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Monday
27 July, 2009

5 Sravana, 1931 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

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RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 27th July, 2009/5 Sravana, 1931 (Saka)

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

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

राष्ट्रीय फिल्म विकास निगम के कार्यालय का स्थानांतरण

*321. श्री वाई.पी. त्रिवेदी : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को राष्ट्रीय फिल्म विकास निगम के मुख्यालय को मुंबई से दिल्ली स्थानांतरित करने का कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुआ है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने उक्त प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार कर अनुमोदित कर दिया है;

(ग) क्या प्रस्ताव का अनुमोदन करते समय इससे जुड़े सभी लोगों की राय ली गई है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्रीमती अम्बिका सोनी): (क) से (घ) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) से (घ) उपर्युक्त (क) में दिए गए उत्तर के मद्देनजर प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Shifting of the office of NFDC

† *321. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal for shifting the Head Office of National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) from Mumbai to Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the said proposal has been accepted and approved by Government;

(c) whether opinion of all the people associated with it has been ascertained while granting the said approval; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Sir, the first question is relating to the shifting of the Office. My first supplementary is like this. This is the Institution which has given us some of the very outstanding movies like "Gandhi", "Salaam Bombay" and others. Now, this Institution has become almost

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

ineffective. Does the Government have any plans to put some money, inject some life into it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not relating to the question.

SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: But that is relating to the same Institution.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, that relates to the same Institution, but you have asked a specific question. Please read part (a).

SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: No, no, Sir. But whether the Government has any plans to put some money into this Institution so that it can make some television movies like "Gandhi" and others so that we cannot have to, thereafter, go on seeing embarrassing television shows like "Sach Ka Samna".

MR. CHAIRMAN: Trivediji, it is a very valid question, but not coming out of this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. KARAN SINGH: Sir, the question of shifting may be arising out of the performance of the Institution. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the question be answered.

SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA: Will the hon. Member, please, repeat the question?

श्री सभापति : आप question repeat कर दीजिए।

SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Sir, this Institution has become ineffective. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Sir, it is true that the NFDC which was founded in 1975 and, then, shifted with the merger of two other Corporations, in 1983, started functioning and produced some very good movies, 200-300 movies, as my hon. Colleague mentioned, by well-known, established, renowned film directors. In recent days, it has seen not very happy times, and the Government has advanced working capital loans, aggregating to almost Rs.20 crores for 2005-06 and 2006-07. We are thinking of giving them more equity, and Rs.6.5 crores have been released for 2008-09, for the Eleventh Plan, so that they can take up a greater number of films by regional directors, first-time directors, up to Rs.2 crores, or whatever the nearby figure. In the meantime, Sir, as a Ministry also, we have written to all the hon. Union Cabinet Ministers and Chief Ministers. They all have a high budget for their publicity components, and we have asked them to use the facilities available in the NFDC, the infrastructure and the expertise so that they could get work and the State Governments could get good films too.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Second supplementary, please.

SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Sir, this sub-titling lab was shifted to Chennai. Does the Government have any plan to shift it back to Mumbai?

SOME HON. MEMBER: "Sub-title" makes this sub-title!

MR. CHAIRMAN: I don't see the sub-title!

SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Sir, sub-titling lab.

SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA: Sir, at the moment, the Government is not thinking on this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Shri Rajeev Shukla.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Minister for making it clear that the NFDC is not being moved to Delhi. The NFDC has become a merely trading body. For the last 5-6 years it has been sourcing the movies to the Doordarshan only. That has been the major job of the NFDC. I don't think that it has been created for that purpose. I think that it should be converted into a National Film Finance Development Corporation. Will she consider this proposal?

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Sir, it is true that the NFDC used to get films for Doordarshan. But that is stopped some time ago. That is why the NFDC has to be supported and strengthened. They have the infrastructure. They have a large number of employees. Some of them have taken VRS. With a more comprehensive body, as I mentioned earlier in my response, we are trying to source work so that the NFDC's talents can be used to the optimum capacity.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, the Minister has admitted that there is no proposal to shift the NFDC. But my question is different. Assuming, for the sake of argument, that there is a proposal to shift it from one place to another...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is hypothetical.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: ... or fixing a place for the purpose of locating an office or organisation, I am inclined to ask; What could be your parameter or basis for it, whether it is discretion-driven or demand-driven or for any other consideration which can't be explained by you in public?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I suspect that is a hypothetical question.

तापमान में वृद्धि (ग्लोबल वार्मिंग) के कारण हुई मौतें

***322. श्रीमती माया सिंह :** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) तापमान में वृद्धि (ग्लोबल वार्मिंग) के कारण प्रतिवर्ष कितनी मौतें होती हैं; और

(ख) सरकार द्वारा पर्यावरण में उत्पन्न हुए इस प्रकार के असंतुलन से निपटने के लिए क्या-क्या उपाय किए गए हैं?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जयराम रमेश): (क) और (ख) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा गया है।

विवरण

(क) जलवायु परिवर्तन पर अंतर-सरकारी पैनल (आईपीसीसी) की 2007 में प्रकाशित चौथी मूल्यांकन रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, मनुष्य मौसम के बदलते पैटर्न (जैसे अधिक तीव्र और बार-बार होने वाली विकट घटनाएं) से जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभाव में आता है तथा जल, वायु, खाद्य की गुणवत्ता और मात्रा, पारितंत्रों, कृषि और अर्थव्यवस्था में होने वाले परिवर्तनों से अप्रत्यक्षतः प्रभावित होता है। तथापि, मानव-जनित जलवायु परिवर्तन और मृत्यु के बीच कोई सीधा संबंध प्रमाणित नहीं हुआ है।

जलवायु परिवर्तन संबंधी पूर्वानुमान दर्शाते हैं कि अधिक तीव्र, बार-बार और लम्बी अवधि तक चलने वाली गर्म हवाओं तथा ग्रीष्मकालीन शुष्कता का जोखिम तो बढ़ा ही है, इसके साथ-साथ सूखे का जोखिम भी बढ़ा है। अपेक्षाकृत अधिक गर्म वातावरण में ज्यादा जल धारण करने की क्षमता की वजह से अति वृष्टि और बाढ़ की स्थिति भी उत्पन्न हो सकती है, जिससे मानव जीवन पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ सकते हैं।

(ख) सरकार जलवायु परिवर्तन की वजह से उत्पन्न होने वाली चुनौतियों से अवगत है और उसने इस दिशा में कार्रवाई की है। जलवायु परिवर्तन की चुनौती से निपटने के लिए भारत की कार्य-नीति को रेखांकित करने हेतु 30 जून, 2008 को जलवायु परिवर्तन पर राष्ट्रीय कार्य योजना जारी की गई थी। राष्ट्रीय कार्य योजना में उन कार्रवाईयों का उल्लेख किया गया है, जो देश को जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रति अनुकूलन में समर्थ बनाएंगी और जो भारत के विकास के क्षेत्रों की पारिस्थितिकीय सततता में वृद्धि करेंगी।

Lives lost due to global warming

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

- (a) the number of deaths due to global warming, annually; and
- (b) the measures taken by Government for overcoming the above environmental imbalance?

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

Statement

(a) According to Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in its 4th Assessment Report published in 2007, human beings are exposed to climate change through changing weather patterns (for example, more intense and frequent extreme events) and indirectly through changes in water, air, food quality and quantity, ecosystems, agriculture and economy. However, no direct link has been established between human induced climate change and mortality.

Climate Change projections indicate increased risk of more intense, frequent and longer lasting heat waves, summer dryness and greater risk of drought. Greater water holding capacity of a warmer atmosphere could also result in intense precipitation and flooding which may cause adverse impacts on lives of human beings.

(b) Government is aware of the challenges posed by climate change and has taken steps in this regard. The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) was released on 30th June 2008 to outline India's strategy to meet the challenge of Climate Change. The National Action Plan outlines steps that will enable the country to adapt to climate change and enhance the ecological sustainability of India's development path.

श्रीमती माया सिंह : सर, मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहती हूँ कि मैंने जो सवाल पूछा था, उसका answer मंत्री जी ने बड़े घुमा-फिरा कर दिया है और कहा है कि जलवायु परिवर्तन और मृत्यु के बीच कोई सीधा संबंध प्रमाणित

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

नहीं हुआ है। मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि वातावरण में उड़ेली जा रही कार्बन और जहरीली गैसों ने धरती के ओजोन कवच को इतना कमजोर कर दिया है कि सूरज की घातक किरणों ने भी इसे भेद डाला है। इसके कारण फसलों की पैदावार में कमी हो रही है, गरमी का प्रकोप बढ़ रहा है, बीमारियाँ बढ़ रही हैं और चक्रवाती तूफान आ रहे हैं। मंत्री जी को भोपाल गैस त्रासदी के बारे में और मुम्बई में अभी जो ज्वार-भाटा उठा, उसके बारे में जानकारी हो गई और यह भी कहा जा रहा है कि मालदीव और लक्षद्वीप समुद्र के अंदर चले जाएंगे। हर व्यक्ति इससे चिंतित है, भयभीत है। मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि इसके बारे में वह क्या कर रहे हैं और क्या कदम उठाने जा रहे हैं?

श्री जयराम रमेश : सभापति महोदय, जलवायु परिवर्तन का क्या असर होगा, यह प्रश्न हिन्दुस्तान से संबंधित है। Global Warming का जो effect है, इस पर अपने जवाब को मैं हिन्दुस्तान तक सीमित रखना चाहता हूँ। इसके बारे में सरकारी संस्थाओं द्वारा 2003 में पहला assessment किया गया था और उसका नतीजा यह निकला कि उसका कोई clear effect दिखाई नहीं दे रहा था। Assessment में यह था कि कई जगहों पर rainfall बढ़ेगा और कई जगहों पर rainfall कम होगा। उस assessment से और कई ऐसे नतीजे निकले थे। अभी हमने दूसरा assessment शुरू किया है, जिसमें 18 महीने लगेंगे। हमारी 127 वैज्ञानिक संस्थाएँ इस assessment से जुड़ी हुई हैं। इसका क्या असर होगा, इस पर विस्तृत रूप से assessment हो रहा है। 2010 के अंत तक हम ये नतीजे publish करेंगे और तब हमें यह पता चलेगा कि हिन्दुस्तान के अलग-अलग प्रांतों में इसका क्या असर होगा? आज हम यही कह सकते हैं कि पिछले 100 सालों में minimum temperature बढ़ा है, लेकिन यह कहना कि Climate Change की वजह से मॉनसून में परिवर्तन आ रहा है, मैं समझता हूँ कि यह बिल्कुल - अभी conclusive scientific evidence पाया नहीं गया है।

श्रीमती माया सिंह : सर, मेरा second supplementary यह है कि मंत्री जी ने अपने जवाब में कहा है कि 30 जून, 2008 को जलवायु परिवर्तन पर राष्ट्रीय कार्य योजना जारी की गई थी और उसमें कार्रवाईयों का उल्लेख किया गया था। मैं जानना चाहती हूँ कि वे कार्य योजनाएँ क्या हैं जो जारी की गई थीं और उन पर अब तक सरकार के माध्यम से क्या कदम उठाये गए हैं? क्योंकि नई प्रौद्योगिकी और औद्योगिकीकरण के कारण प्राणघातक संयंत्रों का यह जो प्रादुर्भाव हुआ है और कारखानों से जो जहरीली गैसें निकल रही हैं, उनका असर भी तो मनुष्य के जीवन पर पड़ता है!

श्री जयराम रमेश : सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्या ने पहले सप्लीमेंट्री में ozone depletion की बात कही थी, मैं साफ कर देना चाहता हूँ कि ozone depletion और green house gases, ये अलग-अलग हैं। Ozone depletion में हमने बहुत सफलता हासिल की है और मैं बिल्कुल विश्वास के साथ कह सकता हूँ कि Ozone Depletion Accord, जो मॉन्ट्रियल Accord है, उसके मामले में हिन्दुस्तान ने बहुत कदम उठाए हैं और ozone depleting chemicals का phase out में हम बिल्कुल schedule पर हैं। लेकिन, आपका प्रश्न greenhouse gases के संबंध में है, खास तौर से carbon dioxide पर है। उसके संबंध में पिछली 30 जून को, जैसा कि आपने कहा कि राष्ट्रीय कार्य योजना का ऐलान हुआ था - National Action Plan on Climate Change और इस National Action Plan on Climate Change के तहत सरकार ने आठ मिशन्स की घोषणा की थी और 24 ऐसे initiatives हैं, जो अलग-अलग मंत्रालयों, अलग-अलग आर्थिक activities से संबंधित हैं। हमारे President Address में भी इसका जिक्र हुआ है और यह कहा गया है कि इस वर्ष के अंत तक इन आठ मिशन्स के implementation की शुरुआत हो जाएगी और इसका असर आपको अगले चार-पांच साल में देखने को मिलेगा।

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : सभापति महोदय, हमारे वायुमंडल में 99% तो Oxygen और Nitrogen है, केवल 1% Carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide वगैरह, जिनको greenhouse gases कहते हैं। इन greenhouse gases का उत्सर्जन पिछले 10 वर्षों में जितना हुआ है, उतना इससे पहले के 100 वर्षों में नहीं हुआ है। आप देखिए ग्राफ उल्टा चला गया है, पहले horizontal graph था, जो अब vertical हो गया है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब हमारे Scientists भी और सारी दुनिया के Scientists भी यह मान रहे हैं कि greenhouse gases का उत्सर्जन बहुत नुकसानदायक है, तो G8 में अभी जब प्रधान मंत्री जी गए थे, क्या इस संबंध में कोई आश्वासन अमेरिका ने दिया है कि वह Carbon dioxide के उत्सर्जन के लिए अपने industrialisation को कुछ reduce करेगा और जो developing countries हैं, उन पर इस बात के लिए दबाव नहीं डालेगा कि वे इस मामले में ज्यादा आगे आकर कोई कार्रवाई करें?

श्री जयराम रमेश : सभापति महोदय, इसमें कोई दो राय नहीं है कि Carbon dioxide emissions न केवल हिन्दुस्तान के लिए परन्तु सारे विश्व के लिए एक बड़ा खतरा है और करीब 65% जो green house gases के emissions होते हैं, वे Carbon dioxide के होते हैं और जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य जानते हैं, ज्यादातर Carbon dioxide emission हमारे ऊर्जा, बिजलीघर, coal based power plants से आते हैं। इसको कंट्रोल में रखने के लिए हम power generation के क्षेत्र में नई-नई technology का इस्तेमाल कर रहे हैं - Super Critical Technology है, coal gasification technology है। यह सब हम राष्ट्रीय कार्य योजना के तहत लागू कर रहे हैं और हमने बिल्कुल स्पष्ट किया है, प्रधान मंत्री जी की ओर से हमने बिल्कुल स्पष्ट किया है कि हमारी per capita emission जो होती है, वह विकसित देशों से कभी आगे नहीं होगी। यानी कि विकसित देशों की आज जो per capita emission है, हम उससे आगे नहीं बढ़ेंगे, उसी सीमा के अंदर हम per capita emission में रहेंगे। आपने G8 Statement का जिक्र किया है। उसमें हमने कोई commitments नहीं लिया है। G8 Statement, जो L'aquila, Italy में किया गया था, उसमें कई देशों के राष्ट्रपति और प्रधान मंत्रियों ने 2050 तक हमारा क्या aspirational उद्देश्य होना चाहिए, उसका जिक्र किया था। उस स्टेटमेंट में कहीं यह जिक्र नहीं है कि हम विकासशील देशों पर दबाव डालेंगे और मैं बिल्कुल स्पष्ट कर देना चाहता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान किसी दबा में नहीं आएगा। अगर कोई दबाव है, अगर हम पर कोई pressure है कि हम emission reduction target लें, मैं बिल्कुल साफ कर देना चाहता हूँ, हमारी सरकार की ओर से, प्रधान मंत्री जी की ओर से और हमारे मंत्रालय की ओर से भी, कि हम किसी दबाव में नहीं आएंगे, हम कोई ऐसा कानून या समझौता स्वीकार नहीं करेंगे, जो हमारे विकास पर बाधा लगाए। यह बिल्कुल साफ है। हमारे यहां पिछले दिनों जब अमरीकी सेक्रेटरी ऑफ स्टेट, हिलेरी क्लिंटन जी आई थीं, उनको भी मैंने स्पष्ट कर दिया था कि हम अपनी जिम्मेदारी कबूल करते हैं, हम अपनी जिम्मेदारी स्वीकार करते हैं, लेकिन हम किसी समझौते को स्वीकार नहीं करेंगे, जहां हमारे जैसे विकासशील देशों पर legally binding emission reduction cut होगा।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सभापति जी, मंत्री जी ने कहा कि food quality और quantity पर भी indirectly इस climate change का फर्क पड़ता है, directly नहीं पड़ता। मंत्री जी ने यह भी कहा है कि साइंटिस्ट्स इसके ऊपर काम करने में लगे हुए हैं। मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या वे साइंटिस्ट्स इस aspect को भी देखेंगे, agricultural seeds and their sowing पर भी क्या वे रिसर्च करके कुछ नए तरीके किसानों को बताने का प्रयत्न करेंगे?

श्री जयराम रमेश : जैसा कि मैंने कहा कि 2003 में पहला assessment किया गया था, वह पहला assessment मोटे तौर पर था, लेकिन अभी हम detailed assessment कर रहे हैं और दिसम्बर, 2010 तक इसके

खत्म होने की उम्मीद है। इस comprehensive assessment के तहत agriculture, health sector, irrigation sector पर इसका क्या असर होगा, यह हम मालूम करने में लगे हुए हैं और हमारी जो 127 वैज्ञानिक संस्थाएं हैं, उनसे हम यह काम करवा रहे हैं। यह एक comprehensive assessment होगा और पहली बार हम कुछ विश्वास के साथ कह पाएंगे कि हमारे देश में मानसून पर, हिमालय के ग्लेशियर्स पर climate change का क्या असर हो रहा है। चूंकि हमारे पास अभी कुछ ज्यादा scientific evidence नहीं है, इसलिए इस बारे में अभी कुछ कहना मुनासिब नहीं है। अभी एक अनुमान है, एक भय है, आशंकाएं हैं, लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि विज्ञान के आधार पर दिसम्बर, 2010 तक हम इस बारे में दावे से कुछ कह सकते हैं।

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : माननीय मंत्री जी, आपने अभी जो टिप्पणी की, उसमें और अमरीका की विदेश सचिव के साथ टेलीविजन पर आपकी जो टिप्पणी आई थी, इन दोनों में कुछ अंतर दिख रहा है। आपने बार-बार कहा है कि हम अपने दायित्व को समझते हैं, लेकिन अपनी प्रगति पर हम कोई भी वैज्ञानिक बंधन स्वीकार नहीं करेंगे। क्या आप देश को और दुनिया को यह प्रामाणिकता से बता रहे हैं? आपके देश में भी आपने कहा कि आप स्वयं इसके लिए वैज्ञानिक शोध कराने वाले हैं। आज दुनिया में भारत के खिलाफ जो एक प्रकार का campaign चल रहा है कि भारत emission norms को follow नहीं कर रहा है, भारत के ग्लेशियर्स ढीले पड़ रहे हैं, मानसून में बदलाव हो रहा है, तो इसके कारण दुनिया में भारत के खिलाफ एक अजीब प्रकार का विपरीत भाव बन रहा है। जब आप यह कहते हैं कि हम अपनी जिम्मेदारी को समझते हैं, लेकिन legal binding को follow नहीं करेंगे, इसके बीच का जो अंतर्निहित अंतर्विरोध है, इसको प्रामाणिकता से स्पष्ट करें।

श्री जयराम रमेश : मैं माननीय सदस्य को आश्चर्य करना चाहता हूं कि इसमें बिल्कुल भी अंतर्विरोध नहीं है। मैंने यह कहा कि हमारे National Action Plan के तहत हमने जो मिशन की घोषणा की है, उनमें 5 या 6 मिशन ऐसे हैं, जो adaption की बात करते हैं। 2 या 3 मिशन ऐसे हैं, जो mitigation की बात करते हैं, जब हम energy efficiency की बात करते हैं, energy efficient power plant की बात करते हैं, energy efficient buildings की बात करते हैं, तो वह mitigation होता है। हमारा stand यह है कि हम mitigate करने को तैयार हैं, लेकिन हमारी योजना के तहत हम किसी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समझौते को स्वीकार नहीं करेंगे...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : अब आपने सही बोला।

श्री जयराम रमेश : हम अपनी योजना के तहत, अपनी पार्लियामेंट को confidence में लेकर...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : मंत्री जी, क्षमा करिए, लेकिन यह बात पहले से आनी चाहिए थी...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : इन्होंने कह दिया है।

श्री जयराम रमेश : मैं पहले से यह कह रहा हूं कि मैं जब से इस मंत्रालय में आया हूं, मैं 29 मई से यह कह रहा हूं कि हम अपने बलबूते पर, हमारी योजना के तहत, हमारी पार्लियामेंट को confidence में लेकर यहीं mitigate करेंगे, किसी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समझौते के अनुसार हम कोई legally binding mitigation स्वीकार नहीं करेंगे।

Assessment of energy demand

*323.SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the energy demand in the country is increasing;
- (b) if so, what would be the energy demand during the next five years, year-wise;
- (c) whether Government is aware that the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has given projections for energy demand in India, due to large scale industrialization and urbanization; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of Government to the projections made by ADB?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. The energy demand in the country over the years has registered an increasing trend.

(b) The Expert Committee of Planning Commission on Integrated Energy Policy has projected total primary commercial energy requirements under different GDP growth rate scenarios and falling / constant elasticity of demand to GDP growth rates for the terminal years of 11th and 12th Five Year Plans. According to the report of the Expert Committee the projections under various GDP growth rates and elasticity scenarios range from 521 to 570 Million Tonne of oil equivalent (Mtoe) for the year 2011-12 and 684 to 807 Mtoe for the year 2016-17. The demand forecast for electricity has been made by the 17th Electric Power Survey (EPS) Committee on year-wise basis upto 2011-12 and also for the terminal year of 12th Plan (2016-17). According to the 17th EPS, the requirement of electrical energy at the power station bus bars during 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2016-17, would be 906.32 Billion Units, 968.66 Billion Units and 1392.01 Billion Units respectively.

(c) and (d) The Asian Development Bank, in their policy paper on "Energy Policy" released in June, 2009, have given projections in respect of energy demand in Asia for the year 2030. Country-wise projections of the energy demand are not available in this Policy Paper.

श्री धर्म पाल सभ्रवाल : सर, 17वें इलेक्ट्रिक पावर सर्वे के मुताबिक हर वर्ष बिजली की खपत बढ़ेगी। जैसा कि जवाब में लिखा है कि वर्ष 2010-11 में बिजली की खपत 906.32 बिलियन यूनिट, वर्ष 2011-12 में 968.66 बिलियन यूनिट और वर्ष 2016-17 में 1392.01 बिलियन यूनिट बढ़ेगी। मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आपने जो अल्ट्रा मेगा पावर का प्रोग्राम बनाया था, उसके जो प्रोजेक्ट हैं, उनको कहां-कहां लगाएंगे और कब तक लगाएंगे?

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member desires to have ultra mega power plants at different places in the country for increasing the energy supply. Four projects are already going to come up; one is about to commence in Gujarat; another in Andhra and one in M.P.; and one more has been issued for which certain requirements, including the MoU, etc., are being fulfilled, is going to come up. We would like to go in for more and more ultra mega power plants in the country. Sir.

श्री धर्म पाल सन्नवाल : सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि हर राज्य में बिजली के अलग-अलग रेट्स हैं। जो प्राइवेट इंदारे हैं, वे बिजली के रेट बहुत ज्यादा वसूल कर रहे हैं। आप क्या कोई ऐसा सिस्टम बनाएंगे जिससे कि सारे देश में बिजली के रेट्स एक-समान हों?

मेरा दूसरा सवाल यह है कि ...।

श्री सभापति : नहीं, आपने एक सवाल पूछ लिया है।

श्री धर्म पाल सन्नवाल : सर, मेरा (बी) प्रश्न है।

श्री सभापति : नहीं, (बी) प्रश्न नहीं होगा।

श्री धर्म पाल सन्नवाल : सर, वह इसी के साथ है। सर, जो गरीब लोग हैं, जो एक यूनिट से पांच यूनिट तक इस्तेमाल करते हैं, क्या आप उनको कम रेट पर बिजली मुहैया करवाएंगे?

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Electricity charges are fixed according to State regulations. That is the policy under the Electricity Act, according to which, States regulators are competent to decide their rates. Different States have different rates. The hon. Member desires to have economical rates for electricity, which is, of course, desirable; that is why the Government of India, the hon. Prime Minister and the Ministry also wishes that we generate more and more power and that we match the demand. Sir, rates for electricity are going to be lower in the coming times.

श्री राशिद अल्वी : सर, हम दुनिया के अंदर 7th largest produce हैं energy के, लेकिन consumption में हमारा नम्बर पांचवा है। दुनिया के अंदर जो energy per capita हम consume करते हैं, that is the lowest. इसके बावजूद 50 परसेंट पॉपुलेशन के पास इलेक्ट्रिसिटी नहीं है। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आपके पास क्या प्लानिंग है कि जहां पर इलेक्ट्रिसिटी एक्सेस नहीं है, वहां तक आप इलेक्ट्रिसिटी कैसे पहुंचाएंगे? जो हमने न्युक्लियर एग्रीमेंट किया है, वह इसी बुनियाद पर किया है कि हम देश के लोगों को इलेक्ट्रिसिटी जल्द से जल्द पहुंचाएंगे, वह कब तक हम कर पाएंगे?

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Sir, the hon. Member wishes every household in India to get electricity. Under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana, Government aims at providing access of electricity to rural households and free electricity connection to every BPL household by 2012. There was a huge gap when we became Independent because the power generated was very limited. Now, in this Five Year Plan, we envisage addition of about 78,000 MW. That is the way we are going to go ahead.

DR. C. RANGARAJAN: Sir, capacity addition during the Tenth Plan fell short of the target that was fixed for the Tenth Plan. I want to ask the hon. Minister whether capacity addition during the Eleventh Plan is taking place according to the schedule or whether there is a shortfall even there.

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: The hon. Member is concerned about the shortfall and the new projections. We have problems with respect to hydro projects, man power, machinery and other things. Our Ministry is looking into it seriously and we hope that we will be able to reach very close to the Eleventh Plan target.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister as to how much energy shortage is there in Tamil Nadu today and how the Central Government is going to help Tamil Nadu to meet this energy shortage.

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Sir, the supplementary put by the hon. Member does not arise out of the main question. The hon. Member should put a separate question for it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not related to the main question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

*324. * [The questioner Shri Sabir Ali was absent. For answer *vide* page 23 *infra*]

*325. * [The questioner Shri Nandi Yellaiah was absent. For answer *vide* page 27 *infra*]

सैट-टाप बाक्स का प्रयोग करने वालों से बढ़ाई गई राशि का वसूल किया जाना

*326. श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद :††

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी :

क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सैट-टाप बाक्स पर सीमा शुल्क बढ़ाए जाने की घोषणा के बाद इस राशि को उपभोक्ता से वसूल किए जाने का निर्णय लिया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) क्या सरकार उपभोक्ताओं के हितों को ध्यान में रखकर बढ़ाई गई सीमा शुल्क की राशि का एक समान वितरण किए जाने के संबंध में निर्णय लेने के लिए हस्तक्षेप करेगी?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्रीमती अम्बिका सोनी): (क) से (ग) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख गया है।

विवरण

(क) से (ग) ऐसा कोई निर्णय सरकार द्वारा अथवा भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण (ट्राई) द्वारा नहीं लिया गया है। सीमा-शुल्क में वृद्धि के कारण सैट-टॉप बॉक्स (एसटीपी) की कीमत में होने वाली किसी भी वृद्धि को उपभोक्ता तक पूरी तरह से अथवा आंशिक रूप से अंतरित किए जाने और इस वृद्धि में से प्रसारण सेवा प्रदाता द्वारा वहन किए जाने वाले भाग के संबंध में कोई भी निर्णय प्रसारण सेवा प्रदाता के स्तर पर लिया जाता है।

Recovery of increased amount from set-top box users

† *326. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:†††

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

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

(a) whether it is fact that following announcement of hike in customs duty on set top box, a decision has been taken to recover this amount from consumers;

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

(c) whether, in view of the protection of consumers, interests, Government would intervene for uniform distribution of the hiked customs duty?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

††सभा में यह प्रश्न श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद द्वारा पूछा गया।

†††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad.

Statement

(a) to (c) No such decision has been taken either by the Government or by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). Any decision as to whether any increase in the price of STB due to an increase in Customs Duty is to be passed on to the consumer either in full or in part and the extent to which it is to be absorbed by the broadcasting service provider, is taken at the level of the broadcasting service provider.

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : सर, मैंने माननीय मंत्री जी के उत्तर को देखा है, उनका उत्तर स्पष्ट नहीं है। माननीय मंत्री जी कृपया यह बताएं कि क्या सेट-टॉप बॉक्स पर 5 प्रतिशत ड्यूटी लगाई गई या नहीं लगाई है? क्योंकि आपका उत्तर है, 'No decision has been taken by the Government or by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India' जहां तक हमें जानकारी है कि सेट-टॉप बॉक्स पर 5 प्रतिशत ड्यूटी लगाई गई है। मुझे यह भी पता है कि आपके विभाग ने यह अनुशंसा की थी कि यह ड्यूटी नहीं लगाई जानी चाहिए, क्योंकि देश में digitisation का काफी विस्तार हो रहा है, इसलिए यह लगाई गई है। जो ऑपरेटर्स हैं, वे यह कह रहे हैं कि इसके कारण डेढ़ सौ से दो सौ रुपए सेट-टॉप बॉक्स की कीमत बढ़ेगी, तो हम वह कीमत उपभोक्ताओं से वसूलेंगे। इससे तो उपभोक्ता परेशान होंगे। मैं आप से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनको रेग्युलेशन में पावर है क्या सरकार TRAI के साथ बातचीत करेगी, ताकि इस संबंध में उपभोक्ताओं की परेशानी न बढ़े, सरकार इसके बारे में क्या कोई रास्ता सोच रही है?

श्रीमती अम्बिका सोनी : महोदय, मैं माननीय सांसद रवि शंकर प्रसाद जी को यह बताना चाहती हूँ कि वे मुझसे पहले इस मंत्रालय में मंत्री रहे हैं और वे स्वयं यह जानते हैं कि TRAI इस मामले में दखल नहीं देती है और जो 90 से 125 रुपए पर सेट-टॉप बॉक्स पांच परसेंट कस्टम ड्यूटी के कारण कीमत बढ़ी है, इससे broadcasters को स्वयं तय करना है कि उसको किस तरह अपने में एब्जॉर्ब करेंगे या उपभोक्ताओं पर लागू करेंगे।

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं इसी सवाल को दूसरी तरह से प्रस्तुत करना चाहूंगा, आप मुझे इसकी अनुमति दें। TRAI का यह भी दायित्व है कि वह उपभोक्ताओं के हितों की रक्षा करे, आप उनके रेग्युलेशन को कृपा करके विनम्रता से पढ़ें। यदि उपभोक्ता परेशान होता है, तो सरकार TRAI के सामने जा सकती है, broadcasters को बुलाकर इसका निदान कर सकती है। मैंने यह पूछा था कि क्या आपकी सरकार इस दिशा में कोई पहल कर रही है?

श्रीमती अम्बिका सोनी : सर, अभी कुछ दिन पहले ही पांच परसेंट ड्यूटी लगाई गई है। कुछ MSOs और broadcasters ने यह बयान दिया है कि शायद वह सौ रुपया पर सेट-टॉप बॉक्स बढ़ाएंगे। उन्होंने अभी तक कोई अंतिम फैसला नहीं किया है, लेकिन अगर उपभोक्ता परेशान होंगे, तो आवश्यक तौर पर मंत्रालय उनका हित TRAI तक जरूर ले जाएगा या जो भी फोरम होगा, तो आवश्यक तौर पर मंत्रालय उनका हित TRAI तक जरूर ले जाएगा या जो भी फोरम होगा, हम उस पर जाएंगे। मैं माननीय सांसद महोदय को यह बताना चाहती हूँ कि हमने यह जरूर मांगा था कि Countervailing Duty है, उसको कम कर दिया जाए, क्योंकि डिमांड बहुत ज्यादा है। इस मुल्क में जिस तरह से digitisation बढ़ता जा रहा है, मेरे पास सभी आंकड़े मौजूद हैं, यदि मैं वे आंकड़े यहां पर प्रस्तुत करूं, तो सदन यह जानकर बहुत खुश होगा कि हम digitisation की ओर बढ़ रहे हैं। जो हमारे यहां indigenous producers हैं, उन्होंने भी अपना एक संगठन बनाया है। मेरी उनसे दो बार बातचीत हुई है। आज वे इस स्थिति में हैं

कि वे अपनी indigenous प्रोडक्शन बढ़ाएंगे। उनमें से एक तो एक्सपोर्ट भी कर रहा था। इनके अलावा कई और भी हैं, जो इस दिशा में यह समझते हैं कि पांच परसेंट कस्टम ड्यूटी में जो 100 रुपए बढ़ेंगे, इससे उनको अपना उत्पादन बढ़ाने में और प्रोत्साहन मिलेगा। मैंने उनको न सिर्फ अपना उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए कहा है, मैंने उनसे एक टाइम फ्रेम रेस्पांस मांगा है कि दो साल के अंतर्गत डिमांड को मीट करें, लेकिन उपभोक्ताओं के लिए भी कीमत कम करें, ताकि लोगों को इम्पोर्ट करने की आवश्यकता न पड़े और देश में बना सेट-टॉप बॉक्स कम कीमत पर उपलब्ध हो सके। इससे रोजगार भी ज्यादा उपलब्ध होंगे और उपभोक्ता भी संतुष्ट होंगे।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीया मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि जब तक वह स्थिति नहीं आती है कि हमारे यहां का इंजिनस बॉक्स देश की जरूरत को मीट नहीं कर पाता है, उससे पहले जो हम आयात कर रहे हैं, उपभोग कर रहे हैं, उसके बारे में माननीया मंत्री जी ने कहा कि अगर उपभोक्ताओं को परेशानी होगी तथा कीमत बढ़ेगी और बढ़ी हुई कीमत उपभोक्ताओं को चुकानी पड़ेगी तो उनकी परेशानी बढ़ेगी। तो इन्होंने कहा है कि अभी तक निर्णय नहीं लिया गया है कि जो बढ़ा हुआ दाम है, उसकी कीमत कौन बियर करेगा? मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि कीमत बढ़ाई जाए या उपभोक्ताओं से ली जाए, इससे पहले इंटरवीन करके ट्राई के साथ बातचीत करके कि बढ़ी हुई कीमत उपभोक्ताओं को नहीं देनी पड़े, क्या ऐसी व्यवस्था सुनिश्चित करेंगी?

श्रीमती अम्बिका सोनी : मान्यवर, यह सवाल अभी उठता नहीं है, क्योंकि जो ब्रोडकॉस्टर्स हैं, जो डी.टी.एच. - एम.एस.ओ. हैं, जो सेट टॉप बॉक्स प्रोवाइड करते हैं, उन्होंने भी अभी कोई अंतिम फैसला नहीं किया है। आप भी मार्केट फोर्सेज से परिचित हैं, कई डी.टी.एच. प्लेयर्स हैं जो स्वयं मार्केट को विन ओवर करने के लिए, कंज्यूमर्स को विन ओवर करने के लिए निर्धारित कीमत से भी कम चार्ज कर रहे हैं। तो अगर हमने कुछ ऐसा pre-empt कर दिया तो जो आज कम दाम में मिल रहा है, शायद वह भी रुक जाए। तो मैं इसको व्यक्तिगत तौर पर, मंत्रालय के तौर पर, जैसा मैंने कहा कि मैंने दोनों तरफ के लोगों से बात की है, टाइम फ्रेम रेस्पांस मांगे हैं और मुझे पूरी उम्मीद है कि जिस तरह से वोल्यूम बढ़ता जा रहा है, 100 फीसदी वोल्यूम बढ़ रहा है, तो आने वाले समय में सेट टॉप बॉक्स जो डिजिटाइजेशन के लिए अनिवार्य हैं, सरकार की तरफ से भी बहुत ऐसे कदम उठाए जाएंगे इस दिशा में और उपभोक्ताओं को यह कम कीमत पर मिलेगा।

*327. * [The questioners Dr. E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan and Shri Santosh Bagrodia were absent. For answer *vide* page 28 *infra*]

*328. * [The questioners Shri V. Hanumantha Rao and Dr.T. Subbarami Reddy were absent. For answer *vide* page 29 *infra*].

Targets for power generation

*329.DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is shortage of machinery, equipments, forging materials, contractors and manpower, which is making it difficult for Government to achieve the targets of power generation;

(b) if so, how Government is going to solve this problem so that the target of addition of 78,000 MW is achieved in time;

(c) whether Government is going to import the machinery or BHEL would be able to supply the equipments and machinery; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware that there is shortage of machinery equipment, forging materials, contractors and manpower which is making it difficult for Government to achieve the targets of thermal power generation. However, no hydro power capacity addition has been affected so far on account of delay in supply of power generating equipment by BHEL & other suppliers. The following steps have been taken to overcome these difficulties and to achieve the capacity addition target of 78,700 MW set for the 11th Five Year Plan:-

- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has enhanced its capacity to deliver 10,000 MW of main plant equipment per annum from its earlier capacity of 6,000 MW. BHEL has also put in place an action plan to enhance capacity to deliver 15,000 MW per annum by December, 2009 and further enhance its capacity upto 20,000 MW by 2011-12 depending upon the market demand.
- A Joint Venture Agreement has been signed between NTPC Ltd. and BHEL to take up work related to Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) for power plants and other infrastructure projects.
- NTPC Ltd. has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bharat Forge Limited to promote a joint venture company initially to take up manufacture of castings, forgings, fittings and high pressure piping.
- M/s L&T has already formed a Joint Venture Company with MHI, Japan for manufacture of supercritical boilers and turbine generators in India.
- M/s JSW and Toshiba have formed joint venture company for manufacture of supercritical turbine generators in India.
- Bharat Forge and Alstom have signed an agreement to form joint venture company for manufacture of supercritical turbine generators in India.
- M/s GB Engineering and Ansaldo signed an agreement to form joint venture company for manufacture of supercritical boilers in India.
- All stakeholders have been sensitized towards enlarging the vendor base so as to meet the Balance of Plants (BoP) requirements.
- To overcome the shortage of skilled manpower, 'Adopt an ITI' initiative has been taken up.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal for import of machinery by Government to meet the capacity addition requirements. However, States/Private utilities have placed orders on foreign manufacturers

for supply of power plant equipment. BHEL has been asked to ensure that manufacturing constraints do not cause delay in commissioning of projects. Accordingly BHEL has taken various initiatives like procurement of imported items such as rough machined rotors, finished machined LP shafts, HP Outer Casings, IP rotor shafts, finished machined HP shafts etc. BHEL is also taking action for air freighting of HP shafts wherever needed to meet the project schedule. BHEL has also taken up with the vendors to reduce the delivery time of castings and forgings wherever possible.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Sir, I went through the answer. The Minister in Q.No. 323 in this House has said that he admitted that there was shortage of power in our country; I mean, Sir, energy; there is a lot of power in our country. In his answer to this particular question, he has said that he admitted that there was shortage of manpower, machinery and equipment. What is the Government doing to bridge this gap while you admit that there is a shortage and that there is going to be more demand for energy? Here, you say that there is a shortage of manpower, contractors and machinery. What are you going to do to bridge this gap?

