06	2.50	8.10	4.18
Bihar	15.00	15.24	3.01	25.00	39.22	23.69	50.00	24.94	16.85	55.00	41.24	22.48
Jharkhand	2.50	1.39	1.39	5.00	7.02	4.41	20.00	16.42	11.33	20.00	15.71	6.67
Orissa	2.00	7.34	7.33	5.00	10.37	4.74	24.00	58.17	33.93	48.00	43.08	19.66
West Bengal	11.90	22.94	19.49	15.50	36.73	31.20	32.90	53.47	34.22	82.20	63.11	22.35
Assam	1.35	0.00	0.00	1.95	0.00	0.00	3.15	4.45	4.37	3.15	2.94	0.00
ALL INDIA	378.03	730.20	608.70	759.10	1565.01	1198.27	1084.70	1707.18	1231.42	1067.56	1218.83	613.42

**Kharif 2009**

21.7.09	Complex										<000'MTs>	
	April, 2009			May, 2009			June, 2009			July, 2009		
	Sets	Requment	Addly	Sets	Requment	Addly	Sets	Requment	Addly	Sets	Requment	Addly
												upb 21.07.09
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	120.00	122.45	66.63	100.00	179.96	117.49	150.00	201.26	152.28	290.00	143.25	28.65
Karnataka	50.00	86.24	76.55	76.90	107.45	93.65	109.50	94.51	84.20	124.00	46.79	19.39
Kerala	12.50	22.49	16.06	14.75	20.21	15.79	23.25	29.95	27.58	23.25	18.32	10.16
Tamil Nadu	28.50	41.89	36.53	34.50	56.56	52.84	26.50	50.19	44.72	26.50	29.77	17.08
Gujarat	20.50	52.82	28.97	38.80	67.91	47.23	38.50	35.73	16.95	41.70	33.87	7.12
Madhya Pradesh	11.85	20.12	7.30	54.35	30.79	22.76	84.55	13.13	6.01	36.25	15.42	421
Chhattisgarh	10.30	10.50	7.82	26.50	18.13	13.19	32.90	17.33	14.65	20.30	11.57	1.41
Maharashtra	80.75	96.89	78.90	105.94	102.48	80.87	141.42	121.91	103.46	357.60	81.32	33.29
Rajasthan	3.40	2.51	1.92	9.00	3.36	2.77	11.85	4.81	4.13	28.70	254	0.29
Haryana	1.00	3.44	2.67	6.00	1.76	0.93	5.00	1.65	1.21	5.00	0.81	0.38
Punjab	6.00	5.26	2.56	5.50	3.20	1.20	5.50	2.32	0.37	3.00	2.20	0.25

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Himachal Pradesh	2.60	0.00	0.00	2.55	2.66	2.58	2.60	0.08	0.07	0.05	2.67	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	50.00	50.39	27.59	50.00	55.36	38.54	50.00	42.29	24.69	75.00	26.76	6.73
Uttarakhand	2.00	0.05	0.00	10.00	4.61	4.39	10.00	0.22	0.16	2.50	0.05	0.00
Bihar	15.00	15.71	10.10	25.00	33.82	25.43	42.50	26.63	18.93	45.00	20.48	4.87
Jharkhand	1.00	3.29	3.28	3.00	8.43	8.18	4.50	4.39	4.37	8.00	2.45	0.00
Orissa	6.70	14.16	3.55	17.60	33.33	17.13	35.30	49.59	22.39	65.70	52.01	17.17
West Bengal	21.05	76.47	65.33	22.60	56.00	47.40	32.00	46.23	41.43	101.00	41.53	8.65
Assam	0.50	2.57	0.00	0.72	0.00	0.00	1.16	0.00	0.00	1.16	2.32	0.00
ALL INDIA	445.58	627.44	439.30	606.01	788.42	594.72	812.28	745.67	571.06	1254.71	534.10	159.64

### Anaemic children and pregnant women

\*311. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and percentage of anaemic children and pregnant mothers in the country;
- (b) the number and percentage of infants and pregnant mothers who die each year in the country, urban and rural area-wise;
- (c) the detailed findings of UNICEF, State of World Children Report, 2008;
- (d) infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rate of the country, State-wise, urban and rural area-wise and how they compare with neighbouring/western countries;
- (e) how alarming is the above scenario; and
- (f) what is being done to save country's childhood/motherhood?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (f) As per the National Family Health Survey 3 (NFHS III, 2007-08), 69.5% of children (71.5% rural and 63% urban) and 55.3% of all women aged 15-49 years (57.4% rural and 50.9% urban) are suffering from anaemia. The details thereof, state wise, are given in the Statement-I (See below). The percentage of anaemic women and children is ascertained through the national surveys. Absolute numbers in this regard are not available.

As per the UNICEF Report, State of the World's Children 2008, during the 1990s, India experienced marked reduction in Infant Mortality Rate. It has indicated international estimates of India's Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) to be 450 per 1,00,000 live birth in the year 2005.

The Ministry relies on the reports released by the Registrar General of India, which are based on surveys, for estimates on infant and maternal mortality. IMR has declined from 58 per thousand live births in 2005 to 55 per thousand live births in 2007 and MMR has declined from 301 per hundred thousand live births during the period 2001-03 to 254 per hundred thousand live births during the period 2004-06. The IMR and MMR, state wise, are given in the Statement-II and III respectively (See below). The IMR, urban and rural, state wise, is given in the Statement-IV (See below). The State wise figures for urban and rural MMR are not available. The comparative IMR and MMR of some neighbouring and western countries is given in the Statement-V (See below).

The steps being taken to save the newborns, infants and children in the country are:—

- Supplementation of all children found to be anaemic with iron supplements from the age of 6 months onwards through adolescence
- Nutrition counselling of care givers by health care personnel, utilising Village Health and Nutrition Days (VHNDs)

- Food supplements to children up to the age of 6 years under the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS) and the provision of a hot cooked meal under the Mid Day Meal scheme.
- Health and nutrition education to improve over all dietary intakes and promote consumption of iron and folate-rich foodstuffs

The steps being taken to prevent maternal mortality in the country are:—

- Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), a cash benefit scheme to promote Institutional Delivery with a special focus on Below Poverty Line (BPL) and SC/ST pregnant women
- Strengthening of Health Facilities like District Hospitals, Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres and Sub-Centres and Operationalizing Community Health Centres as First Referral Units (FRUs) and Primary Health Centres for round the clock (24 x 7) services
- Augmenting the availability of skilled manpower by means of different skill-based trainings such as Skilled Birth Attendance
- Training of MBBS Doctors in Life Saving Anaesthetic Skills and Emergency Obstetric Care including Caesarean Section
- Provision of Ante-natal and Post Natal Care services including prevention and treatment of Anaemia by supplementation with Iron and Folic Acid tablets during pregnancy and lactation
- Organizing Village Health and Nutrition Day at Anganwadi Centers
- Appointment of an Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) to facilitate accessing of health care services by the community including pregnant women

***Statement-I***

*Prevalence of anaemia in children and women by State*

State	Children 6-59 months (Anaemia <11.0g/dl)	Women 15-45 years (Any Anaemia <12.0/g/dl)
1	2	3
<b>India</b>	69.5	55.3
<b>North</b>		
Delhi	57.0	44.3
Himachal Pradesh	54.7	43.3
Punjab	66.4	38.0
Uttaranchal	61.4	55.2



1	2	3
Haryana	72.3	56.1
Jammu and Kashmir	58.6	52.1
Rajasthan	69.7	53.1
<b>Central</b>		
Chhattisgarh	71.2	57.5
Madhya Pradesh	74.1	56.0
Uttar Pradesh	73.9	49.9
<b>East</b>		
Bihar	78.0	67.4
Jharkhand	70.3	69.5
Orissa	65.0	61.2
West Bengal	61.0	63.2
<b>Northeast</b>		
Arunachal Pradesh	56.9	50.6
Assam	69.6	69.5
Manipur	41.1	35.7
Meghalaya	64.4	47.2
Mizoram	44.2	38.6
Sikkim	59.2	60.0
Tripura	62.9	65.1
<b>West</b>		
Goa	38.2	38.0
Gujarat	69.7	55.3
Maharashtra	63.4	48.4
<b>South</b>		
Andhra Pradesh	70.8	62.9
Karnataka	70.4	51.5
Kerala	44.5	32.8
Tamil Nadu	64.2	53.2

Source: National Family Health Survey (NFHS) III(2005-06)

**Statement-II***Infant Mortality Rate, 2007*

State	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4
<b>India</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Bigger States</b>			
Andhra Pradesh	54	60	37
Assam	66	68	41
Bihar	58	59	44
Chhattisgarh	59	61	49
Delhi	36	41	35
Gujarat	52	60	36
Haryana	55	60	44
Jammu and Kashmir	51	53	38
Jharkhand	48	51	31
Karnataka	47	52	35
Kerala	13	14	10
Madhya Pradesh	72	77	50
Maharashtra	34	41	24
Orissa	71	73	52
Punjab	43	47	35
Rajasthan	65	72	40
Tamil Nadu	35	38	31
Uttar Pradesh	69	72	51
West Bengal	37	39	29
<b>Smaller States</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	37	41	15
Goa	13	11	13
Himachal Pradesh	47	49	25
Manipur	12	13	09
Meghalaya	56	57	46

1	2	3	4
Mizoram	23	27	16
Nagaland	21	18	29
Sikkim	34	36	20
Tripura	39	40	32
Uttarakhand	48	52	25
<b>Union Territories</b>			
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	34	38	23
Chandigarh	27	25	28
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	34	38	18
Daman and Diu	27	29	23
Lakshadweep	24	25	23
Puducherry	25	31	22

Source — SRS Bulletin 2008. office of RGI

**Statement-III**

*Maternal Mortality Ratio India and State wise*

Major State	MMR (1997-98)	MMR (1999-01)	MMR (2001-03)	MMR (2004-06)
1	2	3	4	5
<b>India Total*</b>	398	327	301	254
Assam	568	398	490	480
Bihar/Jharkhand	531	400	371	312
Madhya Pradesh/Chhattisgarh	441	407	379	335
Orissa	346	424	358	303
Rajasthan	508	501	445	388
Uttar Pradesh/Uttaranchal	606	539	517	440
Andhra Pradesh	197	220	195	154
Karnataka	245	266	228	213
Kerala	150	149	110	95
Tamil Nadu	131	167	134	111

1	2	3	4	5
Gujarat	46	202	172	160
Haryana	136	176	162	186
Maharashtra	166	169	149	130
Punjab	280	177	178	192
West Bengal	303	218	194	141
Others	—	276	235	206

\*:Includes Others

(Source: RGI, (SRS), 1997-'98, 1999-'01, 2001-'03, 2004-'06)

**Statement-IV**

*Infant Mortality Rate, 2007*

	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4
<b>India</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Bigger States</b>			
Andhra Pradesh	54	60	37
Assam	66	68	41
Bihar	58	59	44
Chhattisgarh	59	61	49
Delhi	36	41	35
Gujarat	52	60	36
Haryana	55	60	44
Jammu and Kashmir	51	53	38
Jharkhand	48	51	31
Karnataka	47	52	35
Kerala	13	14	10
Madhya Pradesh	72	77	50
Maharashtra	34	41	24
Orissa	71	73	52
Punjab	43	47	35

1	2	3	4
Rajasthan	65	72	40
Tamil Nadu	35	38	31
Uttar Pradesh	69	72	51
West Bengal	37	39	29
<b>Smaller States</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	37	41	15
Goa	13	11	13
Himachal Pradesh	47	49	25
Manipur	12	13	09
Meghalaya	56	57	46
Mizoram	23	27	16
Nagaland	21	18	29
Sikkim	34	36	20
Tripura	39	40	32
Uttarakhand	48	52	25
<b>Union Territories</b>			
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	34	38	23
Chandigarh	27	25	28
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	34	38	18
Daman and Diu	27	29	23
Lakshadweep	24	25	23
Puducherry	25	31	22

Source — SRS Bulletin 2008, office of RGI

### ***Statement***

#### *Comparative IMR and MMR of some Neighbouring and Western countries*

Neighbouring countries	IMR	MMR	Western countries	IMR	MMR
1	2	3	4	5	6
Afghanistan	165	1800	Ireland	4	1
Nepal	43	830	Germany	4	4

1	2	3	4	5	6
Bangladesh	47	570	United kingdom	5	8
Bhutan	56	440	France	4	8
Pakistan	73	320	United State of America	7	11
Sri Lanka	17	58	Russian Federation	13	28

Source—State of the World's Children 2008

#### Rail network in the country

\*312. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise data about the rail network in the country; and
- (b) where the State of Rajasthan stands in the availability of rail network *vis-a-vis* other States?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) The State-wise length of rail network (route kilometres) in the country as on 31.3.2008 is given below:—

Sl. No.	Name of State/Union Territory	Route kilometres
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5170
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3.	Assam	2284
4.	Bihar	3407
5.	Chhattisgarh	1186
6.	Delhi	182
7.	Goa	69
8.	Gujarat	5328
9.	Haryana	1467
10.	Himachal Pradesh	285
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	163
12.	Jharkhand	1965

1	2	3
13.	Karnataka	3005
14.	Kerala	1050
15.	Madhya Pradesh	4884
16.	Maharashtra	5536
17.	Manipur	1
18.	Meghalaya	0
19.	Mizoram	2
20.	Nagaland	13
21.	Orissa	2387
22.	Punjab	2133
23.	Rajasthan	5683
24.	Sikkim	0
25.	Tamil Nadu	4131
26.	Tripura	64
27.	Uttar Pradesh	8554
28.	Uttaranchal	345
29.	West Bengal	3951
<b>Union Territory</b>		
1.	Chandigarh	16
2.	Pondicherry	11
ALL INDIA		63273

Note:—The remaining States/Union Territories have no railway line.

(b) The State of Rajasthan has the second longest route kilometres in the country.

#### **Hike in sugar price**

\*313. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

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

- (a) whether sugar prices have hit Rs. 30 per kg due to acute shortage of cane;
- (b) if so, whether Government is considering to increase quarterly release quota;

(c) what is the total production so far achieved and whether Government has taken steps to check sugar prices;

(d) if so, to what extent they have been successful and whether Government had ensured that retail prices do not cross Rs. 25 per kg.; and

(e) whether Government has any plan to import sugar to meet the requirement of the people?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, AND FOOD PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The lower production of sugarcane with consequent lower production of sugar during the current sugar season 2008-09 has put pressure on open market prices of non-levy sugar. The retail price of sugar is in the range of Rs. 25 to Rs. 30 per kilogram.

(b) Releases are made on the basis of requirement. The Central Government increased, the non-levy sugar quota for the quarter April-June, 2009 by 6 lakh tons.

(c) and (d) The production of sugar in the current sugar season till 30th June, 2009 is provisionally estimated at 145 lakh tons. The Central Government, with a view to check increase in sugar prices has, *inter-alia*, permitted duty free imports to augment domestic availability, imposed stockholding and turnover limits on sugar and suspended futures trading in sugar. These measures helped contain retail prices of sugar. Prices depend upon a number of factors like demand, supply, international prices, market sentiments etc.

(e) Duty free import of raw sugar by sugar mills under Open General Licence (OGL) up to 01.08.2009 and under Advance Authorization Scheme up to 30.09.2009 have been permitted. Designated agencies viz. STC, MMTC, PEC and NAFED have been permitted duty free import of up to 1 million ton of white/refined sugar under OGL.

#### **Excessive use of fertilizers**

\*314. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the subsidy policy is to be blamed for excessive use of fertilizers;

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

(c) the impact of such use during the last three years, State-wise, especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the reaction of farmers in Andhra Pradesh and other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) The fertilizer subsidy regime has successfully ensured availability of subsidized fertilizers to the farmers at affordable prices. It has also contributed positively towards increase in consumption of chemical fertilizers in the country.



Farmers exhibit a preference for subsidized fertilizers because of price consideration ignoring the requirements and importance of micro-nutrients so essential for increase in productivity. Imbalanced and indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers coupled with low content of organic manure over the years has resulted in widespread multi-micro nutrient deficiencies. The deficiencies of secondary and micro-nutrient in the soil do have a limiting impact on the overall productivity response to fertilizer usage in the country, which has nearly stagnated during the last few years. There has been an increase in awareness among farmers including those of Andhra Pradesh to the above mentioned problems.

The per hectare consumption of fertilizers (NPK) in various states including Andhra Pradesh during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 is provided in the Statement-I (*See below*). Further, the per hectare yield .for various States during 2005-06, 2006-07 is also provided in the Statement-II (*See below*). The State-wise, consumption ratio of NPK during the years 2006-07 and 2007-08 is provided in the Statement-III.

**Statement-I**

*Statewise consumption of fertilizers (NPK) – kg/ha*

State/Union Territory	2007-08	2006-07	2005-06
1	2	3	4
<b>South Zone</b>			
Andhra Pradesh	199.5	185.9	203.9
Karnataka	115.7	114.1	119.1
Kerala	69.8	70	67.6
Tamil Nadu	178.3	186.5	186.7
Pondicherry	1032.5	1226.1	1091.8
Andaman and Nicobar	18.9	13.3	12.6
<b>West Zone</b>			
Gujarat	143.6	124.6	115.5
Madhya Pradesh	66.4	61.5	46.6
Chhattisgarh	76.9	75.9	65.5
Maharashtra	103.1	100.1	88
Rajasthan	45.5	43.1	41.9
Goa	41.9	35	32.7
Daman and Diu	156.7	163.3	—
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	36.4	44.6	39

1	2	3	4
<b>North Zone</b>			
Haryana	187.6	173	175.7
Punjab	210	209.2	209.1
Uttar pradesh	149.6	148.4	140.8
Uttaranchal	118.9	113.1	93.6
Himachal Pradesh	53.1	52.1	48.8
Jammu and Kashmir	71.8	78.9	83.7
Delhi	8.9	23.6	10
<b>East Zone</b>			
Bihar	162.8	144.7	117.8
Jharkhand	68.5	65.5	65
Orissa	51.8	46.2	45.3
West Bengal	144.2	143.2	131.9
<b>North-East Zone</b>			
Assam	57.3	54.6	52.5
Tripura	41.2	55.3	44.9
Manipur	85.2	85.5	59.7
Meghalaya	15.8	19.9	18.5
Nagaland	2.2	38.1	1.6
Arunachal Pradesh	2.7	2.7	2.9
Mizoram	39.9	38.1	23.8
Sikkim			2.8
ALL INDIA	117.1	112.3	106.5

**Statement-II**

*State-wise Yield of foodgrain during 2006-07 and 2005-06 in respect of major foodgrain producing States*

State	2006-07 Yield — Kg/ha	2005-06 Yield — Kg/ha
1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	2056	2058

1	2	3
Punjab	4017	3984
Andhra Pradesh	2232	2364
West Bengal	2511	2424
Haryana	3393	3044
Rajasthan	1119	920
Madhya Pradesh	1167	1130
Maharashtra	941	948
Bihar	1657	1311
Karnataka	1289	1775
Tamil Nadu	2606	1846
Orissa	1359	1348
Gujarat	1422	1549
Chhattisgarh	1148	1109
Jharkhand	1550	1073
Assam	1286	1415
Uttarakhand	1758	1544
ALL INDIA	1756	1715

**Statement-III**

*State-wise consumption Ratio of N, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and K<sub>2</sub>O*

State	2006-07			2007-08 (Provisional)		
	N	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> O	N	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> O
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Arunachal Pradesh	5.0	2.1	1	5.0	2.0	1
Assam	2.1	1.0	1	1.8	1.0	1
Bihar	9.7	2.2	1	11.0	2.3	1
Jharkhand	21.4	9.7	1	9.2	4.7	1
Manipur	10.9	2.8	1	11.0	2.6	1
Meghalaya	12.3	8.1	1	7.7	3.7	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mizoram	2.2	1.9	1	2.1	1.2	1
Nagaland	4.0	3.0	1	3.9	2.1	1
Orissa	4.8	1.7	1	4.3	1.9	1
Sikkim	7.0	3.7	1			1
Tripura	4.1	1.5	1	3.4	1.2	1
West Bengal	2.3	1.3	1	2.2	1.3	1
Haryana	47.3	13.4	1	39.8	10.9	1
Himachal Pradesh	3.9	1.3	1	3.7	1.0	1
Jammu and Kashmir	8.1	3.5	1	11.9	3.6	1
Punjab	33.7	9.2	1	34.3	9.0	1
Uttar Pradesh	16.8	5.2	1	15.1	4.5	1
Uttarakhand	12.0	2.8	1	11.2	2.4	1
Delhi	82.0	21.0	1	30.0	8.0	1
Andhra Pradesh	4.4	2.1	1	3.8	1.7	1
Karnataka	2.6	1.5	1	2.4	1.2	1
Kerala	1.2	0.6	1	1.3	0.6	1
Tamil Nadu	2.2	1.0	1	1.8	0.7	1
Pondicherry	3.3	1.5	1	2.3	1.0	1
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	7.3	7.0	1	3.3	3.0	1
Gujarat	7.7	3.0	1	7.2	2.9	1
Madhya Pradesh	11.2	6.3	1	10.5	5.7	1
Chhattisgarh	5.7	2.4	1	5.2	2.2	1
Maharashtra	3.3	1.8	1	3.0	1.5	1
Rajasthan	51.2	19.9	1	33.7	12.5	1
Goa	1.7	0.9	1	1.9	1.0	1
Daman and Diu	42.0	6.0	1	12.7	2.0	1
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	12.0	7.8	1	11.4	8.0	1
ALL INDIA	5.9	2.4	1	5.5	2.1	1

### **Uniform fee structure for private medical colleges**

\*315. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of private medical colleges in the country;
- (b) the number of colleges recognized;
- (c) whether Government is proposing to introduce uniform fee pattern for self financed colleges; and
- (d) if so, by when this would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) At present, there are 299 medical colleges in the country, out of which 141 are in Government Sector and 158 are in Private Sector. 220 medical colleges have been recognized under Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, so far. The remaining colleges have been permitted to conduct courses till recognition is granted under provisions of Indian Medical Council Act/Regulations.

2. As regards the question of introducing uniform fee pattern for self financed colleges, it is stated that it is not possible to do so as the provision of facilities and extent of expenditure vary from college to college. Some of the factors which determine the structure of fee are (i) the cost of land and building and the available infrastructure, (ii) the expenditure on administration and maintenance, (iii) the revenue earned from the patient care services rendered in the attached hospital and other sources (iv) the amount of assistance received from the Government in the form of financial grant/equity, land, subsidized land, subsidized lease land or building, free or subsidized attachment with Government hospital or any such facility provided at concessional rate, (v) the scholarship or stipend, if any, provided by the Government to the students admitted in the institution and (vi) a reasonable surplus required for growth and development of the professional Institution etc.

3. Presently as per Hon'ble Supreme Court order, each State has constituted two Committees headed by retired High Court Judges for determining fee structure and deciding admission process. This is the arrangement till such time the Central Government/State Governments bring in their own legislations on the matter.

4. At present, no proposal has been finalised to introduce a uniform fee pattern for private medical colleges.

### **Suicide by farmers**

\*316. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of farmers who have committed suicide till date after the declaration of Debt Relief and Loan Waiver Scheme, 2008, State-wise;
- (b) whether any analysis has been made of the causes that led to these suicides; and

(c) if so, the conclusions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Incidence of suicides by farmers has been reported mainly from the States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala. The State-wise information as received from the State Governments is given below:—

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Period	Suicides due to agrarian reasons#
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2009 (upto June)	04
2.	Karnataka	2008-09	113
3.	Maharashtra	2009 (upto 18.06.09)	71
4.	Kerala	2009 (upto May)	01
5.	Tamil Nadu	2008-09 (upto December)	01
6.	Punjab	2009	11

All other States and Union Territories have reported NIL information relating to suicide by farmers  
#Does not include cases under enquiry.

As reported by the State Governments and revealed in some studies conducted earlier, the causes for suicides by farmers are manifold including personal and other reasons. However, some suicides out of the total number of suicides have been attributed to crop failure, indebtedness, drought and socio-economic reasons. As per information made available by State Governments, the number of suicides by farmers has come down in the year 2008-09 as compared to earlier years.

#### Population growth

\*317. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:  
SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

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

- (a) whether measures taken to control population growth have failed;
- (b) if not, how far the growth of population has come down since the Fourth Five Year Plan;
- (c) how far the targets fixed under the Eleventh Five Year Plan have been achieved, year to year; and
- (d) what is the present estimated population in each State and Union Territory?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) No. Though India's population has increased from 36 crore in 1951 to 102.87 Crore in 2001, the country has witnessed significant decline in both fertility and mortality. The crude birth rate, which was recorded at 40.8 per 1000 in 1951, has declined to 23.1 in 2007, as per the estimates

available from the Sample Registration System (SRS). The crude death rate, which was recorded at 25.1 per 1000 in 1951, has declined to 7.4 in 2007. Infant mortality rate has come down from 146 in 1951-61 to 55 in 2007. Total Fertility rate has come down from 6.0 in 1951 to 2.7 in 2007. The growth of population has come down since the Fourth Five Year Plan as follows:—

Census Year	Population (In crores)	Decadal Growth ( %)	Average Annual (%)
1971	54.8	24.80	2.20
1981	68.6	24.66	2.22
1991	84.3	23.87	2.14
2001	102.87	21.54	1.93

No targets are fixed as the Family welfare Programme in India is voluntary in nature, which enables a couple to adopt the family planning methods, best suited to them according to their choice, without any compulsion.

(d) Details of estimated population as on 1st March, 2009 is as per Statement

***Statement***

*The present estimated population as on 1st March, 2009 in each State and Union territory is as follows (in 000s)*

India, States and UTs	Estimated Population
1	2
India	1,160,813
Jammu and Kashmir	11,414
Himachal Pradesh	6,862
Punjab	27,048
Chandigarh	1,297
Uttaranchal	9,658
Haryana	24,597
Delhi	17,437
Rajasthan	65,650
Uttar Pradesh	193,763
Bihar	95,026
Sikkim	598

1	2
Arunachal Pradesh	1,212
Nagaland	2,197
Manipur	2,393
Mizoram	981
Tripura	3, 532
Meghalaya	2,560
Assam	29,814
West Bengal	87,839
Jharkhand	30,611
Orissa	40,025
Chhattisgarh	23,600
Madhya Pradesh	89,897
Gujarat	57,434
Daman and Diu	248
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	318
Maharashtra	109,553
Andhra Pradesh	83,178
Karnataka	58,181
Goa	1,655
Lakshadweep	75
Kerala	34,063
Tamil Nadu	68,586
Pondicherry	1,267
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	465

**Need to formulate an Act to protect farm land**

\*318. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:  
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Agriculture Act, on the lines of the Forest (Conservation) Act of 1980, is being formulated so that States keep a fixed percentage of land exclusively for cultivation of food-related crops;



(b) if not, how it is proposed to protect farm land from rapid industrialization, especially in view of the fast depletion of fertile agricultural land; and

(c) whether Government fully appreciates the apprehension that industries alone cannot mitigate hunger and requisite agricultural inputs are indispensable?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, Agriculture, Water and Land fall under the purview of the State Governments and, therefore, it is for the State Governments to bring suitable Act/Legislation to protect use of agricultural land for non agricultural purposes including industries.

The Government is aware of the consequences of transfer of agricultural farm land for non-agricultural purposes. Land for setting up of industries including under the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) is procured as per the policy and procedures of the respective State Governments. The State Governments have been advised that in case of land acquisition for SEZs, first priority should be for acquisition of waste and barren land and if necessary single crop agricultural land could be acquired for SEZs. If perforce a portion of double cropped agricultural land has to be acquired to meet the minimum area requirements, especially for multi-product SEZs, the same should not exceed 10 percent of the total land required for the SEZ.

The Ministry of Rural Development formulated a revised National Rehabilitation and Re-settlement Policy, 2007 (NRRP-2007), which was approved by the Cabinet on 11th October, 2007. NRRP-2007, which *inter-alia*, envisages that as far as possible project may be set up on wasteland, degraded land or un-irrigated land. Acquisition of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes in the project may be kept to the minimum; multi-cropped land may be avoided to the extent possible, and acquisition of irrigated land, if unavoidable may be kept to the minimum.

(c) The Government of India is fully aware of the need for taking measures to increase agricultural productivity and production to ensure food security in the country. Towards this end, the States are being incentivized for more public spending under agriculture and related sectors through programmes, such as the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). As per the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), public investment on agriculture and allied sectors increased to Rs. 22,107 crores in 2007-08 from Rs. 10,805 crores in 2003-04.

#### **Loss of foodgrains due to shortage of storage facilities**

\*319. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over Rs. 58,000 crore worth of foodgrain perishes, annually in the country due to lack of proper rules and storage facilities;

(b) if so, who is responsible for such loss;

(c) whether his Ministry is planning to evolve a policy to raise proper infrastructure in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No foodgrains have perished in the depots of FCI due to lack of proper storage facilities. However, small quantities of foodgrains may get damaged due to various reasons, such as insect/fungus infestation, rodents, cyclones, floods and other natural calamities.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The following steps have been taken to improve storage infrastructure in the country:—

- (1) FCI has prepared a shelf of projects to establish new godowns during the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12). The estimated cost of construction of these godowns is Rs. 164 crore. Planning Commission has however, allocated Rs. 125 crore for FCI and Rs. 24 crore for State Governments of North Eastern region, Sikkim and Jammu and Kashmir.
- (2) In July, 2008, the Government formulated a [Scheme for Construction of Godowns for FCI-Storage requirements through Private Entrepreneurs]. Under this scheme, the FCI provides a guarantee for 5 years for hiring of godowns through Central Warehousing Corporation and State Warehousing Corporations. FCI has approved creation of 126.35 lakh tonnes of storage capacity under this scheme. State-wise details are given in the Statement (See below).
- (3) The Government has also allowed CWC/SWCs to build godowns on their own land for which FCI would provide 4 year guarantee for the storage charges.

**Statement**

*The details of the additional storage capacity finalized by FCI under five year guarantee scheme*

1.	Andhra Pradesh	36,000
2.	Bihar	3,00,000
3.	Chhattisgarh	5,000
4.	Gujarat	45,000
5.	Haryana	38,80,000
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1,42,550
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	3,61,690
8.	Jharkhand	1,75,000
9.	Karnataka	1,00,000

10.	Kerala	15,000
11.	Maharashtra	99,500
12.	Punjab	71,25,000
13.	Tamil Nadu	3,20,000
14.	Uttarakhand	25,000
15.	West Bengal	5,000
TOTAL		126.35 LMT

#### Upgradation of Medical College, Rewa

†\*320. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposals regarding upgradation of Trauma Unit in Medical College, Rewa and UG and PG medical colleges of Rewa, Bhopal and Indore of Madhya Pradesh sent in November, 2007;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government on these proposals so far and if they are pending, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by when all these three proposals would be approved and funds would be made available?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been implementing the scheme for establishment of Truma Care Centres on National Highways during the Eleventh Five Year Plan starting in the year 2007-08 at a total outlay of Rs. 732.75 crores. The, scheme envisages establishment of a network of trauma care centres along the Golden Quadrilateral, North-South and East-West Corridors of the national highways.

Under the present scheme, the following hospitals of Madhya Pradesh have been identified for grant of financial assistance from this Ministry for establishment of trauma care facilities as these are located on the identified corridors of the national highways:—

1. Civil Hospital, Shivpuri
2. Indira Gandhi District Hospital, Seoni
3. District Hospital, Sagar
4. District Hospital, Narasimhapur
5. G.R. Medical College Hospital, Gwalior.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Medical Colleges located at Rewa, Bhopal and Indore in Madhya Pradesh are not located on the Golden Quadrilateral, North-South and East-West Corridors of the national highways and as such are not covered under the scheme.

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

### Manufacturing of spurious milk

2261. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to recent media reports about the spurious milk being manufactured at a large scale in North India;
- (b) whether it is a fact that State owned milk producers like Mother Dairy and DMS etc. also procure milk from these vendors;
- (c) if so, the details of the precautions these producers take or have taken to ensure that the quality of milk produced by them is genuine; and
- (d) the action Government has taken against the spurious milk producers?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The state owned milk producers like Mother Dairy and DMS procure milk from State Cooperative Federations after following strict quality norms before acceptance of milk and their quality control laboratory are fully equipped for testing purity and adulteration of milk.

(d) The Central Government has issued instructions from time to time to Food (Health) Authorities of the States/U.Ts, who are responsible for implementation of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act in their State and U.T. to keep a strict vigil on the quality of milk and milk products and take necessary preventive action under the provision of PFA Act, 1954 and Rules 1955 made thereunder.

### MSP of paddy

2262. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) what measures Government is taking or proposing to increase Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of selected crops, including paddy, are fixed every year based on the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) in consultation with States and Central Ministries. For 2008-09, the MSP of paddy (Common) has been increased

from Rs. 645 per quintal in 2007-08 to Rs. 850 per quintal and of paddy (Grade A) from Rs. 675 per quintal to Rs. 880 per quintal.

#### **Rejuvenation of agriculture under RVS**

2263. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pursuant to the resolution adopted by the National Development Council to rejuvenate agriculture to achieve 4 per cent growth in the Eleventh Five Year Plan Government has started a new scheme called Rashtriya Vikas Yojana with an estimated outlay of Rs. 25,000 crores;

(b) if so, the salient features of the RVY;

(c) whether any incentives have been given under the above scheme to States, particularly West Bengal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Assistance under the scheme is made available to the States as 100% grant. The States have full autonomy in the process of selection, planning, approval and execution of schemes. Funds are allocated to the States in two streams, viz., Stream-I and Stream-II and are routed through the State Agriculture Department, which is the nodal Department for the scheme. Under Stream-I, at least 75% of the RKVY funds are made available for specific projects as part of the State and District Plans. Under Stream-II, upto 25% of the total RKVY funds to a State are made available for strengthening existing State Sector schemes.

Under the Scheme, the following broad activities have been identified for focus attention:—

Integrated Development of Food Crops, including coarse cereals, minor millets and pulses; Agriculture Mechanization; Soil Health and Productivity; Development of Rainfed Farming Systems; Integrated Pest Management; Market Infrastructure; Horticulture; Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries; Concept to Completion Projects that have definite timelines; Support to Institutions that promote Agriculture and Horticulture, etc.; Organic and Bio-fertilizers; and Innovative Schemes. These activities are only indicative in nature.

(c) No incentive is provided to the states but the scheme is so designed that the States spending more in agriculture and allied sectors under State Plan budget, gets more allocation under RKVY scheme.

(d) A Statement (*See below*) indicating details of funds allocated and released to the States including **West Bengal** during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 in enclosed.

*Statement*

*Allocation, release to the States under RKVY as on 17.7.09*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ UT	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		
		Allocation	Total release	Allocation	Total release	Total allocation	Funds released under Stream I	Funds released under Stream II
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	93.13	61.08	316.57	297.17	315.33	118.25	39.42
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.85	1.90	6.88	0.00	14.39		
3.	Assam	23.77	0	142.62	144.12	47.53		5.94
4.	Bihar	64.02	57.77	148.54	148.54	70.50		8.81
5.	Chhattisgarh	60.54	52.96	116.48	117.45	296.39		37.3
6.	Goa	2.29	1.70	6.91	0.00	4.32		
7.	Gujarat	53.71	49.81	243.39	243.39	294.46		36.81
8.	Haryana	23.12	21.52	74.00	39.50	96.91		12.11
9.	Himachal Pradesh	17.39	16.17	15.11	15.11	24.45		3.06
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6.85	0	16.17	1.20	33.38		4.17
11.	Jharkhand	61.66	55.68	58.62	29.31	97.14		12.14
12.	Karnataka	171.97	154.30	316.57	314.14	243.62		30.45
13.	Kerala	61.41	55.40	60.11	30.06	99.48		12.44
14.	Madhya Pradesh	110.01	101.62	146.05	146.05	202.39		25.3
15.	Maharashtra	142.20	128.20	269.63	261.77	302.70		37.84
16.	Manipur	1.35	0	4.14	0.90	4.83		0.6
17.	Meghalaya	7.00	6.37	13.53	6.77	19.91		2.49
18.	Mizoram	1.05	0	4.29	0.80	3.27		
19.	Nagaland	9.45	3.19	13.89	6.95	18.54		
20.	Orissa	46.59	39.30	115.44	115.44	96.74		12.09
21.	Punjab	39.85,	36.05	87.52	87.52	65.29		8.16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
22. Rajasthan		71.68	55.76	233.75	233.76	145.72		18.22
23. Sikkim		2.77	2.77	11.37	5.68	12.33		1.54
24. Tamil Nadu		188.21	153.6	140.38	140.38	87.57		10.95
25. Tripura		4.69	4.16	34.02	16.08	24.66		3.08
26. Uttarakhand		30.54	28.25	20.6	10.30	58.56		7.32
27. Uttar Pradesh		116.15	103.90	316.57	316.57	315.33		39.42
28. West Bengal		60.87	54.93	147.38	147.38	121.55		15.19
TOTAL STATES		1475.12	1246.39	3080.53	2876.34	3119.31		384.83
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		9.52		6.43	2.26	10.24		1.28
30. Chandigarh		0.22		2.20	0.14	3.37		0.42
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		0.25		0.61	0.00	0.25		
32. Daman and Diu				1.42	0.26	0.26		
33. Delhi		0.56	0.10	1.83	0.00	1.95		0.24
34. Lakshadweep		0.92		12.08	6.14	8.69		1.09
35. Pondicherry		3.13	0.40	6.67	0.00	0.58		
TOTAL UTs		14.58	0.50	31.24	8.80	25.33		3.03
District Agricultural Plan				53.90		8.90		
NIRD, ISEC, IEG, IIM-CMA					1.25			
Administrative Contingency					0.41			
GRAND TOTAL		1489.70	1246.89	3165.67	2886.80	3153.55	118.25	387.88
<b>Organic food</b>								

2264. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that foodgrains and vegetables can be grown without chemical fertilizers;

(b) if so, what steps it is taking to familiarise the farmers about it;

(c) whether Government is also aware that organic food is healthy since there is no residue of pesticides and is also better in taste and quality;

(d) if so, whether Government is taking any step to switchover to organic food; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The [National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF)] is under implementation since October, 2004. The scheme includes training of farmers on organic farming, field demonstrations on organic inputs and creation of awareness through seminars, exhibitions, publicity through print and electronic media.

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) organizes and supports awareness programmes, seminars etc. in States having potential to grow organic produce for export.

Under National Horticulture Mission, assistance is given to farmers for organic farming, organic certification and setting up vermi-compost units.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal for complete switchover from conventional to organic farming as it is not possible to sustain present level of agricultural production or increase it without chemical inputs.

#### **Treatment of crop diseases**

†2265. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crop diseases are being treated by chanting mantras and offering medicinal herbs in 'Havan Kunda' at Palampur Agricultural University;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this experiment has been successful in Brazil; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c) Yes, Sir. In an experiment on Wild Marigold and *Aloe vera* the application of Organic Manure + *Homa Bhasma* and Organic Manure + Himbio (Mixture of local isolates of *Trichoderma*) gave higher yield as compared to Organic Manure alone.

#### **Supervision of fishing operations by Coast Guard**

2266. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an Empowered Committee on fisheries;

(b) whether it is a fact that this Committee has asked the Coast Guard to supervise the fishing operations of Indian fishermen near Rameshwaram in Tamil Nadu;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



(c) if so, the reasons for directing Coast Guard to interfere with fishing operations of Indian fishermen; and

(d) the steps proposed to call an urgent meeting of the Empowered Committee to solve the problems of fishermen with Coast Guard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir. With the approval of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), Ministry of Agriculture has constituted an Inter-ministerial Empowered Committee (EC) on Marine Fisheries for making recommendations on various issues related to development of marine fisheries in India.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Empowered Committee generally meets as often as required, but not less than once in six months depending on the necessity of holding this meeting. The last meeting of the EC was held on 16th April, 2009.

#### **Remunerative price to coconut growers**

2267. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coconut growers are not getting remunerative price for their produce;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the zero per cent import duty on palmolin and palm oil is one of the reasons for the crash in prices of coconut;

(d) if so, whether Government will impose higher duty on palmolin and palm oil; and

(e) steps Government propose to take to give remunerative price to coconut growers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Government of India has been fixing Minimum Support Price for Copra and De-husked Coconut every year.

(c) and (d) Price of any commodity including coconut is determined by the overall market forces of demand and supply. In order to ensure that the farmers of the country are not put to any hardship, the Government has put in place a suitable mechanism for monitoring the import of sensitive items including agricultural items and is committed to provide adequate protection to the domestic producers by appropriate calibration of applied tariffs and safeguard action under certain specified circumstances. Given the production, availability and price situation in the country, appropriate measures are taken by the Government which include review of import.

(e) For the crop season 2009, the Government of India has fixed MSP for Milling Copra at Rs. 4450 per quintal and Ball Copra at Rs. 4700 per quintal for FAQ Variety which is higher by Rs. 790 per quintal over the MSP of 2008 crop season. The Government of India has fixed MSP for de-husked coconut at Rs. 1200 per quintal for 2009 season which is higher by Rs. 212 per quintal over the MSP of previous season.

NAFED, being the Central nodal agency has procured 9465 tonnes of Milling copra valued Rs. 4582.95 lakh at the MSP of Rs. 4450 per quintal in the States of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Lakshadweep and 1040 tonnes ball copra valued Rs. 531.13 lakh at the MSP of Rs. 4700 per quintal in the State of Karnataka under Price Support Scheme during 2009 season.

Government has prohibited export of all edible oils except coconut oil, with effect from 17.03.2008 and has not permitted import of Crude and Refined Palm Oil through any port of Kerala with effect from 24.12.2007.

#### **Drought situation in the country**

†2268. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the country is in the grip of serious drought;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has made any assessment of drought affected States; and

(d) the details of the assistance being given to drought affected States by Government to tackle the problem of drought?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) As reported by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), during South-West Monsoon, 2009 (1.6.2009 to 15.7.2009), the country, as a whole, received 220.5 mm of rainfall against normal average rainfall of 300.8 mm of rainfall, with a deviation of (-)27%. Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions in the country, 2 received excess rainfall, 12 received normal rainfall, 20 received deficient rainfall and 2 received scanty rainfall, during the period. The State Governments of Assam, Jharkhand and Manipur have intimated regarding declaration of drought this year.

(c) and (d) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned to take necessary measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the States with financial and logistic support. The States have ready availability of funds in the < Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for taking such measures. For additional assistance over and above CRF, for natural calamities of severe nature, the affected States are required to send a memorandum for assistance from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). No memorandum for assistance from NCCF for the current drought has so far been received from any State.

### Import of quality seeds

2269. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to import quality seeds for farmers to boost foodgrains, oilseeds and pulses production;

(b) if so, the total quantity of seeds that are being imported;

(c) whether Government is considering to take steps to improve its production so that Government may revive import of edible oils;

(d) whether out of 7 million tonne edible oil imports nearly 1 to 1.50 million tonne will be imported by public sector undertakings;

(e) whether total oil duty cut has affected oil seeds sector; and

(f) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir. Government has not taken any such decision for the ensuing agricultural season.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) 1. Sufficient seed of oilseeds is available for Kharif, 2009. The overall availability is 52,67,296 quintals against requirement of 42,81,298 quintals.

2. Seed related activities are being assisted by the Government of India under the following programmes:—

(A) Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA).

(B) National Food Security Mission (NFSM).

(C) Integrated Scheme for Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM).

(D) Technology Mission on Cotton

(E) Technology Mission on Jute and Mesta.

(F) Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds; and

(G) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

3. Following steps have been taken to improve the production of Oilseeds/oil palm:—

(i) A Centrally Sponsored Integrated Schemes of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) is being implemented in 14 major Oilseeds and pulses and 15 maiz growing States to increase the production and productivity of these crops in the country.

(ii) Oil Palm Development Programme is being implemented in the State of Andhra Pradesh Karnataka, Gujarat, Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Orissa and Mizoram

under ISOPOM for which an amount of Rs. 320 crores for 2009-10 has been kept as B.E.

- (iii) Financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, etc. to encourage farmers to grow Oilseeds/oil palm.
- (iv) Integrated Pest Management demonstrations are organized for the farmers to disseminate modern technologies.
- (v) Assistance is also available under programmes like Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA).

(d) to (f) The import of edible oils was 4269375 tonnes during the year 2006-07, 4903388 tonnes during the year 2007-08 and 6194550 tonnes during the year 2008-09 (April, 2008 to February, 2009).

#### Shortage of fertilizers in Andhra Pradesh

2270. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

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

(a) whether the impending shortage of fertilizers particularly in the State of Andhra Pradesh, for the coming season has come to the notice of his Ministry;

(b) whether his Ministry is aware that more than 13 lakh tonnes of different fertilizers fell short of supply to the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, how the Ministry is planning to provide the above fertilizers, including complex fertilizers to the State of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement and distribution control of the Government. Union Government ensures availability of urea at State level. State Governments are responsible for its distribution within the State. All other fertilizers viz. DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled/de-canalized since 1992. The availability of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply.

The availability of Urea, DAP, MOP and Complex fertilisers in Andhra Pradesh during the period from April to June, 2009 of current Kharif, 2009 is as under:

		('Qty. in '000 tonnes)			
State	Particulars	Urea	DAP	MOP	Complex
Andhra Pradesh	Demand/Assessed requirement	300.00	165.00	75.00	370.00
	Supply (Availability)	377.37	298.03	87.27	385.38
	Sales	227.89	211.76	71.64	336.40

Supplies of fertilizers are regularly monitored in accordance with the assessed requirement. As can be seen, that availability of Urea, DAP, MOP and Complex fertilizers is over and above the assessed requirement during current Kharif, 2009.

**India's share of vegetables and fruits in global market**

2271. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:  
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India accounts for nearly 11.90 per cent and 10.90 per cent of country's share in the world production of vegetables and fruits, respectively, while its share in the global market in vegetables and fruits stand at 1.70 per cent and 0.50 per cent, respectively;

(b) if so, the reasons for such poor performance, remedial steps taken, outcome thereof;

(c) how much of fruits/vegetables go waste due to lack of proper storage etc.;

(d) whether Indian farmer receives less than a fifth of the high price that the consumer pays and the lion's share is usurped by middlemen; and

(e) if so, how pathetic is plight of farmer?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) India produces 13 percent and 12 percent of world production of vegetables and fruits respectively and its share in the global market is about 1.38 percent in respect of vegetables and fruits. India is the 2nd largest producer of vegetables and fruits and this Ministry aims at doubling the production of fruits and vegetables by 2011-12. For this several schemes have been implemented since 2005-06. There is an increase of 15 percent in vegetable production and 8 percent in fruit production by the end of 2007-08.

(c) About 10-30 percent of fruits and vegetables go waste due to poor handling and lack of post harvest management.

(d) and (e) No survey has yet been conducted on net share received by farmers out of consumers payment and no authentic data is available.

**Fertile land turning barren**

†2272. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:  
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that agriculture land in Bulandsehar, Meerut and Baghpat districts of Uttar Pradesh is rapidly turning barren;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government proposes to impart knowledge related to land and agriculture to the farmers so that agriculture land could be saved from turning barren in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the productivity of land has been affected in the intensively cultivated districts of western Uttar Pradesh due to unbalanced use of fertilizers coupled with low addition of organic matter over years.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has implemented an agricultural extension programme to provide training and extension support to the farmers.

The Government is promoting soil test based balanced and judicious use of fertilizers, bio-fertilisers and locally available organic manures to maintain soil health and productivity. A new scheme namely National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility (NPMSF) has been introduced during 2008-09 to promote soil test based balanced and judicious use of fertilizers, in conjunction with green manures.

Under the National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF), 25% subsidy is provided for establishment of fruit/vegetable waste compost, vermiculture hatcheries and bio-fertilizer production units.

The State Government has also taken steps for improvement of soil health including green manuring, dhaincha seed production programme, demonstration on vermi compost, distribution of bio-fertiliser packets, distribution of soil Health Cards and distribution of gypsum.

#### **Maharashtra Government's proposal for reimbursement of losses**

2273. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has submitted proposals for reimbursement of losses incurred by the State Cooperative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation acting as sub-agent of NAFED; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in taking a decision and when Government would be able to settle the issue?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) NAFED is central nodal agency for procurement of cotton under Minimum Support Price (MSP) in addition to CCI. The Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation Limited (MSCCGMFL) is acting as sub agent of NAFED for procurement of cotton in the State of Maharashtra. The Government of India reimburses losses to NAFED incurred on Price Support Scheme (PSS) including cotton. MSCCGMFL is paid actual cost of cotton procured under PSS. Therefore, the question of reimbursement of losses to MSCCGMFL does not arise.

The gross value of cotton procured under PSS in Maharashtra is Rs. 5500.52 cores. As a matter of policy and MOU signed between NAFED and MSCCGMFL, NAFED releases 90% of the value to the procuring agency and remaining 10% is paid after finalization of accounts. Against this, NAFED has already paid Rs. 5097.48 crore to MSCCGMFL.

#### **Alternative cropping strategies**

2274. PROF. M.S. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether contingency plans have been drawn up to promote alternative cropping strategies in monsoon deficit areas and whether seed reserves have been built up to ensure crop security under conditions of aberrant rainfall;

(b) whether compensatory production programmes have been initiated in areas with adequate moisture availability, in order to make good to the extent possible, the loss in production suffered in drought affected areas; and

(c) the steps taken by the National Rainfed Area Authority to promote drought proofing of crops?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Agriculture has been constantly monitoring the sowing progress with the states through weekly video conferences/meetings, particularly in the wake of weak monsoon so far to coordinate adequate response. For different scenarios, contingency crop plans for specific agro climatic conditions have been prepared. General features of these plans include replacement of main crop such as rice with alternate crop like millets in case of delayed sowing ; Planning for early maturing varieties of the main crop; Planning for protective irrigation by efficient use of available water; and Promoting Technical Package of Practices like direct sowing, less plant spacing, more seed rate etc. Additional seed quantity of 15 lakh quintals is available to support the contingency crops. Truthfully labeled seeds are allowed to be distributed under Government schemes in the affected areas. Age norms are relaxed for the seed varieties distributed under Government Schemes. In case of delayed planting, additional dose of nutrients are recommended for crops in good rainfall areas which will to some extent compensate the reduction in scarcity areas. It has been advised to take up renovation of existing water harvesting structures in NREGS during July-August so that the likely high rainfall received during September can be stored and used for a pre-sowing irrigation of rabi crops in order to capitalize on good rabi production.

(c) The National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) has prepared a vision document "Harnessing Opportunities in Rainfed Areas". The Vision Document will help to guide and provide future direction to harness innovative policies, knowledge, technologies and opportunities for holistic and sustainable development of rainfed areas. The document will help in developing perspective plans for the rainfed areas. The NRAA has also issued common

guidelines for convergence of all watershed development programmes for development of Rainfed Areas through Watershed Management approach which address the issues of Soil and Water Conservation including drought mitigation and drought proofing of crops and livelihood of the farmers.

#### **Rainfed farming**

2275. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the status of rainfed farming system;
- (b) the schemes for rainfed farming; and
- (c) in which parts of the country these programmes need to be implemented vigorously?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Approximately 79.44 million hectare of land in the country is cultivated under rainfed conditions. There are many schemes supporting rainfed farming in the country, viz., National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA), Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded lands in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone River (RVP and FPR), Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA), Reclamation and Development of Alkali and Acid Soils (RADAS). Other externally aided projects are also being implemented on watershed approach by the Ministry of Agriculture for development of rainfed and degraded lands through various soil and water conservation measures. At the end of second year of Eleventh Plan, about 20.46 million hectare area has been developed under these programmes with an expenditure of Rs. 10,964 crores.

The Ministry of Rural Development is also implementing area development programme namely Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) on watershed basis for the development of wastelands/degraded lands/rainfed areas. Under the above schemes so far 45,062 projects have been sanctioned covering 32.31 million hectare. At the end of 2nd year of the Eleventh plan period Rs. 9253.70 crores has been released to the States for implementation of these programmes.

Rainfed area development programmes need to be implemented vigorously in the arid and semi arid regions of the country comprising areas in the states like Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir.

#### **Government's policy on co-operative sector**

2276. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the recent past the co-operative sector has lost much of its sheen;



(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of Government's policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) It has been experienced that inspite of the quantitative growth, the cooperative sector is beset with several constraints related to resource availability, institutional inadequacies, erosion of the democratic content in management, poor infrastructure etc. Due to these constraints, the cooperative institutions generally are not in a position to avail optimum advantages of open and globalised economy and to contribute due share in national economy looking to their voluminous size and vast network spread over throughout the country. Some of basic reasons for such state of affairs of cooperatives have been; lack of members' awareness, lack of professional management, excessive Government controls and lack of appropriate legislative and policy framework etc.

(c) To address these issues, Government of India has enunciated a National Policy on Cooperatives to ensure autonomy, lasting viability of cooperatives and that they work as professionally and democratically managed institutions accountable to their members. Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002 has been enacted with effect from 19th August, 2002 which empowers the Multi-State Cooperative Societies to work as professionally and democratically managed bodies with active participation of members. It is envisaged that the Act of 2002 will provide a guiding legislative framework for reforms in State legislations.

Further, on the basis of the recommendations of the Vaidyanathan Committee, the Government has approved a Revival Package for Short Term Cooperative Credit Structure (STCCS). Revival Package envisages an outlay of Rs. 13,597 crore for recapitalisation of STCCS. So far, 25 States have signed the MOU with Government of India and NABARD. An amount of Rs. 6072.71 crore has been released by NABARD as Government of India share for recapitalization of 37,599 PACS in ten States, while the State Governments have released Rs. 608.13 crore as their share.

Under the Central Sector Scheme for Cooperative Education and Training, Government has been giving grant for implementing Cooperative Education and Training in the country. Government also implements its cooperative development programmes through National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). The programmes/schemes being implemented through NCDC are (i) Integrated Cooperative Development Projects in selected districts (ii) assistance to cooperative marketing, processing and storage etc. programmes in cooperatively under-developed/least developed states/union territories, and (iii) share capital participation in growers'/weavers' cooperative spinning mills.

#### **Toll free number for farmers**

2277. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing any toll free number to give guidance to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof especially for the farmers of Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if not, by when such proposal would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India has a toll free number "1800-180-1551" to provide guidance to farmers under Kisan Call Centres (KCC) Scheme. The earlier toll free number "1551" has been changed to the new number to enable farmers to access KCC through landline and mobile network of both public and private telephone service providing agencies. The Kisan Call Centres is functioning since 21st January, 2004. At present the Call Centres are located in 25 different locations of the country covering all the States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh.

KCC provides guidance to farmers in local dialects on all aspects of agriculture and allied subjects. KCC Services are accessible through all telephone networks from 6 A.M. To 10 P.M. on all seven days of the week.

As regards the Kisan Call Centre of Andhra Pradesh State, the Call Centre is located in Hyderabad. KCC Hyderabad received 1,07,528 calls from inception till June, 2009.

The National Institute of Agriculture Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad is the Nodal Agency for monitoring the day to day functioning of the KCC in the State. State Level Monitoring Committee (SLMC) under the chairmanship of Secretary (Agriculture), Government of Andhra Pradesh, coordinates and resolves the operational issues of KCC in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) Does not arise, as the toll-free number is already in operation.

**Bilateral co-operation with other countries in various  
fields related to agriculture**

2278. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has signed MOUs to promote bilateral cooperation through knowledge exchange on emerging technologies, agricultural marketing and animal development with different countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the kind of co-operation Indian agriculture is having in various fields like research and marketing; and

(d) how India stands to benefit in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Pursuit of International Cooperation is guided by the national interest in the field of agriculture and allied activities. The thrust of international cooperation is to further strengthen Indian agriculture through cooperation in areas in which the countries have niche strengths. India has signed

MoUs/Agreements/Work Plans with various countries which *inter-alia* provide for cooperation in Research and Development in emerging technologies, agricultural marketing, livestock, dairying and fisheries.

(c) Cooperation the field of research includes collaboration in research programmes between institutes of excellence of foreign countries and those of ICAR, exchange of visits of scientific personnel and students, exchange of literature and also germplasm.

(d) India stands to benefit by way of knowledge sharing and gaining of overall experience and exposure to the latest development in technology in various countries and the best practices in the field of agriculture.

#### Production and import/export of pulses

2279. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how much was the annual production of urad, gram, moong, masur, tur and yellow peas during the last three years; and

(b) how much were these/some of these pulses imported/exported annually during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The estimated production of urad, gram, moong, masur, tur and peas during the last three years, *i.e.*, 2005-06 to 2007-08 is given in the table below:—

(Thousand Tonnes)

Crop	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Urad	1225.0	1442.6	1457.1
Gram	5599.9	6333.7	5748.6
Moong	946.3	1115.3	1522.7
Masur	946.3	913.2	811.6
Tur	2738.0	2314.1	3075.9
Peas	720.4	617.7	484.3

(b) As per data maintained by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS), the import and export of some of the important pulses *viz.* peas, tur and masur during the last three years, *i.e.*, 2005-06 to 2007-08 is as under:

(Thousand Tonnes)

Crop	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Peas	810.0	8.7	1388.6	2.2	1738.3	0.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tur	228.8	25.4	246.5	22.7	312.8	0.2
Masur	36.1	0.2	58.9	0.09	230.6	0.01
All Pulses	1654.3	447.4	2214.3	250.7	2793.0	164.2

#### Quality and shortage of animal products

2280. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total quantum of production from Animal Husbandry products especially meat, egg, milk and wool recorded in the last three years;
- (b) the growth rate recorded of the said products during the said period;
- (c) the percentage of said products in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to improve the quality and shortage of said products?

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

(a) and (b) The estimates of meat, egg, milk and wool production and their growth rates during the last three years are enclosed in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) The growth rates and contribution of livestock sector in GDP at 1999-2000 prices and at current prices are enclosed in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(d) The list of schemes being implemented by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries to improve the quality and shortage of livestock products is enclosed in the Statement-III.

#### Statement

##### *Estimates of meat, egg, milk and wool production and their growth rates*

Item	Unit	Year		
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Meat	million tonnes	2.3	2.3	2.6
Growth rate	%	4.5	0.0	13.0
Egg	billion no	46.2	50.7	53.5
Growth rate	%	2.2	9.7	5.5
Milk	million tonnes	97.1	100.9	104.8
Growth rate	%	5.0	3.9	3.9
Wool	million kgs	44.9	/45.1	44.0
Growth rate	%	0.7	0.4	-2.4

Source: Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics, 2008

**Statement-II***Growth rates and contribution of livestock sector in GDP*

Year	GDP at 1999-2000 Prices		GP at Current Prices	
	Share in GDP of livestock(%)	Growth rate(%) of livestock	Share in GDP of livestock(%)	Growth rate(%) of livestock
2005-06	4.6	5.3	4.6	10.4
2006-07	4.4	4.9	4.4	9.9
2007-08	4.2	3.3	4.4	15.0

Source: Central Statistics Organisation.