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member has asked a very important question regarding how we will be matching the demand. One of our precious PSUs, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited was capable of manufacturing equipment worth 10,000 MW which is going to increase its capacity by December 2009 to 15,000 MW, and another 5,000 MW more by 2011-12. Along with that, to match the demand, we have made an open policy. We would have ultra mega projects and we are going to have captive merchant power plants. The Planning Commission, the Prime Minister and our Ministry wish to go further up so that we generate more power. For that, our Ministry and the Minister has invited the joint venture companies, invited people from all over. So, NTPC and BHEL are going to go in for a collaboration; an MoU has been signed. Then L&T along with MHI, Toshiba, JSW...

डा. (श्रीमती) नजमा ए. हेपतुल्ला : वह तो आपका लिखा हुआ आंसर है, वह तो मैंने पढ़ लिया है।

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Madam, what I am trying to say is, we are in the process of building up the capacity on a higher side, to match our demands of the 11th Five-Year Plan.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Sir, just now, very eloquently our Environment Minister answered about the Mission on greenhouse gases in our country. He also mentioned in his reply about the power. He also mentioned in his reply that basically the problems arise because of the power generation in our country. On the one side, we have this problem, and on the other side, the Environment Ministry would come in the picture. We have hydroelectric power and for this a lot of land is taken over by dams and bridges. Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government would have any policy, in consultation with the Ministry of Environment and Forests, to overcome the crisis of shortage of power in our country. Not even 50 per cent of the power, which we promised to have in the previous Five Year Plan, has not been generated. We have not been able

to bridge that gap and, at the same time, new demands are coming up. It is a very comprehensive answer but this answer does not give any results. This is what you are doing but I want to know about what you have achieved by taking all these actions.

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, by consulting the Ministry of Environment and Forests, we sort out the problems regarding our hydro projects, thermal projects, etc. We are looking at the present and future laws and also the issue of carbon emission and all that. That is why we are going in for 'supercritical' and that is the way we will be able to reach the target, and also we will be able to work along with the Environment Ministry.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister is very keen that we should increase the capacity. Sir, we had the occasion to review the functioning of the BHEL. The NTPC and BHEL joint venture could be taken on a massive scale because it is mentioned that hydropower projects have not been adversely impacted. It is not correct, Sir. Even the targets in hydroelectric production have come down. This is only a short-term plan, which they have indicated, but as we go along, we need lot many types of equipment, forging material, contractors, and manpower, which is also falling short. What is the long-term plan because by 2020 your requirements are going up? This joint venture accounts for only short-term supply. What is the long-term plan to meet the power demand by 2020?

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as I mentioned, we are going to increase indigenous manufacturing capacity through joint ventures. We are going to train people. That is why NTPC and other companies are training young persons of this country. We are trying up with technology institutions also. So, everything put together, naturally, it is a long-term process. It is a plan, which is going to take three to four years minimum time to get implemented or commissioned. So, we are in the process of doing things in all the directions. As rightly mentioned by the hon. Member, we will be requiring more equipment, higher technology, young persons working for these power plants and we will also be required to solve the problem of carbon emission and all that. In that direction, we are going ahead.

श्री महेन्द्र साहनी : माननीय सभापति जी, मैं मंत्री जी को यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार ऐसा पिछड़ा राज्य है, जहाँ बीस, बाइस घंटे बिजली नहीं होती है। क्या इस संबंध में बिहार सरकार ने एथनॉल बनाने संबंधी कोई प्रस्ताव भेजा है, जो अभी तक पेंडिंग है, जिस पर किसी प्रकार का कोई विचार नहीं हो रहा है? एथनॉल बनाने के बाद हमारे यहाँ बिजली का उत्पादन बढ़ जाएगा जिसे बिहार राज्य दूसरे राज्यों को भी दे सकता है। मैं इस संबंध में मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ।

श्री भरतसिंह सोलंकी : सभापति जी, माननीय सदस्य इस बारे में सवाल पूछ सकते हैं, मैं उसका जवाब बाद में दूंगा, परंतु यह सवाल इस प्रश्न से संबंधित नहीं है।

श्री प्रकाश जावड़ेकर : सभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी जो जवाब दे रहे हैं this is all rhetoric because every year we are listening that we have planned this much but we do not achieve. Every year the demand

is increasing and we are not adding to our generation even to the extent of additional demand of that year. So, every year, gap is increasing. China is producing one lakh mega watt per year and we are not able to produce 5000-mega watt per year. That is the reality. My question is: While taking into account the real challenge of the sector and the need of growth, will the Ministry take all efforts in a mission mode? You have ordered contracts for hydro-generation to various private players in Arunachal Pradesh. Nobody has started commissioning. No plant has been commissioned. Nothing is being constructed there and there are many issues to be sorted out with Nepal and Bhutan. Is the Government really serious? In a time bound manner, is it going to implement a mission mode and put quarterly targets?

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the concern of the hon. Member is definitely very serious and that is why whatever he mentioned, — about environment, about Arunachal Pradesh about our transmission line, our grid — on all sectors, we have a time bound programme. He rightly mentioned about the Eleventh Year Plan and capacity addition and that is why we made an open policy. We had a meeting with the Power Ministers of the State where we discussed about all the problems and how together we could start it out and the process is very positively going ahead.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 330.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, I have a point of order. Sir, four questions which are listed today by Members are not present. Now, this is really very, very unfair, Therefore, Sir, you must ask.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is unfair to whom?

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, please give notice to Members who are not present when such important questions are raised. Do they not have a responsibility? Why? What is the reason behind it? Sir, they should request you for permission to be absent. Otherwise, it is totally wrong.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If a person is absent he or she foregoes the right.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, there are occasions when Members have been in the House and...*(Interruptions)*... No, it is very wrong.

श्री कलराज मिश्र : मान्यवर, जिसका अगला प्रश्न है, उसको पूछ लेने दीजिए। वृंदा जी, आप इस संबंध में बाद में कहिएगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : बैठ जाइए प्लीज़। इंटरप्ट मत कीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Are you suggesting disciplinary action against hon. Members?

श्री कलराज मिश्र : जिनका प्रश्न है, उन्हें पूछ लेने दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: No, I said, Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, we will discuss that question separately. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, please ...*(Interruptions)*....

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, my suggestion is...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Malaisamy, give me your suggestions later, after the Question Hour. I will take that on board. ...*(Interruptions)*... How can that be supplementary? Question No. 331.

*330. * [The questioners Shri N.K. Singh and Shrimati Shobhana Bhartia were absent. For answer *vide* page 30 *infra*].

National Electricity Plan

*331. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:††

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the power generation target set for the current National Electricity Plan;
- (b) the achievement in respect of annual generation against the annual target during the current Plan;
- (c) whether it is a fact that there have been significant slippages in annual achievements *vis-a-vis* annual generation targets;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps being taken to meet the targets?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The target for power generation are fixed on year to year basis. The targets of power generation fixed for the first three years of 11th Plan *i.e.* 2007-08, 2008-09 & 2009-10 are 710 Billion Unit (BU), 774.344 BU and 789.511 BU respectively.

(b) The actual power generation during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 was 704.47 BU and 723.79 BU respectively, which represent an achievement of 99.2% and 93.5% of the target fixed. During the current year 2009-10 (April- June, 2009) the actual power generation has been 189.70 BU against the target of 191.82 BU representing achievement of 98.9%.

(c) and (d) The actual electricity generation in the country during the 11th Plan period has been generally as per the target fixed except during the year 2008-09. The main reasons for shortfall in achieving the targets are given below:-

- Less inflows/low reservoir levels at some of the hydro power stations.
- Inadequate supply of gas for gas-based thermal plants.
- Loss of generation due to shortage of coal at some of the thermal power plants.
- Delay in achieving commercial operation/commencement of full generation from some of the newly commissioned thermal units due to non-completion of balance of plants works.

††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad.

- Shortfall of generation at some of the new thermal units due to initial stabilization problem.
- Low generation in nuclear plants due to fuel constraints.
- The extended planned maintenance/forced outages in respect of some of the thermal power stations.

(e) The following steps have been taken/are being taken to achieve the generation targets set:

- i) Rigorous monitoring of the on-going generation projects.
- ii) Import of coal to bridge the gap between the requirement and its availability from domestic sources.
- iii) Augmentation of gas supply to utilize stranded capacity of gas based power stations.
- iv) Harnessing surplus captive power into the Grid.
- v) Utilization of unutilized capacity of gas based stations on liquid fuel.
- vi) Coordinated operation and maintenance of hydro, thermal, nuclear and gas based power stations to optimally utilize the existing generation capacity.

श्री कलराज मिश्र : मान्यवर, मेरे प्रश्न के "ग" और "घ" भाग के संबंध में मंत्री जी ने जो जवाब दिया है, उसमें कहा है कि "11वीं योजना अवधि के दौरान देश में वास्तविक विद्युत उत्पादन, वर्ष 2008-09 के सिवाय, सामान्यतया निर्धारित लक्ष्यों के अनुसार हुआ। लक्ष्यों की उपलब्धि में कमी रहने के मुख्य कारण निम्नलिखित हैं..." महोदय, मैंने कमी के कारणों के बारे में पूछा था। मंत्री जी ने इसके कारण बताए हैं। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि निर्धारित लक्ष्य की प्राप्ति के मार्ग में जो कारण आपने बताए हैं, जो बाधाएं बताई हैं, वे बाधाएं कैसे दूर की जाएंगी? यद्यपि आपने इसके उपाय बताए हैं, लेकिन इसकी समयबद्धता क्या है, क्योंकि ये कारण तो बराबर बने रहेंगे। अगर अगले साल भी हम यह सवाल पूछेंगे तो शायद यही कारण बताए जाएंगे। इसलिए मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि इन कारणों के निवारण के लिए क्या आपने कोई समयबद्ध योजना बनाई है?

श्री भरतसिंह सोलंकी : सभापति महोदय ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री कलराज मिश्र : सर, शिन्डे साहब इसका जवाब दे दें, वे सदन में मौजूद हैं।

श्री सभापति : मौजूद हैं, आप इन्हें सुन लीजिए।

श्री भरतसिंह सोलंकी : मैं माननीय सदस्य को बताना चाहता हूं कि एक मॉनिटरिंग कमेटी है, जिसके साथ मिलकर हम इसकी पूरी मॉनिटरिंग कर रहे हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त स्टेट लैवल पर या अन्य जो बाधाएं आती हैं, उन बाधाओं के संबंध में दूसरे डिपार्टमेंट्स के साथ विचार-विमर्श करके काफी प्रोजेक्ट्स बहुत जल्दी से commissioning की तरफ जा रहे हैं।

श्री कलराज मिश्र : सर, मैंने समयबद्धता, time bound के बारे में प्रश्न पूछा था, लेकिन आपने उसका जवाब नहीं दिया।

मान्यवर, मेरा दूसरा पूरक प्रश्न यह है कि वर्तमान समय में कुल विद्युत उत्पादन कितना है और उसके साथ ही

साथ demand कितनी है? मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि मांग के अनुरूप कुल विद्युत उत्पादन कितना है और वह मांग को पूरा कर पा रहा है या नहीं कर पा रहा है और अगर नहीं कर पा रहा है, तो मांग को पूरा करने के लिए हम कब तक उतना विद्युत उत्पादन कर लेंगे?

श्री भरतसिंह सोलंकी : सर, आज हमारा कैपेसिटी 1 लाख 50 हजार मेगावाट है और हमारी shortage 15 हजार मेगावाट है। हमारी डिमांड निरंतर बढ़ती है और बढ़ती जा रही है। इसलिए target के साथ नए प्रोजेक्ट लिए जा रहे हैं। इसलिए हमने अपनी पॉलिसी को open किया है। Captive Power को encourage किया है। इस open policy में हम और भी आगे जाने वाले हैं। Coal based, gas based, hydro और सभी sectors में हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि हम हमारी डिमांड को जल्द-से-जल्द पूरा कर सकें।

डा. कर्ण सिंह : सभापति महोदय, हम अपने देश में जो भी कर रहे होंगे, लेकिन जब तक नेपाल के साथ हमारी संधि नहीं होगी, तब तक हम जो बढ़ोतरी चाहते हैं, वह बढ़ोतरी नहीं होगी। नेपाल के साथ कई दशकों से बात चल रही है, लेकिन पंचेश्वर इत्यादि की बात आगे नहीं बढ़ रही है। उससे नेपाल को भी लाभ है और भारतवर्ष को भी लाभ है। नेपाल में अनेक परिवर्तन हुए हैं, तब भी बात आगे नहीं चल रही है। क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताएंगे कि वे स्वयं या हमारे कैबिनेट मंत्री जी यहां बैठे हैं, जो हमारे मित्र हैं, अथवा विदेश मंत्री से बात करके नेपाल के साथ बिजली के सम्बन्ध में जो संधि है, वह शीघ्रातिशीघ्र करेंगे?

श्री भरतसिंह सोलंकी : माननीय सभापति जी, बड़ी अच्छी बात है और अगर यह संधि जल्द-से-जल्द हो जाए, तो दोनों देशों का फायदा है। हमारी उनसे चर्चा चल रही है। जल्द-से-जल्द इस बात को कैसे सुलझाया जाए, इसके लिए हमारी कोशिश अभी जारी है।

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Sir, the Government's slogan is, 'Power for all by 2012.' I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the target is achievable. If not, what are the hindrances, problems and difficulties in realising this slogan and what steps the Ministry is visualising to take in the immediate future.

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, out of the target of reaching 1.25 lakh villages, we have already reached to 62,000 and odd villages. There are hindrances with regard to terrain and in some areas there is Naxalite problem which we are all aware. That is why the Government of India has allocated Rs. 33,000 crores and we still, for Phase-II, require an additional Rs. 30,000 crores. Besides, for execution and reaching to 1.18 lakh villages, we are working with the States and different agencies and we will be reaching the target by 2012.

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Sir, reply given to part (e) of the question by the hon. Minister is vague. If you read the reply to part (e) of the question, all the points are so vague that it does not give us any direction in which way the Government is moving.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put your supplementary.

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Yes, Sir.

I would like the Government to come out with more, appropriate and accurate reply. At point (v) of the reply to part (e) of the question it was stated, "Utilization of unutilized capacity of gas-based stations on liquid fuel." What does the Government mean by that? Is there any concrete suggestion on that?

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Sir, in any project, wherever we required to make up for fuel shortfall increase the generation and put it into our grid. We are trying to utilize the available capacity.

Regulator on 100 day agenda

*332.DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

MS. MABEL REBELLO:††

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has decided to put appointment of a regulator on 100 day agenda;
- (b) if so, whether the Minister has asked the State Governments to expedite the process of coal production in several captive blocks that have been lying idle due to delay in obtaining clearance;
- (c) whether Government has allocated 196 coal mines, with estimated reserves of 40 billion tonnes, of which only 13 have become operational, so far;
- (d) whether the Ministry has decided not to increase the prices but emphasis is on raising the production; and
- (e) if so, the outcome of discussions held with States?

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

Statement

(a) Ministry of Coal has not decided to put appointment of regulator on 100 day agenda, as this would require enactment of statute by the Parliament.

(b) and (c) During the review meetings, the State Governments concerned were requested to expedite the process of land acquisition and other statutory clearances. 201 coal blocks with geological reserves of about 45 BT have been allocated (upto May, 2009) to various public and private companies for different end uses specified in Section 3(3)(a) of the Coal Mines (Nationalization) Act, 1973. So far production has commenced in 25 coal blocks and the production from these coal blocks for the year 2008-09 (upto March, 2009-Provisional) was 30.02 million tonnes.

(d) and (e) Pricing of coal has been decontrolled since 01.01.2000. The coal companies themselves fix the coal price based on input costs, inflation index, market trends etc. and notify the same periodically. Coal production is envisaged to be raised from 454.42 million tonnes at the end of the X Plan (2007-08) to 731 million tonnes by the end of the XI Plan (2011-12). During the recent visit of Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Coal to some of the coal producing States, the State Governments were requested to facilitate expeditious processing of land acquisition, resettlement and rehabilitation, other statutory clearances etc. in respect of coal projects in order to increase production of coal. They have agreed to extend their support and assistance in this regard.

MS. MABEL REBELLO: Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has said that 201 coal blocks up to May, 2009, have been allotted and only 25 coal blocks have started production. This shows that hardly 12 per cent of coal blocks have started production. The hon. Minister also says that he went to the States and discussed the issue. I would like to know what the progress is; and, how he has managed to get the companies, who have been allotted coal blocks. How has he motivated them to start production in the cancelled blocks, allotted to them?

††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Ms. Mabel Rebello

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल : सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं कि हमारे देश में ऊर्जा उत्पादन की 55% आवश्यकता कोल के द्वारा ही पूरी की जाती है। कोल के प्रोडक्शन और कोल की आवश्यकताओं के गैप को देखते हुए भारत सरकार ने कोल ब्लॉक्स को एलॉट करने की एक प्रक्रिया शुरू की, जिसके तहत लगभग 201 कोल ब्लॉक्स एलॉट किए गए। इसमें कोई शक नहीं कि माननीय सदस्य ने यह चिंता जाहिर की है कि लगभग 25 कोल ब्लॉक्स ही अभी तक इफैक्टिव हुए हैं और जिनमें ऑपरेशन शुरू हुआ है। बाकी कोल ब्लॉक्स में अभी तक उत्पादन शुरू नहीं हो पाया है। जब हमने बारीकी के साथ इसका अध्ययन किया तो इसमें सबसे बड़े दो हर्डल्स सामने आए। एक हर्डल लैंड एक्विजिशन का है और दूसरा पर्यावरण मंत्रालय की क्लीयरेंस का, जो कि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के लेवल पर भी होता है और सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट के लेवल पर भी होता है। इस संबंध में हमने पर्यावरण मंत्री जी से बात की और मुझे खुशी है कि तीन-तीन, चार-चार और पांच-पांच साल से लटके हुए मामलों में हमारे पर्यावरण मंत्री जी ने हमको आश्वासन दिया कि हर कीमत पर हम पर्यावरण की क्लीयरेंस छः महीने के अंदर-अंदर दे देंगे। पिछले दो महीने के अंदर हमने जिन-जिन राज्यों में दौरा किया है, इस दौरान मैं पश्चिमी बंगाल गया, झारखंड भी गया तब वहां के मुख्य मंत्री और वहां के गवर्नर से हमने बात की...(व्यवधान)...

सुश्री मैबल रिबेलो : वहां मुख्य मंत्री हैं ही नहीं।

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल : मैंने कहा कि वहां के मुख्य मंत्री और वहां के गवर्नर से हमने बात की। मैंने सही रिप्लाय किया है। उनसे हमने कहा कि पर्यावरण के संबंध में आप जल्दी क्लीयरेंस देने की प्रक्रिया शुरू करिए। अगर तीन-तीन, चार-चार और पांच-पांच साल तक पर्यावरण की क्लीयरेंस नहीं दी जाएगी, तो जिस मकसद से हमने कोल ब्लॉक्स एलॉट किए हैं, हमारा वह मकसद पूरा नहीं होगा। इसी तरीके से हमने स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स से यह बात भी की कि लैंड एक्विजिशन की कार्यवाही को पूरे तरीके से अंजाम देने का कार्य स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को ही करना है, उसमें यूनियन गवर्नमेंट का कोई रोल नहीं है। हमें दोनों राज्यों से इस चीज का आश्वासन मिला है। जहां-जहां और कोल माइनिंग होती है, पार्लियामेंट के सेशन के बाद मैं उन स्टेट्स के चीफ मिनिस्टर्स से भी मिलूंगा और उनसे भी यही अनुरोध करूंगा कि पर्यावरण क्लीयरेंस और लैंड एक्विजिशन की कार्यवाही को जल्दी से जल्दी पूरा किया जाए, जिससे कि हमने जो ब्लॉक्स एलॉट किए हैं, उनका उत्पादन तेजी से बढ़ाया जा सके और डिमांड एंड सप्लाई के बीच में जो गैप है, उसे हम पूरा कर सकें।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Shri Prasanta Chatterjee.

MS. MABEL REBELLO: My second supplementary, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are only associated with the question. You did not ask it. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am afraid, if the main questioner is absent that right cannot be delegated to someone else. ...*(Interruptions)*... No.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, illegal mining in the abandoned coalmines is rampant in Jharkhand and at many other places. There is a great nexus between the coal mafia and others. And, this problem is very much linked to the number of accidents that take place there and the resultant loss of lives, apart from other issues. So, my question is this. How does the Government take care of this serious problem? Who will provide funds for filling up of abandoned colamines? It is very necessary to fill up the abandoned coalmines.

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल : सर, हमारी कोल कंपनीज के द्वारा एबान्डंड कोल माइन्स को फिल करने की प्रक्रिया बराबर की जाती है और उनकी फिलिंग कर दी जाती है, लेकिन जैसा हमारे माननीय सदस्य ने पूछा है, उनकी जिज्ञासा है और यह बात सही भी है कि हमारे कोल प्रोड्यूसिंग स्टेट्स में इल्लिगल कोल माइनिंग तेजी के साथ जारी है। हमने मुख्य मंत्री जी के साथ और गवर्नर साहब के साथ जो मीटिंग की थी, उसमें भी इस बिंदु को उठाया था कि जब तक इल्लिगल माइनिंग नहीं रुकेगी, तब तक उचित कदम नहीं उठाए जा सकते हैं और कोल का प्रोडक्शन वास्तव में नहीं बढ़ सकता है। हमें वहां के माननीय मुख्यमंत्री जी ने और झारखंड के गवर्नर साहब ने यह आश्वस्त किया था कि हम इल्लिगल माइनिंग को रोकने के लिए कदम उठाएंगे। झारखंड के गवर्नर साहब ने यह कहा था कि हम इंडस्ट्रियल सेक्योरिटी फोर्स ...(व्यवधान)... मैंने झारखंड का गवर्नर कहा। झारखंड के गवर्नर और पश्चिमी बंगाल के चीफ मिनिस्टर कहा।

सर, हमें झारखंड के गवर्नर साहब ने यह आश्वस्त किया कि सेंट्रल इंडस्ट्रियल सेक्योरिटी फोर्स की तर्ज पर हम स्टेट की इंडस्ट्रियल सेक्योरिटी फोर्स भी बना रहे हैं और वह करीब-करीब ट्रेंड होकर तैयार हो गई है, हम इल्लिगल माइनिंग को रोकने के लिए उस फोर्स का भी इस्तेमाल करेंगे। उन्होंने हमसे यह भी कहा कि आपको अगर आवश्यकता हो तो आप सी.आई.एस.एफ. की तर्ज पर हमारी स्टेट की सेक्योरिटी फोर्स भी हमसे लीजिए और इल्लिगल माइनिंग को रोकने के लिए जो भी प्रभावकारी कदम आप उठाएंगे, उसमें हम आपको पूरा सहयोग देंगे। वेस्ट बंगाल के चीफ मिनिस्टर से मेरी बात हुई। सर, आप अच्छी तरह जानते हैं कि जहां पर हमारी माइनिंग हो रही है, वहां की सुरक्षा करना तो हमारी सी.आई.एस.एफ. का दायित्व है, जिसके लिए हमने सी.आई.एस.एफ. को सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट से ले रखा है, लेकिन कोल फील्ड्स बहुत लम्बी-चौड़ी है। कानून-व्यवस्था और पुलिस स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के हाथ में है। ...(व्यवधान)... मैडम, मेरी पूरी बात सुन लीजिए। हम अभी इल्लिगल माइनिंग की बात कर रहे हैं। कोल फील्ड्स बहुत बड़ी होती है। जहां माइनिंग हो रही है वहां तो है ही, इसके अलावा उससे दस गुनी ज्यादा कोल फील्ड्स होती है, जहां पर कोल उपलब्ध होता है। इल्लिगल माइनिंग को रोकने के लिए जब तक स्टेट गवर्नमेंट का पूरा सहयोग केन्द्र सरकार को नहीं प्राप्त होगा तब तक हम इल्लिगल माइनिंग को रोकने में पूरी तरह सफल नहीं हो सकते। ...(व्यवधान)... येचुरी जी, आप मेरी पूरी बात सुन लीजिए। हमारे बुद्धदेव भट्टाचार्य जी ने बहुत ही कोऑपरेटिव रुख अपनाया और उन्होंने कहा कि हम अपने अधिकारियों को यह निर्देश करेंगे कि सी.आई.एस.एफ. के साथ पूरे तरीके से तालमेल रखें, कोल कम्पनीज के साथ पूरे तरीके से तालमेल रखें और इल्लिगल माइनिंग को रोकने के लिए जो भी कड़े-से-कड़े कदम उठाए जा सकें, वे उठाए जाएं। आपको ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, we are running out of time. Don't interrupt.

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल : फिलिंग की जहां तक बात है, तो जैसे ही माइनिंग का काम खत्म होता है वैसे ही वहां पर फिलिंग कर दी जाती है। लेकिन, फिलिंग किए गए क्षेत्रों में अगर इल्लिगल माइनिंग करने वाले फिर से इल्लिगल माइनिंग करना शुरू कर देते हैं, तो वह एक प्रॉब्लम हम लोगों के सामने खड़ी होती है। उस प्रॉब्लम को सोल्व करने के लिए ही हम स्टेट्स का दौरा कर रहे हैं और हम आपको, माननीय सदस्य को, आश्वस्त करते हैं, कि हरेक क्वार्टरली हम चीफ मिनिस्टर से मिलेंगे और मिल कर उनसे इस मामले में कोऑर्डिनेट करने की कोशिश करेंगे। हम उम्मीद करते हैं कि आने वाले समय में हम थैफ्ट भी रोकने में कामयाब होंगे और इल्लिगल माइनिंग पर भी कहीं-न-कहीं कुछ-न-कुछ परसेंट अंकुश लगाने में जरूर कामयाब होंगे।

श्री नतुजी हालाजी ठाकोर : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह सवाल करना चाहता हूँ कि गुजरात सरकार को जो कोयला दिया जा रहा है वह पूर्वी क्षेत्र से दिया जा रहा है। वह दूरी 16 सौ किलोमीटर की है। उसके हिसाब से परिवहन-क्षेत्र का जो खर्च है, वह बढ़ जाता है। गुजरात सरकार की बार-बार रजुआत के बावजूद भी हमें पश्चिमी क्षेत्रों से कोयला नहीं दिया जा रहा है। इसके क्या कारण हैं?

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल : सर, गुजरात सरकार हो या कोई दूसरी सरकार हो, जिस कोल कम्पनी से जिसको कोयला अलॉट हुआ है, उन कोल कम्पनीज से उस स्टेट को कोयला जा रहा है। गुजरात एक कोस्टल स्टेट है। गुजरात में बहुत-से लोग कोल का इम्पोर्ट भी कर रहे हैं। आपने जिस मामले में हमारा ध्यान आकर्षित किया है, उस संबंध में हमें गुजरात सरकार का भी एक प्रतिवेदन प्राप्त हुआ है। हम यह देख रहे हैं कि जिन कम्पनीज से गुजरात गवर्नमेंट कोयला मांग रही है, क्या उनके पास इतना कोयला है कि वह गुजरात सरकार की आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति कर सके? अगर ऐसा होगा तो हम उनकी मांगों पर जरूर विचार करेंगे।

श्री आर.सी. सिंह : सर, जिन कम्पनीज को आउटसोर्सिंग करने के लिए सरकार अधिकार दे रही है, वे क्या माइनिंग रूल्स, रेगुलेशंस और वर्कमैन का जो वेज-एग्रीमेंट होता है, उसको इम्प्लीमेंट करेंगे, ऐसी कोई व्यवस्था सरकार के पास है?

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल : सर, जिनको भी आउटसोर्सिंग की अनुमति दी जाती है, उनको सरकार अपनी शर्त पर, अपने कानून पर और अपने विधान की शर्तों पर ही आउटसोर्सिंग की अनुमति दे सकती है। अगर वे सरकार के किसी भी कानून का वॉयलेशन करती हुई पाई जाएंगी, तो उनके खिलाफ कड़ी कार्रवाई की जाएगी।

श्री आर.सी. सिंह : सर, बैक फिलिंग एक ही कम्पनी नहीं कर रही है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Schemes of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

*324.SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of programmes and schemes of the Ministry;
- (b) in what manner these are being popularized;
- (c) the targets for the current financial year; and
- (d) in what manner the intended targets are being achieved in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Details of the major schemes / programmes supported by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy are given in the Statement-I (See below).

(b) The Government has taken several steps and measures to popularize and encourage renewable energy schemes / programmes in the country which include the following:

- Fiscal and financial incentives, such as, capital/ interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation, nil/ concessional excise and customs duties;
- Preferential tariff for grid interactive renewable power in most potential States;
- Benefit under Section 80-1A of Income Tax Act 1961 to undertakings setup for the generation or generation and distribution of renewable power;
- Directives under Electricity Act 2003 to all States for fixing a minimum percentage for purchase of power from renewable energy sources;
- Support for sector specific seminars/ workshops/ training programmes;
- Extensive publicity and awareness on the use of renewable energy systems/ devices through print and electronic media;
- Organizing special events like the Rajiv Gandhi Akshay Urja Diwas.

(c) Physical and financial targets set under various renewable energy schemes / programmes during 2009-10, are given in the Statement-II (See below).

(d) State-wise targets are allocated only under biogas programmes. A total potential of about 7 lakh and 19 lakh family type biogas plants has been estimated in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Against this potential, over 1.25 lakh and 4 lakh family type biogas plants have been set up in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh respectively as on 31.03.2009. A target for setting up of 300 biogas plants in Bihar and 4000 biogas plants in Uttar Pradesh has been fixed for 2009-10.

Statement-I

*Details of the schemes/programmes supported by the Ministry of
New and Renewable Energy*

1. Grid-interactive/Off-grid Renewable Power:

- Wind Power: MW-scale Wind Farms/Aero generators/ Hybrid Systems
- Bio-power: Biomass power/Bagasse cogeneration; non-bagasse cogeneration; Biomass gasifiers for rural/industrial energy; U&I Wastes to energy
- Small Hydro Power: Small hydro power plants upto 25 MW capacity; Watermills/Micro hydel plants
- Solar Power: Grid-interactive -Solar Thermal and SPV plants, SPV Roof-top Systems for abatement of diesel power in urban areas

2. Renewable Energy for Rural Applications:

- Remote Village Electrification Programme: provision of lighting/ electricity in the unelectrified remote villages/ hamlets
- Village Energy Security Test Projects: meeting village energy requirements through locally available renewable resources, mainly biomass.
- Biogas Programme: setting up of Family Type biogas plants for cooking/ lighting/ manure/ small scale power generation

- Solar Thermal Systems: deployment of decentralized solar thermal systems/ devices, mainly solar cookers / driers for cooking, drying farm produce.

3. Renewable Energy for Urban, Industrial & Commercial Applications:

- Biomass(non-bagasse) based cogeneration and Wastes to Energy projects- (*reflected under off-grid/distributed renewable power under 1 above*)
- Solar water heating systems - for domestic, institutional, commercial/ industrial applications
- Solar air heating/ steam generation systems - for community cooking/other applications in institutions and industry.
- Green Buildings - incorporating active systems and passive designs
- Solar Cities - for reducing their conventional energy consumption through energy conservation and use of renewable energy devices/ systems
- SPV systems/ devices - for demonstration/ awareness creation- SPV street lights, SPV street light control systems, SPV traffic signals, SPV hoardings, SPV power packs, etc.
- Akshay Urja Shops - to make available solar energy products and provide after-sales service.

4. Research, Design & Development:

- Supporting research and development projects at premier institutions and industries on different aspects of new and renewable energy technologies.

Statement-II

Physical and financial targets set under major renewable energy schemes/programmes during 2009-10

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme/ Programme	Outlay 2009-10 (BE) (Rs.in crore)	Physical Outputs (Installed Capacity in MW)
1	2 3	4	
I.	Grid Interactive Power		
i	Wind Power	7	2500
	Small Hydro Power	100	300
	Biomass Power/ Cogeneration	30	400
	Urban and Industrial Waste to Power	12	15
	Solar Power	11	4
	TOTAL :	160	3,219

1	2	3	4
II	Off-grid renewable power/DRPS-		
	Wind-solar hybrid	5.00	0.30
	Watermills	4.00	17.50
	Bio Power	21.00	
	• Urban/ Industrial Waste-to-Energy		10.00
	• Biomass Power (Non-Bagasse)		50.00
	• Gasifier (Industrial)		10.00
	• Gasifier (Rural)		3.00
	SPV power systems		
	• Rooftop systems	10.00	1.00
	• Others	20.00	4.00
	TOTAL :	60.00	95.80
III.	For Remote Villages:	90.00	SPV lighting system for 1500 remote villages / hamlets
	• Remote Village Electrification Programme		
	• Village Energy Security Test Projects		50 villages/ hamlets
	For all villages:	65.00	
	• Family Type Bigas Plants		1.5 lakh plants (0.30 mln.m ³)
	• Solar Cookers		20,000 nos.
	TOTAL :	155.00	
Note: Other rural area programmes (decentralized SPV systems) included under S. No. IV.			
IV	Urban, Industrial and commercial Applications		
	Solar Thermal Systems:		
	• Solar water heating systems for various applications	10.00	0.60 million m ²
	Other RE systems:	5.00	
	• ST Systems -Drying, Steam generation		
	• Energy-efficient buildings		
	• Akshay Urja Shops		
	• Solar Cities		
	SPY Systems	60.00	4 MWp aggregate capacity
	TOTAL :	75.00	

Note: Other urban area programmes (U&I/Biomass WTE (grid/ off-grid) included under S No I&II

Supply of power to Andhra Pradesh

*325.SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details with regard to the quantum of power allocation to Andhra Pradesh from unallocated power from Southern Region as due and, in addition, from Eastern Region and North-Eastern Region;

(b) whether present supply of power has been considered sufficient by the Andhra Pradesh Government or it has sought more power supply from these regions; and

(c) the reasons for not supplying adequate power to the State, as it is currently facing substantial power shortage?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) The unallocated power of Central Generating Stations is limited and fixed and the same is allocated on a dynamic basis to meet the urgent and overall requirements of States/UTs. There is no quota fixed for any State, Andhra Pradesh has been allocated 30.2% to 38.5% (approximately 328 MW to 418 MW) in different time slots of the day out of the unallocated power of Central Generating Stations of Southern Region. The details of allocation of power to Andhra Pradesh from unallocated power of Central Generating Stations are given in the Statement (*See below*). There is no allocation to Andhra Pradesh from the unallocated power of Central Generating Stations located in the Eastern and North Eastern Regions except for Talcher-II located in the Eastern Region in which the constituents of Southern Region have shares.

Requests for additional allocation of unallocated power are received from States from time to time. No request for additional allocation of unallocated power has, however, been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in the recent past.

Statement

Allocation of Unallocated Power to Andhra Pradesh from the Central Generating Stations

Generating Station	Installed	Unallocated	Allocation from unallocated power			
	capacity (MW)	power (MW)	Unit	00.00 to 02.00, 06.00 to 18.00 22.00 to 24.00 hours	00.00 to 06.00 hours	18.00 to 22.00 hours
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1. Ramagundam STPS St. I & II	2100	310	(MW) #	155	175.8	135.3
2. Ramagundam STPS St.-III	500	75	(MW)#	37.8	42.9	33

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
3. Neyveli-II St.-I	630	95	(MW)#	29.8	33.7	26
4. Neyveli-II St.-II	840	125	(MW)#	39.2	44.4	34.2
5. Neyveli-I Expansion	420	63	(MW) #	0	0	0
6. Madras APS* Unit I & II	440	18	(MW) #	9.1	10.3	7.9
7. Kaiga APS* Unit - I & II	440	66	(MW) #	33.3	37.7	29
8. Kaiga APS* Unit - III	220	33	(MW)#	10.9	10.9	14.5
9. Talchar STPS	2000	300	(MW) #	54.8	62	48
TOTAL :	7590	1085	(MW) #	369.9	417.7	327.9
TOTAL :	7590	1085	(%) \$	34.1%	38.5%	30.2%

Equivalent MW allocation in Installed Capacity (Gross)

* APS - Atomic Power Station

Schemes for welfare of working children

*327.DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- the details of the scheme for welfare of working children;
- whether Government has issued guidelines to implement the scheme and, if so, the details thereof;
- whether Government has ascertained the parameters to monitor the achievements of the implementing agencies under the scheme and if so, the details thereof; and
- whether it is a fact that there has been serious under-performance in implementation of the scheme in terms of utilization of allocations and coverage of the scheme and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) The details of the scheme namely 'Scheme for welfare of working children in Need of care and Protection' are available on the Ministry's website : www.wcd.nic.in. The guidelines for implementation of the scheme are available in the scheme itself.

(c) The achievements of the implementing agencies are monitored based on the parameters as set up by the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations. The Secretary of the concerned Department in the State Government/UT Administration is requested by the Ministry of Women and Child Development to monitor the performance of the projects through periodical reviews. Inspections are carried out by the concerned State Government authorities and the reports are sent

to this Ministry. The grant-in aid is released to the organizations based on the satisfactory performance reports given by the inspecting officers and the recommendations of the concerned State Governments/ UT Administrations.

(d) No, Sir. The details of the budget allocations, funds released, number of projects and beneficiaries assisted under this scheme during the last two years *i.e.*, 2007-08 & 2008-09 are as below:

Year	BE (In Crore)	Amount released (In crore)	No. of projects assisted	No. of beneficiaries assisted
2007-08	7.00	6.01	78	7800
2008-09	7.00	8.42	109	10900

These projects are operational in 17 States/UTs in the country.

Profit from KG basin petroleum

*328.SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether Government has received first installment of profit in respect of petroleum from the Krishna-Godavari (KG) basin;

(b) whether \$ 218.960 share has been generated from sale of crude oil from D6 block since mid September, last year;

(c) whether Reliance industry has already spent \$6.26 billion in developing KG basin block;

(d) if so, whether Reliance Industries, with this gas output would reduce oil import bill;

(e) whether import dependence will fall from 60 percent to 45 percent; and

(f) if so, to what extent it would boost our economy?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has received payment of US\$ 0.51 million towards Government's share of profit petroleum on commercial production of crude oil in the block KG-DWN-98/3 for the period from September 2008 to March 2009.

(c) Reliance Industries Limited and NIKO Resources Limited have invested US\$ 5.98 billion upto March 2009 on development of two major natural gas discoveries and one crude oil discovery.

(d) to (f) In 2008-09, consumption of petroleum products in the country was of the order of 133.4 million metric tonne (MMT) as against the domestic crude oil production of 33.5 MMT. Thus, oil import dependence of the country is about 75%. As per Planning Commission estimates, requirement of crude oil is likely to be in the range of 350-486 MMT with import dependence of 90-

93% in 2030 considering economic growth and crude oil supply in the country. Currently, natural gas production from the block KG-DWN-98/3 is about 31 MMSCMD, which accounts for 25% of total natural gas production of the country. Crude oil production is of the order of 13500 barrels per day (0.67 MMT per annum), which is about 1.9% of the total crude oil production of the country. On achieving peak production of 80 MMSCMD from this block, natural gas production of the country would double as compared to the production during 2008-09. Crude oil production from this block would reduce the import bill to the extent of oil production from the block and natural gas production would reduce the existing demand.

Auction of coal blocks for captive mines

*330.SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether various apex bodies of miners have strongly opposed Government's move to auction coal blocks for captive mining;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether auctioning of coal blocks is illogical, which would increase the cost of coal in the country;

(d) if so, whether Government proposes to adopt any other policy, rather than auctioning of coal blocks for captive mining; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Allocation of coal blocks through auction by competitive bidding would be the most transparent and objective process. There has been no strong opposition to it. However, during an interaction with the stakeholders such as industrial and business associations, some reservations were expressed, which were, *inter-alia*, as follows:-

(i) It will add to the cost of coal and will lead to increased price of end products.

(ii) There will be discrimination between the existing allocatees and the future allocatees.

(iii) There will be discrimination between the future allocatees and CIL/SCCL, who will continue to have blocks without the associated cost of competitive bidding.

(iv) The three permitted sectors for captive mining cannot be treated equally. While steel and cement sectors produce commodities, power sector is a utility and operates in a regulated environment. The power sector, therefore, cannot pay a higher price that the steel and the cement sector can afford to. Further, they differ in their scales of investment and priority in the economy. Viewed in this context, competitive bidding would lead to a sectoral imbalance.

(v) Steel, Cement and sponge iron need higher grades of coal with some specific properties, whereas power sector can use any kind of coal. Use of higher grade coal for power sector through competitive bidding will lead to sub-optimal use of higher grade coal.

(vi) The techno economic feasibility and viability of those projects that were planned on the basis of existing procedure and have since progressed substantially will be adversely affected in case of change in the selection process midstream.

(vii) Competitive bidding should be based on technical and physical parameters and not on financial parameters.

These issues were considered and addressed by the Government. Recently similar observations have been received from the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI).

(c) No, Sir. Impact on the cost of production of coal is estimated to be only marginal as the bidding would be driven by rational market behaviour.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of the reply given at (c) above.

Simultaneous elections for Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabhas

*333.SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering the concept of simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabhas, in order to save money and manpower;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would also consider to allow one person to contest for one Lok Sabha/Vidhan Sabha seat only; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under active consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) The Election Commission of India from time to time makes recommendation in respect of the changes in the election laws. On the last occasion, in July, 2004 the Election Commission of India has sent a set of 22 proposals which *inter-alia* includes the proposal relating to restriction on the number of seats from which one may contest.

While the matter was under consideration with the Government, the Chairman, Rajya Sabha has referred the entire matter of electoral reforms (consisting of 22 proposals) to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice for examination and report. Presently, the matter is under consideration with the said Committee.

Revival of MAMC

*334.SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 446 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16 August, 2007 and state:

(a) the status of implementation of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on 1 June, 2007 between Coal India Ltd. and DVC, for a facility for manufacturing underground mining machineries in and around Durgapur West Bengal;

(b) whether possibility of acquiring and revamping the existing closed unit of the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation (MAMC) has been explored, as per the MoU; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Coal India Ltd.(CIL) and Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) was firmed up by an agreement signed on 18.09.2007. Subsequently Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) also joined to form a consortium and a tripartite agreement was signed on 27.09.2007. An application was filed by the consortium praying for the taking over of Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation (MAMC) was heard by the Hon'ble High Court, Kolkata and stay on liquidation was granted. With the leave granted by the Hon'ble Court due diligence was conducted by the consortium.

Following the due diligence, various creditors were approached for waiver of their respective dues. Government of West Bengal has agreed, in principle, to waive its dues if the Central Government look a similar stand. The State Bank of India, being the principal secured creditor, has agreed to settle for a substantially reduced amount. The Government is taking a view on the waiver of the Central Govt. dues. A scheme for taking over MAMC with all its assets (including the township) and meeting all liabilities will be submitted before the Hon'ble High Court for further direction.

In the meantime, the Hon'ble High Court has granted extension of stay from time to time. However, very recently, BEML has expressed its desire to withdraw itself from the consortium in view of the delays in obtaining various approvals and of other current priorities. The expression for withdrawal has to be examined in the light of the provision of the Joint Venture agreement signed by BEML, CIL and DVC.

(b) Yes, Sir. The consortium appointed IIM, Bangalore and IDBI Caps, Mumbai as consultants for conducting the due diligence and preparation of a business plan. The report submitted by the consultants showed that 70% of the existing machines and tools are in workable condition. About 10% could be used after re-conditioning and the balance 20% are to be rejected. Regarding financial issues, the report suggested that if full waivers are granted by both the Central and the State Govt. and the secured creditors, *i.e.* the Banks waive their dues substantially, and also if all the

cases pending in the Hon'ble Court are frozen with regard to liabilities, it would be possible to revive MAMC, with the support of the Govt. of West Bengal in the form of various concessions and moratorium (in line with its industrial policy) and assurance of supply orders from CIL and DVC.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (b) of the question.

Investment by State owned oil companies in Iran

* 335. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

SHRI. N.K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether state owned oil companies have forwarded a proposal to Tehran for investing \$5 billion in an offshore gas field;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether Iran has since responded to their plans;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether United States has expressed reservations about Indian investments in Iran's energy sector; and

(f) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) ONGC Videsh Ltd.(OVL) has submitted a proposal for Master Development Plan (MDP) of Farzad - B gas field, Persian Gulf, Iran to the Iranian Offshore Oil Company (IOOC) in compliance to the provisions of the Exploration Service Contract (ESC) for Farsi Block. The amount of the investment will depend on the approval of MDP by Iranian authorities.

(c) and (d) Some technical observations on the proposed MDP were received from Iranian side and were suitably responded by OVL.

(e) The US Government has put in place sanctions against Iran to deter foreign investment in the country including in the energy sector.

(f) Government of India as a matter of policy is opposed to sanctions being placed on any country. It believes that all outstanding issues with Iran should be resolved peacefully through dialogue and negotiation.

Cost of production of natural gas

*336.SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

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

(a) whether any study has been conducted by his Ministry to estimate the cost of production of natural gas in the country, particularly the KG Basin, including the cost of exploration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (c) In block KG-DWN-98/3, Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) and NIKO Resources Limited have made major natural gas discoveries in deepwater areas of Krishana Godavari (KG) basin, The development plan envisaged an estimated cost of US\$ 8.8 billion having peak production of 80 million metric standard cubic metre per day (MMSCMD). Currently, 31 MMSCMD gas is being produced from this block, which is being supplied to the consumers, mainly fertilizer and power companies, in accordance with the priority approved by Empowered Group of Ministers.

Government had directed Directorate General of Hydrocarbon (DGH) to appoint an independent and internationally renowned consultant to examine the cost estimates. In this connection, Dr. P. Gopalakrishnan, an eminent consultant and reservoir engineer and M/s Mustang Engineering from USA, an internationally reputed engineering consultant company, had submitted their reports. Both the reports validate the cost estimates made by RIL and NIKO Resources Limited.

Founding pattern for IPSC

*337.SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funding pattern for the Integrated Programme for Street Children (IPSC);

(b) whether it is a fact that Government does not have State-wise authentic figures about the street children;

(c) if so, on what basis the funds are allocated to the implementing agencies of the Programme; and

(d) the steps government proposes to take to improve the performance and coverage of the Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) The details of funding pattern under the scheme - 'An Integrated Programme for Street Children' are available in the Ministry's website - www.wcd.nic.in.

(b) and (c) No authenticated figures regarding number of street children in the country are available in the Ministry of Women and Child Development as their number is fluctuating in nature. However, the number of beneficiaries covered under the aforesaid scheme is available in the Ministry's website. The funds are released to the implementing agencies on the basis of recommendation and inspection report received from State Governments/UT Administrations and/or from the Childline India Foundation, the nodal agency of the Ministry to inspect street children projects being assisted by the Ministry.

(d) The Ministry of Women and Child Development has recently introduced a centrally sponsored scheme namely Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) for implementation during the remaining XI Plan Period through State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The existing street children scheme has been merged under the new scheme. ICPS provides for setting up of open shelters for children in need of care and protection including street children, in urban and semi-urban areas. Provision have been made for a space in such shelters for children where they can play, use their time productively and engage themselves in creative activities through music, dance, drama, yoga & meditation, computers, indoor and outdoor games, etc. for their overall growth and development. It also provides for fulfilling their basic requirements for food, nutrition and health. Provisions have also been made for quality and flexi-time education and vocational training. Counselling, guidance and life skill education for channel is also provided.

Keoladev National Park in Bharatpur

† *338. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Keoladev National Park, a world heritage site situated in Bharatpur, has been facing water crisis for past so many years;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government has taken any concrete measures to overcome this crisis;

(c) whether the State Government has sent any proposal to the Central Government to overcome this crisis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the decision Government is going to take thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Keoladev National Park, a World Heritage Site situated in Bharatpur, Rajasthan has been facing water crisis for the past few years due to monsoon failures. Central Government under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats' (erstwhile scheme of Assistance for Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries) has been providing financial and technical assistance to Keoladev National Park for various activities aimed at wildlife conservation including augmenting water supply. Further, an externally aided project titled "World Heritage Bio-diversity Programme for India: Building Partnerships to Support UNESCO's World Heritage Programme" is being implemented in the Park.

(c) and (d) Government of Rajasthan submitted a proposal to the Planning Commission, through the Ministry of Environment and Forests so as to augment water supply in Keoladev National Park, with a total project cost of Rs. 65.00 crores. An Expert Team of the Central Government that visited the project site in August 2008 recommended that the cost of the project may be met through Additional Central Assistance to be released by the Planning Commission. The First installment of this

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Additional Central Assistance (Rs.20.00 crores) for the year 2008-09 was sanctioned by the Planning Commission to the Government of Rajasthan in December 2008. During the current financial year 2009-10, State Government has requested for release of Rs. 36.22 crore. Planning Commission considers such proposal subject to fulfillment of procedural formalities including availability of funds.

Integrated Programme for Street Children

***339.SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:**

SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Integrated Programme for Street Children;
- (b) whether Government has issued guidelines to implement the programme and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has fixed the parameters to monitor the achievement of NGOs under the Programme and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that there has been serious under-performance in implementation of the programme in terms of utilization of allocations and coverage of the programme and if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) The details of the scheme namely, 'An Integrated Programme for Street Children' are available in the Ministry's web-site *i.e.* www.wcd.nic.in. The guidelines for implementing the scheme are available in the scheme.

(c) Yes Sir. The inspections/monitoring of the projects are done based on mainly the following parameters:

- (i) Suitability of Organizational set up and Administration of the NGO
- (ii) Efficacy of Decision making process in the NGO
- (iii) Correctness of Accounts and Annual Reports of the NGO
- (iv) Suitability of other activities/projects of the NGO
- (v) Capacity of the team for planning and innovations
- (vi) Suitability of Project Staff appointments
- (vii) Project Staff Training should be as per job requirement
- (viii) Relevance of Project Staff Meetings and participation
- (ix) Number of Beneficiaries should be as per the sanctioned strength
- (x) Efficacy of programmes for re-integration with families
- (xi) Efficacy of programmes for protection of earnings
- (xii) Adequacy and quality of Vocational training facilities
- (xiii) Quality of Non-formal education facilities

- (xiv) Adequacy-and quality of nutrition arrangements
- (xv) Quality of health care facilities
- (xvi) Efficacy of awareness/outreach programmes
- (xvii) Efficacy of Formal education
- (xviii) Adequacy of overall hygiene and cleanliness at Centre
- (xix) Adequacy of Recreational arrangements
- (xx) Proper enrolment of children in regular school
- (xxi) Suitable occupational placement of beneficiaries
- (xxii) Adequacy of projects account keeping
- (xxiii) Efficacy of Additional resource mobilization
- (xxiv) Efficacy of Networking with other NGOs

(d) No, Sir. The details of the budget allocations, funds released, number of projects and beneficiaries assisted under this scheme during the last two years 2007-08 & 2008-09 are given as below :

Year	B E (in lakhs)	Amount released (in lakhs)	No. of beneficiaries assisted
2007-08	1000.00	938.66	31603
2008-09	1000.00	1146.53	32588

92 projects, in 15 States/Union Territories, are being provided financial assistance under this scheme.

Violation of SC guidelines on pre-schooling

*340.SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many schools in the capital are blatantly violating the apex court's guidelines relating to pre-schooling;

(b) whether Government is also aware of the sale of forms at exorbitant prices and also about seeking income proof from parents;

(c) if so, whether Government has taken any action to rectify such irregularities through the concerned authorities and whether any school has been derecognized, so far; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) As informed by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, no such complaint has been received by them.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Policy of bidding for coal blocks

2416. SHRI PYRIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the benefits envisaged in Government's policy of bidding for coal blocks;
- (b) how Government is going to ensure that most of the remaining coal blocks are not cornered by multinationals/foreign companies in the process of bidding; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government on the representations of the Indian mine-owners in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) With progressive allocation of coal blocks, the number of coal blocks available for allocation is declining, while the number of applicants per block is increasing, as the demand for coal keeps increasing. This has made the selection of an applicant in respect of a block difficult and vulnerable to criticism on the ground of lack of transparency and objectivity. Therefore, there is an urgent need to bring in a process of selection that is not only objective but also demonstrably transparent. Auctioning through competitive bidding is one such/acceptable selection process. This would also be a means of securing the most optimal allocation of limited and precious natural resources such as coal and lignite.

(b) In terms of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2008, auctioning through competitive bidding would be applicable to coal blocks offered for captive use in specified end-uses only. Allocation to Government companies and power projects accorded through tariff based competitive bidding would not fall within the purview of auction. In view of the captive use stipulation, coal blocks would be allocated to companies which are registered and operating within India, and are either engaged in the specified end use activities or have back-to-back tie up with such end user companies.

(c) A representation from the Federation of Indian Mining Industries (FIMI) has been received recently, which will be examined on merits.

Allocation of coal to Gujarat

2417. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the criteria for allocation of coal from Western Collieries Ltd, (WCL);
- (b) whether there is a demand from Gujarat for allocation of coal from WCL; and
- (c) if so, the details of such allocation during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The Standing Linkage Committee (Short Term), an inter-Ministerial Committee comprising of representatives of Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Power, Ministry of Railways and

representatives of coal companies used to allocate coal from coal producing companies including Western Coalfields Limited to various power utilities, keeping in view, *inter-alia* their proximity from the coalfields, coal availability, grades of coal as per the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MOEF) norms and transport logistic involved. During the last two quarters, the meetings of Standing Linkage Committee (Short Term) have not been held, as the role of that Committee, keeping in view the provisions of New Coal Distribution Policy, is under review. During this period, coal allocation is being made by coal companies based on Fuel Supply Agreements and past practices.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. During the last five years, only one Captive Power Plant of 12 MW located at Surat, Gujarat, was granted Letter of Assurance by Western Coalfields Limited (WCL), based on authorization approved by Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term). Among existing consumers, Ukai Thermal Power Station has been granted coal allocation of 0.930 MTPA from WCL. WCL is also supplying coal to small and medium consumers of Gujarat, through South Gujarat Federation of Industries Limited, an agency nominated by the State Government.

Burning of gas in coal mines in Jharkhand

2418. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the gas produced from coal mines in Jharkhand is being burnt without being used for any purpose;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is formulating any policy to tap this precious natural resource and use it for feeding industries or as domestic piped gas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Generally gases released during the operation in coalmines, get mixed with ventilation air and are released to the atmosphere through the exhaust system of the mine. However, Coal Bed Methane (CBM) produced at Moonidih mine of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) in the State of Jharkhand is being utilised to generate 500 KW of electricity.

(c) to (e) Government of India has formulated a CBM Policy in 1997 to expedite commercial development of coal bed methane in the country. As per the CBM Policy 1997, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MOP&NG) is the administrative Ministry and Director General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) is the nodal agency of development of CBM in the country. Under this Policy, the Government of India has allotted 26 CBM blocks to different operators through 3 rounds of global bidding. Under CBM Round IV, 10 more blocks have been proposed to be offered through competitive bidding.

Coal-to-liquid technology

2419.SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Ltd. had identified only three blocks for Coal-to-liquid technology; and

(b) whether any assessment has been made by the Ministry that if this technology proves to be successful, from where Government gets blocks which are now given to private companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Ministry of Coal in consultation with Coal India Limited and Central Mine Planning & Design Institute had identified three coal blocks viz. North of Arkhupal, West of Radhikapur and Ramchandi Promotional for development of coal liquefaction or coal-to-liquid technology in the country.

(b) If the technology proves to be successful, additional coal resources could be identified from the un-allocated coal resources available in the country.

Coal supply

2420.SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state the quantum of coal supplied to State-owned electricity generating companies, in controlled price and decontrolled price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Since coal is deregulated, the Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited, the coal Public Sector Undertakings, are exercising the authority of fixing the prices of its products *i.e* different grades of coal. The coal supplies to State owned electricity generating companies are made as per prices notified by CIL/SCCL under decontrolled price.

Allottee of coal blocks

2421.SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a uniform policy has been followed in allotment of coal blocks to various States and if so, the components of such policy;

(b) the list of coal blocks allocated alongwith the names of the allottees; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to reserve the unallocated blocks for PSUs of coal-bearing States and if so, the decision of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The allocation of coal blocks under the Government Company Dispensation Route is made through inviting applications from State/Central Public Sector Undertakings which are processed taking into account, *inter-alia*, including preference to the States which have not been allocated any coal block earlier, priority to the host States in order to encourage value addition within the coal bearing State, past performance of applicants in developing coal blocks, proximity of coal blocks to the proposed end use projects and the recommendation/support of State Government concerned.

(b) The list of coal blocks allocated to various State Public Sector Undertakings along with the names of allottees is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) No, Sir. However, *inter-se* priority is given to those who propose to set up their end-use plants in the States where the coal block is located.

Statement

*List of coal block allocated to various State Public Sector
Undertakings alongwith the names of allottees*

Sl.No.	Name of the State PSU	Block allocated	Date of Allotment
1	2	3	4
1	WBSEB	Tara (East)	14.07.1995
2	WBPDC	Tara (West)	17.04.1996
3	Punjab State Electricity Board	Pachwara Central	28.12.2001
4	WBPDC	Gangaramchak	23.06.2003
5	WBPDC	Barjora	23.06.2003
6	WBPDC	Gangaramchak - Bhadulia	23.06.2003
7	Chhattisgarh Mineral Development Corporation Limited	Tara	14.08.2003
8	Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Ltd.	Badam	03.11.2003
9	KPCL	Baranj - I	10.11.2003
10	KPCL	Baranj - II	10.11.2003
11	KPCL	Baranj - III	10.11.2003
12	KPCL	Baranj - IV	10.11.2003
13	KPCL	Kiloni	10.11.2003
14	KPCL	Manora Deep	10.11.2003
15	Orissa Mining Corporation	Utkal-D	19.12.2003
16	Arunachal Pradesh Mineral Dev. Corporation	Namchi Namphuk	28.07.2004
17	CSEB	Gidhmuri	23.09.2004
18	CSEB	Patoria	23.09.2004
19	West Bengal Mineral Dev. Trading Corp.	Trans Damodar	14.01.2005
20	WBPDC	Pachwara North	26.04.2005

1	2	3	4
21	Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corpn. Ltd.	Tadicherla-I	06.12.2005
22	Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation	Amelia	12.01.2006
23	Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation	Amelia (North)	12.01.2006
24	Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Ltd.	Gondulpara	13.01.2006
25	Jharkhand State Mineral Development Corporation	Sugia Closed mine	30.01.2006
26	Jharkhand State Mineral Development Corporation	Rauta Closed	30.01.2006
27	Jharkhand State Mineral Development Corporation	Burakhap small patch	30.01.2006
28	GSECL	Mahanadi & Machhakata	06.02.2006
29	MSEB	Mahanadi & Machhakata	06.02.2006
30	Chhattisgarh State Electricity Board	Parsa	02.08.2006
31	Chhattisgarh Mineral Development Corporation Limited	Gare Pelma, Sector-I	02.08.2006
32	Maharashtra State Mining Corpn.	Gare Pelma Sector-II	02.08.2006
33	Tamil Nadu State Electricity Board	Gare Pelma Sector-II	02.08.2006
34	Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation Limited	Morga-I	02.08.2006
35	GMDC	Morga II	02.08.2006
36	Jharkhand State Mineral Development Corporation	Pindra-Debipur - Khaowatand	02.08.2006
37	Bihar Rajya Khanij Vikas Nigam	Saria Koiyatand	02.08.2006
38	Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation	Jainagar (cancelled)	02.08.2006
39	Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Limited	Rajbar E&D	02.08.2006
40	Jharkhand State Electricity Board	Banhardih	02.08.2006
41	Jharkhand State Mineral Development Corporation	Latehar	02.08.2006

1	2	3	4
42	Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation	Dongeri Tal-II	02.08.2006
43	Maharashtra State Mining Corpn.	Marki-Zari-Jamani - Adkoli	02.08.2006
44	NCT of Delhi, Delhi	Mara II Mahan	02.08.2006
45	Haryana Power Generation Corp Ltd.	Mara II Mahan	02.08.2006
46	Orissa Mining Corporation	Nuagaon Telisahi	02.08.2006
47	Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development	Nuagaon Telisahi	02.08.2006
48	West Bangal Mineral Dev. Trading. Corp.	Ichhapur	02.08.2006
49	West Bangal Mineral Dev. Trading. Corp.	Kulti	02.08.2006
50	Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corpn. Ltd.	Anesttipali	20.02.2007
51	Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corpn. Ltd.	Punkula-Chilka	20.02.2007
52	Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corpn. Ltd.	Penagaddppa	29.05.2007
53	UPRVUNL	Chendipada, Chendi-II	25.07.2007
54	CMDC	Chendipada, Chendi-II	25.07.2007
55	MAHAGENCO	Chendipada, Chendi-II	25.07.2007
56	Kerala State Elec. Board	Baitarni West	25.07.2007
57	Orissa Hydro Power Generation Corp.	Baitarni West	25.07.2007
58	Gujarat Power Generation Corp.	Baitarni West	25.07.2007
59	Assam Mineral Dev. Corp.	Mandakini B	25.07.2007
60	Meghalaya Mineral Dev. Corp.	Mandakini B	25.07.2007
61	Tamil Nadu State Electricity Board	Mandakini B	25.07.2007
62	Orissa Mining Corporation	Mandakini B	25.07.2007
63	Orissa Power Generation Corporation	Manoharpur	25.07.2007
64	Orissa Power Generation Corporation	Dipside Manoharpur	25.07.2007

1	2	3	4
65	GMDC	Naini	25.07.2007
66	PIPDICL	Naini	25.07.2007
67	JSEB	Urma Paharitora	25.07.2007
68	BSMDCL	Urma Paharitora	25.07.2007
69	Jharkhand State Mineral Development Corporation	Patraru	25.07.2007
70	Jharkhand State Mineral Development Corporation	Rabodih OCP	25.07.2007
71	West Bengal Mineral Dev. Trading. Corp.	Jaganathpur A	25.07.2007
72	West Bengal Mineral Dev. Trading. Corp.	Jaganathpur B	25.07.2007
73	APMDC	Suliyari	25.07.2007
74	Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation	Marki Barka	25.07.2007
75	Chhattisgarh Mineral Development Corporation Limited	Shankarpur Bhatgaon II	25.07.2007
76	Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation	Morga III	25.07.2007
77	Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation	Morga IV	25.07.2007
78	Chhattisgarh Mineral Development Corporation Limited	Sondhia	25.07.2007
79	Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation	Semaria/Piparia	25.07.2007
80	Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation	Bicharpur	25.07.2007
81	Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation	Mandla South	25.07.2007
82	Maharashtra State Mining Corp. Ltd.	Agarzari	25.07.2007
83	Maharashtra State Mining Corp. Ltd.	Warora	25.07.2007
84	RRVUNL	Parsa East	25.06.2007
85	RRVUNL	Kanta Basan	25.06.2007
86	West Bengal Mineral Dev. Trading. Corp.	Sitarampur	27.12.2007

1	2	3	4
87	Jharkhand State Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.	Jogeshwar & Khas Jogeshwar	11.04.2008
88	MAHAGENCO (M/s Aurangabad Co. Ltd., SPV)	Bhivkund	17.07.2008
89	Goa Industrial Development Corporation	Gare Pelma Sector III	12.11.2008
90	West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited (WBPDCCL)	East of Damogoria (Kalyaneshwari)	27.02.2009
91	Karanpura Energy Ltd. (SPY of JSEB)	Mourya	26.06.2009

Hospitals in WCL

‡2422. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hospitals under Western Coal fields Ltd. (WCL) in Kanhan and Pench areas in Chhindwara district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the number of ambulances available in these hospitals, their models giving the details of the working and out of service vehicles, separately;

(e) whether the labourers working in these coal mines are getting full benefit from these ambulances; and

(d) the reasons for not repairing the vehicles which are out of order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL) has three hospitals one in Kanhan area and two in Pench area in Chhindwara district of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) The details of ambulances available in these three hospitals are as under:

Area	Name of Hospital	Registration No. of	Model of ambulance ambulance	Whether working or not
Kanhan	Kanhan area hospital	MP 28A-0841	Tata 407	Working
		MP28A-1408	Tata 407	Working
		MH 14-7476	Force	Working
Pench	Barkul Hospital	MP28-A-726	Tata 407	Working
		MH40-7472	Force Traveller	Working
		MP28-A-903	Tata 407	Surveyed Off Under process of hiring
	PRC Chhindwara	MOJ 8712	Mahindra	Working

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Yes, Sir. The labourers in the Kanhan area and Pench area are getting full benefit from these ambulances.

(c) Not applicable in view of the reply to part (b).

Buying of mining assets abroad by CIL

2423.DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Ltd. (CIL) is going to buy mining assets abroad and enter into joint ventures with certain overseas companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is total production of coal in India right now, and how much production is likely to be added due to these joint ventures;

(d) whether there are some other companies also in-line, to buy coal assets abroad; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Coal India Limited (CIL) is pursuing its foreign venture initiatives through Coal Videsh Division functioning at CIL (Headquarter), Kolkata. Through such initiatives CIL intends acquiring coal mining blocks abroad, to develop and produce from such mines and import the produce to India with the strategic objective of enhancing the energy security of the Nation. Australia, South Africa, Mozambique, United States of America (USA) and Indonesia have been selected by CIL for acquiring mining assets. CIL has also floated an Expression of Interest (Eoi) to select Strategic Partner(s) in USA, Australia, South Africa and Indonesia,

(c) The production of raw coal by CIL during 2008-09 is 403.73 million tonnes and from April, 2009 to June, 2009 is 96.15 million tonnes.

The foreign venture initiatives undertaken by Coal Videsh Division are in their initial stages and year-wise targets have not been finalized so far.

(d) and (e) The Government of India has also approved formation of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) through Joint Venture between Coal India Limited (CIL)/ Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)/ Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)/ National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC) and National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC), which has been registered as "International Coal Ventures Private Limited (ICVL)". The purpose of ICVL is to invest in coal resources abroad to meet the coal demand of partner companies.

Coal Production

†2424. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the annual coal production capacity of the country is able to meet the requirements of power sector;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last five years;
- (c) if not, in what manner the balance between demand and supply is maintained; and
- (d) the provisions of the present coal distribution policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) No Sir. As per Annual Plans/Five Year Plans, there is a gap between assessed demand and indigenous availability of coal for the power sector. The position during the last five years is as under :

Year	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Assessed demand (Mt)	279.52	307.16	322.00	330.00	373.00
Indigenous supply plan (Mt)					
Coal India Ltd.	240.61	255.65	272.63	279.40	292.93
Singereni Collieries Co. Ltd.	26.30	25.10	27.39	27.75	28.88
Others (Captive Sources of TPSs)	5.41	7.08	7.33	12.08	14.88
TOTAL :	272.32	287.83	307.35	319.23	336.69
Gap between demand & Supply Plan	7.20	19.33	14.65	10.77	36.31

- (c) The gap between demand and supply is being met by importing coal.

(d) As per the New Coal Distribution Policy of the Government 100% of the quantity as per the normative requirement of the power stations would be considered for supply of coal, through Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) by Coal India Limited (CIL) at notified prices to be fixed and declared by CIL. The power plants, which are yet to be commissioned but whose coal requirements has already been assessed and accepted by Ministry of Coal and linkage/letter of assurance (LOA) approved as well as future commitments would also be covered accordingly.

Coal Production

2425.SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that production of coal has been reduced and coal produced in India is of lower quality for which public sector and various industrial houses are compelled to import coal from other countries; and

(b) the details of coal blocks that have already been given to private and public sector companies till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No Sir. The production of coal has not been reduced though coal produced in India is mostly of lower quality. However, apart from the lower/unsuitable quality of coal, there is a gap between demand

and indigenous availability, which is resulting in import of coal by various users.

(b) As on 31st May, 2009, 201 coal blocks with geological reserves of about 45.95 billion tonnes have been allocated to the Govt./private companies. The Sector-wise details of coal blocks allocated to both Govt. sector and private sector are given in the table below:-

Sector / End Use		No of blocks	Geological Reserves (MT)
A. Public Sector Undertakings			
I	Power	54	18676.11
(a)	Captive Dispensation	31	7896.07
(b)	Govt. dispensation	23	10879.93
II	Commercial Mining	40	7424.58
III	Iron and Steel	3	1492.30
TOTAL (I + II+ III) :		97	27592.99
B. Private Companies			
(a)	Power	29	4925.67
(b)	Iron and Steel	57.16	7316.77
(c)	Small and Isolated	2	9.34
(d)	Cement	6.84	502.09
(e)	Ultra Mega Power Project	7	2607.24
(f)	Coal-to-Liquid Project	2	3000.00
SUB-TOTAL :		104	18361.11
GRAND TOTAL :		201	45954.10

Coal linkage to captive power plants

2426.PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently cracked the whip on power companies, by canceling coal linkage of 25 captive power plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for canceling coal linkage to power plants;

(c) whether the Ministry had held a meeting with private and public sector and steel companies on captive coal block allotment recently; and

(d) if so, the details of discussions held and the corrective steps taken to ensure that the companies growth is not affected due to coal shortages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) During the meeting of Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) held on 22/23rd October, 2008, the Committee, *inter alia*, reviewed the status of linkages issued to Captive Power Plants where neither plants have been commissioned nor Fuel Supply Agreements concluded with the coal companies for allocation of coal. The Committee had recommended cancellation of linkages of many cases, where the Committee felt that the linkage holder has not set up the project or where the progress in setting up the project was not satisfactory. However, while approving the minutes of the meeting, the Competent Authority had directed that these cases may be revisited for further review. Coal India Limited was accordingly directed to review these cases and to send their comprehensive status and recommendations to the Ministry. Out of such review cases, there were 25 cases, where linkage holder did not respond to the letters of the concerned coal companies seeking status of their projects or where a coal block has been allocated for the project for which linkage has been granted. It was, therefore, decided to cancel these linkages with immediate effect. However, if the project developer desires to apply for seeking fresh Letter of Assurance for the project, as per provisions of New Coal Distribution Policy, he may do so as per the prescribed procedure. A list of cases where cancellation of linkages have been approved is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) 201 Coal blocks with geological reserve of 45 billion tonnes have already been allocated to private and public sector companies up to May, 2009. Out of these, 90 coal blocks with geological reserve of 26.19 billion tonnes have been allocated for Power generation, and 60 coal blocks with geological reserves of 8.8 billion tonnes to iron and steel manufacturing companies. Allocation is a continuous process, and blocks could be offered in future as well.

Statement

List of cases where cancellation of linkages have been approved

Sl. No.	Name of the Unit	Capacity (MW)	Qty (in mtpa)	Coal Company
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Neo Metallica Ltd.	50	0.220	ECL
2.	Brahmi Impex Pvt Ltd	50	0.115	ECL
3.	Shyam Steel Industries	50	0.115	ECL
4.	Rohit Ferro Tech Ltd	30	0.138	ECL
5.	Howrah Gases Ltd	12	0.055	ECL
6.	Dhampur Sugar Mills Ltd	23	0.125	CCL
7.	SRF Ltd	12	0.060	CCL
8.	Sunil Sponge Pvt Ltd	16	0.094	SECL

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Devi Iron & Power Pvt Ltd	24	0.141	SECL
10.	Shivalaya Ispat & Power Pvt Ltd	16	0.094	SECL
11.	Rameshwaram Steel & Power Pvt Ltd	12	0.071	SECL
12.	Shri Shyam Ispat India Pvt Ltd	12	0.071	SECL
13.	M.S.P. Steel & Power Ltd	16	0.094	SECL
14.	Vandana JMG Power & Steel Ltd	12	0.077	SECL
15.	Agarwal Sponge Pvt Ltd	16	0.094	SECL
16.	NR Sponge Pvt Ltd	12	0.071	SECL
17.	DSM Sugar, Rauzagaon	22	0.120	SECL
18.	Shyam Ferro Alloys	25	0.137	MCL
19.	Aarti Steel Ltd	40	0.023	MCL
20.	KR Alloys Ltd	25	0.169	MCL
21.	OCL Iron & Steel Ltd	8	0.047	MCL
22.	Bindal Sponge Ltd.	8	0.047	MCL
23.	L&T	60	0.570	MCL
24.	GMR Technologies & Industries Ltd., AP	16	0.036	MCL
25.	Hindalco Industries	725	3.060	MCL

Closure of Subhiksha

2427.SHRI P. R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any complaint on closing down of Subhiksha retail shops chain; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHIED): (a) and (b) Shri Anil Kumar, an ex-employee of the company has made a complaint alleging non-payment of salary for three months and closure of all units without any communication from the management.

Scrutiny of statutory reports of corporate houses

2428.SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated steps for augmenting scrutiny/ surveillance of statutory reports of listed corporate houses, in particular, in the light of disclosure of financial fraud and manipulation of reports in M/s. Satyam Computers, abetted by its statutory auditors, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the quantity and quality of augmentation of scrutiny and surveillance mechanism and the procedure being followed;

(c) the details of complaints received, if any, by Government from the public, alleging frauds of similar nature and abetted by audit firms of other corporate houses;

(d) the action taken thereon; and

(e) the lacunae, if any, in the existing legislations hindering the required action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) The Government has powers of inspection of the books of accounts of companies and also to investigate their affairs, under the Companies Act, 1956; cases relating to listed companies are taken on priority. The Government has set up an electronic registry with round the clock access through internet. The audited accounts are also displayed on the electronic registry for general viewing. The Registrars of Companies also undertake scrutiny of the statutory reports filed by such companies to see any violation/irregularities committed by the companies.

In the light of developments in the matter of Satyam, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has initiated a process of peer review of the working papers (relating to financial statements of listed companies) of auditors, in respect of companies constituting the NSE-Nifty 50, the BSE Sensex and some listed companies outside the Sensex and Nifty chosen on random basis, in relation to the last quarterly results and the last audited annual financial results of these companies.

The objective of peer review is to ensure that there is no material misstatement of assets and liabilities, compliance with the Accounting Standards has been made and to examine the existence of fraud or other material error in the financial statements.

(c) No complaint alleging fraud of similar nature has been received.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Violation of Companies Act

2429.SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases were filed against companies for violating the Companies Act, 1956; and

(b) how many companies have been identified as vanishing companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) A total of 18183 cases were filed against companies for violating the Companies Act, 1956 during the period 01.01.2008 to 31.03.2009.

(b) Out of the companies that came out with IPOs during 1992-2005, a total of 238 companies were identified as vanishing companies, of which 117 companies have been traced back, resulting in the number of vanishing companies being reduced to 121.

Funds earmarked for the North-Eastern Region

2430.SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the Ministries are required to allocate a fixed percentage of funds every year for the development of North Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last five years, from 2004-05 onwards;

(c) whether the Ministry had ever-examined or inspected the development works carried out by utilizing the above funds; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE):
(a) All Central Ministries/Departments, except a few which are specifically exempted, are required to allocate a minimum of 10% of their Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) every year for the development of North Eastern Region. The Ministries/Departments which are presently, exempted from such allocations are:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Atomic Energy | 10. Petroleum & Natural Gas |
| 2. Company Affairs | 11. Planning |
| 3. Economic Affairs | 12. Revenue |
| 4. Expenditure | 13. Social Justice & Empowerment * |
| 5. External Affairs | 14. Steel |
| 6. Legal Affairs | 15. Space |
| 7. Earth Sciences | 16. Science & Technology |
| 8. Official Language | 17. Scientific & Industrial Research |
| 9. Personnel & Training | |

(b) The total allocations made by non-exempted Ministries/ Departments for the development of North Eastern Region during the last five years since 2004-05 are as given below:

Year	Allocation made (in Rs. cr.)
2004-05	6786.71
2005-06	9150.14
2006-07	10731.52
2007-08	12941.34
2008-09	14793.42
	(Prov.)

(c) and (d) No Sir, the examination or inspection of the developmental works carried out by various Ministries in the North Eastern Region is primarily the responsibility of the Ministries concerned.