**Statement-III**

*List of Schemes being implemented by Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries to improve the quality and shortage of livestock products in the country*

Name of the Scheme
1. National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding
2. Assistance to States for Fodder Development
3. Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases
4. National Project on Rinderpest Eradication
5. Livestock Insurance
6. Central Cattle Breeding farm
7. Central Herd Registration Scheme
8. Regional Station for forage production and demonstration
9. Central Poultry Development Organizations (CPDOs)
10. Central Poultry Performance Testing Center (CPPTC)
11. Poultry Venture Capital Fund
12. Poultry Development
13. Establishment/Modernization of Rural Slaughterhouses
14. Integrated Development of Small Ruminants and Rabbits (IDSRR)
15. Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production
16. Assistance to Cooperatives

**Production and consumption of pulses**

2281. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of pulses has not been keeping pace with optimum level of consumption of pulses in India;

(b) if so, production of different pulses and quantity imported during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken to increase production of pulses to achieve selfsufficiency?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of production and import of pulses during the last three years, *i.e.*; 2005-06 to 2007-08 are as under:—

(Million Tonnes)

Year	Production	Quantity Imported
2005-06	13.39	1.65
2006-07	14.20	2.21
2007-08	14.76	2.79

(c) In order to increase the production and productivity of pulses, a Centrally Sponsored [Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize] (ISOPOM) is being implemented since 01.04.2004 in 14 States. In addition to the above, the National Food Security Mission-Pulses is also, under implementation in 171 identified districts of 14 States since 2007-08. The NFSM-Pulses aims to increase production of pulses by 2 million tonnes by the end of Eleventh Plan Period *i.e.* 2011-12 through increase in area by inter-cropping and coverage of rice fallows etc.

#### Production of dry mushroom

2282. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that selling price of dry mushroom (Guchchhi) has come down from Rs. 6000/- per kg. to Rs. 3000/- per kg. which has shrunk the area of its cultivation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to encourage production of this special mushroom; and

(d) how it is ensured that there is no adulteration in the product marketed in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The selling price of dry mushroom (Guchchhi) is between Rs. 6000/- to 6500/- per kg.

(c) Guchchhi is a wild mushroom collected from the forests by local people and marketed. This mushroom is not a cultivable variety.

(d) Guchchhi cannot be adulterated by mixing with other mushroom because of its peculiar shape, size and colour.

### Side effects of pesticides

2283. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government maintains data relating to farmers and agricultural workers whose health has been affected on account of use of pesticides due to inhaling/exposure and poisoning, etc.;

(b) if so, the number of persons affected by pesticides during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether any deaths have been reported due to inhalation/over exposure to pesticides;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any compensation is being paid to the affected victims; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) A statement showing the number of pesticides poisoning cases State-wise (suicidal/homicidal/accidental/occupational) including farmers and agricultural workers during the last three years is enclosed as Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) and (d) A statement showing the number of details in various States (suicidal/homicidal/accidental/occupational) due to pesticides poisoning including inhalation/over exposure is enclosed as Statement-II (*See below*).

(e) and (f) No separate data relating to compensation being paid to the affected victims are maintained.

#### **Statement-I**

*Statement showing the number of pesticides poisoning cases \**  
(State-wise during last three years)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil	NR	NR
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	Nil	219
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	NR	NR	NR
4.	Assam	Nil	NR	NR
5.	Bihar	Nil	Nil	Nil
6.	Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR
7.	Chhattisgarh	02	02	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	NR	NR	Nil
9.	Daman and Diu	NR	NR	NR
10.	Delhi	Nil	Nil	NR
11.	Goa	Nil	Nil	Nil
12.	Gujarat	Nil	03	02
13.	Haryana	439	373	280
14.	Himachal Pradesh	11	11	13
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil	Nil	35
16.	Jharkhand	333	399	96
17.	Karnataka	Nil	Nil	Nil
18.	Kerala	1181	504	943
19.	Lakshadweep	NR	NR	NR
20.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil
21.	Maharashtra	7893	6604	2210
22.	Manipur	NR	NR	NR
23.	Meghalaya	NR	NR	NR
24.	Mizoram	NR	NR	NR
25.	Nagaland	NR	NR	NR
26.	Orissa	28	Nil	Nil
27.	Puducherry	1341	1232	1373
28.	Punjab	284	262	320
29.	Rajasthan	333	317	235
30.	Sikkim	NR	NR	NR
31.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	Nil	Nil
32.	Tripura	Nil	NR	NR
33.	Uttarakhand	13	346	71
34.	Uttar Pradesh	1259	1414	108
35.	West Bengal	20	39	57
TOTAL		13137	11506	5962

\*The poisoning may be suicidal/homicidal/accidental/occupational.

NR — Not Reported.



**Statement-II**

*Statement showing the number of deaths \* due to pesticides poisoning cases  
(State-wise during last three years)*

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil	NR	NR
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	Nil	25
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	NR	NR	NR
4.	Assam	Nil	NR	NR
5.	Bihar	Nil	Nil	Nil
6.	Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR
7.	Chhattisgarh	Nil	Nil	Nil
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	NR	NR	NR
9.	Daman and Diu	NR	NR	NR
10.	Delhi	NR	Nil	NR
11.	Goa	NR	Nil	Nil
12.	Gujarat	Nil	03	02
13.	Haryana	67	48	40
14.	Himachal Pradesh	05	03	2
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil	Nil	35
16.	Jharkhand	66	46	34
17.	Karnataka	Nil	Nil	Nil
18.	Kerala	310	96	203
19.	Lakshadweep	NR	NR	NR
20.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil
21.	Maharashtra	1236	1413	174
22.	Manipur	NR	NR	NR
23.	Meghalaya	NR	NR	NR
24.	Mizoram	NR	NR	NR
25.	Nagaland	NR	NR	NR
26.	Orissa	Nil	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
27.	Puducherry	16	40	25
28.	Punjab	119	88	70
29.	Rajasthan	331	317	59
30.	Sikkim	NR	NR	NR
31.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	Nil	Nil
32.	Tripura	Nil	NR	NR
33.	Uttarakhand	Nil	Nil	Nil
34.	Uttar Pradesh	190	934	24
35.	West Bengal	01	01	Nil
Total		2341	2989	693

\*The poisoning may be suicidal/homicidal/accidental/occupational.

NR — Not Reported.

#### Decline in price of cotton

2284. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has observed that the agriculture market speculators have gained so much in India from boom-and-bust price cycle of global financial markets;

(b) whether it is a fact that the cotton price in 2009 is actually lower than it had been in January, 2007; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No such instance has come to the notice of this Ministry.

(b) and (c) Cotton prices in January, 2009 were higher by around 19% to 37% than what it had been in January, 2007. The details of average cotton prices for major varieties of cotton in January, 2007 *vis-a-vis* month-wise average cotton prices in January, 2009 and onward are as under:—

Prices in Rs. Per candy				
	J-34	H-4	S-6	Bunny
1	2	3	4	5
January, 2007	15364	16950	17741	18150
January, 2009	21052	21005	21524	21643
February, 2009	20124	20124	20586	20910

1	2	3	4	5
March, 2009	20645	20045	20740	21095
April, 2009	22432	21142	22421	22679
May, 2009	23057	21809	23609	23117
June, 2009	22861	21796	23170	22987

One candy=355.62 kilograms.

Source: Ministry of Textiles.

#### Production of rice

2285. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of Rabi rice was less during 2008-09 compared to 2007-08;

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

(c) whether Government has taken/propose to take steps for higher production of Rabi rice during the current season; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the 4th advance estimates, the production of Rabi rice at all India level during 2008-09 is estimated at 14.57 million tones which is 0.54 million tones higher than the production of 14.03 million tones during Rabi 2007-08.

(c) and (d) In order to increase the production of rice in the country, the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is being implemented since 2007-08. The NFSM-Rice is being implemented in 136 districts of 14 States with an objective to increase the production of rice by 10 million tones by the terminal year of the Eleventh Plan, *i.e.*, by 2011-12. Besides NFSM, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme [Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice)], subsumed under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture is also under implementation.

#### Survey on agricultural land productivity

2286. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any survey on agricultural lands in the country keeping in view their fluctuating index of farm productivity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas of land where the percentage of productivity has registered an increase or decrease;

(d) the reasons for decrease in productivity;

(e) whether Government has taken corrective measures to check the decline in productivity of farm lands; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, State Governments conduct crop cutting experiments to estimate productivity of crops grown in different States. The index of productivity of various crops for the years 2003-04 to 2008-09, with the Triennium Ending 1981-82 = 100 as the base is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) The productivity of different crops depends on the soil fertility, use of fertilizers, rainfall pattern, weather conditions, quality/variety of seeds etc. As such, fluctuating trends in the productivity have been observed in the crops grown in the different areas/States depending upon the existence of the above factors.

(e) and (f) Government have taken several steps to increase production and productivity of crops in the country and programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Macro-Management of Agriculture (MMA), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) etc. are under implementation.

#### ***Statement***

*All India index numbers of yield of principal crops*

(T.E.1981-82 = 100)

Crop	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Rice	167.5	159.9	169.4	171.7	177.4	175.5
Wheat	171.0	164.0	165.1	170.7	176.7	176.9
Jowar		114.5	126.5	121.3	146.7	135.3
Bajra	262.1	197.3	184.2	203.5	239.2	233.0
Maize	185.0	172.9	175.8	173.4	211.7	208.7
Ragi	113.0	150.0	147.0	117.4	148.6	138.5
Barley	177.0	175.5	173.7	184.2	177.9	192.6
Small millets	119.8	109.8	112.1	120.1	134.1	125.4
Coarse Cereals	169.5	156.9	169.7	171.2	207.2	203.7
TOTAL CEREALS	168.9	160.7	183.4	187.7	199.8	198.8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tur	96.7	96.2	110.3	93.7	119.1	100.3
Gram	140.8	141.4	140.3	146.7	132.3	134.3
Other pulses	165.7	132.6	132.8	143.0	150.2	149.8
<b>TOTAL PULSES</b>	<b>140.5</b>	<b>127.0</b>	<b>133.5</b>	<b>136.5</b>	<b>139.3</b>	<b>137.5</b>
Foodgrains	165.3	156.5	176.7	180.4	191.1	190.7
Groundnut	161.2	121.2	141.0	102.9	173.4	138.9
Sesamum	247.4	196.6	200.1	195.2	226.2	202.7
Rapeseed and mustard	228.5	204.6	220.3	216.0	197.4	227.8
Linseed	179.1	164.3	171.5	167.1	151.7	157.6
Castorseed	224.0	215.4	231.2	244.7	270.0	257.9
Safflower	78.8	100.0	133.3	135.5	149.0	114.6
Nigerseed	109.3	113.1	112.9	111.7	116.4	126.5
Sunflower	83.5	98.7	110.6	101.9	137.6	111.7
Soyabean	175.0	133.3	157.5	155.9	181.2	156.5
Nine Oilseeds	176.1	149.2	168.9	152.4	185.4	168.9
Coconut	120.8	127.2	146.0	156.9	148.6	148.6
Cottonseed	191.2	197.8	225.5	261.8	290.9	289.5
<b>TOTAL OILSEEDS</b>	<b>166.3</b>	<b>147.5</b>	<b>183.7</b>	<b>170.8</b>	<b>188.3</b>	<b>177.7</b>
Cotton(lint)	192.4	199.0	226.9	263.5	292.7	261.8
Jute	162.0	163.0	176.1	174.6	168.4	161.6
Mesta	125.7	128.1	131.3	139.9	141.0	135.9
Sugarcane	107.4	117.1	121.0	124.8	124.6	119.2

2008-09 figures are based on 3rd advance estimates as on 08-05-2009.

#### **Distressed farm sector in Idukki, Kerala**

2287. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Commission appointed by Centre to study the distressed farm sector in Idukki district of Kerala has submitted its report to the Union Government;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made; and

(c) the follow up action taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), Chennai which was assigned the study to suggest measures to mitigate agrarian distress in Idukki district of Kerala has submitted its report to the Government on 8th May, 2008.

(b) Details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The Government has granted 'in-principle' approval for providing financial support of Rs. 764.45 crore for mitigating the agrarian distress in Idukki District of Kerala.

#### ***Statement***

##### ***Recommendation suggested by commission***

The main recommendations made by the MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), Chennai in their study report on measures to mitigate agrarian distress in Idukki district of Kerala covers action for reviving ecological security and strengthening common facilities, strengthening of livelihood security of the farmers with crop specific programmes and integrating animal husbandry components for income enhancement, creating rural road connectivity with remote villages to promote agricultural marketing and improve technology and input servicing, loan waiver and distress relief measures and collateral income generating activities. Research and development component has also been recommended for development, refinement and transfer of technology in the major plantation and food crops of the district. Considering the importance of vegetable production in the district, a separate research centre with all infrastructural facilities has also been recommended. For rejuvenation of Cardamom crop, the recommended programme interventions include replantation of low yielding gardens. Cardamom Price Stabilization Fund has been recommended for price compensation.

Establishment of a statutory multi-stakeholder Idukki Aiswarya Samithi under the chairmanship of Chief Minister consisting of representatives of farming and tribal families, technical experts, financial institutions, non-governmental organizations, and representatives of women's organizations and mass media and an high powered Idukki Karma Samithi headed by the State Chief Secretary for implementation of programmes has also been recommended.

#### **Research and development in agriculture sector**

2288. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government envisage 4 per cent growth in agriculture sector in Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what amount has been invested in research and development in this field;

(c) what schemes have been launched for the benefit of farmers and what is the status of implementation of those schemes in Uttar Pradesh, particularly in Bundelkhand region; and

(d) the status of private investment in this sector and what facilities of direct marketing have been launched for the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An amount of Rs. 12,023 crore has been allocated to DARE/ICAR for Research and Development in Agriculture during the Eleventh Plan.

(c) In order to ensure that 4 per cent growth in the agriculture sector is achieved during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, in addition to ongoing schemes, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has launched two schemes (i) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for Rs. 25000 crore and (ii) National Food Security Mission (NFSM) for Rs. 4883 crore during the Eleventh Five Year Plan to increase production and productivity in the agriculture sector. An amount of Rs. 315.33 crore under RKVY and Rs. 253.03 crore under NFSM has been allocated to Uttar Pradesh during 2009-10. The Districts of (i) Jalaun, (ii) Chitrakoot, (iii) Lalitpur, (iv) Hamirpur, (v) Mahoba and (vi) Jhansi of the Bundelkhand Region have been covered under NFSM.

(d) The Government has proposed to enter into partnership with the private sector to strengthen agricultural infrastructure. The areas identified for private investment are Agriculture Marketing and Horticulture. In addition, under the Scheme of Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Promotion and Distribution of Quality Seed, private companies, individual entrepreneurs, self help groups, etc. are given credit linked back ended capital subsidy. Since 2005-06 an amount of Rs. 12 crore has been released to the National Seeds Corporation and they have sanctioned 205 projects.

For direct marketing States have to amend their Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Acts. The State of Uttar Pradesh has not been notified for implementation of the scheme of "Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization" since the requisite reforms have not been introduced in the State.

#### **Direct benefits of subsidy to farmers**

†2289. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fertilizer companies are taking the advantages of fertilizer subsidy meant for the farmers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is formulating any policy which provides for extending the benefits of subsidy directly to the farmers; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The fertilizer subsidy is transferred to the farmers in the form of subsidized Maximum Retail Price of fertilizers which is below the normated delivered cost at farm gate level. The fertilizer subsidy is finally released to the fertilizer companies on confirmation of receipt of subsidized fertilizers by the State Governments.

(c) and (d) The Government intends to move towards a nutrient based subsidy regime instead of the current nutrient based pricing regime, in order to ensure balanced application of fertilizers and increase in agricultural productivity, which can consequently lead to better returns to the farmers. However, no final decision has been taken yet.

#### **Check on use of agriculture land for other purpose**

2290. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to ensure that fertile land which is used for agriculture purpose in various parts of the country particularly in Haryana and Punjab will not be used for industrial/housing purposes; and

(b) if so, what immediate steps will be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) As per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, Agriculture, Water and Land fall under the purview of the State Governments and, therefore, it is for the State Governments to bring suitable Act/Legislation to protect the use of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes including housing and industries, etc.

Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture has formulated the National Policy for Farmers, 2007 (NPF-2007) which envisaged Asset Reforms to empower farmers. The purpose of the Asset Reforms is to ensure that every farmer household in villages possess and/or has access to productive asset like land/livestock, fishpond, homestead farm and/or income through an enterprise and/or market-driven skills, so that the household income is increased substantially on a sustainable basis. This, in turn, would ensure nutrition and livelihood security and their education and health requirements. The NPF-2007 has also advised for:—

(i) Considering the skewed ownership of land, it is necessary to strengthen implementation of laws relating to land reforms, with particular reference to tenancy laws, and leasing, distribution of ceiling surplus land and wasteland, providing adequate access to common property and wasteland resources and the consolidation of holdings. Following the conferment of land rights to women under the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act, 2005, the provision of appropriate support



services to women farmers has become urgent. Joint pattas for both homestead and agricultural land are essential for empowering women to access credit and other services.

- (ii) The Land Acquisition Act has been reviewed with particular reference to the assessment of compensation. It is further stipulated that prime farmland would be conserved for agriculture except under exceptional circumstances, provided that the agencies that are provided with agricultural land for non-agricultural projects should compensate for treatment and full development of equivalent degraded/wastelands elsewhere. For non-agricultural purposes, as far as possible, land with low biological potential for farming would be earmarked and allocated.

Accordingly State Governments have been advised to earmark lands with low biological potential, such as uncultivable land, land affected by salinity, acidity etc. for non-agricultural development activities, industrial and construction activities.

Government of India, Ministry of Rural Development has also formulated a revised National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 (NRRP, 2007) which was approved by the Cabinet on 11th October, 2007. NRRP, 2007, *inter-alia*, envisages that as far as possible industrial project may be set up on wastelands, degraded land or un-irrigated land and acquisition of agricultural land for non-agricultural uses in such project should be kept to the minimum; and multi cropped land should be avoided to the extent possible.

#### **Jatropha plantation in wasteland**

2291. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to discourage jatropha plantation through seeds which can be used to produce environment friendly bio-fuels;
- (b) if so, the reasons for such proposal by Government;
- (c) whether Government has taken initiatives to cultivate jatropha in wasteland in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) The National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development (NOVOD) Board, a statutory body set up in terms of the NOVOD Board Act, 1983 under the Ministry of Agriculture is entrusted with the task of Implementation of Integrated Development of Tree borne Oilseeds, the main components of which are Jatropha and Karanja which are not known to have any harmful impact on the environment. The Board has initiated a programme for creating a model plantation of Jatropha as a seed source and has undertaken R&D Programmes through a National network of 73 institutions for development of high yielding varieties of Jatropha and Karanja in the country. As a

policy the Government encourages these bio-fuel plantations only on wasteland. The Board has already undertaken model plantation of Jatropha over an area of 12678 ha up to 2008-09 on wasteland through Government and semi Government organizations in various States of the country.

#### Effect of global warming on crops

2292. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of various crops this year including those that have arrived in the market;

(b) whether they have been affected in any manner or are likely to be affected by global warming; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) This is the season for sowing of Kharif crops, which will be harvested during the months of Oct-Nov and will reach market thereafter. As reported by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), during South-West Monsoon, 2009 (1.6.2009 to 15.7.2009), the country as a whole received 220.5 mm of rainfall against normal average rainfall of 300.8 mm, with 369 out of 533 meteorological districts of the country receiving less than normal rainfall. Due to deficit rainfall there is shortage of moisture, which has affected sowing in kharif season. The area coverage during Kharif-2009 under major crops is 432.26 lakh ha., which is 52.11 lakh ha. less than the corresponding area coverage during Kharif 2008 in the country, as per crop -wise details given below:—

Name of the major crops	Area coverage in corresponding period in Kharif 2008 (Lakh ha.)	Area coverage in Kharif 2009 (Lakh ha.)
Rice	145.21	114.63
Jowar	17.16	16.57
Bajara	46.01	34.67
Maize	47.41	46.18
Total coarse cereals	116.05	101.90
Cotton	61.68	68.92
Sugarcane	43.79	42.50
Jute	7.06	6.89
TOTAL	484.37	432.26

The Government of India in the Ministry of Agriculture is implementing through the State Governments various programmes like, the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to increase agricultural productivity and production in the country.

#### **Taxes and tariffs on medicines**

2293. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that taxes and tariffs are contributing significantly towards raising the prices of life-saving medicines;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to ensure that economically weaker segments are able to purchase life-saving medicines so that their lives are saved; and

(c) what are the details of the reduction in taxes, tariffs, etc. to keep the life-saving medicines within the reach of poor patients, during 2006, 2007 and 2008?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This Department has launched Generic Drug Campaign by opening JAN AUSHADHI stores for providing unbranded quality generic medicines at affordable prices.

(c) In 2006 Union Budget, a concessional basic duty @ 5% were provided on 10 specified Anti-AIDS; 14 specified anti-cancer and 4 specified life saving drugs including their bulk drugs. These drugs were also exempted from countervailing duty by way of excise duty exemption. In 2007 Union Budget, there was no change in duty structure of drugs. In 2008, Union Budget five specified life saving drugs including their bulk drugs and one specified anti-cancer diagnostic kit, were provided a concessional 5% basic custom duty with nil countervailing duty by way of excise duty exemption. Further one anti-AIDS drug and the bulk drugs for the manufacturer of the said drug were also fully exempted from excise duty. In same year, the central excise duty on pharmaceutical products including drugs/medicines were reduced from 16% to 8%. Thereafter, the central excise duty on drugs/medicines was further reduced from 8% to 4% with effect from 7th December, 2008.

#### **Pharma policy**

2294. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has not been taken on the long awaited pharma policy which had been referred to GoM headed by former Food and Agriculture Minister two years back for taking a final call;

(b) if so, whether industry also prioritise more stimulus for research and development (R&D) and tax benefits for contract research and manufacturing;

- (c) if so, whether GoM has already given its recommendations; and
- (d) if so, what are the details of the same and by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Group of Ministers (GoM) looking into the Pharmaceutical Policy have not yet given any recommendation. However, based on the request received from various Pharma Associations, Department of Pharmaceuticals recommended the following to the Department of Revenue:—

- (i) To extend the date for approval by DSIR by 10 years *i.e.* up to 31.3.2017 for obtaining 100% deduction from income tax to any Indian company carrying out scientific research and development under Section 80-IB(8A). Further, this section should not be restricted to only Indian Companies.
- (ii) To encourage Pharma Innovation and R&D, the benefit of section 35(2AB) of Income Tax Act 1961 may be extended by another 5 years *i.e.* up to 31.3.2017 and the benefit of weighted exemption under this section may be increased from 150% to 200%. Further, the coverage of this section may be extended to expenditure incurred for Obtaining Regulatory Approvals and Filing of Patents abroad.

However, these recommendations did not form part of budget speech on 6.7.2009.

#### **Green field urea ammonia complex**

2295. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:  
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that M/s Essar Oil Co. have desired to set up a green field urea ammonia complex by using Coal Bed Methane at the present site of now closed Durgapur Fertilizer Factory of HFCL; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No proposal has been received from M/s. Essar Oil Co. to set up green field urea ammonia complex at the site of Durgapur Unit of HFCL. However, another company has evinced interest in setting up of a brown field urea ammonia complex at Durgapur based on Coal Bed Methane (CBM) to be supplied by M/s. Essar Oil Co.

- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above

#### **Price rise of fertilizers**

2296. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether prices of fertilizers are constantly increasing in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is aware and has received complaints about adulteration and black marketing of fertilizers and sale of spurious pesticides in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of defaulters arrested during the last three years; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to check adulteration and black marketing of fertilizers and sale of spurious pesticides and to contain the fertilizer prices in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Maximum Retail Prices (MRPs) of subsidized fertilizers in the country has remained constant for the last more than six years. Rather, indicative MRPs of complex fertilizers subsidized under the Concession Scheme of Government of India have been reduced with effect from 18th June, 2008.

(c) to (e) Under Clause 21 of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 (FCO), it is mandatory to print the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) on the bags of fertilizer and no person is permitted to sell the material above the statutory/indicative price. The State Governments are adequately empowered under the provisions of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 to check such activities. Any violation of the provision of the FCO, 1985 attracts penal/administrative action under the Essential Commodities Act 1955/FCO, 1985. State Governments have been advised to prevent such malpractices and ensure that the farmers are provided with proper quality of fertilizers at statutory/indicative price.

#### **Decline in production of fertilizers**

2297. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a decline in the production of fertilizers;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken to increase the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) No Sir. There is no decline in the production of fertilizers during the first quarter of the current year. Details of production of major fertilizers during the first quarter (April-June, 09) as compared to corresponding period of previous year are given below:—

(in LMT)

Product	April-June, 09	April-June, 08
Urea	45.89	45.89
DAP	13.53	8.84
Complex	16.21	13.61

Department of Fertilizers is having constant interaction with Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, GAIL and other prospective suppliers of NG/LNG so that gas requirement of the fertilizers industry is met adequately. In case of Phosphatic fertilizer, the prices of inputs/raw material/intermediates have declined in the international market. The companies are entering into contracts for procuring these inputs. Further, Department of Fertilizer has permitted SPIC-Tuticorin to enter into production and marketing arrangement with MCF-Mangalore.

#### Prices of essential commodities

2298. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment of the prices of essential commodities *i.e.* pulses and foodgrains in the open market during the last one year;

(b) whether Government is considering measures to improve the PDS in the country to off set the price hike of essential commodities;

(c) whether Government is also considering to provide more essential commodities through the PDS; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) In order to make foodgrains available for targeted poor population of the country, Government allocates foodgrains under TPDS to States/UTs @ 35 kg per family per month for 6.52 Crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) including the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. Government has also maintained the Central Issue Price (CIP) for rice at Rs. 5.65 per kg for BPL and Rs. 3 per kg for AAY) and wheat at Rs. 4.15 per kg for BPL and Rs. 2 per kg for AAY since July 2002 and has thus protected the families living below Poverty line (BPL) and beneficiaries of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY).

(c) and (d) Details indicating additional commodities being distributed through PDS outlets other than Wheat, Rice, Coarsegrains, Sugar, Kerosene oil (as reported by respective State/UTs) are enclosed as Statement.

### **Statement**

*Details of additional commodities being distributed through PDS outlets  
other than wheat, rice, coarsegrains, sugar and kerosene oil  
(as reported by respective State/UT). As on 30.06.2009*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Name of item/ commodity	Additional Commodities (except rice, wheat, coarsegrain, sugar and kerosene) being distributed through PDS outlets at:—	
			Subsidized rates	Normal rate
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Enriched Wheat floor	Rs. 10/- per kg.	Rs. 20/- to 25/- per kg.
		2. Iodized Salt (G.M)	Rs. 4/- per kg.	Rs. 8/- per kg. and above
		3. Red Gram Dal	Rs. 30/- per kg.	Rs. 40/- per kg. and above
		4. Tamarind	Rs. 30/- per kg. Gr.I	Rs. 34/- to 35/- per kg.
		5. P. Oil	Rs. 30/- per kg.	Rs. 40/- to 46/- per kg.
		6. Black Gram Dal	Rs. 45/- per liter.	Rs. 48/- to 55/- per liter.
		7. Green Gram Dal	Rs. 43/- per kg.	Rs. 55/- per kg.
		8. Palmolein Oil	Rs. 42/- per kg. Rs. 45/-	Rs. 52/- per kg. Rs. 59/- and above
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	— Edible Oil	These items are sold on FPS outlets at the normal rates	Normal Rates for all the items
		— Pulses		
		— Vanaspati Ghee		
		— Milk Powder		
		— Baby Food		
		— Dry Cells		
		— Matches		
		— All types of soap		
		— Paper including newsprint, paper boar and straw boar		
		— Hurricane Lanterns		
		— Lead writing pencils		
		— Exercise books		
		— Butter		
		— Tea		
		— Yarn		
3.	Assam	1. Iodised salt under State Zonal quota	Rs. 4.70/- per kg. (powder packet)	Rs. 8/- to Rs. 10/- per kg.
		2. -do-	Rs. 3.50/- per kg (crushed)	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Bihar	<p>The State Government has issued instruction to all District Collectors to sold the following additional items other than PDS items through FPS.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Milk and Milk Products.</li> <li>2. Cosmetic for use of rural areas</li> <li>3. Daily use items <i>i.e.</i> Salt, Tea, Pulses, Stationary items, Soap, Toothpaste, Edible oil etc.</li> <li>4. 5 kg. LPG Cylinder.</li> <li>5. Postal items.</li> <li>6. Operate the telephone booth for BSNL and other than private companies, sim card and recharge coupon etc.</li> </ol>		
5.	Chhattisgarh	Iodized Amrit Salt	25 paise per kg. for BPL, AAY and ANP families	Rs. 4.00 per kg. for APL families
6.	Delhi	No additional commodities is sold through FPS on subsidized rates	No additional commodities is sold through FPS on subsidized rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Iodised Salt</li> <li>— All types of edible oil</li> <li>— All kinds of pulses</li> <li>— Candles</li> <li>— Spices</li> <li>— Soaps/detergent powder</li> <li>— Toothpaste</li> <li>— Tea leaves</li> </ul>
7.	Goa	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sugar</li> <li>2. Tur dal</li> <li>3. Masur dal</li> <li>4. Joggary</li> <li>5. Rava</li> <li>6. Atta</li> <li>7. Maida</li> <li>8. Tea</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>—</li> <li>—</li> <li>—</li> <li>—</li> <li>—</li> <li>—</li> <li>—</li> <li>—</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rs. 17/- to 21/- per kg.</li> <li>Rs. 42/- to 46/- per kg.</li> <li>Rs. 55/- per kg.</li> <li>Rs. 22/- to 24/- per kg.</li> <li>Rs. 18/- to 20/- per kg.</li> <li>Rs. 11/- to 17/- per kg.</li> <li>Rs. 17/- to 18/- per kg.</li> <li>Rs. 90/- to 150/- per kg.</li> </ul>



1	2	3	4	5
		9. Palmoleine Oil	—	Rs. 50/- per packet.
		10. Urd dal	—	Rs. 50/- per kg.
		11. Watana	—	Rs. 30/- to 44/- per kg.
		12. Nachani	—	Rs. 13/- per kg.
		13. Green Peas	—	Rs. 32/- per kg.
		14. Masur	—	Rs. 45/- per kg.
		15. Ground nut	—	Rs. 50/- per kg.
		16. Moong dal	—	Rs. 50/- per kg.
		17. Moong	—	Rs. 42/- to 45/- per kg.
		18. Pohe	—	Rs. 22/- per kg.
		19. Salt	—	Rs. 5/- to 8/- per kg.
		20. Coconuts	—	Rs. 6/- to 10/- per kg.
		21. Jodhala	—	Rs. 12/- per kg.
		22. Bajari	—	Rs. 12/- per kg.
		23. Exercise books (100 pages)	—	Rs. 12/-
		Exercise books (200 pages)	—	Rs. 18/-
8.	Gujarat	1. Iodized Salt	1. Iodized Salt —	—
		2. Edible Oil	Rs. 0.50 per kg.	
			2. Edible Oil — Lower price than the open market price	
9.	Haryana	The State Government has issued instructions to all District Food and Supply Officer to sell also items other than PDS items <i>i.e.</i> Pulses, Copies, Vegetable Oil, Candle, Match Box, Salt and Soap through FPS and the State Government has no objection in regard.	—	—
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1.. Dal Malka	Rs. 20 per kg.	Rs. 37 per kg.
		2. Dal Channa	Rs. 25 per kg.	Rs. 33 per kg.
		3. Urad Sabut	Rs. 25 per kg.	Rs. 39 per kg.
		4. Mustard Oil	Rs. 45 per kg.	Rs. 65 per kg.
		5. Refined Oil	Rs. 40 per kg.	Rs. 55 per kg.
		6. Iodized Salt	Rs. 4 per kg.	Rs. 8 per kg.

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	No item other than PDS items is sold through FPS.	—	—
12.	Jharkhand	Iodised salt	2 kg. for BPL family per month @ Rs. 0.25 per kg.	
13.	Karnataka	The State Government has intimated that no non-PDS items are being supplied through FPS in Karnataka State		
14.	Kerala	1. Green Gram	36.00	48.00
		2. U.D. Washed	49.00	67.75
		3. U.D. Split	47.00	62.30
		4. B.G. Bold	29.00	47.00
		5. Lobia	27.00	42.50
		6. Toor dal	29.00	39.50
		7. Peas dal	19.00	29.00
		8. Chillies	57.00	87.75
		9. Corriander	35.00	57.50
		10. Cumin seed	96.00	39.50
		11. Mustard	23.00	36.00
		12. Methi	30.00	48.25
		13. Sabari tea	75.00	87.00
		14. Sabari Palm Oil 1 ltr.	47.00	48.00
		15. Free flow salt 1 kg.	5.00	6.00
		16. Crystal Salt 1 kg.	2.75	4.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	No item other than PDS items is sold through FPS.	—	—
16.	Maharashtra	Not reported		
17.	Manipur	Not reported		
18.	Meghalaya	Not reported		
19.	Mizoram	No item other than PDS items is sold through FPS	Nil	Nil
20.	Nagaland	Not reported		

1	2	3	4	5
21. Orissa	The Government has allowed to FPS owners to sale non -PDS commodities in FPS. FPS have been allowed to operate Public Telephone Booth.			
22. Punjab	The State Government has intimated that a large number of FPS are already selling non-PDS alongwith PDS items.			
23. Rajasthan	Iodized Salt.			
24. Sikkim	FPSs in the State are permitted to sell all consumer items, however, no subsidy is provided to the additional items/ commodities sold by them.			
25. Tamil Nadu	1. Toor Dal	Rs. 34.00 per kg.	Rs. 40.00 per kg.	
	2. Oral Dal	Rs. 40.00 per kg.	Rs. 46.00 per kg.	
	3. Palm Oil	Rs. 40.00 per liter	Rs. 50.00 per liter	
	4. Rava	Rs. 17.00 per kg.	Rs. 22.00 per kg.	
	5. Maida	Rs. 16.00 per kg.	Rs. 20.00 per kg.	
	6. Fortified wheat flour.	Rs. 11.00 per kg.	Rs. 17.00 per kg.	
	7. Turmeric Powder-50 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30	
	8. Chill Powder-250 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30	
	9. Coriander Powder-250 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30	
	10. Channa Dal-75 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30	
	11. Methi Dal-25 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30	
	12. Mustard-25 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30	
	13. Soump-25 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30	
	14. Pepper-25 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30	
	15. Zeera-50 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30	
	16. Lavang-10 gms.	Rs. 50/- per packet	Rs. 71.30	
26. Tripura	1. Atta (wheat is converted into whole meal atta)	Rs. 8.75 per kg.	Not furnished	
	2. Iodized Salt in I (one) kg poly packet	Rs. 3.50 per kg.	Not furnished	

1	2	3	4	5
27. Uttaranchal	Not reported	—	—	
28. Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Soap</li> <li>— Toothpaste</li> <li>— Oil</li> <li>— Pulses</li> <li>— Iodized Salt</li> <li>— Tea</li> <li>— ORS Tablet</li> <li>— Condom and Sanitary napkins</li> </ul>	These items are sold on FPS outlets at the normal rates	Normal Rates for all the items	
29. West Bengal	1. Mustard Oil Iodized Salt (a) Essential (b) Labonya	Rs. 50/- litre  Rs. 3.50 per kg. Rs. 5.50 per kg.	Consumer price has been fixed by the Government at a rate 10% lower than that of the open market.	
30. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	No item other than PDS items is sold through FPS.	—	—	
31. Chandigarh	FPS are granted to the karyana merchants who apart from distributing the Essential commodities under TPDS to BPL and AAY are also retailing grocery items and other items of daily use like Toothpaste, soaps, detergent powder, tea, salt, match boxes etc.	—	—	
32. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	No item other than PDS items is sold through FPS.	—	—	
33. Daman and Diu	Not reported			
34. Lakshadweep	1. Atta 2. Maidha 3. Green gram 4. Toor Dal 5. Palm oil	—	Normal Rates for all the items.	

1	2	3	4	5
		6. Coconut oil		
		7. Chillies		
		8. Spices		
		9. Tea dust		
		10. Milk products		
		11. Detergent powder		
		12. Toilet soaps		
		13. Salt		
		14. Cement		
		15. Steel		
		16. River sand		
		17. Granite metal		
		18. Cloth items		
		19. Electrical goods etc.		
35. Pondicherry	1. Toor Dal	Rs. 34/- per Kg.	Rs. 50/- per kg.	
	2. Black Gram Dal	Rs. 26/- per kg.	Rs. 40/- per kg.	
	3. Coriander	Rs. 59/- per kg.	Rs. 100/- per kg.	
	4. Chillies	Rs. 18.50/- half kg.	Rs. 65/- per kg.	
	5. Iodised Powdered Salt	Nil	Rs. 3.50	
	6. Tamarind	Nil	Rs. 17.50	
	7. Palm Oil	Rs. 40/- per litre	Rs. 53/- per litre	

#### Number of beneficiaries under Food Security Act

‡2299. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has proposed to bring down the existing number of 10.68 crore beneficiaries of cheaper foodgrains to 5.9 crore under Food Security Act; and

(b) if so, the rationale therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) As per the existing allocation norms for foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), States and UTs are being allocated foodgrains for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. This number of BPL families is based on 1993-94 poverty estimates and March, 2000 population estimates. However, based on 2004-05 poverty estimates and March, 2009 population estimates, number of BPL families works out to 5.91 crores. As against this, States and UTs have issued excess BPL ration cards. Total number of such cards, as reported by 30.06.2009 is 10.86 crore.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Details of eligible BPL families to be covered, methodology for their identification, issue of targeted identification cards to them, etc. under the proposed National Food Security Act, are yet to be worked out. Examination of different aspects of the proposed law in consultation with various stakeholders is presently in progress.

**More items to be sold through PDS**

2300. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment of the prices of essential pulses and foodgrains in the open market and under Government run Public Distribution System in the last one year;

(b) whether more items would be allowed to sell through the PDS; and

(c) if so, the details and price list thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement indicating additional commodities being distributed through PDS outlets other than Wheat, Rice, Coarse grains, sugar, Kerosene oil (as reported by respective State/UTs) is enclosed as Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to Unstarred Question No. 2298 Part (c) and (d)]

**Rise in price of pulses**

†2301. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that despite unprecedented decline in inflation, the price of pulses are at the highest as it may be mentioned that pulses is the basic food for the poor people of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for the failure of Government in controlling the price of pulses; and

(d) the steps Government is going to take to bring down the price of pulses immediately?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Government is aware of the rise in prices of pulses. The prices of pulses (except chana) have registered an increase over the past one year. The wholesale price Index Inflation of pulses as on 4.7.2009 was Arhar : (38.15%), urad : (21.69%), Gram : (-4.99%), Moong : (30.56%), Masoor : (10.51%) respectively.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Domestic prices of pulses have risen mainly on account of decline in production of pulses. As per 4th Advance Estimates, the domestic production of pulses has declined to 14.66 million tonnes during 2008-09 as compared to 14.76 million tonnes during 2007-08 (Final Estimates) leading to a supply demand mismatch. In addition, hardening of international prices affected imports of pulses and total domestic availability.

(d) Government measure to bring down the prices of pulses are given in the Statement.

***Statement***

**GOVERNMENT MEASURES**

**A. Ban on export/duty reduction on import/Import by PSUs**

- Extended zero duty on import of pulses for another one year, up to 31.3.2010.
- Extended the ban on export of pulses (except kabuli chana) for another one year, up to 31.3.2010.
- Extended the current dispensation for PSUs to import pulses against reimbursement up to 15% of losses and service charge of 1.2% of CIF value for another year, up to 31.3.2010.

**B. Supply of pulses through PDS**

- Extended the scheme for distribution of imported pulses through PDS for six months, up to 30.9.2009.

**C. On Stock Limits**

- Removal of restrictions on licensing, stock limits and movement of pulses be kept in abeyance for a period upto 30th September, 2009 *w.e.f.* 02.04.2009.

**BPL families in the country**

†2302. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of families living below the poverty line in the country;
- (b) whether the proposed National Food Security Act is faced with difficulties in implementation;
- (c) if so, the details of those difficulties; and
- (d) the action plan to keep National Food Security Scheme corruption-free and ensure benefit thereunder to all the families living below the poverty line?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) For allocation of foodgrains to States and UTs under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Commission and population estimates of the Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000. This number is 6.52 crore. Based on 2004-05 poverty estimates and March, 2009 population estimates, this number is 5.91 crore.

However, as reported by 30.06.2009, the State and UT Governments have issued 10.86 crore BPL cards, which include 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) cards.

(b) to (d) Government proposes to enact the National Food Security Act. Under the proposed law, every BPL family is to be entitled to receive 25 kg of food grains per month. Details of eligible BPL families to be covered, methodology for their identification, issue of targeted identification cards to them, reforms to be introduced in TPDS, etc. are yet to be worked out. Presently, examination of different aspects of the proposed law in consultation with various stake holders is in progress.

#### **Rise in prices of essential commodities**

2303. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the prices of essential commodities continues to rise;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) what steps Government is taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Government is aware of rise in prices of certain essential commodities such as pulses, sugar and potato and has taken several steps to check the increase in prices by taking effective measures such as augmenting domestic supplies of foodgrains through imports at zero/reduced rates of duty and ban on exports. As a result of the various steps taken by Government, prices of certain essential commodities have generally declined or are steady.

(b) Rise in domestic prices is owing to the combined effect of different factors such as, growing demand on account of increase in population and income, hardening of international prices, changes in consumption pattern, diversion of food grains for fuel, adverse weather and climate change, increase in crude oil prices, hikes in MSP, improvement in income and living standards, increase in freight rates as well as seasonal factors.

(c) The Government has taken a number of steps to control the price rise and to soften the impact of price rise on consumers. The important steps taken are briefly listed in the Statement.

#### ***Statement***

##### ***List of Government Measures***

#### **(A) Short Term Measures**

##### **1. Fiscal Measures**

- (i) Reducing import duties to zero — for wheat, pulses, edible oils (crude) and maize (under TRQ of 5 lakh tonnes per annum, beyond which 15% duty will apply);



- (ii) Reducing import duties on refined and hydrogenated oils and vegetable oils to 7.5%;
- (iii) Reducing the import duty on Skimmed Milk Powder (SMP) from 15% to 5%.

## 2. Administrative Measures

- (i) The export of edible oils is permitted in branded consumer packs of up to 5 kgs, subject to a limit of 10,000 tonnes during the next one year up to 31st October, 2009.
- (ii) Export of wheat and wheat products (atta, maida and suji) was permitted after 15th May, 2009, with a cap of 2 million tonnes in 2009-10.
- (iii) Banning export of non-basmati rice, edible oils and pulses (except kabuli chana).
- (iv) Export not more than 20 lakh tonnes of rice, on diplomatic basis through the MEA to friendly countries in KMS 2008-09.
- (v) No changes in Tariff Rate Values of edible oils;
- (vi) Imposition of stock limit orders in the case of paddy, rice, pulses, edible oils and oilseeds;
- (vii) The periodic enhancements in MSP- currently Rs 1080 per quintal for wheat, Rs 850 per quintal for common rice and Rs 880 per quintal for Grade A rice, to maximize procurement of wheat and rice.
- (viii) Using Minimum Export Price (MEP) to regulate exports of onion (averaging at \$185 per tonne for June 2009) and basmati rice (\$1100 PMT) *w.e.f* 20.01.2009;
- (ix) Maintaining the Central Issue Price (CIP) for rice at Rs. 5.65 per kg for BPL and Rs. 3 per kg for AAY) and wheat at Rs. 4. 15 per kg for BPL and Rs. 2 per kg for AAY since July 2002.
- (x) Futures trading in Rice, Wheat, urad and Tur suspended by the Forward Market Commission in the year 2007-08 continued during the year 2008-09. Futures trading in sugar has been suspended *w.e.f* 27.5.2009 upto 31st December, 2009.
- (xi) Distribution of one million tons of imported edible oils to States/UTs at a subsidy @ Rs. 15/kg.
- (xii) To augment availability of pulses, the Public Sector Undertakings ( namely, STC, MMTC, and PEC) and NAFED were permitted to import and sell pulses under a scheme and losses, if any, up to 15% are reimbursed by the Government.
- (xiii) Government allowed import of raw sugar under advance authorization Scheme and permitted sugar factories to sell processed raw sugar in the domestic market and fulfill export obligation on ton to ton basis.

- (xiv) Allowed import of raw sugar under Advance Authorization Scheme by sugar mills (at zero duty) upto 30.9.2009 (notified on 17.2.2009 and 2.3.2009).
- (xv) Allowed import of raw sugar at zero duty under O.G.L. upto 1.8.2009 by sugar mills (notified on 17.4.2009).
- (xvi) Allowed import of white/refined sugar by STC/MMTC/PEC and NAFED upto 1 million tonnes by 1.8.2009 under O.G.L. at zero duty (notified on 17.4.2009).
- (xvii) Levy obligation was removed in respect of all imported raw sugar and white/refined sugar.
- (xviii) Released 6 lakh tonnes of additional non levy sugar for April-June, 2009 Quarter taking the total release to 60 lakh tonnes against 50 lakh tonnes in corresponding Quarter in 2008 and 50 lakh tonnes in January-March, 2009.
- (xix) The availability of non-levy sugar for April'09 including the additional quota released stood at 22 lac tons against 17 lacs for March, 2009 and 17 lac tons for April, 2008. For the month of May, 2009, release of non-levy sugar including additional quota released stood at 21 lac tons as against 17.5 lac tons for May, 2008. For the month of June, 2009, the release of non-levy sugar stands at 16 lac tons as against release of 13.5 lac tons for June, 2008. Besides about 1 lac ton of raw sugar imported and reprocessed by sugar mills have been released during the month of June, 2009.

**(B) Medium Term Measures:**

In the medium term, Government has taken initiatives such as Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to improve production and productivity in agriculture.

**Farm products suspended from futures trade**

2304. SHRI R.C. SINGH:  
 SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:  
 SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

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

- (a) the details of farm products suspended from futures trade in 2006 and 2007;
- (b) the details of farm products suspended from futures trade since March, 2008;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Forward Markets Commission is not in favour of suspending farm items like potato, soya oil, rubber and chana from futures trade; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Details of farm products suspended from futures trade in the financial year 2006-2007 are as follows:—

Sl. No.	Commodity	Date of suspension of futures trading	Date of Revocation of suspension	Date of resumption of trading
1.	Tur and Urad	23rd January, 2007	—	—
2.	Rice	27th February, 2007	—	—
3.	Wheat	27th February, 2007	15th May, 2009	21st May, 2009

(b) Details of farm products suspended from futures trade since March, 2008 are as follows:—

Sl. No.	Commodity	Date of suspension of futures trading	Date of Revocation of suspension	Date of resumption of trading
1	Chana, Soy oil, Rubber and Potato	7th May, 2008	30th November, 2008	4th December, 2008
2	Sugar	26.05.2009 till 31.12.2009	—	—

(c) The decision of suspension of futures trading in above commodities was made by Forward Markets Commission as an abundant caution so that the perceived inflationary expectations are contained. While making this decision, it took into account different factors like production, international scenario etc. which impact on such expectation.

(d) In view of (C) above question does not arise.

#### **Antyodaya Anna Yojana**

2305. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:  
SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

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

(a) whether Government has to spend about Rs. 13,500 crores less on food subsidy to implement Rs. 3/- per kg. rice or wheat scheme, as a large section of people above poverty line are unlikely to get cheaper foodgrains;

(b) if so, whether it is estimated that subsidy bill would be around Rs. 29,000 crores to cover 6.5 crore BPL families if they are given 25 kg. of rice or wheat each month @ Rs. 3/- per kg.;

(c) whether Government has also agreed to cover only 10.68 crores families under Antyodaya Anna Yojana who have been issued BPL cards by the States; and

(d) if so, by when final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) Government proposes to enact the National Food Security Act. Under the proposed law, every BPL (Below Poverty Line) family is to be entitled to receive 25 kg of foodgrains per month. Details of eligible BPL families to be covered, methodology for their identification, issue of targeted identification cards to them, subsidy component, etc. are yet to be worked out.

Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) ration cards issued by State/UT Governments, as reported by 30.06.2009 are 2.43 crore only. It is not proposed to cover 10.68 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) ration cards under AAY category.

#### **Ban on export of edible oil and pulses**

2306. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

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

(a) whether Government has extended ban on export of edible oils and pulses for one more year and allowed import of pulses at zero duty beyond March 31st, 2009 and also extended scheme to determine imported pulses through PDS for over six months;

(b) whether Government has also taken decision on wheat export ban;

(c) whether Government has decided to remove cap on storage by traders with surplus wheat inventory;

(d) whether Government has achieved target of all the commodities; and

(e) if so, the latest position and what are surplus stocks at present in respect of wheat, rice and sugar?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Export of edible oils has been banned *w.e.f.* 17.03.2008 and extended upto 16.03.2010 except coconut oil (through Cochin Port) and certain oils produced from minor forest origin. However, export of edible oils has been permitted *w.e.f.* 20th November, 2008 in branded consumer packs of upto 5 kgs., subject to a limit of 10,000 tons upto 31st October, 2009.

The ban on export of pulses (except kabuli chana) has been extended upto 31.3.2010.

Zero duty on import of pulses has been extended upto 31.3.2010.

The scheme for distribution of imported pulses through PDS has been extended for 6 months, upto 30.9.2009.

(b) Sale of foodgrains for commercial exports from Central Pool has been stopped *w.e.f.* 01.10.2004. Export of wheat from the country was banned *w.e.f.* 9.2.2007. Export of wheat products (Maida, Rava/Sirgi, wholemeal atta and resultant atta) was also banned *w.e.f.* 08.10.2007.

Export of wheat flour (Maida), Semolina (Rava/Sirgi) wholemeal atta and resultant atta has been allowed on private account *w.e.f.* 03.07.2009 subject to the following restrictions:—

- (i) The export is permitted subject to a limit of 6,50,000 tons upto 31.3.2010.
- (ii) Exports shall be allowed only from Customs EDI Ports.

(c) Due to record procurement of wheat in RMS 2008-09 and 2009-10, the notification issued under EC Act enabling the State Governments to impose stock limit on wheat has been withdrawn with effect from 1.4.2009.

(d) Since procurement of foodgrains (rice and wheat) under MSP operations are open ended no target is fixed. Against the estimated wheat procurement of 244.2 lakh tons in current RMS 2009-10, 251.88 lakh tons of wheat has been procured as on 22.7.2009. Similarly against the estimated procurement of 282 lakh tons of rice in current KMS 2008-09, 318.35 lakh tons of rice has been procured as on 22.7.2009.

(e) The stocks of wheat and rice held by FCI and State agencies in the Central Pool as on 1.7.2009 is 329.22 lakh tons and 196.16 lakh tons respectively against the buffer norms of 171 lakh tons of wheat and 98 lakh tons of rice.

There is no surplus stock of sugar in the country at present.

#### **Overhauling of PDS**

2307. SHRI MANGALA KISAN:  
SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

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

- (a) whether Government is considering to have massive overhauling of the country's public distribution system;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, by when such overhauling would take place in each State especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is implemented jointly by Government of India and State/UT Governments with sharing of responsibilities in this regard. The Government of India carries out procurement of foodgrains for the TPDS, their storage, transportation and allocation to the State/UT Governments. The responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within State/UT, identification of eligible BPL and AAY families based on estimates of Planning Commission, issuance of ration cards to them, and supervision of distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible ration card holders through the fair price shops rest with the State/UT Governments.

To improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly taking up the issue with State and UT Governments for:—

- (i) continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families and ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at fair price shops;
- (ii) ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS;
- (iii) improving monitoring and vigilance at various levels; and
- (iv) introducing new technologies such as Computerization of TPDS operations at various levels, smart-card-based delivery of essential commodities, etc.

The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported that with a view to revamp the scheme for covering all the eligible families, the state government has introduced Iris biometric technology. It contains images of over 5 crores citizens and the process of purification is currently going on.

Further, the State Government has taken these measures to ensure proper distribution of essential commodities through TPDS and to curb leakages and diversion:—

- (i) Essential Commodities are being transported to door step to Fair Price Shops to ensure their proper delivery without diversion enroute.
- (ii) Securing acknowledgment of receipt of stocks delivered at the Fair Price Shops duly signed by two members of the Village Food Advisory Committee,
- (iii) Essential Commodities such as rice under TPDS and Annapurna scheme are issued to the card holders on surrender of coupons at Fair Price Shops.
- (iv) The role of the functionaries connected with the distribution of essential commodities at various levels is clearly defined for accountability.
- (v) Ensuring enforcement by regular inspections of FPSs dealers etc. by the enforcement officials as per targets fixed.
- (vi) Ensuring proper distribution of rice both in quantity and quality as per the scale, price and timings fixed for distribution by the Government.
- (vii) Close tracking of the vehicles transporting TPDS rice.
- (viii) Stern action is being taken against the persons indulging in illegal trade of TPDS rice.
- (ix) Vigilance and Enforcement by the District Collectors and Chief Vigilance Officers through integrated flying squads.

#### **Cheaper wheat and rice to BPL families**

2308. SHRI MANGALA KISAN:  
SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

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

- (a) whether Government is providing Rs. 3 a kg. rice/wheat to all BPL families by law;
- (b) if so, the details worked out so far;
- (c) the beneficiaries of minorities and weaker section, especially SCs and STs; and
- (d) the quantity being supplied to the Government of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) As per the existing allocation norms for foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), States and UTs are being allocated foodgrains for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. The BPL families are at present allocated food grains at the issue price of Rs. 4.15 per kg. for wheat and Rs. 5.65 per kg for rice.

Out of the 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, the Government is allocating foodgrains (rice and wheat) as per applicable norms to all the accepted number of 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in the States/UTs at issue price of Rs. 3/- per kg. for rice and Rs. 2 per kg for wheat.

Government proposes to enact National Food Security Act. For this, details are yet to be worked out.

Allocations to States/UTs are not made on the basis of community as these allocations are made to all eligible families including the SCs and STs.

The details of the existing monthly allocation of foodgrains (rice and wheat) under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for the States of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh are as under:—

#### Orissa

(in tons)

Commodity	AAY	BPL	APL	Total
Rice	44260	97131	2195	143586
Wheat	0	0	32735	32735
TOTAL	44260	97131	34930	176321

#### Andhra Pradesh

Rice	54524	87674	131334	273532
Wheat	0	0	2754	2754
TOTAL	54524	87674	134088	276286

\*excluding incentive based allocation of 40,000 tons.

### **Food security**

2309. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:  
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

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

- (a) whether food security is the top priority of UPA Government;
- (b) whether it has ascertained the exact count of below poverty line persons in the country;
- (c) what would be the total amount required for implementation of this scheme;
- (d) the assurances been sought from the State Governments on foodgrain availability to sustain the massive scheme; and
- (e) how many State Governments have assured/responded?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) The poverty estimates at National level and State level are decided by the Planning Commission. The latest Poverty estimates of Planning Commission are for the year 2004-05 according to which 27.5% of the population was living below poverty line in 2004-05. Actual identification of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families is done by State and UT Governments. For identification of BPL families in rural and urban areas, guidelines are issued by the Ministry of Rural Development and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, respectively. For the next round of BPL census, the Ministry of Rural Development is yet to finalize the guidelines. Thus exact count of BPL persons based on the latest poverty estimates is not yet available.

Food security in the country is of high priority to Government. Government proposes to enact the National Food Security Act. Under the proposed law, every Below Poverty Line (BPL) family is to be entitled to receive 25 kg of foodgrains per month. Details of eligible BPL families to be covered, methodology for their identification, issue of targeted identification cards to them, etc. are yet to be worked out,

Examination of different aspects of the proposed law in consultation with various stake holders is presently in progress, As part of this exercise, first consultation with State/UT Governments on various aspects of the proposed legislation was held on 10th June, 2009, So far comments from 15 State/UT Governments have been received.

### **Entitled families deprived of BPL cards**

†2310. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:  
SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:  
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

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

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



(a) whether it is a fact that over one crore entitled families are deprived of BPL cards in the country; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government for food security of these families, and to provide them BPL cards immediately along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) For identification of BPL families as per poverty estimates of Planning Commission, guidelines are to be formulated by State/UT Governments as stipulated under the Public Distribution System (Control), Order 2001. To facilitate this, Ministries of Rural Development and Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation issue guidelines.

Under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) the responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within State/UT, identification of eligible BPL and AAY families based on estimates of Planning Commission and issuance of ration cards to them, and supervision of distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible ration card holders through the fair price shops rest with the State/UT Governments.

For allocations of foodgrains to States and UTs under TPDS, the Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of 6.52 crore BPL families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and population estimates of the Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000 or BPL ration cards issued, *whichever is less*. Foodgrains for these families are being allocated to the State Governments/UT Administrations @ 35 kg per family per month.

However, as reported by end of June 2009, the State and UT Governments have issued 10.86 crore BPL ration cards, which include 2.43 crore AAY cards.

(b) In view of reply to (a) above, question (b) does not arise.

#### **Distribution of fortified atta to Kerala**

2311. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Competent Authority of Kerala had submitted a proposal during the year 2007 for distribution of fortified *atta* through Supplyco. outlets;

(b) if so, the details of the action taken thereon;

(c) whether action would be taken in affirmative on the above submission; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) Government (Department of Food and Public Distribution) issued guidelines dated 17.1.2008 regarding distribution of wheat flour to ration card holders of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) categories through Fair Price Shops.

Government of Kerala had submitted such a request in October, 2007. Subsequently, another request was received from the State Government in 2008. In pursuance to the proposal, certain clarification has been sought from the State Government, especially regarding financial viability of fair price shops.