Green India programme

2431.DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had planned to bring six million hectares of land under forests in 10 years, as part of its Green India programme;

(b) if so, the achievement thereof;

(c) whether Government, having planned to green 12.6 lakh hectares under the compensatory afforestation scheme, could manage to do so in only 5.32 lakh hectares till April, 2008, achieving 42 per cent of its target;

(d) whether only 24,923 hectares was afforested between 2005-08, compared to the target of 2.66 lakh hectares under the scheme; and

(e) whether mandatory compensatory afforestation scheme is in shambles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Under the National Action Plan on Climate Change announced by the Central Government, a National Mission for a 'Green India' has been mooted as one of the eight missions to, *inter-alia*, help counter the effects of climate change through afforestation programme. The Ministry is implementing National Afforestation Programme scheme for regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining areas in the country. As on 31.03.2009, about 795 such projects have been approved in 28 States to cover a project area of 1.58 million ha.

(c) So far, about 13.04 lakh hectare of land including 7.5 lakh hectare of degraded forest land and 5.54 lakh hectare of non-forest land has been identified for raising compensatory afforestation in lieu of diversion of 11.82 lakh hectare of forest land for non-forest purposes. So far, compensatory afforestation has been achieved over 5.35 lakh ha area only.

(d) and (e) During the period from April 2005 to March 2009, about 1.05 lakh ha of forest land was identified for compensatory afforestation. No Compensatory afforestation could be carried out from April 2007 to March 2009 due to non-release of money earmarked for the purpose. However, compensatory afforestation has been carried out over 5.35 lakh ha of land during the period 25.10.1980 to 31.03.2007. To resume the compensatory afforestation in the States/UTs, comprehensive guidelines have been framed and communicated to them.

Law to stop cutting of trees

†2432. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government is taking strict steps by enacting an effective law, to stop the cutting of trees and forest areas; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the steps Government has taken so far, to protect the forests and wildlife in Pilibhit and the number of wild animals like lions, cheetah, etc. therein; and

(c) the details of the action initiated against the forest mafia, so far, and the number of persons identified amongst them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Strict enforcement of the Indian Forests Act, 1927, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 enables prevention of cutting of trees and forest areas. In addition, the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has enacted Protection of Tree Act, 1976 to regulate felling of trees in rural areas. No new Central Act is presently being considered for enactment to prevent cutting of trees and forest areas.

(b) The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has established two forest divisions in Pilibhit with about 225 officers and employees for providing protection to the forests and wildlife by enforcing the Acts as mentioned above. As reported, there are no lions and cheetah in the forests of Pilibhit. As per the wild animal census of 2007 there are about 36 tigers, 6 leopards and a variety of ungulates in the forests of Pilibhit

(c) The State Government of Uttar Pradesh, with the help of various provisions of the above mentioned Acts and with the help of the Indian Penal Code, the Gangster Act, the National Security Act, etc., has taken action against 353 forest mafia during the year 2009-10 in the State.

Threat of exodus by global warming

† 2433. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that India faces the largest threat of exodus from coastal areas due to threats of floods, drought and shortfall in agriculture productions posed by climate changes resulting from global warming;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this threat is likely to cause large scale migration from India's neighboring islands and from Bangladesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with action plan being worked on by Government to tackle this problem?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in its 4th Assessment Report published in 2007 has reported that future climate change is expected to have considerable impacts on natural resource system. Changes in the natural environment can affect human sustenance and livelihoods. This in turn, can lead to instability often followed by displacement of people and changes in occupancy and migration patterns. However, there is no conclusive study on climate change impact on migration of people.

Threats of global warming

2434. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the climate change committee of UN has expressed concern that if global warming is not checked in time, nearly 30 per cent species on the earth would become extinct;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether millions of people are likely to face water crisis because of ground water and the melting of Himalayan glacier on the large scale would lead to heavy destruction in the Gangetic plain; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in its 4th Assessment Report published in 2007 has reported that approximately 20-30% of plant and animal species assessed so far are likely to be at increasingly high risk of extinction as global mean temperatures exceed a warming of 2-3 degree C above pre-industrial levels.

(c) and (d) Scientific studies reveal that ample reserve of ground water is available in the areas underlain by Indo-Gangetic alluvial plains in the country. In the event of global warming the rainfall pattern is projected to change which, in turn, will affect the availability of ground water in space and time, in general. The threat of global warming *inter alia* includes changes in river hydrology, increases debris production and siltation of river in down stream region.

Adverse effects of air conditioners

†2435. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have got any estimate of the total number of air conditioners in use in the country;

(b) the extent to which heat generated from these machines affects the atmosphere;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government is aware that resentment among common people, who are out of the ambit of air conditioning system, is increasing gradually; and

(d) if so, how Government proposes to control this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) As per Refrigeration Air-conditioning Manufacturers Association (RAMA), the total population of room air conditioners is estimated to be approximately 10 million.

(b) The fossil fuel burnt, if any, to produce electricity for running the air conditioners only play an indirect role in affecting the atmosphere. Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has initiated the Standards and Labeling Programme in order to enhance energy efficiency of the air conditioners.

(c) and (d) India is subject to large degree of climate variability. As per studies conducted by India Meteorological Department (MD) annual mean temperature for the country as a whole has risen by 0.52°C over the period. India has released the National Action Plan on Climate Change to evolve a strategy that aims at adapting to climate change and enhancing the ecological sustainability of our development path.

Coal mining in reserved forests

2436.SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating a new formula for coal mining in reserved forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such action would adversely affect the forest cover; and

(d) if so, the reasons for such action and the steps to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The coal is extracted from the Coal Bearing Areas irrespective of reserve/protected forests, degraded forest or non-forest lands as per the requirement of the nation and economic viability of extraction. However, prior approval of the Central Government is required for mining of coal in the forest areas under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. So far, 50,818 ha of forest land including reserve forest has been diverted for coal mining in the country. A State-wise list of such diversions is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) The diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes is permitted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 after stipulating mitigative measures such as compensatory afforestation to reduce the adverse impact of the mining and other developmental activities on environment and ecology of the area.

Statement

*State-wise approval accorded for coal mining under the
Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980*

Name of State/UT	Number of Cases approved	Total Land Diverted (in ha)
1	2	3
Andaman & Nicobar Island	0	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	43	12709.62
Arunachal Pradesh	2	43.57
Assam	0	0.00
Bihar	0	0.00
Chandigarh	0	0.00
Chhattisgarh	49	12579.12
Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0	0.00
Daman & Diu	0	0.00
Delhi	0	0.00
Goa	0	0.00
Gujarat	0	0.00
Haryana	0	0.00
Himachal Pradesh	0	0.00
Jammu & Kashmir	0	0.00
Jharkhand	57	7545.33
Karnataka	0	0.00
Kerala	0	0.00
Lakshdeep	0	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	60	10980.37
Maharashtra	13	1815.09
Manipur	0	0.00
Meghalaya	0	0.00
Mizoram	0	0.00
Nagaland	0	0.00
Orissa	23	2899.99
Pondicherry	0	0.00

1	2	3
Punjab	0	0.00
Rajasthan	0	0.00
Sikkim	0	0.00
Tamil Nadu	0	0.00
Tripura	0	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	4	1984.83
Uttaranchal	0	0.00
West Bengal	3	260.03
TOTAL :	254	50817.949

Cleaning Delhi's environment

2437.SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has come up with a blue print to solve Delhi's pollution woes before the Commonwealth Games, 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to clear air pollution and river pollution of Yamuna and plan to clean environment in the capital before 2010 games?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is monitoring ambient air quality in Delhi with the help of National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI). At present, there are 09 manual and 06 continuous stations for monitoring ambient air in Delhi. Similarly, river Yamuna is monitored by the CPCB at 05 locations. The data is compiled, processed and analyzed leading to pollution control measures and other actions by concerned agencies.

A total of 11 Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) have been commissioned and 03 CETPs are under construction to treat industrial effluent in Delhi.

Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is being used as fuel for public road transport in Delhi. Metro network is being expanded in view of the Commonwealth Games-2010. Two natural gas based thermal power plants of 1708 MW are under installation. After commissioning of these two plants, Indra Prastha. Thermal Power Plant (coal based) would be decommissioned before Commonwealth Games 2010. More stringent emission norms for particulate matter have been prescribed for remaining coal based power plants in Delhi.

Municipal solid waste to the tune of 3200 tonnes per day is planned to be processed to produce biogas/ refuse driven fuel. Moreover, burning of leaves and plastic has been prohibited in Delhi.

Ban on polythene bags

†2438. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has worked on any concrete plan to ban polythene bags; if so, by when the ban would be implemented;

(b) whether Government has worked on any plan to decompose plastic waste as it does not decompose even in 100 years;

(c) whether Government has formulated any plan for collection and disposal of wastes and also for disposal of industrial and organic wastes keeping in view the protection of environment; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) The manufacture and use of polythene bags and recycling of plastic wastes are regulated under the Recycled Plastics Manufacture and Usage Rules, 1999 (as amended in 2003). As per these rules, manufacture, sale and use of carry bags less than 20 micron in thickness and less than 8 x12 inches in size are prohibited. Some States have prescribed more stringent norms for thickness of polythene bags and have banned their use in public/tourist places.

The Government has also notified the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000. Municipal Authorities are responsible for implementation of the provisions of these rules pertaining to collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of municipal solid wastes including plastic wastes.

The collection, storage, transportation, processing and disposal of hazardous waste are regulated under the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008. As per these rules, hazardous waste is to be disposed of by the industry either on its own or in a Common Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility (TSDF).

Dumping ground for e-waste

2439.DR. RAM PRAKASH:

SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that India is turning into a dumping ground for e-waste of developed nations;

(b) whether the Ministry intends to adopt the extended procedure responsibility for the disposal of e-waste in the country;

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (d) whether the major stake holders have been consulted in this regard; and
- (e) if so, their views and the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008, for proper management and handling of hazardous waste which includes e-waste. As per these Rules, only the actual users who are having environmentally sound recycling facilities are granted registration by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) for the purpose of recycling such waste. Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of e-waste have been formulated and published after consultation with the major stakeholders. These Guidelines include a reference to the concept of the Extended Producers Responsibility.

Delay in development projects due to environmental clearance

2440. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that many developmental projects are being delayed due to unnecessary delay by the Ministry; and
- (b) the details of time bound programme for clearance of projects by the Ministry?

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

Survey of flora and fauna

†2441. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any survey has been conducted by Government to identify and preserve flora and fauna on the verge of extinction in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of identified flora and fauna;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Salamanders are now on the verge of extinction and they are found only in few hilly areas like Darjeeling and North-East; and
- (d) if so, whether Government is taking concrete steps to preserve them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No systematic country-wide survey has been conducted to identify flora and fauna which are on the verge of extinction. The Zoological Survey of India has so far

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

surveyed and documented 91,364 species of fauna, out of which 413 are endangered species. The Botanical Survey of India has documented 45,968 species of flora, out of which 155 are endangered species.

(c) and (d) As per the IUCN Red Data List, Salamander is not on the verge of extinction. The species is distributed in Darjeeling district of West Bengal and some of the North-Eastern States. It is protected under Scheduled II, Part I of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, which are designated as 'Least Concern' according to IUCN Red Data List.

Coal exploitation in degraded forests

2442. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to allow coal exploitation in degraded forest lands of the country;

(b) if so, whether Government has analyzed the impact of deforestation of forest areas, since 60 per cent of the total forest land are degraded forests; and

(c) the details of actions proposed by Government to protect/forests in the country, in case of coal exploitation in degraded forest land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The coal is extracted from the Coal Bearing Areas irrespective of reserve / protected / degraded forests or non-forest lands as per the requirement of the nation and economic viability of extraction. However, prior approval of the Central Government is required for mining of coal in the forest areas under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The provisions of the Act and the mechanism established there under permits, diversion of forest land only when no alternatives were available. The land use for different purposes is also optimized. Further, the diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes is permitted after stipulating commensurate mitigative measures such as compensatory afforestation to reduce the adverse impact of the mining and other developmental activities on environment and ecology of the area. In addition, phased reclamation of the mined out areas is also stipulated in approval orders.

Death of tigers in Ranthambhor Tiger Reserve

†2443. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tiger deaths in Ranthambhor Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan during the last one year and the reasons for their death; and

(b) the number of tigers relocated to Sariska Wildlife sanctuary from Ranthambhor during the last one year and the future course of action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) During the last year, mortality of one tigress on 01.09.2008 has been reported by the State in the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve, due to territorial infighting.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) So far three tigers have been relocated in the Sariska Tiger Reserve from Ranthambhore on 28.6.2009 (male), 4.7.2008 (female) and 25.2.2009 (female) as per the recovery plan suggested by the Wildlife Institute of India. The State has informed that further translocation of tigers would be done in accordance with the said recovery plan.

Tigers in Ranthambhor and Sariska

†2444. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) when the last tiger census was conducted in Ranthambhor and Sariska tiger reserves and the present population of tigers in those reserves;

(b) whether Government has any proposal for protecting the tiger left in those reserves and whether any financial package is proposed for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The last estimation of tiger population in Ranthambhore and Sariska Tiger Reserves was conducted by the State in May, 2009. As reported by the State, at present there are 41 tigers in Ranthambhore and 3 tigers in Sariska.

(b) and (c) The State Government is taking conservation initiatives for protecting the tiger as per the guidelines issued by the National Tiger Conservation Authority, *vis-a-vis* the provisions contained in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, funding support is provided to the State for *in-situ* conservation of tigers in the said Tiger Reserves based on the proposals received. Further, 100% funding support is being provided by the Government of India for creation of the Special Tiger Protection Force in the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve for anti-poaching activities.

Impact of climate change on women

2445. PROF. M.S. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether studies are in progress to measure the impact of climate change on women living in poverty; and

(b) whether, under the proposed National Mission on Empowerment of Women, Government is planning to include strategies to enhance the coping capacity of women to withstand the adverse impact of climate change and global warming, with particular reference to water, fodder, fuel, wood and livelihood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No specific study has been commissioned to measure the impact of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

climate change on women living in poverty. However, the proposed National Mission for Socio-Economic Empowerment of Women envisages setting targets and monitoring the progress in respect of women centric and women related programmes, implemented by various ministries. Under the National mission, all schemes that provide safe drinking water to habitations, opportunities to provide equal access to community resources, etc., will be monitored with a view to enhance the coping capacity of women to withstand the adverse impact of climate change with particular reference to water, fodder, fuel, Wood and livelihood.

Lake conversation

†2446. SHRI SHREE GOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any plan has been formulated to conserve over 100 lakes in the country;
- (b) the potential use of water stored in those lakes;
- (c) whether it would be useful to undertake such a plan with regard to the ponds in cities in the country;
- (d) if so, whether any plan has been formulated in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) has been formulated by this Ministry for conservation and management of polluted and degraded lakes in urban and semi-urban areas of the country. NLCP is under implementation since June, 2001. Lakes covered under the Scheme are used for various purposes including drinking, irrigation, recreational etc.

(c) to (e) For conservation of ponds, two schemes of 'Repair, Renovation and Restoration (RRR) of water bodies, with domestic support and external assistance, are under implementation by Ministry of Water Resources, primarily for improvement of catchment areas of tank commands, increase in storage capacity, ground water recharge, improvement in agriculture and increased availability of drinking water.

Under the scheme covered by external assistance, States may take up projects for funding with 75% loan from the World Bank to be repaid by the States. The balance 25% is contributed by Government of India as Additional Central Assistance to the States for the projects. Under the domestic support scheme, funding is in the ratio of 25:75 (Centre: State) for non-special category States and in the ratio of 90:10 for special category States and drought prone/naxal affected/tribal areas.

Environment Impact Assessment System

2447. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to overhaul the process of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) system;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of representations received by Government against the EIA process during the last one year and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether Government proposes to upgrade the quality of EIA process and also to create National Environment Protection Authority for early clearance of various projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Ministry of Environment & Forests has proposed amendments in the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006, *vide* S.O. 195(E) dated 19th January, 2009 for obtaining comments / suggestions from all concerned. The proposed amendments, some of which are clarificatory in nature and some seek to make the notification more comprehensive, *inter-alia* include: (i) enhancement of threshold limit for construction projects from 20,000 sq.m. to 50,000 sq.m, (ii) modernization and expansion projects without increase in pollution load to be exempt from the provision of EIA Notification, 2006, (iii) prospecting of minerals to be exempt from EIA Notification, 2006, (iv) biomass based power plants upto 50 MW to be exempt from EIA, (v) category 'B' projects to be exempt from scoping for three years, and (vi) proactive / voluntary disclosure of information relating to grant of environmental clearance for ensuring effective implementation and enforcement of environmental regulation through the creations of societal vigil. The comments / suggestions on the proposed draft amendments have since been received from all concerned including (i) Ministries / Departments of Central Government, (ii) State Governments, (iii) Civil Society and (iv) Industry Associations. The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 provides a time limit of 365 days for finalization of the draft Notification from the date of its issue after taking into consideration the comments received.

(c) and (d) A proposal to set up a National Environment Protection Authority to strengthen enforcement and monitoring of compliance of environmental statutes and to improve environmental planning and management is in a conceptual stage.

Environment Protection Laws

2448. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

SHRI DARA SINGH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that India has been weak to enforce strictly the 20 Environment Protection Laws, as has been done in the United States;

(b) whether Government proposes to set up a Regulatory Authority on the lines of US's Empowerment Protection Agency; and

(c) if so, by when such a draft legislation is proposed to be brought forward by Government in Parliament as the present Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has proved to be toothless to punish polluters in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment & Forests is making efforts to improve the enforcement and compliance mechanism with respect to environmental laws. Institutional strengthening is an important part of this process. A proposal to strengthen the Central Pollution Control Board and to establish an Environment Protection Authority is in a conceptual stage, and is yet to be formalised.

Smuggling of skin and bone of wild animals

†2449. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number and details of cases of smuggling of skin and bones of wild animals that came to light during the last five years, State-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the total number of lions in our wild life sanctuaries was 40,000 in 1945, which has come down, to just 1600 in 2009;
- (c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to increase their number; and
- (d) the details of the policy of Government for protection of other wild animals besides lion, on the verge of extinction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) State-wise details of cases of smuggling of skins and bones of wild animals are not compiled and collated at Central Government level. However, as per the information available with the Regional Offices of Wildlife Crime Control Bureau located at Delhi, Jabalpur, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, total number of violations involving skins and bones of wildlife, which have come to their notice during the last five years are as under:

Year	Eastern Region Kolkata	Central Region, Jabalpur	Western Region, Mumbai	Northern Region, New Delhi	Southern Region, Chennai	Total
2004	10	Nil	7	2	1	20
2005	4	Nil	4	2	Nil	10
2006	2	Nil	6	Nil	Nil	8
2007	3	Nil	23	1	Nil	27
2008	7	Nil	11	Nil	Nil	18
TOTAL :	26	Nil	51	5	1	83

- (b) There are no authentic reports indicating that the total number of lions in wildlife sanctuaries were 40,000 in 1945. Presently, lions are found only in Gir forests in Gujarat and as per the estimation carried out in 2005, the total population of lions in Gir forests is 359 ± 10.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) The steps taken by the Government to protect and increase the population of wildlife, *inter alia*, include the following:

1. Threatened species of wildlife, including lions are placed in the Schedules of the Wildlife (Protection), Act, 1972, thereby according them the highest degree of protection.
2. The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has been amended from time to time and made more stringent against wildlife related offences.
3. A network of Protected Areas has been established to conserve wildlife and their habitats including rare animals.
4. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been set up to check illegal trade in wildlife and its products.
5. The State/ UT Governments have been requested to strengthen the field formations and intensify patrolling in and around wildlife rich areas.
6. Financial and technical assistance is extended to the State/UT Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz, 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tigers and 'Project Elephant' for providing better protection and conservation of wildlife.
7. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme - 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', a new component has been added for initiating 'Recovery Programme for critically endangered species and their habitats' during the 11th Five Year plan period.
8. India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) that regulates international trade, in wildlife and its derivatives.
9. India has bilateral arrangements with China and Nepal on combating wildlife crime.

Decrease in population of tigers

2450.SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tiger population has been decreasing over the years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is proposed to set up new tiger reserves in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As per the findings of the recent All India tiger estimation in 2008 using the refined methodology, the total country-level population of tiger is 1411 (mid value); the

lower and upper limits being 1165 and 1657 respectively, as indicated in the Statement (*See below*). The new findings are based on spatial occupancy of tigers and sampling such forests using camera traps in a statistical framework, which are not comparable to the earlier total count using pugmarks. The said findings indicate a poor status of tiger population in areas outside tiger reserves and protected areas. The tiger population, by and large, in tiger reserves and protected areas of the 17 tiger States are viable, while requiring ongoing conservation efforts.

(c) and (d) The National Tiger Conservation Authority has accorded 'in-principle' approval for creation of four new Tiger Reserves namely, Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh, Sunabeda in Orissa, Sahyadri in Maharashtra and Ratapani in Madhya Pradesh.

(e) Question does not arise.

Statement

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

State	Tiger km ²	No.	Tiger Numbers	
			Lower limit	Upper limit
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Shivalik-Gangetic Plain Landscape Complex</i>				
Uttarakhand	1901	178	161	195
Uttar Pradesh	2766	109	91	127
Bihar	510	10	7	13
Shivalik-Gangetic	5177	297	259	335
<i>Central Indian Landscape Complex and Eastern Ghats Landscape Complex</i>				
Andhra Pradesh	14126	95	84	107
Chhattisgarh	3609	26	23	28
Madhya Pradesh	15614	300	236	364
Maharashtra	4273	103	76	131
Orissa	9144	45	37	53
Rajasthan	356	32	30	35
Jharkhand **	1488		Not Assessed	
Central Indian	48610	601	486	718

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

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

** Data was not amenable to population estimation of tiger. However, available information about the landscape indicates low densities of tiger in the area ranging from 0.5 to 1.5 per 100 km².

Arbitrary exploitation of mineral resources

†2451. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is formulating any policy to maintain environmental balance in view of arbitrary exploitation of minerals from hills and rivers, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, whether Government is not sensitive towards environmental balance due to which we are facing drought-like situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As per the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006, mining projects with lease area of 5 ha and above are also required to obtain prior

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

environmental clearance. These projects are appraised by a multi disciplinary Expert Appraisal Committee constituted for the purpose, based on the detailed environment impact assessment study carried out by the project proponent, which *inter-alia* include the likely impacts of the proposed project on different components of the environment and the requisite Environment Management Plan. The necessary environmental safeguard measures are stipulated while granting environmental clearance to such projects for their implementation during the project cycle for ensuring sustainable development. Further, mining of minerals is carried out as per the approved mine plan.

Pollution due to cement factories in Rewa

†2452 SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cement factories set up in Rewa and Satna districts in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) the number of people who suffered from various diseases due to pollution by these factories and how many of them died;
- (c) the action taken by Government in this regard; and
- (d) the details of measures taken to control this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) There are 06 cement plants in Rewa and Satna districts of Madhya Pradesh, out of which, 05 are reportedly complying with the pollution control norms. Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board has been asked by the Central Pollution Control Board to take necessary action against the non-compliant plant. No environmental health monitoring study has been undertaken by the Government for these cement plants.

Conservation of forests

2453.SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of new initiative contemplated by Government in conserving forests and improving profit margin of forest produce;
- (b) the details of revenue earned during the last five years from various States; and
- (c) the steps taken to protect and preserve the forests in the North Eastern Region and the details of the proposal and the amount allocated therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The new initiatives contemplated by the Government in .conserving forests include:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1. Expanding the scope of the Integrated Forest Protection Scheme by adding components such as:
 - (i) Protection and Conservation of Sacred Groves
 - (ii) Conservation and Restoration of Unique Vegetation & Ecosystem
 - (iii) Control and Eradication of Forest Invasive Species
 - (iv) Preparedness for meeting challenges of Bamboo flowering and improving management of Bamboo forests (renaming the scheme as Intensification of Forest Management).
2. Provision of additional central assistance for the Accelerated Programme of Restoration and Regeneration of Forest Cover with an allocation of Rs. 500.00 crores has been introduced in the Union Budget of 2009-10.
3. Expanding the scope of the present capacity building schemes for including Training and Capacity Building of frontline forestry personnel, personnel of other services and other stakeholders including elected representatives of people, local bodies, NGOs, school teachers and others.
4. Under the National Action Plan on Climate Change announced by the Government, a National Mission for a 'Green India' has been mooted as one of the eight mission to *inter alia* help counter the effects of climate change through afforestation programmes.

Forest Produce is classified either as Timbers or Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFP). Timber is sold by Forest Department which fixes the reserve price of timber from time to time. Regarding the minor forest produce, no minimum support price has been fixed for them by Government of India.

(b) The National Forest Policy, 1988 lays emphasis on forests meeting the requirements of fuel-wood, fodder, minor forest produce and small timber of the rural and tribal populations. Therefore, the emphasis of the role of forests has shifted to meeting the requirements of the people from that of revenue generation. The revenue collected by various States / UTs in the course of Sustainable Management of Forests is not collated at the level of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

(c) In the North East Region of the country, the Ministry has been implementing the following schemes for the protection and preservation of forests:—

- (i) The Integrated Forest Protection Scheme under which the Ministry provides financial assistance to the North Eastern States for protection of forests. Under this Scheme the main components of works include forest fire control and management, survey and demarcation of forest areas; preparation of working plans and infrastructure development. The State-wise amount allotted during the last two years are:

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	States	2007-08	2008-09
1	Assam	496.00	400.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	308.42	282.84
3	Manipur	143.55	206.843
4	Meghalaya	86.00	189.00
5	Mizoram	414.37	410.373
6	Nagaland	365.4264	222.479
7	Sikkim	120.6648	273.79
8	Tripura	98.593	156.00
TOTAL :		2033.024	2141.325

(ii) The Management of Perspective Gregarious Flowering of Muli Bamboo in the North Eastern Region (a 100% Central Sponsored Scheme) to provide financial assistance to the North Eastern States to take preventive and control measures for mitigating the adverse effects of flowering of bamboo and to promote utilization of the harvested bamboo alongwith regeneration and re-stocking of the forest areas affected by the gregarious flowering. The State-wise funds released to the States during the entire period of the Scheme is given below:

(Rs in crore)

Sl. No.	Implementing States	Amount released during FY 2007-08	Amount released during FY 2008-09
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.2275	00.25
2.	Assam	2.045	2.204
3.	Manipur	3.000	1.456
4.	Meghalaya	3.500	1.59
5.	Mizoram	5.263	5.00
6.	Nagaland	1.6810	0.0
7.	Tripura	5.6850	4.2
8.	ICFRE	0.00	0.30
GRAND TOTAL :		21.4015	15.00

(iii) The Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats scheme which provides assistance to the State /UTs Government for the protection of wildlife and their habitats. The major components under the scheme include:

- (I) Support to protected areas
- (II) Protection of wildlife Outside Protected Areas
- (III) Recovery programmes for critically endangered species and habitats.

The funds released during the last two years in respect of the North Eastern States are:-

(In Rs. Lakh)

S.No.	State/UT	2007-08 (actual release)	2008-09 (actual release)
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	125.05	193.31
2.	Assam	81.78	161.095
3.	Manipur	105.90	100.905
4.	Meghalaya	64.88	58.007
5.	Sikkim	159.22	187.73
6.	Mizoram	169.46	289.09
7.	Nagaland	19.11	28.415
8.	Tripura	36.00	0
TOTAL :		761.40	1018.552

(iv) The National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme being implemented through a two-tier decentralized mechanism of Forest Department Agency (FDA) at Forest Division Level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level. A total of 139 FDAs are being operationalized in North-Eastern States. Rehabilitation of jhumlands (shifting cultivation) have been given specific focus under the programme, and so far 32 jhum projects out of 33 sanctioned projects under NAP Scheme have been sanctioned in NE States. The State-wise details are as under

S.No.	State/UT	2007-08 Fund released	2008-09 Fund released
1	2	3	4
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.85	3.25
2.	Assam	8.58	9.78
3.	Manipur	12.37	9.51
4.	Meghalaya	5.94	4.69
5.	Sikkim	11.28	6.63
6.	Mizoram	16.75	13.61

1	2	3	4
7.	Nagaland	7.75	6.64
8.	Tripura	5.02	0.89
TOTAL :		72.55	55.00

Per capita emissions in India

†2454. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that per capita emissions in India is less than that in USA and England;
- (b) if so, the details thereof in India, USA and England;
- (c) whether Government is considering to take any measures to lessen the present level of emission in India; and
- (d) if so, the facts thereof and the effects of said emission on the life of common man and agriculture in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As per UNDP Human Development Report 2008, the per capita CO2 emissions in India are only 1.2 tonnes as compared to 20.6 and 9.8 of United Kingdom respectively.

(c) and (d) India is signatory to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol. While India does not have any Green House Gases (GHG) abatement commitments under the Kyoto Protocol, a range of policies and programs have been followed that include improving energy efficiency & conservation as well setting up of Bureau of Energy Efficiency, power sector reforms, promoting hydro and renewable energy, promotion of clean coal technologies, coal washing & efficient utilization of coal, afforestation and conservation of forests, reduction of gas flaring, use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport, encouraging mass rapid transport systems and environmental quality management. These measures help achieve better energy intensity while addressing climate change as co-benefit.

According to Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Ministry of Agriculture, no definite evidence of variation in foodgrain production in the country has been noticed, as the process of climate change is slow and the effects are felt over several decades. As per the preliminary assessment of projected impacts on agriculture, undertaken at the time of the preparation of India's First National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), a mixed projection of yields of various crops across regions has been indicated and no definite trends have yet been established.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Environmental approval to thermal power projects of Maharashtra

2455.SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of ENVIROMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and particulars of thermal power projects submitted by the Maharashtra Government pending with the Ministry, including those at Dhopawae 2x800 MW and Koradi 3x600 MW;

(b) the reasons for the delay in approving the proposals; and

(c) by when the proposals would be finally disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Two thermal power projects, namely, 2x800 MW thermal power plant at Dhopawae, and 3x660 MW expansion proposal at Koradi thermal power station have been received for grant of Environment Clearance.

(b) and (c) The proposal for Dhopawae thermal power plant was placed before the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) in its meetings held on 15.10.2007 & 10.02.2009 and the committee asked for certain additional information/clarifications. As the requisite information was not received, the proposal has been delisted on 22.6.2009 and will be reconsidered by the EAC after the receipt of required information. The proposal for Koradi thermal power plant has been received recently on 15.6.2009 and will be placed before the EAC for its consideration in the meeting to be held in August, 2009.

Employment to forest dwellers

2456.SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been evolved by the Ministry for giving employment to forest dwellers under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (NREGP);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of States implementing the scheme with details of mandays generated and amount of wages paid by those States during 2008-09?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No Sir. However, Ministry of Environment & Forests and Ministry of Rural Development have jointly issued convergence guidelines between National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) and National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme for afforestation and related activities. 18 districts have been identified for piloting convergence initiatives.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Power of nodal officers in environmental matters

†2457. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

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

- (a) in which States the nodal officers of the Department of Environment and Forests have been empowered to settle the environmental matters of the concerned States;
- (b) whether the Ministry is contemplating upon any plan to seek common people's advice on matters relating to environment through website; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has designated some officers of the Ministry as nodal officers for different States for undertaking visits and discussing pending environmental and forestry matters with the concerned officers in the States for finding appropriate solutions.

(b) and (c) The draft legislations and notifications are placed on the website of the Ministry for seeking comments from the stakeholders and general public.

Conservation of Dal Lake

2458.PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN-SOZ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether conservation of Dal Lake in Kashmir is receiving any attention currently from the Ministry; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The project of 'Conservation & Management Plan for Dal-Nagin Lake in Srinagar', J&K has been sanctioned in September, 2005 for Rs. 298.76 crore under the National Lake Conservation Plan of Ministry of Environment & Forests. Works relating to various components of the project namely, sewerage system and sewage treatment plants, hydraulic works, solid waste management, catchment area treatment, dredging and de-weeding, shore-line development works, public awareness & participation, etc. are under execution by J&K Lakes & Waterways Development Authority, the State implementing agency for the project. An amount of Rs. 142.87 crore has been made available so far by Government of India to the implementing agency for the project, against which an expenditure of Rs. 131.32 crore has been incurred till end of May, 2009. Three sewage treatment plants having a treatment capacity of 15.2 mld (million litres per day) have been commissioned.

Grants to Maharashtra

2459.SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the details of amount given as grant by the Ministry to the Maharashtra Government during the last three years for various projects;

(b) whether the State Government has used this grant to the particular project or diverted this fund to other project(s); and

(c) whether the State Government has been submitting periodical reports on the expenditure to the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The details of funds given by Union Ministry of Environment and Forests to the State of Maharashtra under its schemes/projects during the last three years (2006-07 to 2008-09) are as under:

Sl.No.	Name of Scheme	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)		
		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1.	National Lake Conservation Plan	230.00	100.00	75.50
2.	National River Conservation Plan	1009.00	521.47	0.00
3.	National Afforestation Programme	1593.09	2991.77	2187.03
4.	Intensification of Forest Management	103.46*	232.84	232.00
5.	Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats	223.85	331.33	390.22
6.	Project Tiger	238.56	295.72	411.12
7.	Project Elephant	50.40	56.30	77.76
8.	Environment Education and Awareness (Directorate of Social Forestry, Maharashtra)	237.30	232.53	236.35
9.	Environmental Information System (ENVIS) (Environment Department, Maharashtra)	0.00	6.93	2.67
10.	Assistance for Abatement of Pollution (Maharashtra Pollution Control Board)	0.00	0.00	35.42
11.	Common Effluent Treatment Plant (Maharashtra Pollution Control Board)	223.03	252.09	323.94

*Funds were sanctioned but adjusted against the earlier unspent funds.

(b) The grants have been utilized for the projects for which these were sanctioned.

(c) Yes, Sir. Periodical reports/ utilization certificates on the schemes/projects are submitted to this Ministry; as required by the Government of Maharashtra.

Implementation of environmental policies

2460.SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any periodic review for implementation of environmental policies and/or of the steps taken to combat the global warming is conducted; and

(b) if so, when the last review was conducted and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) A Coordination Committee chaired by Prime Minister called Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change to coordinate national action for assessment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change was constituted on 6th June 2007.

(b) The last Meeting of the Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change was held on 3rd June 2008. As decided by the Council, the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) was released on 30th June 2008 to outline India's strategy to meet the challenge of Climate Change. The National Action Plan outlines steps that will enable the country to adapt to climate change and enhance the ecological sustainability of India's development path. National Missions envisaged under the NAPCC are at various stages of finalization.

Processing of agricultural produce

2461.SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India currently processes only five per cent of its total agricultural produce;

(b) whether the value of agricultural produce wasted due to lack of cold chain and other infrastructure amounts to a staggering Rs. 30,000 crore a year;

(c) whether Government is attempting to raise the capacity of the food processing industries to process at least 20 per cent of the total agricultural produce by 2015; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) It is estimated that the processing level in the food processing sector has gone up from 6% to 10 % and value addition has gone up from 20% to 26% during last five years. The level of wastage of agricultural food items is estimated to be about Rs. 50,000 crores occurring at various stages of handling after harvesting due to fragmented farming, lack of adequate post-harvest infrastructure such as lack of Primary Processing Centres, Collection Centres, cold chain facilities, transportation; proper storage facilities etc. However, there has been substantial increase in rate of growth of the food processing industry from 7% in 2003-04 to 14.06 % in 2006-07 which has contributed in reduction of wastages and better value addition.

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

envisages financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid @ 50% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 75% for North Eastern Region and difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs.10.00 crore. The initiatives are aimed at filling the gaps in the supply chain, strengthening of cold chain infrastructure, establishing value addition with infrastructural facilities like sorting, grading, packaging and processing for horticulture including organic produce, marine, dairy, poultry, etc. Other agencies of the Government like National Horticulture Board (NHB), Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and State Government also provide assistance for cold storages under their respective schemes.

In order to increase level of processing and to promote food processing industries to exploit both, domestic as well as international market potential for processed food products, Vision 2015 Document has been finalized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), which envisages tripling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20% value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015. An integrated strategy for promotion of agribusiness-Vision, Strategy and Action Plan for the Food Processing Sector has also been approved by the Government. There has been increase in substantial rate of growth of the food processing industry from 7% in 2003-04 to 14.06 % in 2006-07.

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

the area of Human Resource Development including food processing sector such as grapes, meat and poultry processing, through setting up of National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM), Indian Grape Processing Board, National Meat and Poultry Processing Board and Upgradation of Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology (IICPT).

In order to give boost to growth of FPI sector, the Government has allowed under Income Tax Act, a deduction of 100% of profit for first five years and 25% of profits for the next five years in case of new agro processing industries set up to process, preserve and package fruits and vegetables. Fruit & vegetable products are already exempted from payment of excise duty.

Level of food processing

2462.SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

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

- (a) whether India's present level of food processing is extremely low and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether India's export of processed food in global trade is extremely poor;
- (c) how India compares with neighbouring/developed countries;
- (d) what has been the achievements during last five years; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Although the processing level in our country has been low but it is improving now. The average processing level has improved from 6% in 2003-04 to 10% in 2007-08.

(b) India's share in global trade is 1.30%.

(c) The processing level in the country are relatively low as compared to the same in developed / some neighboring countries.

(d) During last five years the export data of processed food products is given below:

(Qty. in MT)

(Value in Rs. Lakhs)

2003-04		2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
429798	112581	592281	155129	992556	262680	849258	267887	774849	245145

(Source: APEDA)

Exports of Marine products from India during the last five years is as given below:

Year	Quantity in Ton	Value Rs. Crore	Value US \$(Million)
2004-05	461,269	6642.25	1477.49
2005-06	512,067	7239.23	1642.84
2006-07	612,549	8356.87	1851.45
2007-08	541,600	7614.15	1897.41
2008-09	1602,755	18601.46	1907.16

(Source:MPEDA)

(e) For the development of the food-processing sector, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has taken various initiatives to strengthen the Food Processing Infrastructure; MFPI has approved a scheme for Mega Food Parks, Cold Chain, Value Added Centres and Modernization of Abattoirs. The Infrastructure scheme envisages a well-defined Agri/horticultural-processing zone containing state of the art processing facilities with support infrastructure and well established supply chain. It aims to provide a mechanism to bring together farmers, processors and retailers and link agricultural production to the market so as to ensure maximization of value addition, minimization of wastages and improving farmers' income. The primary objective of the scheme is to facilitate establishment of an integrated value chain, with processing at the core and supported by requisite forward and backward linkages.