**Amount due to sugarcane farmers**

†2312. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN:  
SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:  
SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

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

- (a) the details of the amount owed by sugar mills to farmers for sugarcane during the last three years, region-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the time since, the payment of the owed amount is pending;
- (c) whether farmers are giving up sugarcane farming because of hardships faced by them due to pending payment of their dues; and
- (d) if so, the details of the steps taken by Government in order to expedite the payments of dues to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The sugar season-wise and State/Zone-wise details of outstanding cane price dues payable as on 30.4.2009, by sugar mills to the cane growers are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Supply of sugarcane by cane growers to sugar mills and their payment by the sugar mills is a continuous process. Since the cane price dues payable to the cane growers for a sugar season pertains to supply of sugarcane to different sugar mills at different points of time and the position is continually changing on account of payment towards fresh supplies by a very large number of farmers during the course of the season, it is not possible to pinpoint the dates from which such dues are pending to individual farmers.

(c) The Central Government has not received report from any of the sugarcane producing States that farmers are giving up sugarcane farming due to non-payment of their dues.

(d) Does not arise.

**Statement**

*Sugar season-wise and State/Zone-wise position of cane price  
arrears as on 30.4.2009*

(Amount in crore rupees)

State/Zone	For 2008-09 season	For 2007-08 season	For 2006-07 and earlier season(s)	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Punjab	7.22	Nil	Nil	7.22

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4	5
Haryana	0.69	Nil	Nil	0.69
Rajasthan	1.15	Nil	Nil	1.15
West Uttar Pradesh	171.85	Nil	5.42	177.27
Central Uttar Pradesh	136.41	3.98	16.55	156.94
East Uttar Pradesh	64.70	7.78	67.73	140.21
Uttarakhand	5.65	19.99	Nil	25.64
Madhya Pradesh	Nil	1.35	4.30	5.65
South Gujarat	72.13	12.02	Nil	84.15
Saurashtra	0.17	Nil	Nil	0.17
South Maharashtra	11.17	3.41	1.60	16.18
North Maharashtra	1.27	0.13	16.83	18.23
Central Maharashtra	4.68	0.97	1.90	7.55
North Bihar	13.20	0.64	43.63	57.47
South Bihar	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Assam	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Andhra Pradesh	18.74	Nil	34.95	53.69
Karnataka	25.07	15.82	27.73	68.62
Tamil Nadu	166.94	21.50	2.15	190.59
Kerala	Nil	Nil	3.85	3.85
Orissa	0.01	Nil	Nil	0.01
West Bengal	0.25	Nil	Nil	0.25
Puducherry	7.72	Nil	Nil	7.72
Goa	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	709.02	87.59	226.64	1023.25

**Issuing of BPL cards**

2313. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state what are the State-wise estimated number of BPL families and how many BPL cards have been issued in these States?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): For allocations of foodgrains to States and UTs under Targeted Public Distribution System, Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of BPL families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and population estimates of the Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000. This estimated number of BPL families is 6.52 crore, which include 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families.

However, as reported by end of June, 2009, the State and UT Governments have issued 10.86 crore BPL cards, which include 2.43 crore AAY cards. A statement showing State-wise estimated number of BPL families and BPL and AAY cards issued by the State Governments/UT Administrations is given in the Statement.

**Statement**

*State-wise total no. of BPL Households and Ration cards issued to  
BPL, AAY Households*

As reported by 30.06.2009  
(figures in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of estimated BPL families as on 1993-94 poverty estimates	Ration cards issued by State/UT		
			BPL	AAY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40.63	175.54	15.58	191.12
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.99	0.61	0.38	0.99
3.	Assam	18.36	12.02	7.04	19.06
4.	Bihar	65.23	39.94	24.29	64.23
5.	Chhattisgarh	18.75	11.56	7.19	18.75
6.	Delhi	4.09	2.88	1.5	4.38
7.	Goa	0.48	0.13	0.14	0.27
8.	Gujarat	21.20	25.75	8.1	33.85
9.	Haryana	7.89	9.05	2.92	11.97
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5.14	3.17	1.97	5.14
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.36	4.80	2.56	7.36
12.	Jharkand	23.94	14.76	9.18	23.94
13.	Karnataka	31.29	76.77	12	88.77
14	Kerala	15.54	14.82	5.96	20.78

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Madhya Pradesh	41.25	52.65	15.82	68.47
16.	Maharashtra	65.34	45.13	24.64	69.77
17.	Manipur	1.66	1.02	0.64	1.66
18.	Meghalaya	1.83	1.13	0.7	1.83
19.	Mizoram	0.68	0.42	0.26	0.68
20.	Nagaland	1.24	0.77	0.47	1.24
21.	Orissa	32.98	37.63	12.65	50.28
22.	Punjab	4.68	2.89	1.79	4.68
23.	Rajasthan	24.31	16.53	9.32	25.85
24.	Sikkim	0.43	0.27	0.16	0.43
25.	Tamil Nadu*	48.63	181.91	18.65	200.56
26.	Tripura	2.95	1.82	1.13	2.95
27.	Uttar Pradesh	106.79	65.84	40.95	106.79
28.	Uttaranchal	4.98	3.46	1.51	4.97
29.	West Bengal	51.79	37.98	14.8	52.78
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.28	0.13	0.04	0.17
31.	Chandigarh	0.23	0.09	0.02	0.11
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.18	0.12	0.05	0.17
33.	Daman and Diu	0.04	0.03	0.01	0.04
34.	Lakshdweep	0.03	0.02	0.012	0.03
35.	Pondicherry	0.84	1.14	0.32	1.46
TOTAL		652.03	842.78	242.75	1085.53

\*Separate figures of APL/BPL cards have not been made available by the Government of Tamil Nadu as there is no distinction between APL and BPL categorisation of households

#### Stock of rice in FCI godowns in Orissa

2314. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the stock of rice held by Food Corporation of India in their godowns in Orissa as on 1st June and 1st July, 2009;

(b) the reasons for not moving out stocks elsewhere in the country with a view to procure further stock of rice from the summer crop of farmers; and

(c) the awareness of Government about widespread distress, sale by farmers in Orissa and the steps taken and proposed to be taken by Government to alleviate such distress?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Stock of rice held by FCI in their godowns in Orissa as on 1st June 2009 and 1st July, 2009 were 5.98 lakh tonnes and 6.30 lakh tonnes respectively.

(b) There has been record procurement of wheat and rice in the country during Rabi Marketing Season 2009-10 and Kharif Marketing Season 2008-09 and FCI is facing shortage of storage space in various States. Due to increased procurement of boiled rice in Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal, there is shortage of storage capacity.

(c) There is no report of distress sale of paddy. In order to ensure Minimum Support Price (MSP) to farmers in Orissa, a schedule for accepting 6 lakh tones of rice (during the period August'09–November'09) by FCI has been worked out in consultation with the State Government and FCI has been advised to plan movement of rice out of Orissa accordingly.

#### **Shortage of foodgrains under PDS in Assam**

2315. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of availability of foodgrains under Public Distribution System in Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to improve the situation;

(c) the steps taken in connection with malpractices/misappropriation/selling/diverting the PDS items like wheat, rice in the open market during last three years in Assam along with the details thereof; and

(d) what steps have been taken to strengthen the PDS?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) The Central Government makes allocation of foodgrains to States/UTs, including the State of Assam, under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) @ 35 kgs. per family per month for all Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families, on the basis of ration cards issued by the States/UTs or the number of households on the basis of poverty estimates of Planning Commission for 1993-94 and population projection of Registrar General of India as on 01.03.2000, *whichever is less*. Full allocations are made @ 35 kg per family per month under BPL/AAY categories.

The allocations for APL category are made depending upon the availability of stock of foodgrains in Central Pool and the past offtake by States. Presently, allocations to the State are around 20 kg. per APL family per month.

However, the State Government has issued BPL and APL ration cards in excess of estimated numbers of such families.

The State Government has also allocated 25,000 tons of rice at economic cost during July, 2009 for flood relief.

The allocation of foodgrains for all the three categories of BPL, AAY and APL under TPDS to all States/UTs, including Assam, for the year 2009-10 have already been issued. Further, distribution within the State of the foodgrains allocated by Central Government under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is the responsibility of the State Government.

Complaints about malpractices in TPDS received from time to time are sent to concerned State/UT Governments, including Assam Government for enquiry and appropriate action under the law.

Government has taken a series of measures and urged State/UT Governments to streamline TPDS by:—

- (i) continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families and ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at fair price shops;
- (ii) ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS;
- (iii) improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels;
- (iv) introduction of new technologies such as Computerization of TPDS operations at various levels, smart card based delivery of essential commodities; and
- (v) getting functioning of TPDS periodically evaluated.

The State Government has reported following steps to stop malpractices and misappropriation of PDS items like rice and wheat:—

- (i) Constitution of Vigilance and Monitoring Committees from F.P. Shops level to District level.
- (ii) An enquiry has been ordered into the alleged malpractices and misappropriation of TPDS items in three Upper Assam Districts namely Golaghat, Jorhat and Sivasagar and to take legal action as per law.
- (iii) District and Sub-Divisional authorities have been directed to conduct enquiry/investigations to detect anomalies/diversions/leakage etc., of TPDS items distributed through TPDS network and \* verification of ration cards.
- (iv) District Police Authorities have also been asked to take action as empowered under Clause 30 and Clause 31 of the Assam Trade Article (License and Control) Order, 1982 and the Assam Public Distribution of Articles Order, 1982.

- (v) State Government has reconstituted the Advisory Board under Section 9(I) of the Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 to take up the cases under the said Act.

**Augmenting the public stocks of imported cooking oil**

2316. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to augment its public stock of imported cooking oil in view of possible deficient monsoon affecting oil seeds production;
- (b) whether Government has asked the State owned trading companies to import up to one million tonnes of edible oil over the next one year; and
- (c) whether despite being a consumer friendly move to help BPL families to tide over the current inflation of food items, it would also depress margins for large private sector players in edible oil business?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir. The Government does not maintain a public stock of edible oil.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.

**Shortage of godowns of FCI in Tamil Nadu**

2317. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the shortage of storage godowns of the Food Corporation of India in Tamil Nadu; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. As on 30.6.2009, in Tamil Nadu, FCI is having total storage capacity of 9.57 Lac MT (Owned and Hired/Covered and CAP) against the total quantity of foodgrains stored therein of 9.68 Lac MT with the utilization of 101%.

- (b) In order to overcome the shortage of space, the following steps have been taken to meet the shortage of storage capacity:—
- (i) In Tamil Nadu, FCI has identified 18 locations to create additional capacity of 3.20 Lac MT through the Scheme for construction of godowns under which FCI is offering five year guarantee.
- (ii) Further the General Manager (Regions) have been fully authorized to hire additional storage capacity from CWC/SWCs/State Agencies and Private Parties as per requirement.



### Shortage of employees in FCI

2318. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of employees in all cadres of FCI and if so the details therefor; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to recruit persons according to sanctioned staff strength?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Food Corporation of India has been allowed to fill up vacancies as per Government rules under the Annual Direct Recruitment Plan (ADRP). The Government has approved filling up of posts in the various categories (cat.) since 2002-03 as under:—

Year	Cat.I	Cat.II	Cat.III	Total
2002-03	87	153	138	378
2003-08	—	275	758	1033
2008-09	—	—	380	380

The recruitment by FCI is at different stages for the various posts approved by the Government. In view of large number of retirements in the next few years, FCI has requested for permission to appoint more staff.

### Need to raise production of sugarcane

†2319. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a ban was imposed on the export of sugar in 2006-07 and when this ban was lifted in 2007-08 there was a fall in the prices of sugar in international market;

(b) the reasons for not accepting the recommendation of Central Agricultural Cost and Prices Department in March, 2008 to give a price of Rs. 155 per quintal for sugarcane;

(c) during last three years there has been an increase of more than fifty per cent in the support price of paddy, wheat and cotton, why it is only Rs. 1.68 in case of sugarcane; and

(d) the steps taken to check rise in sugar prices and to promote sugarcane production?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Central Government, with a view to check increase in prices of non-levy sugar in the domestic market, imposed ban on export of sugar with effect from

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

22.06.2006 except for export of sugar under preferential quota. In view of expected higher production of sugar in 2006-07-sugar season, the Government relaxed ban on export of sugar against Advance Authorization Scheme with effect from 3rd January, 2007 and under Open General License (OGL) with effect from 23rd January, 2007. The price of sugar in the international market was lower in January, 2007 as compared to June, 2006.

(b) and (c) The CACP, suo moto, submitted a supplementary report on 27th March, 2009 (after the Government had announced the SMP for 2008-09 sugar season as per CACP's original recommendation of Rs 81.18 per quintal), *inter-alia*, recommending for revision of SMP for 2008-09 sugar season to Rs 125 per quintal for a basic recovery of 9%, plus a bonus of Rs. 30 per quintal subject to a premium of Rs 1.40 for every 0.1 % increase in recovery above 9%.

The ministry after examining the report concluded that it would not achieve the desired results of checking any shift in area under sugarcane to cereals in 2008-09 sugar season since the sowing of sugarcane in most of the areas, was over long back. Further, unlike wheat and paddy, the Government does not procure sugarcane; thus, payment of bonus of Rs. 30/- per quintal of cane from the Government for sugarcane purchased by sugar factories was unacceptable. As such, Government did not find the recommendation of CACP practical and justified at that stage. The increase in the support price of paddy and wheat *vis-a-vis* sugarcane was a conscious decision of the Government.

(d) The Central Government has taken a slew of measures to check the price hike as indicated below:—

- (i) Stock-holding and turnover limits on sugar imposed *vide* Notification dated 09.03.2009 and 12.03.2009 for a period of four months which have been extended by another six months, *i.e.* upto 08.01.2010.
- (ii) Futures trading in sugar on NCDEX has been suspended with effect from 27th May, 2009.
- (iii) Permitting import of raw sugar by sugar mills under Advance Authorization Scheme (AAS) at zero duty upto 30-09-2009, and under Open General License (OGL) upto 01-08-2009 and import of white/refined sugar by STC/MMTC/PEC and NAFED upto 1 million tons at zero customs duty under Open General License (OGL)

The Central Government has taken the following steps to encourage cultivation of sugarcane in the country:—

- (i) Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane for the sugar season 2009-10 has been increased to Rs. 107.76 per quintal, with an additional premium of Rs. 1.13 for every 0.1% point increase in the recovery above 9.5%. The SMP for the previous sugar season was Rs. 81.18 per quintal, with an additional premium of Rs. 0.90 for every 0.1% point increase in the recovery above 9%.

- (ii) A Centrally sponsored scheme of Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System (SUB ACS) is under implementation. The main thrust of the scheme is on the transfer of improved production technology to the farmers through field demonstrations, training of farmers, supply of farm implements, enhancing production of planting materials, efficient use of water, treatment of planting materials etc. The scheme is under implementation in 22 States/Union Territories.
- (iii) Concessional loans at an interest rate of 4% per annum are given to sugar factories from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) for modernization of plant and machinery, expansion of crushing capacity, utilization of by-products viz. baggasse for co-generation of power and molasses for production of ethanol, up gradation of technology and sugarcane development including better irrigation facilities, improved seed variety, ratoon management, etc.

#### **Rise in prices of pulses and other food items**

2320. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) what steps Government has taken, so far, to control steep rise in prices of pulses and other food items of daily use;
- (b) whether Government has decided to extend the import of pulses at zero duty till end of March, 2010 and also ban export of all kinds of pulses for one more year;
- (c) if so, what steps Government has taken, so far, to maintain a steady supply in the domestic market as well as distribution of imported pulses through the Public Distribution System (PDS); and
- (d) whether State run trading firms would be allowed to import 1.5 million tonnes of pulses under a reimbursement scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Government has taken a number of steps to control the price rise and to soften the impact of price rise on consumers. The important steps taken are briefly listed in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to Unstarred Question No. 2303 Part (c)]

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. Government extended zero duty on import of pulses for another one year, up to 31.3.2010. Government also extended the ban on export of pulses (except kabuli chana) for another year, up to 31.3.2010. Government has permitted 4 PSUs viz. PEC, STC, MMTC, NAFED to import 1.5 million tonnes of pulses under the 15% reimbursement scheme. In addition, the PSUs along with NCCF are also permitted to supply imported pulses to State Governments for distribution through the PDS. The scheme for distribution of imported pulses at subsidised rates by the State Governments through the PDS which was conceived as a one time measure has been extended up to 30.09.2009.

- (d) Yes Sir.

### Computerisation of ration cards

2321. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has undertaken the process of computerisation of ration cards;
- (b) if so, the details of the process;
- (c) the details of the State Governments which have done the computerisation in this area;
- (d) whether information relating to ration cards issued, is available on Central and States' websites; and
- (e) if so, which States have made the same available?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) In order to make delivery of services efficient under TPDS and to assess replicability of use of smart cards, Government has approved in December, 2008 implementation of a pilot scheme on smart cards based TPDS in Chandigarh and Haryana. Under it, eligible BPL families would be issued smart cards in place of existing ration cards. They will have bio-metric features of the family members, based on which verification of genuineness of the BPL families will take place and thereafter only the essential commodities would be issued to them from the fair price shops. For commencing implementation of this scheme, work is in progress by the implementing agencies *i.e.* Government of Haryana, Chandigarh UT Administration and National Informatics Centre.

In addition as per available information, 9 State/UT Governments namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Chandigarh and Pondicherry have reported to have initiated computerization of TPDS operations from their own resources.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

### Non-distribution of foodgrains to BPL families

†2322. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the foodgrains to be distributed through Public Distribution System to the persons living below poverty line are yet to be distributed;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the foodgrains are being sold illegally in the black market; and
- (c) whether Government is considering to improve Public Distribution System?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Allocation of foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) are made to all the States/UTs as per the applicable norms. The

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Government has already made allocations of foodgrains under TPDS for all the three categories, *i.e.* Below Poverty Line (BPL), Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Above Poverty Line (APL) families for the Year 2009-10.

The responsibility for identification of BPL and AAY families as per Planning Commission estimates and guidelines of Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, issuance of ration cards to them, lifting of allocated foodgrains, their proper distribution to the eligible families within the State/UT through Fair Price Shops and supervision over it is of the State/UT Governments/Therefore, complaints about malpractices in TPDS received from time to time are sent to concerned State/UT Governments for inquiry and appropriate action under the law.

Government has taken a series of measures and urged State/UT Governments to streamline TPDS by:—

- (i) continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families and ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at fair price shops;
- (ii) ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS;
- (iii) improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels;
- (iv) introduction of new technologies such as Computerization of TPDS operations at various levels, smart card based delivery of essential commodities; and
- (v) getting functioning of TPDS periodically evaluated.

#### **Implementation of National Food Security Act**

2323. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has enumerated BPL families so as to implement the National Food Security Act;
- (b) if so, the details of BPL families in the country, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of agencies that are proposed to be given the responsibility to implement the proposed law?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Government proposes to enact the National Food Security Act. Under the proposed law, every Below Poverty Line (BPL) family is to be entitled to receive 25 kg of foodgrains per month. Details of eligible BPL families to be covered, methodology for their identification, issue of targeted identification cards to them, etc. are yet to be worked out.

Under the proposed law, responsibility for implementation of Targeted Public Distribution System will be of both Central and State/UT Governments.

### Adulteration of desi ghee, milk and edible oils

2324. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the reports in the electronic media about the wide scale adulteration of desi ghee, milk, milk products and other edible oils etc., which ultimately find their market in the national capital;

(b) the number of samples collected in Delhi and NCR to check adulteration during the last three years and so far during 2009; and

(c) the outcome of the reports finalized and the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard in Delhi and NCR areas with the help of respective State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes.

(b) The number of samples collected in Delhi during the years 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 (upto 20.07.2009) are as under:—

Year	Samples Taken
2006	2912
2007	3162
2008	3179
2009	1719

The information from NCR area is being collected and will be tabled in the House.

(c) As per information made available by Delhi Government, the number of samples found adulterated and misbranded, during the period mentioned above is as under, for which prosecution action is being taken as per law:—

Year	Adulterated	Misbranded
2006	124	93
2007	122	41
2008	124	77
2009	55	13

The information from NCR is being collected and will be tabled in the House.

### Eradication of Polio

†2325. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of Polio from many States are coming to light even after official announcement of Polio eradication;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last two years, State-wise;

(c) whether Government is formulating any new plan to eradicate the disease completely; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Official announcement of Polio eradication has never been made. It is a fact that cases of polio are coming to light from some States.

(b) State-wise details of the cases reported during the last two years is at given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Yes. To stop the poliovirus transmission, India has taken a number of initiatives based on recommendations made by India Expert Advisory Group on Polio Eradication, from time to time. This Advisory Group has national and international experts.

As per the IEAG recommendations:—

- Two nation-wise immunization rounds NIDs (National Immunization Days) are being held every year.
- About 6 Sub National Immunization Days (SNID) are implemented in UP and Bihar and neighboring areas at the risk of spread including Delhi, Mumbai and neighbouring districts.
- In addition, rapid and large scale Mop Up Immunization rounds are being carried out in response to each P1 case and P3 case detected outside the endemic area.
- Migratory populations from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are being identified in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat and these migratory children are being covered during the SNIDs in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.
- Social Mobilization activities are being intensified by involving the local influencers, community and religious leaders to improve community participation and acceptance of polio vaccine.
- State Political Leadership and Administration are continuously being updated on the identified gaps in the implementation of the Program.
- In order to reach every eligible child during the pulse polio round, in addition to the strategy of vaccinating children at fixed booths and house to house visit, efforts to vaccinate children in transit at railway stations, inside long distance trains, major bus stops, market places, at important religious congregations, major road crossing etc. through out the country have been intensified.

**Statement**

*Number Polio cases from 2007-08*

State/UT's	2007	2008
1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	341	305
Bihar	503	233
Delhi	2	5
Rajasthan	3	2
Uttarakhand	6	1
Haryana	6	2
Maharashtra	2	2
West Bengal	2	2
Punjab	1	2
Orissa	1	2
Andhra Pradesh	5	1
Madhya Pradesh	0	1
Assam	0	1
Gujarat	1	0
Karnataka	1	0
Jharkhand	0	0
Chandigarh	0	0
Himachal Pradesh	0	0
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0
Tamil Nadu	0	0
Chhattisgarh	0	0
Kerala	0	0
Daman and Diu	0	0
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0
Goa	0	0
Pondicherry	0	0
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0



1	2	3
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
Lakshadweep	0	0
Manipur	0	0
Meghalaya	0	0
Mizoram	0	0
Nagaland	0	0
Sikkim	0	0
Tripura	0	0
TOTAL	874	559

**Deaths due to consumption of contaminated water**

2326. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Health Organisation (WHO) has laid out a report about death of people due to consumption of contaminated drinking water;

(b) if so, details thereof and reaction of Government thereto;

(c) the details of funds released to Himachal Pradesh during 2008-09 under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP);

(d) whether it is a fact that allocated funds to Himachal Pradesh are not sufficient for tackling quality related problems in respect of drinking water supply; and

(e) if so, whether Government proposes to increase the share of allocation of funds under ARWSP to Himachal Pradesh, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (b) As per the report prepared by World Health Organisation (WHO) in 2009, an estimated number of 4,54,400 people die of water-borne diseases and lack of proper sanitation and hygiene every year in India.

Provision of safe drinking water can considerably reduce the risk of waterborne diseases.

(c) to (e) As per the information received from Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Drinking Water Supply), under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) (Coverage, Sub-mission on Water Quality and Swajaldhara), Himachal Pradesh was released Rs. 14,082.00 lakh during 2008-09.

Besides, during 2008-09, under ARWSP (Desert Development Programme Areas), an amount of Rs. 69.00 lakh was released to Himachal Pradesh. Funds under ARWSP, now National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), are allocated based on prescribed criteria

viz. rural population, rural populations managing Rural Water Supply (RWS), States under Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Hill Area Development Programme (HADP) and special category hill states in terms of rural areas.

#### **National Health Insurance Scheme**

2327. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to make comprehensive National Health Insurance Scheme covering diseases, treatment/surgeries classified and broadbased specialities, by extending the coverage of the scheme to all poor and middle income group persons, specially old age persons upto minimum of 75 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) No. However, Ministry of Labour and Employment has launched Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana [RSBY] for workers of Unorganized Sector and their families from 01.04.2008. There is no age limit for coverage of the scheme for dependent parents within the definition of family of five members. Details of the Scheme are at the website of RSBY [www.rsby.in](http://www.rsby.in).

#### **Deaths due to trial of Pneumonia Vaccine**

2328. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been some deaths of infants due to trial of Pneumonia Vaccine;

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

(c) whether Government has ordered enquiry of the vaccine trial; and

(d) if so, complete details of enquiry report and action taken against the drug firm?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) There was a report of serious adverse events regarding death of a subject involved in a clinical trial of 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine at one of the site in the country. A team was constituted by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) to investigate the matter, which conducted the inspection at the said site. The Inspection revealed various Good Clinical Practices (GCP) violations. Therefore the concerned investigator, sponsor and monitor were issued warning letters asking for corrective actions to be taken by them to prevent such violations in future. The clinical trial remains suspended at all the twelve sites from 06.11.2008 to 22.04.2009. The sponsor submitted various corrective actions taken to ensure GCP compliance. Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) scrutinized the same

and decided to revoke the suspension on 23.04.2009 from all the sites except the inspected site. Further, the monitor and investigator of the inspected site also submitted details of corrective action taken by them, based on which the suspension from the inspected site was also revoked on 02.06.2009.

#### **Relaxation to OBC students for admission to MBBS**

2329. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:  
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

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

(a) whether Medical Council of India has prescribed 50 per cent of marks for General category candidates for qualifying examination as well as entrance examination, and 40 per cent of marks for candidates belonging to SC/ST categories for admission to MBBS course;

(b) whether for admission of SC and ST students in the All India quota reservation at the rate of 15 per cent and 7-1/2 per cent respectively has been introduced from the academic year 2008-09;

(c) whether on above pattern, any relaxation and quota have been provided for OBC students; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes.

(b) The 15% reservation for SC and 7.5% reservation for ST is being implemented under 15% All India Quota from academic year 2007-08.

(c) and (d) The cut off marks for OBC candidates is 40 percent and 27% reservation has been provided under 15% All India Quota in the Central Medical Colleges from the academic year 2009-10 onwards.

#### **Patent of medicinal plants**

2330. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:  
SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that we lost more than 15,000 patents of our medicinal plants to the West;

(b) if so, how many such patents were opposed during the last five years;

(c) the number where our claims were upheld; and

(d) whether the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library, containing documentation of over two lakh medical formulations will safeguard our interests in future?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) In a study carried out in the year 2000 by the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL)

Task Force appointed by the Government, 4896 patent references were found on the medicinal plants at the international level which increased to 15,000 in the year 2003. However, in a study carried out in the year 2005, the number of patents found on medicinal plants at a global level were 35,587. After successfully fighting the wrong patents granted at United States Patents and Trademarks Office (USPTO) on turmeric and basmati, and at European Patent Office (EPO) on neem, traditional Knowledge Digital Library database has been created, since fighting the wrong patents at International Patent Offices is expensive and time consuming. TKDL establishes prior art for approximately 2.04 lakh formulations transcribed in five international languages, namely, English, French, German, Spanish and Japanese and prevents the grant of wrong patents, if claimed at the International Patent Offices.

The access to TKDL database has been given to the European Patent Office in February, 2009 for its use in search and examination process so that wrong patents are not granted. Efforts are being made to give access to the TKDL database to other major patent offices also so as to prevent the grant of wrong patents in these offices also.

(d) Yes.

#### **‘Clusters’ for promotion of medicinal plants**

2331. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to develop ‘clusters’ across the country on the lines of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) to promote medicinal and herbal plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the locations have been identified where such clusters would be developed and State Governments agreed to provide necessary infrastructure, etc.; and

(d) if so, to what extent the growth of medicinal and herbal plants is expected during the next few years?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Government has approved a Central Sector Scheme *viz* “Scheme for Development of AYUSH Clusters.” Objectives of the scheme are:—

- (i) To fill in the critical gaps in the sector especially related to standardization, quality assurance and control, productivity, marketing, infrastructure and capacity building through a cluster based approach.
- (ii) To encourage the level of organization in the sector thereby creating social capital for sustainability of collective initiatives.

Financial assistance upto a maximum of Rs. 10 crores is admissible to each cluster for setting up quality testing laboratory and common processing facilities and thereby impart quality and standardization in the AYUSH sector. Government has also approved a scheme *viz*.

“Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Mission on Medicinal Plants” being implemented by National Medicinal Plants Board, Department of Ayush. The Scheme seeks to support cultivation of prioritized medicinal plants in clusters through farmers/growers organized into self-help groups, cooperatives etc. alongwith pre and post harvest infrastructure for processing and marketing.

(c) and (d) Government has approved setting up 10 clusters during the Eleventh Plan. So far, 6 (six) clusters have been approved in the States of Kerala, Punjab, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka. These clusters are being developed on PPP (Public Private Partnership) basis and State Governments are not required to provide infrastructure.

Under the Scheme of National Mission on Medicinal Plants, financial assistance is being provided for setting up of nurseries, cultivation, Post Harvest Management and marketing. Government has sanctioned action plans of the State of Andhra Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Orissa, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Kerala, Mizoram, Tamil Nadu, Nagaland, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand at a total outlay of Rs. 80.34 crores during the year 2009-10. An area of 80,000-1,00,000 hac. is anticipated to be covered under cultivation of medicinal plants during the Eleventh Plan which is expected to translate into an additional production of 2.5 lacs tons of raw material for the AYUSH industry.

#### **Health care spending by Government**

2332. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether pharma industry players have pointed out that Government should scale up spending on pharma industry and also take measures conducive to research and development;

(b) if so, whether industry has urged Government to speed up pharmaceutical policy especially when PM is pro-research and pharma products did not encourage the companies to spend heavily on research and development;

(c) if so, whether they have suggested that Government should work towards monopoly free environment and increase its spending on health care from 1 per cent to at least 3 per cent; and

(d) if so, the steps and measures Government proposes to take?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers had, on the request of major pharmaceuticals associations, recommended to the Department of Revenue for inclusion of the following in the Union Budget 2009-10:—

- (i) to extend the date for approval by Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) by 10 years *i.e.* up to 31.03.2017 for obtaining 100% deduction from income tax to any Indian company carrying out scientific research and development under Section 80-IB(8A). Further, this section should not be restricted to only Indian Companies.

- (ii) to encourage pharmaceuticals innovation research and development, the benefit of section 35(2AB) of Income Tax Act 1961 may be extended by another 5 years *i.e.*, up to 31.03.2017 and the benefit of weighted exemption under this section may be increased from 150% to 200%. Further, the coverage of this Section may be extended to expenditure incurred for “Obtaining Regulatory Approvals and Filing of Patents abroad.”

**Deaths due to clinical trials of drugs**

2333. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:  
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:  
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

- (a) whether there are no laws at present to penalize and monitor pharma companies which have messed up or violated norms while conducting global clinical trials for testing drugs in India;
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (c) whether several drug manufacturing companies are conducting clinical trials on humans resulting in deaths;
- (d) if so, whether Government proposes to tighten regulation of clinical trials in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Clinical trials are regulated under Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940 and Rules 1945 there under. Clinical trials are required to be carried out in accordance with requirements and guidelines specified in Rule 122DA, 122DAA, 122DB, 122E and Schedule Y of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules. Schedule Y also mandates that clinical trial is conducted as per Good Clinical Practices (GCP) Guidelines issued by Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), Directorate General of Health Services, Government of India.

As per Rule 122DA, no clinical trial, for a new drug shall be conducted except in accordance with the permission of the Licensing Authority defined in Rule 21(b) *i.e.* Drugs Controller General (I). Further as per Rule 122DB, if any applicant fails to comply with any of the conditions of clinical trial permission, DCG(I) can suspend or cancel the permission.

Although there is no separate penal provision under Drugs and Cosmetics Act for clinical trial related offences, manufacturer and/or distributor of drugs in contravention of any provision of Act or any Rules made there under are punishable with imprisonment under section 27(d) of the Act.

- (c) Pharma companies are conducting various clinical trials in the country. Deaths may occur in some clinical trials.

(d) and (e) Yes, following steps are being taken to tighten the regulation of clinical trials in the country:—

- (1) From 15th June, 2009, it has been made mandatory to register all clinical trials permitted on or after the said date at Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) registry at [www.ctri.in](http://www.ctri.in) before enrolling first patient in the study. Such registration will improve transparency and accountability of all stake holders involved in clinical trials.
- (2) The Drugs and Cosmetics (Amendment) Bill 2007 introduced in Rajya Sabha on 21.08.2007 contains separate regulatory provisions for clinical trial.
- (3) For registration of Clinical Research Organization (CRO) draft guidelines have been prepared and posted on CDSCO website for public/comments.

#### **Loopholes in medicine regulatory system**

2334. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

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

(a) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has urged his Ministry to plug loopholes in the regulatory system that allow companies to raise medicine prices by adding ingredients not listed under the law relating to drugs and cosmetics;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether his Ministry in consultation with the drug regulator propose to take any further action in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) Yes. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals has brought the matter to the notice of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare that companies are resorting to the tactics of mixing food and nutrition supplements with certain drug formulations so as to circumvent the price control mechanism. The NPPA has suggested some corrective measures to be implemented in consultation with the Drugs Consultative Committee and the Central Committee on Food Standards, which, if needed, could be appropriately incorporated in the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 and the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955.

#### **Setting up of Health Council**

2335. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee set up by the Insurance Regulatory Department Authority to look into the functions of the third party administration has suggested setting up of a Health Council;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has suggested that the Council be a self regulatory body of third party administration with members from stakeholders;

(c) if so, what are the other points mentioned by the Committee; and

(d) by when these suggestions would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) Yes. The Committee on Evaluation of Performance of Third Party Administrators [TPAs] set up by the Insurance Regulatory And Development Authority [IRDA] has recommended the setting up of a common industry body, tentatively termed as Health Insurance Development Council.

The common industry body, as recommended by the Committee should have representatives from the insurance industry, TPAs, hospitals and consumers. The body will support the industry's initiatives for standardization across stakeholders, and for updating and mainlining such standard documents and standard "masters". Also, by acting uniformly against fraudulent entities, the body would create deterrents against misuse or fraud in the system. The report of the Committee is available at <http://www.irdaindia.org/TPACommittee30Apr09.pdf>.

#### Expenses involved in running CGHS

2336. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the total cost/employees/year of providing health coverage under CGHS during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Cost Accounts Branch of the Ministry has calculated city wise cost per serving CGHS card holder and pensioner CGHS card holder for the years 2001-02 to 2004-05, which are given in enclosed Statement I and II respectively.

#### Statement-I

Table showing city-wise and year-wise cost per card holder

Sl.	Name of the No.	Cost per pensioner card holder city			
		2001-02 (Rs.)	2002-03 (Rs.)	2003-04 (Rs.)	2004-05 (Rs.) Provisional
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Ahmedabad	5700	6200	6310	6941
2.	Allahabad	4360	4200	4360	4796



1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Bangalore	1820	1870	2210	2431
4.	Bhopal	17420	2690	2840	3124
5.	Chandigarh	820	5060	3830	4213
6.	Chennai	2970	2710	3510	3861
7.	Delhi	3720	3890	4230	4653
8.	Guwahati	3900	2780	2680	2948
9.	Hyderabad	2640	2990	2700	2970
10.	Jabalpur	2110	1610	2150	2365
11.	Jaipur	2470	2520	2900	3190
12.	Kanpur	3820	3760	3910	4301
13.	Kolkata	2830	2880	3280	3608
14.	Lucknow	3020	3100	3140	3454
15.	Meerut	6040	5920	5040	5544
16.	Mumbai	1680	2020	2390	2629
17.	Nagpur	3800	5090	5080	5588
18.	Patna	3210	3400	3830	4213
19.	Pune	1950	1830	2100	2310
20.	Shillong	—	4980	2210	2431
21.	Trivandrum	5110	4790	4350	4785
22.	Bhubaneshwar	3680	3850	4540	4994
23.	Ranchi	3680	3850	4460	4906

**Statement-II**

*Table showing city-wise and yearwise cost per card per pensioner*

Sl.	Name of the city	Cost per serving card holder			No.
		2001-02 (Rs.)	2002-03 (Rs.)	2003-04 (Rs.)	2004-05 (Rs.) Provisional
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Ahmedabad	8170	8600	8400	9240
2.	Allahabad	6430	5780	5640	6204

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Bangalore	3860	4890	5090	5599
4.	Bhopal	17420	7430	5430	5973
5.	Chandigarh	880	9580	5110	5621
6.	Chennai	6420	6050	6850	7535
7.	Delhi	6200	9540	9200	10120
8.	Guwahati	8780	6880	6360	6996
9.	Hyderabad	16340	10470	11970	13167
10.	Jabalpur	4200	4870	4590	5049
11.	Jaipur	5680	6480	6580	7238
12.	Kanpur	5530	5710	5630	6193
13.	Kolkata	4200	4270	4790	5269
14.	Lucknow	5820	7300	6930	7623
15.	Meerut	7410	8870	7320	8052
16.	Mumbai	3750	4930	5460	6006
17.	Nagpur	5870	7420	7120	7832
18.	Patna	5750	5230	6590	7249
19.	Pune	6390	5060	5180	5698
20.	Shillong	0	8980	5070	5577
21.	Trivandrum	8120	8040	6800	7480
22.	Bhubaneshwar	6160	9500	9510	10461
23.	Ranchi	6160	9500	9430	10373

#### Population explosion

2337. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is population explosion in the country;

(b) whether the National Population Policy-2002 is being implemented seriously taking into consideration that the population problem is co-related with the problems of food security, employment and poverty; and

(c) if so, what steps would be taken to stabilize the population in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Government is aware about the growth of population in the country, however the decadal data available from the census figures has shown a perceptible decline in average exponential growth from 2.20% in 1971 to 1.93% in 2001. Also the crude birth rate, which was recorded at 40.8 per 1000 in 1951, has declined to 23.1 in 2007, as per the estimates available from the Sample Registration System (SRS).

(b) and (c) Yes. The National Population Policy, 2000 provides a policy framework for advancing goals and prioritising strategies to meet the reproductive and child health needs of the people and to achieve net replacement level *i.e.* Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of 2.1 by 2010. It is based upon the need to simultaneously address issues of child survival, maternal health and contraception while increasing outreach and coverage of a comprehensive package of reproductive and child health services with Government, industry and the voluntary non-Government sector, working in partnership.

Efforts on Population stabilization very much requires strengthening of the primary health care system as there is a very strong correlation between health indicators like Maternal Mortality Rate and Infant Mortality Rate to the population stabilization. As such In line with the National Population Policy, 2000 Government has launched the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) on 12th April, 2005 throughout the country to address the strengthening of primary health care system. NRHM provides a thrust for reduction of child and maternal mortality and further reduces the fertility rates.

The approach to population stabilization under NRHM is through providing quality health services in remote rural areas along with a wide range of contraceptive choices to meet the unmet demands for these services which includes delivery, safe abortions, treatment of reproductive tract infections and Family Planning Services while ensuring full reproductive choices to women. The strategy also is to promote male participation in Family Planning.

The new initiative of NRHM of Community Health Workers (ASHAs) in every village has positively contributed towards households seeking health and family planning services and also has strengthened the public awareness campaign for family planning services. The strategy also is to promote male participation in Family Planning. There has been an improvement in family planning performance with the implementation of NRHM with particular focus on the following:—

- (i) **National Family Planning Insurance Scheme** has been started since November, 2005 to compensate the sterilization acceptors for failures, complications and deaths and also provides indemnity insurance cover to doctors.
- (ii) **Compensation Package for Sterilization was increased** in September, 2007 in family planning *i.e.* in Vasectomy from Rs. 800/- to Rs. 1500/- and tubectomy from Rs. 800/- to Rs. 1000/- in public facilities and to a uniform amount of Rs. 1500/- in accredited private health facilities for all categories in all States for vasectomy.

- (iii) **Promoting IUD 380A** intensively as a spacing method because of its longevity of 10 years and advantages over other IUDs.
- (iv) **Fixed day Fixed Place Family Planning Services round the year** made possible on account of growing number of 24 x 7 PHCs and better functioning CHCs and other health facilities under NRHM.
- (v) **Increasing the basket of choice** by systematically and carefully introducing new and effective contraceptives in the programme. The outreach activities through the institution of ASHAs and Monthly Health and Nutrition Days under NRHM have also helped.

#### **Shortage of health centres**

•2338. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:  
SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of health centres on a large scale in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the difficulties being faced in smooth implementation of National Rural Health Mission; and
- (d) the steps taken so far and being taken further by Government to remove these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The primary health care services are being provided in the rural areas across the nation through a network of 145272 Sub Centres [SCs], 22370 Primary Health Centres [PHCs] and 4045 Community Health Centres [CHCs] as on March, 2007. In many states the growth of these centres has not kept pace with the increase in population. As per the Rural Health Statistics (RHS) Bulletin of 2007, there is shortage of 20855 SCs, 4833 PHCs and 2525 CHCs. Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), these shortages are being addressed as part of the overall, comprehensive rejuvenation of the Public health delivery system being undertaken by the Government in partnership with the States.

(c) The key difficulties being faced in smooth implementation of NRHM include the shortage of skilled human resources, shortage of public health infrastructure, lack of management capacities in health sector and lack of community ownership of public health system.

(d) In order to remove difficulties, States have undertaken:—

- (i) comprehensive rationalization of human resources (HR) policies to optimize utilisation of available HR, innovative strategies including contractual appointments, multi-skilling, trainings, pooling of doctors *etc.* to ensure availability of critical skills at all levels.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (ii) The training capacity in states for critical cadres has been augmented and norms for post graduate trainings have been amended to allow higher intake.
- (iii) The availability of services in underserved areas is also being augmented through innovative pro-poor partnerships with private providers.
- (iv) States have undertaken comprehensive rejuvenation of health infrastructure including setting up new centres, repair and renovation/upgradation of existing centres and improving the logistics and supply chain management protocols.
- (v) The planning, accounting and monitoring capacity in the States have been augmented with the establishment of technically proficient programme management units at State, district and block levels.

#### **Gender testing kits**

2339. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to the Unstarred Question 531 given in the Rajya Sabha on 4th March, 2008 and to state:

- (a) whether there was any case registered in regard to the import of Gender testing kits on foetus; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) As per information received from Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue and Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, no such case has been registered.

#### **CGHS hospitals and dispensaries in Mumbai**

†2340. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of CGHS hospitals and dispensaries in Mumbai;
- (b) whether the number of hospitals and dispensaries is sufficient taking into account the number of Government employees in Mumbai;
- (c) whether Government may bring the private hospitals under CGHS to increase the number thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No. of CGHS—

Hospitals	—	Nil
Dispensaries	—	25
Polyclinics	—	2
Laboratories	—	4

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Radiology Centre	—	1
Dental Units	—	3

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d) 3 private hospitals and 2 diagnostic centres have been empanelled under CGHS, Mumbai. CGHS can empanel only those hospitals as are willing to be empanelled and are agreeable to the terms and conditions for empanelment and the rates fixed for the city.

#### **Implementation of NRHM in Maharashtra**

2341. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of money allocated to Maharashtra for financial year 2008-09 under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM);

(b) what is the total amount of money that has so far been utilized;

(c) whether Government has any mechanism to monitor that the work is being carried out to achieve the goals of NRHM and money allocated is being spent; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The total amount of money allocated to Maharashtra for the F.Y. 2008-09 under the National Rural Health Mission is Rs. 701.67 crore.

(b) The Government of Maharashtra has utilized Rs. 930.99 crore including unspent balance of previous year.

(c) and (d) Under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), a detailed framework for the monitoring of the Programme has been operationalised. The results of periodic surveys like the District Level Household Surveys [DLHS], National Family Health Survey (NFHS) etc. also provide information about the impact of various programme interventions. Periodic review missions are also undertaken to the States to monitor progress of the Programme. The Review Mission teams comprise Government of India Officers, Public Health experts of NIHFW, NHRSC, Development Partners and State, Health and Family Welfare representatives. The progress of NRHM is also reviewed and monitored by high level bodies like the Mission Steering Group [MSG], Empowered Programme Committee [EPC], Advisory Group on Community Action (AGCA) and ASHA Mentoring Group (AMG) set up under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. In addition, independent external evaluations are also conducted by Government and Non-Governmental agencies on thematic and geographical basis to document the progress of the NRHM. Central level monitoring of key programme components is also carried out under NRHM through the process of Physical and Financial Monitoring Reports, regular MIS, survey reports and user responses.

An integrated web based Management Information System (MIS), which compiles progress of NRHM on key parameters at various levels has been designed.

Thus multi dimensional monitoring framework of NRHM provides full information whether the work is being carried out to achieve the goals of NRHM and the money allocated is being spent appropriately.

**Expenditure on treatment for disease due to malnutrition**

2342. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of patients reported in hospitals due to diseases caused by malnutrition and the Government's expenditure to treat them;

(b) whether Government has studied as to what extent spending on nutrition to people will reduce expenditure on medicines and treatment to malnutrition and under nourished people in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) In so far as Central Government Hospitals in Delhi are concerned, the patients suffering from various diseases visit these hospitals for treatment. There are so many diseases which may cause malnutrition such as anemia/Hyper protein anaemia and debilitating disease such as cancer, diabetes and post operative cases having signs of malnutrition. The percentage of malnourished patients and the expenditure incurred on them is not separately maintained.

**Medical ombudsman**

2343. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nursing homes in the Capital are generally a kind of commercial shops, fleecing the patients by prolonging the stay and the treatment, prescribing tests that are not always necessary;

(b) if so, what is the position with regard to nursing homes in other Metros of the country; and

(c) whether Government is considering any proposal like appointment of an ombudsman to look into such complaints of the patients and take action against erring nursing homes?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Health is a State subject and regulation of private hospitals and nursing homes including the fees charged by them is the responsibility of the State Government.

Enactment of a central legislation for registration and regulation of clinical establishments is a priority for this Government.

**Asthma in kids**

2344. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Asthma in kids, especially in Delhi, is on the rise;
- (b) if so, the details thereof State-wise, especially in Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) the amount spend in each hospital for asthma disease during the current Five Year Plan; and
- (d) the steps taken to completely prevent asthma in the country, especially in Andhra Pradesh by creating awareness among the parents?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Asthma is reported to be increasing in prevalence globally, though no data specifically for Delhi is available.

(b) and (c) State-wise details on prevalence of asthma in children and the amount spent in each Hospital for asthma diseases separately during the current Five Year Plan are not maintained.

(d) Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (IMNC) Strategy is one of the main interventions under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme (RCH) II/National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). The strategy encompasses a range of interventions to prevent and manage the commonest major childhood illnesses which cause death *i.e.* neonatal illnesses, Acute Respiratory Infections, Diarrhoea, Measles, Malaria and Malnutrition.

#### **Clinical trials of Ayurvedic medicines**

2345. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that in Ayurveda, treatment is available for some dreaded diseases like cancer, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is also aware that inspite of repeated requests from some of the Ayurvedic doctors, their medicines are neither put for clinical trial nor available for prescription; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes. Cancerous conditions and their treatment is described in Ayurvedic ancient classical texts, which describe disease conditions like Arbuda, Nichaya gulma, Granthi visarpa that can be compared with cancer. Plants like Turmeric, Semicarpus anacardium, Tinospora cordifolia etc. have shown anti cancer activity.

(c) and (d) On the request of Vd. Nand Lal Tiwari of Jaipur the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha (CCRAS) has undertaken the study of anti cancerous property of herbal compounds 'CARCTOL' to ascertain the claim. Similarly, a claim made by Krishan Gopal Ayurved Bhavan, Dharmartha Trust, Distt. Ajmer, Rajasthan on their proprietary



drug 'Cancer Gaza Kesari' has been subjected to pre-clinical safety studies by CCRAS. In 1996 a pilot project was sanctioned by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to study the effects of metal based formulations prepared by Vaidya Balendu Prakash of Dehradun in the treatment of Acute Pro-Mylotic Leukemia (APML). In addition, clinical trials of AYUSH QOL — 2C developed by CCRAS for improvement of quality of life those receiving chemotherapy/radio-therapy have been initiated at St. Johns medical college, Bangalore and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.

**New PG programmes in Rajiv Gandhi Government  
Ayurvedic College, Paprola**

2346. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved new post graduate programmes for 'panchkarma', 'rog nidan', 'bal rog', 'swasth brit' and 'dravya gun' in Rajiv Gandhi Government Ayurvedic College, Paprola;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated to Himachal Pradesh Government to introduce these programmes;

(d) whether it is a fact that there is a acute shortage of teaching staff in Paprola college;

(e) whether the shortage of teaching staff would not make an adverse effect on studies of students who choose these newly introduced courses; and

(f) if so, the instructions Government has issued to State Government to fill up these vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes. Central Government has approved new P.G. courses in five subjects namely Panchakarma, 'Rog Nidan', 'Bal Rog', 'Swasthya Vritta' and 'Dravya Gun' with 3 seats in each subject with effect from academic session 2009-10

(c) No funds have been released so far exclusively for introducing these courses. However, the Central Government has released a sum of Rs. 646.80 Lakh to the State Government/State Health Societies for development of Rajiv Gandhi Government Ayurvedic College, Paprola under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely 'Development of AYUSH Institutions' during the period 2003-04 to 2007-08.

(d) to (f) The college has 53 eligible teachers as against 47 teachers required as per the norms of Central Council of Indian Medicines for conducting existing Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicines and Surgery (BAMS) Course with intake capacity of 50 students and 6 post graduate courses with intake capacity of 24 students. Approval for 5 new PG courses has been given subject to the condition that the college will ensure required qualified teachers in each new Post graduate course as per the CCIM norms before admitting the students.

### Measures taken to check Swine flu

‡2347. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has the information on the total number of Swine flu cases which have been detected;

(b) the measures taken by Government so far to check it and whether Government has been successful in checking it; and

(c) whether Government has officially recognized it as an epidemic?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes. There have been 322 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A H1N1 (earlier referred as Swine Flu) as on 21st July, 2009 in our country. State-wise and city-wise list of cases is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Government of India took a series of actions. A comprehensive plan including guidelines and standard operating procedures were put in place. Travel advisory was issued to defer non essential travel to the affected countries. Entry screening of passengers is continuing at 22 international airports and five international checkpoints. Community surveillance to detect clusters of influenza like illness is being done through Integrated Disease Surveillance Project. National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi and National Institute of Virology, Pune are testing clinical samples. Sixteen additional laboratories have also started testing. There is adequate quantity of Oseltamivir, the drugs and protective equipments. License has been issued to three Indian manufacturers for importing seed virus to manufacture flu vaccine. Short term media plan has been implemented. Travel advisory, do's and don'ts and other pertinent information has been widely published to allay fear and avoid panic. Media is kept informed on daily basis. The pandemic preparedness and response calls for actions in sectors beyond health. National Disaster Management Authority has issued guidelines for such actions. All States have been requested to gear up the State machinery and strengthen isolation facilities including critical care facilities at district level.

(c) World Health Organization (WHO) has declared this as pandemic and raised the pandemic alert level from Phase 5 to Phase 6 on 11th June, 2009 as several countries in different regions of the world were reporting cases in large numbers and indigenous transmission.

### Statement

*Influenza a H1N1 case in India State-wise—city-wise details (As on 21st July, 2009)*

Sl. No.	State	City	No. of cases
1	2	3	4
<b>Imported cases (256)</b>			
1.	Karnataka	Bangalore	34

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4
2.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	17
		Coimbatore	2
		Madurai	1
3.	Delhi	Delhi	76
4.	Punjab	Fatehgarh	1
		Jalandhar	13
		Gurdaspur	1
		Hoshiarpur	1
		Amritsar	2
		Roopnagar	1
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	34
		Vishakhapatnam	1
6.	Maharashtra	Mumbai	17
		Pune	8
7.	Goa	Panjim3	
8.	Haryana	Gurgaon	7
9.	West Bengal	Kolkata	4
10.	Kerala	Calicut8	
		Cochin10	
		Trivandrum	5
11.	Gujarat	Kandla1	
		Ahmedabad	3
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar	2
13.	Uttarakhand	Dehradun	2
14.	Chandigarh (UT)		2
TOTAL (a)			256
<b>Indigenous Cases (66)</b>			
1.	Delhi	Delhi	22
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	7
		Vishakhapatnam	1

1	2	3	4
3.	Punjab	Gurdaspur	1
4.	Haryana	Gurgaon	4
5.	Karnataka	Bangalore	3
6.	Maharashtra	Pune	18
7.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	3
8.	Kerala	Trivandrum	5
9.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	2
TOTAL (B)			66
GRAND TOTAL (a and b)			322

#### **Rural health care**

2348. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment of the progress made in the rural health care in the country after the National Rural Health Mission was launched in the year 2005; and

(b) if so, the details of the progress made between the years 2005 and 2009, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes. Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), a detailed framework for monitoring of progress has been operationalised. This includes integrated web based Health Management Information System (HMIS), which compiles the progress of NRHM on key parameters. The results of periodic surveys like the District Level Household Surveys (DLHS), National Family Health Survey (NFHS) etc. also provide information about impact of various programme interventions. Periodic review missions are also undertaken to the field to monitor progress of the programme. Further, independent external evaluations are also commissioned by the Government and undertaken through Non-Governmental agencies on thematic and geographical basis to document progress of the NRHM. Community level validation of key programme components is also carried out under NRHM through the process of triangulation against the regular MIS, survey reports and user responses.

The State-wise progress of the critical activities under NRHM, as reported by the States/UTs is given in the Statement.

**Statement**

*Status of NRHM*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	ASHA		VHSC	Joint A/C	24 x 7 Facility	FRU	Contractual Manpower					JSY Beneficiaries (in lakhs)
		Selection	Training					Doctors and Specialist	AYUSH Doctors	Staff Nurse	Paramedics	ANM	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>High Focus Non-NE</b>													
1.	Bihar	67506	57362	0		625	76	2144	0	2906	0	5896	20.04
2.	Chhattisgarh	60092	60092	18603	16653	553	112	369	225				5.01
3.	Himachal Pradesh	2512	9923		2071	204.00	51	292	0	239	421	0	0.30
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	9764	9500	6788	5215	135	53	184	357	231	342	297	033
5.	Jharkhand	39556	38764	30011	10000	226.00	32	707	163		1200	3204	7.56
6.	Madhya Pradesh	42777	38499	21282	21282	408	81	319	0	45	0	1359	27.38
7.	Orissa	34252	34117	28238	17712	105	31	9	1167	263	14	703	10.53
8.	Rajasthan	42000	39569	40478	10742	928	100	0	601	3704	0	2429	20.84
9.	Uttar Pradesh	134434	129076	51150	51150	990	121	189	428	2250	138	1411	26.08
10.	Uttarakhand	9923	9923	0	1634	121	72	0	1	101	0	57	1.48

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>High Focus-NE</b>													
11.	Arunachal Pradesh	3364	2523	2642	2642	86	10	57	26	79	0	20	0.18
12.	Assam	26225	26225	26816	24085	410	59	295	232	2112	661	4334	8.40
13.	Manipur	3225	3225	3470	2711	36	1	106	68	79	490	427	0.24
14.	Meghalaya	6108	4521	5352	2309	8	3	13	20	18	0	125	0.14
15.	Mizoram	978	978	817	786	49	8	33	10	202	53	373	0.41
16.	Nagaland	1700	1700	1278	1278	54	11	71	21	113	75	251	0.22
17.	Sikkim	636	552	637	637	28	1	32	3	53	12	48	0.07
18.	Tripura	7076	6737	1040	1021	78	4	0	60	0	0	32	0.53
<b>Non High Focus-Large</b>													
19.	Andhra Pradesh	70700	68500	21916	21916	1026	194	0	0	121	118	9505	8.85
20.	Goa	0	0	303	303	21	2	2		0	0	25	0.01
21.	Gujarat	24065	898	17751	17429	354	148	1419	773	365	270	0	5.62
22.	Haryana	13152	5000	5331	5287	207	67	26		179	260	2174	0.92
23.	Karnataka	27195	3378	20000	20000	1228	79	1007	669	3349	98	1035	7.97
24.	Kerala	22949	8346	18003	18003	337	65	876	91	1495	136	0	3.55
25.	Maharashtra	14195	8242	39392	38578	851	469	407	272	50	36	5045	8.24

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
26. Punjab		16388		12001	2858	169	137	90	98	589	589	0	1.72
27. Tamil Nadu		0	0	15158	15158	2836	291	100	0	4128	0	0	8.24
28. West Bengal		12765	13613	13312	6670	610	61	60	0	0	51	0	11.46
<b>Non High Focus-Small and Uts</b>													
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		49	43	49	49	23	1	26	0	21	108	81	0.01
30. Chandigarh		0	0	0	10	2	3	12	4	15	132	61	0.07
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		107	0	0	0	7	1	7	7	5	34	28	0.01
32. Daman and Diu		0	0	28	0	4	3	7	1	0		0	0.00
33. Delhi		2266	0	0	0	35	20	295	0	73	155	630	0.31
34. Lakshadweep		85	85	0	0	7	1	7	0	0	0	6	0.01
35. Puducherry		0	0	92	92	24	5	11	24	4	35	77	0.11
TOTAL		696044	581391	401938	318281	12785	2373	9172	5321	22789	5428	39633	186.83

#### **Grant-in-aid for Kerala**

2349. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Competent Authority of Kerala had submitted during February, 2008, proposals for grant-in-aid from Union Government under Centrally sponsored scheme under his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of action taken thereon;

(c) whether action will be taken in affirmative on the above submission; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes. As per information available, the Government of Kerala had submitted six proposals amounting to Rs. 94.205 crore *vide* their letter dated 06.02.2008.

(b) and (c) The proposals were processed as per guidelines and a sum of Rs. 2.00 crore was released to the State Government.

(d) Doesn't arise.

#### **Doctor-population ratio**

†2350. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of doctors in the country at present and the ratio of population for which a doctor is available;

(b) the total number of established medical colleges in the country and total number of seats available therein;

(c) whether Government is taking measures to make available cheap medical facilities to the growing population and to rural poor masses and for increasing the number of medical colleges and their seats; and

(d) if not, whether Government would take measure after deliberating seriously?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The doctor patient ratio varies from case to case depending upon various factors like type of diseases, nature of specialization, type of treatment required *i.e.* indoor/outdoor. As per information furnished by Medical Council of India, the total number of registered allopathic doctors in the country is 7, 33, 617. Thus the percentage of allopathic doctor in proportion to population at present works out to 0.06% approximately and the allopathic doctors population ratio works out to 1:1584 approximately. In addition there more than six lakh practitioners of Indian system of medicine and Homoeopathy. Taking all these number together, the percentage of doctors with respect to population is 0.11% and the doctor population ratio comes to 1:860

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



approximately. Currently, there are 299 medical colleges in the country for teaching modern system of medicine with annual intake of 35, 152 who add up to the existing medical manpower. The National Rural Health Mission has been operationalised with the aim of providing accessible, and reliable primary health care facilities especially to poor and the vulnerable section of the population. Medical Council of India regulations are being amended to rationalise land requirement, student-teacher ratio, allowing public-private partnership which will facilitate setting up of more medical colleges and increase the number of doctors.