Other strategic initiatives during 11th Plan include a scheme for Cold Chain, value addition and Preservation Infrastructure with an objective to provide integrated and complete cold chain and preservation infrastructure facilities without any break from the farm gate to the consumer. The scope of component of Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition Centre, Packaging Centres and Irradiation facilities has been broadened to allow flexibility and project planning. Horticultural produce has been included for support under Integrated Cold Chain facilities. The scheme covers the following components:-

- a) Minimal Processing Centres at the farm level and this centre is to have facility for weighing, sorting, grading, waxing, pre-cooling, CA/MA Cold Storage, Normal Storage and IQF.
- b) Mobile Pre-cooling vans and Reefer Trucks.
- c) Distribution hubs with CA/MA chambers/cold storage/variable humidity chambers, packing facility, CIP Fog treatment, IQF and blast freezing.
- d) Irradiation facility.

Modernization of Abattoirs is a scheme-targeting infrastructure for the meat processing industry. It aims to upgrade qualitative and quantitative capacities of the abattoirs, which will be linked, with

commercial processing of meat, both for domestic consumption and exports. The financial assistance (grant-in-aid) is being extended at 50% and 75% of the cost of plant & machineries and technical civil works in general and difficult areas respectively subject to a maximum of Rs. 15 crores for each project. The Ministry has approved (in principle) to set up ten abattoirs in the country with a total cost of Rs. 127.00 crores. An amount of Rs.7.94 crores has been released.

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

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

The Scheme for Human Resource Development focuses on developing technologists, managers, Entrepreneurs and manpower for quality management in Food Processing. The scheme also aims at development of rural entrepreneurship and transfer of technology for processing of food products by utilizing locally grown raw material and providing "Hands-on" experience at such production cum training centres, while according priority to SC/ST/OBC and women minorities candidates.

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

Fish processing technology

2463.SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that though the domestic fish production is touching over 7.25 million tones annually and 50 per cent is exported to ASEAN region, their processing level still remains stagnant;

(b) if so, whether Government would take steps for involvement of higher fish processing technologies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) The domestic production of Fish is at the level of 7.58 million tons (provisional) during the year 2008-09. The total marine products exported from India during the year 2008-09 is 6,02,835.00 tons worth Rs.8607.94 crores. Out of this, the exports to ASEAN countries accounted for 65,822 tons (10.92% of the quantity exported), worth Rs.613.46 crores.

Government of India has taken various steps to improve the growth of fish processing sector. Marine Products Exports Development Authority (MPEDA) operates various schemes for modernization of fish processing units for export. These schemes are instrumental in setting up infrastructure for seafood processing and value addition in order to cater the need of developed markets. During 2008, MPEDA launched new Technology Upgradation Scheme for Marine Products aimed at promoting infrastructure development for high value addition of marine products. Besides, MPEDA is providing assistance for setting up of quality control laboratories, for processors/pre-processors to construct/renovate captive/independent pre-processing centres, as per European Union standards, for upgradation of seafood plants to EU standards etc.

Further, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries also extends financial assistance to fish processing units for setting up, modernization and upgradation under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Modernization. During the year 2008-09 the Ministry has provided financial assistance of Rs.3.9 crores to 16 fish processing units in the country.

Food processing units in Karnataka

2464. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects received from Karnataka for setting up food processing units in the State, which are pending for clearance;

(b) the number, out of them, which are pending for more than three years and those which are pending for less than three years, but more than one year; and

(c) by when they are likely to be cleared?

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

Earlier all the applications for such grants were received from all over the country through the State Nodal Agencies in the Ministry. These applications were then Centrally processed and grants disbursed in the Ministry itself. This used to involve avoidable delays. Hence, with a view to enlarge the outreach of this scheme to each nook and corner of the country, accelerate the pace of disposal and to take the Government to door steps of the people, the whole procedure of receipt of application under the Scheme, its appraisal and calculation of grant eligibility as well as disbursement of funds has been completely decentralized from 2007-08. Under this new procedure any entrepreneur /applicant can file application with the neighborhood Bank branch/Financial Institutions (FIs). The Bank/FIs appraise the applications and then calculates the eligible grant amount as per the detailed guidelines given to them by the Ministry in this regard. Banks/FIs appraisal report and recommendation for the grant is transmitted to the Ministry through E-Portal which has been established for this purpose. After the recommendation is received from any Bank/FIs through the E-Portal Ministry sanctions the same and transfers the funds also through the same E-Portal.

Under the decentralized procedure, the applications are received directly by the Banks/FIs, hence the data for receipt of the applications for 2007-08 and 2008-09 is not maintained centrally by the Ministry. However, for the State of Karnataka, during the last three years *i.e.* 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09, out of 133 applications received under the scheme, 108 applications were approved for which an amount of Rs. 1773.805 lakhs were disbursed. The Ministry release the funds in the shape of grants-in-aid to the agencies/ entrepreneurs depending upon the availability of funds within the budget provision from year to year basis.

Public sector food processing projects

2465.SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number with details, of the public sector food processing projects under implementation and those likely to come up by December, 2010, with products and their capacities at optimum level;
- (b) whether existing public sector projects are earning reasonable profit; and
- (c) if not, the steps being aken to make them profitable?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is not implementing any public sector food processing project at present. However, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) extends financial assistance in the country in the form of grant-in-aid to implementing agencies/entrepreneurs @ 25% of the cost of Plant & Machinery and Technical Civil Works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas and 33.33% subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakhs in Difficult areas under the Scheme of Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries.

Apart from the above, Ministry of Food Processing Industries is also implementing the following plan schemes: i) Scheme for Infrastructure Development with major components *i.e.* Mega Food

Park, Cold Chain, Modernization of Abattoirs and Value Added Centres, ii) Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards and R&D iii) Scheme for Human Resource Development, iv) Scheme for Strengthening of Institution and v) Scheme for Upgradation of Quality of Street Food.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Food processing units

†2466. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated requirement of food processing facilities in the country and the availability of these facilities in the States/Union Territories;

(b) the number of food processing units approved in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the details of amount allocated to the States/Union Territories during the said period, sector-wise;

(d) the details of schemes pending or under implementation in the country, State-wise;

(e) the details of units closed during the past few years; and

(f) the details of steps taken to make these units operational?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has not conducted any study in respect of estimated requirement of food processing facilities in the country and the availability of such facilities in the States/ Union Territories. However, the level of wastage of agricultural food items is estimated to be about Rs. 50,000 crores occurring at various stages of handling after harvesting due to fragmented farming, provisions in Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development & Regulation) Act, lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage and processing facilities etc. Vision Document 2015 finalized by the Ministry envisages trebling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015.

(b) to (f) The data on approval and closure of food processing units in the country is not centrally maintained by the Ministry. Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) extends financial assistance in the country in the form of grant-in-aid to implementing agencies/entrepreneurs @ 25% of the cost of Plant & Machinery and Technical Civil Works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas and 33.33% subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakhs in Difficult areas under the Scheme of Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of food processing industries in the meat, fish fruits, vegetables, grain milling, dairy products and beverages. Since financial

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

assistance schemes are project oriented, no funds are allocated State-wise. The State-wise details of food processing units to which financial assistance has been provided are given in the Statement (*See below*).

Apart from the above, Ministry of Food Processing Industries is also implementing the following plan schemes: i) Scheme for Infrastructure Development with major components *i.e.* Mega Food Park, Cold Chain, Modernization of Abattoirs and Value Added Centres, ii) Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards and R&D iii) Scheme for Human Resource Development, iv) Scheme for Strengthening of Institution and v) Scheme for Upgradation of Quality of Street Food.

Statement

Food Processing Units

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of State	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
	Approved	Amount released	Approved	Amount released	Approved	Amount released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	47	966.353	43	947.49	48	908.999
Andman & Nicobar	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	1	17.67
Assam	19	964.400	12	442.17	17	176.79
Bihar	6	38.165	5	83.915	2	42.3
Chandigarh	1	4.339	6	138.08	0	0
Chhattisgarh	9	119.890	0	0	10	163.725
Delhi	28	524.601	0	0	7	160.65
Goa	0	0	1	17.00	1	24.57
Gujarat	21	615.857	32	544.06	39	714.81
Haryana	31	684.210	19	418.72	23	349.415
Himachal Pradesh	12	210.465	12	325.09	5	152.745
Jammu & Kashmir	8	69.900	9	109.855	3	22.05
Jharkhand	4	52.110	2	9.09	0	0
Karnataka	39	614.290	34	529.62	35	629.895
Kerala	36	674.140	47	876.8	32	545.37
Madhya Pradesh	23	339.998	10	172.32	14	201.87

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Maharashtra	118	2174.380	95	1696.805	121	1802.633
Manipur	4	76.655	3	61.74	3	45.51
Meghalaya	2	21.850	1	8.19	2	159.57
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	2	155.585	1	27.485	4	178.205
Orissa	13	114.048	6	129.41	2	38.68
Pondicherry	2	16.300	2	31.3	0	0
Punjab	26	519.539	32	481.45	61	841.36
Rajasthan	33	506.160	35	566.075	44	551.975
Sikkim	1	0.150	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	52	745.127	53	951.79	36	594.355
Tripura	1	0	2	39.98	1	13.86
Uttar Pradesh	56	840.948	63	1123.425	43	875.475
Uttanchal	17	437.392	9	339.78	6	163.15
West Bengal	47	963.430	35	653.56	19	390.135
TOTAL :	658	12481.128	569	10725.2	579	9765.767

Development of agro processing as cottage industry

‡2467. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that irrespective of purposeful increase in the prices of agricultural produce, farmers are unable to get the benefit of it rather it leads to price rise instead;

(b) whether agro processing is required to be established at the rural and farmer's family levels to extend the benefit of value addition of agricultural produce to farmers and if so, the existing work plan therefor; and

(c) whether there is any plan for the development of technologies, so that agro processing could be made a cottage industry?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) At present, farming is not demand driven and there is total disconnect between the farmer & the market on one side, and the farmer & the industry on the other. Due to this disconnect as well as due to the serious gaps in the on-farm infrastructure like primary processing centres, strategic distribution centres, collection centres, supply chain, cold chain infrastructure/ value addition

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

infrastructure etc. there is often huge wastage of agricultural produce as a result of which the farmer is not able to get remunerative price for his produce.

(b) and (c) To address these issues, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries has prepared a Vision Document which, *inter alia*, aims at increasing the processing levels from 6% to 20 %, the value addition from 20 % to 35 % and improve the share of India agri-exports in the world from 1.5% to 3% by 2015. To achieve these objectives, the Ministry has taken strategic initiatives in the development of food processing infrastructure which aims at filling the gaps in the on-farm infrastructure & provide demand driven clusterised farming. The Government has approved a scheme for Mega Food Parks, which envisages a well-defined agri/horticultural-processing zone containing state of the art processing facilities starting from the farm gate itself with support infrastructure and well established supply chain. The scheme aims to provide a mechanism to bring together farmers, processors and retailers and link agricultural production to the market so as to ensure maximization of value addition, minimization of wastages and improving farmers' income. This would result in improving the economic viability of agricultural operations.

Other strategic initiatives during 11th Plan include scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Preservation Infrastructure including Controlled Atmosphere/Modified Atmosphere Storage, Value Added Centres, Packaging Centres and Irradiation facilities & modernization of abattoirs. The Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/ Modernisation of Food Processing Industries is aimed at creation of new processing capacity and up-gradation of existing processing capabilities and modernization of Food Processing Sector to include Milk , Fruit & Vegetables , Meat, Poultry, fishery, cereal, consumer items , oil seeds, rice milling, flour milling, pulse etc. The Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, R&D and Promotional Activities, is aimed at motivating the food processing industries for adoption of food safety and quality assurance mechanisms such as TQM including ISO 14000, ISO 22000, HACCP, GMP, GHP, and preparing them to face global competition in post WTO Regime. The Scheme for Human Resource Development focuses on developing technologists, managers, Entrepreneurs and manpower for quality management in Food Processing units.

The Scheme for Strengthening of Institutions is aimed at strengthening of existing institutes like Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology & establishing National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) which would provide a single point solution to the problems of the sector. Besides above mentioned institutions, two new Boards have been set up under the Ministry *i.e.* Indian Grape processing Board and National Meat and Poultry Processing Board under the scheme.

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

Sale of rare films as waste

2468.SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pune based National Film Archives of India sold around 25,000 film reels as waste, last year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many of those reels related to old and rare titles of which copies may not be available anywhere; and

(c) if so, the action Government has taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) The National Film Archive of India (NFAI) weeded out 15,565 reels last year, after they were declared as unserviceable by a Committee constituted by NFAI in February, 2003 for this purpose after being approved by the Director of the said archive. After completing the necessary formalities the material was disposed of in July 2008.

(b) As informed by NFAI, a few old titles had to be weeded out for the reasons mentioned in reply to part (a) above. However, these films could be available with the concerned producers, directors or the laboratories.

(c) Government has undertaken an ambitious project of digitizing and restoring the films available in NFAI, to avoid permanent loss of the film heritage.

Action against broadcasters

2469.SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to come down heavily on broadcasters for content code violation;

(b) if so, how many warnings and advisories have been issued to the broadcasters and the details thereof; and

(c) the details of action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) All the private satellite Television channels are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the rules framed thereunder. Whenever any violation is brought to the notice, either by complaint or *suo motu*, the Ministry examines the matter and appropriate action is taken as per Rules.

(b) and (c) So far 111 Advisories/ Warnings have been issued to different Private TV channels for violation of different provisions of the Programme and Advertising Codes. Details are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of warnings/ advisories issued to various TV channels

(Updated on 20.07.2009)

Sl. No.	Name of the Channel	Date of SCN/ letter	Reason for SCN/letter	Details of action taken and issuance of Warnings/ Advisories
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Asianet Global	16.09.05	Advt. of Roop Amrit Fairness Cream.	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.
2.	Asianet	19.09.06	Prog. 'Nammal Thamil'.	Warning dated 14.11.2006 issued to the Channel.
3.	Astha Channel	16.09.05	Advt. of Roop Amrit Fairness Cream.	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.
4.	Balle Balle	18.10.04	Telecast of objectionable Re-mix songs such as 'Kabhi Aar Kabhi Par', Bin Tere Sanam, Chadhti Jawarti, etc.	Order dated 27.02.2006 issued directing the Channel to run a scroll of Warning. The Channel complied with the direction.
5.	B4U	18.10.04	Telecast of objectionable Re-mix songs such as 'Kabhi Aar Kabhi Par', Bin Tere Sanam, Chadhti Jawani, etc.	Order dated 27.02.2006 issued directing the Channel to run a scroll of Warning. The Channel complied with the direction.
6.	Channel [V]	18.10.04	Telecast of objectionable Re-mix songs such as 'Kabhi Aar Kabhi Par', Bin Tere Sanam, Chadhti Jawani, etc.	Order dated 27.02.2006 issued directing the Channel to run a scroll of Warning. The Channel complied with the direction.

1	2	3	4	5
7.	CNBC AWAZ	16.09.05	Advt. of Roop Amrit Fairness Cream.	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.
8.	ETC	18.10.04	Telecast of objectionable Re-mix songs such as 'Kabhi Aar Kabhi Par', Bin Tere Sanam, Chadhti Jawani, etc.	Order dated 27.02.2006 issued directing the Channel to run a scroll of Warning. The Channel complied with the direction.
9.	Fashion TV	13.12.05	Programme featuring Model Eva Herzigova.	Advisory dated 13.04.2006 issued to the Channel.
10.	iTV	02.02.05	Telecast of objectionable Re-mix songs such as 'Kabhi Aar Kabhi Par', Bin Tere Sanam, Chadhti Jawani, etc.	Order dated 27.02.2006 issued directing the Channel to run a scroll of Warning.
11.	India TV	23.03.05	Programme on private activities of MLAs and MPs	Warning dated 15.07.2005 issued to the channel.
12.	India TV	19.05.05	Programme related to priest of Swaminarayan Temple.	Warning dated 15.07.2005 issued to the channel.
13.	India TV	11.08.05	Advt. of Roop Amrit Fairness Cream.	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.
14.	Java TV	21.09.05	-do-	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.
15.	Kairali	16.09.05	-do-	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.

1	2	3	4	5
16.	MH1	18.10.04	Telecast of objectionable Re-mix songs such as 'Kabhi Aar Kabhi Par', Bin Tere Sanam, Chadhti Jawani, etc.	Order dated 27.02.2006 issued directing the Channel to run a scroll of Warning. The Channel complied with the direction
17.	MTV	02.02.05	-do-	Order dated 27.02.2006 issued directing the Channel to run a scroll of Warning. The Channel complied with the direction.
18.	MTV	10.04.06	Song 'Ashiq Banaya Aapne'.	Order dated 28.06.2006 to run a scroll of Warning. The Channel complied with the direction.
19.	NDTV	12.08.05	Advt. of Lux Gen-X	Warning dated 21.09.05 issued to the Channel.
20.	NEO Sports	14.02.07	Advt. on India-West Indies One Day Cricket Series.	Warning dated 04.04.2007 issued to the Channel.
21.	SAB TV	16.09.05	Advt. of Roop Amrit Fairness Cream.	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.
22.	Sahara One	21.09.05	-do-	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.
23.	Sahara TV	12.08.05	Advt. of LuxGen-X	Warning dated 21.09.05 issued to the Channel.
24.	Sony Entertainment	21.09.05	Advt. of Roop Amrit Fairness Cream.	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Sony Max	03.11.06	Advt. of 'XXX Flavoured Condomes'.	Warning dated 05.02.2007 issued to the Channel.
26.	Star One	12.08.05	Advt. of Lux Gen-X	Warning dated 21.09.05 issued to the Channel.
27.	Star One	30.03.06	Prog. 'Great Indian Laughter Challenge'.	Advisory dated 25.07.06 issued to the Channel.
28.	Star One	16.09.05	Advt. of Roop Amrit Fairness Cream.	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.
29.	Star Plus	14.02.07	Advt. on India-West Indies One Day Cricket Series.	Warning dated 19.04.2007 issued to the Channel.
30.	Star Plus	21.06.06	Showing 'SATI' as part of Stridharma in the Serial 'Prithvi Raj Chauhan'.	Warning dated 16.10.2006 issued to the Channel.
31.	Star Utsav	16.09.05	Advt. of Roop Amrit Fairness Cream.	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.
32.	TEJATV	19.10.05	Programme Kamasutra	Order dated 23.03.2006 issued directing the Channel to run a scroll of Warning, the Channel complied with the direction.
33.	Total TV	05.06.2006	Act of Self Immolation by Shri Gopalkrishna Kashyap from Patiala.	Advisory dated 22.11.2006 issued to the Channel.
34.	Zee Bangla	16.09.05	Advt. of Roop Amrit Fairness Cream,	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.

1	2	3	4	5
35.	Zee Cinema	19.10.05	Programme 'Item Bomb'	Warning dated 03.04.06 issued to the Channel.
36.	Zee Cinema	16.09.05	Advt. of Roop Amrit Fairness Cream.	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.
37.	Zee Gujrati	-do-	-do-	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.
38.	Zee News	09.02.05	Programme 'Kaal Kapal Mahakal'	Order dated 22.06.2006 issued directing the Channel to run an scroll of apology. The Channel complied with the direction.
39.	Zee News	i) 17.02.06 ii) 17.03.06	(i) Mobile tapping of Justice Retd. S.N. Variava, (ii) Programme 'Deshdroh'.	Warning dated 30.03.2007 issued to the Channel.
40.	Zee Sports	29.10.06	Surrogate advt. of liquor	Warning dated 15.02.2007 issued to the Channel.
41.	Zee Telugu	27.07.06	Prog. Soyagam	Warning dated 17.10.2006 issued to the channel.
42.	Zee TV	16.09.05	Advt. of Roop Amrit Fairness Cream.	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.
43.	Zoom	-do-	-do-	Warning dated 10.04.2006 issued to the Channel.
44.	Zoom	11.08. 05	Programme 'Dangerous'	Warning dated 23.03.2007 issued to the Channel will the direction to run apology scroll. The Channel complied with the direction.

1	2	3	4	5
45.	Star Plus	15.03.2007	An episode of the tele-serial 'Kyonki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi'.	Advisory dated 02.07.2007 issued to the Channel.
46.	CNN IBN	02.03.2007	Showing wrong map of India in news item related to Samjhouta Express Tragedy.	Advisory dated 02.07.2007 issued to the Channel.
47.	CNN IBN	02.03.2007	Showing wrong map of India in news item related to Samjhouta Express Tragedy.	Warning dated 02.07.2007 issued to the Channel.
48.	CNBC AWAZ	06/07.11.20 06	Programme on rare whiskies containing advt. of Marttac Whiskey.	Warning dated 24.09.2007 issued to the Channel.
49.	Headlines Today	28.03.2007	News item on self-immolation performed by Shri Gopal Krishan Kashyap from Patiala.	Advisory dated 06.11.2007 issued to the Channel.
50.	Aaj Tak	28.03.2007	News item on self-immolation performed by Shri Gopal Krishan Kashyap from Patiala.	Advisory dated 06.11.2007 issued to the Channel.
51.	Zee News	28.03.2007	News item on self-immolation performed by Shri Gopal Krishan Kashyap from Patiala.	Advisory dated 06.11.2007 issued to the Channel.
52.	Sahara Samay	28.03.2007	News item on self-immolation performed by Shri Gopal Krishan Kashyap from Patiala.	Warning dated 06.11.2007 issued to the Channel.
53.	IBN7	28.03.2007	Telecast of programme titled 'Kiss Par Rok Nahi'.	Order dated 14.11.2007 directing the Channel to run an apology scroll for three days. The Channel complied with the direction.

1	2	3	4	5
54.	Zee News	28.03.2007	Telecast of programme titled 'Jumma Chumma De De'.	Order dated 14.11.2007 directing the Channel to run an apology scroll for three days. The Channel complied with the direction.
55.	Aaj Tak	21.09.2007	News Item regarding Nithari Case.	Order dated 20.11.2007 issued directing the Channel to run an apology scroll for three days. The Channel did not comply with the directions of this Ministry and filed a Court Case. The matter is subjudice in Delhi High Court.
56.	IBN7	06.07.2007	Telecast of programme 'Kissa Kiss Ka'.	Warning dated 06.12.2007 issued to the Channel.
57.	ETC Punjabi	16.01.2007	Telecast of Political Advertisements.	Advisory dated 10.12.2007 issued to the Channel.
58.	India TV	31.10.2007	Telecast of programme 'India Bole'	Advisory dated 19.12.2007 issued to the Channel.
59.	IBN7	15.11.2007	Telecast of News item on attempt of suicide by mentally challenged persons at Varanasi (U.P.)	Advisory dated 20.12.2007 issued to the Channel.
60.	IBN7	08.11.2007	Telecast of News item titled 'Shaitan Doctor' based on sting operation on Dr. Ajay Agarwal, Ghaziabad.	Order dated 03.01.2008 issued to IBN7 Channel directing the Channel to run an apology scroll for three days. The Channel did not comply with the directions of this Ministry and filed a court case. The matter is presently subjudice before Hon'ble Delhi High Court.

1	2	3	4	5
61.	Times Now	24.09.2007	News item on sting operation on Smt. Uma Khurana, Teacher.	A warning dated 22.01.2008 issued to the Channel.
62.	Star News	20.11.2007	Telecast of factually incorrect news item regarding killing of two persons at Raebareli by one of the vehicles in the motorcade of Mrs. Sonia Gandhi, President, AICC.	Advisory dated 01.02.2008 issued to the Channel.
63.	Sahara Samay (Rashtriya)	28.07.2006	Live telecast of rescue operation of persons.	Warning dated 26.02.2008 issued to the Channel.
64.	India TV	14.11.2007	News Item on Rajokari Village, New Delhi.	Order dated 19.03.2008 directing the Channel to run an apology scroll for three days. The Channel did not comply with the directions of this Ministry and filed a Court Case. The matter is subjudice in Delhi High Court.
65.	Star News	22.02.2008	Advt. of New Axe Deodorant	Order dated 02.05.2008 directing the Channel to run an apology scroll for three days. The Channel complied with the direction.
66.	MTV	22.02.2008	Advt. of New Axe Deodorant	Order dated 02.05.2008 directing the Channel to run an apology scroll for three days. The Channel complied with the direction.

1	2	3	4	5
67.	All Channels		Advertisement of 'Frenchie-X' Undergarment	Advisory dated 15.05.2008 issued to all the TV Channels prohibiting the telecast of the said advt,
68.	All Channels		Advertisement of "Lux-Cosy Undergarment"	Advisory dated 10.06.2008 issued to all the TV Channels prohibiting the telecast of the said advt.
69.	Star News	28.03.2007	News item on self-immolation performed by Shri Gopal Krishan Kashyap from Patiala.	Advisory dated 25.06.2008 issued to the Channel.
70.	Star News	28.03.2007	News items titled 'Sex Me Twist' and 'Kiss Karo - In Khabar Filmy Hai'	Advisory dated 25.06.2008 issued to the Channel.
71.	Aaj Tak	18.03.2008	News item on negligence on part of doctors of LNJP Hospital in performing surgery on a child.	Warning dated 28.08.2008 issued to the Channel.
72.	Zee News	18.03.2008	News item on negligence on part of doctors of LNJP Hospital in performing surgery on a child.	Warning dated 28.08.2008 issued to the Channel.
73.	India News	09. 06. 2008	News Item based on MMS of Arushi.	Warning dated 05.09.2008 issued to the Channel.
74.	NETV	19.12.2007	News item regarding mob violence in Guwahati.	Warning dated 05.09.2008 issued to the Channel.
75.	NDTV	19.12.2007	News item regarding mob violence in Guwahati.	Warning dated 05.09.2008 issued to the Channel.

1	2	3	4	5
76.	CNN IBN	19.12.2007	News item regarding mob violence in Guwahati.	Warning dated 05.09.2008 issued to the Channel,
77.	Aaj Tak		News item claiming that the planet and all life on it may come to an end on 10.09.2008.	Advisory dated 09.09.2008 issued to the Channel.
78.	India TV		News item claiming that the planet and all life on it may come to an end on 10.09.2008.	Advisory dated 09.09.2008 issued to the Channel.
79.	Aaj Tak	06.07.2006	Misleading advertisement of product 'Herbal Slim Tea''	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel,
80.	Zee Punjabi	06.07.2006	Misleading advertisement of product 'Herbal Slim Tea''	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel.
81.	AXN	06.07.2006	Misleading advertisement of product Yoko Height Increasing Device'	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel.
82.	I-TV	06.07.2006	Misleading advertisement of product 'Hiko Good Height Increasing Device'.	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel.
83.	Sanskar	06.07.2006	Misleading advertisement of product 'D Care Plus Ayurvedic.	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel.
84.	Astha	06.07.2006	Misleading advertisement of product 'Hiko Good Height Increasing Device'.	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel.
85.	Sony	06.07.2006	Misleading advertisement of product 'Hiko Good Height Increasing Device'.	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel.

1	2	3	4	5
86.	Channel [V]	27.07.2006	Obscene Song titled 'Say Say Say'	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel.
87.	Trendz TV	25.08.2005	Show based on lingerie having obscene visuals.	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel.
88.	Zoom	05.01.2006	Obscene trailers of Hindi Films titled 'Fun', 'Sheesha', 'Chahat', 'Shabd' etc	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel.
89.	ETC	05.01.2006	Obscene trailers of Hindi Films titled 'Fun', 'Sheesha', 'Chahat', 'Shabd' etc	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel.
90.	Star One		An episode of programme 'Great Indian Laughter Challenge' wherein a derogatory remark was made against a particular community.	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel.
91.	Rashtriya Sahara	26.03.2007	An advertisement of product 'Panch Mukhi Rudraksh Mala'.	Advisory dated 12.11.2008 issued to the Channel
92.	Aaj Tak	26.03.2007	An advertisement of product 'Maxo Cyclothrin Coil'.	Advisory dated 12.11.2008 issued to the Channel
93.	Bindass	11.09.2008	Reality Show 'Dadagiri - Beat the Bullies'	Warning dated 25.11. 2008 issued to the Channel
94.	Sahara Samay Mumbai	31.07.2008	RKB Show wherein Smt. Vidya Chauhan was interviewed by Shri R.K. Bajaj	Advisory dated 28.11.2008 issued to the Channel

1	2	3	4	5
95.	All N&CA TV Channels, IBF and NBA	-----	Contents inconsistent with public interest and national security wrt terror attacks in Mumbai	A general advisory dated 03.12.2008 issued to all NCA TV Channels, IBF & NBA
96.	IBN 7	24.06.2008	News item based on violence spread in Maharashtra by Maharashtra Nav Nirman Sena supporters.	An advisory dated 31. 12. 2008 issued to the Channel.
97.	News 24	24.06.2008	News item based on violence spread in Maharashtra by Maharashtra Nav Nirman Sena supporters.	An advisory dated 31. 12.2008 issued to the Channel.
98.	Sahara Samay Mumbai	24.06.2008	News item based on violence spread in Maharashtra by Maharashtra Nav Nirman Sena supporters.	An advisory dated 31. 12. 2008 issued to the Channel.
99.	All NCA TV Channels through IBF	-----	News Item regarding road accident near India Gate Circle in which four persons died. The news item was persons died. The news item was based on unverified facts.	An Advisory dated 20.02.2009 was issued to all NCA Channels through through IBF NBA.
100.	IBN7 Channel	11.08.2008	News Story with the title 'Aapke Ghar Sri Ram' which was found containing half truths and based on unverified facts.	A Warning dated 23.03.2009 was issued to the Channel.
101.	Headlines Today Channel	11.08.2008	News item titled "Birth Day Suit" based on completion of 62 years of Bikini. The news item was found offending against good taste and decency.	An Advisory dated 23.03.2009 was issued to the Channel.

1	2	3	4	5
102.	Colors Channel	28.11.2008	Telecast of a reality show 'Big Boss Season - 2' which was not in good taste.	An Advisory dated 03.06.2009 was issued to the Channel.
103.	News 24 Channel	28.11.2008	News item based on a reality show 'Big Boss Season - 2' which was not in good taste.	A Warning dated 03.06.2009 was issued to the Channel.
104.	Colors Channel	-----	The promos of the serial 'LADO' which appeared to publicize female foeticide.	An Advisory dated 16.06.2009 was issued to the Channel.
105.	India TV Channel	28.11.2008	News item based on incidents of death of two children in the ashram of Sant Asaramji Bapu. The news items were found offending against good taste and decency and not suitable for children.	A Warning dated 22.06.2009 issued to the Channel.
106.	Indiavision Channel	-----	News item regarding act of suicide committed by a nun at Thiruvananthapuram.	An advisory dated 23.06.2009 issued to the Channel.
107.	Asia net Channel	-----	News item regarding act of suicide committed by a nun at Thiruvananthapuram.	An advisory dated 23.06.2009 issued to the Channel.
108.	TV 5 Channel	16.09.2008	News item regarding the concept and functioning of Madrasas.	An Order dated 24.06.2009 issued to the Channel with the warning and direction to run apology scroll for three days. The Channel complied with the directions.

1	2	3	4	5
109.	MTV Channel	31.03.2009	Telecast of obscene, indecent and vulgar programme titled 'MTV Rodies'.	An Order dated 01.07.2009 issued to the Channel giving warning and directing them to run an apology scroll for three days.
110.	Channel [V]	08.10.2008	Telecast of obscene reality beauty show titled 'Get Gorgeous 5'	A Warning dated 03.07.2009 issued to the Channel.
111.	India TV Channel	02.07.2007	Telecast of a news programme on Ms. Jhanvi Kapur	An order issued to the channel with the warning and direction to run apology scroll. The Channel complied with the directions.

Committee on development of film industry

2470.SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up a committee to suggest a policy framework for the development of film industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (c) The constitution of such a body is at a nascent stage of discussions.

Entertainment tax evasion by cable operators

†2471. SHRI Y. P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Maharashtra Government has raised to demand with the Central Government for amendment in the Cable Television Network Regulation Act, 1995 to provide for cancellation of licences of those cable operators who indulge in evasion of entertainment tax;
- (b) if so, whether Government has accepted this demand; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The amendment of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 in the light of the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India regarding "restructuring of cable services" received by the Government is under the consideration of the Government. The proposal of the State Government will also be taken into consideration while deciding the matter.

Services of PIB to MPs

2472.SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether services of Press Information Bureau are available to Members of Parliament, to publicise the work done by them in their respective areas;
- (b) whether the work done by Members of Parliament through questions, debates and other important modes of participation are made known by the PIB to the public; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The charter of the Press Information Bureau is to disseminate information to the media on Government policies, programmes and achievements.

Encouragement of regional film makers

2473. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any planning for encouraging and for needful support to regional film makers;

(b) whether it is a fact that some old regional films in various States, including Assam, are being destroyed due to non-availability of the archive facilities;

(c) if so, the action taken thereon;

(d) whether Government has any specific planning for growth and support of film industry in Assam; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) Government has approved a Plan Scheme "Production of film in various regional languages" with an outlay of Rs. 30 crores in the 11th Plan period. The National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) is the implementing agency in respect of the said plan scheme. Rs. 6.50 crores has been released to NFDC in 2008-09 and a provision of Rs. 6.50 crores has been made for the year 2009-10 for financing production of films in regional languages.

(b) and (c) While National Film Archive of India (NFAI) does not have concrete information in this regard, the Assam State Film (Finance and Development) Corporation (ASFDC) has been asked to move the material to NFAI till the proposed vault at their new complex is functional.

(d) and (e) Encouragement to film industry in Assam is given through facilities made available at Jyoti Chitraban (Film Studio) Society and facilities provided through Assam State Film (Finance and Development) Corporation Ltd.

Permission to TV channels

†2474. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that 459 channels telecast programmes on television in the country at present;

(b) if not, the number thereof;

(c) whether permission to telecast programmes on these channels is taken from Government; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details of the parameters set by Government to grant permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) As on date, Government has permitted 454 private satellite TV channels to downlink in India.

(c) and (d) The permissions to uplink TV channels from India and downlink TV channels in India are given as per uplinking and downlinking guidelines, respectively under which there is no provision for the channels to take separate permission to telecast their programmes. However, all programmes of satellite TV channels transmitted or re-transmitted through cable service are required to adhere to the provisions of the Programme/Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder.

Setting up of new FM radio stations

†2475. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up more new FM radio stations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for delay in commissioning of a proposed FM radio station at Darjeeling; and
- (d) by when construction of FM radio station at Darjeeling is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 193 new All India Radio (AIR) FM Stations are under implementation. As regards private FM, the policy for FM Phase-III is under consideration for extension of FM Radio services through private agencies in other parts of the country. The details are yet to be finalized.

(c) The reasons for delay in commissioning of AIR FM radio station at Darjeeling are:

- (i) Dispute with the landowner of adjacent plots.
- (ii) Non-availability of approach road for commencing the construction work.

(d) Prasar Bharati has informed that the demarcation of site has now been done & approach road has been provided. Permanent security fencing has been made. Works of technical building and 100 meter tower have been started. Action for procurement of equipment has also been initiated.

Telecast of unhealthy news

†2476. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether telecast of news of castes, religion and sectarian violence and riots by TV channels foments enmity and hatred between various sections of society in the country;

(b) whether repeated telecast of revolting incidents of crimes like murder, rape, sexual exploitation on various news channels and later their telecast in the form of programmes adversely affects the minds of youth and teenagers;

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to put in place any mechanism like censor to regulate the programmes of such news channels polluting the social climate;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) No such formal study has been brought to the notice of the Government.

(c) to (e) All the private TV channels are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks(Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder. This Ministry has constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee to look into specific complaints or to take *suo-motu* cognizance against the violation of the Programme and Advertising Codes. Action is taken as per the provisions of the Cable Act whenever any specific violation is found. The Government has also constituted a Committee for reviewing the existing Programme and Advertising Codes to provide greater specificity to it, The Committee has submitted its report which is available for wider public consultation on the website of this Ministry www.mib.gov.in under the heading 'Code and Guidelines' sub-heading 'Self-Regulation Guidelines 2008'. So far as programmes telecast on TV channels is concerned, there is no pre-censorship of the programmes.

Telecast of vulgar advertisements

†2477. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether telecast of vulgar advertisements like that of condom on various TV channels is casting adverse effect on children;

(b) whether Government is considering to enact any law to ban such vulgar advertisements;

(c) if so, the steps being taken in this regard;

(d) the steps being taken by Government to check display of vulgarity in movies on television; and

(e) whether Government is formulating rules or is enacting any law against the channels making cock and bull stories to defame or blackmail eminent people, and later on get away with unpardonable offence by tendering apology?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (e) No such specific study has been brought to the notice of the Government. Only those movies can be carried on permitted TV channels which have been cleared by CBFC. Further, all the private TV channels are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder. This Ministry has constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee to look into specific complaints or to take *suo-motu* cognisance against the violation of the Programme and Advertising Codes. Action is taken as per the provisions of the Cable Act whenever any specific violation is found. The Government has also constituted a Committee for reviewing the existing Programme and Advertising Codes to provide greater specificity to it. The Committee has submitted its report which is available for wider public consultation on the website of this Ministry www.mib.gov.in under the heading 'Code and Guidelines' sub-heading 'Self-Regulation Guidelines 2008'.

Expenditure of DD and AIR

2478.SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the expenditure incurred by Doordarshan and All India Radio during each of the last three years, separately;
- (b) the income generated by them during the period, separately, year-wise;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to reduce the number of AIR stations by having one powerful station, with wide area of coverage for each language in the country, instead of the numerous ineffective stations as at present; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) The detail of the expenditure incurred by Doordarshan and All India Radio during the last three year as provided by Prasar Bharati are as under :

	(Rupees in crore)								
	2006-07			2007-08			2008-09		
	DD	AIR	Total	DD	AIR	Total	DD	AIR	Total
Non-Plan	615.49	781.45	1396.94	657.72	851.15	1508.87	1123.62	929.78	2053.40
Revenue Plan	242.91	38.53	281.44	219.87	44.21	264.08	68.48	1.96	70.44
Capital Plan	201.31	74.98	276.29	174.50	83.44	257.94	164.76	55.69	220.45
TOTAL :	11059.71	894.96	1954.67	1052.09	978.80	2030.89	1356.86	987.43	2344.29

(b) As informed by Prasar Bharati, the detail of the Net Income generated by Doordarshan and All India Radio during the last three years the major source of which *inter-alia* includes sale of air time and license fee of tower are as under :

(Rupees in crore)

Net Commercial Income		Resources		
Year	DD	AIR		Total
2006-07	726.07	196.50	37.12	959.69
2007-08	724.42	203.80	58.83	987.05
2008-09	737.05	194.42	69.44	1000.91

(c) No Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Regulatory body for TV channels

2479.SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering any regulatory body for the television channels; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) The draft Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill has provisions to constitute a regulatory body to address issues relating to regulation of electronic media. The consultation process is on with the stakeholders/States/UTS. The draft of the proposed Bill is available on the website (www.mib.nic.in) of the Ministry.

Statutory status for Law Commission

2480.SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to make the Law Commission a statutory body;

(b) if so, the details of the set up and terms and conditions of the Commission; and

(c) whether it is also proposed to make the recommendations of the Commission binding on Government?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Doesn't arise.

Closure of cases on compromise

2481.SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a proposal to evolve a procedure to close cases, including those involving criminal offences, through compromise; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the Ministry of Home Affairs, there is no proposal to evolve a procedure to close cases, including those involving criminal offences, through compromise in terms of the code of criminal procedure, 1973 and the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

Electronic Voting Machines

2482.SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of voting system being practised by G-8 countries, using the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and other devices, country-wise; during last two decades;

(b) whether some countries have replaced EVMs and reverted back to earlier methods of secret ballot;

(c) if so, the details of such countries, stating the period and reasons for such decision;

(d) whether the EVMs are 100 per cent tamper-proof; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) There is no such formal information available with the Legislative Department, Ministry of Law and Justice and the Election Commission of India.

(d) and (e) The Election Commission has intimated the following information in respect of the working of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs):—

(i) The EVMs have not been introduced all of a sudden. These have been tested initially and gradually introduced all over the country.

(ii) The EVMs have been tested by an Expert Committee consisting of experts from IIT appointed by the Government.

(iii) The EVMs have been certified as tamper proof reliable device by Expert Committee and various preventive to precautionary steps have been preserved by the Commission for the operation, maintenance and storage of the EVMs.

(iv) There have been some minor mechanical and human errors while handling them during elections which have been attended promptly by replacing the EVMs or repairing them.

(v) The EVM mentioned in the complaint is being checked by the manufacturers to detect the actual defect in it and reason for the same will be ascertained (like manufacturing defect etc.).

(vi) Many Courts including Supreme Court have time and again appreciated the efficiency of EVM in many court cases. Attention, in this regard, is invited to the judgment of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras in WP No. 3346, 3633, 4417, 4454, 4466, 4945, 5077, 6038 and 6039 of 2001 dated 10.4.2001, AIADMK and others Vs. Chief Election Commissioner and others where the Hon'ble Court dismissed the writ challenging the introduction of EVMs. The petitioner's challenged this ruling of the Madras High Court before the Supreme Court in C.C.2824 and 2825/2001 which was dismissed by the Hon'ble Apex Court in its decision dated 23.4.2001 and the decision of the Madras High Court was upheld. Separately, the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in E.P. No. 4 of 2001-T.A.Ahammed Kabeer Vs A.A.Azeez and others and Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka in E.P.No. 29 of 1999-Michael D. Fernandes Vs. C.K.Jaffar Sharif and others have upheld the EVM as a safe and secure device for conduct of elections.

(vii) The Commission has also given the opportunity to the persons who alleged that EVM could be manipulated/tampered with. However, no one could prove it yet.

Pending cases in Rajasthan High Court

2483.DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pending cases in the Rajasthan High Court, till date;
- (b) the number out of them which are over 15 years old, less than 15 years but more than 10 years old, less than 10 years but more than five years old and the date since when the oldest case is pending;
- (c) the vacancies of High Court Judges; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken to expedite disposal of the pending cases, particularly those pending for over ten years;

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) As per the report received from the Registry of the Rajasthan High Court, 2,43,208 cases are pending in the Rajasthan High Court as on 30.6.2009. Out of these, 28394 cases are pending for over ten years and 68617 cases pending for less than 10 years but more than five years.

(c) There are 11 vacancies of Judges in the Rajasthan High Court.

(d) Various steps are taken to expedite disposal of the pending cases which include grouping of cases involving common questions of law, constitution of specialized benches, setting up of special courts and organizing Lok Adalats at regular intervals. Alternative modes of disposal including mediation, negotiation and arbitration have been encouraged. Steps have also been taken for modernization of the judicial infrastructure through computerization of courts.

Entry of foreign law firms

2484. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to allow entry and operation of foreign legal firms in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the issue of allowing foreign law firms to establish their offices to give legal advice and assistance on foreign law is being discussed with all the stake holders including the Bar Council of India.

Corruption in judiciary system

2485. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

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

(a) whether the report of the Transparency International's Globe Corruption Report, 2007 has mentioned that 77 per cent of the general public has stated the Indian judicial system is corrupt: if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(b) whether serious allegations of misconduct/abuse of office against a retired Chief Justice of India have come to the notice of Government; if so, the details thereof and the action initiated thereon;

(c) whether retired Chief Justices/Judges of Supreme Court have commented regarding corruption in judiciary, if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(d) Government's estimate of such corruption?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) The Transparency International's Global Corruption Report, 2007 has come to the notice of the Government which, *inter-alia*, states that 77 per cent of the general public has stated the Indian judicial system to be corrupt. The Government, however, does not agree with the said perception.

(b) Yes Sir. The complaint is being looked into by the concerned agencies.

(c) Comments on alleged corruption in the judiciary, especially through the media, have come to the notice of the Government from time to time. To bring in greater accountability in the judiciary, a Bill in this regard had been introduced in the last Lok Sabha.

(d) No estimates in this regard are available on record.

Judges in Supreme Court and High Courts

†2486. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

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

- (a) the number of sanctioned posts of Judges in the Supreme Court and in all the High Courts, court-wise;
- (b) the details of vacant posts of Judges as on 31 March, 2009;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to fill the vacant posts; and
- (d) by when the vacant posts would be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) The number of sanctioned and vacant posts of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Filling up of vacancies in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is a continuous process as vacancies keep arising due to retirements, resignations, elevation of Judges, etc. Pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgement of October 6, 1993 in the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record & Anr. Vs. Union of India, read with the Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998, the entire process of initiation of proposal for appointment of a Judge of Supreme Court lies with the Chief Justice of India and for the appointment of a Judge of a High Court, with the Chief Justice of that High Court. The Government has been reminding the Chief Justices of the High Courts from time to time, to initiate proposals for filling up vacant posts of Judges in the High Courts and also for those which are likely to fall vacant during the next six months. The proposals received are processed by the Government expeditiously for filling up of the vacancies. It is not feasible to indicate a time frame for filling up all the vacant posts.

Statement

*The number of sanctioned and vacant posts of Judges in the
Supreme Court and the High Court*

S.No.	Name of the Court	Approved strength as on 31.03.2009	Working strength of Judges as on 31.03.2009	Vacancies as on 31.03.2009
1	2	3	4	5
A.	Supreme Court of India	31	24	07
B.	High Courts			
1	Allahabad	160	72	88
2	Andhra Pradesh	49	31	18

1	2	3	4	5
3	Bombay	75	67	8
4	Calcutta	58	36	22
5	Chhattisgarh	18	10	8
6	Delhi	48	39	9
7	Gauhati	24	21	3
8	Gujarat	42	29	13
9	Himachal Pradesh	11	10	1
10	Jammu & Kashmir	14	12	2
11	Jharkhand	20	13	7
12	Karnataka	41	37	4
13	Kerala	38	33	5
14	Madhya Pradesh	43	38	5
15	Madras	60	58	2
16	Orissa	22	17	5
17	Patna	43	22	21
18	Punjab & Haryana	68	48	20
19	Rajasthan	40	32	8
20	Sikkim	3	2	1
21	Uttarakhand	9	8	1
TOTAL :		886	635	251

Revision of salary and pension of Judges

2487.SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the salary and pension/family pension of the serving and the retired judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts have been recently revised *w.e.f.* January 1, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the pension and family pension of retired Judges of Allahabad High Court has not been revised, till date; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and whether action would be initiated to revise the pension/family pension of these old and ailing pensioners, at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) The salaries and other allowances, pension & family pension of the Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts including the Judges of the Allahabad High Court have been revised as per the High Court and Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 2009 by amending the relevant Acts *i.e* The Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958 and The High Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1954 respectively. Salaries of Judges have been revised *w.e.f.* 1.1.2006 as below:

Chief Justice of India	-	from Rs.33,000/-p.m. to Rs.1,00,000/- p.m.
Judges of Supreme Court	-	from Rs.30,000/-p.m. to Rs.90,000/- p.m.
Chief Justice, High Court	-	from Rs.30,000/-p.m. to Rs.90,000/- p.m.
Judges of the High Courts	-	from Rs.26,000/-p.m. to Rs.80,000/- p.m.

The pension for the retired Judges of the superior courts has also been revised with effect from 1.1.2006. As per revision, the retired Judges of the retired Chief Justice of India would get a maximum pension of Rs.6,00,000/-p.a The retired Judges of the Supreme Court and the Chief Justices of the High Courts would receive a maximum pension of Rs.5,40,000/-p.a. and the retired Judges of the High Courts would receive a maximum pension of Rs.4,80,000/- p.a.

Instructions/guidelines were issued for revision of pension/family pension etc. of Judges to all concerned authorities *vide* letter No.L-11016/1/2009-Jus. dated 27.2.2009 and No.L-11016/2/2009-Jus. dt.12.5.2009. The guidelines/instructions issued in this respect would be subject to adoption of the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare's O.M. No.38/37/08-P&PW(A) dated 1.9.2008 and No.38/37/08-P&PW(A) dated 2.9.2008, circulated with the above letters, by the respective State Government to grant the benefit of increased pension on similar lines to their employees including members of State Higher Judicial Service. In this regard the Hon'ble Supreme Court has also issued directions in C.M.P. No. 18044 of 1988 in the matter of Justice M.L. Jain Vs U.O.I., to all State Governments for adopting the Central pattern,

Increase in strength of Supreme Court Judges

2488.SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the strength of the Supreme Court Judges has been increased from 25 to 30;
- (b) if so, when the Bill for the same was passed and assented to by the President;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Act in this regard has not been implemented, so far, in view of the lack of accommodation;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) whether this delay in implementation is mounting pressure on the Supreme Court in the form of accumulation of cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Lok Sabha passed the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Bill, 2008 on 22nd December, 2008 and it received the assent of the President on 5th February, 2009.

(c) to (e) The Supreme Court Registry has informed that "the Judges have not been elevated to the Bench of the Supreme Court so far due to non-availability of accommodation and that delay in appointment of Judges is resulting in accumulation of cases."

Funds for judicial administration

2489. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

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

(a) whether a Judicial Panel, headed by Justice M. Jagannadha Rao, has opined that the Planning Commission and Finance Commission must, in consultation with the Chief Justice of India, allocate sufficient funds for judicial administration, to ensure the basic human right of access to speedy justice; and

(b) if so, whether the prevailing position of 13 Judges for 10 lakh population in India, would be improved, to bring it near the global standard of 150 Judges, to cater to the population of 10 lakh?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) The Task Force on Judicial Impact Assessment under the Chairmanship of Justice M. Jagannadha Rao has, *inter alia*, made such a recommendation.

(b) The Law Commission in its 120th Report recommended that the strength of judges per million population may be increased from 10.5 to 50 judges per million population.

With regard to Subordinate Judiciary, the Supreme court, in its judgment of 21st March, 2002, in All India Judges' Association & Ors, directed that an increase in the Judge strength from the existing 10.5 or 13 per 10 lakh people to 50 Judges per 10 lakh people should be effected and implemented within a period of five years in a phased manner to be determined and directed by the Union Ministry of Law. The Central Government has filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court praying that the increase in judge strength in the Union Territories, for which Central Government is administratively responsible, be allowed based on workload and pendency of cases. The matter is sub-judice.

Rise in pending court cases

†2490. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that number of pending cases in courts has been increasing consistently over the past few years;

(b) if so, the number of cases pending in Supreme Court, down to lower courts, during each year between 2004 and 2008;

(c) whether functioning could be improved to expedite judgment in these cases; and

(d) if so, the types of improvement which could be made?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) As per the reports received from the Registries of the High Courts and the information available, the number of cases pending in courts during each year between 2004 and 2008 is as follows:-

Sl. No.	Year	Supreme Court	High Courts	Subordinate Courts
1.	2004	30151	3379033	23455176
2.	2005	34481	3489143	25345340
3.	2006	39780	3654853	26564998
4.	2007	46926	3753971	25065870
5.	2008	49819	3910858	26650467

(c) and (d) The following steps have been taken to facilitate speedy disposal of cases in courts:

(1) Increasing the strength of Judges in Supreme Court and the High Courts.

(2) Introduction of the scheme of 'Fast Track Courts' which has been extended upto 31.3.2010. Fast Track Courts were set-up to expedite disposal of long pending sessions cases and the cases of undertrial prisoners. As per the information received. 25.07 lakh cases have been disposed of by these courts out of 31.01 lakh cases transferred to them.

(3) Introduction of some legislative measures for improvement in judicial procedure and for expediting disposal of civil and criminal cases in courts.

The Civil Procedure Code and Criminal Procedure Code have been amended and the concept of 'Plea-Bargaining' has been introduced.

(4) Alternative modes of disposal including mediation, negotiation and arbitration have been encouraged.

(5) Other measures like grouping of cases involving common questions of law, constitution of specialized benches, setting up of special courts and organizing Lok Adalats at regular intervals have also been taken.

(6) Steps have also been taken for modernization of the judicial infrastructure through computerization of courts.

(7) Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 (Act 4 of 2009) has been enacted, which provides for establishment of nearly 5067 Gram Nyayalayas and will bring justice at the door step of the rural people.

Pending court cases

2491.DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

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

(a) whether in view of backlog of 3.56 crore cases in courts across the country, including 48,000 in Supreme Court, the Chief Justice of India (CJI) has pointed out that at least 10,000 more courts are required to dispose of them or to remove backlog;

(b) if so, whether Government has considered views of CJI for more courts in country;

(c) whether he has also pointed out that there are 3,500 posts of judges vacant, with the result cases are piling up; and

(d) if so, what concrete steps and measures Government proposes to take to set up more courts and fill up vacancies in various courts in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) No such views of the Chief Justice of India on the requirement of more courts and vacancies in the post of Judges have been communicated to the Government. The Supreme Court in a Judgement of March 2002 in the All India Judges Association Vs Union of India and Others had given directions for an increase in the Judge strength from the then existing 10.5 per 10 lakh people to 50 Judges for 10 lakh people. The Central Government have filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court and the matter is sub-judice.

Government has already taken measures to set up more courts in the country. The Gram Nyayalayas Act 2008 has been enacted which will make possible setting up of nearly 5067 Gram Nyayalayas. Government has also decided to set up more CBI courts, on the advice of the Chief Justice of India.

Filling up of the vacancies in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is a continuous process as vacancies keep arising due to retirements, resignations, elevation of Judges, etc. Pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgement of October 6, 1993 in the Supreme Court Advocates-on-record & Anr. Vs Union of India, read with the Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998, the entire process of initiation of proposal for appointment of a Judge of Supreme Court lies with the Chief Justice of India and for the appointment of a Judge of a High Court, with the Chief Justice of that High Court. The Government has been reminding the Chief Justices of the High Courts from time to time, to initiate proposals for filling up vacant posts of judges in the High Courts as also those which are likely to fall vacant during the next six months. The proposals received are processed by the Government expeditiously for filling up of the vacancies. Vacancies in Subordinate Courts are filled up by the State Government concerned in consultation with the respective High Court.

Use of Hindi in Supreme Court

2492.SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Law Commission is contemplating the possibilities of writing Supreme Court judgments in Hindi;
- (b) the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee in this regard; and
- (c) the latest position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) The Law Commission of India in its 216th Report on "Non-Feasibility of Introduction of Hindi as Compulsory Language in the Supreme Court of India" has, *inter-alia*, recommended that the higher judiciary should not be subjected to any kind of even persuasive change in the present societal context. The said Report was submitted by the Law Commission to the Government after examining the recommendations of the Committee of Parliament on Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs which, *inter-alia*, included a suggestion to amend Article 348 of the Constitution of India to enable High Courts and the Supreme/Court to deliver orders in Hindi etc. Law Commission did not recommend amendment to Article 348 of the Constitution of India.

Amendment in Notary Rules

2493.SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has amended Notary Rules, recently;
- (b) if so, the details of notaries appointed thereafter, State-wise;
- (c) whether West Bengal Government has submitted request for the enhancement of the number of notaries in that State; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) After coming into force of the Notaries (Amendment) Rules, 2009 on 1st March, 2009, 13 Notaries have been appointed whose cases were already approved prior to 01.03.2009 but their Certificate of Practice could not be issued. Details of Notaries appointed after amendment of Notaries Rules, 1956 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Statement

Amendment in Notary Rules

Name & address of Notary	Date of appointment/ Issue of Certificate of Practice	Area of Practice
1	2	3
1. Sh. Kashi Ram Sharma Ward No. 38, Near 21 Haveli, Churu (Rajasthan)	02.03.2009	Distt. Churu, Rajasthan
2. Sh. Ramrao Venkatrao Kale C/o Dr. D.V. Kale, Kale Hospital, Kaneri Road, Tagor Nagar, Latur (Maharashtra)	02.03.2009	Distt. Latur, Maharashtra
3. Ms. Vibutiben Pareshkumar "Pitashri" 12, Uma colony, 'A' Waghedia Road, Blh, Panigate, Vadodra (Gujarat)	02.03.2009	Distt. Vadodra, Gujarat
4. Sh. Devadeth V. Santhigiri Ashram, Santhigiri P.O., Tiruvarathapuram (Kerala)	29.05.2009	Disst. Thiruvanthapuram (Kerala)
5. Sh. S. Prakash No.GBJ-119, 5th Cross 2nd Main Road, HAL Quarters, Bangalore (Karnataka)	29.05.2009	Bangalore City Karnataka
6. Smt. Prerna Tyagi, 360, North Civil Lines Muzaffarnagar (U.P.)	29.05.2009	District Collectorate Courts Compoud Distt. Muzaffarnagar (U.P.)
7. Sh. Hausila Prasad Mishra B/202, Sai Kripa Aptts., Taloo Road, Near Rajeshwari R.K. Aptt, Bhayander (East), Distt, Thane (Maharashtra)	29.05.2009	Sub-Urban Mumbai Maharashtra
8. Sh. Avinash Shukla 121/4, Site No. 1, Kidwai Nagar, Kanpur (U.P.)	29.05.2009	Distt. Kanpur U.P.

1	2	3
9. Sh. K. Murlidharan G-5, Sai Krupa Flats, No. 927th Street, Nangallur, Chennai (Tamil Nadu)	29.05.2009	Chennai Tamil Nadu
10. Sh. M.S. Tatish, H.No. 5/2, 1st Floor, 9th Cross Kumarapark West, (Near Railway Parallel Road, BWSSB Water Tank, Bangalore (Karnataka)	29.05.2009	Bangalore Metropolitan Area Karnataka
11. Sh. Venkata Ramana Rao D.No. 1-104, Siva Sai Street, Kondapalli, Ibrahimpatnam Mandal, Distt. Krishna (Andhra Pradesh)	29.05.2009	Kondapalli Village, Distt. Krishna (A.P.)
12. Sh. M.A. Majeed, H.No. 9-15- 182, Malapally Street, Distt. Nizamabad, (Andhra Pradesh)	14.07.2009	District Nizamabad (A.P.)
13. Sh. Naveen Kumar Ruhalla C/o Harbans Lal Malik, H.No. B-149, Avas Vikas Colony, Opp. Hari Mandir, Saharanpur (U.P.)	23.07.2009	District Saharanpur U.P.

Judges in High Courts

2494. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the High Court of Jharkhand and of other States are having full strength of Judges and if not, by when it would be filled in, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any move by Government to reduce the time of vacations in various courts; and

(c) if so, the details of planning to bring down the backlog of pending cases in various courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) The approved strength and vacant posts of Judges of various High Courts is given in the Statement (*See* below). It is not feasible to indicate a time frame for filling up all the vacant posts.

(b) The Government has addressed all the High Courts requesting them to fix the period of vacation in such a way that the number of working days of High Courts generally do not fall below 222 days in a year.

(c) Various steps have been taken to bring down the backlog of pending cases. These include periodical monitoring of pendency position in courts, grouping of cases involving common question of law, increasing the Judges' strength, organising Lok Adalats at regular intervals, setting up of Family Courts, Labour Courts and Fast Track Courts, computerization of courts, etc. Alternative modes of dispute resolution such as mediation, conciliation and arbitration have also been encouraged. The Gram Nayayalayas Act, 2008 has also been enacted which provides for establishment of over 5000 Gram Nayayalays and will bring justice to the doorsteps of the people residing in the rural areas.

Statement

The approved strength and vacant posts of Judges of various High Courts

Sl.No.	Name of the Court	Approved strength as on 21.07.2009	Working strength of Judges as on 21.07.2009	Vacancies as on 21.07.2009
1	2	3	4	5
1	Allahabad	160	85	75
2	Andhra Pradesh	49	29	20
3	Bombay	75	66	9
4	Calcutta	58	41	17
5	Chhattisgarh	18	10	8
6	Delhi	48	44	4
7	Gauhati	24	21	3
8	Gujarat	42	27	15
9	Himachal Pradesh	11	10	1
10	Jammu & Kashmir	14	11	3
11	Jharkhand	20	14	6
12	Karnataka	41	37	4
13	Kerala	38	33	5
14	Madhya Pradesh	43	37	6
15	Madras	60	56	4

1	2	3	4	5
16	Orissa	22	16	6
17	Patna	43	23	20
18	Punjab & Haryana	68	46	22
19	Rajasthan	40	29	11
20	Sikkim	3	3	-
21	Uttarakhand	9	8	1
TOTAL :		886	646	240

Pending cases

†2495. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pending cases in the lower courts of the country, State-wise;
- (b) the increase in the number of pending cases in these courts during the last five years;
- (c) the action plan of the Ministry to dispose of these pending cases;
- (d) the reasons for slow disposal of the pending cases; and
- (e) whether additional courts are being set up to dispose of the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) As per the reports received from the Registries of the High Courts, 2,66,50,467 cases were pending in the Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.08. The State-wise number of pending cases in Subordinate Courts is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) As per the information available, the pendency of cases in Subordinate Courts has increased from 2,29,62,632 at the end of the year 2003 to 2,66,50,467 at the end of the year 2008 *i.e.* the increase of 36,87,835.

(c) to (e) Some of the main reasons for pendency in Subordinate Courts as identified by various Commissions and Committees including the Law Commission are given below:

- (i) Population and Litigation Explosion.
- (ii) Institution of fresh cases.
- (iii) Inadequacy of Judges' strength.
- (iv) Delays in filling up of vacancies in the Subordinate Courts.
- (v) Inadequacy of staff attached to the Subordinate Courts.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(vi) Granting of unnecessary adjournments

(vii) Frequent closure of courts on account of lawyers' strikes etc.

Speedy disposal of pending cases is within the domain of Judiciary. However, Government has taken various measures to facilitate speedy disposal of cases in Subordinate courts:

(1) Introduction of the scheme of 'Fast Track Courts' which has been extended upto 31.3.2010. Fast Track Courts were set-up to expedite disposal of long pending sessions cases and the cases of undertrial prisoners. As per the information received, 25.07 lakh cases have been disposed of by these courts out of 31.01 lakh cases transferred to them.

(2) Introduction of some legislative measures for improvement in judicial procedure and for expediting disposal of civil and criminal cases in courts. The Civil Procedure Code and Criminal Procedure Code have been amended and the concept of 'Plea-Bargaining' has been introduced.

(3) Alternative modes of disposal including mediation, negotiation and arbitration have been encouraged.

(4) Other measures like grouping of cases involving common questions of law, constitution of specialized benches, setting up of special courts and organizing Lok Adalats at regular intervals have also been taken.

(5) Steps have also been taken for modernization of the judicial infrastructure through computerization of courts. Government is implementing a scheme for computerization of District & Subordinate Courts.

(6) Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 (Act 4 of 2009) has been enacted, which provides for establishment of nearly 5067 Gram Nyayalayas and will bring justice at the door step of the rural people after it is operationalised by the States.

Statement

Pendency position in the subordinate courts for the year 2008

Sl. No.	States	Case Type	Opening balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency at the end
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	Civil	478046	304949	311148	471847
		Criminal	473608	359258	345278	487587
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Civil	461	437	287	611
		Criminal	4828	1371	2069	4130
3	Assam	Civil	71851	35281	28992	78140
		Criminal	146636	166504	161562	151578

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	Bihar	Civil	252874	47584	46973	253227
		Criminal	1120549	289858	228139	1182268
5	Chhattisgarh	Civil	51039	2271	2209	51101
		Criminal	213911	17701	13349	218263
6	Goa*	Civil	19572	10239	11061	18750
		Criminal	14376	14210	13405	15181
7	Gujarat	Civil	728305	231052	237964	721393
		Criminal	2124298	1018937	1451488	1691747
8	Haryana	Civil	220552	144543	145643	219452
		Criminal	335882	297600	302523	330959
9	Himachal Pradesh	Civil	62262	50670	48644	64288
		Criminal	80648	104703	102973	82378
10	Jammu & Kashmir	Civil	52720	51239	43107	60852
		Criminal	95630	186433	177537	104526
11	Jharkhand	Civil	44284	16662	15538	45408
		Criminal	228034	105216	108289	224960
12	Karnataka	Civil	564276	286667	283504	567439
		Criminal	535001	465607	493527	507081
13	Kerala	Civil	379876	259695	270819	368752
		Criminal	565531	785766	742064	609223
14	Madhya Pradesh	Civil	194535	216791	208805	202521
		Criminal	826048	967400	924593	868855
15	Maharashtra*	Civil	979460	337503	344338	972625
		Criminal	3168559	1314396	1409798	3073157
16	Manipur	Civil	3057	2305	2302	3060
		Criminal	3552	5339	6559	3332
17	Meghalaya	Civil	3903	1467	1372	3998
		Criminal	6807	2400	850	8357
18	Mizoram	Civil	2119	1003	601	2521
		Criminal	4743	5040	4327	5456

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
19	Nagaland	Civil	1799	571	493	1877
		Criminal	3566	1250	990	3826
20	Orissa *	Civil	178430	49390	46099	181721
		Criminal	814007	216881	196083	834805
21	Punjab	Civil	276798	153079	162619	267258
		Criminal	315287	267258	364628	303965
22	Rajasthan	Civil	286598	178188	159215	352375
		Criminal	842687	709513	624908	945254
23	Sikkim *	Civil	189	185	171	203
		Criminal	504	1059	978	585
24	Tamil Nadu	Civil	499018	814711	737663	576066
		Criminal	429028	761808	750304	440532
25	Tripura	Civil	6146	5638	5131	6653
		Criminal	30557	89698	75729	44526
26	Uttar Pradesh	Civil	1229650	473974	446540	1257084
		Criminal	3644965	2231672	1973547	3903090
27	Uttarakhand	Civil	28518	28746	26570	33204
		Criminal	102251	148082	120869	137230
28	West Bengal	Civil	496463	130015	116885	509593
		Criminal	1698168	1024587	821014	1901741
29	A & N Island#	Civil				
		Criminal				
30	Chandigarh	Civil	20566	9180	9165	20581
		Criminal	82044	104817	107531	79330
31	D & N Haveli#	Civil				
		Criminal				
32	Daman & Diu#	Civil				
		Criminal				
33	Delhi	Civil	145043	129148	76379	197812
		Criminal	935328	1215050	1199449	950931

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
34	Lakshadweep	Civil	91	20	33	78
		Criminal	107	93	122	78
35	Pondicherry	Civil	13449	16280	14525	15204
		Criminal	8845	19971	18974	9842
TOTAL :			26147935	16889951	16548251	26650467

* Information as on 31.12.2007

Information not received

Online facility for speedy disposal of cases

2496 SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is proposing online facility for all the courts to solve the cases quickly;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the present status thereof; and
- (d) the view of State Governments especially from Andhra Pradesh in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) The Government has approved a scheme, the E-Courts Project, at a cost of Rs. 442 crore for computerization of the District and Subordinate Courts in the country and for upgrading the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure of the higher courts.

The scheme is being implemented by the National Informatics Centre (NIC). The scheme aims, *inter alia*, to equip the courts with ICT tools to enable them to improve the case management and court administration. The scheme would also provide online availability of information on case status, cause-list etc to the litigants and advocates. It also aims at establishing a National Judicial Data Grid connecting all the courts in India to enable seamless sharing of information across the judicial network.

(c) Phase I of the E-courts project is presently under implementation. Under the project, 13,365 Judicial Officers have so far been provided with laptops, 56720 Judicial Officers and Court staff have been trained in the use of ICT tools and 12599 laser printers have been supplied to the courts. Site preparation work in the court complexes identified by the High Courts is under process for setting up server rooms/service centres. ICT hardware has been delivered to the Supreme Court and 12 High Courts. Local Area Network (LAN) Survey has been completed in High Courts. For supply of technical manpower at District Court, 190 candidates have been trained and deployed across the district courts under 11 High Courts. At High Court and High Court Bench level, 27 candidates have been trained and deployed in 11 High Courts. Internet connectivity has been

provided through Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited at 486 District Courts and 1272 Taluka Court complexes. In addition, internet connections have also been provided at the home offices of 10744 Judicial Officers. For development of Software Application, the base version of the application has been decided and is now being tested in 8 locations. For site preparation, estimates have been received for approx. 2200 court complexes. An amount of Rs. 38.64 crore has been transferred to States. 499 District Courts complexes have so far reported site preparation work as completed across various High Courts. A grant of Rs.212.95 crore has been provided to NIC for the implementation of the scheme till 31.03.2009.

(d) The above scheme is being implemented in close co-operation with the State Governments and the High Courts including of Andhra Pradesh.

Royalty on Iron-ore

2497.SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:

SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI R. C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government would link the royalty rates levied on extraction of iron-ore to its prevailing market price;

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

(c) what would be the royalty rates and whether these rates have been considered by some high-powered group; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) The proposal for revision of rates of royalty is under consideration of the Government.

State of NALCO

2498.SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the profit of NALCO has gone down;

(b) the net profit of NALCO from 2004 to 2008, year-wise;

(c) what is the total investment in NALCO for modernization and whether it is a fact that the cost of modernization has increased because of delay in work; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether it is a fact that there has not been a regular Chairman of NALCO for the last 10 years and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Year-wise details of net profit of National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) for the years from 2004-2008 are given below:

Year	Rs. in crore
2004-05	1,235
2005-06	1,562
2006-07	2,381
2007-08	1,632
2008-09	1,272

(c) The ongoing 2nd phase expansion of NALCO was approved by the Government of India in October, 2004 at an estimated cost of Rs. 4,091.51 crores (at July, 2003 price level) which has since been revised to Rs. 4,402 crores (at November, 2008 price level). The escalation is mainly due to change in scope, change in statutory levies and duties, besides exchange rate variation and on account of changes in price index.

(d) In view of allegations of sexual harassment made by a lady employee, the then Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CMD) of NALCO was asked to proceed on leave in February, 2004. Additional charge arrangements for the post of CMD were made by appointing a functional Director in his place. In view of an injunction from the Delhi High Court, the process for regular filling up of the post of CMD, NALCO, could not be initiated, till the expiry of the tenure of the charged officer. However, a proposal for appointing a regular incumbent to the post of CMD, NALCO has been moved for approval of the competent authority.

Scholarship for Muslims

2499.SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 20 lakh Muslims in Andhra Pradesh are eagerly waiting for scholarships;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in the matter; and
- (c) what funds Government has released and spent so far for the current year in each State, especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Funds have not been released to any of the States/UTs under the scholarship schemes for the current year as no proposals have been received from them.

Low returns on Wakf properties

2500.SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all wakf properties in the country are either in adverse possession or are fetching very low returns, thereby depriving the community of the benefit of these properties;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government proposes to consult the State Governments to evolve a joint course of action to remedy the situation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) To enable the State Wakf Boards to manage the wakf properties better, the Joint Parliamentary Committee on wakf has recommended amendments in the Wakf Act, 1995. The Government has consulted the State Governments on the amendments to the Wakf Act. This issue has been processed further as per approved modalities.

15-Point Programme in Goa

2501. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the New 15 Point Programme is being implemented in Goa;

(b) if so, whether any financial assistance has been given to the State and if so, the quantum thereof;

(c) the activities carried out under the programme;

(d) whether the old 15 Point Programme was also implemented in the State; and

(e) if so, the details of the financial assistance given to the State under the old Programme and activities carried out under it since implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Physical targets are allocated for the following schemes and the targets for Goa for 2008-09 are given below:-

Schemes	Target earmarked for minorities
Merit-cum-means scholarship for students from the minority communities [Ministry of Minority Affairs]	49 students
Post-matric scholarship for students from the minority communities [Ministry of Minority Affairs]	428 students
Pre-matric scholarship for students from the minority communities [Ministry of Minority Affairs]	1546 students

Financial assistance targets for minorities under the schemes considered amenable to earmarking in 2008-09, in respect of Goa, are given below:-

Schemes	Target earmarked for minorities
Priority Sector Lending [Department of Financial Services]	Rs. 668.22 crore
Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY) [Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation]	Rs. 4.09 lakh
Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) [Ministry of Rural Development]	Rs. 62.13 lakh

(c) The details of activities under Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities are available in the Ministry's website www.minorityaffairs.gov.in

(d) and (e) The old 15 Point Programme, announced in 1983, was recast and replaced by the new programme in June, 2006 incorporating programme specific interventions and definite goals to be achieved.

Grants to NGOs

2502.SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of NGOs that were given grants during the last two years and this year, so far;
- (b) the amount and the purpose in each case;
- (c) the criteria on which the grant was given; and
- (d) the NGOs which did not utilize the grant properly and were blacklisted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) 374 NGOs have been given grants by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, Maulana Azad Education Foundation(MAEF) and Central Wakf Council (CWC) during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10. The detailed information is available on the website of Ministry *i.e.* www.minorityaffairs.gov.in for the grants by the Ministry of Minority Affairs. The information in respect of Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) is available on their website www.maef.nic.in. The information with respect to Central Wakf Council (CWC) is available on their website www.centralwakfcouncil.org.

(c) Ministry of Minority Affairs releases grant to the NGOs in respect of Free Coaching & Allied Scheme as per the criteria given below:-

Grant-in-aid to the coaching institutes, including non-government organizations, under the Free Coaching and Allied Scheme for the candidates belonging to minority communities is given *inter alia*,

on the criteria that the institute should have qualified faculty members, infrastructure, experience of imparting coaching /training for a period not less than three years and a minimum success rate of 15% for the coaching programme and placement rate of 50% for training programme. MAEF sanctions grants to those NGOs who, *inter alia*, have three years' past registration, who must be running a recognized institution in which more than 50% of the students are from notified minority communities, who have sufficient land in their names or on lease for at least 30 years, and also have duly audited financial statements for the previous three years. CWC gives grant to the NGOs and Educational Institutions for starting / expanding of the Industrial Training Institute (ITI) and Vocational Training Centers (VTCs) after due inspection and merit.

(d) No NGO, funded during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 so far, has been blacklisted.

Implementation of 15 point programme

2503. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of 15 Point Programme implemented so far;
- (b) the details of funds allocated and used so far;
- (c) the criteria set for allocation of funds; and
- (d) the programmes for Tenth and Eleventh Five Year Plans for Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The details of Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities that are under implementation are available in the Ministry's website www.minorityaffairs.gov.in

(b) Physical targets are allocated for the following schemes and the achievements against these in 2008-09 are given below:-

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme and Ministry/Departments concerned	Physical	
		Target	Achievement
1.	Merit-cum-means scholarship for students from the minority communities [Ministry of Minority Affairs]	867	1411
2.	Post-matric scholarship for students from the minority communities [Ministry of Minority Affairs]	7586	7178
3.	Pre-matric scholarship for students from the minority communities [Ministry of Minority Affairs]	27353	25923

The funds earmarked for minorities, under the schemes included in the programme, which are considered amenable to earmarking, and achievements against these in 2008-09, are given below:-

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme and Ministry/Departments concerned	Financial (Rs. in crore)	
		Funds amenable to earmarking	Achievement
1.	Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) [M/o Rural Development]	1128.58	1040.28
2.	Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY) [M/o Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation]	34.26	16.83
3.	Upgradation of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) into Centres of Excellence [Ministry of Labour & Employment]	23.80	17.88
4.	Priority Sector Lending: D/o Financial Services	86774.01	82864.65

(c) and (d) The Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities announced in June, 2006, provides that, wherever possible, 15% of targets and outlays under various schemes should be earmarked for minorities. It envisages location of a certain proportion of development projects in minority concentration areas. State/Union Territory-wise targets for minorities, including for Andhra Pradesh, are earmarked every year under various schemes of different Ministries/Departments for the Eleventh Five Year Plan, included in the programme, which are considered amenable to earmarking. The Prime Minister's 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities implemented during the Tenth Five Year Plan did not contain any programme specific interventions.

Monitoring of New 15 Point Programme

2504.SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased state:

(a) the details regarding the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) how the progress of programme is monitored in various Public Sector Undertakings and banks in particular; and

(c) how the Ministry is managing/supervising progress in various States without any Nodal Officer or Agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The details of Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities are available in the Ministry's website www.minorityaffairs.gov.in. This is being implemented uniformly throughout the country.

(b) and (c) The various existing schemes of different Ministries/Departments included in the programme have their separate monitoring mechanism at the Centre, State/Union Territory (UT) and district levels. State/UT-wise targets for minorities are earmarked every year under various schemes

of different Ministries/Departments included in the programme, which are considered amenable to earmarking, and are monitored through their separate monitoring mechanisms. The implementation of the programme is monitored at the State/UT and district levels by the State/district level committees for implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities. At the Centre, the progress of implementation of programme, monitored and reported by the various Ministries/Departments concerned, is reviewed on half yearly basis by a Committee of Secretaries and by the Cabinet. In addition to this, quarterly review meetings are held in the Ministry of Minority Affairs with the nodal officers of the Ministries/Departments concerned.

Literacy among Muslim women

2505.SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that percentage of literates among Muslim women is lower, particularly in rural areas and in poor families, which is almost 20 per cent less than other communities; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed by Government to improve the situation, to organize free, compulsory education upto graduate level for women from minority communities, by extending boarding and hostel facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Community-wise literacy rates for women are given in the Statement (See below).

(b) Information will be laid on the table of the House.