#### **Disease due to contaminated water**

†2351. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether consumption of contaminated and fluoridated water leave the possibility of several diseases;
- (b) if so, the name of the possible diseases; and the details thereof; and
- (c) the plan formulated to provide uncontaminated pure and fresh water to common people in every village and whether pure and fresh water is available to the people in every village, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Faecal contamination of water causes Water Borne Diseases such as Cholera, Acute Diarrhoeal Diseases (ADD), Viral Hepatitis and Typhoid Fever (Enteric Fever). High fluoride contents in drinking water lead to a number of health problems such as dental fluorosis, skeletal fluorosis and non-skeletal fluorosis etc.

Details of cases reported of Water Borne Disease during the year 2006-08 are given below:—

Diseases	2006	2007	2008 *
Viral Hepatitis	152623	110055	90440
ADD	10213917	10993639	11231039
Cholera	1939	2635	2680
Enteric Fever	789004	820360	916161

\*Figures are provisional.

- (c) As per the information received from the Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development, rural drinking water supply is a State subject and the States plan and implement their own schemes. No plans for Village level are prepared by Government of India. Government of India, however, provides supplemental assistance to all States through its Centrally Sponsored Scheme named, “National Rural Drinking Water/Supply Programme (NRDWP)”.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

#### **Release of funds for strengthening nursing schools**

2352. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 14 proposals for Central assistance of Rs. 10 lakh in each case for strengthening of existing nursing schools and colleges in the State of Karnataka are pending with the centre since September, 2007 for clearance and release of funds; and

(b) if so, by when the proposals are likely to be cleared and funds released?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) 14 proposals were received from the State of Karnataka for strengthening of existing schools and colleges of nursing. Funds have been released to 6 institutions and remaining 8 proposals would be considered only after receiving the necessary Utilization Certificate and statement of Expenditure from these Institutions.

#### **NCHRH**

2353. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated steps for setting up of National Council for Human Resources in Health (NCHRH);

(b) whether the proposed Regulatory Body, NCHRH is to usher in reforms in Medical Education Sector by super-seeding the present regulatory bodies like Medical Council of India, Nursing Council of India, Dental Council of India, Pharmacy Council of India, etc.; that have so far failed to deliver; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) This Ministry has proposed to set up a National Council for Human Resources in Health as an overarching regulatory body for the health sector to reform the current regulatory framework and enhance supply of skilled personnel. A Task Force under the chairmanship of Union Secretary (Health and Family Welfare) has been constituted to deliberate upon the issue of setting up the proposed National Council. The Task Force shall submit its report to the Ministry by 31st July, 2009.

#### **Unwillingness of doctors to work in the rural areas**

2354. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that doctors are not willing to work in the rural areas on one pretext or the other;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the people in the rural areas do not get adequate medical treatment; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to solve this crucial problem?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) There is indeed a general preference amongst the doctors for posting at locations which are closer to urban areas. Therefore, there is some shortage of critical human resources in public health delivery system in rural areas in some states in the country and consequently adequate medical treatment is sometimes not available.

To remedy this situation, the Government has operationalised the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in all states. Under NRHM, states have undertaken comprehensive rationalization of Human Resources (HR) policies to optimize utilisation of available HR. States have also deployed innovative strategies including contractual appointments, multi-skilling trainings, pooling of doctors etc. to ensure availability of critical skills at all levels. The training capacity in states for critical cadres has been augmented and norms for post graduate trainings have been amended to allow higher intake. The availability of services in underserved areas is also being augmented through innovative pro poor partnerships with private providers. All these steps have improved the availability of adequate medical treatment in rural areas.

**Purchase of substandard Unani medicines**

2355. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sub-standard Unani medicines are being procured at exorbitant rates;

(b) whether it is also a fact that genuine medicines are available at lower rates;

(c) whether Government is aware that there is a scam in the procurement of Unani medicines; and

(d) if so, whether Government would order an enquiry into the whole matter?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) No. Unani drugs are procured only from drug manufacturers having Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) Certificate to ensure quality of drugs. Under the Department of AYUSH, Unani drugs are being procured by Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), National Institute of Unani Medicine (NIUM) and ten Unani CGHS Dispensaries either from Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited (IMPCL), which is a Public Sector Undertaking or through open tenders on All India Basis.

Procurement of Unani drugs by State Governments under the Hospitals and Dispensaries scheme of the Department of AYUSH is to be made through IMPCL, State Government Pharmacies and Cooperative Societies.

(c) No.

- (d) Does not arise.

#### Complaints on medical system

2356. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of complaints received in respect of Ayurveda, Unani and Naturopathy including CGHS in Delhi during the last two years and the current year, so far; and

(b) what action has been taken in each case?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Polio affected children

†2357. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of children affected from polio, State-wise; and

(b) the progress made in the direction of polio eradication and the measures being taken to do away with the prejudice against polio drops prevailing in a particular community?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) State-wise detailed information on polio affected children is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) To remove the prejudice of all communities against polio drops, efforts through mass media and inter-personal communication are being made by the polio partners in UP and Bihar — UNICEF, CORE and WHO, More than 5500 community mobilisers have been deployed by UNICEF and CORE to create awareness among mothers, religious leaders and other influencers through meetings, rallies, health camps and mosque announcements. As a result of these efforts the level of resistance to OPV has been decreasing rapidly over the past few years. In these areas the number of households overtly refusing Oral Polio Vaccine is the lowest ever. Not only has the overall number of resistant households reduced, but the resistance is now more sporadic and significantly less clustered. In May 2009, less than 0.1 % of the 3.3 crore households in Uttar Pradesh and less than 0.1 % of 1.59 crore households in Bihar refused vaccination.

#### Statement

*Number of Polio cases by State, 2008-09*

State/UT's	2008	2009*
1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	305	97

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3
Bihar	233	34
Delhi	5	3
Rajasthan	2	1
Uttarakhand	1	1
Haryana	2	0
Maharashtra	2	0
West Bengal	2	0
Punjab	2	0
Orissa	2	0
Andhra Pradesh	1	0
Madhya Pradesh	1	0
Assam	1	0
Gujarat	0	0
Karnataka	0	0
Jharkhand	0	0
Chandigarh	0	0
Himachal Pradesh	0	0
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0
Tamil Nadu	0	0
Chhattisgarh	0	0
Kerala	0	0
Daman and Diu	0	0
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0
Goa	0	0
Pondicherry	0	0
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
Lakshadweep	0	0
Manipur	0	0

1	2	3
Meghalaya	13	0
Mizoram	0	0
Nagaland	0	0
Sikkim	0	0
Tripura	0	0
TOTAL	559	136

\*Status as on 17th July, 2009.

#### Shortage of doctors in rural areas

2358. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) has failed to achieve its target due to shortage of doctors in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the target fixed under the scheme;

(c) whether a large number of sanctioned posts of specialized doctors are also lying vacant;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to fill up these vacant posts; and

(f) the manner by which the various targets are sought to be achieved keeping in view the vacant posts of the specialized doctors?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No. Human resource engagement is a major thrust area under NRHM and is a priority being pursued with the States. As reported by States (April, 2009) a total of 6710 medical doctors at various levels, 2299 specialists, at CHC have also been engaged on contract under NRHM thus significantly adding to the numbers of doctors and specialists in the rural health care system.

(b) NRHM has clearly articulated Timelines for achievement, a copy of which is given in the Statement.

(c) to (e) States Government appoint doctors against sanctioned posts. They have been directed to fill up existing vacancies.

(f) The regular staff is being appointed by the State Governments. However, to bridge the gap between the required and existing staff, the staff is being appointed on contract basis under NRHM, by the States.

**Statement**

*Timeline for NRHM activities*

Sl. No.	Activity	Phasing and time line	Outcome monitoring
1	2	3	4
1.	Fully trained Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) for every 1000 population/large isolated habitations.	50% by 2007 100% by 2008	Quarterly progress report
2.	Village Health and Sanitation Committee constituted in over 6 lakh villages and untied grants provided to them.	30% by 2007 100% by 2008	Quarterly progress report
3.	2 ANM Sub Health Centres strengthened/ established to provide service guarantees as per IPHS, in 1,75000 places.	30% by 2007 60% by 2009 100% by 2010	Annual facility surveys external assessments
4.	30,000 PHCs strengthened/established with 3 Staff Nurses to provide service guarantees as par IPHS.	30% by 2007 60% by 2009 100% by 2010	Annual facility surveys external assessments
5.	6500 CHCs strengthened/established with 7 Specialists and 9 Staff Nurses to provide service guarantees as per IPHS.	30% by 2007 50% by 2009 100% by 2010	Annual facility surveys external assessments
6.	1800 Taluka/Sub Divisional Hospitals strengthened to provide quality health services.	30% by 2007 100% by 2010	Annual facility surveys external assessments
7.	600 District Hospitals strengthened to provide quality health services.	30% by 2007 60% by 2009 100% by 2010	Annual facility surveys external assessments
8.	Rogi Kalyan Samitis/Hospital Development Committees established in all CHCs/Sub Divisional Hospitals/ District Hospitals	50% by 2007 100% by 2009	Annual facility surveys external assessments
9.	District Health Action Plan 2005-2012 prepared by each district of the country.	50% by 2007 100% by 2008	Annual facility surveys external assessments
10.	Untied grants provided to each Village Health and Sanitation Committee, Sub Centre, PHC, CHC to promote local health action.	50% by 2007 100% by 2008	Independent assessments. quarterly Progress reports.

1	2	3	4
11.	Annual maintenance grant provided to every Sub Centre, PHC, CHC and one time support to RKSs at Sub Divisional/ District Hospitals.	50% by 2007 100% by 2008	Independent assessments. quarterly progress reports.
12.	State and District Health Society established and fully functional with requisite management skills.	50% by 2007 100% by 2008	Independent assessment.
13.	Systems of community monitoring put in place.	50% by 2007 100% by 2008	Independent assessment.
14.	Procurement and logistics streamlined to ensure availability of drugs and medicines at Sub Centres/PHCs/CHCs.	50% by 2007 100% by 2008	External assessment.
15.	SHCs/PHCs/CHCs/Sub Divisional Hospitals/District Hospitals fully equipped to develop intra health sector convergence, coordination and service guarantees for family welfare, vector borne disease programmes. TB, HIV/ AIDS, etc.	30% by 2007 50% by 2008 70% by 2009 100% by 2010	Annual facility surveys. Independent assessments.
16.	District Health Plan reflects the convergence with wider determinants of health like drinking water, sanitation, women's empowerment, child development, adolescents, school education, female literacy, etc.	30% by 2007 60% by 2008 100% by 2009	Appraisal process Independent assessment
17.	Facility and household surveys carried out in each and every district of the country.	50% by 2007 100% by 2008	Independent assessment
18.	Annual State and District specific public report on health published	30% by 2008 60% by 2009 100% by 2010	Independent assessment
19.	Institution-wise assessment of performance against assured service guarantees carried out.	30% by 2008 60% by 2009 100% by 2010	Independent assessment
20.	Mobile Medical Units provided to each district of the country.	30% by 2007 60% by 2008 100% by 2009	Quarterly progress report



### **Re-evaluation of result of BDS students of CCS University, Meerut**

2359. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to certain procedural and system related difficulties, Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut, has not been in a position to entertain the requests of the BDS students for re-evaluation and Scrutiny of their results, thereby affecting their career;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the number of such cases entertained so far; and

(d) the remedial measures proposed in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) BDS Course Regulations envisage that any candidate who fails in one subject in BDS course is permitted to go to the next higher class and appear for the failed subjects and complete it successfully before he is permitted to appear for the next higher examination. Provision has also been made in the Regulations for Re-evaluation to ensure that the concerned students receive a fair evaluation in the course examination to minimize human error. Since the examinations are conducted by the Chaudhary Charan Singh University and the requests from students for Re-evaluation are also received by the University.

### **NRHM schemes in Jharkhand**

2360. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been implementing schemes under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in the State of Jharkhand;

(b) if so, details of programme drawn, if any, for implementation in Jharkhand under NRHM since its inception indicating the details of augmentation effected, if any, in the healthcare infrastructure across the State and number of beneficiaries thereof, Year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that infant mortality rate in Jharkhand has been much above the national average;

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

(e) the steps contemplated, if any, to achieve improvement in this regard in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e) Government has launched National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in all the states with special focus on 18 high focus states which includes Jharkhand.

Under the NRHM, comprehensive steps have been undertaken for improving the Primary Health Care System in the state of Jharkhand. The thrust of NRHM in the State is on establishing

a fully functional, community owned, decentralized health delivery system. NRHM facilitates simultaneous action on collateral determinants of health like water, sanitation, education, nutrition, etc. Under NRHM major steps have been undertaken to augment the Health Human Resources, improve infrastructure and equipments at health facilities and improve planning, management and logistics/supply chain management at health facilities.

NRHM provides overarching umbrella to several National programmes of Health and Family Welfare including RCH-II, National Disease Control Programmes and Integrated disease Surveillance.

The State of Jharkhand has operationalised all the strategies under the NRHM and has undertaken some path-breaking steps for augmenting Health Human Resources and improving the health infrastructure. The state has prepared Integrated District Health Action Plans so as to operationalise long term reforms in health sector. Under NRHM, all sub centers, Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) in the state of Jharkhand have been allocated Untied Funds for local health action and local maintenance of the facility. Hospital Management Society at the facilities have been given corpus grants to compensate the gaps which are identified locally. The Community Link workers called Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) have been selected in the State and are facilitating the utilisation of services in public system.

The State has undertaken comprehensive upgradation of infrastructure and PHCs are being upgraded to CHCs and First Referral Units (FRUs). As of April 2009, the state has reported 226 health facilities functional on 24 x 7 basis at Sub District level. Physical upgradation work has been started in 146 CHC level facilities and 10 District Hospitals. Over 700 doctors and over 3200 ANMs and 1200 paramedics have been positioned on contract. The State has reported over eight lakh beneficiaries under the Janani Suraksha Yojana.

As per SRS 2007, the Infant Mortality Rate in Jharkhand is 48 against national Average of 55. The State envisages attainment of the goal of IMR at 30/1000 live births under NRHM. The steps being undertaken under NRHM are envisaged to accelerate the achievement of this goal.

#### **Implementation of Expanded Programme on Immunization**

2361. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been implementing “Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI)” under the universal immunization programme across the country;

(b) if so, salient features thereof indicating status of its implementation especially in the backward States like Jharkhand;

(c) the volume of each type of vaccine needed for implementation of EPI and the status of availability thereof during the last five years;

(d) whether a substantial gap between demand and supply of vaccines witnessed in implementing EPI during the period;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken, if any, to overcome this impediment to EPI?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes. The immunization programme in India was introduced in 1978 as Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI). Initially the program had limited reach focusing mainly in the urban areas. The programme was universalized in 1985 to cover six vaccine preventable diseases (Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Polio and Measles) under Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) to cover all the districts in the entire country.

(b) Since the launch of the NRHM and Reproductive Child Health Programme Phase-II, the Government of India is providing support to the states for; strengthening the service delivery component of Routine immunization through the following ways:—

- alternate vaccine delivery to ensure reach into villages;
- alternate vaccinators to ensure that sessions are held;
- social mobilization to ensure demand creation in community;
- strengthening supportive supervision;
- quarterly review meetings at state with level districts to ensure monitoring;
- support for POL to assist active supervision;
- use of auto disable syringes to ensure injection safety;
- support for waste management.

In the last three and a half years since the launch of RCH II/NRHM, there has been a considerable improvement in the immunization coverage from 45.9% as per DLHS-2 survey conducted in 2002-04 to 54.1% as per the figures of the recently concluded **DLHS 3 survey (2007-08)**. Further the underperforming states have also increased their coverage, the increase in **Jharkhand is from 26% to 54%, Assam is from 16% to 48%, Rajasthan from 24% to 49%, and Bihar from 21% to 41%**. However the improvement is marginal in the poor performing states like **Uttar Pradesh from 25.8% to 31.1%, Madhya Pradesh from 30.4% to 38.5%**.

(c) and (d) The details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(e) The manufacturing licenses of the three Public Sector Vaccine Institutes namely, the Central Research Institute, Kasauli, Himachal Pradesh, the Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor, Tamil Nadu and the BCG Vaccine Laboratory, Chennai, Tamil Nadu were suspended by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCG (I)) in January, 2008 since they were not found in compliance with the Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) as provided under Schedule M of Drugs and Cosmetic Rules, 1945. This has affected supply of vaccines during 2008-09.

(f) Vaccine procurement, for National Immunisation Programme is being carried out from other PSUs and indigenous private sectors units. Government has decided to revive the above three Public Sector Vaccine Institutes.

**Statement**

*Requirement and Supply status of UIP Vaccines for the last five years*

Quantity in lakh doses									
Year	DPT Vaccine			TT Vaccine			DT Vaccine		
	Req.	Supply	GAP	Req.	Supply	GAP	Req.	Supply	GAP
2004-05	1703.36	1289.45	413.91	1771.51	1672.98	98.53	431.48	465.20	-33.72
2005-06	1687.87	1374.94	312.93	1771.25	1511.98	259.27	457.40	504.68	-47.28
2006-07	1752.94	1501.49	251.45	1851.87	1432.86	419.01	460.18	471.04	-10.86
2007-08	1689.60	1312.12	377.43	1675.46	978.52	696.94	449.71	368.62	81.09
2008-09	1819.43	1410.28	409.15	1783.10	1378.37	404.73	479.90	447.98	31.92

  

Quantity in lakh doses									
Year	t-OPV			Measles Vaccine			BCG Vaccine		
	Req.	Supply	GAP	Req.	Supply	GAP	Req.	Supply	GAP
2004-05	1769.08	1711.74	57.34	468.05	502.70	-34.65	634.60	646.08	-11.48
2005-06	1741.71	1834.68	-92.97	436.13	465.49	-29.36	642.83	697.24	-54.41
2006-07	1865.63	1688.52	177.11	477.06	523.71	-46.65	1080.34	918.42	161.92
2007-08	1822.89	1687.85	135.04	450.14	458.66	-8.52	1016.99	895.42	121.57
2008-09	1947.74	1788.20	159.54	478.77	498.77	-20.00	1025.83	889.02	136.81

**Note:** The requirement figure is inclusive of three (3) months buffer stock and 25% wastage.  
The supply figure is actual supply made during the year.

**Clinical trial and research in ayurvedic medicine**

2362. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that to hold clinical trial of ayurvedic medicines, the inventors are asked to disclose extract ingredients and formulation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is aware that such MoUs are unfair and detrimental in further research in the field of Ayurveda;

(d) whether Government is aware that lots of people have been successfully treated for cancer by ayurvedic medicines; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not undertaking the trials of such medicines?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) This is done to ensure compliance with guidelines on Good Clinical Practice (GCP) which were developed along the lines of current good clinical practices of the European Union, Japan, United States of America, Australia, Canada, the Nordic countries and the World Health Organization (WHO). These provide assurance to the public that the rights, safety and well-being of trial subjects are protected, and that the clinical trial data are credible. Good Clinical Practice (GCP) is an international ethical and scientific quality standard for designing, conducting, recording and reporting trials that involve the participation of human subjects.

(d) Many Ayurvedic plants have shown anti cancer properties *e.g.* Turmeric, Semicarpus Anacardium, Tinospora Cordifolia etc.

Clinical studies are also conducted to assess use of Ayurvedic treatment in different types of cancer. In 1996 a pilot project was sanctioned by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to study the effects of metal based formulations prepared by Vaidya Balendu Prakash of Dehradun in the treatment of Acute Pro-Mylotic Leukemia (APML) in 90 days. 15 patients were enrolled in the study out of which 10 patients had shown a complete remission in peripheral blood smear.

(e) Clinical trials of AYUSH QOL — 2C developed by CCRAS for improvement of quality of life of those receiving chemotherapy/radio-therapy, have been initiated at St. Johns medical college, Bangalore and at the All India Institute of Medical Science, New Delhi.

#### **Schemes for pregnant women**

†2363. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes implemented by Government meant for pregnant women residing in remote rural areas;

(b) whether Government intend to implement a new scheme for proper health check up of pregnant women; and

(c) if so, the targeted time for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)(2005-2012), and under its umbrella, the Reproductive and Child Health Programme Phase II, launched by the Government of India in the year 2005, aims to improve access for rural people, especially poor women and children to equitable, affordable, accountable and effective primary health care, with a special focus on 18 States which have weak public health indicators and weak infrastructure. Under the Mission, the following key strategies and interventions are being implemented to accelerate the pace of

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

reduction in maternal mortality namely Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), a cash benefit scheme to promote Institutional Delivery with a special focus on Below Poverty Line (BPL) and SC/ST pregnant women; Operationalizing Community Health Centres as First Referral Units (FRUs) and Primary Health Centres for 24 x 7 services; Augmenting the availability of skilled manpower by means of different skill-based trainings such as Skilled Birth Attendance; training of MBBS Doctors in Life Saving Anaesthetic Skills and Emergency Obstetric Care including Caesarean Section; Provision of Ante-natal and Post Natal Care services; prevention and treatment of Anaemia by supplementation with Iron and Folic Acid tablets during pregnancy and lactation; Organizing Village Health and Nutrition Day at Anganwadi Centers; Appointment of an Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) to facilitate accessing of health care services by the community including pregnant women; Strengthening of Health Facilities, that is, District Hospitals, Community Health Centres (CHCs) Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Sub Centres (SCs), by providing them with funds including untied grants, Annual Maintenance Grants (AMG) and Corpus Funds to improve service delivery.

There is no new scheme proposed for proper health check-up of pregnant women. However, proper check up of the pregnant women is a part of Quality Ante Natal Care which includes physical examination, laboratory investigations, 2 doses of T.T Injection and consumption of IF A tablets for 100 days. At least 4 such ANC are already an important component of Maternal Health Strategy being implemented under NRHM/RCH-II programme.

#### **Primary Health Centres at Nandala**

2364. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the detailed guidelines for establishing Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in States;
- (b) what basic facilities are essentially provided to the patients at these centres under NRHM;
- (c) what is the distance norm for opening these centres in plain and hilly areas;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the PHC established in Jagla of Shimla District in Himachal Pradesh is far away from at Nandala; and
- (e) whether Government would consider opening a sub-centre of this PHC at Nandala to meet the urgent need of villagers?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) for Primary Health Centres (PHCs) lay down Standards for personnel, physical infrastructure, for delivery of services, management etc. The details are available on this Ministry's official web site [www.mohfw.nic.in](http://www.mohfw.nic.in).

Primary Health Centres are established based on the population norms, case load/work load and distance. The population norms for PHC are 30,000 for Plain Area and 20,000 for Hilly/Tribal area. However, no specific norms are available for distance, caseload/workload. It is actually for the State to decide on the basis of their specific need and urgency for these centres.

(d) The existing PHC Jangla is situated at 2 Kms distance from Nandla and there is Health Sub Centre at village Kulgaon, which is one and half Kms from village Nandla.

(e) Not for present.

#### **Private practice by Government doctors**

†2365. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that doctors of Government hospitals in the country are doing private practice and running their own nursing homes instead of providing their services in hospitals;

(b) if so, the number of doctors identified by Government so far who are running their own nursing homes or doing private practice even being in Government service, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the action being taken by Government against the doctors doing private practice?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Two complaints regarding Government doctors doing private practice have been received in the Ministry. Preliminary enquiries were made in both the complaints. However, the allegations could not be substantiated.

(c) As per Central Health Services Rules, 1996, CHS doctors are not allowed private practice of any kind.

#### **AIIMS like institution in Bundelkhand**

†2366. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of health services in backward areas of the country and whether Government is going to establish institutes like AIIMS in backward areas; and

(b) if so, whether Government has any plan to establish institutes like AIIMS in backward areas like Bundelkhand?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The provisioning of health services is the responsibility of respective State Governments. The Government of India is augmenting the efforts of State Government through the NRHM, PMSSY and other programmes.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Under the first phase of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), six AIIMS-like institutions are being set up, one each in the backward States of Bihar (Patna), Chhattisgarh (Raipur), Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal), Orissa (Bhubaneswar), Rajasthan (Jodhpur) and Uttaranchal (Rishikesh).

In addition, Cabinet has also approved the proposal in February, 2009 for setting up AIIMS-like institutions in the State of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, in the second phase of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana.

The location of the AIIMS-like institution in Uttar Pradesh is yet to be finalized.

#### **Low percentage of women doctors**

2367. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that out of the total doctors posted in Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in our country, only 17.9 per cent are women;
- (b) if so, the complete details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the exact reasons for such low percentage; and
- (d) the steps being taken to improve the women percentage posted at PHCs in each State especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The Primary Health Centres (PHCs) are established and maintained by states under the Minimum Needs Programme and the human resource deployed at these centres is recruited/posted/transferred by the respective State Governments. As such, gender based disaggregated data of the doctors posted by various states at their Primary Health Centres is not available.

However, as per Rural Health Statistics as on March, 2007 3109 functioning PHC have female doctors.

Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) comprehensive rejuvenation of the public health delivery system has been undertaken. This *inter alia* includes rational posting of the health human resources at all PHCs in all the States including Andhra Pradesh.

#### **Free medical facilities to BPL families**

2368. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that BPL families are not in a position to bear the medical expenses particularly maternity in case of delivery due to surgery;
- (b) if so, whether Government proposes to take a decision in consultation with the State Governments to provide such medical facilities to BPL families free of cost; and



(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) is a safe motherhood intervention, under the overall umbrella of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) with the objective of reducing maternal and neo-natal mortality by promoting institutional delivery among the poor pregnant women. It is being implemented by all the States and Union Territories. It is a 100% centrally sponsored scheme.

Government health facilities in various districts across the country provide emergency obstetric services free of cost. Where Government specialists are not available in the Government health institution to manage complications or for Caesarean Section, assistance up to Rs. 1500/- per delivery can be utilized by the health institution for hiring services of specialists from the private sector. If private specialists are not available, services of specialised and willing doctors working in other government set up can be availed of by paying an honorarium of Rs. 1500/-.

The Yojana, which focuses on the poor pregnant women also provides for cash assistance. In the Low Performing States (LPS) all pregnant women delivering in Government health centres like Sub-centre, PHC/CHC/FRU/General Ward of District and State hospitals or accredited private institutions are entitled to this cash assistance. In the High Performing States (HPS), BPL pregnant women, aged 19 years, and above up to 2 live births and all SC and ST women delivering in a Government or accredited private institutions as mentioned above, are also entitled to this benefit.

The scale of cash assistance for institutional delivery under JSY is as under:—

(In Rupees)

Category	Mother's package (Rural)	Mother's package (Urban)
LPS	1400.00	1000.00
HPS	700.00	600.00

**Short fall in health sector**

2369. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Economic Survey 2009 estimated that our country is short by 28000 health centres including sub centres, primary health centres and community health centres;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 34 per cent of the existing health infrastructure is in rented building and these health centres are facing poor maintenance and high absenteeism of manpower;

(c) if so, whether Government has analyzed the reasons for those shortfalls; and

(d) the detailed steps proposed by Government to improve quality of health centres and increase their number?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) As per Economic Survey 2008-09, there is a shortage of 20,855 Sub-Centres (SCs), 4,833 Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and 2,525 Community Health Centres (CHCs) as per 2001 population norm.

(b) About 38% of SCs, 13 % of PHCs and 0.6 % of CHCs were functioning in rented building as on March, 2007. No State has reported high absenteeism of manpower. However, the issue of non availability of manpower has been reported.

(c) and (d) The Government has identified States with relatively weak health indicators and health infrastructure as high focus States.

Under National Rural Health Mission [NRHM], funds are released to all State/UT Governments for a number of activities which also includes funds for construction of Buildings and for appointment of contractual staff. The State/UT Governments assess their priorities and reflect their requirement in their annual Programme Implementation Plan under NRHM and funds are released to them as per the recommendations of the National Programme Coordination Committee [NPCC].

Such identified high focus States have been allocated higher funds under NRHM.

#### **Patient-doctor ratio in Government Hospitals**

2370. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the average number of patients reported per day in various Government hospitals in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai;

(b) the ratio of patients-doctors and beds in these hospitals; city-wise;

(c) the budgetary allotment earmarked for these hospitals; and

(d) the average spending on medicines in Government hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) Health being a State subject, the data in regard to doctor-patient ratio in various State Government Hospitals is not maintained centrally. The doctor-patient ratio and beds, varies from case to case depending upon various factors like the type of disease, nature of specialization, type of patient-care required *i.e.* indoor/outdoor etc.

In so far as Central Government Hospital in Delhi, namely, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College and its associated hospitals are concerned, the information is given in the Statement.

### **Statement**

#### *Doctor-patient ratio in Delhi in Central Government Hospitals*

Name of the Hospital (s)	Number of patients reported per day (approx) (2008)	Number of beds	Ratio of patient - doctors	Total Budgetary allotment (2008-2009) (in lakhs)	Average Spending Medicines (2008-2009) (in lakhs)
Safdarjung Hospital	7798	1531	Ranges between 14:1 to 47:1	12570.00	1912.00
Dr. R.M.L. Hospital	3251	1000	-do-	10385.00	788.00
LHMC and its associated hospitals	1833	877	-do-	9900.00	325.00

#### **Millennium Development Goal and Mortality rate**

2371. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under-five year mortality rate in the country is 76 per 1,000 and the Millennium Development Goal is 38 per 1,000 people;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the average annual reduction between 1990 and 2006 is 2.6 per cent whereas to achieve the MDG, India has to achieve 7.6 per cent between 2007 and 2015; and

(c) if so, how the Ministry is planning to achieve the Herculean task of 7.6 per cent in a period of 7 years?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Infant Mortality Rates are estimated by the Registrar General of India (RGI), Ministry of Home Affairs through the Sample Registration System (SRS). However, the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) gives indication for [Under five Mortality Rates]. As per NFHS-III (2005-06) the under five mortality rate is 74 per 1,000 live births. As per the UNICEF Report [Countdown to 2015] the stated Millennium Development Goal for India for the year 2015 is 38 per 1,000 live births and the average annual reduction in Under five Mortality for the years 1990 to 2006 is 2.6 per cent and the stated percentage reduction to achieve the Millennium Development Goal of 38 per 1,000 live births by 2015 is 7.6 per cent.

(c) The Reproductive and Child Health programme (RCH) II [2005-10] under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) [2005-12], comprehensively integrates interventions that improve child health and addresses factors contributing to mortality amongst children. This is being implemented across the country.

The Components of child health programme which help reduce child morbidity and mortality are as follows:—

- i. Essential newborn care
- ii. Immunization
- iii. Infant and young child feeding
- iv. Vitamin A supplementation and Iron and Folic Acid supplementation
- v. Early detection and appropriate management of Acute Respiratory Infections, Diarrhoea and other infections
- vi. Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses (IMNCI) and Pre-Service IMNCI
- vii. Facility Based New Born Care.

**Rebate scheme in the coir sector**

2372. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to re-introduce the rebate scheme in the coir sector as was done in the handloom sector;
- (b) if so, what would be the rate of rebate for coir products; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for not extending the rebate to the coir products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) The Market Development Assistance Scheme (MDA) has been introduced with effect from 2000-01 in lieu of rebate scheme that was in operation in coir sector from 1984. The MDA scheme is linked with the sales performance of the concerned beneficiary organisations and aims at providing incentives for better performance. Under the scheme, the financial assistance is provided to apex cooperative societies, manufacturing and primary societies, Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and Sales Depots of Coir Board @ 10% of their annual sales turnover of coir and coir products. The assistance under the scheme can be utilized for varied purposes such as publicity, opening new Showrooms/Sales Outlets, renovations of existing sales outlets, market study, setting up of market intelligence network/upgradation of design facilities like installation of computer etc. This scheme, therefore, allows more flexibility than the Rebate Scheme for promotion of coir products.

**Discrepancies existing in NSIC**

2373. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of staff/officers working in National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) head quarter at Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, grade-wise;

(b) whether MSME determines/prescribes the structure, functions and facilities availed/enjoyed by NSIC;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether benefits namely transport allowances, medical facilities, increments, arrears etc., as per provisions of Sixth Central Pay Commission are equally applicable to all officers/employees of NSIC;

(e) if so, the details thereof, grade-wise, and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) if any such discrepancy exists in NSIC headquarter the details of justification for existing disparity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC) is a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME). The details of staff/officers working in NSIC headquarter at Delhi and UP, grade-wise as on 1.7.2009 are as under:—

Group	NSIC headquarter, Delhi	UP
A	75	34
B	27	03
C	58	20
D	30	03
TOTAL:	190	60

(b) and (c) The structure and functions of NSIC are governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Its main objective is to promote, aid and foster the growth of micro, small and medium enterprises in accordance with the policies of the Government and accordingly NSIC enters into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government wherein its performance targets are fixed.

(d) to (f) In NSIC, employees are governed by two sets of pay scales where the first category is governed under Central Dearness Allowance (CDA) scales of pay and second category is governed under Industrial Dearness Allowance (IDA) scales of pay. The benefits of CDA under Sixth Central Pay Commission and Second Pay Revision under IDA respectively are applicable to the two categories of employees.

#### **Redressal of grievances**

2374. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the mechanism available for redressal of grievances of Small and Medium Enterprises;

(b) whether they have been consolidated, classified and prioritized category-wise; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) Under the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006, a National Board for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and an Advisory Committee have been established for examining the factors affecting the promotion, development and competitiveness of micro, small and medium enterprises. Under the same Act, Facilitation Councils have been set up by the State Governments to redress the grievances of micro, small and medium enterprises related to the delayed payments. Most public sector banks have set up regional MSME care centres to facilitate, MSME entrepreneurs for quick disposal of their credit related issues. An MSME Credit Monitoring Cell has been set up recently in the office of Development Commissioner (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) to receive specific credit related cases, which remain unresolved.

All officers of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (including field offices and autonomous institutions) are mandated to redress grievances of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. As part of the above arrangement, various issues raised by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises pertaining to credit availability, taxation, technology, marketing etc. are taken up with the concerned agencies.

#### **Conflict between banks and khadi department**

2375. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) when loans are sanctioned by the banks for khadi projects under Rural Employment Generation Programme (R.E.G.P.), what is the role of bank concerned and khadi department;

(b) whether there is a conflict between the bank concerned and the khadi department in the project appraisal, how the issue is resolved; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) of the Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) was implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) from 01.04.1995 to 31.03.2008 with the involvement of banks and other financial institutions for setting up village industries. REGP has ceased to exist from 01.04.2008 and it has been replaced by a new credit-linked subsidy scheme called 'Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme, approved in August, 2008. With the cessation of REGP, the banks no longer sanction loans under REGP. Khadi activities were not covered under REGP.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Creation of railway division in Orissa**

2376. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have any proposal to create two railway divisions in Orissa at Rourkela and Jajpur-Keonjhar road;
- (b) whether in all other zones, divisions are already created; and
- (c) if so, why not in East Coast Railway Zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) No, Sir. New Divisions have been set up only on eight Zonal Railways *i.e.* (i) Pune on Central Railway; (ii) Agra on North Central Railway; (iii) Rangiya on Northeast Frontier Railway; (iv) Guntur and (v) Nanded on South Central Railway; (vi) Raipur on South East Central Railway; (vii) Ranchi on South Eastern Railway; (viii) Salem on Southern Railway; and (ix) Ahmedabad on Western Railway.

(c) New Divisions are set up keeping in view the factors like size, workload, accessibility, traffic pattern and other operating/administrative requirements consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency without any regional considerations.

#### **New rail service in Rajasthan**

†2377. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of proposals pending with Government for starting new rail service in Rajasthan; and
- (b) the number of proposals received from the State Government of Rajasthan and the number of proposals approved alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Examination and action taken on representations received from various quarters, is a continuous process.

Further, for the State of Rajasthan, 11 pairs of new trains, extension of 4 pairs and increase in the frequency of 2 pairs of trains have been announced in Railway Budget 2009-2010.

#### **Undue recoveries in Railways**

†2378. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is going to make any provision to stop undue recoveries taking place in Railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps that Government is going to take for the safety of passengers in trains; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the steps being taken to standardize the basic amenities of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Development charge is levied as per distance and class of the travel, Reservation charge is levied as per class of the travel and Superfast charge is levied on trains meeting the speed criterion.

(c) Steps are taken to prevent accidents and ensure safe operation of trains through intensive maintenance of assets upgradation and timely replacements of safety related assets in addition to using technology and adequate training of manpower.

For security of passengers, important Mail/Express trains are escorted by RPF/GRP. Passengers are also made aware through Public Address System and media regarding precautions to be taken. Co-ordination meetings are held with GRP at different levels to contain crime in stations and in trains.

(d) Based on annual earnings, railway stations have been divided into seven categories viz., A-1, A, B, C, D, E and F. The standards (norms) for passenger amenities have been laid down for each category of station.

#### **Security of Railways' property and passengers**

2379. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Railways which had cash surplus to the tune of Rs. 90,000 crore are finding it difficult to strengthen security of Railways' property and passengers;

(b) whether Chairman, Railway Board has conveyed to Ministry of Home Affairs that measures to strengthen security in trains and at railway stations were being held up due to lack of funds, which include augmentation of staff in Railway Protection Force and acquiring state of the art security equipments like CCTV etc.; and

(c) if so, to what extent they have been provided funds to meet shortage of funds on security of Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In Works Programme 2009-10, approval has been accorded for implementation of 'Integrated Security System' at 195 sensitive stations of the country at an estimated cost of Rs. 344.31 crore.

Rs. 67.09 crores have been sanctioned to RPF for procurement of security equipment.

Proposal is also being sent to the Ministry of Finance for creation of 5,134 non-gazetted posts in RPF.

Modern arms and ammunition worth Rs. 10.91 crores have been procured for RPF personnel during the year 2008-09.



### Ongoing railway projects in Rajasthan

2380. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of ongoing railway projects in the State of Rajasthan alongwith the time schedule, project-wise;

(b) the details of amounts allocated, released and spent on these projects, so far, and the estimated cost of each project;

(c) the funds allocated during the last three years for these projects;

(d) the time schedule for completion of these projects;

(e) the steps taken by Government to complete these projects in time; and

(f) the escalation of cost due to delay, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) Status of ongoing Railway Projects in the State of Rajasthan is given as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Anticipated cost 2009-10 (Rs. in crores)	Expenditure up to March, 2009 (Rs. in crores)	Outlay for 2009-10 (Rs. in crore)	Remarks including Target Date of Completion (TDC) wherever fixed
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Ajmer-Pushkar New Line (31.4 kms)	106.2	57.28	20	Earthwork, bridge work, ballast supply and RUB work in progress. Overall physical progress-57%.
2	Bangurgram-Ras New line (27.8 kms)	125	0	17.91	Final Location Survey completed. Land acquisition taken up.
3	Dausa-Gangapur City New line (92.67 kms)	410.08	73.41	10	Earthwork, bridge works in progress. Overall physical progress-33%.
4	Ramganimandi-Bhopal New line (262 kms)	368.13	19.6	20	Earthwork and bridge work in progress. Overall physical progress-13%.

1	2	3	4	5	6
5	Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar-Udaipur, gauge conversion (299.2 kms)	742.88	0	30	Final Location Survey completed. Detailed estimate under preparation.
6	Ajmer-Phulera-Ringus-Rewari gauge conversion (294.97 kms)	716.64	545.01	100	The work is being executed by Rail Vikas Ltd. (RVNL). Rewari-Ringus-Phulera been completed and commissioned for has Nigam goods traffic. Ajmer-Phulera is targeted for completion by March, 2010. Physical progress-89%.
7	Bhildi-Samdari Gauge Conversion (223 kms)	352.44	261.86	70	This work is under RVNL. Earthwork, bridge works and ballast supply and track linking in progress. Physical progress-87%. 70 kms track linking completed. Balance targeted for completion in 2009-10.
8	Jaipur-Ringus-Churu and Sikar-Loharu Gauge Conversion (320.04 kms)	653.59	0	15	Preliminary works have been taken up. Detailed estimate prepared.
9	<del>Sarupur-Degana</del> and Ratangarh-Degana Gauge Conversion (394.35 kms)	681.69	272.94	175	Earthwork, bridgework and ballast supply in progress. Overall physical progress-62%. Ratangarh-Degana (152.64 km) targeted for completion in 2009-10.
10	Shriganganagar-Sarupsar gauge conversion (116kms)	168.8	57.2	25	Earthwork, bridge works and ballast supply in progress. Overall physical progress-47%.
11	Suratpura-Hanumangarh-Shriganganagar Gauge Conversion (240.95 kms)	542	0	30	Detailed Estimate sanctioned.

1	2	3	4	5	6
12	Alwar-Harsauli Doubling (34.86 kms)	90.79	5.68	54	Earthwork, bridgework and ballast supply in progress. Overall physical progress- 27 %. Target-2009-10.
13	Dausa-Bandikui Doubling (29.04 kms)	81	17.46	40	Earthwork, bridge work and ballast supply in progress. Overall physical progress- 32%. Target-2009-10.
14	Jaipur-Dausa Doubling (61.28 kms)	148.38	123.13	25	Earthwork, bridge work, ballast supply. S&T, station building etc. work in progress. Overall physical progress-76%. Target-2009-10.
15	Harsauli-Rewari doubling (39.35 km).	110.94	2.05	70	Earthwork, Bridge work and ballast supply in progress. Overall Physical Progress- 25%. Target-2009-10.
16	Bina-Kota Railway Electrification (303 kms)	168.49	89.82	78.34	Work is progressing in satisfactorily. Target — March, 2010.

(c) An amount of approximately Rs. 2652.56 crore has been spent in last 3 years on various projects falling fully/partly in Rajasthan.

(e) The availability of funds for the projects have increased considerably over the last few years due to increase in budgetary support, provision of funds through internal generation, additional funds for National Projects, participation by State Governments and beneficiaries and implementation of projects by Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. through extra-budgetary resources.

(f) Railways have a huge throwforward of ongoing projects with limited availability of resources, as a result of which the projects take long time in completion. This results into increase in cost of projects due to escalation and other reasons including change in standards of construction and technology, scope of the work and conditions of the areas etc. during the intervening period.

#### **Gauge conversion of Ahmedabad-Udaipur rail line**

2381. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:  
SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:  
SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:  
SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gauge conversion work has been started on Ahmedabad-Udaipur railway line;

- (b) if so, the details thereof including budgetary support for the anticipated cost; and
- (c) the time by when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The gauge conversion of Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar-Udaipur has been included in the Budget 2008-09 at an anticipated cost of Rs. 742.88 crore. Preliminary works like Final Location Survey, preparation of plan, estimate, etc. have been taken up. An outlay of Rs. 30 crore has been provided for the project in the Budget 2009-10.

- (c) The project will be progressed as per the availability of resources.

#### **Gauge conversion of Bharuch-Dahej railway line**

2382. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether concession agreement among GMB, Dahej SEZ Ltd., GNFC, Adani Port and RVNL, has been signed for gauge conversion of Bharuch-Dahej railway line;
- (b) if so, the time-limit fixed for the implementation of the project; and
- (c) whether the project also covers the facility of double stack container arrangement as part of dedicated freight corridor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Concession Agreement has been signed on 25.06.2008 between Ministry of Railways and Bharuch-Dahej Railway Company Limited. Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL), Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB), Dahej (SEZ) Ltd., Adani Petronet (Dahej) Port Private Limited and Gujarat Narmada Fertilisers Co. Limited (GNFC) are shareholders of Bharuch-Dahej Railway Company Limited.

- (b) The target date for implementation of this project is December, 2010.
- (c) The Section has been planned as a feeder route of Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) with normal height of OHE fit for operation of single-stack container.

#### **Doubling and electrification of Udhana-Jalgaon section**

2383. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of doubling of line and electrification works of Udhana-Jalgaon section of Western Railway;
- (b) the status of providing loop lines on six important railway stations on this section; and
- (c) the target of completion of doubling and electrification work of this section?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The doubling of Udhna-Jalgaon with electrification has been included in the Railway Budget 2008-09 at an anticipated cost of Rs. 716.60 crore. Final Location Survey including preparation of plans and estimate has been taken up and is in advance stage of progress. The part estimate for 85 Km length and five loops has been processed..

(b) The work of providing loop lines on six important railway stations on this section is being taken up with the main work of Udhna-Jalgaon, doubling.

(c) The work is likely to be completed during 2012-13.

**Gauge conversion of Bhiladi-Samdari rail line**

2384. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:  
SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. has completed the gauge conversion between Bhiladi-Samdari;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the gauge conversion would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The work involves converting a metre gauge line to broad gauge and entails large scale changes to the available infrastructure. This is a time consuming work, especially as it involves modifications to many facilities even when the trains are running, like improvement to platforms, strengthening of bridges, changes in signaling and track etc. This work is progressed as per the availability of resources. The work is now nearing completion and is likely to be completed during 2009-10.

**Proposals for introduction of new trains**

2385. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:  
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many proposals for introduction of new trains are pending with her Ministry;

(b) whether it is a fact that the State Governments of Rajasthan and Maharashtra have made certain proposals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what is the criterion for introduction of new train and on what grounds the proposals received from the States of Rajasthan and Maharashtra are not being accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) 10 pairs of new train services announced in previous Railway budgets are yet to be introduced.

(b) and (c) Requests for introduction of new train services are received at various levels viz. station level, division level, headquarter level and Railway Board level. These requests including from Rajasthan and Maharastra are received throughout the year. Action as feasible is taken after thorough examination of various issues.

(d) New trains are introduced taking into account various factors like availability of resources, operational feasibility, traffic justification, public demand etc. In the Railway Budget 2009-10, 11 pairs and 20 pairs of new trains serving the states of Rajasthan and Maharashtra respectively have been announced.

**Justice Sagir Ahmed Commission on collision of trains**

2386. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY:  
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Justice Sagir Ahmed Commission was set up on 13th February, 2001 to inquire into the collision of 3005 up Howrah-Amritsar rail with derailed wagons of dn Ajitwal-New Bongaigoan goods train on 2nd December, 2000 in Ambala-Ludhiana section of Northern Railway;

(b) if so, whether the report of the Commission has been received;

(c) if so, the salient features of the report; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. A Commission of Inquiry consisting of Justice S. Saghir Ahmed, Retired Judge of the Supreme Court of India as its sole member, has been appointed on 13th February, 2001 to inquire into the accident involving collision of 3005 Up Howrah-Amritsar Mail with the derailed wagons of Down Food grain Special on the Ambala-Ludhiana Section of Ambala Division of Northern Railway on 02.12.2000.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The inquiry is in progress. Requests have been made to expedite the inquiry.

**Linking Bhiwadi with Delhi-Ahmedabad rail line**

2387. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:  
SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether linking Bhiwadi to Delhi Ahmedabad broad gauge railway line is vital for industrial growth of NCR as well as Rajasthan but the Railway Ministry has suggested the State Government to incur the cost of this project as Bhiwadi is an industrial hub of Rajasthan, which is located in the National Capital Region;

(b) whether Government of India, realizing the importance of the project would sanction this linking railway line;

- (c) if so, by when; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) An updating survey for a new line linking Bhiwadi to Delhi-Ahmedabad BG line (27 kms) has been completed recently. As per the survey report, the cost of this new line has been assessed as Rs. 153.73 crore. North Western Railway has been asked to review the cost of the proposed line.

#### **Running of Janta trains**

†2388. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that number of passengers travelling in general bogies of train is five times the number of seats;
- (b) if so, whether Government proposes to run any Janta train for them, so that, Ijlat pass provided by Government can prove to be effective; and
- (c) if so, the time by when the train would be run, and if not, the details of the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) General unreserved coaches are normally over crowded.

(b) and (c) New trains introduced normally have general bogies, some of which may be utilized by monthly pass holders. However, presently there is no proposal to start a Janata Train.

#### **Toilets and urinals at platforms**

2389. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:  
SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railway Board has prescribed requirement of toilets and urinals to be provided at platforms as well as in waiting halls/sheds and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether most of the platforms/waiting halls/sheds do not have the prescribed number of toilets and urinals and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether most of the existing toilets and urinals are in unusable condition and if so, the steps taken to provide clean and hygienic urinals/toilets on platforms etc. for the benefit of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. Comprehensive instructions already exist for provision of passenger amenities including

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

toilets and urinals at stations. The details of norms for quantum of Minimum Essential Amenities for toilets and urinals at various categories of station are as under:—

Category of station	A-1	A	B	C	D	E	F
No. of urinals	12	10	6	4	4	1	—
No. of toilets	12	10	6	2	4	1	—

(b) and (c) All minimum essential amenities including toilets and urinals have been provided at platforms and waiting halls/sheds at all railway stations as per the prescribed norms. Further augmentation of toilet/urinal facilities is undertaken through Annual Works Programme as and when warranted depending upon availability of funds and other relative priorities. The existing toilets and urinals are kept in usable condition through regular cleaning and maintenance.

To have clean and hygienic conditions on platforms, steps like introduction of mechanized cleaning, provision of 'Pay and Use' toilets, cleanliness awareness campaigns etc. have been undertaken. Regular inspections are conducted by various officials at the railway stations to monitor cleanliness and also to identify weak areas and take remedial measures.

#### **Railway projects affected by spiralling prices of steel**

2390. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the spiralling prices of steel has been affecting the on-going railway projects;

(b) whether it is a fact that some of the contractors are threatening to pull out of the works in view of spiralling steel prices;

(c) the details of reports from zonal railways with regard to delay in execution of works, particularly from the SCR; and

(d) what is the outcome of the recently held 'Infrastructure Builders Meet'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The abnormal increase in prices of steel had been one of the major reasons adversely affecting progress of ongoing projects. However, of late, prices of steel have been showing downward trend.

(b) The contractors were demanding suitable compensation for such abnormal hike in price of steel in the market.

(c) Targeted projects are not delayed except Jaggayapet-Mallacheruvu in South Central Railway where delay is due to change in alignment as per suggestion of beneficiaries and delay in land acquisition. There has been some delay in supply of concrete sleepers for targeted works.



(d) The Infrastructure Builders' Meet was held in 2008 to have interaction with the Construction Industry, to make them aware of Railway Plans and to get their suggestions on Contract Management issue. The suggestions made were considered and appropriate action initiated.

**New rail line proposals of Maharashtra and Rajasthan**

2391. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:  
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:  
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many new rail line proposals of Maharashtra and Rajasthan have been included in the Rail Budget 2009-10 for conducting survey work; and

(b) what is the time frame fixed up by the Railway Ministry for the survey of above new rail lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Five surveys for construction of new line in Rajasthan and three surveys for construction of new line in Maharashtra have been included in the Budget 2009-10. These surveys are planned to be completed in about two years time.

**Delayed railway projects in Maharashtra**

2392. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Maharashtra has been asking for expeditious completion of various railway projects like widening of existing railway lines and doubling the existing railway lines etc. in the State;

(b) the names of all pending projects and whether it is also a fact that the projects namely Baramati-Lonand, Amaravati- Narkhed and Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli in particular, have been delayed inordinately; and

(c) the reasons for delay in responding to these demands of the Government of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Names of ongoing projects falling fully/partly in Maharashtra is as under:—

Sl.No.	Name of the ongoing project
1	2
<b>New Line</b>	
1.	Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vajjnath
2.	Amravati-Narkher

1	2
3.	Baramati-Lonad
4.	Wardha-Nanded
	<b>Gauge conversion</b>
1.	Jabalpur-Gondia including Balaghat Katangi
2..	Miraj-Latur
3.	Chhindwara-Nagpur
	<b>Doubling</b>
1.	Panvel-Pen
2.	Pen-Roha
	<b>Mumbai Urban Transport Project</b>
1.	Mumbai Urban Transport Project
2.	Mumbai Urban Transport Project (Phase-II)-Rail component

Works are progressing as per availability of resources. Only Miraj-Pandharpur of Miraj-Latur gauge conversion project is running behind schedule which was targeted for conversion by March, 2009. There has been delay in, land acquisition by State Government and failure of contractors. This section is now targeted for 2009-10.

(c) Works are progressing as availability of resources.

#### **Gauge conversion in Rajasthan under NRVY**

†2393. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any new proposals for gauge conversion in Rajasthan under National Rail Vikas Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by when they would be implemented;

(c) whether Jaipur-Phulera-Ringus-Rewari section which is very sensitive and important, is being included in the said scheme; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Gauge conversion of Ringus — Rewari and Jaipur — Phulera has been completed.

#### **Cleanliness and maintenance of coaches**

†2394. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government is aware that the standard of cleanliness and maintenance of coaches and the quality of water supplied in the trains is deteriorating day by day;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the level of commitment of railway employees is decreasing resulting in late running of trains as well as increase in the number of accidents; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to improve the standard of maintenance and cleanliness in trains and to run the trains on time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir. Indian Railways have always endeavoured to improve upon the standards of maintenance, cleanliness and hygiene in coaches and ensure good quality of the water supplied in the coaches.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Late running of trains is due to various reasons like miscreant activities, alarm chain pulling, natural calamities, damage to track due to breaches, law and order problems, bad weather, cattle run over, equipment failures and electricity grid failure. Several steps viz. monitoring of trains, punctuality drive, improvement in time tabling, upgradation of technology of track, rolling stock and signaling are being taken by Railways to run the trains on time.

Safety is the prime concern of Indian Railways. All possible steps are undertaken on a continuing basis to prevent accidents which include timely replacement of over-aged assets, signaling and interlocking systems, safety drives, publicity campaigns and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. As a result, there has been a declining trend in the number of train accident.

Following schemes have been launched for improving the standards of cleanliness in trains:—

- Intensive mechanized cleaning of rakes in the coaching depots.
- On Board House Keeping Services (OBHS) in all Rajdhani/Shatabdi and important Mail/Express trains.
- Clean Train Station Scheme at identified stations.
- Comprehensive pest and rodent control arrangements.

#### **Gauge conversion in Western Zone**

2395. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many Gauge Conversion Demands are pending in Western Zone as on 31st March, 2009;

(b) what is the calendar of works on hand as on today;

(c) how many from above pertains to the State of Gujarat; and

(d) what is the progress by Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. in various projects of gauge conversion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) As per available records, requests have been received from Government of Gujarat and Rajasthan some time back containing some of the gauge conversion projects which pertain to Western Railway. The details and status of the pending proposals where gauge conversion has not yet been taken up is as under:—

Sl. No.	Proposal	Status
1.	Ahmedabad-Mehsana-Taranga-Ambaji	Survey for gauge conversion of Mehiana-Taranga hill with extension to Ambaji has been completed and proposal could not be considered due to its un-remunerative nature.
2.	Ahmedabad-Botad-Bhavnagar and Dhasa-Jetalsar	Proposal for Ahmedabad-Botad and Dhasa-Jetalsar conversion was processed for "In Principle" approval of Planning Commission, who desired that the gauge conversion of the section may be deferred for the present as the projected traffic do not justify immediate conversion. Botad-Bhavnagar is already a broad gauge line.
3.	Narrow gauge railway lines under jurisdiction of Vadodara Railway Division.	In Vadodara Division, gauge conversion of Bharuch-Samni-Dahej, Pratapnagar-Chhota Udepur, Ankaleshwar-Rajpipla has been taken up.
4.	Ahmedabad-Khedbrahma-Ambaji	The work on Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar has already been taken up as part of Ahmedabad-Udaipur conversion. The survey for Himmatnagar-Khedbrahma with extension to Abu Road has been taken up.

(b) and (c) The ongoing gauge conversion projects on Western Railway are as under:—

- i. Bhuj-Naliya with extension to Vayor.
- ii. Ankleshwar-Rajpipla.
- iii. Ratlam-Mhow-Khandwa-Akola.
- iv. Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar-Udaipur.
- v. Surendranagar-Dhrangadhara of Surendranagar-Bhavnagar-Dhola-Mahuva with extension to Pipavav gauge conversion project.
- vi. Wansjalja-Jetalsar of Rajkot-Veraval, Wansjalja-Jetalsar with extension of Veraval Somnath gauge conversion project.
- vii. Pratapnagar-Chhota Udepur
- viii. Bhildi-Viramgam

Except Ratlam-Mhow-Khandwa-Akola gauge conversion project, all the above projects fall partly/fully in Gujarat state

(d) The details and status of the various ongoing gauge conversion projects which are being executed by Rail Vikash Nigam Ltd. is as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Status
1.	Bhildi-Samdhari	Earthwork, bridge works, ballast etc., have been taken up. Overall physical progress is 85%. Targeted for completion during 2009-10.
2.	Thanjavur-Villupuram	Villupuram-Cuddalore and Thanjavur-Sirkazhi sections (138 km) completed. Overall physical progress is 90%. Targeted for completion during 2009-10.
3.	Ajmer-Phulera-Ringus-Rewari	Phulera-Ringus-Riwari (215 km) section completed. Work on balance portion of Phulera-Ajmer has been taken up. Targeted for completion during 2009-10.
4.	Bharuch-Samni-Dahej	The project is being executed by Special Purpose Vehicle. Share Holder Agreement (SHA) has been signed. Conversion work taken up.

#### Development and upgradation in North Gujarat

2396. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) why development and upgradation in North Gujarat area is neglected by her Ministry;
- (b) whether the Ministry would look into various demands from Radhampur, Patan and Palampur area concerning more broad gauge railway connections, extension of trains from Ahmedabad and Gauge conversion between Bhiladi-Samdari and Patan-Bhiladi railway lines; and
- (c) if so, by when, alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Equitable and balanced regional development is a policy of this Ministry. A request has been received from the State Government of Gujarat containing some of the railway projects of North Gujarat. The details are as under:—

- (1) Harij-Mahsana-Radhanpur. Survey completed and proposed new line not taken up.
- (2) Gauge conversion of Mahsana-Taranga Hill with extension to Ambaji: Survey completed and proposal not taken up.
- (3) Gauge conversion between Himmatnagar-Khedbrahma with extension to Ambaji: Survey taken up for gauge conversion between Himmatnagar-Khedbrahma with extension to Abu Road.

Gauge conversion of Bhildi- Samdari and construction of new line between Patan- Bhildi as a part of Bhildi- Viramgam gauge conversion project have been taken up and are in different stages of progress.