Statement

Literacy rate (Females) by religious communities - 2001
(India, States and Union territories)

India/ States/ Union territories	All religious communities	Hindus	Muslims	Christians	Sikhs	Buddhists	Jains	Others
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
India	53.7	53.2	50.1	76.2	63.1	61.7	90.6	33.2
Jammu & Kashmir	43.0	59.0	34.9	60.9	77.6	49.0	83.3	37.8
Himachal Pradesh	67.4	67.7	46.6	79.5	76.2	64.7	94.8	74.3
Punjab	63.4	68.3	43.4	47.0	61.2	64.4	94.2	60.7
Chandigarh	76.5	74.2	56.3	85.1	88.5	89.1	95.8	69.4
Uttaranchal	59.6	61.7	40.3	85.3	64.2	68.0	94.4	52.3
Haryana	55.7	57.1	21.5	81.8	62.2	54.9	90.7	57.7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Delhi	74.7	75.4	59.1	91.7	89.1	75.6	95.1	86.5
Rajasthan	43.9	43.2	40.8	77.7	53.8	55.1	89.3	40.2
Uttar Pradesh	42.2	43.1	37.4	67.4	63.8	40.3	90.3	52.0
Bihar	33.1	33.4	31.5	66.4	73.3	42.2	90.8	14.9
Sikkim	60.4	60.5	52.0	65.2	87.1	59.8	86.2	54.5
Arunachal Pradesh	43.5	52.4	44.9	37.8	79.2	34.6	75.7	42.7
Nagaland	61.5	65.6	33.3	61.6	72.7	70.1	92.2	37.8
Manipur	60.5	64.7	41.6	58.5	79.8	38.2	93.5	63.4
Mizoram	86.7	81.2	57.4	91.4	88.7	34.5	55.7	94.1
Tripura	64.9	67.3	51.4	57.3	89.5	37.4	78.4	65.3
Meghalaya	59.6	60.3	35.2	63.3	64.1	64.3	65.3	44.7
Assam	54.6	61.1	40.2	48.0	83.8	60.4	93.0	67.8
West Bengal	59.6	63.1	49.8	62.3	82.0	66.2	88.9	34.2
Jharkhand	38.9	39.2	42.7	59.8	82.3	48.7	86.0	25.1
Orissa	50.5	50.6	62.3	44.1	86.1	58.8	89.6	26.5
Chhattisgarh	51.9	50.8	74.0	68.2	84.7	76.9	94.8	38.4,
Madhya Pradesh	50.3	49.0	60.1	81.4	76.7	62.6	93.6	37.6
Gujarat	57.8	56.7	63.5	71.2	79.7	58.6	93.5	64.1
Daman & Diu	65.6	64.4	72.4	82.7	89.4	63.0	91.6	80.5
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	40.2	38.7	72.9	50.8	95.2	43.1	90.7	78.9
Maharashtra	67.0	65.9	70.8	87.4	84.5	65.2	92.3	64.8
Andhra Pradesh	50.4	49.2	59.1	69.8	72.7	41.0	89.6	63.2
Karnataka	56.9	55.3	63.0	84.0	77.3	42.0	77.2	57.2
Goa	75.4	74.2	70.0	78.8	94.9	75.6	95.2	63.2
Lakshadweep	80.5	95.8	80.2	96.4	-	100.0	-	-
Kerala	87.7	86.7	85.5	93.5	89.1	88.4	93.4	89.1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Tamil Nadu	64.4	62.4	76.2	81.6	77.2	80.6	88.4	81.7
Pondicherry	73.9	72.5	82.6	82.9	78.1	93.3	93.6	86.4
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	75.2	75.1	86.8	71.6	90.7	83.0	100.0	81.1

Note: 1. Population figures for India and Manipur exclude those of Mao Maram, Paomata and Purul sub-divisions of Senapati district of Manipur.

2. All religious communities include 'Religion not stated'.

Progress of New 15 Point Programme

2506.SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the progress made so far in implementing Prime Ministers' New 15 Point Programme for the welfare of Minorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): Progress made in the implementation of The Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities in 2008-09 is given below:-

Sl.No.	Name of the scheme and Ministry/Dept. concerned	Physical achievement
1.	Merit-cum-means scholarship for students from the minority communities [Ministry of Minority Affairs]	26,195
2.	Post-matric scholarship for students from the minority communities [Ministry of Minority Affairs]	1,50,532
3.	Pre-matric scholarship for students from the minority communities [Ministry of Minority Affairs]	5,12,657
4.	Free coaching & allied scheme for students/candidates from the minority communities [Ministry of Minority Affairs]	5,522

Progress made in the implementation of schemes included in the 15 Point Programme, considered amenable to earmarking, where targets for minorities were fixed for 2008-09, is given below:

Sl.No.	Name of the scheme and Ministry/Dept. concerned	Physical achievement
1	2	3
1.	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) [Department of School Education & Literacy]	
(i)	Number of primary schools constructed	3266
(ii)	Number of upper primary schools constructed	2662
(iii)	Number of additional classrooms constructed	15563

1	2	3
(iv)	Number of new primary schools opened	1386
(v)	Number of new upper primary schools opened	3176
(vi)	Number of teachers sanctioned	15759
(vii)	Number of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) sanctioned in educationally backward blocks, having a substantial minority population	133
2.	Swarojgaris assisted under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) [Ministry of Rural Development]	275121
3.	BPL families assisted under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) [Ministry of Rural Development]	383245
4.	Beneficiaries assisted under Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY) [Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation]	
(i)	Micro-enterprises	24684
(ii)	Skill training	27837
Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme and Ministry/Dept. concerned	Financial achievement (Rs. in crore)
5.	Upgradation of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) into Centres of Excellence [Ministry of Labour & Employment]	17.88
6.	Priority Sector Lending [Department of Financial Services]	82864.65

As envisaged in the programme, the corpus of the Maulana Azad Education Foundation has been raised, as of now, to Rs.331.66 crore for implementing schemes and programmes for promotion of education among the minority communities. Further, the authorized share capital of the National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC) has been raised, as of now, to Rs.850 crore, and Rs.668.77 crore equity has been paid up for implementing loan schemes to improve the economic status of minorities living below double the poverty line.

Development of solar energy

2507.SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has drawn up any plan for development of solar energy to reduce dependence on fossil fuel-based energy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the current level of production of solar energy and plans for next three years?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b)
The Government is promoting development of the renewable energy sector, including solar energy through a mix of fiscal and financial incentives that include capital/interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation, nil/concessional excise and custom duties.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Solar photovoltaic home lighting systems, street lighting systems, lanterns, power plants, water pumping systems and systems for electrification of remote villages and hamlets aggregating to about 73 MW peak capacity have been installed in the country up to 31st March, 2009 under the Ministry's programmes. In addition, 2.5 million square meters collector area of solar water heating systems and 6.37 lakhs solar cookers have been installed in the country upto 31st March, 2009. A target of generating 50 MW of power from solar energy has been fixed for the 11th Plan Period.

Renewable energy deals

2508.SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether renewable energy is an increasingly important arena for deal making, as companies and investors respond to growing role of renewable sources in meeting global energy demands and challenge of climatic change;

(b) whether India recorded total renewable deals of \$134 billion in 2008, which is about 7.3 per cent of total Asia-Pacific renewable deals and it stands third behind China and Australia;

(c) whether during 2007-08, 441 renewable deals were announced, with reported value totaling \$70.3 billion; and

(d) if so, to what extent wind and solar power sectors gear up energy deal and to what extent it has been helpful?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) Specific Data regarding deals in the renewable sector is not maintained. However these figures have been reported in the Annual Review for 2008 on renewable deals, brought out by M/s. Price Water House Coopers.

National mission on solar energy

2509.SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

SHRI MANGALA KISAN:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recommended a National Mission to boost the use of solar energy;

(b) if so, whether the existing technology would be used on new materials like solar concentrators to increase the use of solar energy; and

(c) whether this would contribute towards decarbonising India's growth trajectory through reducing our dependence on fossil fuels?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) The National Action Plan on Climate Change have identified development of solar energy in the country by setting up a National Solar Mission. Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is implementing several schemes to expand use of solar energy in the country by utilizing various technology options, including solar concentrators. Many of the solar energy applications such as solar lights, solar roof top systems, concentrating solar cookers and solar water heaters etc, are already helping in saving of kerosene, diesel or fuel oil.

Schemes of renewable energy

2510. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names and details of various' schemes being implemented/proposed to be implemented by the Ministry to increase generation of new and renewable energy in the country; and

(b) the details of physical/ financial performance of these schemes and achievements made thereunder, so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) The schemes/ programmes being implemented to increase generation of power from renewable energy sources include mainly the following:

- (i) Wind power programme
- (ii) Small Hydro Power programme (upto 25 MW)
- (iii) Biomass Power/ Cogeneration programme
- (iv) Urban & Industrial Waste to Energy programme
- (v) Solar Power programme

Various fiscal and financial Incentives are being extended under these programmes to promote the setting up of the renewable power generation projects, mainly through private investment. These include capital/ interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation and nil/ concessional excise and customs duties. Preferential tariff for grid interactive renewable power is also being given in most potential States.

(b) A grid-interactive power, generation installed capacity of around 14,772 MW from various renewable energy sources has been set up as on 30.06.2009. State-wise and programme-wise details thereof are given in the Statement (*See below*). This apart, around 374 MW of off-grid/ captive power generation capacity from different renewable energy sources has been also established in different parts of the country. The projects for generation of renewable power have been set up with mostly private investment. The estimated total investment on these projects over the last 25 years is estimated at over Rs. 60, 000 crore. Central financial assistance in these projects has been less than 5% of the total investment. This excludes the available fiscal concessions such as accelerated depreciation and concessional excise & customs duties.

Statement

*State-wise details of cumulative grid interactive renewable
power installed capacity as on 30.06.2009*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Small	Wind	Bio-Power		Solar	Total
		Hydro Power (MW)	Power (MW)	Biomass/Cogen. (MW)	Waste to Energy (MW)	Power (MW)	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	180.83	122.50	368.25	35.26	0.10	706.94
2	Arunachal Pradesh	61.32				0.02	61.34
3	Assam	27.11					27.11
4	Bihar	54.60					54.60
5	Chhattisgarh	18.05		156.10			174.15
6	Goa	0.05					0.05
7	Gujarat	7.00	1591.90	0.50	0.50		1599.90
8	Haryana	62.70		6.00			68.70
9	Himachal Pradesh	235.92		7.20			243.12
10	Jammu & Kashmir	121.83					121.83
11	Jharkhand	4.05					4.05
12	Karnataka	573.45	1351.00	294.18	1.00		2219.63
13	Kerala	133.87	27.00	0.72		0.02	161.61
14	Madhya Pradesh	71.16	212.80	3.42	2.75	0.10	290.23
15	Maharashtra	211.33	1967.70	146.50	1.00		2326.53

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16	Manipur	5.45					5.45
17	Meghalaya	31.03		13.80			44.83
18	Mizoram	24.47					24.47
19	Nagaland	28.67					28.67
20	Orissa	44.30	3.20	2.46			49.96
21	Punjab	123.90		58.00	9.25	0.32	191.47
22	Rajasthan	23.85	735.40	31.30		0.15	790.70
23	Sikkim	47.11					47.11
24	Tamil Nadu	90.05	4373.90	402.66	4.25	0.05	4870.91
25	Tripura	16.01					16.01
26	Uttar Pradesh	25.10		379.36	5.00	0.38	409.84
27	Uttaranchal	127.92				0.05	127.97
28	West Bengal	98.40	1.10			0.05	99.55
29	Andaman & Nicobar	5.25				0.10	5.35
30	Chandigarh						
31	Dadar & Nagar Haveli						
32	Daman & Diu						
33	Delhi						
34	Lakshadweep					0.76	0.76
35	Pondicherry					0.02	0.02
TOTAL (MW)		2454.78	10386.50	1870.45	59.01	2.12	14772.86

MW = megawatt

Implementation of NETCOF scheme

2511. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched Non-conventional Energy Technology Commercialization Fund (NETCOF) Scheme;

(b) if so, the details, alongwith the objectives thereof;

(c) the number of non-conventional energy technologies financed and successfully commercialized under the scheme during the last three years; and

(d) the total amount sanctioned and spent under the scheme during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) The Non-conventional Energy Technology Commercialization Fund (NETCOF), was created by the Ministry during 2000-2001, with an objective to support commercialization of indigenous or imported technologies through equity, loan, etc. or a suitable mix of these.

(c) and (d) No proposal was received under the scheme and the scheme was discontinued during 2004-05.

Oil and gas reserves explored by ONGC

†2512. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the oil/gas reserves explored by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation during the last three years;

(b) the details of oil/gas reserves explored by the private sector companies during the said period;

(c) whether a biased attitude is being adopted in exploration of oil /gas reserves, in order to benefit the private sector at the cost of public sector companies;

(d) if so, whether Government has conducted any inquiry in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) In place oil and gas reserves explored by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) in last three years *i.e.* from 2006-07 to 2008-09 are 636.54 million metric tonne oil equivalent (MMTOE).

(b) In place oil and gas reserves explored by Private/JV companies in last three years *i.e.* from 2006-07 to 2008-09 are 222.60 million metric tonne oil equivalent (MMTOE).

(c) Government of India awards exploration blocks on international competitive bid basis to national oil companies *viz.*, ONGC and OIL, as well as to private and foreign companies through a

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

transparent bidding process, wherein companies have the option to bid for exploration blocks as per their assessment of prospectivity, and all companies compete on basis of equal terms and conditions.

(d) and (e) Does not arise in view of reply given in part (c).

Sub standard quality of CRMB

2513. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received complaints that the Crumb Rubber Modified Bitumen (CRMB), being supplied by Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) from its refineries in Mathura, Panipat, Koyoli and Haldia, is of sub-standard quality, not conforming to the Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) specifications, and even without IOCL test report of CRMB;

(b) if so, the Government's response thereto; and

(c) what precautions IOCL is taking to ensure that quality of CRMB dispatched is as per BIS specifications and test report is given alongwith every dispatch?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

(c) To ensure the quality of CRMB, IOCL is taking due precautions by way of testing CRMB in the IOCL laboratory as per BIS specifications before release. The test report is given on demand to customers.

Adulteration of motor fuels with kerosene

2514. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 6.5 million BPL families depend on kerosene for their cooking and lighting needs;

(b) whether the oil marketing companies use markers on kerosene supplied by PDS to BPL families, to prevent adulteration of motor fuels with low priced kerosene;

(c) whether it is a fact that such markers are blended with kerosene and cause fumes which are toxic and carcinogenic; and

(d) if so, whether the markers are tested for human safety and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Allocation of Public Distribution System (PDS) Kerosene is made by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to different States/Union Territories (UTs) on a quarterly basis for distribution under PDS for cooking and illumination only. Further distribution within the States/UTs

through their PDS network is the responsibility of the concerned States/UTs. The scale of distribution of PDS kerosene per card holder, is decided by the State Government and it varies from State to State. Some of the States are distributing PDS kerosene to Above Poverty Line (APL) cardholders in addition to BPL cardholders.

(b) With effect from 01 Jan 2009 no marker is used in kerosene.

(c) and (d) No marker is being blended with kerosene as on date. However, adequate precautions would be taken as and when marker is blended in PDS kerosene in future to safeguard against any health hazard.

Oil refinery in Rajasthan

†2515. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil and natural gas reserves have been discovered in various districts of Rajasthan; if so, the areas in which surveys for oil and gas reserves have been completed;

(b) whether the Central Government has finalized any plan for setting up of an oil refinery in any area of Rajasthan; and

(c) if so, the details of area which has been selected for setting up of oil refinery and by when construction work would commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Yes, Sir. Oil and Natural Gas has been discovered in the districts of Barmer, Jalore and Jaisalmer in Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) Government of India had nominated Mangalore Refinery Private Limited (MRPL), a subsidiary company of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) for setting up a Refinery. The proposal to set up an oil refinery in Barmer is subject to techno-commercial viability to be assessed by ONGC.

Increase in oil refining capacity of IOC

†2516. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Oil Corporation has decided to increase the oil refining capacity of the country by investing Rs.60,000 crore;

(b) if so, the details thereof and how much additional oil refining capacity this investment is likely to generate;

(c) whether Government has considered the economic aspect of increasing oil refining capacity of the country;

(d) if so, whether this project would be economically viable; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) if so, the assessment with regard to its viability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has decided to set up a new refinery at Paradip, Orissa with a refining capacity of 15 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA) and increase the refining capacity of its refineries at Panipat by 3 MMTPA and Haldia by 1.5 MMTPA at a total approved cost of Rs.33,653.83 crore resulting in an increase of 19.5 MMTPA in the refining capacity. In addition, IOCL is implementing fuel quality upgradation projects at its existing refineries to produce Euro-III/IV quality fuels, at an approved cost of Rs.25,959.99 crore.

(c) to (e) The refining sector was delicensed in June, 1998. Since then a refinery can be set up anywhere in India by private or public sector enterprises depending on the promoters' assessment of its viability. Public or private sector enterprises consider proposals for setting up new refineries/expansion of capacity depending on economic viability.

Increase in refining capacity will boost export earnings from petroleum products through value addition. It will also enhance energy security by meeting the energy needs of the country in a cost-effective manner.

Price fixation of NG from KG basin

2517. SHRI VIRENDRA BHATIA:

SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

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

(a) what is the criteria and basis adopted by Government in fixing the prices of natural gas being extracted by Reliance from KG basin; and

(b) whether all the stakeholders have followed transparent and acceptable guidelines for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) approved a price formula for the KG D6 gas, based on which the current gas price works out to US\$ 4.20 per mmbtu at a crude price greater or equal to US \$ 60 per barrel.

The EGoM, while approving the price formula took into account the prices obtained by the producer / contractor from the market through a tendering process. It also considered the interest of various stakeholders including those in the Power and Fertilizer sectors.

Gas price formula in US dollar

2518. SHRI VIRENDRA BHATIA:

SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

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

- (a) whether Government has fixed the Gas Price Formula in US dollar denomination for the domestic KG Basin gas for domestic consumption;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) what is the period of validity of the price formula; and
- (d) what is the reason for this period of validity of the price formula?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Gas prices are generally indexed to liquid hydrocarbons such as crude oil and fuel oils etc. The international prices of these liquid fuels are quoted normally in US Dollars. Therefore, Empowered Group of Ministers has approved a gas price formula, which is denominated in US dollars for KG Basin gas.

(c) and (d) The period of validity of the price formula is five years from the date of commencement of supply of gas from the project. A fixed period has been prescribed because the price formula/ price is linked with crude oil price which is volatile and a reasonable period of five years has been fixed to take care of any further adjustment(s).

Linking of natural gas price to international price

2519. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

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

- (a) the rationale in linking the price of natural gas to the price of international basket of fuel oils, when production of natural gas is in no way related to production of fuel oils and when no credible international price for natural gas exists;
- (b) whether Government has any plan to desist from this way of calculating the fuel price;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) Natural Gas is used as a feedstock for petrochemical, urea & steel plants, and also as a fuel in almost all sectors of the economy. Natural gas is an alternative to liquid fuels. Hence, its price depends, *inter alia*, on the price of its alternatives, *viz.*, liquid fuels. Most international contracts for natural gas have a linkage with the price of liquid fuels.

Oil sector vision 2015

2520. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Central Government has recently unveiled the oil sector vision 2015 and is exploring the possibility of direct transfer of subsidy to the beneficiaries accounts;

- (b) if so, in what manner direct transfer of subsidy to the beneficiaries would be given; and
- (c) by when such a scheme is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) To check diversion of PDS Kerosene and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) to black market and misuse of subsidy being given on Kerosene, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has formulated Vision-2015 "Consumer Satisfaction and Beyond" for the Oil Sector which includes possibility of direct cash transfer of subsidy on kerosene to beneficiaries account to be studied in rural areas and if found feasible to be expanded to other areas.

Possibility of direct cash transfer is being worked out.

Outstanding amount for turbine fuel

†2521 SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of airlines which have not paid the dues of turbine fuel;
- (b) the steps taken to recover the same; and
- (c) the loss being incurred by the petroleum companies due to the outstanding amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) As on 31st May 2009, five Airlines *i.e.* National Aviation Company of India Limited (NACIL), Jet Airways, Kingfisher Airlines, Paramount Airways and Spice Jet have dues against supply of Aviation Turbine Fuel to Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) namely Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL).

(b) In case Airlines fails to pay their dues beyond credit period, OMCs take action for recovery of dues in line with the mutually agreed commercial terms between them and Airlines. The defaulting Airlines are also put on 'Cash and Carry' and interest is recovered on all overdue payments.

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

(c) OMCs charge interest on delayed payment in line with their payment terms *inter alia* no loss is incurred by the OMCs unless the outstanding turn into bad debts.

Unstable oil policy regime

2522.SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

DR.T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether oil firms are facing unstable policy regime;
- (b) whether continued instability in policy regime makes business scenario uncertain for national and international oil companies;
- (c) whether fragmented energy policy creates ambiguity, forcing oil and gas companies to repeatedly make decisions in uncertain environment, which deters long-term planning;
- (d) if so, whether policy requires review to balance competing goals, security of supply, affordability, meeting demand, growth and climate changes; and
- (e) if so, by when oil policies are being considered to improve position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (e) Government abolished the Administered Pricing Mechanism (ARM) with effect from 1st April 2002 and decided that pricing of all petroleum products, except PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG, would be market-determined.

However, to protect the consumer and the economy from the increasing price volatility and uncertainty of the international oil prices since 2004-05, Government has been modulating the retail selling prices of the four sensitive petroleum products; namely Petrol, Diesel, Domestic LPG and PDS Kerosene as an administrative measure.

Since passing on the entire impact of the increase in the oil prices to the consumers would result in a steep increase in the domestic prices and aggravate inflationary conditions, the Government has been following an equitable Burden Sharing Mechanism, to ensure that the burden of under-recoveries was shared by all the stakeholders; namely the Government, the Public Sector Oil Companies and the consumers. By adopting this approach, the Government has not only protected the consumers from high international oil prices but also ensured the financial health of the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies.

Government is closely monitoring the international oil price situation and will take appropriate pricing decisions to protect the interest of the common man, particularly the vulnerable sections of society.

Sharing of subsidies

2523.SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government and Public Sector Oil Companies share burden of subsidies on petroleum products; and
- (b) if so, the ratio of sharing the burden during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) As passing on the entire impact of the steep increase in the international oil prices to the consumers would result in a sharp increase in the domestic retail selling prices of the

four sensitive petroleum products, *i.e.* Petrol, Diesel, Domestic LPG and PDS Kerosene, the Government has taken measures to ensure that the burden of international oil prices is shared by all the stakeholders, namely, the Government, the Upstream Oil Companies, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and the consumers, in the following manner:

- Government, through issue of Oil Bonds
- Public Sector Upstream Oil Companies, through price discounts to OMCs.
- OMCs to bear a portion of the under-recoveries, and
- Consumers, through minimal price increases.

			2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Total Under-recoveries					
Burden Sharing through					
A	Upstream Oil Companies- Price Discounts	Rs. Crore	20507	25708	32000*
	Share of total under-recoveries	(%)	41.5%	33.3%	31%
B	Government - Issue of Oil Bonds	Rs. Crore	24121	35290	71292
	Share of total under-recoveries	(%)	48.8%	45.8%	69%
C	Borne by Oil Marketing Companies	Rs. Crore	4759	16125	Nil
	Share of total under-recoveries	(%)	9.7%	20.9%	Nil

*During 2008-09, in addition, the upstream oil companies also contributed Rs. 943 crores towards import losses of OMCs.

LPG connections in Andhra Pradesh

2524. SHRI NANDI YELLAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new LPG connections per month sought by Andhra Pradesh Government during the financial year 2008-09 and for the current financial year, under Deepam scheme of the State Government;

(b) the total number of LPG connections sanctioned for the State under the said scheme during 2008-09 and till date during 2009-10;

(c) the gap between demand and supply, if any, alongwith the reasons for such gap; and

(d) the total number of new LPG connections proposed to be provided to the State during this year for the benefit of BPL women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that the Government of Andhra Pradesh had sought 10 lakh and 15 lakh new LPG connections under the Deepam Scheme during the year 2008-09 and 2009-10 respectively.

(b) to (d) OMCs had agreed to release 2.5 lakh new LPG connections under the Deepam Scheme during the year 2008-09 out of which 1,45,816 LPG connections were actually released in the State during that year.

Release of new LPG connections is a continuous process. The allocated LPG connections during the year 2008-09 could not be released due to delay in identification and releasing beneficiaries list by the State Government, the identified beneficiary approaching the distributor, time taken in verification of the authenticity of the beneficiary by the distributor and non-payment of security deposit by the State Government, OMCs have released 22,454 connections in the State during the period April, 2009 to June, 2009. While it is not possible at this stage to indicate the total number of LPG connections likely to be released by the OMCs during the year 2009-10 under the Scheme, OMCs have been advised to release the maximum number of possible LPG connections under the Scheme subject to availability of equipments, fulfilment of procedural requirements and payment of security deposit by the State Government.

Chaturvedi Panel Report

2525.SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering capping the profits of crude oil producers, as per the guidelines issued by the Chaturvedi panel report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the panel had recommended that public sector oil companies should contribute their revenues beyond \$75 a barrel to the Central exchequer, and the private producers needed to chip in 50 per cent of their incremental earnings;

(d) if so, the reaction of public and private sector oil companies in this regard; and

(e) in what manner Government plans to recover the increment profits made by the oil companies during the last year, when the oil prices had touched \$140 a barrel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) At present, no proposal has been formulated in this regard.

(b) to (e) Do not arise, in view of (a) above.

Market mechanism for sale price of NG from KG basin

2526.SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH:

SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

SHRI VIRENDRA BHATIA:

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

- (a) whether the only real gas price discovery for KG basin was NTPC's international tender, wherein the producer had quoted \$2.34 per mmbtu as the selling price;
- (b) whether any one till date has questioned the integrity of the tendering process;
- (c) if not why Government has chosen to subvert the market mechanism and fix its own prices at \$4.20 per mmbtu instead of \$2.34 per mmbtu as tendered by the producer; and
- (d) the action being proposed by Government to keep the price of natural gas low, so that cost of production of power and fertilizer used by the common man is low?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) Under the Production Sharing Contract (PSC), the producer/ contractor is required to discover an arms length price to the benefits of parties to the contract. As per the PSC, the formula or basis on which the prices shall be determined shall be approved by the Government. The Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) approved a price formula for the KG D6 gas, based on which the current gas price has been worked out at US\$ 4.20 per mmbtu at a crude price greater or equal to US \$ 60 per barrel.

The EGoM, while approving the price formula took into account the prices obtained by the producer / contractor from the market through a tendering process. It also considered the interest of various stakeholders including those in the Power and Fertilizer sectors.

Training cum research centre for petroleum and natural gas at Guwahati

2527.SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the present position of the proposed establishment of training cum research centre for petroleum and natural gas at Khanapara in Guwahati, Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): There is no such project for establishing Training-cum-Research Centre for petroleum and natural gas at Khanapara in Guwahati, Assam. However, there is a proposal under consideration for establishing Assam Centre of the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum & Technology, Rai Bareilly, UP.

Strike by petroleum employees

†2528. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

(a) whether Government's plan to bring a legislation to make it illegal for petroleum employees to go on strike has been turned down by the Ministry of Law and Justice;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of exact losses suffered by various State-owned oil companies due to strikes etc., in the recent past; and

(d) the strategy to be adopted to ensure that the employees of oil companies do not go on strikes, etc. in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Law and Justice has advised the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to obtain the views of Ministry of Labour.

(c) The estimated loss as reported by the Oil PSUs is Rs.459.67 Crores.

(d) As a preventive strategy, the oil sector PSUs have formulated several proactive interventions, such as, strengthening the consultative approach for prompt resolution of disputes, regular deliberations with the employees collectives, delineating the roles and responsibilities of Officers Association as well as Management for resolving all employees' and welfare related issues, disputes and grievances through process of mutual and constructive dialogue at appropriate level in the company, introduction of Code of Conduct for employees collectives, stricter enforcement of disciplinary rules, inclusion of "Service in any Oilfield" as a "Public Utility Service" by amendment of Section 2(n) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, etc.

Expert Committee on price fixation of petroleum products

†2529. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to constitute a new expert committee for policy making on fixation of consumer sale prices of petroleum products in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for the above decision and whether a committee along the same line was constituted in past years; and

(d) if so, the time when such committees were constituted and the time by when the new price fixation policy would be made?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) In the recent Budget speech Government has announced constitution of an Expert Group to advise on a viable and sustainable system of pricing of petroleum products.

The Government¹ had constituted a High Power Committee to Review the Financial Position of Oil Companies in June, 2008. The Committee submitted its report in July, 2008.

Government is modulating the retail prices of the sensitive petroleum products *i.e.* Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG to protect the consumers from high international oil prices.

Government is closely monitoring the international oil price situation and will take appropriate pricing decisions to protect the interest of the common man, particularly the vulnerable sections of society.

India-Iran gas pipeline

2530.SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of India-Iran gas pipeline;
- (b) whether Pakistan has agreed to reduce transit fee for gas from Iran to India;
- (c) if so, the details of the transit fee proposed by Pakistan and the reaction of Government thereon;
- (d) the details of the commitment given by Pakistan regarding safety of the India-Iran gas pipeline; and
- (e) by when this gas pipeline agreement is likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) India is pursuing the import of natural gas from Iran through Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) Gas Pipeline Project. Various important issues, *viz.*, pricing of gas, delivery point of gas, project structure, security of supplies, payment of transportation tariff and transit fees for passage of natural gas through Pakistan, etc., are under discussion amongst the participating countries.

(e) Such multilateral projects involve protracted discussions, as all the aspects have to be carefully examined and deliberated upon to the satisfaction of the participating countries to protect each country's interests and to avoid any problems in the future in the successful operation of the Project. Finalization of the agreement can be achieved when satisfactory resolution of the issues under discussion is reached by the countries participating in the project, *viz.*, Iran, Pakistan and India. As such, no definite time frame can be indicated for finalization of the agreement.

Exchange rate for payment of gas to RIL

2531. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

SHRI VIRENDRA BHATIA:

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

- (a) what would be USD / INR exchange rate for the payment of gas to Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) by Government owned power and fertilizer companies;
- (b) whether there is any change in the decision conveyed by the Ministry to RIL on applicability of the USD/ INR exchange rate under the approved price formula; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) The exchange rate is fixed on the monthly average of the daily mean of the buying and selling rates of exchange as quoted by State Bank of India (or any other financial body as may be mutually agreed by the parties) for the Month prior to the Month in which the revenues, costs, expenditures, receipts or income are recorded as per the provisions of the Production Sharing Contract.

Initiatives under RGGVY

2532. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of initiatives taken under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) during the current year, State-wise, especially in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (b) the funds allocated and utilized under this flagship programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) The following initiatives were taken during the current year to expedite the implementation of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY):

- i. Conference of Power Ministers of States was convened by Ministry of Power on 23rd June, 2009.
- ii. Monitoring Committee held its meeting in the Month of June and July 2009. Review meetings were also held in the States of Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand.
- iii. Video Conferencing was held with Energy Secretaries of North Eastern Region (NER) States and Secretary (Power) on the issue of Power Development in NER States and implementation of RGGVY.

During the current year, the electrification of 2645 un/de-electrified villages and intensive electrification of 7885 electrified villages have been reported. Further, 8.74 lakh service connections to BPL households have been provided in the sanctioned projects under RGGVY as on 30.06.2009.

State-wise achievements of un/de-electrified villages, intensive electrification of electrified villages and release of BPL connections during the year 2009-10 (up to 30.06.2009) for the sanctioned projects under RGGVY, are given in the Statement (*See below*). In Andhra Pradesh, intensive electrification of 1194 electrified villages have been completed and 1,21,590 BPL households connections have been released under RGGVY during the current financial year as on 30.06.2009.

(b) Government has accorded approval for capital subsidy of Rs.28,000 crore for execution of RGGVY during 11th Plan in addition to Rs.5000 crore approved for execution of RGGVY during 10th Plan period. An amount of Rs.14952.96 crores have been disbursed for the sanctioned projects under RGGVY as on 30.06.2009.

Statement

*State-wise Achievement of electrification of villages & households
for the sanctioned projects under RGGVY*

Sl.No.	Name of State	During 2009-10 (upto 30.06.2009)		
		Un/De-electrified Villages	Electrified Villages	BPL HH's
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	1194	121590
2	Arunachal Pradesh	54	24	49
3	Assam	90	258	23315
4	Bihar	557	75	68921
5	Chhattisgarh	4	256	17517
6	Gujarat	0	33	20793
7	Haryana	0	198	13734
8	Himachal Pradesh	0	77	64
9	Jammu & Kashmir	2	245	2232
10	Jharkhand	1163	304	88983
11	Karnataka	0	326	59746
12	Kerala	0	2	1635
13	M.P	0	1388	23342
14	Maharashtra	0	1384	107965
15	Meghalaya	18	20	1879
16	Orissa	469	358	76383
17	Punjab	0	0	7008

1	2	3	4	5
18	Rajasthan	142	1063	31192
19	Tamil Nadu	0	0	43804
20	Uttar Pradesh	0	225	62175
21	Uttarakhand	32	449	52420
22	West Bengal	114	6	49585
TOTAL		2,645	7885	874332

Progress of rural electrification in Orissa

2533.SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rajiv Gandhi Kutir Jyoti Programme and rural electrification work in Orissa has made no progress because of lack of interest of implementing authority; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps Government intends to take for the progress of the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir. All the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) Projects for the State of Orissa have been sanctioned and are under implementation.

(b) For effective implementation of RGGVY, the following steps have been taken:

(i) States have been advised to set up district committees with representation from MPs & MLAs to monitor the progress of rural electrification works.

(ii) The Government of India as also Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), conduct frequent review meetings with all the stakeholders; the concerned State Governments, State power utilities and implementing agencies for expeditious implementation of the scheme on the agreed schedules.

(iii) For speedier and effective implementation of projects, execution has been taken up on turnkey basis.

(iv) To ensure qualitative execution of rural electrification works, a three tier quality control mechanism has been enforced under RGGVY.

(v) Fund flow has been streamlined.

(vi) Chief Ministers have been requested for expeditious implementation of the scheme.

(vii) Chief Secretaries of States have been requested to resolve State level issues by holding State level Coordination Committee meetings for expeditious implementation of the scheme.

(viii) Grant amount of BPL connection has been enhanced to Rs.2200/- from Rs.1500/- .

(ix) To take care of the cost escalation, cost norms for village electrification have been revised upward.

Lower Subansiri Hydro Project

2534.SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received to stop the work of ongoing project at Lower Subansiri Hydro Project, unless the latest Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is cleared;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to protect the population and cultivable land downstream from floods, which occur on sudden release of water from these hydro projects in Arunachal Pradesh and Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) The Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) for Subansiri Lower HE Project has already been completed in accordance with the then guidelines of Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) and environmental clearance was accorded by MoEF on 16.07.2003.

(c) As a special case, a study on "Downstream Impact of Subansiri Lower HE Project" has been awarded to Guwahati University by NHPC Ltd. and the study is under progress. The study is being undertaken by the University of Guwahati in association with the experts of Dibrugarh University & IIT, Guwahati and the study report is to be submitted by University of Guwahati by September, 2009.

Setting up of new energy efficiency company

2535.SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to form a new energy efficiency company, to be named as Energy Efficiency Services Ltd. (EESL);

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

(c) what would be the equity participation/share-holding pattern of the new entity; and

(d) what would be the business plans of this company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Energy Efficiency Services Ltd. (EESL) will be a joint venture company with equity participation of 25% each from its promoters viz., the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL), Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd. (REC) and Power Finance Corporation (PFC). It will provide implementation leadership in the area of Energy efficiency and undertake implementation of energy efficiency schemes.

It will, therefore, act as an Energy Service company for certain schemes, as a Consultancy Organization for CDM projects for demand side management and in the industrial sector and as a resource centre for training and capacity building of "utilities and other stakeholders. A consolidated business plan has been prepared taking into account the above role of EESL which indicates the economic viability of the company based on aforementioned schemes and with a projected Internal Rate of Return (IRR) of 22%.

Projects under RGGVY in Kerala

2536.SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd. had sanctioned/in principle approved, project proposals for electrification of rural areas in various districts of Kerala under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY);

(b) if so, the details, including the present status, of the above proposals;

(c) whether any of these proposals have been shifted to 2nd phase of Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the details of the positive steps to be taken to issue sanction for implementation of the scheme during 2009-10; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (f) The status of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) projects sanctioned under 10th Plan and identified under Phase-II of 11th Plan of Kerala is given in the Statement (*See below*). As on 01-07-2009 for 1 DPR for 1 district covering 23799 rural households including 17834 BPL households has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 19.75 crores for the State of Kerala during X Plan. The contract has been awarded at an awarded cost of Rs.19.95 crores. 13 Projects of Kerala are kept in Phase-II of the 11th Plan as they will high cost compared to benchmark cost under RGGVY. An amount of Rs.26.36 crores has been released to the State. So far 11,625 BPL household connections have been released in the State of Kerala under RGGVY.

Statement

Status of RGGVY projects in Kerala

Sl.No.	Name of State & District(s)	Name of Implementing Agency	Total Cost of Project (Rs. Lakh)	Status of Processing
1	2	3	4	5
1	Idukki	KSEB	1975.95	Sanctioned
	Sub -Total (X Plan)		1975.95	
1	Kannur	KSEB		
2	Kasargod	KSEB		
3	Kozhikode	KSEB		
4	Malappuram	KSEB		
5	Palakkad	KSEB		
6	Wayanad	KSEB		
7	Thiruvananthapuram	KSEB		Identified for
8	Kollam	KSEB		phase II
9	Ernakulam	KSEB		
10	Thrissur	KSEB		
11	Kottayam	KSEB		
12	Alappuzha	KSEB		
13	Pathanamthitta	KSEB		
13	Sub -Total (XI Plan Phase-II)			
14	Total (Kerala)			

Allocation of power to Andhra Pradesh

2537.SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested that power generated through Phase-II of Simhadri Power Station may be allocated to the State, in view of severe shortage of power in the State;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Ministry has rejected the request so made; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of Andhra Pradesh had requested for at least 85% of power from Simhadri Stage-II (2x500 MW) of NTPC Ltd.

(b) and (c) The project has been approved by NTPC Ltd.'s Board as a Regional Power Station supplying power to all Southern States *i.e.* Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Union Territory of Puducherry. As such the allocation of power from this station shall be made as per guidelines for allocation of power from Central Generating Stations. Andhra Pradesh would be entitled to its share including home State share in line with the prevailing guidelines of Ministry of Power.

Bachat Lamp Yojana

2538.SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been consulted initiatives, both in public and private sectors, to promote the use of CFL, to effect substantial saving in power consumption;

(b) whether the Bachat Lamp Yojana (BLY) has been launched to replace high wattage incandescent bulb with 11-15 watt. CFL;

(c) whether these initiatives, jointly by Government, CFL makers and power distribution companies, would have, any subsidy components; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Bachat Lamp Yojana (BLY) scheme has been formally launched by the Minister of Power on 25th February, 2009.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Power shortage

2539.SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of power to the tune of 15 per cent during peak period in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the per capita consumption of electricity would reach more than 1000 units in the next two years; and

(c) if so, how the Ministry is planning to overcome the 15 per cent shortage and meet the increasing per capita demand in the country as various projects of 67,593 MW are still in primitive stage of construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) During the period April-June, 2009, the peak shortage in the country was of the order of 12.3% (13,711 MW).