Besides that, following train facilities have been announced in Railway Budget 2009-10 serving Ahmedabad:—

**New Trains:**

Sl. No.	From	To	Type	Frequency
1	Gandhidham	Howrah	Superfast	Weekly
2	Veraval	Mumbai	Link Service	Daily
3	Mumbai	Ahmedabad	AC non stop	Tri-weekly
4	Hapa	Tirunelveli	Express	Bi-weekly
5.	Mumbai	Jodhpur	Express	Weekly
6	Mumbai	Bikaner	Superfast	Bi-weekly

**Extension:**

Sl. No.	Train No.	From	To	Type	Upto
1.	9269/9270	Porbandar	Bapudham Motihari	Express	Muzaffarpur

**Increase in Frequency:**

Sl. No.	Train No.	From	To	Type	From	To
1	2957/2958	Ahmedabad	New Delhi	Rajdhani Express	6	7
2	2905/2906	Porbandar	Howrah	Express	2	3

**Representations for train services**

2397. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that various organizations/associations/unions have since long representing to increase number of coaches in the trains/frequency of trains/ introduction of new trains and the Government of Gujarat has been forwarding the same from time to time to the concerned divisional manager of Railways for the needful; and

(b) if so, the action taken by railway authorities towards this cause and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Requests/proposals received from various sources are examined and suitable action as found justified and feasible is taken keeping in view the operational constraints, commercial viability and availability of resources.

In 2008-09, approximately forty four coaches have been added in the regular trains, frequency of four pairs of trains have been increased and seventeen pairs of new trains have been introduced serving the State of Gujarat. In the Railway Budget 2009-10, eight new trains, increase in frequency of two trains and extension of three trains have been proposed.

#### **Departure time of Kerala bound trains**

2398. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all Kerala bound trains from Delhi are departing during morning/day time only;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the proposed new non-stop train would be scheduled for a departure in the evening; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The departure timings are based on operational and terminals constraints.

(c) and (d) Scheduling of trains is done taking into account various factors including terminal and operational constraints, path availability, traffic demands, etc.

#### **Railway projects in North Eastern States**

2399. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount spent on various railway projects in the State of Assam and other North-Eastern States in comparison to other States of the country for the last five years;

(b) the number of projects in the State of Assam and other NE States which have been completed or under construction in the last five years; and

(c) the target set for completion of existing under construction and sanctioned projects alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The State-wise details of amount spent are not maintained.

(b) In Assam and other States in North Eastern Region, following sections have been completed during the last five years:—

1. Manu-Agartala of Kumarghat-Agartala New Line — 89 Km.
2. Samuktala-New Bongaigaon of New Jalpaiguri-New Bongaigaon Gauge Conversion — 61 Km.
3. Senchoa-Silghat Gauge Conversion — 62 Km.
4. Alipurduar-Bamanhat Gauge Conversion — 80 Km

In all, 16 projects falling fully/partly in NE Region are in progress.

(c) Ongoing projects in North East Region alongwith targets wherever fixed:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Target wherever fixed
<b>New line</b>		
1.	Jiribam-Imphal	Jiribam-Tupul — March, 2014 Tupul-Imphal — March, 2016
2.	Azra-Byrnihat	March, 2014
3.	Dimapur-Zubza (Kohima)	March, 2015
4.	Bogibeel bridge	March, 2014
5.	Dudhnoi-Depa	March, 2013
6.	Harmuti-Itanagar	March, 2014
7.	New Maynaguri-Jogighopa	Target not fixed.
8.	Agartala-Sabroom	March, 2014
9.	Bhairabi-Sairang	March, 2014
10.	Sivok-Rangpo	December, 2015
<b>Gauge Conversion</b>		
1.	Lumding-Silchar-Jiribam and Badarpur to Kumarghat	March, 2012
2.	Rangiya-Murkongselek with linked fingers	March, 2013
3.	Kathakal-Bhairabi	March, 2012
4.	Haibargaon-Mairabari	March, 2010
5.	New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri-New Bongaigaon	Target not fixed
<b>Doubling</b>		
1.	New Guwahati-Digarua	March, 2010



### Recruitment in Railways

‡2400. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons recruited in Railways during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the posts against which recruitment have been made;
- (c) the process followed in the recruitment during the last three years; and
- (d) the posts at which persons from Bihar have been recruited in the said recruitment alongwith the number of such persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) State-wise figures are not maintained on the Railways. Recruitment figures for the last three years done in Group 'A', Group 'C' and Group 'D' category posts is as under:—

Year		Recruitment Made
2006	—	35063
2007	—	34542
2008	—	39480

(b) Recruitment has been made against vacancies existing in Group 'A', Group 'C' and Group 'D' category posts on the Railways.

(c) Recruitment to Group 'A' posts is made through various examinations by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), as per the laid down procedure. Recruitment to Group 'C' posts is normally a one stage process, consisting of written examination. While for Group 'D' posts, a two stage recruitment process is adopted, consisting of Physical Efficiency Test (PET), followed by a written examination, of the Physical Efficiency Test (PET) qualified candidates. For Group 'D' recruitment from open market, this process is effective from 12.3.2007. Prior to that, with effect from 18.7.2005, the procedure was a two stage process consisting of written examination, followed by Physical Efficiency Test (PET), of candidates coming out successful in written test.

(d) Information cannot be furnished since State-wise data of recruitment is not maintained on the Railways.

### Shortage of licensed porters

2401. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of licensed porters at almost all the major railway stations in the country, which is causing hardship, particularly to the elderly persons and ladies;

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the extent of shortage of porters at Bangalore, Mangalore and Mysore railway stations as on 30th June, 2009, with reference to the sanctioned strength alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the situation so that the passengers are not exploited by the porters in connivance with railway staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) The sanctioned strength and shortage of licensed porters at Bangalore, Mangalore and Mysore railway stations are as under:—

Name of stations	Sanctioned strength of LPs	Shortage
Bangalore	300	51
Mangalore	20	10
Mysore	71	38

The process of engaging fresh licensed porters has already been initiated and availability of licensed porters is ensured through redeployment within the Division. To overcome the problem of exploitation by the porters, regular checks are conducted at stations. The badges of the licensed porters involved in such activities are impounded/suspended.

#### Upgradation of Talcher station

2402. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of revenue collected from Talcher station in each of the last three years by the East Coast Railway and its position among the stations in collection of revenue; and

(b) the reasons why Government has not upgraded it to a model station so far, in view of the importance of the station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The revenue collected from Talcher station during the last three years are as under:—

Year	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Revenue collected (Rs. in crore)	1051.26	1142.23	1292.69

The earnings of Talcher station is the highest amongst all the stations of East Coast Railway.

(b) Talcher railway station was identified as Modern station during 2007-08 for the purpose of modernization and given a face-lift. Following modernization works have been taken in hand and planned for completion by 31st August, 2009:—

(i) Provision of multi-line Train Indication Board;

- (ii) Provision of five single-line Train Indication Board;
- (iii) Coach Guidance Board;
- (iv) Digital Master Slave Clock;
- (v) Touch Screen System;
- (vi) Auto Announcement System;
- (vii) Inter Voice Response System (IVRS);
- (viii) Provision of High Mast in circulating area;
- (ix) Improvement to lighting, fannage and signage facility and
- (x) Provision of purified cold drinking water system.

#### **Flag stations at Tangra and Beliaghata**

2403. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to construct flag stations at Tangra and Beliaghata under Sealdah division of Eastern Railway; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) There are demands for opening of three halt stations at Beliaghata, Tangra and Kamardanga between Park Circus and Sir Gurudas Banerjee Halt under Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway. Since the distance between Park Circus and Sir Gurudas Banerjee Halt is only 3.75 kms, it is not operationally feasible to provide halt stations at all the three locations in such a short stretch.

#### **Halting of trains**

2404. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to halt Nilgiri and Kovai Expresses at Sangagiri station which is a very old station and which would help the people of the area immensely;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Railways received any demand from the people in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) There is no proposal at present to provide halt of Nilgiri Express and Kovai Express at Sankaridurg.

(b) to (d) Proposal for stoppage of Nilgiri Express and Kovai Express at Sankaridurg has been examined but not found feasible due to lack of commercial justification.

### **'White Paper' on the activities of Railways**

‡2405. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is contemplating to publish any 'White Paper' on activities of her Ministry during the last five years;
- (b) the time by when it would be published;
- (c) whether it would include foreign agreements;
- (d) whether the irregularities in the election of the unions would be mentioned;
- (e) whether it would contain details about the expenses incurred on Katra-Kajigund plan in Kashmir and delay in its completion; and
- (f) whether it would contain reasons for not reaching the train services to North- Eastern States except Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A White Paper will be published within the current financial year.

(c) to (f) The White Paper will bring out Indian Railways' present organizational, operational and financial status based on its performance in the last five years. Specific items to be included in the White Paper are under finalization.

### **Promotion of sports by Railways**

2406. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the nature of assistance/incentives given by the Railways for the promotion of sports; and
- (b) the amount spent for the purpose during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Indian Railways provide employment, out-of-turn promotion, advance increments on meritorious performances, cash awards, financial assistance etc. to Indian Railway sports persons for their participation in National and International Championships. Indian Railways has also developed its own sports infrastructure all over the country.

(b) No separate account is maintained on expenditure on salaries, allowances, awards, training, infrastructure, increments and promotions provided to the sportspersons.

### **Restricting the e-ticket/i-ticket reservation**

2407. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether in view of railway reservations being totally availed of by e-ticket/i-ticket facility holders on the opening day itself, as tickets can be booked from 05.00 hrs. to 23.30 hrs., thereby

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

denying availability of reservation for common man standing before the counters, as tickets can be booked only from 08.00 hrs. to 20.00 hrs., the Ministry contemplates any proposal to restrict e/ticket/i-ticket reservations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): On the opening day of the reservation, the reserved accommodation available in a train is thrown open simultaneously at 0800 hours to all passengers including those booking through internet as well as across the counter at computerized Passenger Reservation System Centres. The passengers booking through internet can book the accommodation during the period beyond the working hours of normal Passenger Reservation System counters only for those trains which have already been thrown open for booking. At present, there is no proposal under consideration to restrict e-ticket/i-ticket reservation.

**Extra work by 'C' class gatemen**

2408. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 'C' class gatemen, who are residing beyond 0.5 kms. from their place of work are also required to work extra 24 hours in a week at par with those who are provided with residential accommodation within 0.5 kms. from their place of work;

(b) whether railway servants (Hours of Work and Period of Rest) Rules-2005 stipulates 12 additional hours per week for those who are not provided accommodation within 0.5 kms. radius of the place of work; and

(c) whether Ministry would curtail this practice which is against rules or compensate them suitably?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The Railway Servants (Hours of Work and Period of Rest) Rules, 2005 dealing with fixation of hours of work of railway servants provide that as per the rostered hours of work for 'Gatemen C, they can be called upon to work 24 additional hours per week irrespective of the distance where residence is provided.

(c) There is no such proposal since the provision is as per the extant rules.

**Late running of Gwalior to Barauni, Chapara Mail**

†2409. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gwalior to Barauni, Chapara Mail runs about 12 hours late from last two three years;

(b) the reasons for late running of this train and whether the railways is suffering revenue loss due to it; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether there would be improvement in the late running of this train and if so, the measures to be taken and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) With a view to improve its punctuality performance, the timings of 1123/1124 Gwalior-Barauni mail have been rescheduled from 19th December, 2008. The punctuality of the train has, thereafter, improved.

#### **Insufficient rail racks for supply of food items**

2410. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether rail racks are insufficient in number to supply the food items which are at the godowns to each State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to increase the rail racks to supply food items to each State especially in the rainy seasons when the food items get damaged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There are enough rakes available with the Railways to carry foodgrains as per programme given by Food Corporation of India. Railways are according high priority to allotment of rakes for movement of foodgrains.

#### **Regulation of drug prices**

†2411. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority is making medicines more affordable;

(b) if so, which are the additional medicines it is adding to its purview and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether NPPA is working on the price and availability to Tami flu to combat Swine Flu; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) NPPA fixes/revises the prices of 74 bulk drugs included in the First Schedule of Drug (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 1995) and formulations using these bulk drugs with an objective to make these drugs affordable. No additional drug has been added in the First Schedule of DPCO, 1995.

NPPA also monitors the movement in prices of non-Scheduled formulations. The monthly reports of ORG IMS and the information furnished by individual manufacturers are utilized for the purpose of monitoring prices of non-Scheduled formulations. Wherever there is a price increase

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

beyond 10% per annum (20% before 01.04.2007) is noticed, the manufacturer is asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed conditions, action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest. This is an ongoing process.

(c) and (d) Oseltamivir (Tamiflu) used to treat cases afflicted by the H<sub>1</sub>N<sub>1</sub> virus (swine flu) is a non-Scheduled drug and not controlled under DPCO, 1995. Government is regularly monitoring the availability of Oseltamivir in the country keeping in view the current threat of Swine Flu.

#### **Improvement of railway infrastructure in Jharkhand**

2412. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of trains being maintained in washing sheds in different cities of Jharkhand State and the details on future plan for setting up of such facilities;

(b) the details of the provisions made for improving railway infrastructure in Jharkhand during the current financial year and the status of implementation of the projects; and

(c) how many proposals for railway underbridge/overbridge in Jharkhand are pending with Government and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED: (a) The number of trains being maintained in Coaching Maintenance Depots in different cities of Jharkhand State is as under:—

Town/City	Total No. of trains being maintained
Dhanbad	12
Gomoh	03
Barkakana	01
Hatia	21
Tata	13

It is planned to augment the existing coach maintenance infrastructure at Tata, Dhanbad and Gomoh coaching depots.

At other coaching maintenance depots, the maintenance infrastructure is adequate for the present.

(b) 7 new lines, 1 gauge conversion and 8 doubling works are in progress in the State of Jharkhand. Sufficient funds have been provided for new lines, doubling and gauge conversion projects in the year 2009-10.

(c) Railways construct road overbridge/underbridge in lieu of busy level crossing having traffic density of one lakh or more Train Vehicle Unit. The bridges are constructed on cost sharing basis otherwise on deposit terms. 15 proposals sponsored by Jharkhand State in the past were sanctioned on cost sharing basis, out of which 5 works have been completed and remaining are at different stages of planning and execution. One more proposal has been sanctioned during current year 2009-10.

**New trains between Dwarka and Haridwar**

2413. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to start new train between Dwarka and Haridwar *via* Viramgam-Mehsana which will reduce distance by 150 kms and time by 3 hours;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is planning to establish second broad-gauge line between Ahmedabad and New Delhi;

(d) if so, the status and schedule of implementation;

(e) how many towns of Jharkhand are connected with railway line; and

(f) whether there is any planning to link more towns and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) There is no proposal, at present, to introduce a train between Dwarka and Haridwar.

(c) and (d) On Delhi-Ahmedabad route, doubling is being done in patches as per traffic requirement. Double line already exists between Delhi-Rewari and Jaipur-Phulera section. Doubling of Rewari-Alwar, Bandikui-Jaipur and Phulera-Ajmer sections have been taken up. Rewari-Alwar and Phulera-Ajmer is targeted for completion during 2009-2010. A survey for doubling of Alwar-Bandikui has been completed recently

(e) and (f) Such details are not maintained.

**Implementation of enhanced steel making capacity**

2414. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether demand for steel is growing around 12 per cent annually and Government has planned to create more than 50 million tonnes of additional steel making capacity, but land acquisition and environmental problems have stalled most of these new projects;

(b) if so, whether several State Governments have signed around 195 MOUs with steel companies for putting additional 253 mt. capacity with an estimated aggregate investment of Rs. 5,55,038 crores. And



(c) the concrete measures Government has taken to see that all the GOI's planned projects and also those of State MOUs additional capacity efforts are implemented speedily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) Finished steel consumption in the country for the last 5 year period from 2004-05 to 2008-09 is tabulated below:—

Year	Finished steel consumption	% change on year to year basis
2004-05	36.38	9.8
2005-06	41.43	13.9
2006-07	46.78	12.9
2007-08	52.12	11.4
2008-09*	52.05	-0.1

Source JPC, \* = Provisional

During the April - June period of current year 2009-10, steel consumption in the country has increased by 5.2% (provisional). On account of the rising potential for steel consumption in the country, a large number of steel investors have signed 222 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with various State Governments for setting up nearly 275.698 million tonnes per annum of steel capacity in the country. Steel investment projects, particularly the large integrated steel units have long gestation period, which also need to acquire sufficient land and other resources to commission their projects. The issue related to land acquisition and rehabilitations, environmental clearance are dealt in accordance with the relevant Acts, rules and policy of the concerned Governments.

(c) Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) to monitor and coordinate issues concerning major steel investments in the country. The Inter Ministerial Group functions under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Steel) with members from various Central Ministries/Departments, such as/Railways, Road Transport and Highways, Shipping, Industrial Policy and Promotion, Mines, Environment and Forest and the concerned State Governments.

#### **Export of iron-ore**

2415. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of iron-ore in metric tonnes required for domestic steel industries yearly in the country;

(b) whether steel plants established in Public Sector Undertaking are facing shortage of iron-ore frequently;

(c) the reasons for export of iron-ore in large quantity to other countries without considering requirements in our country;

(d) whether Bhilai Steel Plant situated in Chhattisgarh has a deposit of iron ore only for next five years in Dalli Rajhara mines; and

(e) whether Government is considering to impose ban on export of iron-ore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) The quantity of iron ore consumed by domestic iron and steel industries during the last three years is given below:—

(Quantity in Million Tonnes)

Year	Quantity of iron ore consumed
2006-07	68.5
2007-08	85#
2008-09	87#

#Estimated by Ministry of Steel

(b) SAIL and RINL are two steel plants established in the public sector. SAIL operates 9 captive iron ore mines situated in the states of Jharkhand, Orissa and Chhattisgarh to meet its iron ore requirement. RINL has no captive iron ore mine and its requirement of iron ore is mainly fulfilled by NMDC, a mining PSU under Ministry of Steel. NMDC is giving due priority to RINL in supply of iron ore. Ministry of Steel has also given instructions to NMDC to give priority to RINL in supply of iron ore.

(c) The production of iron ore in the country is more than double its domestic consumption and therefore, iron ore is exported from the country. The production, export and domestic consumption of iron ore during last three years is given below:—

(Quantity in Million tonnes)

Year	Production	Export	Domestic consumption
2006-07	180.92	93.79	68.5
2007-08	206.45	104.27	85#
2008-09	227.64	105.86	87#

Source: For Production and Consumption-IBM, Ministry of Mines; For Export, MMTC, Department of Commerce.

#Estimated by Ministry of Steel

(d) Yes, Sir. The balance reserve in existing iron ore mines located at Dalli —Rajhara can meet requirements of Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) for next 5-6 years only. In order to meet iron ore requirement of BSP, a new mine at Rowghat is planned to be developed as replacement of existing mines and various statutory clearances for opening the Rowghat mine are being taken.

(e) No, Sir.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) in the Chair]

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

- I. Report and Accounts (2006-07) of the Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL), Kolkata and related papers**
- II. Report and Accounts (2005-06) of the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited, Gurgaon and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- 1. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
  - (I) (a) Twenty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL), Kolkata, for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
  - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 462/15/09]
  - (II) (a) Forty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL), Gurgaon, for the year 2005-06, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
  - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- 2. (c) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (I) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 461/15/09]

**Outcome Budget (2009-10) of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Outcome Budget for the year 2009-10 in respect of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 544/15/09]

- I. Report and Accounts (2004-05) of the Bengal Immunity Limited, Kolkata and related papers**
- II. Report and Accounts (2004-05) of the SSPL and related papers.**
- III. Memoranda of Understanding (2009-10) between the Government of India and various Limited Companies and Corporation.**

SHRI SRIKANT JENA: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
  - (a) Twenty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Bengal Immunity Limited (BIL), Kolkata, for the year 2004-05, together with the Auditors Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
  - (b) Twenty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Bengal Immunity Limited (BIL), Kolkata, for the year 2005-06, together with the Auditors Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
  - (c) Reviews by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 476/15/09]
- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Papers:—
  - (i) (a) Twenty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals Limited (SSPL), Kolkata, for the year 2004-05 and the Auditor's Report thereon.
  - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
  - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 475/15/09]
- III. (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers) and the National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 474/15/09]
- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers) and the Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 468/15/09]
- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers) and the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 474/15/09]
- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers) and the Projects and Development India Limited (PDIL), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 469/15/09]
- (v) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers) and the Brahmaputra Valley

Fertilizer Corporation (BVFC) Limited, for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 471/15/09]

(vi) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers) and the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 470/15/09]

(vii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers) and the FCI Aravali Gypsum and Minerals India Limited, for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 473/15/09]

**Outcome Budget (2009-10) of the Flagship Programmes of the  
UPA Government.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Outcome Budget 2009-10 of the Flagship Programmes of the UPA Government. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 504/15/09]

- I. **Annual Report and Accounts (2007-08) of the Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd. (LDCL)**
- II. **Memoranda of Understanding (2009-10) between the Government of India and SFCL and NSCL**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
  - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Lakshadweep Development Corporation Limited (LDCL), Kavaratti, Lakshadweep, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
  - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 393/15/09]
- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—
  - (a) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) and the State Farms Corporation of India Limited (SFCL), for the year 2009-10.
  - (b) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Agriculture) and the National Seeds Corporation (NSC) Limited for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 392/15/09]

### **Notifications of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health and Family Welfare), under sub-section 2 of the Section 23 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954:—
  - (1) G.S.R. 427(E), dated the 17th June, 2009, publishing the Prevention of Food Adulteration (First Amendment) Rules, 2009.
  - (2) G.S.R. 430(E), dated the 19th June, 2009, publishing the Prevention of Food Adulteration (2nd Amendment) Rules, 2009. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 453/15/09]
- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, under Section 38 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940:
  - (1) G.S.R. 263(E), dated the 20th April, 2009, publishing the Drugs and Cosmetics (2nd Amendment) Rules, 2009. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 451/15/09]
  - (2) GSR 423(E), dated the 16th June, 2009, publishing corrigendum to GSR 263(E), dated the 20th April, 2009. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 452/15/09]
- III. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health and Family Welfare) Notification S.O. 1575(E), dated the 29th June, 2009, regarding enforcement of Section 99 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, pertaining to the Milk and Milk Products Regulations 1992, under Section 93 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 454/15/09]

### **Notification of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of Section 32 of the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of AYUSH) Notification No. 7-1/90-CCH (PT.1), dated the 5th May, 2009, publishing the Central Council of Homoeopathy (General) Amendment Regulations, 2008, together with delay statement. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 455/15/09]

### **Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 2008.**

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports:—

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 2008 (No. CA 15 of 2008-09) Union Government (Civil) Autonomous Bodies; [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 499/15/09]

- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 2008 (No. CA 18 of 2008-09) Union Government (Defence Services) Air Force and Navy; [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 500/15/09]
- (iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 2008 (No. CA 19 of 2008-09) and No. PA 26 of 2008-09: Union Government (Railways) and Appropriation Accounts of Railways Parts I and II including Annexure-G for the year 2007-08. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 501/15/09]

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**MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA**

**The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2009.**

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:—

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2009, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 23rd July, 2009.

The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India.”

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

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**STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER’S 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): Mr. Vice Chairman, Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 27th of July, 2009 will consist of:—

1. Further discussion on the working of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.
2. Consideration and return of the Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2009 as passed by Lok Sabha.
3. Consideration and return of the Finance (No. 2) Bill, 2009, after it is passed by Lok Sabha.
4. Discussion on the working of Ministries of:—
  - (a) Road Transport and Highways;
  - (b) External Affairs

**CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT  
PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**Uncertain position of Monsoon and deficit rainfall in the country causing  
hardships and anxiety among the farmers and the need for a  
contingency plan therefor**

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I beg to call the attention of the hon. Minister of Agriculture to the uncertain position of monsoon and deficit rainfall in the country causing hardships and anxiety among the farmers and the need for a contingency plan therefor.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir, India Meteorological Department (IMD)'s long range forecast update for the 2009 South-West monsoon season (June to September) indicates that the average rainfall is likely to be below normal; in particular the North-West region would be getting 81% of the normal rainfall. Progress of monsoon shows that as on 23.07.09 there is (-) 19% deficiency of rainfall in the country as a whole, with North-West region at (-) 38% and North-East region at (-) 43%.

The Kharif sowing is in progress in all States. The Kharif area coverage is almost normal in case of cotton, jowar, maize, pulses and oilseeds. However, less area coverage has been reported in rice and bajra. As on 16th July, the area coverage under rice is 114.63 lakh ha. compared to last year's area coverage of 145.21 lakh ha. which is 30.58 lakh ha. less than the area covered last year during the corresponding period. Main shortfall is reported from UP (-8.75 lakh ha.), Bihar (-6.39 lakh ha.), Chhattisgarh (-5.87 lakh ha.) and West Bengal (-2.80 lakh ha.) and some other States. The total rice area is about 391 lakh ha. Bajra is reported to be covered in 34.67 lakh ha. compared to last year's area of 46.01 lakh ha. at this week. However, the area coverage under Bajra will increase as it could be sown up to first week of August. The area coverage under Maize and Jowar is reported to be 46.18 lakh ha. and 16.57 lakh ha. respectively compared to last year's area of 47.41 lakh ha. in maize and 17.16 lakh ha. in jowar. These crops can be planted up to end of this month. Therefore, normal area coverage is expected in these crops.

The area coverage under oilseeds, including Soybean and Groundnut is 107.10 lakh ha. compared to last year's area of 110.32 lakh ha. Higher area is recorded in sunflower and castor. More area under soybean is reported in Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka. Higher area coverage of groundnut is reported in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

The area coverage so far under pulses is 38.38 lakh ha. compared to last year's area of 40.73 lakh ha. More pulses area is reported in Karnataka (+3.97 lakh ha.), Madhya Pradesh (+1.66 lakh ha.), Maharashtra (+1.72 lakh ha.) and Andhra Pradesh (+0.5 lakh ha.). Higher area coverage is reported in tur (3.66 lakh ha.) compared to last year.



Area coverage so far under cotton is 68.92 lakh ha. compared to 61.68 lakh ha. of last year which is more than 7.34 lakh ha. compared to last year. The total sugarcane area is reported to be 42.21 lakh ha. which is more than the normal area of 39.27 lakh ha. but less than last year's area of 43.79 lakh ha. (-1.29 lakh ha.)

Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Haryana, Assam, Manipur and parts of some other States are likely to be affected by the deficient rainfall. Manipur has declared drought in all districts of State and Assam and Jharkhand have declared drought in 14 and 4 districts respectively. However, none of these States have submitted any Memorandum for assistance under NCCF. I have received a letter from the Chief Minister, Bihar, on the drought situation in the State yesterday.

**7. Short term measures for coping with the deficient rainfall:—**

- (i) **Contingency plans:** The Ministry has been constantly monitoring the sowing progress with the States through weekly videoconferences/meetings, particularly in the wake of weak monsoon so far to coordinate adequate response. For different scenarios, contingency crop plans for specific agro-climatic conditions have been prepared. General features of these plans include replacement of main crop such as rice with alternate crop like millets in case of delayed sowing; planning for early maturing varieties of the main crop; planning for protective irrigation by efficient use of available water; and promoting technical package of practice like direct sowing, less plant spacing, more seed rate etc.

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

- (ii) **Liaison:** 100 MW of additional power from Central Pool was released to farmers of Punjab and Haryana for the timely completion of paddy transplantations and to protect crops already sown.
- (iii) **Additional Seed:** 15 lakh quintals is available in the public sector to support the alternate plans, Truthfully labelled seeds are being allowed to be distributed under Government Schemes in the affected areas. Age norms of seeds have been relaxed for the seed varieties distributed under Government Schemes.
- (iv) **Flexibility to States:** States have been given flexibility to utilise the funds provided under Crop Development programs of Central Schemes such as RKVY, NFSM to meet the contingent situations in the event of deficient rainfall, particularly for purchase and distribution of additional quantity of seeds, support for micro-irrigation, etc.
- (v) **Advisory services to farmers:** Weather based Agricultural Management Plans are made available on the ICAR website which can be downloaded by State Governments, KVKs, District level officials of Department of Agriculture for further dissemination of technical information useful to farmers of different States. The council has also designated Nodal Officers in various State Agricultural Universities and Krishi Vigyan

Kendres (KVKs) for providing technical advice and spreading awareness among the farmers and other stakeholders in the districts.

**Sum up:** Monsoon this year has been weak and erratic in its progress, and distribution resulting in late sowing of crops. Situation has improved in most parts except the North West, North-East Region, UP and Bihar. Contingency Plans are getting operationalised in the area where the dry spell is getting prolonged. States have been allowed to procure and position the additional quantities of seeds under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana Rice area and productivity may be adversely impacted which could be compensated to some extent by additional area under oilseeds, pulses and some coarse cereals.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, even according to the hon. Minister, the situation is grave and there is reduction in rice sowing, reduction in *bajra*, reduction in maize, reduction in *jawar*, reduction in soybean, reduction in groundnut, reduction in pulses, etc. It is going to create a very serious situation. Seventy three per cent of the districts in the country have received deficit rainfall. That means, the situation is grave. Sir, monsoon delayed is monsoon denied. Our meteorologists and others give the figure of the quantum of water after the entire rainfall is over. If you get rains in August or September, it would be flood, not drought. That situation has to be understood. You simply go by their figures of the quantum of water and how much rain has there been. That is not going to really help us. In India, we mostly have seasonal crops. Climatic conditions are changing. We are, now, in the era of climate change, which is already affecting our country and is going to affect us in future also. Keeping that in mind, the Government should formulate plans. The failure of monsoon will have multiple effects. There will be food shortage. There will be fodder shortage. That will also affect the human livelihood. There will also be power shortage in certain areas. There will be rise in the prices of essential commodities, particularly the food articles. So, this is going to have serious effect. The Government must come with a comprehensive plan to deal with all these things.

I am disappointed with the later part of the Minister's answer that Punjab has been given about 100 MW. There are States where power shortage is really there. The Central Government not at all seems to be bothered about that. Secondly, there are States that have requested for help. That was not given earlier also. In Madhya Pradesh, last year and the year before last, the entire Bundelkhand region had suffered with a severe drought.

The Chief Minister came and met the hon. Minister of Agriculture. He met the Minister of Finance also. There were favourable statements but not even one rupee was given to the State of Madhya Pradesh. I do not know what is the great sin they have committed. Sir, same is the case with regard to Bihar. Now, we are talking about the drought. You received a letter from the Bihar Chief Minister yesterday about the drought situation. What about the flood situation, which affected the lives of 30 lakh people? What is the help given by the Central Government in this

regard? Sir, it became a big controversy. My suggestion to the Government through the hon. Minister is— I am not holding him personally responsible, Sir— Don't play politics with calamities. People of the country, irrespective of the fact that whichever Party may be ruling there, are all our people. The Centre must have a holistic view of the entire situation and must always come to the rescue of farmers and the people concerned.

Then, Sir, the situation is, about fodder also, it is going to be a serious situation. We have 120 crores human population. We have, at least, 50 crore of cattle population in the country. We must also have a contingency plan for cattle, their fodder and other requirements. That has to be taken care of by the Minister.

Then, Sir, I come to availability of fertilizers. One season is gone. Just now, I spoke to the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. He said that rains were coming since yesterday. Normally, this is the rainy season. The season for sowing Soyabean and Paddy in Madhya Pradesh is over now. If there are further rains, there will, again, be flood in certain areas and the farmers who are affected in those areas, which were, earlier, affected by scanty rainfall, will be severely handicapped and they might have lost their investments also. So, seeds and fertilizer are a priority and it has to be dealt State to State and they have to be given adequate supply of these two, fertilizer and seeds.

Sir, my third point is about the loans. The hon. Minister was also instrumental in getting the loan-waiver programme. But, at the same time, what is happening including Maharashtra, is this. Where the crops have failed, banks are not giving them second-time loans, because they have not re-paid their earlier loans. So, they are forcing them to go to the moneylender again. The same psychology and tendency of suicides will also continue. So, the Minister must prevail upon the Minister of Finance to see that an alternative mechanism is evolved for those farmers who are affected in the drought-affected areas where they are not able to repay their loans and they have to be given long-term loans without interest, or, interest subsidy to be borne by the Central Government. Then, Sir, I have the newspapers cutting today. The reports are disturbing. दैनिक जागरण says, “हरियाणा और यूपी में पड़ेंगे चावल के लाले”. Sir, they are the rice bowls of India. There is a shortage even in those States. Sir, the Minister has read out certain States. The number may appear to be small, but Uttar Pradesh accounts for more than 80 districts and Punjab and Haryana constitute merely half of our production. All these States are affected. If timely action is not taken to rescue those farmers and give them, one, suggestion for alternative crop; secondly availability of fertilizer and seeds and, thirdly, credit facility in time, with the Government taking care of this thing and also some sort of subsidy for the diesel that is being used by the farmers where the ground water level has gone down considerably, their condition will not improve. If you have to lift water from 600 feet, or, 800 feet, you need diesel. Bihar Government is forced to spend money from its own pocket to help the farmers in those distressed areas. These are the areas where the Central Government should come into picture

and then take care of it. Sir I am just referring to it. The hon. Minister has not covered Madhya Pradesh now because, maybe, rains have come there. About 39 districts were declared drought affected earlier. ...*(Interruptions)*... About 152 taluks and 39 districts in a State were declared drought affected but it was not given even one rupee. What is this? Why this sort of attitude, I am not able to understand. ...*(Time-bell rings)*... Sir, it is a very important issue. In Karnataka, there is a flood situation. About 17 people died on account of floods. In Andhra Pradesh also, the Rain God is playing hide and seek. In certain areas, there is rain and in certain others, there is no rain at all in Andhra Pradesh also, which did not find any mention in the hon. Minister's Statement also. There, Sir, paddy transplantation has gone down considerably. On 114.63 lakh hectares, there is transplantation as on today July 17, today means July 17, compared with 145.21 lakh hectares in the last year. That means, there is a drop of nearly 21 per cent.

Sir, if there is a 21 per cent drop in the rice production alone, you can understand what will be the situation. Sir, as I told you earlier, it will have its effect on the prices also. *Arhar Dal* is today selling at ninety-three rupees in Delhi and it is selling at eighty rupees or eighty-five rupees in different States. Earlier the Government was saying that everything is under control. I don't know whether the Finance Minister was able to see what is the actual market condition and how things are moving. Today, Sir, I just brought, for the sake of the hon. Minister, an advertisement given in a newspaper by Andhra Pradesh Congress Chief Minister. It is there in all the newspapers, a half-page advertisement. Why? Sir, I am just quoting that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The only thing is, you should not show the newspaper. I am just reminding you that.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I don't show it. I read it, with your permission.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; reading is also not allowed.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I don't know why that rule has come.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I also don't know. But the rule is there.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Okay; Sir. I will follow the rules.

The *Black Gram Dal* is selling at thirty-nine rupees; *Red Gram Dal* is selling at ninety-five rupees; sugar at twenty-seven rupees; and groundnut oil at 108 rupees. Sir, forget about vegetables; onions are selling at fourteen rupees now. Sir, when the onion prices crossed ten rupees, our friends had carried onions on their heads in Delhi and it resulted in a catastrophe for the BJP in that election. I don't know whether a similar fate is awaiting for this Government also now, with this sort of prices going up. Take rice. This is a Government advertisement. Sir, this is a Government advertisement; these are not my figures. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Why have they given this advertisement?

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: The reason is, Madam, they thought they are very clever. They gave an advertisement in all the newspapers showing that the prices in Andhra are comparatively less than Delhi, Maharashtra, Karnataka, etc., forgetting that some of those States are also ruled by the Congress Party. My point is, it is not the question of Congress or the BJP or Telugu Desam or this Party or that Party. The issue is that the prices are rising. Hon. Swaminathanji is not here in the House. The other day, he gave an interview saying that there is going to be a 15 per cent fall in the production of paddy. That is going to create a serious situation. What is the alternative? You had a bumper foodgrain crop last year. But if there is going to be a 15 per cent shortage, what is going to happen in the future, what is going to happen to the poor man food where you are also planning to bring the Food Security Act? ...**(Time-bell rings)**...

Sir, another thing is regarding oilseeds. It is also a matter of great concern. Time and again, we have been discussing in this House also that we must make the farmers to diversify and go for production of oilseeds. But we are not able to succeed so far. What are the special plans that the Minister is having in his mind about this?

Then, Sir, I come to the last part of it, that is, the suggestion part. My first suggestion is, send a Central team without waiting for the States' request. Second is, educate the farmers not only through your scientific agencies but also use Doordarshan and All India Radio, *Akashvani*, in an effective manner to reach the people. Then, Sir, the private sector television companies have also got a social responsibility. We should utilize them also. The third is, provide power wherever it is required from the Central pool without any discrimination. The fourth is, make available the required seeds and fertilizers to all the respective States without giving scope for discrimination. It is because you did not decide the fertilizer policy, there was a situation where there was *lathicharge* and firing in certain parts of the country and this should not be allowed to be repeated again. Then, Sir, a compensatory production programme for those regions with better moisture at this point should also be suggested to the concerned States. The most important thing is, provide confidence to the people. There is a peculiar problem in Gujarat. I would like the Minister to take care of it. The tides in the sea are rising very high. It may be, I do not know, because of climatic changes and all that. Gujarat is having 1600 kms coast and the people living in the coastal areas are very much worried. They are afraid of seeing the level of tides that are going up.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Venkaiahnaiduji, see the time also.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I am concluding, Sir. We have one hour.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; there are other Members also.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Yes, Sir, Members from other States will also join. Sir, in Porbandar, the water has come to the city and the Government is pumping out water through pump sets. But, for how many days, they can continue this. Sir, for long, the request of Gujarat

has been that the Central Government must help to construct a detention wall in the seacoast. This also has to be examined on a priority level. Sir, I again come back to my suggestions. We should not play politics with calamity. I do not understand how this is happening when the Minister has a background in agriculture, is heading that department and also the panel; he is also the Chairman of the Disaster Management Committee. But nothing tangible is happening in spite of continuous drought and flood situations.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, conclude.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I would like to know from the hon. Minister specifically as to what they are doing with regard to Bihar. They had given an assurance to Bihar last year. What is it that they are doing about Madhya Pradesh, particularly when the situation in Madhya Pradesh is serious? Why this discrimination of not giving anything to Madhya Pradesh in the last three years? I would like the hon. Minister to respond to all these points.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (West Bengal): Sir, it is clear from the hon. Minister's reply that there will be a shortfall in the Kharif crops. In this backdrop, I would like to ask the Minister whether Government would go all out and take steps, including administrative measures, to check speculative activities in essential commodities, such as pulses and others. My second question based on the reply is: It is a fact that the worse affected crops are pulses, paddy and oilseeds. Due to a deficit in monsoon, most of the paddy-cultivated areas have not yet been cultivated in Punjab, Haryana and West Bengal. In the final three-four sentences of his reply, the Minister has said that the area under rice production may be adversely impacted, but that could be compensated. I do not know how it would be compensated. The Minister has said nothing about it in the Contingency Plan. I would like to again say that the problem is not only of deficient monsoons, but its adverse effect on the GDP of the country as well. Has any assessment been made to show how GDP would be affected due to low agricultural production?

Then, Sir, as per the reply, there is a shortfall in the production of pulses. I read an item in the newspaper yesterday that there was a shortfall in the production of pulses in 2007-08 and 2008-09. It is 0.11 per cent in the case of *tuar dal*, that is, *arhar*. This has had an adverse effect on the entire community. How do we manage it? It was stated at a Press briefing organised by this Ministry that the Government would enter into an agreement with the Government of Myanmar. I do not know whether that is a fact, but if it is a fact, the Government has to come out with details about the agreement and about the supply of *tuar dal* throughout the country. Sir, I would like to know when the Government is going to announce MSP for Kharif crops.

Sir, my next question relates to climate change. Many studies have been conducted in the country, at the Government level and at the NGO level. It was mentioned in the reply, but still I would like to know whether any study was conducted to assess the impact of climate change. Is

there a possibility of a rise in the sea level and in the frequency of storms and cyclones in coastal areas? It is very necessary for us to study this. Would the Government come up with a contingency plan? I would say that there is no comprehensive policy so far as the supply of seeds and fertilisers as well as availability of credit to the farmer is concerned. These should be the thrust areas for the Ministry of Agriculture. I do not find these things in the contingency plan of the Government. It should be done in a planned way.

Before concluding, I would like to say that in India, over the year, there has only been little advancement in monsoon management, whether in the area of forecasting or planning for monsoons. But right now, we need a clear sighted and firm policy. We need to provide confidence to the people. There is a lack of confidence in the system; people feel that it cannot cope with any contingency. The season has already passed; rains have already started. How to cope with the situation? Compensation is very much required for many farmers who have not yet cultivated their land. So, I would like to request the hon. Minister to announce, in due time, one compensation package. These are my questions on Calling Attention Motion.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Out of hon. Members who had given notices, only two have spoken. Now this five-minute rule will not be applicable to those who now want to participate and seek clarifications. I also request you to please seek clarification from the statement only. I will not allow if the clarification is not sought from the statement. Don't make a speech. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, if the hon. Minister has not covered any particular point which is relevant, then someone has to bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I agree with it. But this is possible in a discussion, not in a Calling Attention Motion.

**श्री विक्रम वर्मा (मध्य प्रदेश):** सर, clarification का सूखा तो न पड़ने दें।

**श्री उपसभापति:** देखिए, in a Calling Attention Motion, we have to conclude it in one hour.

**श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश):** उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी ने जो बयान दिया है, उस में उन्होंने स्वयं यह स्वीकार किया है कि देश में मानसून की अस्थिरता और कमी होने के कारण पूरे देश में सूखे की स्थिति पैदा हो गयी है। महोदय, इस में भी विशेषकर उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार सब से ज्यादा प्रभावित है, क्योंकि यहां की मुख्य फसल धान की है। उत्तर प्रदेश में गन्ने की भी फसल बहुत ज्यादा प्रभावित हुई है। महोदय, यह अनुमान लगाया गया है कि इस कारण उत्पादन में करीब 10 से 15 फीसदी तक की कमी आएगी। माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, पंजाब, हरियाणा, असम, मणिपुर और parts of the other States सूखे से पूरी तरह से प्रभावित हैं। उन्होंने यह भी कहा है कि None of these States have submitted any memorandum for the assistance under NCCF. I have received a letter from the Chief Minister of Bihar. तो मैं उन से यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि अगर उत्तर प्रदेश, जहां सूखे का सब से ज्यादा प्रभाव है, अगर वहां की सरकार ने आप के पास कोई सूचना या कोई रिपोर्ट नहीं भेजी है तो क्या आप उस सरकार से इस प्रकार की सूचना मंगवाएंगे? दूसरी बात बिजली के बारे में कहना चाहूंगा।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is not the Question Hour.

**श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी:** महोदय, पानी की कमी के कारण उत्तर प्रदेश में बिजली का भी बड़ा भयावह संकट है और उस में आप ने पंजाब और हरियाणा को तो कुछ बिजली देने की बात कही है, लेकिन मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश की इस भयावह स्थिति को देखते हुए उसे बिजली और अन्य सहायता देने के बारे में सरकार क्या कार्यवाही करने जा रही है?

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, our hon. Minister's statement is not reflecting the real picture and the serious situation that is arising out of the drought condition because of delay in monsoon. Sir, I have got the figures how ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Madhu, you ask the clarification. I am again requesting hon. Members to only seek clarification, otherwise you will not be able to finish. At 1 o'clock I will have to finish it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: I would like to bring to the notice of hon. Minister that in Andhra Pradesh, as far as paddy is concerned, 60 per cent area is sown. Out of that, 15 lakh acres is dried. Yesterday, if anyone has watched the television, it was shown how peasants of different areas were quarrelling over water. This is the case of areas coming under Assured Irrigation Scheme of Krishna Delta. The true picture has not been properly depicted by our hon. Minister.

In respect of *Dal*, that is, pulses, the total area is four-and-a-half lakh hectares. Out of that, 50 per cent is sown. In that, 40 per cent area is dried. Not only that, Sir, I would like to inform our hon. Minister that within three days, that is, 20th, 21st and 23rd, four peasants have died. On 20th, in East Godavari district, one peasant, Shri Appa Rao, died after consuming pesticides. ...**(Time-bell rings)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, conclude. Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav.

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: On 21st, Shri Muthaiah died. He is from Kurnool district.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you want to say anything, you send a letter to the hon. Minister. Now, please conclude.

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: In Krishna District, in Nagayalanka area...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I request Members not to...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: In three days, four peasants died. ...**(Time-bell rings)**... A serious situation has arisen. ...**(Time-bell rings)**... In the present season, when monsoon failed, farmers are denied of loans by the banks.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have called the next speaker. You have already taken three-and-a-half minutes. It is not allowed. Please conclude...*(Interruptions)*... You cannot plead for more time because then other Members' right is curtailed for one Member.

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: I am not taking much time, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have already taken more time.

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: My request is...



SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, he is talking about the actual farmers.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All are talking about farmers only. You cannot say that you alone are talking.

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Sir, today, it is 24th,...(Time-bell rings)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, each Party tries to support Members. It is not correct...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: In Anantapur district, Shri B. Laxmi Reddy died. ...(Time-bell rings)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, Mr. Madhu, I am sorry I will not be able to allow. I will ask the Reporter not to record it.

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Sir, I am concluding. But, my query to the hon. Minister is that in the season, the farmers try to cultivate their lands. Because of the delay in monsoon, the cultivations have dried up. When they applied for the loans, the banks told them that as their crops had dried and there was no rain, why they were asking for loans...(Time-bell rings)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav. Now, only what Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav says will go on record.

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव** (उत्तर प्रदेश): श्रीमन्, माननीय मंत्री जी ने Calling Attention पर जो अपना स्टेटमेंट दिया है, उसमें इस बात का जिक्र है कि *kharif* area coverage is almost normal in case of cotton, jawar, maize, pulses and oilseeds. कॉटन के बारे में मैं नहीं कह सकता, मैं उत्तर प्रदेश से आता हूँ, लेकिन मुझे इस स्टेटमेंट को देख कर आश्चर्य होता है कि इस तरह के स्टेटमेंट कैसे बनाये जाते हैं? मैं स्वयं एक किसान हूँ। मैं खुद अपनी खेती देखता हूँ और करता हूँ। माननीय मंत्री जी, इस बार मैं अपनी 10 परसेंट धान भी नहीं लगा पाया हूँ। मैं मूँग और उरद की दाल को एक बीघा भी नहीं बो सका। उत्तर प्रदेश में यह स्थिति right from Saharanpur to Balia है। कहीं कुछ नहीं है। धान की जो सारी nursery हैं, वे तैयार होकर खड़ी हो गई हैं, उसमें गांठें पड़ गई हैं, अब उसको use भी नहीं किया जा सकता है। अगर अब बारिश हो जाए या मॉनसून भी आ जाए तब भी नई nursery पैदा करके उसमें धान पैदा नहीं किया जा सकता। अब कोई मतलब नहीं है। मुझे यह बात समझ में नहीं आती कि यहाँ किस तरह से स्टेटमेंट दिया गया है। पहली बात यह है। दूसरी बात, आप जानते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान के सारे साइंटिस्ट्स पहले ही यह चेतावनी दे चुके हैं कि climate change की वजह से यह मानसून काफी uncertain रहेगा, कभी ज्यादा पानी बरसेगा, कभी कम बरसेगा। पिछले साल इन दिनों हालत यह थी कि पानी ही पानी था, बहुत मुश्किल था, इतना बढ़िया पानी बरसा था कि धान भी बहुत हुआ, गेहूँ भी बहुत हुआ और दूसरी फसलें भी बहुत अच्छी हुई। लेकिन, इस साल एकदम उलट हो गया। तो इन परिस्थितियों में जब आपदा है, परेशानियाँ हैं, मेरा आपसे यह पूछना है कि क्या आप इस पूरे सूखे की स्थिति को देखते हुए, जहाँ सबसे ज्यादा सूखा है — उत्तर प्रदेश में है, बिहार में है, बल्कि पंजाब से लेकर दक्षिण के कुछ राज्यों तक पूरा कम्पलीट सूखा है, तो इन राज्यों को सूखाग्रस्त राज्य घोषित करके, जो natural calamity होती है, उसके अंतर्गत इन राज्यों को मदद करने के लिए कोई प्रस्ताव करेंगे? हालांकि, दुर्भाग्य यह है कि यह सब कृषि मंत्रालय के अधीन होना चाहिए, लेकिन जब पैसा देने की बात आती है तो मामला गृह मंत्रालय के पास चला जाता है। तो क्या आप गृह मंत्रालय से रिकमेंड कराके इन राज्यों को मदद करने की कृपा करेंगे? और जिन राज्यों ने अभी तक कुछ नहीं मांगा है, मैं जानता हूँ कि उन राज्यों के लोग दूसरे उसमें हैं, अच्छा हुआ कि बिहार से सूचना आ गई है, लेकिन कुछ राज्यों से नहीं आई है, तो वहाँ से भी, वे भी हिन्दुस्तान के हिस्से हैं, आप कुछ जानकारी मंगाएंगे? जब कोई राज्य सरकार चिट्ठी नहीं लिखती है,

लेकिन यदि आपके यहां सूचना है कि वहां बारिश नहीं हुई है, आप उनसे जानकारी मांगिए कि क्या जरूरत है, कितना नुकसान हुआ है, क्या हम मदद कर सकते हैं। धन्यवाद।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, to begin with, I must admit that the hon. Minister has given an exhaustive statement and has also accepted that there is a shortfall. Sir, straightaway, I would like to know from the Minister: does he know that in case of Rajasthan, in 2008, only six Districts were deficit-areas, whereas, this time, the number of deficit-areas is 60, where the deficit is from 20 to 59 per cent. So, special package has to be looked into for the State of Rajasthan being a desert area.

As Ram Gopal ji also said, Sir, the productivity also goes down. In case of rice, I understand, the productivity will go down to the extent of 70 to 30 per cent. If that happens, not only the area covered becomes less, less productivity results in lesser production. As far as pulses are concerned, you know that the figures are 38.3 lakh hectares compared to last year's figure of 40.73 lakh hectares. If this is the state of affairs, what will happen to the poor people. He mentioned about *dal*. Sir, 100 rupees! हमारे यहां हिन्दी में एक कहावत है — *दाल तो छोड़िए, दाल का पानी भी पीने के लिए नहीं मिलेगा*! This will be the situation. Mr. Minister, it is our responsibility that we import whatever is not available, be it foodgrains, tomatoes, potatoes or onions, as he has mentioned. It is a serious matter. These are the items which are required by the poor people. So, I would like to know your plan in this regard.

Sir, you have mentioned about the NCCF and that some States have not applied for it. Would you like to wait for them? Since we know about it, can we not take the initiative on our own at the Central level? If you need the formality of their application, please ask them to apply for it. We cannot sit tight on that.

Similarly, Sir, wheat prices have gone up by 30 per cent, rice prices by 36 per cent, and, tomato prices by 100 per cent. Unless we look into it urgently, it will become a great crisis for the country. ...**(Time bell rings)**... Sir, we have got the stock of 56 million tonnes...**(Time bell rings)**... Sir, can you tell me, how many minutes I have spoken.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not in minutes. It is not a speech. It is a clarification. I am not going to give you minutes. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, I am only seeking clarification. You can say, five minutes, three minutes, or, two minutes. But, if you do not let me know, how will I speak. ...**(Interruptions)**... I will sit down.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why are you... ...**(Interruptions)**... I am allowing two to three minutes each. And, you have taken more than that.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: How many minutes have I taken? ...**(Interruptions)**... If I have taken three minutes, I will sit down right now.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have already taken three minutes. This is what I am saying. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Okay. Then, I will seek only two more clarifications.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I do not ring the bell unless three minutes are over. ...*(Interruptions)*... Even then if you are not satisfied, what can the Chair do?

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: All right, I will ask only one question then.

In Rajasthan, we are not used to floods. Deserts in western Rajasthan have floods. Do you have any plan to help us counter floods in the State of Rajasthan? Unless we have a crisis management plan for the entire country, we will have problems. Please let us know what is your crisis management plan for agriculture.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Out of the listed names, one will be taken up and then there will be names for seeking clarifications.

SHRI N. BALAGANGA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, first I want to register my protest because the statement tabled by the hon. Minister for Agriculture does not contain a single word about the deficient levels of the North-East Monsoon.

Secondly, in a large country like India having several agro-climatic zones, though drought cannot be prevented, its impact can be minimised. I want to seek a few clarifications from the Minister through you.

Do you foresee any effect of global warming in this context? Two, please tell me whether the contingency plan is ready. Coming to farmers' concerns, while sanctioning assistance to States, will you be fair and objective instead of looking for other considerations?

Finally, there are many cumbersome formalities which have to be fulfilled by a State Government when it is met with drought. First it has to submit a memorandum to the Centre. A team of officials will visit the State to assess the drought situation. Then the assessment of the delegation goes to the notice of the Inter-Ministerial Group. Then the IMG sends its recommendations to a high-level committee. The highlevel committee then decides the quantum of grants to be given to the concerned States. And then it is forwarded to the National Contingency Fund for action. This long procedure does not facilitate easy and timely remedial measures.

Here, I would like to quote a couplet of Tamil poet Saint Thiruvalluvar.

It means a Minister is one who can make excellent choice of means, time, and manner of execution in undertaking a difficult challenge.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to prescribe the methodology which facilitates easy and timely remedial measures during the time of drought in the States. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Sir, I also want to seek clarifications.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please wait, I have so many names.

**श्रीमती माया सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश) :** उपसभापति जी, मंत्री जी ने अपने वक्तव्य में यह कहा है कि जहां सूखे की स्थिति काफी लंबे समय से चली आ रही है, उनमें मध्य प्रदेश भी शामिल है। मैं भी उसी प्रदेश से आती हूँ। मध्य प्रदेश में 3-4 वर्षों से लगातार सूखे की स्थिति निर्मित हो रही है और मध्य प्रदेश में 272 तहसीलों में से 164 तहसीलें सूखे की चपेट में हैं। मध्य प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री जी ने पिछले वर्ष 2 प्रस्ताव माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी को

दिए हैं। उनमें से एक प्रस्ताव 37 जिलों के विषय में है, जो कि अब बढ़कर 39 हो गए हैं। मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से कहना चाहूंगी कि अब तक 2008 की स्थिति में कोई परिवर्तन नहीं आया है, स्थिति जस की तस है। इसलिए मेरा मंत्री जी से आग्रह है कि मध्य प्रदेश के 39 जिलों में सूखे की स्थिति के तत्काल निराकरण के लिए जो अल्पकालीन प्रस्ताव मध्य प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री या प्रदेश की सरकार के माध्यम से आए हैं ...

वहां रोजगार के सृजन के लिए, पेयजल की व्यवस्था के लिए, पशु चारे की व्यवस्था के लिए, APL को खाद्यान्न उपलब्ध कराने के लिए, बिजली के बिलों की माफी के लिए, ट्यूबवेल, हैंडपम्प खनन के लिए, खाद्यान्न के वितरण के लिए, स्वास्थ्य संबंधी कार्यों के लिए प्रस्ताव आए हैं। मेरा आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से आग्रह है कि ऐसे प्रदेशों में, जहां लगातार सूखे की स्थिति निर्मित हो रही है, उन प्रदेशों की ओर खास ध्यान दें। प्रदेश अपने सीमित साधनों से वहां पर इस स्थिति से निपटने की पूरी कोशिश कर रहे हैं, लेकिन मेरा आग्रह है कि सूखे से निपटने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार से सहायता राशि उन प्रदेशों की मांग के अनुसार तुरंत रिलीज की जाए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, I would like to inform that a bulletin has been issued. I do not know whether you have seen it or not. A decision has been taken that except in Question Hour, in all other listed items, where the Members want to participate, they have to give the names half-an-hour before the discussion. A bulletin has been sent. Now, it is impossible for any Presiding Officer to accommodate. Everybody raises his hand, even in the debates. Tell me, how one can accommodate. Now, all of us know that the time for the Calling Attention is not more than one hour. Now, another 10-15 minutes are left and I have requests of another 15 Members. How can we accommodate? ...*(Interruptions)*... I have no objection. ...*(Interruptions)*... Everybody wants to participate in such debates. If you follow one-minute rule, I will be too happy and I would be able to accommodate everybody. But, once they get up, they start quarrelling with the Presiding Officer. What can we do? Please. Now, Shri Rudy. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have your name. Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी (बिहार) :** महोदय, मैं आपसे बिल्कुल सीधा प्रश्न पूछूंगा...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: For the sake of your active participation, we have done this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी :** महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या मंत्री जी इस बात को मानते हैं कि आज जो भारत में बरसात का अभाव दिखाया गया है, वह लगभग 21 प्रतिशत है और अभाव में यह प्रमुख रूप से देखा जाता है कि Quantity is not important. More important is the distribution. मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि आज पूरे देश में जो बारिश का डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन नहीं हो रहा है, क्या इसका आकलन किया गया है? दूसरा, मैं बताना चाहता हूं कि इस देश में एक ऐसा राज्य है गुजरात, जहां आज भी कृषि का उत्पादन इस देश में सबसे अधिक है, 9 फीसदी है, जहां की धरती arid और semi-arid घोषित की गयी है, उसके बावजूद वहां सरकार ने कुछ ऐसे उपयोग किए हैं, जिनके कारण drought का प्रभाव कम हो जाता है। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बताएंगे कि गुजरात सरकार ने कौन से ऐसे मॉडल का उपयोग किया है कि आज पूरे देश में drought के बाद भी वह सबसे विकसित कृषि क्षेत्र माना जा रहा है? मैं एक और बात कहना चाहता हूं कि बिहार सरकार ने और बिहार के मुख्य मंत्री ने एक पत्र लिखकर आपको आगाह किया है कि बिहार की क्या स्थिति है।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो० पी.जे.कुरियन) पीठासीन हुए]

हम जानना चाहेंगे कि माननीय मुख्य मंत्री जी ने क्या कहा है, क्या आग्रह पेश किया है और उस आग्रह पर आपका क्या रवैया होने जा रहा है, आपकी क्या सोच है और आप क्या देने के बारे में सोच रहे हैं? कृपया

माननीय मंत्री जी इस संबंध में बताएं। अंत में, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जब आपने स्वयं स्वीकार किया है कि बिहार में लगभग डेढ़ लाख हेक्टेयर में धान की रोपनी कम हुई है, उस परिस्थिति में क्या आप कोई स्पेशल क्रॉप इंश्योरेंस या किसानों को डायरेक्ट सब्सिडी देने का कोई प्रावधान कर रहे हैं या नहीं? ये मेरे चार सीधे-सीधे प्रश्न हैं, जो मैं मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता था। महोदय, मैंने पूरे एक मिनट में चारों प्रश्न आपके सामने रखे हैं। धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. R.C. Singh. One minute. You ask specific question in one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री आर.सी. सिंह** (पश्चिमी बंगाल): सर, हम लोगों के खड़े होने से ही समय कम हो जाता है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: No, no. This is not a speech. It is Calling Attention.

**श्री आर.सी. सिंह** : कभी-कभी तो थोड़ा बैक बेंचिज को भी देख लिया कीजिए। कल भी कम हो गया, आज भी कम हो गया।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन)**: सबको एक मिनट मिलेगा। बैक बेंचिज और फ्रंट बेंचिज, सबको एक मिनट मिलेगा।

**श्री आर.सी. सिंह**: सर, मंत्री महोदय ने जो बात कही है, उसमें उन्होंने स्वीकार किया है कि इस साल बारिश की अवस्था बहुत खराब है। प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी ने ठीक ही कहा है कि हम लोगों के घरों में जो धान के बीज थे, वे बीज खेतों में डाल दिए और सूख गए। सूखने के बाद उन्हें पशु भी नहीं ंखाता है। ऐसी अवस्था में, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि एक Agriculture Secretaries की मीटिंग हुई थी जिसमें कहा गया था कि 15 जुलाई तक अगर मानसून नहीं आता है तो विशेष व्यवस्था की जाएगी। मंत्री महोदय ने क्या विशेष व्यवस्था की है? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ? दूसरी बात, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ तथा हाउस को बताना चाहता हूँ कि पश्चिमी बंगाल में जो आइला आया था, सिर्फ पानी नहीं आया था, समुद्र का खारा पानी आने से कुएं के पानी से लेकर के तालाब और पूरी धरती तक बंजर हो गई, एकदम नमकीन हो गई थी। कोई भी फसल-सब्जी, धान यहां तक कि मछली पालन वगैरह समूचा समाप्त हो गया था। इसके लिए कुछ विशेष पैकेज मांगा गया था जो थोड़ा सैंक्शन भी किया गया और 96 करोड़ रुपया मिला, बाकी कुछ भी नहीं मिला। तो उसके लिए मंत्री जी क्या व्यवस्था करेंगे?

एक सवाल और सर, इसके बाद मैं समाप्त कर देता हूँ। माननीय मंत्री जी ने एक बात कही है कि पूरे देश में धान की बुआई 26.5 परसेंट, मिलेट्स की 56.5 परसेंट, पिनेट्स की 59 परसेंट हुई है। चूंकि रेनफाल्स 60 परसेंट से भी कम हुआ है, तो ऐसी अवस्था में जो विशेष पैकेज देने की बात हुई थी, उसके लिए क्या व्यवस्था है?

DR. N. JANARDHANA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, Sir. Mr. Venkaiah Naidu has brought to the notice of the Government as well as to the people of Andhra Pradesh his concerns about the drought situation in the State. We all join him because there is no time, and it is better to do that. But I would like to submit one thing. This Government which has waived off all loans for the farmers will definitely stand by the people and solve the problem, and the Minister is capable of doing it. But anyway, we have to express our concerns. We are in a bad position. Sir, whenever there is drought and less monsoon, contingent plans are to be prepared by the State Governments and they have to send it to the Centre, and by now, the Minister might have got all the contingent plans prepared by the States. He has to consolidate them, and then prepare for the situation. I hope our Minister is ready with that. And he, along with his team, will stand by the people and save the situation. Thank you.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL (Punjab): Sir, while I appreciate the steps that have been announced by the Minister, I would like to point out that the situation in Punjab is extremely grim. So far, the deficiency of rainfall has been to the tune of about 45 per cent. The Minister has just announced that 50 megawatts of extra electricity has been given to Punjab. Sir, this is a joke. Punjab feeds the nation. It is the food bowl of the country. Our economy is completely crippled because we have no electricity and everything has been diverted to the farm sector. We require, at least, 1,000 megawatts of electricity for a limited period, and requests have gone to the Central Government. I hope the Minister will consider that.

Secondly, will the Government make arrangements to provide short duration variety of paddy seeds for Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh because if it is not done now and in adequate quantity, the next crop will suffer?

Thirdly, will the Government immediately announce a higher MSP for paddy because our farmers have spent a huge amount of money on diesel. They need to be compensated and they need to be told now because if it is announced now, the farmers will be motivated to produce more.

And my last point is, these calamities will occur time and again because of the global warming. Will the Minister kindly announce some scheme to provide solar power diesel pumps for the farm sector?

**श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार):** उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, सूखे की वजह से पूरे देश की हालत खराब है। अभी जो खाद्यान्न पदार्थों की कीमत बाजार में है, उसको देखते हुए आगे कल्पना करने में भी डर लगता है कि जो सुखाड़ की स्थिति है, उसमें चीजों की कीमत क्या होगी? बिहार के बारे में, इन्होंने बताया है। मैं सिर्फ दो-तीन बातें बिहार के संबंध में कहना चाहता हूँ। बिहार में बिहार सरकार ने जो सर्वेक्षण कराया है, उसमें गरीबी रेखा के नीचे रहने वालों की तादाद करीब डेढ़ करोड़ है, लेकिन भारत सरकार के योजना आयोग के अनुसार वह सिर्फ 65 लाख लोगों को ही बीपीएल के हिसाब से पीडीएस के लिए अन्न की आपूर्ति करती है। मैं माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करूंगा कि बिहार की विशेष स्थिति को देखते हुए, वहां पीडीएस का कोटा, राशन की आपूर्ति का कोटा बढ़ाएं। मैं दूसरी बात यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार के मुख्य मंत्री ने भी बिजली की आपूर्ति बढ़ाने के लिए कहा है, बिजली का कंजमेशन पर केपीटा बिहार में सबसे कम है, इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करूंगा कि for the time being इस सिचुएशन से बाहर निकलने के लिए बिजली का सेंट्रल पूल से कोटा बढ़ाया जाए। इसके लिए बिहार के मुख्य मंत्री ने भी केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध किया है। तीसरी और अंतिम बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि fodder का भी भारी संकट उपस्थित होने वाला है, fodder के बारे में क्या उपाय मंत्री जी करने जा रहे हैं, इसकी भी जानकारी सदन को देने की कृपा करें। धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Thank you, very much. Now, Shri Rajeev Shukla.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA (Maharashtra): Sir, from the Minister's statement I have observed that he has given 100 megawatts of electricity to Haryana and Punjab while other States are being ignored. Because each and every village has got sufficient number of tube wells and this irrigation problem can be resolved by giving an uninterrupted power supply to these tube wells, I think, the power supply to other States should also be increased, either from the Central Pool or from the States. Some States can be asked to provide them more power.

Sir, the second alternative which I am submitting is this. There is a power-cut of 15-20 hours in rural areas while, in urban areas, the power-cut is around 10 hours. It can be reversed. For one or two months, these urban people could face this problem; they could suffer because of this. The power supply to rural areas should be a minimum of 15 hours out of 24 hours, and to urban areas, it can be 15-20 hours.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): : Thank you, Shuklaji. Now, Shri Rajniti Prasad.

**श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार):** सर, मैं एक मिनट में खत्म कर दूंगा। सर, पूरे बिहार राज्य में सुखाड़ की स्थिति है, इसलिए मैं बिहार को सुखाड़ राज्य घोषित करने की मांग कर रहा हूँ और उसके तहत केन्द्र सरकार जो सहायता बिहार राज्य की कर सकती है, वह करे। दूसरी बात, ...(व्यवधान)... सर, अब हम आसमान पर भरोसा नहीं कर सकते हैं, क्योंकि आसमान डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन ठीक से नहीं कर रहा है। हम प्रकृति पर भरोसा नहीं कर सकते हैं, इसलिए पानी की व्यवस्था धरती से करनी चाहिए। अगर पानी बरसता है, तो उसको रेस्टोर करने की आदत हम लोगों को बनानी चाहिए।...(व्यवधान)... सर, सारे बोरिंग बिहार में फेल हो गए हैं। वे इसलिए फेल हो गए, क्योंकि वहां पर बिजली नहीं है। इसके लिए वहां पर बिजली की लाइन देना जरूरी है।

सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि आप बिहार में पानी की व्यवस्था करने के लिए क्या कर रहे हैं? मेरा माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध है कि आप बिहार को बिजली उपलब्ध करवा दीजिए। धन्यवाद।

**श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश):** उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, हमारे कृषि मंत्री जी ने यह माना है कि उत्तर प्रदेश, पंजाब, हरियाणा और असम में वर्षा काफी कम हुई है और सूखाग्रस्त होने के कारण वहां पर अभी धान की रोपाई नहीं हुई है। सर, जैसे उत्तर प्रदेश है — उत्तर प्रदेश में धान काफी पैदा होता है, गन्ना काफी पैदा होता है। अभी किसानों ने धान की पौध लगाई थी, वह नहीं लगी है और वह सूख गई है। वहां पर कुछ धान किसानों ने पानी के माध्यम से लगाने की कोशिश की है, लेकिन वहां पर पर्याप्त मात्रा में बिजली नहीं मिल नहीं है। उत्तर प्रदेश की माननीय मुख्य मंत्री जी ने कई बार चिट्ठी भी लिखी है कि केन्द्र की दो यूनिट उत्तर प्रदेश में सात हजार मेगावाट बिजली तैयार करती हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश को उसका केवल 50 प्रतिशत ही मिलता है। यदि उत्तर प्रदेश को ज्यादा बिजली मिले तो सूखाग्रस्त क्षेत्र से निपटा जा सकता है, लेकिन अभी तक पूरी बिजली नहीं दी गई है। एक साल पहले बुंदेलखंड सूखाग्रस्त था और आज भी सूखाग्रस्त है। वहां पर पीने के लिए भी पानी नहीं मिल रहा है। माननीय मुख्य मंत्री जी ने इसके लिए भी लिखा था, लेकिन अभी तक न तो कोई पैकेज भेजा गया है और न ही बिजली की कोई व्यवस्था की गई है। यदि हमें सूखे से निपटना है, तो हम माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन करेंगे कि वे उत्तर प्रदेश को ज्यादा बिजली दें, ताकि धान पैदा हो...(समय की घंटी)... जो किसानों ने लगा भी दिया है। दूसरे वहां की आबादी भी बढ़ी है। किसानों ने जो बीज जमीन में डाला था, बरसात न होने की वजह से वह सूख गया है। किसानों को उसका कम्पनसेशन या मुआवजा दिया जाएगा या नहीं दिया जाएगा, आर्थिक पैकेज दिया जाएगा या नहीं दिया जाएगा? कृपया माननीय मंत्री जी कृपया इस बारे में बताएं, यही मेरा निवेदन है।

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Thank you, Sir. For the first time, I am standing here to speak about the drought situation of Assam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You ask questions.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: We have always spoken about the flood situation in Assam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You ask only specific questions. Don't say anything else. There is no time.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: We have always spoken about the flood situation. Now there is an unprecedented situation in Assam. According to the statement given by the hon. Minister, 14 districts of Assam are drought affected. For your information, the Government of Assam has already announced that all the districts of Assam are drought affected, not merely 14 districts.

Secondly, there is a shortage of power in Assam. It is known to everybody. There are a lot of villages where there is no electricity connectivity. So, I would request the hon. Minister to consider the requests of Assam seriously because after one or two months flood will come. The flood situation has already destroyed the economy of Assam like anything. Now it is drought. I would request the hon. Minister to give additional power from the Central pool to Assam. A lot of areas in Assam are without electricity connectivity. The only option is to use shallow tube-well. I would request the hon. Minister to supply free diesel to the State Government and help us. At this juncture, this would help Assam Government to a great extent. Thank you.

SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH (Haryana): Thank you, hon. Vice-Chairman. The hon. Agriculture Minister is here. There is no rain; there is no power. The cost of production of paddy is going up. The farmers are spending Rs. 300 per acre every day. Both Punjab and Haryana provide more than 75 per cent of foodgrains to the Central pool. May I request the hon. Minister one thing? Considering that the farmers are now paying much more to raise the crops, will he announce any special incentive to all the farmers in Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh, who are producing foodgrains, because they spend more? Even hiring of a diesel pump is very costly. So, I would request that both Haryana and Punjab need your special incentive and more electricity. Thank you.

**श्रीमती मोहसिना किदवई (छत्तीसगढ़):** मैं माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि उन्होंने अपनी स्टेटमेंट के last page में कहा है, [Advisory services to farmers] और उसमें उन्होंने तज्जिरा किया है कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्र का। Sir, Krishi Vigyan Kendras are a very strong link between the agriculture universities and the Research Centres and the farmers. मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि इनकी हालत क्या है? क्या Agriculture Ministry में कभी यह मालूम हुआ है कि जो कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्र है, जो आपकी रिसर्च Centres और यूनिवर्सिटी और फार्मर्स के बीच बड़ा लिंक है, इनको ट्रांसलेट करना होता है, इनकी हालत क्या है? इनकी हालत यह है कि न तो पूरा स्टाफ है, न वहां पर Agriculture Scientist हैं न equipment हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या कभी उन्होंने KVK का कोई निरीक्षण करवाया है कि वहां पर पूरा स्टाफ है? क्योंकि आज जो हमारे माननीय मैम्बरान ने कहा कि सब सही है, हमें आज यह देखना है कि आज कुदरत पर उतना भरोसा नहीं है, because of this climate change or global warming हमें उस परिप्रेक्ष में अपना इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर मजबूत करना है। बारिश कभी होगी, कभी नहीं होगी, फलटुस आ रहे हैं, लेकिन इस सब में सबसे बड़ा मसला आता है कि हमारा इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर क्या है? इसमें प्राइम मिनिस्टर भी बहुत दिलचस्पी ले रहे हैं और एक कमेटी उनकी अध्यक्षता में बनी है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहूंगी कि ये सारी चीजें आती-जाती रहेंगी, खुदा करे बारिशें अच्छी हों, बारिश नहीं हो रही है, बिजली नहीं है, इसके लिए हमें नए तरीके सोचने पड़ेंगे। रिसर्च, अच्छे बीज, अच्छी खाद और कम से कम वक्त में कौन-सी फसलें उगाएं — मैं के.बी.के. के बारे में खास तौर से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगी कि उनकी हालत कैसी है?



محترمہ محسنہ قدوائی (چھتیس گڑھ) : میں مائنے کرشی منتری جی سے یہ جاننا چاہتی ہوں کہ انہوں نے اپنی اسٹیٹمینٹ کے last page میں کہا ہے "Advisory services to farmers" اور اس میں انہوں نے تذکرہ کیا ہے کرشی وگیان کیندر کا۔ Sir, Krishi Vigyan Kendras are a very strong link between the agriculture universities and the farmer. میں مائنے منتری جی سے یہ جاننا چاہتی ہوں کہ ان کی حالت کیا ہے؟ کیا ایگریکلچر منسٹری میں کبھی یہ معلوم ہوا ہے کہ جو کرشی وگیان کیندر ہے، جو آپ کی ریسرچ یونیورسٹی اور فارمرس میں سب سے بڑا لنک ہے، ان کو ٹرانسلیٹ کرنا ہوتا ہے، ان کی حالت کیا ہے؟ ان کی حالت یہ ہے کہ نہ تو پورا اسٹاف ہے، نہ وہاں پر ایگریکلچر سائنٹسٹ ہیں۔ میں مائنے منتری جی سے جاننا چاہتی ہوں کہ کیا کبھی انہوں نے KVK کا کوئی نرپیکشن کروایا ہے کہ وہاں پر پورا اسٹاف ہے؟ کیوں کہ آج جو ہمارے مائنے ممبران نے کہا کہ سب صحیح ہے، ہمیں آج یہ دیکھنا ہے کہ آج قدرت پر اتنا بھروسہ نہیں ہے، because of this climate change or global warming میں اس پریپیکشن میں اپنا انفراسٹرکچر مضبوط کرنا ہے۔ بارش کبھی ہوگی، کبھی نہیں ہوگی، فلڈس آ رہے ہیں، ممبئی بچاؤ، خدا کرے آج وہاں بارش نہ ہو۔ لیکن اس سب میں سب سے بڑا مسئلہ آتا ہے کہ ہمارا انفراسٹرکچر کیا ہے۔ اس میں پرائم منسٹر بھی بہت دلچسپی لے رہے ہیں اور ایک کمیٹی ان کی ادھیکشتا میں بنی ہے۔ میں مائنے منتری جی سے کہوں گی کہ یہ ساری چیزیں آتی جاتی رہیں گی، خدا کرے بارش اچھی ہوں، بارش نہیں ہو رہی ہے، بجلی نہیں ہے، اس کے لئے ہمیں نئے طریقے سوچنے پڑیں گے۔ ریسرچ، اچھے بیج، اچھی کھاد اور کم سے کم وقت میں کون سی فصلیں اگائیں۔ میں KVK کے بارے میں خاص طور سے منتری جی سے جاننا چاہوں گی کہ ان کی ہیلتھ کیسی ہے؟

†[ ]Transliteration in Urdu Script.

**श्री विक्रम वर्मा:** माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, माननीय मंत्री जी के स्टेटमेंट का चौथा या पांचवां पैराग्राफ देखें, कपास के अधीन जो कवरेज है, वह उन्होंने 7.34 लाख हेक्टेयर ज्यादा बताई है। ऐसे ही गन्ने की पिछले साल से कम है, लेकिन सामान्य से अधिक बताई है। आप जानते हैं कि मध्य प्रदेश, आंध्र प्रदेश, कर्नाटक, महाराष्ट्र, राजस्थान का कुछ पोर्शन कॉटन ग्रावर का है। मेरा खुद का क्षेत्र है...(व्यवधान)...

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे.कुरियन):** प्रश्न पूछिए।

**श्री विक्रम वर्मा:** यह पहले बोया गया है, इसलिए आपको लग रहा है — क्योंकि बारिश के आने की उम्मीद के पहले गर्मी में इरिगेशन के साधन से बो देते हैं, लेकिन आज की इस परिस्थिति में सूखा पड़ने के कारण माइस्चर कम होगा, इससे बीमारियां आएंगी, प्रॉडक्शन कम होगा। इसमें इरिगेशन के लिए अतिरिक्त और इसके साथ जो बीमारियां आएंगी, उसके लिए अभी से कौन-कौन सी प्रोसेस हैं ...(व्यवधान)... They should be made available free there; otherwise, क्योंकि सबसे ज्यादा स्यूसाइडल केसेज कॉटन के क्षेत्र में हुए हैं ...(व्यवधान)... एक सैकिण्ड ...(व्यवधान)... इन्होंने इसमें बताया है कि किसानों के लिए ...(व्यवधान)... जो दिया है, इसमें वेदर बेस्ड एग्रीकल्चर मैनेजमेंट प्लान हमेशा के लिए, हर बार बना हुआ है, उसमें आज की परिस्थिति के अनुसार मैनेजमेंट प्लान नहीं है...(व्यवधान)... यह कब, कितना होगा, कौन सी सीड बोएं, इस प्रकार का प्लान है ...(व्यवधान)... ड्राउट को देखते हुए अलग कोई प्लान नहीं है। आप उसके बारे में क्या कर रहे हैं?

**DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Rajasthan):** Sir, my point is about the climate change. When it is La Nina, there is a different pattern of rain and drought; when it is El Nino, there is a different pattern of drought and rain. Looking into this climate change, the pattern of rain and coming and going of monsoon, will the Government make a study and research as to whether we can change our soil and harvesting seasons in the country? We are going along with the same Rabi and Kharif crops at a particular time, for centuries. In the changed situation, is there any plan of the Government to see that the sowing season is changed, according to the change in climate? Is it scientifically possible? You can find out which year it is La Nina and which year it is El Nino.

**श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास (छत्तीसगढ़):** उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया है कि छत्तीसगढ़ में 5.87 लाख हेक्टेयर में वर्षा की कमी हुई है, उसके लिए आप क्या करेंगे? कृपया इतना ही बता दीजिए।

**SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal):** Since monsoon deficiency and drought situation have come on the head of already existing deep agrarian crisis, would the hon. Minister consider it a true crisis management instead of an event management, while considering a complete ban on future trade of all these agrarian commodities? ....

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN):** Yes, it is over.

**SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:** I have not completed. I have only sentence. Would the hon. Minister address the problem of denial of credit to the farmers, in view of the drought situation and crop failure and also consider an early announcement of an appropriate MSP?

**SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (Andhra Pradesh):** Sir, to cope up with the deficient rainfall, some State Governments have taken up cloud seeding. Is there any plan to have a policy on that? Is the Government taking any step in this direction?

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन):** प्रभा ठाकुर जी, आप सिर्फ प्रश्न पूछिए।

**डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान):** सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि पहले सरकार ने जिस तरह किसानों के कर्ज माफ किए थे, तो क्या कम-से-कम जिन एरियाज़ में drought हो, अकाल declare हो जाए, उन एरियाज़ में अगली फसल होने तक किसानों के उस समय तक उन्होंने जो कर्ज लिया हुआ है, उसका इंटरेस्ट माफ करने की सरकार की कोई योजना है, ताकि तब तक उनको ब्याज का relief मिल जाए? दूसरा यह है कि क्या artificial rain हो सकती है? सर, थाईलैंड में artificial rain कराई जाती है। क्या इसकी कोई सम्भावना है, क्या हमारे साइंटिस्ट्स ने ऐसी कोई रिसर्च की है, क्या ऐसी कोई possibility है कि अकालग्रस्त क्षेत्रों में artificial rain कराई जा सके?

**SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu):** Sir, I would like to know whether the uncertain position of monsoon and deficiency in rainfall is due to global warming. I would also like to know whether the Government is on a preparatory path to face a situation which may worsen in the future.

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा):** सर, मुझे एक मिनट समय दीजिए। आपने इशारा किया था। सर, एक अहम मुद्दा है कि ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री शरद पवार:** वहाँ बाढ़ है।

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** सर, आपने कहा था, मेरा नाम भी लिखा था। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री शरद पवार :** उड़ीसा में floods है।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन):** ठीक है, आप बोलिए।

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** सर, कहते हैं कि पानी के लिए तीसरा महायुद्ध होने वाला है।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन):** पानी सबको चाहिए।

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** सर, मेरा इतना कहना है कि प्रकृति का दोहन होना चाहिए, प्रकृति का शोषण नहीं होना चाहिए। इन सारी समस्याओं का मूल कारण आबादी में बढ़ोतरी है। जनसंख्या में व्यापक बढ़ोतरी होती है, हिन्दुस्तान में इतनी population growth होती है, ...(व्यवधान)...

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन):** आप प्रश्न पूछिए।

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** इसके कारण climate change, global warming, यह सारा पानी का अभाव होता है। माननीय मंत्री महोदय एक कद्दावर मंत्री हैं, क्या वे यह बताएंगे कि हिन्दुस्तान में आबादी की कमी के लिए कोई ठोस कदम उठाया जाएगा?

**श्री शरद पवार:** महोदय, देश के सामने एक बड़ी गम्भीर समस्या पैदा हुई है। We have seen that each and every hon. Member has raised certain issues here. That shows their anxiety and concern about the entire situation. It is true that the situation is changing, practically, every alternate day. In the month of June, in fact, this time, the IMD had predicted an early monsoon by one week. And, we saw that there was an early monsoon. The monsoon started practically six days prior to the normal date in Kerala. But, within seven days, we saw that there was a depression in Bay of Bengal and a substantial change in the atmosphere. There was a huge gap, and the monsoon totally disappeared. Day-by-day, the situation was getting worsened. In the month of June, the total deficiency in the rain was 62 per cent. But, fortunately, the situation improved slightly. From 62 per cent, it came down to 52 per cent deficiency, and then, up to 47 per cent deficiency.

About eight days back, it was 27 per cent deficiency. And, yesterday's information, which we got from the IMD and others, is that it is 17 per cent deficiency. So, there is a change, and there is an improvement. In fact, I have received requests from hon. Chief Ministers of some States. For instance, the hon. Chief Minister of Kerala and the hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka have written to me, and they have also communicated to me on telephone about the shortfall of rains, and some effective steps which they would like to take, where they were expecting some support from the Government of India. Practically, within one week, I got a written communication from both the hon. Chief Ministers that there was too much of rain, that there was flood. The hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka, particularly, wrote that there were widespread rains throughout the State. And that is why the demand for fertiliser is quite high.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): In Kerala, 100 people have died due to floods.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: The situation is changing. One has to go into the details to find out whether climate change is responsible or something else. But I would like to bring to the notice of this august House that when the IMD had given us a presentation in the month of May, it had specifically mentioned that in the month of July, the total rainfall in the country would be less and that it would be somewhere around 93 per cent — plus or minus nine per cent; it is actually somewhere around 83 per cent. The IMD had also briefed us that in the month of August, the total rainfall would be 101 per cent. In yesterday's briefing to the hon. Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers, including myself, we were told that the situation this week will further improve; and we have seen that there is a change. The change is for the better. There is a substantial improvement in the position of reservoirs today as compared to what it was about three weeks ago. I will just give you the example of one of the major projects from my own home State called Koyna Dam. Its capacity is about 98 TMC. About 15 days ago, the total availability of water in Koyna Dam was around six to seven TMC; today, it is 66 TMC which is absolutely normal. Similarly, the situation in many other reservoirs has also been improving, including the Bhakhra Nangal. Of course, the position of Bhakhra Nangal has not improved like it has in Koyna but there is, definitely, an improvement. Still, because of this gap, certain crops are such that they are able to cope up with this shortage. The major such crop is paddy. That is why I have mentioned in my initial statement that a substantial impact has been observed on the crop of paddy in a number of States. But that is not the case in Punjab and Haryana. The transplantation of paddy crop in Punjab and Haryana is somewhat close to what it was last year. There is no rain. But the subsoil water is there, though it has gone down. The percentage of irrigation as compared to other States in Punjab and Haryana is better. That is why the farmer has not stopped; he has gone ahead and has taken the programme of transplantation of paddy forward. Of course, this is an expensive thing. There was shortage of power. There was shortage of diesel. But he has not bothered. He has spent the money and he has gone forward in a big way

so far as transplantation of paddy is concerned. So, in Punjab and Haryana, the cultivated area has not come down. But it is true that there has been a substantial drop in the total cultivated area in Bihar, eastern UP, western UP...

AN HON. MEMBER: West Bengal and Assam too.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: I have mentioned West Bengal in my opening remarks already.

AN HON. MEMBER: Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: No, Andhra Pradesh has substantially improved now. The information that the Andhra Pradesh Government has communicated to us last night shows that there has been a substantial improvement in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: The situation in Assam is the worst.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Yes, I said that when I made my statement. Maximum number of districts in Assam have been affected. I have said that and I know the number of districts also. So, taking the country as a whole, I am especially worried about paddy. Of course, this is the first season. We will definitely do something for Rabi also; if the monsoon cooperates, we will concentrate on the summer crop of paddy also. We had faced a similar situation last year. Last year, monsoons were delayed initially; we got the real monsoons only in the month of August. There was a gap of practically four weeks in the month of June and July. But, still, we had not waited and we had worked very hard. All the State Governments have cooperated. All the State Governments have taken lot of initiatives. Substantial quantities of seeds and fertilizers have been supplied to all the State Governments. Last year's total production was one of the record productions which the country has seen. We have never procured 300 lakh tonnes of rice which this year we have procured; and we have never procured 251 lakh tonnes of wheat which this year we have procured. So, stock position is quite comfortable. I can assure the House, and, through the House, to the people of India that we have sufficient stock for 13 months in our kitty. Recently, we have taken some decisions. For instance, we were allowing export of non-basmati rice through diplomatic channel, which we have decided to stop totally. We are not going to allow it. We are allowing export of about two million tonnes of wheat through diplomatic channel. We are just going to take a decision to stop even that export also. The situation might improve, but I don't want to take any risk when the question of food security of our own country is involved. That is why we will continue with this stock. We will take that risk. We will take that financial burden.

Now, certain issues have been raised here about the climate change. The whole world is now giving a serious thought to climate change. In the Government of India, various institutions of our country have also taken a lot of interest in this particular subject. In fact, about five years back, I myself, at my level, called a meeting of the scientists in the Indian Council for Agricultural Research and head of the universities, and we have practically changed our total research for that. We have given specific responsibility to our scientists to try to develop a new variety which

is resistant to drought and which can face the repercussions of the climate change. Fortunately, I am happy about one thing, that our scientists, particularly those who are working in the wheat area, have practically developed more than a dozen new strains which can definitely cope up with the repercussions or impacts of the climate change. Of course, it has not reached to the field, but we are in that process. So, we have diverted our entire research in that direction where we have to see that how we will be able to face the situation of the climate change. We are working on that. In fact, the Prime Minister has taken this particular subject very seriously. One Group has been set up under his own chairmanship. That Group regularly meets and discusses about various aspects of climate change and takes a number of programmes. For instance, in the next week, there will be one Group which is supposed to look after the issue of solar power. It is going to meet and going to take some major decisions. So, this is not only for solar; it is about power, solar, water, crops and other items of agriculture. On all these subjects, the Groups have been set up by the Prime Minister himself; and the overall supervision has been done at the Prime Minister's level and at the PMO level because we would like to take this particular subject very seriously, and a number of actions have been taken.

Sir, as far as the drought is concerned, if we study the situation of drought of this country for the last number of years, generally, we will find this. There was a demand made here कि भई सूखा घोषित करिए। यहाँ मुझे एक बात साफ करनी है कि सूखा घोषित करने का अधिकार राज्य सरकार का है और सूखा घोषित करने की जिम्मेदारी राज्य सरकार की है। इसीलिए मैंने अपने initial remarks में यह कहा कि असम सरकार ने सूखा घोषित किया है, मणिपुर सरकार ने भी सूखा घोषित किया है। मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने सूखा इस साल के लिए घोषित नहीं किया है। वहां पिछले साल में कई जिलों की स्थिति खराब थी और लोन्स की रिकवरी रोकने के लिए उन्होंने वहां सूखा announce किया है और ऐसी secific बात उन्होंने हमें भी बतलायी है कि these are the districts where we would like to announce drought of last year and we would like to provide such and such support to the farmer. They have announced that decision. The other States have not announced. It is the responsibility of the States.

To be frank, I have worked as Chief Minister of one of the States where a sizeable area comes under the rainfed area. We never declared drought in the month of July. Generally, droughts are always declared in August or September. The kharif season can continue up to the end of August, may not be this crop but some other crops. Yes, the situation is difficult and serious. But, we should not come to the conclusion that the whole season will be lost. As I said, it was 62 per cent deficiency there and it has come down to 17 per cent. That shows that there is an improvement. But, still, certain crops have been affected, particularly paddy has been affected. We have to see how we will be able to compensate these areas, particularly, if possible in rabi and in summer. If we receive the proper monsoon, definitely it is possible. As I said, because of our stock position, we will be able to manage.

It is true that the prices of pulses are worrisome. One should not forget the fact that in our country, pulses and oilseeds are essentially rainfed crops. In India, pulses are essentially produced in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, part of Karnataka and part of Andhra Pradesh. Of course, a little bit here and there in U.P., Bundelkhand and other areas; but, mainly, pulses are produced only in these areas. Most of the area is rainfed. If we get good rains, we get good crops. If we do not get good rains, we have to depend on imports. If we study the last 8-10 years continuously, the total demand for the pulses in this country and the availability, every year, there is a gap. There is an improvement in the production. But, as compared to the demand, we are not in a position to fulfil the requirement of the country and that is why we have to import. Every year, we import. Even today, if anybody wants to import pulses, practically we have not imposed any taxes.

Similarly, not oilseeds, but crude oil and some type of oil, particularly palm oil and soyabean oil. Last year, the import bill was somewhere around Rs. 8,000 to 10,000 crores! If you see the last 8-10 years, every year we are importing the edible oil. There is a requirement; there are more demands. The area where generally we produce oil seeds are not perennial crop areas; take the case of Saurashtra. In fact, about 4 weeks back, the situation was quite worrisome. But, today, the Saurashtra area is facing floods. Some hon. Members must have seen on TV yesterday. Yesterday there were a number of reports about Saurashtra; because of the heavy monsoon the situation is altogether different. It happens. In fact, about four weeks back, one of the major districts which produce groundnut, in Anantapur, in Andhra Pradesh, the position was really worse. But, as on today, the Anantapur position has been substantially improved because of good rains in that belt and the sowing of groundnut.

So, there are ups and downs in oilseeds and pulses, which we are observing for many years. Of course, a lot of work is going on. Our scientists who are working in the pulses areas are on their toes, they have developed many new varieties, they have drawn short duration areas, but still the attitude of the farmer is definitely that if he gets water, he will prefer to have money crops and he does not give weightage to the crop like pulses and that is the reason for this. If we see last year's prices, the MSP announced for pulses, is one of the highest prices, which the Government of India has announced. I am sure in the next two or three years time the country's situation about pulses and oilseeds will definitely improve.

But as on today, the *tur* area, the *tur* crop is one of the serious issues before us, the *tur* areas have definitely improved, pulses area coverage has definitely improved and if we get proper water and proper rain, I think we will be able to manage whatever our requirement is. The 95 or 100 rupees is the price which is creating a serious problem for us also. But I think this will be a temporary phenomenon. I do not want to say about actions which we are taking to import or anything because if I say something, definitely, there will be some serious impact on the international market. That is I do not want to say anything. But I would like to assure one thing that we will see that there is availability. We will see that with the cooperation from the State

Governments, we introduce some of the schemes where will be able to provide certain quantity of pulses through Public Distribution System with some financial support where the common, average citizen will be able to buy and resolve his own problem of pulses. A number of other issues have been raised about the overall approach of the Government. I would like to assure the august House that we are fully serious about the problems of the farmers and the problems of the States where the monsoon has been deficient.

Some of the States have taken initiatives of providing assistance to the farmers in many ways. The Government of India through the Plan programme is ready to support such State Governments who have taken specific initiatives in this regard. As I have mentioned, I have received a letter from the hon. Chief Minister of Bihar, in fact, yesterday only, and in his letter he is asking for subsidy for diesel. I have received similar message from Punjab and Haryana also for additional allocation of power to protect standing crops. In fact, we have discussed it in depth. Punjab Government is not asking for any other thing, they are just asking for additional power. Initially 50 MW and then 50 MW, the total 100 MW was provided, and another 100 MW was provided as per their demand. And I am happy that the Union Ministry for Power has allocated additional 100 MW power to each of the States — Punjab and Haryana —which they have requested for next 15 days. I have not received any request from the Government of Uttar Pradesh. But, definitely, we will get in touch with the Government of Uttar Pradesh and I will discuss with the Ministry of Power and we will try to resolve the problem of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and some other States which are also asking for it. Now the question comes about diesel subsidy. I have asked my officers to find a way in which the State can be helped by sharing the 50 per cent burden of the subsidy on diesel, which is announced by Bihar Government. Now, Bihar Government has announced Rs.15 per litre diesel subsidy to their farmers for three or four watering. So, we are also seriously thinking about it. In fact, I am going to request the hon. Chief Minister of Bihar that the Government of India should also join in the scheme. So, definitely, we will take a decision practically in the next two or three days time and we will take minimum 50 per cent responsibility of this burden, which Bihar Government has taken. This decision will not be applicable to only Bihar. If other States also come forward, we will see that this 50 per cent diesel subsidy is available to other States also which are trying to protect and save their own crops, particularly, paddy crop.

As regards other support for the area affected in deficit monsoon, as soon as we get the proposal from the State Government we will definitely take action. Certain issues were raised here, 'why are you waiting for the State Government's memorandum?' In fact, hon. Members of this House and everybody are aware, we have some system. Finance Commission has given some guidelines. Every State has been provided CRF. That money is available with the State. They have got every right to spend that money. And when they will come to this conclusion that whatever the CRF funds are now going to be, they have got every right to approach the Government of India. But they have to send memorandum. They have to mention the districts, they have to send definite requirements, whether it is for drinking water, whether it is for power,



whether it is for diesel subsidy, whether it is for fodder, whether it is for the livelihood of the local population or whether they want to take double sowing programme for seed or fertiliser. All these items have been practically finalised and defined by the Finance Commission and Government of India's support is available. So, as I said I received a letter from the hon. Chief Minister of Bihar yesterday. I had immediately communicated, 'please communicate the districts where we should send the team. We will constitute it. We will send the team. We will visit along with the officers of the Bihar Government. We will take their report and we will take quick decisions'. Since it has been reconstituted and at that level we will take quick decision, we support the State Government. We have money to help the State Government through NCCF. Money is not the problem. Definitely we will support it.

When certain areas in this country are going to face such a serious situation because of scanty rains, it is the responsibility of the Government of India to go and support the State, forget about who is ruling the State. We never talk, we never discuss from that angle. We will definitely try to resolve genuine problem of each and every State which is going to put some demand, whether it is for flood or whether it is for drought. I don't want to take more time. Ram Gopalji has specifically mentioned about UP. I don't know what to say but this is one of the States where it is difficult to contact somebody in the Government at my level also. Because when we read in the newspapers, we try to contact at the highest level, but it is very difficult to get anybody at the highest level also to try to get some information but...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री गंगा चरण (उत्तर प्रदेश): \***

**श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश): \***

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, this is not correct. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... That will not go on record. Only what the Minister says will go on record. Sit down. That will not go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. Why are you doing this? बैठिए, आप लोग क्या करते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी: \***

**श्री गंगा चरण: \***

**श्री वीर सिंह: \***

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): That is not going on record. Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Veer Singh, please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री शरद पवार: मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि ...*(व्यवधान)*...**

**श्री वीर सिंह: \***

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\*Not recorded.

**श्री शरद पवार:** इस साल जो बारिश की स्थिति है, जैसा प्रो० राम गोपाल यादव जी ने बतलाया, इस बारे में एक sentence भी, as a Minister of Agriculture, मुझे उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार से नहीं मिला है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं अभी उनको लिखूंगा कि यह-यह स्थिति हम देखते हैं, लोग बोलते हैं, इस बारे में क्या करना चाहिए, क्या मदद करनी चाहिए, इस बारे में आप प्रस्ताव दीजिए। मैं उनसे जरूर रिव्यू करूंगा, आज ही रिव्यू करूंगा कि वे इस बारे में प्रस्ताव दें, मुझे इसमें कोई भी हिचकिचाहट नहीं है ...**(व्यवधान)**... अगर इस देश के किसी भी क्षेत्र में सूखे की परिस्थिति पैदा होती है और किसानों की परिस्थिति खराब होती है, तो आपकी, मेरी, हम सबकी जिम्मेदारी है कि हम उनकी मदद करें और हम जरूर इसमें मदद करेंगे। फर्टिलाइजर की जो बात यहां कही गई, यह बात सही है कि कॉम्प्लेक्स फर्टिलाइजर की इस देश में कमी थी, हम लोग हर दूसरे दिन वहां रिव्यू लेते हैं, खास तौर पर कर्नाटक की बात हमारे सामने आई थी और हमने कर्नाटक की डिमांड को पूरा करने के लिए फर्टिलाइजर मिनिस्टर को साथ लेकर इसका कुछ रास्ता निकाला है, लेकिन कॉम्प्लेक्स फर्टिलाइजर की कमी अभी भी है, यह बात मैं सदन के सामने रखना चाहता हूं।

मैं सदन का ज्यादा समय नहीं लेना चाहता हूं, मैं केवल इतना कहना चाहता हूं कि कुछ राज्यों में जो परिस्थिति अच्छी हो रही है, वैसी परिस्थिति अगर रहेगी, तो शायद यह जो इतना बड़ा और गहरा संकट है, इसमें बदलाव आ सकता है। बदलाव आए या न आए, ऐसी परिस्थिति में राज्य सरकारों द्वारा जो किसानों को मदद करने की जरूरत है, उसके लिए पूरी ताकत से, पूरी लगन से हमारा सहयोग हर राज्य को रहेगा और सबकी पूरी तरह से मदद होगी, इतना ही विश्वास मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से देशवासियों को दिलाना चाहता हूं...**(व्यवधान)**...

**डा. प्रभा ठाकुर :** सर, एक सीरियस इशू है, कल पटना में ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JUSUDASU SEELAM: Sir, I have a point to make...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no. Only the caller can seek clarifications ...*(Interruptions)*... Only the caller can seek a clarification, nobody else.

**प्रो. अलका क्षत्रिय (गुजरात):** सर, पटना में ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no. Please, sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... You take your seat...*(Interruptions)*... Take your seat, please ...*(Interruptions)*...

**डा. प्रभा ठाकुर :** सर, बिहार में ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please, take your seat ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, I have to say...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Venkaiahji, please, you start ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: How can I, Sir?...*(Interruptions)*... They are all shouting...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no. Please, take your seat...*(Interruptions)*... Not permitted. Please, take your seat...*(Interruptions)*... Only Shri Venkaiah Naidu has the permission to seek clarifications ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, take your

seat...(Interruptions)... You can write to the hon. Minister...(Interruptions)... You take your seat. You are all my sisters, take your seat...(Interruptions)... Take your seat...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I sympathize with them. All the men have left. So, women are left out here. That is why they are raising their voice. Sir, I have only two points to make.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Naturally. They are fighting for their cause.

**डा. प्रभा ठाकुर:** वह कोई मजाक की बात नहीं है, हमने कोई मजाक नहीं किया है ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: This is not मजाक *amma*. I am also supporting you.

**डा. प्रभा ठाकुर:** यह कोई मजाक की बात नहीं है ...(व्यवधान)...

**सुश्री सुशीला तिरिया (उड़ीसा):** सर, महिलाओं के ऊपर अत्याचार होता है, तो मजाक कैसे? ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Oh, ho. There is no time ...(Interruptions)... What is this?...(Interruptions)... Venkaiahji, only one question ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I had complimented them that 'men' had left the responsibility and the women are taking it up.

Sir, there are two points. The first one is this. A specific point has been raised by me and my friend from the other side about the problem of farmers affected by drought and who are not able to repay loan and are going to moneylenders. Will the Government subsidize them? This is the first point.

The second point is this. This is a very serious issue. Hon. Minister has said that there is no discrimination. Last year, 39 districts and 152 Talukas were affected by drought. A Central Team visited Madhya Pradesh. The Team sympathized. The Team said that the situation is grave. But, not even a single rupee has been given. Will the hon. Minister respond to this?...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Sir, I wish to know from the hon. Minister...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no. Please, sit down ...(Interruptions)... You have asked your questions...(Interruptions)... Please, sit down. No other questions. I am not allowing you. Only the caller is allowed to seek clarifications.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, the Team definitely visited Madhya Pradesh last year. I would like to bring to the notice of this august House a point. Madhya Pradesh is one of the States from where we had procured the maximum amount of wheat and rice and that shows the overall crop condition there. There was a very good co-operation from the State Government and that is why we could procure that much. So, we sent the Team. But, the Report of the Team, unfortunately, did not suggest that the Government of India has to take many steps. In whatever small way we could support, those steps were taken.

Second issue has been raised about loan. Sir, I agree. It is because of drought in certain areas, the farmers are not in a position to repay their loans. In fact, this particular subject we had discussed yesterday only. We have decided to collect information. I am sure the hon. Members are fully aware that the agricultural credit is generally provided in the months of April and May, and not in this month. That's why recoveries also do not start in this month. One has to wait for that. But the situation is serious in certain districts of Assam, Bihar, Punjab and some other States. So, in these areas, if the farmers are not in a position to repay their loans, we are giving a serious thought whether to give instalments or to provide them some concession or some other facilities. We will take some decision. We will definitely help the farmers and will not use any coercive method for recovery. We will also see that, for *rabi*, they will get a proper credit.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): The House is adjourned to meet at 2.30 p.m.

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The House then adjourned for lunch at fifty-one minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-five minutes past two of the clock,

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) in the Chair.]

#### PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTION

##### Need to take effective steps to avoid confrontation between the legislature and the Judiciary

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: We will take up Private Members' Resolution. Shri Ramdas Agarwal to move a Resolution urging upon the Government to take clear cut and effective steps to ensure that each wing of the State, *i.e.* Legislature, Judiciary and Executive functions smoothly.

**श्री रामदास अग्रवाल (राजस्थान):** उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आपकी अनुमति से मैं अपना निजी संकल्प प्रस्तुत कर रहा हूँ:—

“यह सभा विधायिका और न्यायपालिका के बीच यदा-कदा होने वाले टकराव पर गहरी चिंता व्यक्त करती है और सरकार से आग्रह करती है कि वह यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सुस्पष्ट और कारगर उपाय करे कि सरकार का प्रत्येक अंग अर्थात् विधायिका, न्यायपालिका और कार्यपालिका संविधान में प्रतिष्ठापित उपबंधों के अनुसार सुचारु, स्वतंत्र रूप से और एक-दूसरे के हस्तक्षेप के बिना कार्य करे और देश के लोकतांत्रिक और संघीय ढांचे को कोई खतरा न हो क्योंकि उस जनता के सिवाय, जो हमारे देश में सर्वोपरि है, कोई भी अंग दूसरे अंग से श्रेष्ठ नहीं है और राज्य के सभी तीनों अंग उसके प्रति जवाबदेह हैं ...”

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, विधायिका, न्यायपालिका और कार्यपालिका के आपसी संबंधों से संबंधित विषय पर, मुझे निजी संकल्प प्रस्तुत करने की आपने इजाजत दी है, मैं उसके लिए आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, इस संकल्प का विषय गंभीर, महत्वपूर्ण और बहुचर्चित है और साथ-साथ संवेदनशील भी है।

मैं स्वयं विधिवेत्ता नहीं हूँ, संविधान का ज्ञाता भी नहीं हूँ, इस सदन में जो विचार मैं आपके सामने प्रस्तुत कर रहा हूँ, वह उन नागरिकों की भावनाएं होंगी, जिन्होंने संविधान चाहे न पढ़ा हो, पर उसमें निहित भावनाओं, सिद्धांतों और कानून-कायदों के प्रति पूर्णतः प्रतिबद्ध रहा है। समय-समय पर जब लोकतंत्रीय पद्धति से जनभावनाएं प्रकट करने का अवसर आया, तो चाहे वह ग्रामीण परिवेश में पला, पिछड़ा, गरीब, दलित हो, पर उसने प्रांतों और केन्द्र में सरकारों को बदलकर बड़े-बड़े धुरंधर राजनेताओं, प्रधान मंत्रियों, मुख्य मंत्रियों को ठिकाने लगा दिया था और दुनिया में यह साबित कर दिया था कि भारत का नागरिक अपने संविधान के प्रति समर्पित है और उसकी शुचिता को बनाए रखने में सक्षम है। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, वैसे इस सदन में कानून के जानकार बहुत सारे महानुभाव सांसद हैं और आप स्वयं भी कानून की बहुत बड़ी ज्ञाता हैं, विशेषज्ञ हैं। मैं जो बात कह रहा हूँ वह एक आम आदमी की बात सदन के पटल पर रख रहा हूँ, ताकि इसके तकनीकी पहलुओं पर भी चर्चा हो और आम आदमी की भावनाओं का भी समादर हो और उसको भी समाविष्ट किया जाए। इसलिए मैं अपनी बात को तकनीकी दृष्टि से हटाकर एक भावना की दृष्टि से आपके सामने प्रस्तुत कर रहा हूँ, क्योंकि इस विषय पर और भी कई महानुभाव बोलेंगे। वे कानून के ज्ञाता हैं, वे अपनी बात को जरूर उस ढंग से रखेंगे, जिसकी आवश्यकता इस सदन में है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, हमारा देश संसार का सबसे बड़ा लोकतंत्रीय देश है। यही नहीं, दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा लोकतांत्रिक ढांचे का बना सबसे बड़ा संविधान भी हमारा है। हमने अपने संविधान को संजोया है, संवारा है और उसमें निहित, वर्णित और प्रदत्त मूलभूत प्रावधानों के साथ छेड़छाड़ करने वाले लोगों को सबक भी इस देश के नागरिकों ने सिखाया है। हमारे संविधान का ढांचा बनाने वाले माननीय सदस्यों ने जो विचार, संकल्प व्यक्त किए थे, उनका पालन-पोषण, संवर्द्धन करने का दायित्व हमारे देश के नागरिकों का है, विधायिका, न्यायपालिका और कार्यपालिका का भी है। इनमें से कोई भी कभी झूठ-उधर होता है या लक्ष्मण रेखा का उल्लंघन करता है, तो देश के कर्णधारों का यह दायित्व बन जाता है कि वह अपने ऊपर नियंत्रण करे, ताकि लोकतांत्रिक ढांचा हमारा सुरक्षित रहे, प्रजातंत्र पोषित रहे। मैं इन कर्णधारों से कहना चाहता हूँ, वे चाहे जिस किसी भी सरकार में रहे हों या आज हैं या आगे रहेंगे, जिन्होंने हमारे देश के संविधान को चलाया है। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं चार लाइनें इस संदर्भ में कहना चाहता हूँ, जो कविता के रूप में है। “फूलों से हसीन मुस्कान हो आपकी,” ...**(व्यवधान)**... वे मुस्कुरा रही हैं, मेरे लिए तो बड़ा आनंद का विषय है।

“फूलों से हसीन मुस्कान हो आपकी,  
चांद से ज्यादा शान हो आपकी,  
हर वक्त है हमारी दुआ,  
कि आसमान से ऊंची हो उड़ान आपकी।”

यह देश के लिए है कि हम अपने संविधान का पालन करते हुए, ऊंची से ऊंची उड़ान भरें। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, पिछले अनेक वर्षों से लगातार बहस चल रही है कि न्यायपालिका विधायिका के अधिकार क्षेत्र में प्रवेश कर रही है। यह भी कहा जा रहा है कि जिस भ्रष्टाचार की बदबू ने कार्यपालिका और विधायिका को बदनाम कर दिया है, उसी भ्रष्टाचार ने हमारी न्यायपालिका में भी पिछले दरवाजे से प्रवेश कर लिया है और उसकी बेदाग चादर पर काले धब्बे नजर आ रहे हैं। अक्सर यह भी देखने में आया है कि राजनेता अनिर्णय के शिकार होते हैं। वे दूध का दूध और पानी का पानी अलग नहीं कर पाते, तो वे भी अपनी बला को न्यायपालिका के मत्थे मढ़ना चाहते हैं। महोदय, आज कल राजनेताओं को अपने assets की घोषणा करनी होती है, इसलिए अब यह चर्चा भी जोरों से चल रही है कि जो वर्ग अपने assets की घोषणा सार्वजनिक नहीं करते, उन्हें भी कानून के दायरे में लाया जाए। हमने अपने लिए कानून बनाया है और हम अब दूसरों के गले में भी फंदा डालना चाहते हैं। ऐसा लगता है मानो assets and liabilities की घोषणा करके हमने भ्रष्टाचार की जड़ों पर कुठाराघात किया है या इस घोषणा से भ्रष्टाचार खत्म हो रहा है। राजनेताओं के assets की सार्वजनिक घोषणा मीडिया में कुछ दिन मनोरंजन का विषय तो अवश्य होती है, क्योंकि यह छपता है कि फलां मैम्बर के पास इतने हजार करोड़,

सैकड़ों करोड़ हैं और जनता भी शायद यह सुनकर खुश होती है कि उनका सांसद सौ करोड़ का, दो सौ करोड़ का या पांच सौ करोड़ का अधिपति है। लेकिन इसका महत्व इससे अधिक नहीं रहा क्योंकि जो भ्रष्टाचार का दैत्य है, वह ऐसे रक्त बीज के राक्षस जैसा है, जिसकी एक बूंद अगर धरती पर पड़ती है, तो अनेक राक्षस पैदा होते हैं। इसी प्रकार का यह भ्रष्टाचार है, जिसका समापन करना कठिन है, हम सब यह जानते हैं। महोदया, चर्चा का विषय यह भी हो गया है कि विधायिका और न्यायपालिका में tussle है, ऐसा हमारे देश के बहुत बड़े-बड़े विद्वान तथा विधि विशेषज्ञों ने, बड़े-बड़े नेताओं, प्रधान मंत्री जी और कानून मंत्री जी ने, हमारे वर्तमान मुख्य न्यायाधीश व पूर्व मुख्य न्यायाधीश इत्यादि ने भी इस पर कई बार अपनी प्रतिक्रियाएं व्यक्त की हैं। महोदया, तवज्जोह इस बात पर दी जा रही है कि संसद बड़ी है, स्पीकर बड़े हैं, गवर्नर बड़े हैं या सर्वोच्च न्यायालय। हमारे देश में इस समय यह विषय बहस का चल रहा है। महोदया, इतना ही नहीं न्यायाधीशों पर लगाए गए आरोपों की जांच हो और उनकी जांच की परिधि में लाया जाए तथा उनके कार्यकलापों में पारदर्शिता हो तथा उनके assets की घोषणा हो और वे भी समान रूप से जवाबदेह हों। इन विषयों पर भी बेहद चर्चा चल रही है। यह चर्चा बहुत वर्षों से चल रही है। इसमें अनेक प्रकार के लोगों ने, चीफ जस्टिस ने, चीफ मिनिस्टर ने, कानून मंत्रियों ने अनेक-अनेक बार अनेक फोरम पर इस बात की चर्चा की है कि ये सब विषय जुडिशरी के साथ कार्यपालिका का, विधायिका का जो इंग्लैंड चल रहा है, उसके बारे में tussle हो, संघर्ष हो या confrontation न हो...(व्यवधान)...

**इस** प्रकार के विचार लोगों के सामने आए हैं। राजनेता इस बारे में कई बार विचार व्यक्त कर चुके हैं। चाहे इस सरकार में एन.डी.ए. रही हो, चाहे सरकार में यू.पी.ए. रही हो, आज भी यह चर्चा बराबर चल रही है कि आखिर कानून बनाने की जो आवश्यकता है, उसके बारे में सरकार निर्णय क्यों नहीं करती है। महोदया, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह चर्चा बेतुकी है, इस चर्चा का मार्केट में, मीडिया में या देश के नागरिकों के बीच में जाना उचित नहीं है। आप इसे मीडिया के माध्यम से समझिए, चाहे प्रचार-प्रसार के माध्यम से समझिए, देश की ज्यूडिशियरी के संबंध में अनेक प्रकार की अटकलें, अनेक प्रकार की शंकाएं, अनेक प्रकार की दुविधाएं पैदा करने वाला काम इस देश में चल रहा है। हमारे कानून को बनाने वाले मोईली साहब भी यहां बैठे हैं, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो कानून बनाना है, जैसा भी कानून बनाना है, जो बिल लाना है, उसको लाइए और कम से कम ज्यूडिशियरी के विरुद्ध जनता में ऐसा वातावरण मत बनाइए, जिससे उसका विश्वास, उसकी आस्था और उसकी मान्यता न्यायालयों से उठ जाए। मैं इस अवसर पर यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि चाहे हमारा सुप्रीम कोर्ट हो या हमारी हाई कोर्ट्स हों, उन्होंने समय-समय पर ऐतिहासिक निर्णय दिए हैं, उन्होंने समय-समय पर ऐसे निर्णय दिए हैं, जिससे इस देश में निरंकुशता और तानाशाही पर अंकुश लगा है। इसके लिए हमारे कोर्ट्स जिम्मेदार हैं, हमारी न्यायपालिका या हमारी विधायिका जिम्मेदार नहीं है। उन्होंने तो उससे खिलवाड़ करने का प्रयास किया था, लेकिन सुप्रीम कोर्ट और बाकी कोर्ट्स ने हमारे अधिकारों की रक्षा के लिए इतने बोल्ट डिजिजन्स दिए, इसी कारण आज हमारी ज्यूडिशियरी के प्रति लोगों की बड़ी भारी आस्था है। उस आस्था को हम डिगाए नहीं, उस आस्था को हम भुलाए नहीं, उस आस्था को हम बनाए रखें, ऐसी मेरी अपील है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम अपने नजरिए को बदलें, हम ऐसी शंका न पैदा करें। अगर हमने अपना नजरिया बदला और यह तय किया कि हम आखिर क्या चाहते हैं, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि समस्या का समाधान निकल आएगा।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं चार लाइनें इस नजरिए पर कहना चाहता हूँ। मुझे यह मालूम है कि हमारे माननीय मोईली साहब तो इस बात को नहीं समझ सकते, लेकिन आप जरूर समझ रही होंगी, क्योंकि आप हिंदी अच्छी तरह से जानती हैं। ये लाइनें हैं : नजर को बदलो तो नजारे बदल जाते हैं, अर्थात् अपना एटीट्यूट बदलने से बहुत सारी बातें बदल जाती हैं, नजर को बदलो तो नजारे बदल जाते हैं,

सोच को बदलो तो सितारे बदल जाते हैं,

कश्तियां बदलने की जरूरत नहीं है,

दिशा को बदलो तो किनारे खुद ब खुद बदल जाते हैं।

पिछले कई वर्षों से ज्यूडिशियरी पर और बाकियों पर कानून बनाने की तलवार लटका रखी है। वह बिल क्या गुल खिलाएगा, इसका किसी को पता नहीं है। वह बिल कब आएगा — पहले आया था, फिर चला गया, किस नेपथ्य में चला गया, क्यों चला गया, मैं अभी इस विषय पर डिसकस नहीं करना चाहता, मेरी बात लंबी हो जाएगी, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो बिल लाना है, उसे लाइए, जो कुछ भी करना है, उसे तत्काल कीजिए, क्योंकि बहस बहुत कड़वाहट के किनारे पर पहुंच गई है। बहस को कड़वा न होने दें, उसमें कटुता न आने दें। मैं आपके सामने कुछ कोटेशनस रखूंगा, जो इस बात को दर्शाते हैं कि हमारे देश में इस दृष्टि से कितना विवाद कितने वर्षों से चल रहा है। मैं कुछ बात आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। 28 जनवरी, 2000 को सुप्रीम कोर्ट की गोल्डन जुबली के अवसर पर पूर्व राष्ट्रपति महोदय ने बहुत अच्छे सेन्टेन्सेज़ में कहा था:

“The judiciary in India has become the last refuge for the people and the future of the country will depend upon the fulfilment of the high expectations reposed by the people in it.” उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इसी अवसर पर हमारे पूर्व मुख्य न्यायाधीश डा. एस. आनन्द साहब ने कहा, “With a view to see that judicial activism does not become ‘judicial adventurism’, the courts must act with caution and proper restraint. They must remember that judicial activism is not an unguided missile — failure to bear this in mind would lead to chaos. Public adulation must not sway the judges and personal aggrandisement must be eschewed. It is imperative to preserve the sanctity and credibility of judicial process. It needs to be remembered that courts cannot run the government. It is very specific and very important that the Courts need to remember that the Judiciary should act only as an alarm bell. It should ensure that the Executive has become alive to perform its duties.”

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, ये कुछ बातें बहुत अच्छी कही गई हैं, लेकिन उसके बाद बहुत सारी बातें कटुता को जन्म दे रही हैं, इसलिए मैं आपके सामने इस बात को रख रहा हूँ। हमारे लोक सभा के पूर्व अध्यक्ष, जो स्वयं एक बहुत बड़े विधिवेत्ता, कानून के विख्यात जानकार हैं, उन्होंने इस सन्दर्भ में जो कहा, वह मैं आपके सामने प्रस्तुत करना चाहता हूँ। “However,” Mr. Chatterjee added, “as a citizen of this country and as a lawyer who had practised for many decades, it is a matter of agony if there is even a whisper of an allegation against a judicial officer. But the fact is that allegations against judicial officers are becoming a reality. One Chief Justice has said that only 20 per cent of the judges are corrupt. Another judge has lamented that there are no internal procedures to look into the allegations. Therefore, the necessity of a mechanism is being emphasised by the judges themselves.”

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इसके आगे भी मैं आपसे निवेदन कर रहा हूँ कि इन विषयों को लेकर समय-समय पर बहुत बड़े-बड़े लोगों के द्वारा जो उद्गार व्यक्त किए गए, वे किस direction में जा रहे हैं, उन पर इस सदन को बहुत गम्भीरता से विचार करने की आवश्यकता है। हमारे रामा जोयिस साहब बैठे हैं, इन्होंने भी बहुत सारी conferences को address किया है, इन्होंने भी बहुत सारी conferences में अपने विचार व्यक्त किए हैं, मैं उन्हें quote नहीं करूँगा, क्योंकि वे स्वयं इस विषय पर बोलने वाले हैं। जब हमारे माननीय प्रधान मंत्री महोदय के ध्यान में ये सब विषय लाए गए, तो उन्होंने जो कहा, मैं वह भी आपके सामने quote करना चाहता हूँ। “This confers enormous powers on our judiciary, rightly so. But at the same time it also involves enormous responsibility — in the exercise of these powers. Courts have played a salutary and corrective role in innumerable instances. They are highly respected by our people for that. At the same time, the dividing line between judicial activism and judicial over-reach is a thin one.” महोदय, प्रधान मंत्री जी ने बहुत अच्छी और साफ-साफ बात कही। लक्ष्मण रेखाएँ सबके लिए हैं और उन

रेखाओं के भीतर रह कर अपनी जिम्मेदारियों का निर्वहन करना यह सबके लिए संवैधानिक आवश्यकता है, संवैधानिक बाध्यता है।

महोदया, मैं अब अपने वर्तमान मुख्य न्यायाधीश जी की भी एक बात ससम्मान quote करना चाहता हूँ। मैं देख रहा हूँ कि हमारे वर्तमान मुख्य न्यायाधीश महोदय के सामने जब कभी इस प्रकार का कोई विषय आया है, तो उन्होंने बड़ी बेबाक दृष्टि से अपनी बातों को व्यक्त किया है। वे सम्मान के लायक हैं। जब कभी हम उनके विचार सुनते हैं, तो अच्छा लगता है, क्योंकि वे एक वास्तविकता को मान कर अपने विचारों का उद्गार सामने रखते हैं। महोदया, जब tussle के बारे में चर्चा चली, तब उन्होंने कहा, “There is no so-called tussle. It is only the creation of the media. I met Prime Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh, and Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, recently. There is no tussle.” The CJI said in an interview to a Malayalam TV channel. “The Speaker has criticized the judiciary and when we get the opportunity, we also reply.” महोदया, एक मामले को लेकर जब सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने निर्णय किया था, तब एक विवाद खड़ा हुआ था और उसके ऊपर बड़ा भारी क्रिटिसिज्म हुआ था। उस विषय को लेकर हमारे जो वर्तमान न्यायाधीश महोदय हैं, उन्होंने जो कहा, मैं उसको भी एक बार फिर कोट करना चाहता हूँ। हमारे उच्चतम न्यायालय के वर्तमान मुख्य न्यायाधीश ने कहा है, “I have never said corruption is not there in judiciary. However, either most complaints against judges are vague or are being given by litigants who have lost cases. We cannot inquire into such allegations. But when special instances are brought to the court’s notice, such as the case against the Kolkata High Court Judge, action has been initiated.”

महोदया, मैं इसी संदर्भ में आगे एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ। हमारे उच्चतम न्यायालय के पूर्व न्यायाधीश माननीय लाहोटी साहब ने एक जजमेंट पर अपनी प्रतिक्रिया कितने तीखे ढंग से व्यक्त की, वह भी हमारे लिए बड़ी गंभीरता से चिंतन करने का विषय है। हमारे जो चीफ जस्टिस बनते हैं, वे प्रजातंत्र के, संविधान के स्तंभ होते हैं, रक्षक होते हैं, और अगर उनके द्वारा कोई प्रतिक्रिया व्यक्त की जाती है तो सदन और देश के राजनेताओं को उस पर गंभीरता से चिंतन और मनन करने की आवश्यकता होती है, इसीलिए इसे मैं यहां पर कोट कर रहा हूँ। इसमें लाहोटी साहब ने कहा है, A three-Judge Bench headed by Justice Lahoti took strong exception to the unwanted criticism of its decision on quota in private educational institutions. The court said, “if the Government was so intolerant of judicial verdicts, it could take steps to close down the courts.”

महोदया, आगे उन्होंने जो कहा, वह बड़ी चिंता का विषय है। Further, he said, “Tell us, we will wind up the courts, and, do whatever you want”, a visibly hurt Chief Justice R.C. Lahoti told the Attorney General, Milon K. Banerjee.

महोदया, हमारे सामने यह सवाल बन कर खड़ा है। मैंने इस सारी परिस्थिति का वर्णन इसलिए किया कि इसे out of proportion नहीं होना चाहिए और इस पर कहीं न कहीं ब्रेक लगनी चाहिए। इस पर बहुत अधिक चर्चा से कोर्ट और हमारे बीच में कहीं कटुता बढ़ेगी, विवाद बढ़ेंगे। आखिर हम सब इस बात को मानते हैं कि यह संसद सर्वोपरि है, चाहे राज्य सभा हो या लोक सभा हो। इसके अधिकारों को चुनौती नहीं दी जा सकती। इस देश के मान्यता प्राप्त सर्वोपरि संवैधानिक ढांचे में यह सर्वश्रेष्ठ और सर्वोत्तम है। इसके पास सर्वाधिकार हैं, लेकिन जब हम इन चीजों को let loose कर देंगे और विवाद का विषय बनाने के लिए स्वयं आ जाएंगे तो फिर समस्या का समाधान कैसे होगा?

महोदया, यह बिल लाया गया। अभी शायद दो दिन पहले ही हमारे मोइली साहब ने कहा कि वे फिर एक दूसरा बिल बना रहे हैं और उसका ड्राफ्ट तैयार हो रहा है। मैं नहीं जानता कि वह ड्राफ्ट कैसा बनेगा, लेकिन मैं उनको केवल इतना ही सावधान करना चाहता हूँ कि वह ड्राफ्ट बनाते समय जरा सावधानी रखें। विदेशों में भी कई बार जब किसी समझौते का ड्राफ्ट बना है, तो उसमें ड्राफ्टिंग की मिस्टेक्स रह जाती हैं। इसलिए जब आप ऐसा बिल बनाने जा रहे हैं...(व्यवधान)... उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, आप मुस्कुरा रही हैं। मैं यह इसलिए



3.00 P.M.

कह रहा हूँ क्योंकि ऐसा हुआ है, तब कहा जाता है कि यह जो समझौता हुआ है, उसमें ड्राफ्टिंग की थोड़ी मिस्टेक है और यह कह कर वे अलग हो जाते हैं। ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए, इसलिए मैं यहाँ भी इनको सावधान ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया (झारखण्ड):** सारा समय आप ही ले लेंगे तो औरों के लिए क्या बचेगा?

**श्री रामदास अग्रवाल:** नहीं, मैं खत्म कर रहा हूँ, आप ऐसा क्यों कह रहे हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया:** आपको दूसरे लोगों से भी बुलवाना है न?

**श्री रामदास अग्रवाल:** हाँ, हाँ बुलवाना है, मैं खत्म कर रहा हूँ ...**(व्यवधान)**... मुझे मालूम है, मैं टाइम से खत्म कर दूँगा ...**(व्यवधान)**...।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती जयन्ती नटराजन):** वैसे तो आपका टाइम हो गया है ...**(व्यवधान)**...।

**श्री रामदास अग्रवाल:** उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैंने चालीस मिनट के लिए कहा था, अभी तो आधा घंटा ही हुआ है।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती जयन्ती नटराजन):** आप मूवर हैं, इसलिए मैं कुछ नहीं कह रही हूँ।

**श्री रामदास अग्रवाल:** जी हाँ, ठीक है, मैं खत्म कर रहा हूँ ...**(व्यवधान)**...।

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया:** अगर आप पार्टिसिपेशन चाहते हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री रामदास अग्रवाल:** हाँ, मैं चाहता हूँ। मैंने कहा न कि मैं खत्म कर रहा हूँ। ऐसी क्या बात है? मुझे अपनी बात तो पूरी कर लेने दीजिए। जिस भूमिका से मैंने बात शुरू की है, उसे मैं बीच में ऐसे समाप्त नहीं कर सकता। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं इसको खत्म कर रहा हूँ, आप चिन्ता न करें। मैं चाहता हूँ कि मेरे इस संकल्प पर हमारे और भी विद्वान महानुभावों के विचार सामने आएँ और यह आवश्यक भी है। अगर यहाँ पर हमारे participants ज्यादा हैं, तो यह विषय next resolution के हिसाब से next round में जा सकता है। मेरे पहले के दो resolutions, मेरे पूर्व टर्म में, दो बार आगे बढ़ चुके हैं। इसमें यह एक ऐसा विषय है, जिस पर सरकार को निर्णय करना है। सरकार ऐसा निर्णय करे कि न तो judiciary को कोई harm हो और न ही जनता का विश्वास डिगे तथा ईमानदारी से हम जो चाहते हैं, वह पूरी बात प्राप्त कर सकें। यह एक इतना गम्भीर विषय है कि इस पर खुली चर्चा हो रही है। यह भी मेरे ख्याल से, मेरी जानकारी में, हम पहली बार judiciary और executive या कार्यपालिका के बारे में चर्चा कर रहे हैं।

मैं अपने मोडली साहब की बात बता रहा था। उन्होंने कहा कि हम कानून बना रहे हैं। लेकिन, मैं उसके बारे में एक चर्चा करना चाहता हूँ, उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया। Law Minister Mr. M. Veerappa Moily made it clear that judges need protection from unnecessary litigation, assets के declaration के लिए। Since the Judiciary cannot be treated on par with the political Executive or other institutions, the legislation is to protect judges from vicious allegations. मैं इससे बिल्कुल एग्री करता हूँ। हम अपने माननीय जजों का वह हाल नहीं कराना चाहते, जो हम राजनीतिज्ञों का हो चुका है। महोदया, मैं आपसे यह बात इसलिए कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम किसी की छीछालेदारी करने के लिए कानून न बनाएँ, हम किसी को सड़क पर बहस करने के लिए और उसकी इज्जत को उतारने के लिए कानून न बनाएँ बल्कि हम उनकी आबरू को सुरक्षित रखने के लिए कानून बनाएँ, उनके सम्मान को सुरक्षित रखने के लिए कानून बनाएँ। लेकिन, मैं इसके साथ ही यह बात भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम सब राजनीति में हैं और हम सब ने अपने लिए कानून बना लिया, हम सब ने अपने ऊपर एक ऐसा कानून बना लिया है ...**(समय की घंटी)**... कि हमारी छीछालेदारी कोई करे, कभी करे, कैसे भी करे, जिम्मेदारी से करे या गैर-जिम्मेदारी से करे और चाहे जिस

ढंग से करे, वह हमारा अपमान कर सकता है, हमारी इज्जत को लूट सकता है। मैं मोइली साहब से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ, मैं माननीय सांसदों से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि जजेज को प्रोटेक्शन अवश्य दीजिए, लेकिन साथ में इस प्रकार के कानून को लाने की व्यवस्था भी कीजिए, जिससे कि political leaders, चाहे वह एम.पी. हो, एम.एल.ए. हो या कोई भी हो, उसकी इज्जत पर भी कोई बेकार आदमी यह अनर्गल आरोप लगा कर उसकी इज्जत के साथ न खेल सके। ऐसा भी तो कोई कानून इस देश में बनाना होगा, वरना हम भी जनता के प्रति जिम्मेदार हैं, हम भी पारदर्शिता चाहते हैं, लेकिन हमारी आबरू को चाहे जब उतार कर कोई बीच सड़क पर फेंक देता है और हम असहाय-से घूमते रहते हैं, असहाय-से अपने आपको बचाने की कोशिश करते हैं, इस पर भी कोई-न-कोई व्यवस्था बननी चाहिए। इस मौके पर मैं यह जरूर कहना चाहता हूँ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं यहाँ पर इस बात को इसलिए लाया हूँ कि इस प्रकार की जो व्यवस्थाएँ हमने बनाई हैं, उनसे हम सब लोग प्रताड़ित हैं, परेशान हैं और राजनेताओं पर सबसे ज्यादा भ्रष्टाचार के आरोपों की भीड़ लगी हुई है। इसको रोकने के लिए भी कोई उचित माध्यम एडॉप्ट करना चाहिए।

महोदया, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम हाथ-से-हाथ मिलाकर चलने वाले तीन अंग हैं—कार्यपालिका, विधायिका और न्यायपालिका। ये तीनों जब हाथ-से-हाथ मिलाकर चलेंगे तो इस देश के प्रजातंत्र को और इस देश की व्यवस्था को मजबूती मिलेगी, लेकिन यदि इन तीनों में से किसी ने एक-दूसरे की बहियाँ मरोड़ने का काम किया, arm-twisting का काम किया, तो इस देश के अन्दर प्रजातंत्र को सुरक्षित रखने में खतरा पैदा होगा, यह मैं कहना चाहता हूँ।

महोदया, अंत में मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि अगर बिल लाया जा रहा है, तो यह कब आएगा, मालूम नहीं है, कैसा आएगा, यह भी मैं नहीं जानता हूँ, लेकिन मैं उन विषयों को इसमें शामिल करने के लिए, हमारे जो कानून मंत्री जी हैं, उनसे प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ। सबसे पहला यह कि, संसद के माध्यम से मैं अन्य सभी लोगों से और हमारे मोइली साहब से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ, आप न्यायाधीशों के assets के बारे में कानून बनाएं जिस में पारदर्शिता होनी चाहिए। यह सब के साथ समान रूप से लागू होने वाला कानून होना चाहिए। उस में किसी को खास protection नहीं होना चाहिए।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती जयन्ती नटराजन) :** रामदास जी आप का समय पूरा हो गया।

**श्री रामदास अग्रवाल :** महोदया, judges की नियुक्ति के संबंध में बहुत से प्रश्न-चिह्न खड़े हो गए हैं। जो सिस्टम आज लागू है, उस पर भी पुनर्विचार करने की आवश्यकता लोगों ने बतायी है। उस बारे में भी सरकार विचार करे। महोदया, मैं न्यायपालिका से एक अपील करना चाहता हूँ, मैं एक नागरिक के नाते उन से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि आप स्वयं भी आगे आकर अपनी पारदर्शिता के बारे में कुछ कहें ताकि जनता का विश्वास आप के ऊपर बना रहे। महोदया, चौथी और अंतिम बात यह कि इस देश की अदालतों में बहुत से केसेज pending हैं। आप को मालूम होगा देश की हाईकोर्ट्स में 38 लाख 82 हजार केसेज pending हैं। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, दूसरी अदालतों में अंबार लगा हुआ है, वहाँ हजारों, लाखों, करोड़ों की संख्या में केसेज pending हैं। उन केसेज के जल्दी disposal की व्यवस्था बनाएं ताकि यह पीढ़ी अपने द्वारा दायर किए गए केसेज में फैसलों को प्राप्त कर सके।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं आप को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आप ने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया। अगर मैंने ज्यादा समय ले लिया हो तो मुझे क्षमा करें। साथ ही मैं सदन से अपील करूंगा कि वह इस विषय पर गंभीरता से चर्चा करे और मार्गदर्शन दे ताकि इस बहस को जल्दी समाप्त कर इसे एक अच्छा स्वरूप प्रदान किया जा सके। धन्यवाद।

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Madam, it is a very good opportunity for us to consider different aspects of the working of the legislature, the executive, and the judiciary. It has been more than 59 years, and we are very happy that the Constitution

has created a very healthy tradition of making all the three wings work together to achieve the mandate given in it.

There were certain events where one wing of the state could not appreciate other wings' activities. One such thing was the provision of reservation for certain sections of society. It was not appreciated by the Judiciary since its inception. Therefore, the first amendment to the Constitution was mooted at that time by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. It was to draw the attention of the judiciary towards the fact that the democracy makes the people think of giving justice to certain sections of society.

Sir, the reservation policy was accepted at that time by making the first amendment to the Constitution. Now more than a hundred amendments have been made to the Constitution. Every amendment has its own meaning. But certain amendments have been made to rectify the conflicting judgements given by the judiciary against the decision of the Legislature. In certain cases, even the constitutional provisions were also declared *ultra vires*.

The system of our three wings is very liberal. It allows every wing to point out the wrongs committed by the other wings. Finally, who has to rectify it? It has to be rectified only by Parliament. Parliament is supreme. We may not have clear version of 'Parliament is supreme' given in the Constitution, but the system of allocation of work to different wings clearly shows that democracy prevails, parliament prevails over the executive and the Judiciary.

I will elucidate only two or three provisions of the Constitution. The provision for the establishment of the Supreme Court is given under Article 124 of the Constitution. The provisions for expanding judiciary, increasing the number of judges, increasing salary, enlargement of its jurisdiction, and even day-to-day affairs of its rule-making power are given in Articles 125, 138 and 139 and 145 of the Constitution. The powers were given to Parliament. Parliament is regulating the Supreme Court's day-to-day affairs of framing rules for its working. Giving salary to the Judges is under the powers of Parliament. Increasing the number of Judges is also in the hands of Parliament. Even taking action or removal of a Judge is in the hands of Parliament. Such is the power given to Parliament.

Similarly, Sir, I would like to draw the attention to the fact that the law declared by the Supreme Court under article 141 is binding on all the courts. But, it is not binding on the Executive or the Legislature. The system is like this that the Judiciary's verdict will be accepted by the Executive and the Legislature. But, if there is need for rectification, it will be done by them. That type of liberal interpretation is given by way of article 141. But, historically, we find that article 31B is the best example to show how the conflict between the Judiciary and the Legislature has come up. Article 31B allows creation of the Ninth Schedule where a law made by Parliament can be put in which should not be challenged in a court of law. But, recent Constitutional Bench judgment says that even if it is put in the Ninth Schedule, it can be looked into as to whether it is bona fide or it has been created with a bad intention. Therefore, the

Judiciary wants to usurp the powers of the Legislature in certain ways. So, if the democratic process is powerful and it has the majority of the will of Parliament, then, they can say that the Judiciary is wrong by amending the Constitution. But, unfortunately, for the past two decades or so, Parliament is not at all caring too much about the judgments given by the Judiciary except in the case of reservation policy in jobs and services. Articles 15 and 16 were amended to annul the judgments of the Supreme Court. Except that, the rest of the conflicting judgments given by the Judiciary are not at all touched upon.

Sir, I would like to quote article 31C. I will just quote one portion alone which is now declared as void even though it is in the Constitution. Article 31C provides for the saving of laws giving effect to certain Directive Principles. I am only quoting the portion which is struck down. It says, “..... no law containing a declaration that it is for giving effect to such policy shall be called in question in any court on the ground that it does not give effect to such policy.....”

Actually, the intention of the Legislature at that time was that if there is a Directive Principle of State Policy, over which the Fundamental Rights are given supremacy, is to be implemented or enforced by way of a law by the Legislature, then, that could not be questioned by the Judiciary. But, the Judiciary has taken the view that even in that case, they can question. Therefore, these types of conflict are coming here and there. It depends upon the persons who occupy the Bench at that time. That is the reason. I hope, people could understand that. Very often, we used to say that it starts with the appointment of Judges. Democracy is to be reflected in the appointment of Judges. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Law and Justice has already given a very detailed report on the Judges Inquiry Bill. It has clearly said that they have to find out a process of appointment of Judges so that appointments could be properly looked into as per the pre-1993 situation. The part played by the Executive in the appointment of Judges is now taken away by the Judiciary. It was not taken away by way of any law or by way of any other thing; but, simply on their own, the Judiciary has taken it away.

Even the judgments are not like that. Judgments are telling what is the consultation, to which extent, the consultation of the Judiciary is to be taken, to which extent, the Supreme Court Judges consultation or the so called Collegium is to be taken into account, but it never said that the Executive has got no role at all. But the Executive is allowing the Judiciary to take its powers in their own hands because these days, the political situation is very weak. The Government has to look after their own coalition, they have to appease their own coalition partners, they could not concentrate to oppose a verdict given by the Judiciary because the Judiciary is having such a power even to annul a Government, even to remove a Government, even if a Government has been removed by the Executive order, the Presidential order, then that can be restored back by the Judiciary. To that extent, two judges on a Constitution Bench can

do that. Therefore, the political parties are also not very much feverish to touch upon the judicial powers.

Therefore, this is high time to think about it and find out that judicial verdicts in certain cases have to be properly rectified by way of asserting the Executive power and also by way of asserting the legislative power of the Parliament. I can very easily say that many of the Executive powers were now just pushed to the judicial court. Why are 2.58 crore cases are pending before the courts? It is because the Executive does not want to decide certain cases. Therefore, they are putting the ball in the court of the Judiciary. I can take one or two simple examples. For instance, allotment of lands for the poor people or allotment of seats in the medical colleges or professional colleges. Even now, it is done by the Supreme Court. If you see the corridors of the Supreme Court, many lawyers are earning because they are filing the petitions to get a seat in the professional college. It is the work of the Executive. But the Executive is not ready to take up the issue. Therefore, the courts have taken up the issues. Just like in the normal phase, in mofussil places, the local district collector may not do the work, the judiciary may not do the work, therefore, every case will go to the police station. Just like that, every power has now gone to the Judiciary. The Executive has to be blamed for this. The Executive is not usurping the power, but, at the same time, they are not doing their own job at all. Another example I can take of the Election Commission.

According to the Representation of Peoples Act, the Election Commission has now got the power to allot a symbol for a particular party on the basis of certain parameters. What happens? There was a challenge before the High Court. The matter is pending before the Supreme Court. Therefore, the Supreme Court is allotting the symbol for a registered party! Is it not a fun? Every party from Tamil Nadu and Andhra is going and filing a petition not before the Election Commission, but before the Supreme Court and getting the symbol, the lion or the tiger. Is it the duty of the Supreme Court? Today, you could have seen demarcation of the mines from the forest area. Who has to do it? The Executive has to do it. But the Supreme Court is sitting there. They have got an Empowered Committee. Who are they? They are the practising lawyers. Now, they are ruling the country, ruling the forest. We have got a very big forest throughout India. But in none of the forests, a tree can be cut by the Executive. But it can be done by the Judiciary by way of an Empowered Committee. Any party has to go and file a petition before the Empowered Committee. They will inspect, they will find out various things, they will say, Yes, you can put the road here, you can have the factory here, you can have the mining here. Who are doing it? The Executive is not doing it. The Supreme Court is doing it. Not only the Supreme Court, but a small body of the lawyers which is called the Empowered Committee which was constituted by the Supreme Court, is doing it. This is the conflict where we have to see it. Now, the Judiciary has to see that it is not their duty. We know that as a lawyer, once when we are going in for the writ petition to have a direction for the Executive, the judges used to say, no, no, it is within the Executive purview. Therefore, the petition is dismissed. You go and seek your remedy before the

Executive. That was the order. Now, it is not like that. They are issuing notices throughout India. All the Advocates-General are coming and appearing before the Supreme Court to answer one small question whether the birds can fly in a particular place or not... whether a channel can go like this, whether you have properly put drainage channels in the cities, whether the urban development is properly done or not, or whether the Urban Development Ministry is properly doing these works or not. Is it the work of the Supreme Court? How can we say that since the Supreme Court is having a pendency of 48,000 cases, we need more Supreme Court judges? They are doing the Executive's job. Similarly, the High Court judges are also doing the Executive's job. The Executive is not ready to take up their job. They are not properly looking into the matters; they are just pushing the files up saying that it can be remedied in the court of law. Then, why is the Executive there?

In many cases, things are not properly put up before the Legislature also. The Legislature is crying without any knowledge of it. Whether it is in the Assembly or in the Parliament, the Executive never takes confidence in these people of the Legislature because we are occupied more in the smaller things rather than in the bigger things. We are not resolving the conflicts by taking issues like this. This is a normal course of the business. In the Private Members' Bills, we are taking up a very big constitutional issue. I really thank him for this. At least, this provision is possible to create a thinking among us, and, cutting across party lines, we have come forward to assert that the Parliament has got its own rule, that the Parliament is supreme in India, that the democracy is supreme in India.

The appointment of judges ought to reflect the whims and fancies of the people, the majority of the people, how the people are reflecting upon it, how the judgments are made, whether it is properly represented by the SCs, STs, OBCs, women and other handicapped people in the Judiciary; whether, in the higher Judiciary, in Supreme Court and High Courts, judges are selected from the poor Scheduled Tribe people. Only one Scheduled Tribe man was a Supreme Court judge. He also has retired. It is for the first time that a Supreme Court Judge, belonging to the Schedule Caste, has been made the Chief Justice. I am not saying that caste is necessary, but they have to reflect the fancy of the majority of the people, their thought. If they are reflecting their thought, I feel, the Constitution will run properly. If they are not reflecting the thought of the people, if they are not reflecting the thought of our democracy, if they are not reflecting the aspirations of the majority of the people and if the will of the people is not reflected in the appointment of judges, if the Parliament Members' participation in the appointment of judges and in taking action is not there, and simply three judges sitting as a panel, as a collegium, start choosing their own sons, brothers and juniors, deciding who will be the Chief Justice of India in 2020, what will happen in the country? It is already decided by the Judiciary as to who will be the Chief Justice in 2020. We are giving powers to the Judiciary like this. Is this the way to give powers to the Judiciary?

It is time to think about it. We have to solve the problem because everything matters during the elections. If you contest elections and ask for votes, people will start asking questions from you. They cannot differentiate whether the Court has struck down an order or not; and whether you have done this work or not. I am not worried about the Judiciary; whether the Court has done it or not. You cannot say that this road is not being laid properly because the Court has passed an order questioning about the land acquisition. You cannot say that the drinking water is not available because the Court has passed a stay order. We are answerable to the people. Therefore, the people's verdict is to be reflected in the Parliament; it should be reflected in the Executive; it should be reflected in the Judiciary. Thank you very much, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Very good. Thank you, Mr. Natchiappan. Now, Shri Rajniti Prasad.

**श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार):** महोदया, सबसे पहले तो मैं श्री रामदास अग्रवाल जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने एक अहम मुद्दे को हम लोगों के सामने विचार के लिए रखा है। मैं कहना चाहूँगा कि पिछले 35 सालों से मैं वकालत करता आ रहा हूँ और आज भी कर रहा हूँ। मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि जजों की भूमिका, लेजिस्लेचर की भूमिका और एक्जीक्यूटिव की भूमिका — इन तीनों की भूमिका के बारे में कानून में और संविधान में लिखा गया है। कि हरेक का अपना-अपना काम करने का तरीका होगा, कोई एक-दूसरे की बांह नहीं पकड़ेगा, जैसा अग्रवाल जी ने भी कहा, लेकिन पिछले 25-30 वर्षों में ऐसा लगता है कि हम लोग एक दूसरे की बांह पकड़ रहे हैं और यह केवल हम ही नहीं कहते, बल्कि लोग भी कहते हैं कि legislature की भूमिका जो है, वह कभी-कभी judiciary ले लेती है और executive की भूमिका भी कभी-कभी judiciary ले लेती है। यह दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है। इंग्लैंड में जो पार्लियामेंट है, जो House of Commons है, अगर वह कोई कानून बना दे तो उस पर कोई विवाद नहीं होता है। जितना भी विवाद करना है, आप कानून बनाने से पहले करिए — वहां पर विवाद नहीं होता है। लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान एक ऐसी जगह है, जहां हम इधर कानून बनाकर पेश करते हैं और तुरंत उधर से यह कानून बनता है कि आपका यह कानून गलत है और यह जनता के हित में नहीं है — यह उधर से आ जाता है। हम इस पर कोई टीका-टिप्पणी नहीं करना चाहते, लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर judiciary को अपना काम करना है तो अच्छे तरीके से करना चाहिए, मर्यादित तरीके से करना चाहिए। मैं उनके खिलाफ कोई चर्चा नहीं करना चाहता, लेकिन मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो कानून बनाने वाला है, उसको कोई प्रोटेक्शन नहीं है।

अगर हम लोगों से थोड़ी सी भी गलती हो जाती है, अगर कहीं कोई मामला फंस जाता है तो लोग उसको इतना प्रचारित करते हैं — अग्रवाल जी ने भी इसके बारे में कहा था — कि ऐसा लगता है कि सबसे बड़ा क्राइम करने वाले हम ही लोग हैं। लेकिन अगर judiciary कोई गलती करती है तो उसमें लिखा है कि अगर आप कुछ करेंगे तो आप पर contempt चलेगा — वह कानून में है। उन्होंने ठीक कहा कि ऐसा कोई कानून बनाइए कि जो बनाने वाला है उसके लिए कोई प्रोटेक्शन नहीं — मीडिया में भी कोई प्रोटेक्शन नहीं, अखबार में भी कोई प्रोटेक्शन नहीं — लेकिन जिसकी तह में हम लोगों ने कानून बनाया है, उनके लिए सारा प्रोटेक्शन है। अगर आपने judges के बारे में कुछ कह दिया, judges के बारे में कोई स्टेटमेंट दे दी तो वह आपको कॉल कर लेगा और कहेगा कि हम आप पर मानहानि का मुकदमा चलाते हैं। लेकिन हमारे लिए कोई प्रोटेक्शन नहीं है। हमारे मित्र ने सही कहा कि judiciary का यह काम नहीं है कि कहां नहर बनेगी, कहां फैक्टरी लगेगी — यह काम उसका नहीं है। झोपड़ी हटेगी या नहीं हटेगी, इधर सड़क बनेगी या नहीं बनेगी — यह judiciary का काम नहीं है। यह काम executive का है। हम लोगों ने अगर कानून बना दिया कि यह काम होना चाहिए तो

executive उसको execute करेगी, — लेकिन यह नहीं होता है। हमें याद है, उन दिनों मैं बिहार में था, अभी भी मैं बिहार में रहता हूँ, कभी-कभी judges लोग स्टेज पर से कहते हैं कि यह “जंगलराज” है। ऐसा उन्होंने कहा “जंगलराज”। क्या उनको यह कहने का अधिकार है? आपको कानून में जो कहना है, कहिए। यहां हमारे जज साहब बैठे हैं — “जंगलराज” कहा गया। Can I say myself that you are biased? Are you not biased against a particular subject? जब आप किसी के बारे में कहते हैं कि जंगलराज चल रहा है तो आपको क्या ऐसा नहीं लगता है कि आप जो कह रहे हैं, वह आपको नहीं कहना चाहिए? क्या आपके दिमाग में यह बात नहीं आयी? वह न्याय का मंदिर है। न्याय के मंदिर का मतलब है कि जो न्याय करने वाला होता है, उसको भगवान कहते हैं। अगर उनके अंदर भी दुविधा की बात आ जाएगी, पर्सन-टू-पर्सन की बात आ जाएगी तो हमको विचार करना पड़ेगा। जब हम पार्लियामेंट के मेंबर होते हैं तो आप हमसे कहते हैं कि आप अपना डिक्लेयरेशन करिए कि आपके पास क्या सम्पत्ति है, क्योंकि हमको शक की दृष्टि से देखा जा रहा है, यह सोचा जा रहा है कि अगर हम मिनिस्टर हो जाएंगे, अगर पार्लियामेंट के मेंबर हो जाएंगे तो हम नाजायज पैसा कमाने के अधिकारी हो जाएंगे, इसलिए आप डिक्लेयरेशन करिए और अगर आपके पास नाजायज पैसा हो गया तो आप पर मुकदमा चलेगा। लेकिन यही बात एक कानून बनाकर उन लोगों के मामले में क्यों नहीं कही?

एक्जीक्यूटिव के बारे में भी कहा जाता है कि आप इतने हजार से ज्यादा का कोई सामान नहीं खरीद सकते, क्योंकि उनको इन्कम टैक्स वगैरह में दिखलाना पड़ता है। लेकिन आपने उनको अलग क्यों कर दिया? इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से बहुत आदरपूर्वक कहना चाहूंगा कि मैं यहां कोई लड़ाई लड़ने के लिए नहीं खड़ा हूँ। हर आदमी को अपना काम करना चाहिए, जुडिसियरी को अपना काम करना चाहिए उनकी मर्यादा है और हम उनके काम में दखल नहीं देना चाहते। जो हैं वे सर्वोपरि हैं, सुप्रीम कोर्ट का मैं आदर करता हूँ, हाई कोर्ट का मैं आदर करता हूँ, जुडिसियरी को और लोअर कोर्ट का मैं आदर करता हूँ, इवन मजिस्ट्रेट का भी मैं आदर करता हूँ। लेकिन कानून बनाने की हमारी पॉवर है, कानून के इंटरप्रिटेट करने की उनकी पॉवर है। अगर हमने कानून बना दिया तो आप उसका इंटरप्रिटेशन करिए। हमने कभी आज तक नहीं कहा, किसी ने नहीं कहा, पार्लियामेंट ने नहीं कहा, अगर किसी को आपको फांसी देनी है तो दे दीजिए, हमने कभी नहीं कहा कि इसकी फांसी रोक दो और ऐसी कोई बहस भी नहीं हुई। लेकिन, आपके यहां से नया कानून बनकर आ जाता है कि आपने जो यह कानून बनाया है, वह गलत है। यह गलत और सही हमने देखना है, हम यह महसूस करते हैं कि कौन लोकहित में है और कौन लोकहित में नहीं है। इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से यह कहना चाहूंगा कि इस प्रकार की विविधता, इस प्रकार का डिफ्रेंसिएट, इस प्रकार का अवरोध अगर हुआ तो यह समाज के लिए अच्छा नहीं होगा, देश के लिए अच्छा नहीं होगा। इन्ही शब्दों के साथ आपने मुझे पहले बोलने का समय दिया, इसलिए धन्यवाद, प्रणाम और नमस्कार।

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA (Rajasthan): My salutations to the hon. Chair. I do not have poetic diction of Shri Ramdas Agarwal, but I wish you keep on smiling and you keep on giving fragrance to people, inspiration to people by your very presence. You are a very learned lady and a very distinguished lady. I think the Chair feels honoured by your being there.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): You will get a lot of time.

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: No, I will get the same time as will please you. Your wish will prevail. For us a person sitting on the Presidential Chair or the Chairman's Chair, is the Supreme Court.



Anyhow, as far as this issue is concerned, my very grateful thanks to Shri Ramdas Agarwal for bringing forth a very, very important, core issue for consideration, deliberation and even adjudication by this Upper House, the House of learned people, the House of distinguished Elders. It is a very important issue, no doubt. Confrontation between legislation and judiciary is a matter of grave concern from the lowest to the highest in the country. My impression is, it has been slightly exaggerated. As has been pointed out, instead of confrontation, there should be cooperation, instead of tussle, there should be mutual understanding and instead of '*sangarsh*', there should be '*saheyog*'. In my humble view, neither the Legislative nor the Executive nor the Judiciary is supreme. In our country, people are supreme, and the Constitution is supreme, which is the will of the people. In the Preamble, — you may permit me to quote from it because it is so beautifully drafted — it has been said, It is the people of India who are supreme, and it is this Constitution, which they have adopted, enacted and given to themselves, which is supreme. And it has laid limitations for all other three wings, namely, the Legislative, the Executive and the Judiciary. In their own sphere, they are supreme. But they have no right to interfere in the sphere of other wings. This is a basic principle of Separation of Powers, which we have also accepted in our own way. The job of the Legislature is to legislate; the job of the Executive is to execute, and the job of the Judiciary is to adjudicate. If they do this job rightly, then, there will be no clash. They are the three wings of body politics; they are the three arms of the State; they are the three legs of an isosceles stool of administration. Isosceles is a very important word. They are equally placed, and even if one limb is slightly lame, then, this stool will not be stable. These expressions, I have taken from the speeches of Chief Justices of the Supreme Court. They have said this about the Constitutional framework. And, as far as Separation of Powers is concerned, it has not been mentioned in the Constitution as such. But we have adopted it. And, we have adopted it as the United States adopted the model proposed by Madison.

In the words of Madison, "Ambition would counteract ambition", thus keeping Executive, Legislature and Judiciary within the limits of their own legitimate functions." And, as was pointed out by Shri Ramdas Agarwal, real functioning, smooth functioning, proper functioning, desirable functioning of these three arms of body politics will be, in the words of Dr. A.S. Anand, former Chief Justice of India, — it is worth quoting, and I am not able to better upon his words — I quote: "Courts have to function within the established parameters and constitutional bounds. Decisions should have a jurisprudential base with clearly discernible principles. Courts have to be careful to see that they do not overstep their limits because to them is assigned the sacred duty of guarding the Constitution." They are the guardians of Constitutions, and it is a very, very sacred duty. "Policy matters, fiscal, educational, or, otherwise, are thus best left to the judgement of the Executive." This has been very rightly, beautifully, pointed out by Shri Sudarsana Natchiappan. I further quote: "The danger of the judiciary creating a multiplicity of rights without the possibility of adequate enforcement will, in the ultimate analysis, be counter

productive and undermine the credibility of the institution.” So, it has been mentioned by Dr. Anand, ex-Chief Justice, himself, that judiciary should not step either into legislative area or into executive area.

Further, he has said, “Courts cannot ‘create rights’ where none exists, nor can they go on making orders which are incapable of enforcement or violative of other laws or settled legal principles.”

“With a view to see that judicial activism does not become judicial adventurism, courts must act with caution and proper restraint”. That is the crux of the problem. “Restraint is the quality of a great person and caution is the quality of a sensitive person, and judges are expected to be both. Judges must remember that judicial activism is not an unguided missile. Failure to bear this in mind would lead to chaos of which we are talking. If there is confrontation, there would be chaos. Public adulation is something that sways Judges at times to give strange kinds of judgements. Public adulation must not sway the judges and personal aggrandizement must be eschewed. It is imperative to preserve the sanctity and credibility of judicial process. If judiciary loses its credibility, where else would we find credibility”? If Gangotri is polluted, where would we get pure water from? Caesar’s wife has to be above suspicion. I further quote: “It needs to be remembered that courts cannot run the government. The judiciary should act only as an alarm bell.” As you ring the bell, Madam Vice-Chairman, in the same way, it should be used only as the last resort. Otherwise, a gesture from you would suffice! “It should ensure that the Executive has become alive to perform its duties.”

As far as the misconception that Parliament is as supreme as the Parliament in England, I would like to point out what has been said by our first worthy Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. “It is a misconception. The Parliament in England is supreme in every way. It can even declare a woman a man! It can go further. But in India, we cannot do that. We are limited by separation of powers”. The Legislature has its own limits. It has got its own circumference. I will quote what Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has said: “The written Constitution” — the written Constitution about which Lord Denning said “the best document of the Constitution in the world” — “in India acts as a deterrent on the powers of the Legislature. Any talk about the sovereignty or omnipotence of Parliament in the Dicean sense or any reliance upon British precedents, founded upon an absence of separation of functions between the Legislature and the Judiciary will be of no avail.”

I have quoted here a part of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru’s speech. I need not mention what kinds of limitations are there on the power of the Legislature also. I could relate one after the other manifold limitations by distributing the legislative power between Union and the State Legislature, by adopting a judicable Bill of Rights, by embodying in the Constitution other substantive and mandatory provisions which act as curbs. I need not go into that. But I am tempted to quote a very distinguished legal luminary, N.A. Palkhiwala. He has written a wonderful book, “We, the People”. In that book, he has mentioned, and I will quote verbatim, with your permission, Madam, “The framers of the Constitution considered it undesirable to give

unfettered powers to the Legislature. Judicial review was set as a check. Yet, far from the Judiciary indulging in making or restating the law, it is the Legislature that has often been seen to be interfering in the judicial process”.

A man of legal profession, a person who had very close relationship with Judiciary, he is saying, “the boot is on the other leg. On quite a few occasions, Parliament has chosen to overrule court decisions. The country can afford to denigrate Judiciary at its own peril.” He cautioned. We need not denigrate anyone. You see, why this trouble has started or why...(Time-bell rings)... I had requested, your wink could have been enough.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Sorry! A couple of minutes will do.

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Now, it is up to you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): You can take another two minutes. You have one more speaker from your party.

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: I will just point out two-three things. As far as Judiciary is concerned, I think, five points need attention of the hon. Law Minister. Number one; India is the only country where judges appoint themselves. The method of appointment of judges needs to be looked into and it needs to be rationalised. And in that, there should be political will also reflected. Number two; the Judiciary should not be treated as a holy cow. Corruption in Judiciary has been talked over by Chief Justice Bhargava of Supreme Court, by Chief Justice, J.C. Verma of Supreme Court, by Chief Justice V.N. Khare of Supreme Court. There have been impeachments, and there have been such cases where a judge of the High Court has asked the chastity of the litigant. He was removed. Caesar’s wife should be above suspicion. Hence, there should be some kind of legislation for that. Number three; contempt of court proceedings at times act against free expression of opinion by people. This should be looked into. Number four; justice delayed is justice denied, and it is said, ‘justice is costly, justice is pro-rich, justice is prostatus quo.’ This matter needs to be looked into.

Madam, I will close by saying one thing that as far as all the three wings of the Government are concerned, their final job is only one that is looking after the *Daridra-Narain*. Whatever they do, whatever they act, whatever they say must serve the purpose of the poorest of the poor, the weakest of the weak, aam aadmi, *garib* aadmi, and they must keep in their mind that the ultimate objective of Judiciary, Executive and the Legislature is to somehow serve the *Daridra-Narain* for whom the Father of the Nation always championed the cause. I will close by quoting what he said as a talisman or a touchstone for the acts of all these three wings of the Government. There are these two lines. Mahatma Gandhi observed and said, “I will give you a talisman. Whenever you are in doubt or when the self becomes too much with you, apply the following test. Recall the face of the poorest and the weakest man, whom you may have seen,

and ask yourself, if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him. Will he gain anything by it? Will it restore him to a control over his own life and destiny? In other words, will it lead to *swarajya* (freedom) for the hungry, starving millions?" And, I think, our learned Law Minister has very kindly absorbed this philosophy, and we are sure by his sagacity and wisdom the reforms in the Judiciary sector will come as to help the poor man. Thank you, Madam, for your generosity for me.

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव** (उत्तर प्रदेश): थैंक यू मैडम वाइस चेयरमैन। मैं सबसे पहले रामदास अग्रवाल जी को बहुत धन्यवाद देना चाहूँगा कि वे एक बहुत अच्छे विषय पर चर्चा कराने के लिए यहाँ resolution लाए हैं। भारतीय संविधान में शक्तियों का बँटवारा, division of powers है। Political Science का स्टूडेंट होने के नाते मैं थोड़ा-सा जानता हूँ कि separation of power and division of power में difference होता है। जब सबसे पहले मॉटेस्क्वी ने इस doctrine को प्रतिपादित किया था, separation of powers को, तो उन्हें यह गलतफहमी हुई कि इंग्लैंड में व्यवस्था इसलिए अच्छी है कि वहाँ separation of power है। Actually, इंग्लैंड में कभी separation of power थी ही नहीं। वहाँ power का fusion इतना है कि House of Lords का Lord Chancellor कैबिनेट मिनिस्टर होता है, Lords सभा का चेयरमैन होता है और अपील के सर्वोच्च न्यायालय का न्यायाधीश होता है। लेकिन हमारे यहाँ संविधान में बाकायदा शक्तियों का बँटवारा है — विधायिका कानून को बनाएगी, कार्यपालिका कानून को लागू करेगी और न्यायपालिका कानून तोड़ने वालों को दण्डित भी करेगी और जरूरत पड़ने पर कानून की व्याख्या भी करेगी, जिन न्यायालयों को यह अधिकार दिया गया है। हमारे founding fathers ने यह उम्मीद की थी कि न्यायपालिका, कार्यपालिका और विधायिका के बीच किसी तरह का कोई विवाद नहीं होगा, लेकिन हमारे मौलिक अधिकारों में एक अधिकार, सम्पत्ति का मौलिक अधिकार, जिसे बाद में समाप्त किया गया, उसके चलते विधायिका और न्यायपालिका के बीच प्रारम्भ से ही विवाद शुरू हो गया था।

हम सब जानते हैं कि जब जमींदारी उन्मूलन विधेयक आया और न्यायालय में उसे challenge किया गया, तो इलाहाबाद और पटना हाई कोर्ट की बेंचेज ने सूर्यबली सिंह Vs स्टेट ऑफ उत्तर प्रदेश और कामेश्वर सिंह Vs स्टेट ऑफ बिहार राज्य में जमींदारी उन्मूलन विधेयक को रद्द कर दिया। जब इसको undo करने के लिए संविधान संशोधन विधेयक लाया गया, तो उस समय पंडित नेहरू ने एक बहुत ही proverbial sentence कहा, जो आने वाली पीढ़ियों को प्रेरणा देता रहेगा। उन्होंने कहा था कि अगर इस तरह के फैसले होंगे, then haves will remain haves and have-nots havenots. इसके बाद कुछ दिनों तक मामला शान्त रहा। कई केसेज आए, प्लस-माइनस हुए, लेकिन इसके बाद सुप्रीम कोर्ट का सर हेनरी गोलक नाथ से सम्बन्धित केस आया, जिसमें सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने अपने बहुमत के फैसले से यह निर्णय लिया कि संसद को मौलिक अधिकारों में संशोधन करने का हक नहीं है। बाद में कई अन्य मामले आए, जिनमें जब-जब गवर्नमेंट ने कोई प्रगतिशील कदम उठाने की कोशिश की, तो सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने उन फैसलों को रद्द कर दिया। खास तौर से जब इन्दिरा जी ने बैंकों का राष्ट्रीयकरण किया, उसको challenge किया गया, तो इसी गोलकनाथ केस के फैसले के आधार पर सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने बैंकों के राष्ट्रीयकरण कानून को रद्द कर दिया, जिसे इन्दिरा जी लाई थीं और संसद ने पारित किया था।

मैं पिछली बातें इसलिए बताना चाहता हूँ, आज की स्थिति कुछ और किस्म की है, मैं उस पर बात करूँगा, लेकिन मैं थोड़ी-सी अतीत की बात आपके ध्यान में लाना चाहता था कि किस तरह से जब बैंकों के राष्ट्रीयकरण कानून को रद्द किया गया, तब एक संविधान संशोधन, 24वां संविधान संशोधन लाया गया। उस संविधान संशोधन के जरिए यह व्यवस्था की गई कि राज्य के नीति निर्देशक तत्वों में कुछ ऐसे नीति निर्देशक तत्व थे, जिनको लागू करने के लिए अगर मौलिक अधिकारों को भी over-write करना पड़े, तो संसद कर सकती है। यह हुआ और सम्पत्ति के मौलिक अधिकार में 'compensation' शब्द को हटा कर 'amount' कर दिया गया।

उसे भी चैलेंज किया गया। हालांकि संविधान संशोधन को तो सही माना, लेकिन संभवतः ध्वशवानंद भारती केस के जरिए इसे चैलेंज किया गया। इसको सही माना गया, लेकिन इसमें दो बहुत महत्वपूर्ण ऑब्जर्वेशन्स हुईं। एक तो जस्टिस एस.एम. सीकरी ने यह कहा कि अगर किसी की बहुत बड़ी संपत्ति को लिया जाता है, अधिगृहीत किया जाता है और उसके बदले में बहुत मामूली या टोकन कंपेंसेटरी एमाउंट दिया जाता है, then it will be a farce. इसी बारे में जस्टिस एच.आर. खन्ना ने यह कहा था कि मौलिक अधिकारों में तो संशोधन हो सकता है, लेकिन संविधान के बेसिक स्ट्रक्चर को नहीं बदला जा सकता है। इस तरह न्यायपालिका और विधायिका के बीच यह जो विवाद चलता रहा, यह बहुत लम्बा चला। मैं और ज्यादा लम्बी बात नहीं कहना चाहूंगा, लेकिन अंततोगत्वा झमेला और ज्यादा न बढ़े, इसलिए संपत्ति के मौलिक अधिकार को ही मौलिक अधिकारों में से निकालना पड़ा और तब कहीं जाकर शुरू में इस पर जो बहुत अधिक विवाद हुआ था, वह समाप्त हुआ। जब-जब भी कहीं सड़क बनाने के लिए कोई जमीन एक्वायर की जा रही थी, तब वह नहीं हो पा रहा था, कोई स्कूल बनाने के लिए जमीन एक्वायर की जा रही थी, वह नहीं हो पा रहा था क्योंकि सम्पत्ति के मौलिक अधिकार का हनन हो रहा था। यह विवाद बहुत लम्बा चला और नैचुरली यह विवाद न्यायपालिका और संसद के बीच में हुआ। इसको लेकर यह प्रश्न उठा कि संसद सुपीरियर है, संसद ज्यादा ताकतवर है या न्यायपालिका ज्यादा ताकतवर है?

मैं यहां एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण मामले को बताना चाहता हूं, जो है तो बहुत पुराना लेकिन बहुत ऐतिहासिक केस है। यह केस था 'केशव सिंह वर्सिज उत्तर प्रदेश असेम्बली'। आप में से सब सीनियर लोग हैं, इसके बारे में जानते ही होंगे। यह बहुत ही मजेदार केस था। हुआ यह था कि केशव सिंह उत्तर प्रदेश की दर्शक दीर्घा में बैठे हुए थे। हिन्दी को लेकर वहां से उन्होंने कुछ कागज फेंके और कूद पड़े उसमें। इसके लिए हाउस बैठा और हाउस ने उसको पांच दिन की सजा सुना दी। केशव सिंह को जेल भेज दिया गया। चार दिन बाद एक वकील साहब ने इलाहाबाद हाईकोर्ट की लखनऊ बेंच से उनकी बेल ले ली। चूंकि विधान सभा सेशन में थी, जैसे ही विधान सभा को पता चला कि बेल दे दी गई है, तो विधान सभा ने इस पर सीरियस ऑब्जैक्शन किया और यह आदेश दिया कि वह जज और जिस वकील ने यह वकालतनामा लगाया था, they must be arrested and brought before the Bar of the House. जैसे ही जज को पता चला, जज इलाहाबाद हाईकोर्ट चले गए और उन्होंने एंटीसिपेटरी बेल ले ली। जिन जजों ने एंटीसिपेटरी बेल दी थी, उत्तर प्रदेश असेम्बली ने उन जजों को गिरफ्तार करने के लिए इलाहाबाद के जिला मजिस्ट्रेट को लिखा कि इनको गिरफ्तार करके सदन के सामने लाया जाए। तब यह मामला सुप्रीम कोर्ट की राय के लिए राष्ट्रपति को भेजना पड़ा। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने अपनी जो राय दी वह अलग बात है, लेकिन इलाहाबाद हाईकोर्ट ने हीयरिंग करके जब फैसला दिया, वह भी एक हिस्टॉरिक जजमेंट था। इलाहाबाद हाईकोर्ट ने यह फैसला दिया कि जब विधान सभा एक जनरल वारंट के तहत किसी व्यक्ति को दंडित करती है, तब न्यायपालिका को उस पर सुनवाई का कोई हक नहीं है। इस स्थिति में विधायिका या विधान मंडल सर्वोच्च स्थिति रखता है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती जयन्ती नटराजन):** रामगोपाल जी, आपका टाइम खत्म हो गया है।

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव:** मैडम, मैंने 16 साल में कभी-भी घंटी नहीं बजने दी। आप मुझे चार-छ: मिनट और दे दीजिए।

THE VICE CHAIRMAN: I am just reminding you.

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: I will conclude. अब स्थिति यह है। मेरा यह मानना है कि डेमोक्रेटिक सिस्टम में जो कार्यपालिका है, प्रधानमंत्री के नेतृत्व में जो मंत्री परिषद् है, जब तक उसको विधायिका का, संसद का समर्थन हासिल है, तभी तक वह हिन्दुस्तान की जनता की कलैक्टिव रिप्रेजेंटेटिव होती है और उसकी जो इच्छा होती है, वही सर्वोपरि मानी जाती है।

4.00 P.M.

उसको इम्प्लिमेंट करने का—क्योंकि ये जो मंत्रीगण यहाँ बैठे हुए हैं, ये सब इसी सदन और संसद के दोनों सदनों के माध्यम से हिन्दुस्तान की जनता के प्रति उत्तरदायी हैं, जजेज़ उत्तरदायी नहीं हैं। मैं न्यायपालिका की आलोचना नहीं करना चाहता हूँ। लेकिन, क्या आप नहीं जानते कि स्थिति इतनी खराब हो गई है कि सड़कों पर, पान की दुकानों पर, बाजारों में यह चर्चा होने लगी है कि फलां जज के यहाँ अगर आपका केस है, तो फलां वकील को एंगेज कर लीजिए, आपके पक्ष में फैसला हो जाएगा। यह चर्चा होने लगी है। जज किस तरह के ऑब्जर्वेंशंस करते हैं? अभी 4 दिन पहले सुप्रीम कोर्ट में एक ऑब्जर्वेशन किया गया, जो राज्य की मातृभाषाएँ हम लोगों की हैं, regional languages हैं, उनके खिलाफ जज ने सार्वजनिक रूप से टिप्पणी की। क्या यह वांछनीय है? यह नहीं होना चाहिए। ऐसे तमाम केसेज़ हैं, जिनमें आज सुप्रीम कोर्ट की एक डिवीजन बेंच किसी मामले को सुनने के बाद यह कहती है कि हम स्टे नहीं देंगे, लेकिन अगले दिन दूसरी बेंच मेंशन करने पर without hearing उसी वक्त स्टे दे देती है। इससे जनता में क्या मैसेज जाता है? जनता में मैसेज यह जाता है कि ज्यूडिशियरी भी भ्रष्टाचार से परे नहीं है, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि बार-बार यह चर्चा होती है और हम स्वयं कहते हैं। मैं आज भी कहता हूँ कि जनता के बीच में रहने वाला बेइमान से बेइमान पोलिटिकल व्यक्ति आज भी दूसरी शाखाओं के ईमानदार से ईमानदार लोगों से ज्यादा जनता की सेवा करता है। आज भी आपके पास रात के 12 बजे कोई आदमी आता है, आपके दरवाजे की कुंडी खटखटाता है, तो आप उसकी बात सुनते हैं।

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): I want to say something.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Would you yield to the Minister?

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Yes.

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Madam, I have only one point to say. You have been giving wonderful statements but one thing that I have come across is that \* That kind of a language may reflect very badly on the Supreme Court. As an institution, we cannot say that.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): We will go through the speech. Whatever objectionable references are there, it will be deleted later.

**प्रो० राम गोपाल यादव:** मेरी मंशा पूरी न्यायपालिका के बारे में नहीं है, वह एक बेंच के बारे में थी। I have no intention of casting any sort of aspersions on the Judiciary as a whole. आज यह स्थिति है कि रोज हमारे ऊपर, रोज हमारी संसद के ऊपर, रोज सारे देश के नेताओं के ऊपर देश की सड़क से लेकर हर जगह गालियाँ देते हैं और अगर कहीं हमें यह लगता है कि दूसरा बेइमानी कर रहा है, इसको हम अपने मुँह पर भी इसलिए नहीं ला सकते क्योंकि यह contempt of court है, यही दिक्कत है। मैं आपको remind कराना चाहता हूँ कि 1930 में जब अमेरिका में recession आया, तो वह मंदी का वक्त था। 1932 में चुनाव हुए। प्रेसिडेंट रूजवेल्ट पहली बार चुनाव जीते और उन्होंने मंदी से उबरने के लिए “D Laws” लाया। वहाँ के फेडरल सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने उनको रद्द कर दिया। न्यायपालिका और कार्यपालिका के बीच यह जबरदस्त लड़ाई जैसी स्थिति थी। लोगों को लगा जैसे प्रेसिडेंट रूजवेल्ट अगला चुनाव नहीं जीत सकते, क्योंकि सुप्रीम कोर्ट उनका कोई भी

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\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

कानून अगर पास हो जाता, तो उसको रद्द कर देती थी। तब प्रेसिडेंट रूजवेल्ट ने कहा था कि अगर यही रहेगा तो मैं सुप्रीम कोर्ट को अपने जजों से पैक कर दूँगा। That was the packing plan of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. हालाँकि *Sansad* never allowed it. American Congress never allowed it. लेकिन, एक बात मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि अमेरिका के राष्ट्रपति की उस बात के बाद, 1937 से लेकर आज तक, अमेरिका के फेडरल सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कभी किसी ऐक्शन में ऐसा नहीं किया, जिसकी वजह से कार्यपालिका और न्यायपालिका के बीच कोई विवाद हुआ हो, उसका स्टैंड हमेशा pragmatic रहा और जनता की आकांक्षाओं के अनुकूल रहा। लेकिन, हमारे यहाँ रोजाना ऐसी स्थिति आ जाती है कि आप चाहे जो करिएगा, उस पर फैसले दूसरी तरह के होने लगेंगे। अभी सुप्रीम कोर्ट के एक बेंच ने, दो साल पहले, उत्तर प्रदेश में हमारा जो इनर्जी विभाग है, उसको ट्रांसफर करने के लिए एक कमेटी यहाँ बना दी। मिनिस्टर से कोई मतलब नहीं, किसी सेक्रेटरी से मतलब नहीं और ट्रांसफर सुप्रीम कोर्ट द्वारा बनाई गई कमेटी करेगी। इस तरह अगर एक सीमा तक प्रो-एक्टिव ज्युडिशियरी हो जाएगी, तो It is not in the interest of the Parliamentary system also.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): I have given you double the time.

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: I am just concluding. इसलिए मैं अपनी बात को समाप्त करते हुए कहना चाहूँगा कि यद्यपि शक्तियों का विभाजन है, लेकिन कार्यपालिका, हमारा मंत्रिमंडल, संसद के माध्यम से जनता के प्रति उत्तरदायी है। महोदय, यह तो आवश्यक है कि सरकार के तीनों अंगों में समन्वय रहे, लेकिन जब कभी भी इस बात की नौबत आए तो मेरा आज भी मानना है कि संसद ही, पार्लियामेंटरी डेमोक्रेसी में सर्वोच्च है। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI MATILAL SARKAR (Tripura): Madam, at the outset, I confess that I am not a lawyer. I know only some principles of law. On the basis of that, I would like to give some views that may be treated as common man's point of view.

While we are discussing the variance of Judiciary — Judges differ from one another. But, it is also a fact that Judiciary has set up examples in giving some laudable verdicts. Historic verdicts came from the Judiciary. There are so many cases. I do not want to reiterate them. When reservation for the OBCs was to be implemented, there were large-scale disturbances in the country and the Judiciary came forward to stop it for the time being. Later on, it was again revived. There are so many cases. First of all, we must keep in mind the importance of the Judiciary. At the same time, when Parliament passes a Bill and the President gives his assent to it, we have seen the Judiciary has a right to judge the quality of the Act. Any Act may be kept inoperative. It has happened many a time. Even the Bills passed by Parliament and approved by the President have been kept in abeyance, or, have become inoperative. So, it is some sort of supremacy over Parliament. I do not know whether the Parliament will have the supremacy over Judiciary or Judiciary will have supremacy over Parliament. There should not be any such competition or conflict. These three — Judiciary, Legislature and Executive — wings are different compartments. One should be limited to its jurisdiction. I think, there is some sort of clumsiness. That is why one is attempting to intervene into the other. It seems like that. That is why I invite the attention of the Government to sort out all these and see that compartmentalisation is set up properly and the work should go on as per the jurisdiction.

As regards reservation, it is a painful affair. The Judiciary has set up a limit of 50 per cent. We deal with the problems of the people. I do not say that Judiciary does not deal. It will also deal. We deal in our own way and the Judiciary will deal in its own way. But, we have different States of different patterns. There are tribal-dominated States. There are the States dominated by the Scheduled Castes. There are the States dominated by the OBCs. But there is a limit of 50 per cent reservation. As I have already said in the House, in our State, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes jointly comprise 50 per cent of the population. Besides this, there is quite a sizable population of OBCs too, which is more than 25 per cent. But they cannot avail the benefit of reservation in the State services because of the 50 per cent cap. So, to give a blanket verdict that it cannot be more than 50 per cent, both at the Centre as well as in the State, is not right. It becomes a very difficult situation for the States. That's why I say that while giving such a verdict it should be kept in mind that our country is full of diversities — in languages, in castes, in localities, in topology. So, also, all these demographical differences are there. The people in the Judiciary should be quite aware of what the situation in the country is. It should not depend on a particular person, whether he is a parliamentarian or an executive or a judge. It should depend on the policy. It should depend on rules and regulations. So, I must congratulate Shri Ramdas Agarwal for bringing forward this Resolution. He has provided us a scope for speaking on different issues in this regard, and point out the loopholes, presently, we are suffering from.

So, Madam, these were a few points that I had for the consideration of the hon. Minister.  
...(Time-bell rings)...

Madam, with your permission, I would like to take two more minutes. Our State Government took up a rehabilitation project, but we could not implement it because the Judiciary did not permit it. Now, of course, the Right to Forest Act has been passed and the barriers have been removed. So, Parliament can break away the barriers put by the Judiciary. But why should there be a confrontation between the Judiciary and the Legislature? There should be a well-defined boundary of jurisdiction for each.

With these words, I conclude, Madam.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA (Maharashtra): Thank you, Madam Vice-Chairperson. At the outset, I would like to congratulate Mr. Ramdas Agarwal for bringing forward such a subject of vital importance which is quite relevant in the current context. I have often been making efforts to ensure or to look for a healthy debate on the Judiciary in this House, in which the Government could also respond and people from all sides could speak on. But, unfortunately, for the last two years, I have not been able to succeed in my efforts. Calling Attention, Special Mentions, everything was given. Even whenever there is any question about the Judiciary, incidentally or unfortunately, the Member does not turn up. So, I think, Mr. Agarwal has done a good job by bringing forward this Resolution, and we are able to express our views on it.



Madam Vice-Chairperson, I think the Judiciary and the Executive are two important pillars of the magnificent building of Indian democracy. Both have got vital importance as far as the functioning of this country is concerned, smooth transaction of business is concerned and providing justice to the people of this country is concerned. But, unfortunately, since the last few years, these issues have been cropping up. Our hon. former Speaker, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, had also pointed out this and after that this issue was in public domain. Media also had written about it and a lot many things have been said about it. It is better that now the debate comes to an end in the public fora. Madam, here, two, three issues are very significant. I think after J.S. Verma's judgement, executive's power has been reduced. Executive has become merely a mute spectator as far as decisions in the Judiciary are concerned. Most of the decisions, almost hundred per cent decisions, are being taken by the Judiciary itself. The Government has not got any role to play. That is the major problem as far as functioning of the Judiciary is concerned. Madam, this issue is being discussed in public forum. The first thing is the collegium system. I would like to request the hon. Minister of Law through Madam Vice-Chairperson, that this collegium system must be reviewed. This is the major problem. It has been observed and it is now confirmed that when judges were appointed by the Executive in consultation with the Judiciary, the quality was far, far better. We were having better judges and everybody was happy with those judges. The rate of corruption was also very low. There were minimum complaints against those judges and there was no nepotism. But now, with this collegium system, it is mess of nepotism, as far as appointment of judges is concerned. And, integrity is also questionable. The Government has become merely a processing body. Any recommendation made by the collegium has to be accepted by the Government. I think this is a wrong method. The Executive must be involved into it. All the transfers, postings and appointment of judges must be done by the Government. Old system must be brought back. The Judiciary must be consulted. The Chief Justices of respective High Courts and the Chief Justice of India must be consulted. They can have a collegium and that collegium can be consulted, but the entire process and decision making should be with the Government. This is the first thing I would urge the hon. Minister to push and if it is done, then, I think, this will be a better option to avoid confrontation between the Judiciary and the Executive.

My second point is, infringing on the rights of the Executive. That is a major problem. Judges can *suo motu* take the decisions which the Executive are supposed to take. They can get their desired allotments. If they want Type-VIII bungalows, they can get it. They can directly write to the Ministry of Urban Development that I want this bungalow; this bungalow should be allotted to me. I want this car; this mark of car should be given to us. I want this kind of mobile phone; this mobile phone should be given to us. So, everything is given as per the wishes of the judges. If it is an order by the Judiciary, it has to be implemented by the Government. Therefore, infringement on the rights of the Government should also be done away with.

Madam, my third point is about corruption in the Judiciary. That is also a major issue, which is being debated nowadays. Everyday, one or two cases are being reported. Everyone is aware that there are aberrations in the lower Judiciary. Complaints, to an extent, in the lower Judiciary are accepted. But, the higher Judiciary is a major concern. Earlier, integrity of higher Judiciary was a better one. Nobody was able to speak about it; nobody was able to touch it. But now the integrity of higher Judiciary is also in question. This thing should also be addressed. I am happy and I would like to congratulate the new Minister of Law for he is insisting on bringing a Bill in which the Judges will have to declare their assets, maybe, to the President of India, or, to the Parliament, or, to the Government, but something is being done. I think, mere declaration of assets is not going to work and something more should be done. The original idea of constitution of All India Judicial Council can be a good way in which the representatives from Judiciary, from Executive and from other walks of life should be there and they should decide about the Judges. If somebody's integrity is not impeccable, it is not above board, that issue or the complaint against that person should be brought to the Judicial Council and they should decide it. Appointment of Judges should also be done by the Judicial Council comprising of the Executives and the Judiciary.

I would also like to suggest that the All India Judicial Service should also be introduced on the lines of All India Indian Administrative Service, Indian Police Service, because, then the person will be groomed from day one. Right now, this procedure of taking 50 or 60 per cent people from legal fraternity is always criticized. There are good lawyers but, sometimes, because of the nepotism, we pick up a wrong person also. So, if All India Judicial Service is in place and the 50 per cent people are picked up from that Service and 50 per cent people are taken from the legal fraternity, this will help in bringing a good lot of Judges in the country. This is all that I wanted to say. Thank you. Thanks a lot.

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS (Karnataka): Respected Vice-Chairman, Madam, this is a very important subject which has been brought for discussion and I will confine to the subject, namely, harmonious working of Legislature, Judiciary and the Executive without going to individual cases.

Madam, under our constitutional system, there are three limbs, namely, the Executive, the Judiciary and the Legislature. They are the limbs of the same body. Just like the limbs of the same body have to work harmoniously, all these limbs of the State have to work harmoniously. Or, I can compare it to a tripod. In a tripod, if you remove one leg or one leg becomes weak, the whole instrument or the table will not stand. I give my obeisance to the founding fathers of our Constitution. Our Constitution is well drafted, well balanced and the powers are properly distributed between the Executive, Judiciary and the Legislature so that they may work harmoniously. It is also called checks and balances. It is quite possible because all are human

beings whether they are working in the Executive or the Judiciary or the Legislature. They are all human beings. Individually, one or two may commit some mistakes, if Judiciary commits a mistake, Legislature will rectify it, If Legislature commits a mistake, Judiciary will rectify it. If Executive commits a mistake, Legislature and Judiciary will rectify that. There is a corresponding responsibility of each of the Institution to do so. But, ultimately who is supreme? Sometimes, it is said, 'Parliament is supreme', or, someone says, 'Judiciary is supreme', or, somebody says, 'Executive is supreme.' In my opinion, under the scheme of the Constitution, none of the three institutions is supreme. What is supreme is Constitution. It is not now. From most ancient times, centuries before, in our country, the principle, *i.e.*, *Dharma* is supreme. *Dharma* does not mean religion because the moment I say, "Dharma", some people understand that as 'Religion'. Religion is a mode of worship of God whosoever wants to worship God in any manner. *Dharma* is a code of conduct not only for human beings but also for the Rulers. Now, what is that *Dharma*? And, this is not what I am saying now. When the Constitution was voted, on that very day, Dr. Radhakrishnan quoted *Brihadaranyaka Upanishad*, "*Kshatrasya Kshatram Dharma, Dharma Paramnasti.*" Law is the King of Kings and *Dharma* is supreme. No one is superior to law. That is the position here. Therefore, when the Supreme Court strikes down the law made by the Parliament, they say, "Judiciary is supreme." No; it is not correct. The Constitution is supreme.

But if the Parliament makes a law, or if the Executive passes an order, contrary to the Constitution, then it becomes the duty of the Judiciary to interfere. So, if somebody has to say that a law is unconstitutional, who is to say that? Our Constitution makers said that that power is given to the Judiciary, and that is why, qualifications are prescribed. There is no qualification other than age to become a legislator. But if I want to become a Judge, particularly of the Supreme Court, I must have put in ten years' service as an Advocate; my name should be recommended by a collegium; then the Chief Minister looks into it; then it is sent to the Law Minister; there is also an enquiry, and ultimately, after so many procedures, I am appointed. Thus, no person without any qualification can enter the Judiciary. Therefore, only such a person who has rich experience as a lawyer, as a Judge, and who is selected by the Chief Justice of the High Court and the Chief Justice of India, is appointed. So, there is security of tenure.

For Government servants, Article 311 provides security; no person can be dismissed or removed without giving him an opportunity. But, as far as Judges are concerned, the Constitution provides for the procedure of Impeachment, so that it is not easy to remove the Judge of a superior court. The reason is, he must have security of tenure. Otherwise, we could not expect that the election of a Prime Minister would have been set aside by the Judge of a High Court! That would not have been done but for the fact that the Constitution has given, not only power, but also security of tenure. And, therefore the Judges are functioning. If the security of tenure is not there, no Judge will be in a position to act without fear or favour. That is the most important point. And this is how powers have been exercised all these years. For example, there

was reference to the First Amendment to the Constitution. In Madras, as you know, in Champakam Durairajau's case, the earliest case of 1950-51, the Madras State made distribution of Medical and Engineering seats castewise and religion-wise. The matter came up before the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court said that it was unconstitutional. Article 15(4) was not there at that time. Clause 4 of Article 16 was there in the beginning of the Constitution, which said, you could make reservations in favour of backward classes if they are inadequately represented in the State services. There was no corresponding clause in Article 15. Then, First Amendment to the Constitution was passed by the provisional Parliament, that is, the Constituent Assembly introduced Clause 4 of the Constitution and said, you can deliberately use the words, 'backward classes'. In the Constitution, there is no reference to backward classes anywhere. Except for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, there is no reference to any other caste. On the other hand, 15(1) is absolute. So, no discrimination can be made on the grounds of caste, religion, etc. But after realising that there were backward sections in the society in every caste, the Parliament First Amendment said there shall be a special provision in favour of backward classes and Scheduled Castes. After that, till now, there is not a single judgement where backward classes have been struck down by the court. Because Article 15(4) was not there, there was no other alternative for the Supreme Court but to strike down when reservation was made on the ground of caste. Thereafter, there is no question.

Then the only question is, why 50 per cent? There is a misconception that it is the High Court or the Supreme Court that made it 50 per cent. It is not correct. It is Dr. Ambedkar, in Parliament, in the Constituent Assembly, who said, "There should be harmony between equality and reservation. The whole society is 100 per cent, and there are forward people, backward people and the interests of the whole nation has to be looked after". This is what he said. Let me give an illustration. Supposing, reservations were made for a community or a collection of communities, the total of which came to something like 70 per cent of the total posts under the State and only 30 per cent are retained as unreserved, could anybody say that the reservation of 30 per cent as open to general competition would be satisfactory from the point of view of giving effect to the first principle, namely, that there shall be equality of opportunity? It cannot be in my judgement. Therefore, the seats to be reserved, if the reservation is to be consistent with sub-clause (1) of article 10, must be confined to a minority of seats." Why do you blame the Supreme Court? The Supreme Court has only given effect to what the champion of backward classes, Dr. Ambedkar, has said in the Constituent Assembly. I took this entire speech from the Indira Sawhney's judgement. It is a 9-Judge judgement. The first judgement was in 1963 in AIR 649. Five judges said that reservation could not exceed 50 per cent. It went on for thirty years. Then some people raised the question, why 50 per cent, why not more. Then the matter was referred to a nine-judge bench. This is a statement made by Dr. Ambedkar on 30.11.1948 during the discussion in the Constituent Assembly. Therefore, whatever Dr. Ambedkar said has been implemented by the Supreme Court. Nothing more. Then coming to the question of 'Who is superior?' No one is superior. As I said, the Constitution itself is superior. Ultimately in the

Keshvanand Bharti's case, the supremacy of the Constitution has been held to be one of the basic structures of the Constitution. Dr. Radhakrishnan quoted from *Upanishad*:

and said that the law is the king of kings; no one is superior to law.

Commenting on the above, Dr. Radhakrishnan observes, 'Even kings are subordinate to *dharma* and the rule of law.' This is what Dr. Radhakrishna said in the Constituent Assembly while supporting Dr. Ambedkar on the issue of reservation. Then the question was answered by Dr. Ambedkar himself.

There is an article titled 'Harmonious working of the Legislature, Executive and Judiciary'. I have written an article. It is a 25-page article which has been published in parliamentary journal. See what Dr. Ambedkar said. He stated, "The Constitution is a fundamental document. It is a document which defines the position and powers of the three organs of the State — the Executive, the Judiciary and the Legislature. It also defines the powers of the Executive and the powers of the Legislature against the citizens. ..In fact, the purpose of a Constitution is not merely to create the organs of the State but to limit their authority, because, if no limitation was imposed upon the authority or organs, there will be complete tyranny and complete oppression."

Then no less a person than former Chief Justice Gajendragadkar, who later became the Chairman of the Law Commission, in 46th Law Commission Report stated: "The Commission believes that, in a democratic country like India which is governed by a written Constitution, supremacy can be legitimately claimed only by the Constitution. It is the Constitution which is paramount, which is the law of laws, which confers on Parliament and the State Legislatures, the Executive and the Judiciary their respective powers, assigned to them their respective functions, and prescribes limitations within which the said powers and functions can be legitimately discharged..."

It is only when the Legislature or Parliament crosses the *Laxman Rekha* prescribed under the Constitution, the Supreme Court comes into picture. There are hundreds of laws whose constitutionality have been upheld by the Supreme Court. It is only in those cases where it is found that the Legislature has exceeded its powers under the Constitution, court has interfered. There may be occasions when some wrong judgements were pronounced. As I said, it is quite possible. To err is human, and Judges are also human beings. Such judgements have been corrected by Parliament. In the *Champakam Dorairajan* case, of course, judges did not commit any mistake. Constitutional provision was there. The court struck it down and immediately Parliament stepped in and passed the first amendment to the Constitution. Similarly, ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Time is over now.

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: I am not very much interested to speak. I have got some thought. That is a subject on which I must speak. If you don't give me time, I am not the loser.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Why don't you conclude in two minutes?...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: Kindly give me five minutes. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Kindly conclude in two or three minutes. We have time till 5 o'clock.

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: It is all right. In a matter like this, I prepared for hours together and came here. If you have no sufficient time, I cannot express my opinion. ...(Interruptions)... I am not the loser.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): I understand. But your party has limited time and your colleagues have taken the time. Please conclude in two or three minutes. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: You permit me. If you permit, I have few points.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Please conclude in two or three minutes.

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: For instance, I will refer to Keshavananda Bharati case. My learned friend referred to Golaknath case. In this case, the Supreme Court said, "The Parliament cannot amend the Fundamental Rights." Then, the Parliament reconsidered it in Keshavananda Bharati's case, overruled the judgment in Golak Nath case. For example, Parliament's term is five years. It is not a Fundamental Right. Suppose, we make it fifty instead of five years. That is why, the Supreme Court said that any part of the constitution cannot be amended because you are elected for five years. Constituent Assembly represented nation, for all times to come. A party, which is elected to govern for five years, cannot amend the basic structure of the Constitution. On that principle, if Keshavanand Bharati judgment would not have been there, I do not know whether we would have come out of national emergency declared during 1975. I will refer two-three recent cases. For example, there is Shrimati Indira Gandhi's case. Immediately after that Keshavananda Bharati case, do you know what was done? Allahabad High Court gave a judgement. I am not referring to any individual as such. Allahabad High Court gave a judgment setting aside the election of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. And, that judgment was set aside by a Parliamentary law. The question was whether the Parliament can exercise judicial power. That is not permissible under the Constitution. What should Judiciary do? They did not declare supremacy. They said, "Our jurisdiction is to decide the appeal of the Allahabad High Court, but the Parliament cannot annul the judgment of the High Court." And, that was important. I will give you an example where Supreme Court committed a mistake and Parliament rectified it. In Ajit

Singh vs. State of Punjab, the Supreme Court invented a rule called '*Catchup Rule*'. The Scheduled Caste candidate is promoted earlier; general category candidate is promoted later. The Scheduled Caste candidate is promoted earlier because of reservation. The Supreme Court said, "The general candidate promoted later will be put above the Scheduled Caste." It is totally against jurisprudence of seniority. Only a person promoted earlier will get seniority. But, the Supreme Court said that general candidate promoted even five or six years later will be put above in seniority list. Then, the Parliament came with 86th Amendment and said, "This is against the seniority rule. A Scheduled Caste candidate is promoted legitimately according to the reservation, and, therefore, his seniority cannot be taken away by a later promotion." That was challenged before the Supreme Court. What did the Supreme Court do? It was M. Nagarajan case. The Supreme Court upheld the Constitutional Amendment. Ultimately, the Supreme Court will not strike down any law passed by the Parliament. A discussion takes place and only when they are convinced that it is unconstitutional, the law passed by the Parliament is struck down. I will give another example of 42nd Amendment. I have not come across such a serious Amendment as this, that is, the High Court has no power. Article 226 is the very livewire of functioning of High Courts. If article 226 is not there, the High Court is useless. What they did was to appoint an Administrative Tribunal with one IAS Officer and one District Judge or one Officer, and they would decide the case and you could go to Supreme Court only after that. High Court has no jurisdiction - Article 323(2). In fact, that was also upheld by the Supreme Court. In Sampath Kumar's case, five Judges said, "It is all right." Then, it was again questioned in the Supreme Court. It went before a seven Judge Bench. How can a person, who is not even qualified to become a High Court Judge, can sit and decide and then you have to go to Supreme Court? Article 323(2) was struck down by the Supreme Court in L. Chandra Kumar's case. Like that, number of examples are there. And, T.M.A. Pai case is another important case. Article 30 confers Fundamental Right on minority to establish an educational institution. That means, majority has no right. The Scheduled Caste people from Bangalore filed a writ petition. They said, "We are not minorities because we belong to SC/ST. Therefore, we have no Fundamental Right to establish an educational institution." This question was put before an eleven Judge Bench, the largest Bench as far as educational matters are concerned. They said, "Article 30 is only a protection. There cannot be any discrimination between minority and majority in making the law."

That 11-Judge judgement stands. ...*(Interruptions)*... ...**(Time-bell rings)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): You have to conclude now.

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: Just one minute. There is no reason to put judiciary against the executive. I will give you another example.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Please conclude.  
...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: Just one minute. It is a serious matter. For acts of omission and commission on the part of the legislature and the executive, it is the responsibility of the court to interfere. Hundreds of cases are there in respect of medical and engineering students. I come from the State of Karnataka where the capitation fee was known to be so much high that it was considered as 'capitation lobby'. Had the Government done nothing, had neither the executive nor the legislature taken any action, poor student would not have got seats.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): All right. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: Because in the Unnikrishnan's case, the Supreme Court clearly laid down that you must give seats according to merit, and, fee also should be charged less. Otherwise, hundreds of students would have lost opportunity to study in medical and engineering colleges. Executive is helpless, Legislature keeps quiet, they are mere spectators; what will happen if judiciary also does not interfere. Even in political matters...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Now, you have to conclude. Kindly conclude.

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: In Punjab ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): I am going to call the next speaker. Please.

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: One minute. Constitution says, a person, who is not elected to the Legislature, can become a minister only for six months, and, if he is not elected to the Legislature, he will go out of office. What was done in that case that after six months, he was again appointed. The Supreme Court said, No, six months' time is the maximum time. You cannot go on for another six months; just like temporary servants who are reappointed with one day-break. You cannot do it.

This is all because of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has performed excellently; the Executive and the Parliament have also done excellently. There may be some errors, which is a matter for adjustments, and, for that reason, we cannot blame the Constitution or distribution of powers under the scheme of Constitution. Thank you.

**श्री गंगा चरण** (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं श्री रामदास अग्रवाल जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ क्योंकि वे एक बहुत अच्छे सब्जेक्ट पर अपना प्राइवेट resolution लाए। आज यहां इस बात पर चर्चा हो रही है कि कौन सुप्रीम है, विधायिका सुप्रीम है या जूडिशरी सुप्रीम है। मैं इस विषय पर यही कहना चाहूंगा कि देश का संविधान सुप्रीम है, क्योंकि संविधान संसद ने बनाया है, इसलिए संसद सुप्रीम है। संसद का गठन जनता करती है, लोकशाही करती है, लोकतंत्र में जनता सबसे सुप्रीम है, इसलिए संसद द्वारा बनाए गए कानूनों का सम्मान होना चाहिए, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य है कि आज संसद में बैठे हुए लोग मंत्रिगण हर क्षेत्र में विफल हैं। उनके ऊपर से जनता का विश्वास उठ गया है। लोगों को छोटी-छोटी समस्याओं को लेकर हाई कोर्ट और सुप्रीम कोर्ट में जनहित याचिका लेकर जाना पड़ रहा है। चाहे बच्चों के एडमिशन का सवाल हो, स्वास्थ्य व चिकित्सा का सवाल हो, बिजली व पानी का सवाल हो, जब हर क्षेत्र में सरकार फेल हो जाती है, तो जनता को



विवश होकर हाई कोर्ट और सुप्रीम कोर्ट की शरण लेनी पड़ती है और जनता की समस्याओं को ध्यान में रखकर सुप्रीम कोर्ट और हाई कोर्ट को हस्तक्षेप करना पड़ता है। क्वेश्चन ऑवर में हम लोग प्रतिदिन देखते हैं कि हमारे मंत्रीगण स्वीकार करते हैं कि हर क्षेत्र में भ्रष्टाचार है। पिछली बार रेल मंत्री ने स्वीकार किया कि एक टी.टी. के पास से छह करोड़ रुपए की रसीदें पकड़ी गईं, लेकिन वह अभी तक गिरफ्तार नहीं हुआ है। आज स्वास्थ्य मंत्री ने स्वीकार किया कि हॉस्पिटल्स में भ्रष्टाचार है, हमारे डॉक्टर्स, टेक्नीशियन्स ईमानदारी से काम नहीं कर रहे हैं। कोयला मंत्री ने स्वीकार किया कि कोयला खनन में भी भ्रष्टाचार है। जब मंत्रीगण स्वीकार कर रहे हैं कि चारों ओर भ्रष्टाचार है और यह जानते हुए भी कोई ऐक्शन नहीं हो रहा है, तब उस रेमेडी के लिए लोग सुप्रीम कोर्ट, हाई कोर्ट जा रहे हैं और लोगों को वहां से रेमेडी मिल रही है। अब लोगों का विश्वास संसद से ज्यादा न्यायपालिका पर हो गया है।

दूसरी तरफ हम जो भी न्याय कर रहे हैं, उसमें पक्षपात करते हैं। यह देखते हैं कि किस पार्टी का है, हमारी पार्टी का है कि नहीं है, जबकि हम शपथ लेते हैं कि हम भेदभाव रहित, निष्पक्ष होकर काम करेंगे। सारे मंत्री शपथ लेते हैं, लेकिन उनकी कार्य पद्धति निष्पक्ष नहीं होती है, उनका न्याय निष्पक्ष नहीं होता। वे अपनी पार्टी देखते हैं, पार्टी के वर्कर को देखते हैं। किस स्टेट में हमारी सरकार है, वहां हम ज्यादा धन देंगे, जहां विपक्ष की सरकार है, वहां धन नहीं देंगे, वहां बिजली, खाद, पानी नहीं देंगे। इससे जनता परेशान हो जाती है। इन सब कारणों से आज दिन-प्रतिदिन लोगों का, लोकशाही का संसद से विश्वास उठता चला जा रहा है। संसद में बजट पेश हुआ। बजट से दो दिन पहले ही पेट्रोल के दाम बढ़ा दिए गए। बजट का क्या मतलब रह गया? मैडम, हमने पहली बार देखा कि बजट पेश हो रहा था और लोकसभा की दीर्घाएं खाली पड़ी हुई थीं। न कोई औद्योगिक जगत से था, न कोई एम्बेसडर था, न जनता थी, क्योंकि जनता के हितों पर दो दिन पहले ही कुठाराघात कर दिया गया था। उस बजट का कोई मतलब नहीं रह गया था। यदि पेट्रोलियम पदार्थों की कीमतें संसद में बढ़ाई जातीं, तो इस बजट की चारों तरफ आलोचना होती, इस आलोचना से बचने के लिए दो दिन पहले संसद चल रही थी, बजट पेश हो रहा था और पेट्रोलियम पदार्थों का मूल्य बढ़ा दिया गया। इससे हम इस संसद की गरिमा को गिरा रहे हैं, इसलिए आज जब न्याय नहीं मिलता है तो राजनैतिक लोग, एक राजनेता दूसरे राजनेता के खिलाफ हाई कोर्ट और सुप्रीम कोर्ट में जाते हैं। हमारा निर्णय, हमारा भविष्य आज हाई कोर्ट और सुप्रीम कोर्ट पर निर्भर हो गया है। तमाम ऐसे निर्णय हुए हैं। एंटी डिफेक्शन बिल पर जब संसद में वोटिंग करते हैं, जब स्पीकर के द्वारा सही निर्णय नहीं होता, तो वे हाई कोर्ट और सुप्रीम कोर्ट में जाते हैं। इन तमाम मामलों पर हम लोगों को बैठकर विचार करना पड़ेगा कि आखिर यह संसद की गरिमा रहेगी या नहीं रहेगी। संसद की गरिमा को गिराने के लिए हम स्वयं दोषी हैं। जनता का विश्वास, जो हम पर से उठ रहा है, उसके लिए हम स्वयं दोषी हैं। दूसरी तरफ ज्यूडिशियल एक्टिविज्म बढ़ रहा है, उनका काम भी बहुत पारदर्शी नहीं है। आज हम देख रहे हैं कि न्यायपालिका में भी निचले स्तर से लेकर ऊपर तक भ्रष्टाचार बढ़ रहा है, जातिवाद बढ़ रहा है। जिस तरह राजनैतिक लोगों में जातिवाद है, उस तरह का जातिवाद आज ज्यूडिशियरी में भी दिखाई दे रहा है। ब्राह्मण जज होगा तो लोग ब्राह्मण वकील करते हैं, ठाकुर जज होगा तो लोग ठाकुर वकील करते हैं, मुसलमान जज होगा तो लोग मुसलमान वकील एंगेज करते हैं, साउथ का जज होगा तो साउथ का वकील एंगेज करते हैं या हम देखते हैं कि किस जज का लड़का प्रैक्टिस कर रहा है। सारे जजों के लड़के प्रैक्टिस कर रहे हैं, हम न्याय पाने के लिए दूसरे जज के लड़के को एंगेज करते हैं।

लोगों का विश्वास न्यायपालिका से भी उठ रहा है। वहां भी जातिवाद है, भ्रष्टाचार है। जब लोगों का संसद से विश्वास उठ जाएगा, न्यायपालिका से भी विश्वास उठ जाएगा, तब आखिर जनता का विश्वास कहां रहेगा? तब उसका विश्वास बंदूक पर रहेगा, वह बंदूक उठाएगा। इसीलिए नक्सलवाद आ रहा है, माओवाद आ रहा है, आतंकवाद आ रहा है। हमें इन सब चीजों पर गंभीरता से विचार करना होगा। यह जो रेजोल्यूशन है कि संसद बड़ी है या न्यायपालिका बड़ी है, यह विषय बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है। मैं यह कहूंगा कि हमारे विधि मंत्री इस पर चर्चा करवा रहे हैं कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट और हाई कोर्ट के जजों...(समय की घंटी)...

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती जयन्ती नटराजन):** आपका समय समाप्त हो गया।

**श्री गंगा चरण:** मेरे पास 10 मिनट समय था।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती जयन्ती नटराजन):** नहीं, 6 मिनट।

SHRI GANGA CHARAN: I will conclude. I have only two points to make.

हम अपने विशेषाधिकार का दुरुपयोग कर रहे हैं। मंत्रियों को किसी चीज के जो विशेषाधिकार मिलते हैं, जैसा हमने देखा कि हमारे जो पिछले ऑनरेबल मानव संसाधन मंत्री थे, उनकी recommendation पर सेंट्रल स्कूल में admission होते थे, उसका इतना दुरुपयोग किया गया कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट/हाई कोर्ट को उस पर अंकुश लगाना पड़ा कि एक एमपी का कोटा दो होगा। जब हम किसी चीज का दुरुपयोग करते हैं, तभी judiciary को उसमें हस्तक्षेप करना पड़ता है। मेरा मानना है कि इसके लिए हम ही दोषी हैं। हमें यदि कोई विशेषाधिकार मिलता है, तो वह सदुपयोग करने के लिए होना चाहिए, न कि दुरुपयोग करने के लिए। हमें मंत्री पद में जो पॉवर मिली है, वह जनता की सेवा के लिए होनी चाहिए। जनता के अन्दर ऐसा विश्वास हो गया है कि लोगों ने इसे धन कमाने की मशीन बना रखा है। चाहे वह ईमानदार नेता हो, कोई मानने के लिए तैयार नहीं है कि सांसद ईमानदार हो सकते हैं, मिनिस्टर ईमानदार हो सकते हैं, राजनैतिक लोग ईमानदार हो सकते हैं। ऐसा विश्वास जनता में हो गया है। हमें अपने आचरण के द्वारा यह विश्वास पैदा करना पड़ेगा। यह लड़ाई संसद और judiciary के बीच नहीं है। हमारे राजनैतिक लोगों को अपने गिरेबाँ में झाँक कर अपना आचरण पारदर्शी बनाना पड़ेगा और जनता की सेवा के लिए बनाना पड़ेगा, तभी हम यह देश चला सकते हैं। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ। धन्यवाद।

**डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान):** मैडम, आपने मुझे समय दिया, इसके लिए आपका धन्यवाद। मैं रामदास जी को बधाई दूँगी कि वे चर्चा के लिए बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण विषय लाए हैं। जब यूपीए की पिछली सरकार थी, तब भी इस सदन में इस विषय पर चर्चा हुई थी और विद्वान साथियों ने इस पर अपने विचार रखे थे। आज भी सदन में कई माननीय सदस्यों ने बड़े उपयोगी विचार रखे हैं।

एक तो मैं यह कहना चाहूँगी कि यह सवाल कोई राजनीतिज्ञों और जजों के बीच का नहीं है या सांसदों और जजों के बीच का मामला नहीं है। यह मामला कार्यपालिका का है, सिस्टम का है। कार्यपालिका और न्यायपालिका के मसले पर यहाँ डिबेट हो रही है कि कार्यपालिका के क्या अधिकार और कर्तव्य हैं और न्यायपालिका के क्या अधिकार और कर्तव्य हैं। इसमें यह सवाल नहीं आता है कि राजनीतिज्ञ कैसे होते हैं, सांसद कैसे होते हैं और जज कैसे होते हैं। हम इस बात पर यहाँ चर्चा नहीं कर रहे हैं। हम सिस्टम के ऊपर चर्चा कर रहे हैं।

मैडम, न्यायपालिका और कार्यपालिका, जो लोकतंत्र के चार स्तम्भों में से दो स्तम्भ हैं, अगर उनमें आपस में यह सवाल पैदा हो जाएगा कि बड़ा कौन है, सुप्रीम कौन है, तो हम आम जनता से क्या उम्मीद करेंगे, उनको किस मुँह से सीख दे सकेंगे। आज विधायिका वह जगह है, जहाँ कानून बनते हैं। अगर न्यायपालिका उस जगह का सम्मान नहीं करेगा, अगर बच्चा अपनी माँ का, अपनी जननी का सम्मान नहीं करेगा, जहाँ उसने जन्म लिया, अगर संविधान का सम्मान न्यायपालिका में ही नहीं होगा, तो और कहाँ होगा! फिर हम आम आदमी से उसके सम्मान की क्या उम्मीद करेंगे! इसलिए यह जरूरी है कि दोनों की अपनी-अपनी जो लक्ष्मण रेखाएँ हैं, वे उनको समझें। कार्यपालिका और न्यायपालिका उनके अनुसार चलें।

हमारी judiciary व्यवस्था यह सोच कर बनाई गई है कि लोगों को न्याय मिले, जनता को न्याय मिले। मैडम, आज दुर्भाग्य से लम्बे-लम्बे अरसे तक न्याय नहीं मिलता। न्याय नहीं मिलना भी अन्याय है। लोगों को चक्कर काटते हुए वर्षों बीत जाते हैं। कई लोग हमें बताते हैं कि वे कोर्ट में जाते हैं, तारीख पड़ती है, कहाँ-कहाँ से लोग टिकट लेकर बसों में जाते हैं और वहाँ पता लगता है कि जज साहब है ही नहीं, वे आए और एक-दो घंटे बैठ कर चले गए, उनके आने-जाने का भी कोई समय निश्चित नहीं है। विधि मंत्री महोदय खुद एक

सुलझे हुए व्यक्ति हैं, वे बड़े अनुभवी भी हैं। मैं उनसे यह कहना चाहूँगी कि न्यायपालिका के अधिकार के साथ कर्तव्य भी हैं और कार्यपालिका के भी, सिर्फ अधिकार ही नहीं हैं। तो जनता के प्रति उनका जो कर्तव्य है, लोग उनके पास न्याय की उम्मीदें लेकर आते हैं, इसलिए उनके लिए भी कोई टाइम फ्रेम निश्चित किया जाए, जैसे अगर रेवेन्यू का मसला है, तो इतने टाइम में यह कंप्लीट होना ही चाहिए। अब तो सरकार ग्रामीण न्यायलय की संकल्पना लाई है, जिसका मैं बहुत स्वागत करती हूँ। इससे गांव वालों को न्याय जल्दी मिलेगा, लेकिन इस पर इमप्लिमेंटेशन भी जल्दी होना चाहिए। न्याय के लिए एक टाइम-फ्रेम अवश्य निश्चित किया जाए। जजिज़ के लिए भी यह निश्चित हो कि आपको इतने समय में इसका फैसला करना ही होगा, ताकि लोग भटकते न रहें।

महिलाएं तो बेचारी न्याय के लिए कोर्ट तक भी नहीं पहुंच पाती हैं। एट्रॉसिटी, हिंसा उत्पीड़न के मामलों में महिलाओं को न तो सामाजिक मदद मिलती है और न ही आर्थिक, वैसे ही वे न्यायालय तक पहुंच भी नहीं पाती हैं। अगर पहुंच भी जाती है तो आज न्याय इतना लम्बा और महंगा है कि वे बेचारी एफोर्ड ही नहीं कर पाती हैं और बीच में ही कई बार कई लोगों को विड्रॉ करना पड़ता है। इस संबंध में मैं इतना ही निवेदन करना चाहूँगी।

महोदया, यह न्यायपालिका का काम नहीं है कि कहां पर फैक्ट्री बनेगी, कहां पर खनन रुकेगा, कहां पर खनन की कार्यवाही चलेगी, कहां पर सड़क बनेगी और कहां पुलिया बनेगी। यह सरकारों का काम है। सरकार का काम सरकार करे, कार्यपालिका का काम कार्यपालिका करे और न्यायपालिका का काम न्यायपालिका करे। विधि मंत्री महोदय से मुझे यही निवेदन करना है कि वह एक ऐसी स्पष्ट लक्ष्मण रेखा बनाएं, सभी के लिए स्पष्ट निर्देशन बनाएं, एक नियम बनाएं, जिनका पालन करना जजिज़ के लिए, न्यायपालिका के लिए भी आवश्यक हो, अन्यथा उनके लिए भी कोई न कोई कार्यवाही सुनिश्चित की जाए। धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Now, the hon. Minister. I think, he will be back. It's now only four minutes to go for 5 o'clock. So, we can carry this Resolution over to the next week where it can be discussed. So, we can carry it over to the next day when Resolutions' Day will come up. (Interruptions)

DR. K. KESHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, she has not finished.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): I am sorry. I thought you have finished.

DR. K. KESHA RAO: No, she has not finished.

**डा. प्रभा ठाकुर:** धन्यवाद, महोदया। आपने फिर से मुझे बोलने की अनुमति दी।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती जयन्ती नटराजन):** पांच बजे तक आप खत्म कर दीजिए।

**डा. प्रभा ठाकुर:** ठीक है। महोदया, अभी मेरे कई साथियों ने ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री रामदास अग्रवाल:** एक मिनट, मैं कुछ बोलना चाहता हूँ ...(व्यवधान)...

**डा. प्रभा ठाकुर:** वह पानी पीने गए हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री रामदास अग्रवाल:** मैं आपको बोलने के लिए मना नहीं कर रहा हूँ। मैं उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया को एक सुझाव दे रहा हूँ, चूंकि सदन में यह एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विषय आया है, जो चर्चित भी है और करंट भी, इसलिए इसके बाद का जो शुक्रवार है, तब तक के लिए इसको डैफर किया जाए, ताकि हमारे सदन के जो बड़े विद्वान हैं, विशेषज्ञ हैं, वे भी इसमें बोल सकें, तो बहुत अच्छा रहेगा और फिर सरकार को भी उसमें अपना फ्रेमवर्क तैयार करने में सुविधा मिलेगी। यह मेरा सुझाव है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Actually, the time allotted was two hours. You can make a request to the hon. Chairman for extension of time. The time

5.00 P.M.

left is for the Minister to reply and for your clarifications. But, since, it's going to be 5 o'clock, after Dr. Prabha Thakur, we will take up Special Mentions.

**डा. प्रभा ठाकुर:** यह एक बड़ा ही चिंता का विषय है और चिंतन का विषय भी है, जिसे आज हम यहां डिस्कस कर रहे हैं...(व्यवधान)... हां, मैं उसी पर तो बोल रही हूँ। आज इस देश में न्यायपालिका की बहुत अहम भूमिका है। आम जनता उनसे यही उम्मीद करती है कि उन्हें न्याय मिले और जल्दी, समय पर न्याय मिले। मैडम, लम्बे समय तक न्याय नहीं मिलना भी आम आदमी के साथ अन्याय है। कोई व्यक्ति इतना पैसा कहां से खर्च करेगा और कब तक वह कोर्टों के चक्कर लगाता रहेगा। इस मामले में विधि मंत्री जी जरूर कुछ समय सुनिश्चित करें। अब तो महिलाओं के लिए फैमिली कोर्ट्स, पारिवारिक न्यायालय भी बन गए हैं और ऐसे कोर्ट भी बन गए हैं, जहां उनके लिए फैसले जल्दी हों, लेकिन वहां पर भी बहुत समय लगता है और विलम्ब होता है। जजिज़ निश्चित रूप से समय पर आएँ और जनता को उपलब्ध हों। कोर्ट में हर तरह के मामलों में, हत्या के मामलों में और बलात्कार तक के मामलों में बरसों लग जाते हैं। बलात्कार के मामले में मैडिकल रिपोर्ट आ जाने के बाद, मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि इतना लम्बा समय लगने का क्या कारण हो सकता है? या फिर लम्बे इन्वेस्टिगेशन का क्या कारण हो सकता है? मैडिकल रिपोर्ट एक डॉक्टर से ले ली जाए, दो से ले ली जाए, तीन से ले ली जाए, अगर तीनों रिपोर्ट्स एक जैसी ही हैं, फिर उसके बाद तो सीधे कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए और जजमेंट होनी चाहिए। इसमें इस तरह की व्यवस्थाएँ होनी चाहिए। इसके अलावा जिस तरह के सुझाव यहाँ से आए हैं, वे बड़े उपयोगी सुझाव हैं। मेरे साथियों ने भी कहा और विधि मंत्री जी ने जो बड़ा अच्छा प्रश्न उठाया कि जजेज़ को भी अपनी सम्पत्ति का ब्यौरा देना चाहिए, क्योंकि कोई भी यहाँ, इस देश में, संविधान से ऊपर नहीं है। अगर कुछ सर्वोपरि है, तो वह इस देश का संविधान है। इस देश के संविधान के ऊपर न तो कार्यपालिका है और न ही न्यायपालिका है। संविधान की रक्षा करना कार्यपालिका का भी धर्म है और न्यायपालिका का भी धर्म है। इसलिए दोनों अपने धर्म का पालन करें, यही मुझे निवेदन करना है। धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Thank you. Now, the time for the Private Members' Resolution is over. This will be carried over to the next day on which Resolutions are...(Interruptions)... The Minister will reply on that day. The time is over. We will now take up Special Mentions. I would like to give the Members who are present the option of laying it on the Table or actually reading it. Dr. Prabha Thakur. Do you want to lay it on the Table or do you want to read it?

**डा० प्रभा ठाकुर:** मैं इसे पढ़ देती हूँ।...(व्यवधान)... मैं सिर्फ अपने विशेष उल्लेख का विषय बता देती हूँ। मैं इसे lay करती हूँ।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती जयन्ती नटराजन):** ठीक है।

#### SPECIAL MENTIONS

##### Demand to include the 'Rajasthani' language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution

**डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान):** राजस्थानी को संविधान की आठवीं अनुसूची में सम्मिलित करते हुए संवैधानिक मान्यता दिए जाने की मांग लम्बे समय से संसद के दोनों सदनों में अनेक माननीय सदस्यों द्वारा

कई वर्षों से उठाई जाती रही है। मैंने भी अनेक बार दोनों सदनों में राजस्थान की जनता की इस दीर्घकाल से लंबित मांग को कई बार उठाया है। पिछली सरकार के गृहमंत्री ने चार करोड़ से भी अधिक पूरे देश एवं विश्व में रहने वाले राजस्थानियों द्वारा बोली जाने वाली राजस्थानी को संवैधानिक स्वीकृति दिए जाने पर अपनी सहमति जताई थी। सबको उम्मीद थी कि इस बार यह मांग पूरी हो जाएगी, किन्तु निराशा की बात है कि अभी तक राजस्थानी भाषा को संवैधानिक मान्यता नहीं मिली है तथा भाषा के स्वरूप को लेकर उठाई जा रही निराधार आपत्तियों को महत्व देते हुए राजस्थानी को आठवीं अनुसूची में स्थान नहीं दिया जा रहा है। राजस्थान में दूरदर्शन एवं आकाशवाणी से राजस्थानी भाषा में समाचारों एवं कार्यक्रमों का प्रसारण किया जा रहा है। जब उस राजस्थानी का राज्य में विरोध नहीं है और सारे राजस्थानी उसे समझ रहे हैं, उसी राजस्थानी को संवैधानिक मान्यता दिए जाने के लिए मैं सरकार से अनुरोध करती हूँ, ताकि राजस्थान वासियों की बहुप्रतीक्षित मांग पूरी हो सके।

#### **Demand to establish a Sports Academy and other sports facilities in Sikkim**

SHRI O.T. LEPCHA (Sikkim): Sikkim has a huge potential in the field of sports. It is a breeding ground for football, archery, badminton, boxing and mountaineering among others. It has produced players like Bhaichung Bhutia who as captain of Indian football team brought many laurel for the country. Unfortunately, there are very few sports facilities for promotion of sports in the State. There is a need for establishing a Sports Academy and sports campuses in the State in order to exploit the talent of potential sportspersons. Recently, hon. Chief Minister of Sikkim had met the Union Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs and requested for establishment of a sports academy and extension of other facilities for promotion of sports in the State. Hon. Chief Minister had also desired for extension of support to Sonam Gyatso Mountaineering Institute in Sikkim.

I, therefore, urge upon the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs to establish a Sports Academy in Sikkim and help in establishing other sports campuses besides extending support to Sonam Gyatso Mountaineering Institute, so that young boys and girls of Sikkim can show their potential in the international arena and enhance the prestige of the nation.

#### **Demand to allow undergraduate veterinary doctors to practice in Sangli District of Maharashtra**

SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI (Maharashtra): Sir, my Special Mention refers to a situation where the Government of Maharashtra passed an Act in 1974 permitting undergraduates veterinary doctors to practice. In 1981, a similar Act was passed by the Central Government which does not permit the undergraduate doctors to practice, with the result that in the Sangli district of the State of Maharashtra, the veterinary doctors are coming into trouble. If they practice, then they risk legal action, and if they don't practice, they face the anger of the farmers. Madam, in the last one month, the veterinary doctors are on strike, and over 400 cattle have perished for want of treatment. This is what the subject of my Special Mention is.

I wish to draw attention to the serious situation that has arisen in the Sangli district of the State of Maharashtra due to failure of the Central Government in taking an appropriate decision about provision of veterinary services in the State of Maharashtra.

The Government of Maharashtra had enacted in the year 1971 a Veterinary Services Act which, inter alia, allowed undergraduate veterinary students to practice in cases where fully qualified veterinary doctors' services were not available.

The Government of India enacted the Veterinary Services Act 1984 which did not make any provision for utilization of services of undergraduate or diploma holders to render veterinary services in areas where graduate doctors were not available.

The Government of Maharashtra approached the Central Government for making necessary amendments to permit undergraduate doctors giving treatment to animals, at least, as a once for all exception.

Unfortunately, the Central Government has not moved in the matter with the result that the undergraduate and diploma holder veterinary doctors are caught between the devil and the deep sea. If they render treatment to the animals they run the risk of being charge sheeted for an unlawful activity; if they refuse to give treatment to animals, they invoke the mass anger of the farmers. As a consequence, the undergraduate veterinary doctors have been on strike under the banner of the Veterinary Services Practitioners' Association and they have declared a general strike since the 20th June 2009.

The strike has now continued for more than a month and hundreds of milch and draft animals have perished during this period for lack of treatment. A large number of deaths occurred till recently, and under conditions of drought when they were forced to drink unclean water causing intestinal problems; and now under conditions of heavy flooding, the death toll has crossed the figure of 400 till last reports came in. The doctors as also the farmers are agitating.

The Government of India should take urgent measures to resolve the problem by permitting undergraduate doctors to practice, at least, in cases of emergency.

I demand that the Central Government in the Ministry of Agriculture, grant permission that the undergraduate veterinary doctors be allowed to practice their profession in conditions where graduate doctors are not available.

#### **Demand to provide sufficient fertilizers to farmers in Uttar Pradesh**

**श्री गंगा चरण** (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदया, इस वर्ष सूखे के कारण खरीफ की फसल पूरी तरह बरबाद हो गई है, पर किसी तरह किसानों ने निजी साधनों से पानी प्राप्त कर धान व अन्य खरीफ की फसल बोई है। उक्त फसल के लिए केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को पर्याप्त मात्रा में खाद उपलब्ध नहीं कराया जा रहा है। मेरा आप के माध्यम से अनुरोध है कि केन्द्र सरकार उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की मांग के अनुसार उसे रासायनिक खाद व बीज उपलब्ध कराये, जिससे किसानों को कोई परेशानी न हो और वे सूखे की मार से बच सकें।

#### **Demand to stop the telecast of the serial 'Sach Ka Saamna' by a Television Channel**

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव** (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदया, मैंने 20 तारीख को इसकी नोटिस दी थी। 22 तारीख को मेरे एक सहयोगी कमाल अख्तर जी ने "सच का सामना" वाला विषय उठा दिया था।

महोदया, पिछले दो सप्ताह से एक टी.वी. चैनल पर “सच का सामना” नाम के एक सीरियल को दिखाया जा रहा है। यह सीरियल निहायत घटिया स्तर का है और परिवार एवं समाज में एक नए किस्म की विकृति पैदा करने का काम प्रारंभ हो गया है। हम यह उम्मीद करते हैं कि टी.वी. चैनल्स समाज के सामने ऐसे सीरियल्स प्रस्तुत करेंगे जिससे बच्चों से लेकर वृद्ध तक कुछ-न-कुछ सीखें और समाज का भला हो सके। किंतु मुझे अत्यधिक खेद के साथ यह कहना पड़ रहा है कि उक्त सीरियल “सच का सामना” में निहायत घटिया किस्म के लोगों को बुलाकर उन को एक करोड़ रुपए की बड़ी रकम का लालच देकर 21 प्रश्नों का सही जवाब देने की पेशकश की जाती है। प्रश्न अश्लीलता, फूहड़पन एवं गंदगी की चरम सीमा तक पहुंचने वाले होते हैं। इस तरह के व्यक्ति नयी पीढ़ी का “रोल मॉडल” नहीं हो सकते हैं, किंतु दुर्भाग्यवश पूरे परिवार के सामने और दर्शकों की बड़ी तादाद के सामने जिस रूप में उन्हें पेश किया जा रहा है, उस का हमारी संस्कृति एवं सभ्यता से दूर-दूर का भी नाता नहीं है।

महोदया, एक नयी अपसंस्कृति पैदा की जा रही है। मेरी आप के माध्यम से सरकार से मांग है कि “सच का सामना” सीरियल को तत्काल बंद करने के आदेश दिए जाएं और अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता के मौलिक अधिकार को समाज में गंदगी परोसने का अधिकार समझने वालों पर सख्ती से अंकुश लगाया जाए।

#### **Demand for appointment of specialist doctors in CGHS dispensaries in the country**

SHRI AMBETH RAJAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I rise to draw the attention of the Government to the pressing needs of CGHS beneficiaries, spread throughout the country. The Central Government Health Scheme has been catering to the needs of the employees of Central Government all over the country and they are availing this benefit by subscribing particular amount monthly to the Government and they are eligible as per their rank and salary.

To make the CGHS more beneficiaries-friendly, I request the Government to take few important steps. Sir, all the CGHS dispensaries are manned by general physicians alone. For any particular treatment, beneficiaries are generally referred to specialist who usually sits in some other places. For example, for problems related to children in Delhi, the physician in CGHS dispensary refer the case to hospitals like Safdarjung, Ram Manohar Lohia, etc. This cumbersome process cause loss of time and unnecessary bout of rounds to the beneficiary and hardship to the children, who is already suffering from one disease or the other. It is also pertinent to mention here that children are the most affected in the existing circumstances, irrespective of where they reside, whether in metros or big cities.

Therefore, to start with, it is my appeal to the Government to post a child specialist doctor and a gynaecologist in all CGHS dispensaries and make provision for appointing other specialised doctors in the CGHS dispensary in the days to come.

#### **Concern over the ill-treatment meted out to the Chief of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation**

**श्री रामदास अग्रवाल** (राजस्थान): महोदय, विशेष उल्लेख के माध्यम से मैं सदन का ध्यान उस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ जिसमें केन्द्र सरकार को श्री ई. श्रीधरन के मामले में सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने लताड़ लगायी। महोदय अत्यन्त दुःख और शर्म की बात है कि मेट्रो रेल प्रोजेक्ट के प्रमुख श्री ई. श्रीधरन के साथ कई प्रकार से अपमानजनक व्यवहार किया जा रहा है। इससे सम्बन्धित सरकारी विभाग और सरकार के व्यवहार का पता चलता है। श्री ई. श्रीधरन मेट्रो रेल प्रोजेक्ट के वो प्रमुख व्यक्ति हैं, जिन्होंने अपनी कर्तव्यपरायणता एवं क्षमता

का परिचय सारे विश्व में दिया है और मेट्रो रेल के निर्माण कार्य को उन्होंने समय पर और समय से पूर्व हर स्तर पर सम्पूर्ण किया है। श्री ई. श्रीधरन की कार्यक्षमता और उनकी ईमानदारी से प्रभावित होकर कई देशों के लोगों ने उनके कार्य की प्रशंसा की है, लेकिन उनके अपने ही देश में प्रशासनिक लाल फीताशाही के कारण उन्हें खुद के वेतन के बारे में कोर्ट में जाकर शरण लेनी पड़ी। हाई कोर्ट का निर्णय उनके पक्ष में हो गया था, लेकिन उसके खिलाफ भी केन्द्र सरकार सुप्रीम कोर्ट में अपील करने चली गई। यह तो सुप्रीम कोर्ट के माननीय जजों की सूझ-बूझ थी कि उन्होंने श्री ई. श्रीधरन के खिलाफ दायर अपील को निरस्त कर दिया और साथ ही केन्द्र सरकार को चेताया कि अगर आप इस मामले में आगे कोई कार्यवाही चाहते हैं तो हम आप पर भारी जुर्माना लगा देंगे।

महोदय, यह विषय बहुत संवेदनशील है, लेकिन मैंने यह विषय इसलिए उठाया कि हमारा प्रशासन भी संवेदनशील होना चाहिए और इस प्रकार का निर्मम व्यवहार उन लोगों के साथ ना किया जाए जो देश के लिए श्रेष्ठ कार्य करते हैं। मुझे आशा है कि केन्द्र सरकार इस पर अपना स्पष्टीकरण देगी।

**Demand to remove the shortcomings in the programmes for  
providing nutritious food to children in the country**

**श्री प्रभात झा** (मध्य प्रदेश): राष्ट्रीय परिवार स्वास्थ्य सर्वेक्षण की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार देश में पांच साल से कम उम्र के 48 प्रतिशत बच्चे कुपोषित हैं और 43 प्रतिशत बच्चों का वजन सामान्य से काफी कम है। एक दशक की तेज आर्थिक प्रगति के बावजूद भारत में छोटे बच्चों में कुपोषण की दर कई अफ्रीकी देशों से भी अधिक है। कुपोषण के कारण बच्चे अधिक बीमार होते हैं और जीवन भर शारीरिक व बौद्धिक विकास की कमी से जुझते रहते हैं। 63 सौ करोड़ रुपये का एकीकृत बाल विकास कार्यक्रम देश की साढ़े दस लाख आंगनबाड़ियों के माध्यम से छोटे बच्चों को पौष्टिक आहार खिलाने के लिए चलाया जा रहा है, लेकिन कुछ कड़वे सच इसकी पोल खोल देते हैं।

सिर्फ 25 प्रतिशत माताएं प्रकृति की देन कालेस्ट्रम को अपने बच्चों को देती हैं। यह हर साल देश के 2.5 लाख बच्चों की जान बचा सकता है। देश में तीन वर्ष तक की उम्र का हर दूसरा बच्चा कुपोषित है। यह आंकड़ा चीन से दस गुना और उप सहारा से दोगुना है।

सर्वेक्षण के अनुसार 56 प्रतिशत महिलाओं में किसी न किसी प्रकार की खून की कमी है जिसके परिणाम स्वरूप गर्भावस्था में 20 प्रतिशत अधिक मृत्यु, समय पूर्व शिशुओं के जन्म दर में तीन गुना तथा प्रसव पूर्व मृत्यु में 9 गुना वृद्धि हो जाती है। चीन में 1981 में गरीबी रेखा से नीचे जीवन-यापन करने वाले परिवारों की संख्या 53 प्रतिशत थी जो 2001 में 8 प्रतिशत रह गई, लेकिन भारत में इसका उल्टा हो रहा है। अमीरी-गरीबी की बढ़ती खाई ने गरीबों को चिकित्सा सुविधा, साफ पानी, पौष्टिक आहार और रोजगार के अवसरों से वंचित कर दिया। जहां स्वास्थ्य के मद में खर्च का वैश्विक औसत सकल घरेलू उत्पाद का 5.1 प्रतिशत है वहीं भारत में मात्र 0.9 प्रतिशत है।

अतः मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि छोटे बच्चों को पौष्टिक आहार खिलाने के लिए चलाये जा रहे कार्यक्रमों में व्याप्त खामियों पर तत्काल ध्यान दे जिससे बच्चों में कुपोषण की समस्या पर नियंत्रण पाया जा सके।

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: The House now stands adjourned till 11 a.m. on Monday the 27th July, 2009.

The House then adjourned at five minutes past five of the clock  
till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 27th July, 2009.