(b) The per capita consumption of electricity is likely to increase in the next two years depending upon the power supply position, consumer usage pattern and new generating capacity additions in the system.

(c) The following steps have been taken/are being taken to meet the shortage and increasing the per capita consumption of power in the country:-

i) A capacity addition target of 78,700 MW from conventional energy sources has been set for the 11th Plan. Out of this, a capacity of approximately 15,075 MW has been commissioned.

ii) Development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4,000 MW each.

iii) Harnessing surplus captive power into the grid. A capacity of 12,000 MW of captive power is likely to be added to the system during 11th Plan.

iv) Launch of 50,000 MW hydro initiative for accelerated development of hydro power in the country.

v) Renovation, Modernization & Life Extension of old and inefficient generating units.

vi) Promoting demand side management, energy efficiency and energy conservation measures.

vii) Augmentation of gas supply to utilize the stranded capacity of gas based power stations.

viii) Import of coal to bridge the gap between the requirement of coal and its availability from the domestic sources.

ix) Reduction of Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) losses under Restructured Accelerated Power Development Reforms Programme (RAPDRP).

Power project in Andhra Pradesh

2540.SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has sent any proposal for the financial help from the Ministry for the 4,000 mega watt prestigious project done through APGENCO in Kanaparathi area of Prakasam district of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken, so far; and

(d) if not, by when action would be taken and funds would be released to this prestigious project in the State to complete it in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, questions do not arise.

Allocation of power from CGS to Kerala

2541.SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of criteria for allocation of power from Central Generating Stations (CGS);
- (b) whether there is any plan to revise the existing criteria; and
- (c) whether there is any decrease in the allocation of power from CGS to Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The allocation of power from Central Generating Stations (CGSs) to States/Union Territories is governed by a formula which is being treated as guidelines from April 2000. These guidelines provide for (i) 12% free power to affected State(s) in case of hydro power stations and 10% share (not free) to home State in case of Thermal and Nuclear stations, (ii) 73% in case of hydro and 75% in thermal and nuclear power stations is distributed amongst various constituent States / UTs, giving equal weightage to central plan assistance and total energy consumption during the previous five years and (iii) 15% power is kept unallocated at the disposal of Central Government to meet the urgent / overall requirements of States/UTs from time to time. The guidelines also provide that the power from the new Central Generating Stations be made available in accordance with the Power Purchase Agreements to be signed between the Central Public Sector Undertakings and State / UT.

(b) An in-house thinking process has been initiated in the Ministry of Power recently for examining the need to review the present arrangement relating to allocation of power, the process being in very preliminary stage for elaborations.

(c) The unallocated power of Central Generating Stations is re-distributed on a dynamic basis to meet the overall / urgent requirements of States/UTs. The quantum of this power being limited and fixed, allocation to one or more beneficiaries necessitates equivalent reduction from other beneficiaries. In view of high shortage of power in Puducherry, Ministry of Power has *vide* its order dated 22nd July, 2009, advised Central Electricity Authority to provide 25 MW power to Puducherry from the unallocated power in Central Generating Stations (CGSs) of Southern Region with equivalent reduction in the allocation of Kerala.

Energy Management Institute

2542.SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal for setting up of an Energy Management Institute;
- (b) if so, the location thereof; and
- (c) whether any steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a)
No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Question do not arise.

Mega power projects

2543.SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the identification of sites and other steps proposed to be taken for setting up ten mega power projects in the country; and

(b) the details with regard to each case, particularly about completion of the projects, quantum of energy to be produced and the area/areas likely to be served?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Power had launched an initiative for development of coal based Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs), each of about 4000 MW capacity. These projects are being developed on a Build, Own and Operate basis, and the project developers are selected through a tariff based competitive bidding process. The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in consultation with the States had originally identified nine locations for setting up of UMPPs. Out of these, UMPPs at Sasan in Madhya Pradesh, Mundra in Gujarat and Krishnapatnam in Andhra Pradesh have been transferred to the successful bidders and are under various stages of development. The Letter of Intent (LoI) for fourth UMPP at Talaiya in Jharkhand has been issued to the successful bidder on 12.02.2009.

In respect of other UMPPs, site at Cheyyur in Tamil Nadu, near Bedabahal village in Sundergarh in Orissa, in Salka & Khamaria villages near Udaipur in district Sarguja in Chhattisgarh and at Munge in Sindhudurg district in Maharashtra has been identified. The site in respect of Karnataka has not yet been finalized. Initiation of bidding process in respect of these UMPPs is contingent upon the availability of various requisite clearances including land and water availability from the respective State Governments.

Further, site at Kothapeta village of Vetapalam Mandal in Prakasham district in Andhra Pradesh has been identified for second UMPP. Requests have also been received from Orissa for two additional UMPPs and from Gujarat for second UMPP.

Full benefits of UMPPs are expected in the 12th Plan, however, as per revised Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), two units each of Sasan and Mundra UMPPs are expected to come in 11th Plan. When implemented, the energy generated from each of these projects could, at 80% Plant Load Factor (PLF), be of the order of 28000 MU per annum. The areas to be served by various UMPPs, for which power allocation has been made, are:

Sasan in Madhya Pradesh: - Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh.

Mundra in Gujarat: Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana, Gujarat and Maharashtra.

Maharashtra UMPP: Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Karnataka.

Karnataka UMPP: Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

Krishnapatnam in Andhra Pradesh: Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

Bedabahal Orissa UMPP: Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Tamil Nadu and Orissa.

Tilaiya in Jharkhand: Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Jharkhand and Bihar.

Cheyur in Tamil Nadu: Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh.

Chhattisgarh UMPP: Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

First Additional UMPP, Orissa: Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana, Orissa, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Jammu & Kashmir.

Second Additional UMPP, Orissa: Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Puducherry, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura.

Decline in share of hydro power

2544. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the share of hydro power has been decreasing after the Second Five Year Plan and now it has come down to 24 per cent from 45 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for delay in execution of hydro power projects;

(d) whether Government has received representations from the downstream States regarding the power projects being set up in hilly States; and

(e) if so, the details, thereof and the problems faced by NHPC in respect of underperformance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The share of hydro power at the end of Second Five Year Plan was about 41% which has come down to about 24.9 % at the end of 2008-09 (as on 31.03.2009).

(b) and (c) The main reasons for slow pace of development of hydro power in the country have been various factors, such as Difficult / in-accessible potential sites, Land Acquisition problems, Longer gestation period, Geological surprises, Inter-State related issues, Resettlement &

Rehabilitation problems, Law & Order problem, Force majeure (uncontrolled forces), Paucity of Funds in the past, Natural calamities such as unprecedented rains and floods, etc.

(d) to (e) During a meeting held on 4.6.2008 with the Hon'ble Minister of Power, the Hon'ble Energy Minister of Assam raised the issue of impact of the massive hydro power development in Arunachal Pradesh on the downstream areas of Assam and requested for conducting a study in this regard. The information regarding such studies awarded in respect of two central sector hydro electric projects *i.e.* Subansiri Lower (2000 MW) and Ranganadi (405 MW) is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Scope of study	Status
1	Subansiri Lower HE Project (2000 MW), NHPC Ltd.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To address critically the positive and negative environmental impacts of the Subansiri Lower Dam Project in the downstream area in Assam. To assess the distribution pattern of these impacts in area downstream, at village level (environmental, social and economic impacts). To suggest a management plan for direct impact zones, due to changing hydrological and other environmental conditions. To suggest socio-economic developmental plan for the affected village / people. To develop a deliberative mechanism to minimize downstream impacts. 	Study awarded in May, 2008 to Guwahati University, who are undertaking the same in association with Dibrugarh University and IIT, Guwahati. The final report is awaited.
2.	Ranganadi HE Project St.-I (405 MW), NEEPCO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hydro-meteorological study of the Dikrong-Panyor Basin and its impact on flood scenario at downstream of Ranganadi Hydro-electric Project and ongoing Pare Hydro-electric Project with and without dam. Study of the downstream river network, their pattern and flow contribution to both Ranganadi and Pare Rivers. Determination of safe carrying capacity of both Ranganadi and Pare Rivers on the downstream flood prone area. 	Work awarded to IIT, Guwahati on 28.4.2009. As per contract, work is to be completed within six months.

In addition to above, a representation was received in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) from the Govt. of Assam regarding possible ramification of storing huge amount of water under **Dibang MPP (3000 MW)** in Arunachal Pradesh. As per NHPC, site specific seismic parameters for the project have been got studied and evaluated by Department of Earthquake Engineering, IIT, Roorkee and report stands submitted to National Committee on Seismic Design Parameters (NCSDP), Govt. of India, for approval. The Dam shall be designed based on seismic parameters as approved by NCSDP. Geological Survey of India (GSI) recommended to carry out dam break hazard analysis and risk management study of the downstream area as per the International practice.

A representation was received in CEA from Govt. of West Bengal regarding reduction in availability of water of Teesta river in West Bengal due to **Teesta-VI H. E. Project (4 x 125 = 500 MW)** in Sikkim which is under construction. Govt. of West Bengal was informed that this aspect was considered by CEA while according concurrence to the Teesta-VI H.E. Project. Further, Teesta-VI H.E. Project is located completely in Sikkim and, does not involve construction of any structure across Teesta river in the portion forming boundary with West Bengal. It is a Run-of-River scheme having limited pondage and does not involve any consumptive use of water.

Power supply by thermal power plants in Haryana

†2545. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of thermal power plants established in the country during the last five years, location-wise;
- (b) the details of demand and supply of power in Haryana;
- (c) whether power demand in Haryana is met only by thermal plants of the State and the details of power generation in different thermal plants; and
- (d) the generation and supply of power during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The year-wise & location-wise details of Thermal Power Projects established in the country during the last five years *i.e.* from 2004-05 to 2008-09 are given in the Statement (*See below*). The total TPS aggregating 17,634 MW has been commissioned during this period.

(b) The details of demand and supply of power in Haryana for the month of June, 2009 and during the period April to June, 2009 is given below:

	Energy June' 09	(In Million Unit) April'09- June'09
Energy Requirement	2834	7717
Energy Availability	2615	7313
Energy Shortage	219	404
Energy Shortage (%)	7.7 %	5.2%

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

	Peak	(In Mega Watt)
	June '09 *	April '09- June '09 *
Peak Demand	6085	6085
Peak Met	5226	5226
Shortage	859	859
Shortage (%)	14.1%	14.1%

* Provisional

(c) The demand for power in Haryana is met, besides its own generation from thermal power plants of the State, from Central Sector Generating Stations in which Haryana has allocation. The details of power generation in Haryana in different thermal power stations in the State and Central Sector are given below:

2009-10 (April to June 2009)			
Sector	Station	Installed Capacity (MW)	Actual Generation (MU)
Central	Faridabad CCPP *	430	808.39
	Faridabad Extn.	110	139.58
	Panipat TPS	1360	2598.25
State	Yamuna Nagar TPS	600	953.64
	State Thermal (Total)	2070	3691.47

* NTPC project dedicated to Haryana.

CCPP: Combined Cycle Power Plant

(d) The actual generation in thermal power plants in Haryana during the last 3 years is given below:

(Figures in Million Unit)			
Station	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Faridabad CCPP	2830.9	2642	2380.5
Faridabad ext.	616.29	713.85	501.21
Panipat	9908.43	9862.18	9598.52
Yamuna Nagar TPP		114.19	3404.4
TOTAL :	13355.62	13332.2	15884.6

Statement

Thermal capacity addition during the last five years

Sl. No.	Name of the Project/ Unit No.	State/	Implementing Agency	Capacity established (MW)
1	2	3	4	5
2004-05				
A. Central Sector				
1.	Ramagundam STPS St-III	U-7	Andhra Pradesh / NTPC	500
2.	Talcher STPP St-II	U-5	Orissa/	500
		U-6	NTPC	500
3.	Mejia TPS Extn.	U-4	West Bengal / DVC	210
Sub Total (A)				1710
B. State sector				
1.	TDL (Panipat) TPS	U-7	Haryana /	250
		U-8	HPGCL	250
2.	Bairabi DGPP	DG 1-4	Mizoram/ Power & Elecy Deptt.	22.92
3.	Akrimota TPP	U-1	Gujarat/ GMDCL	125
4.	Rangat Bay DGPP	DG-1-2	A&N Islands /	2.4
		DG-3-5	A&NAdmn.	3.6
Sub Total (B):				653.92
C. Private sector				
1.	Karuppur CCPP	GT	Tamil Nadu/A. P. Co. Ltd.	70
Sub Total (C):				70
Total (A+B+C):				2433.92
D. Unit Preponed				
Central Sector				
1.	Rihand STPS-II	U-3	Uttar Pradesh/ NTPC	500
Grand Total (A+B+C+D)				2933.92
2005-06				
A. Central Sector				
1.	Rihand STPS-II	U-4	Uttar Pradesh / NTPC	500
Sub Total (A)				500

1	2	3	4	
B. State Sector				
1.	Akrimota Lignite based TPP	U-2	Gujarat / GMDCL	125
2.	Dhuvaran CCPP Extn.	GT	Gujarat/ GSECL	72
3.	Rokhia GT Extn.	GT-8	Tripura/ Govt. of Tripura	21
4.	Parichha TPS Extn.	U-3	UP / UPRVUNL	210
Sub Total (B):			428	
C. Private Sector				
1.	Valantharvi GTPP	GT	Tamil Nadu / Arkay Energy	38.0
2.	Karuppur CCPP	ST	Tamil Nadu / Aban Power Co. Ltd.	49.8
3.	Jegrupadu CCPP Extn.	GT	AP/GVK Industries	140
		ST		80
4.	Vemagiri CCPP	GT	AP/ Vemagiri Power Gen. Ltd.	233
5.	Jojobera TPP	U-1	Jharkhand/ Tata Power	120
Sub Total (C):			660.8	
Total (A+B+C)			1588.8	

2006-07

A. Central Sector				
1.	Unchahar TPS-III	U-5	UP/NTPC	210
2.	Vindhyachal TPS-III	U-9	MP/NTPC	500
		U-10		500
3.	Kahalgaoon STPS-II (Ph-I)	U-5	Bihar/ NTPC	500
4	Mejia TPC	U-5	WB/DVC	250
			Sub Total (A):	1960
B State Sector				
1.	Giral TPP	U-1	Rajasthan/ RRVUNL	125
2.	Dholpur CCPP (Ph-I)	GT-1	Rajasthan/ RRVUNL	110
3.	Parichha TPS Extn.	U-4	UP/UPRVUNL	210
4.	Korba East TPP St-V	U-1	Chhattis./ CSEB	250

1	2	3	4	
5.	New Parli TPS	U-1	Mah./MSPGCL	250
6.	Rayalaseema TPS-II	U-3	AP/APGENCO	210
SubTotal (B):				1155
C Private sector				
1.	Ratnagiri CCPP (Dabhol)	Block-II	Mah. / Ratnagiri Gas & PP Ltd.	740
2.	Vemagiri CCPP	ST	AP/ Vemagiri Power Gen. Ltd.	137
3.	Valantharvi GTPP	ST	Tamil Nadu/Arkay Energy	14.8
Sub Total (C):				891.8
Grand Total				4006.8
2007-08				
A Central Sector				
1	Sipat STPS-II	U-4	Chhattis/ NTPC	500
2	Kahaigaon STPS-II (Ph-I & II)	U-6	Bihar/NTPC	500
3	Ratnagiri Gas Power Project	Block-3	Mah. /Ratnagiri Gas & Power Pvt. Ltd.	740
4	Mejia TPS	U-6	West Bengal/DVC	250
Sub Total (A):				1990
B State Sector				
1	GHT(Lehra Mohabbat) TPS-II	U-3	Punjab/ PSEB	250
2.	Dholpur CCPP (Ph-I)	GT-2 ST	Rajasthan /RRVUNL	110 110
3	Korba East TPP St-V	U-2	Chhattis./ CSEB	250
4	Dhuvaran CCPP Extn.	ST	Gujarat/GSECL	40
5	Rayalaseema TPS-II	U-4	AP/APGENCO	210
6	Bellary TPP	U-1	Karnataka/ KPCL	500
7	Santaldih TPP	U-5	WB / WBPDC	250
8	Sagardighi TPP	U-1	WB/ WBPDC	300
9	Bakreshwar TPS-II	U-4	WB/ WBPDC	210
10	Yamuna Nagar TPP	U-1 U-2	Haryana/HPGCL	300 300

1	2	3	4
11	Durgapur TPS Extn.	U-7	WB/DPL 300
12	Sanjay Gandhi TPP Extn. St.III (Birsinghpur)	U-5	MP/MPPGCL 500
13	Paras TPS Extn	U-1	Maharashtra/MSPGCL 250
Sub Total (B):			3880
C Private sector			
I.	Jindal (Raigarh) TPP Ph. I & II	U-1 U-2 U-3	Chhattis./Jindal Power 250 250 250
Sub Total (C)			750
Grand Total (A+B+C):			6620
2008-09			
A. Central Sector			
1	Bhilai Extn. TPP	U-1	Chhattisgarh / NSPCL (NTPC & SAIL JV) 250
2	Sipat STPS-II	U-5	Chhattis./ NTPC 500
Sub Total (A):			750
B State sector			
1	GHTP (Lehra Mohabbat) TPS-II	U-4	Punjab/ PSEB 250
3	Sagardighi TPP -	U-2	WB/WBPDCL 300
5	Valuthur CCPP Extn.	GT ST	TN/TNEB 59.86 32.4
6	Amarkantak TPS Extn.	U-5	MP/MPPGCL 210
Sub Total (B)			852.2
C Private Sector			
1	OP Jindal (Raigarh) TPP Ph.I & II	U-4	Chhattis./Jindal Power 250
2.	Sugen CCPP *	Block-1	Gujarat /Torrent Power Gen. Ltd. 376
6	Trombay TPS Extn.	U-8	Maharashtra/ Tata Power Co 250
Sub Total (C)			882.5
Grand Total (A+B+C):			2484.7

* Capacity has been revised from 376 to 382.5 MW.

Status of power sector

2546.SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been serious shortage of power in the country;
- (b) whether Government is considering to address shortages of key players in power sector;
- (c) whether the Ministry is also considering to revamp rural electrification;
- (d) whether the Ministry has urged States to follow open access norms; and
- (e) if so, to what extent these steps have helped in fully achieving the power target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a)

There is an overall shortage of power in the country both in terms of energy and peaking power. The shortage varies from State to State on month to month, day to day and hour to hour basis depending upon the demand and supply of power. During the period April to June, 2009, the energy and peaking shortage in the country was 9.8% and 12.3% respectively.

(b) The steps taken / being taken to address the shortages of key players in the power sector include

- Enhancement of main plant equipment manufacturing capacity by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL).
- Joint Venture companies have been planned by NTPC Ltd. and BHEL, M/s L&T and MHI, Japan, M/s JSW and Toshiba, M/s Bharat Forge and Alstom, and M/s BB Engineering and Ansaldo for manufacture of various power plants equipments.

(c) The Government has envisaged rural electrification of 1,18,000 villages and free electricity connections to 1.75 crore BPL families under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY).

(d) and (e) The Electricity Act mandates the SERCs to provide Open access to consumers having load of more than one MW, latest by January, 2009.

In the Conference of Chief Secretaries held in February, 2008. States were advised to ensure notification of Open access charges by the SERCs by the end of February 7, 2009. Ministry of Power had in October, 2008 impressed Chief Secretaries of all State Governments to ensure that the SERCs in turn ensure that the SLDCs give permission for open access in three days from date of application and refusal should only be on verifiable grounds. Further, in the Power Ministers' Conference held on 23rd June, 2009, Minister of Power requested the State Governments to ensure that all necessary steps be taken to operationalise Open access by implementing various measures laid down in the

Electricity Act, 2003, National Electricity Policy and Tariff Policy.

Twenty one (21) SERCs have issued Regulations for intra-State Open access so far.

Availability of power

2547.SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that country's total installed power capacity is 1,47,000 MW only, out of which 85,000 MW is usually operational;

(b) whether it is also a fact that with the onset of summer and rise in temperature, power consumption in the country has touched an all time daily over 95,000 MW while peak demand had never crossed 90,000 MW before; and

(c) if so, what steps Government proposes to take so that at least 95,000 MW power capacity is made available to the country on a daily basis, through the grid, to meet peak power demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) As on 30.6.2009, the total installed power generating capacity in the country was 1,50,323 MW including 13,242 MW from Renewable Energy Sources (RES). The generating capacity in operation depends on number of factors namely the units under shut down for Renovation & Modernization/Residual Life Assessment, planned annual/capital maintenance, forced outage, newly commissioned units under stabilization, etc. Generally the total generating capacity available in operation is in excess of 85,000 MW on daily basis excluding the Capacity of RES. Further, the actual electricity generation from the generating units available for operation is again dependent on a numbers of factors namely vintage of the units, health of the unit, availability of required quantity & quality of fuel in the case of thermal units; available inflows in case of 'Run of the River' hydro plants and release of water/discharges available from upstream in the case of reservoir based hydro plants, etc.

(b) Yes, Sir. The peak demand during the month of April to June, 2009 was higher than the peak demand during respective month in the year 2008. The details of peak demand during April to June, 2009 and the corresponding months of last year are given below:

Months	2009-10	2008-09
	Peak Demand (MW)	Peak Demand (MW)
April	110958	106922
May	107920	103688
June	111066	104263

(c) The following measures have been taken/are being taken by the Government to ensure maximum availability of generation capacity:-

- Coordinated operation and maintenance of hydro, thermal, nuclear and gas based power stations to optimally utilize the existing generation capacity.
- Utilization of unutilized capacity of gas based stations on liquid fuel.
- Tapping of surplus power from captive power plants.
- Import of coal to bridge the gap between the requirement of coal and its availability from the domestic sources.

Rural electrification

†2548. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether previous Government had set a target to provide electricity to all by 2009 under its Common Minimum Programme;

(b) if so, whether that target is about to be achieved;

(c) the number of villages where electrification under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana was completed during the last five years; and

(d) the number of villages deprived of electricity along with the future action plan. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. As per National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) of the previous Government, it was envisaged to provide access to electricity to the rural household in five years.

(b) and (c) As on 01.07.2009, 62,520 unelectrified villages have been electrified and connections to 72,72,223 rural households including 62,52,890 BPL households have been released under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana.

(d) The projects covering 118146 un/de-electrified villages have been sanctioned under RGGVY. As on 01.07.2009, the works in 62527 un/de-electrified villages have been reportedly completed. The remaining villages to be covered under the sanctioned projects are likely to be electrified by the end of XI Five Year Plan.

Power generation capacity

2549. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the per cent generation capacity (in MW) from Central, State, Private and Nuclear Sectors upto February, 2008;

(b) the capacity addition in MW during the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) the number of coal linkages/blocks available for coal based plants?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The installed generating capacity in the Central, State and Private Sector as on 29th February, 2008 was approximately 33.6%, 52.6% and 13.8% respectively.

(b) The generation capacity aggregating 15,325 MW has been added during the 11th Plan as on 13th July, 2009.

(c) In respect of coal based power projects under construction for benefits during 11th Plan, 63 projects have been given coal linkage and 11 projects have been allocated coal blocks.

Hydro-electricity projects in North-Eastern States

2550.SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the status of power shortage in India;

(b) the potential for generation of hydroelectricity in the country, particularly in the North-Eastern States;

(c) the steps Government contemplates to harness this electric power in a time bound manner;

(d) the reasons for delay in completing the gas-based Palatana and Monarchak projects of Tripura; and

(e) how Government proposes to expedite these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) There is an overall shortage of power in the country both in terms of energy and peaking power. The shortages vary from State to State on month to month, day to day and hour to hour basis depending upon the demand and supply of power. The energy and peaking shortage in the country during 2009-10 (April to June, 2009) was 9.8 % and 12.3 % respectively.

(b) Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has estimated hydro potential in the country at 1,48,701 MW. This includes 58,971 MW of hydro capacity in North Eastern Region and 4,286 MW in the State of Sikkim.

(c) Government has taken policy initiatives and measures to promote development of hydro power in the country including the National Electricity Policy announced in February, 2005. The Hydro Power Policy has been revised in 2008 and it *inter-alia* provides level playing field to private developers, recovery of additional costs through merchant sale upto a maximum of 40% of saleable energy, 100 units of electricity per month to each project affected family for 10 years after commercial operation of the project, additional 1% free power from the project for a local area development fund, etc. The revised Mega Power Projects Policy provides for lower qualifying capacity of 350 MW (from 500 MW) in respect of hydro power plants located in Jammu & Kashmir,

Sikkim and the 7 States of North-Eastern Region. For accelerated development of hydro power in the country, a 50,000 MW hydro initiative was launched in 2003 and Preliminary Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of 162 projects aggregating 48,000 MW were prepared. Out of these, 77 projects with capacity of 37,000 MW were selected for execution. Against this, a target of 15,627 MW hydro capacity has been set up by the Planning Commission for the 11th Plan. In addition, advance action is being taken for hydro capacity addition during the 12th Plan.

(d) and (e) The main reasons for delay in commissioning of Palatana CCPP (2x363.3 MW) are (i) problems in transportation of heavy equipments to the project site, (ii) non-receipt of forest clearance and (iii) delay in placement of order for civil work and Balance of Plants. As regards Monarchak Gas Power Project (104 MW), the order for main plant is yet to be placed by M/s. NEEPCO. All out efforts are being made through close monitoring to ensure the commissioning of these projects. The Block-I & Block-II of Palatana CCPP are anticipated to be commissioned in May, 2012 and July, 2012 respectively, four months beyond their scheduled dates. The Gas Turbine Unit(s) and the Steam Turbine Unit of Monarchak Gas Power Project are scheduled to be commissioned 26 months and 36 months respectively from the zero date.

Power generation target

2551. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the target of electricity generation during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, in mega watts;

(b) whether Government has achieved the target; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor, State-wise, with particular reference to Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The Planning Commission has set a capacity addition target of 78,700 MW during the 11th Plan. Presently power generation projects aggregating 80,610 MW capacity are under execution for likely benefits during the 11th Plan, out of which a capacity of 15,325 MW has already been commissioned as on 13.7.2009 and a capacity of 65,285 MW is under execution. Out of this, projects with aggregate capacity of 5,380 MW comprising 980 MW in the Central Sector, 2,000 MW in the State Sector and 2,400 MW in the Private Sector are in the State of Uttar Pradesh and are targeted for likely benefits during the 11th Plan. The details of State-wise capacity being monitored by CEA for likely benefits during 11th Plan are given in the Statement (See below).

The main reasons for shortfall in achieving the targeted capacity addition are delay in placement of orders, delay in supply of equipments, shortage of skilled manpower, shortage of fuel, etc.

Statement

Projects Commissioned / being monitored for likely benefits during the 11th Plan

Sl.No.	State/UT	Central Sector	State Sector	Private Sector	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Delhi	0	1500	108	1608
2	Haryana	1500	1800	0	3300
3	Himachal Pradesh	2763	210	1462	4435
4	Jammu & Kashmir	449	450	0	899
5	Punjab	0	500	540	1040
6	Rajasthan	690	1790	1080	3560
7	Uttar Pradesh	980	2000	2400	5380
8	Uttarakhand	1520	304	330	2154
9	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0
Sub Total Northern Region		7902	8554	5920	22376
10	Chhattisgarh	3980	1250	1600	6830
11	Gujarat	0	2782	5388	8170
12	Maharashtra	740	2500	1450	4690
13	Madhya Pradesh	520	1210	1720	3450
14	Goa	0	0	0	0
15	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0
16	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0
Sub Total Western Region		5240	7742	10158	23140
17	Andhra Pradesh	1000	2444	1275	4719
18	Karnataka	440	1480	1615	3535
19	Kerala	0	160	0	160
20	Tamil Nadu	4000	1952	0	5952
21	Puducherry	0	0	0	0
Sub Total Southern Region		5440	6036	2890	14366
22	Bihar	3070	0	0	3070
23	Jharkhand	3050	0	0	3050

1	2	3	4	5	6
24	Orissa	0	150	1200	1350
25	Sikkim	510	0	1299	1809
26	West Bengal	4242	2720	250	7212
Sub Total Eastern Region		10872	2870	2749	16491
27	Arunachal Pradesh	2600	0	0	2600
28	Assam	750	37	0	787
29	Manipur	0	0	0	0
30	Mizoram	0	0	0	0
31	Meghalaya	0	124	0	124
32	Nagaland	0	0	0	0
33	Tripura	726	0	0	726
Sub Total N. Eastern Region		4076	161	0	4237
34	Andman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
TOTAL :		33530	25363	21717	80610

Power Minister's conference

2552.SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the States had raised certain issues regarding power generation, distribution and transmission in the conference of Power Ministers in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of issues raised;

(c) what has been done in that regard;

(d) whether functioning of the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana was discussed; and

(e) if so, the changes of modifications likely to be effected in the Yojana, to make it realistic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (e) Conference of Power Ministers of States was held on 23rd June, 2009 at New Delhi. Issues relating to Capacity Addition, Open Access, Rural Electrification and Re-structured Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme were discussed in detail during the conference. After

discussion, a Resolution was adopted at the end of the conference incorporating steps to be taken to expedite progress in Capacity Addition and facilitate implementation of RGGVY and R-APDRP.

System for power allocation

2553.SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to change the system of sharing electricity among States from thermal or hydel power projects built by Central utilities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the present criteria of allocating power to States from the Central utilities;
- (d) whether Government proposes to adopt any new power allocation formula to those States which are facing severe shortage; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) An in-house thinking process has been initiated in the Ministry of Power recently for examining the need to review the present arrangement relating to allocation of power. As the process is at very initial stage, the probable distribution ratio of power and other related details cannot be spelt out at this stage.

(c) The details of the present formula for allocation of Central Sector Power stations are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(d) and (e) In view of (a) & (b) above, question do not arise.

Statement

(A) Thermal and Nuclear Power Stations

- a. 10% of the power to be allocated to the State in which the Central thermal power plant is located (Home State)
- b. 15% of the power to be kept unallocated at the disposal of the Central Government for meeting the urgent requirements of the individual States in the region from time to time.
- c. 75% of the power to be distributed among the States in the Region (including home State) in accordance with the pattern of Central plan assistance to the States in the Region and the energy of Central plan assistance to the States in the Region and the energy consumption in the States of the region for the previous five years. These two factors are given equal weightage. The requirements of the Union Territories in the Region was to be met through appropriate allocations.

(B) Hydro Power Stations

- a. 15% of the generation capacity to be kept as "unallocated" at the disposal of the Central Government to be distributed within the region or outside, depending upon overall requirement.
- b. 12% of power from the energy generated by the power station to be supplied free of cost to those States of the Regions (including the State where the hydro electric project is located), where distress like submergence, dislocation of population, etc. is caused due to setting up of the project at the specific site, the allocation being made in proportion to the extent of such distress. The energy generated figures.
- c. 1% for local area developments.

Performance of power sector

2554.SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that Prime Ministers' Office has expressed anguish over under performance of power sector in the country, holding back economic growth;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that carrying shortfall of over 50 per cent from the Tenth Five Year Plan, the Ministry fixed the ambitious target of 78,000 MW during the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and
- (d) if so, how Government is going to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a)
No, Sir.

- (b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) During Tenth Five Year Plan a capacity addition of 21180 MW was achieved against the target of 41,110 MW. The capacity addition target for the 11th Five Year Plan is 78,700 MW. The following steps have been taken to ensure that the targeted capacity is achieved:

- Rigorous monitoring of the projects by Central Electricity Authority and the Ministry of Power at the highest level besides monitoring through the Power Projects Monitoring Panel.
- All clearances obtained and fuel linkages accorded for the entire capacity.
- Enhancement of main plant equipment manufacturing capacity by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL).

- Widening the vendor base by BHEL through outsourcing.
- Formation of Joint Venture company by NTPC Ltd. and BHEL, M/s L&T and MHI, Japan, M/s JSW and Toshiba, M/s Bharat Forge and Alstom and M/s BB Engineering and Ansaldo for manufacture of various power plants equipments.
- All stakeholders have been sensitized towards enlarging the vendor base so as to meet the Balance of Plants (BoP) requirements.
- To overcome the shortage of skilled manpower, 'Adopt an ITI' initiative has been taken up.

T & D losses during Tenth Five Year Plan

†2555. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that a target to check the transmission and distribution losses in the country was fixed during the Tenth Five Year Plan;
- if so, the details thereof and the total amount of concessions and support given to achieve it;
- whether fresh measures to check these losses have been taken; and
- the likely extent of these losses at the beginning and at the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Government had launched Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) in the year 2002-03 in order to reduce Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses, improving quality of supply of power, increasing revenue collection and improving consumer satisfaction. The target was to reduce AT&C losses to 15% in five years to begin with in urban and high density consumption areas.

To Strengthen the transmission and distribution system of the States, the Government of India provided the financial assistance to the States as per the following details:

Grant	:	Rs.5372.11 crore
Loan	:	Rs.2274.23 crore
Total	:	Rs.7646.34 crore

(c) and (d) The Government have approved the continuation of APDRP during the XI Five Year Plan with revised terms and conditions as a Central Sector Scheme. The focus of the programme is

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

on actual, demonstrable performance in terms of loss reduction. In the project area, the State Power Utilities are expected to achieve Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) loss reduction target of 15%. The Utilities are also to achieve the following target of AT&C loss reduction at utility level:

- Utilities having AT&C loss above 30%: Reduction by 3% per year
- Utilities having AT&C loss below 30%: Reduction by 1.5% per year

The AT&C losses in the country at the beginning of the XI Five Year Plan, *i.e.* - in the year 2007-08 were 30.56% (as per Central Electricity Authority) and it is expected that by the end of XI Five Year Plan, with the implementation of Part-B of the R-APDRP scheme, the AT&C losses would come down. The exact quantum of reduction would depend upon the various administrative, technical and commercial measures taken by DISCOMs.

Hydro power potential

2556.SHRI A.ELAVARASAN:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India has 1,5 lakh MW of hydro potential;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that only 33,000 MW, *i.e.* 22 per cent, has so far been developed by Government;
- (c) whether the capacity under construction is only 8.6 per cent;
- (d) if so, the reasons for this abysmal production of hydro power in the country; and
- (e) what action plan the Ministry has to harness the capacity of at least 60 per cent, at the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The re-assessment studies of hydro-electric potential in the country, completed by Central Electricity Authority in 1987, have placed the hydro power potential of 148710 MW in terms of installed capacity in India.

(b) and (c) As on 30.06.2009, a total of 33261.5 MW (22.4%) of the hydro-power potential has been developed and 13523 MW (9.1%) is under construction.

(d) The main reasons for slow pace of development of hydro power in the country are given below:

- Difficult / in-accessible potential sites.
- Land Acquisition problems.
- Longer gestation period.

- Geological surprises.
- Inter-State related issues.
- Resettlement & Rehabilitation problems
- Law & Order problem.
- Force majeure (uncontrolled forces).
- Paucity of Funds in the past.
- Natural calamities such as unprecedented rains and floods.

(e) The Planning Commission has approved a capacity addition of 78700 MW during 11th Plan which includes 15627 MW of hydro power. Subject to achievement of the same, hydro power potential developed would be about 30,6% at the end of the 11th Plan.

Withdrawal from power grid

2557.SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of withdrawals by States of the Northern and Southern regions from the National Grid, during the last four months;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there have been overdrawals from the grid during that period; and
- (c) the steps Government has taken to avert collapse of the grid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The drawal of power by the States from the Grid varies on month to month and day to day basis and also in real-time depending on the demand for electricity and its availability from various sources at any point of time. The details of schedule, drawal and overdrawal/underdrawal by the States in the Northern and Southern Region during the last four months *i.e.* March to June, 2009 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has issued directions from time to time impressing upon the need to maintain the safety and stability of the Grid in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Electricity Grid Code (IEGC) notified by the Commission under Section 178 of the Electricity Act, 2003. The Regional Load Despatch Centre, being the designated apex body for monitoring of grid operations in the region, take up the matter with over-drawing constituents as and when required. In case of persistent default, notices are issued under Clause 1.5 of IEGC by Regional Load Despatch Centre and Member Secretary, Regional Power Committee. The matter is also taken up by Central Transmission Utility, Central Electricity Authority and Ministry of Power whenever required.

Statement

Schedule and Drawal as per UI Account

(All figures in Million Units)

States/Stations/		March, 2009			April, 2009			May, 2009			June, 2009		
System	Schedule	Drawal	Over Drawal (+)/ Under Drawal (-)	Schedule	Drawal	Over Drawal (+)/ Under Drawal (-)	Schedule	Drawal	Over Drawal (+)/Under Drawal (-)	Schedule	Drawal	Over Drawal (+)/ Under Drawal (-)	
Northern Region													
Chandigarh	112.350	98.430	-13.920	110.670	116.140	5.470	141.130	149.520	8.390	141.590	161.770	20.180	
Delhi	866.680	653.650	-213.030	1162.090	1042.070	-120.020	1530.330	1426.270	-104.060	1669.800	1555.730	-114.070	
Haryana	684.180	881.260	197.080	611.000	678.460	67.460	1086.680	1187.170	100.490	1446.230	1540.490	94.260	
H.P.	412.780	411.130	-1.650	306.720	324.220	17.500	145.440	178.670	33.230	36.680	62.940	26.260	
J & K.	644.520	616.820	-27.700	470.230	461.580	-8.650	449.750	365.290	-84.460	392.080	326.350	-65.730	
Punjab	1046.610	1057.450	10.840	943.440	999.830	56.390	1499.730	1607.080	107.350	1953.220	1995.070	41.850	
Rajasthan	1357.600	1411.350	53.750	1016.200	1229.960	213.760	1636.160	1654.540	18.380	1528.640	1507.950	-20.690	
U.P.	2308.470	2385.940	77.470	23031580	2418.740	115.160	2464.050	2639.010	174.960	2345.300	2743.430	398.130	
Uttarakhand	352.580	443.880	91.300	316.670	406.020	89.350	269.110	288.010	18.900	238.870	254.440	15.570	
Southern Region													
Andhra Pr.	1602.230	1726.410	124.180	1740.858	1619.929	-120.929	1337.346	1221.395	-115.951	1052.938	972.378	-80.560	
Karnataka	1075.180	1144.170	68.990	1181.288	1213.777	32.489	1046.288	1092.858	46.570	623.388	670.171	46.783	
Kerala	578.450	542.680	-35.770	520.004	532.418	12.414	502.808	584.326	81.518	511.833	528.974	17.141	
Tamil Nadu	1869.700	1965.730	96.030	1766.913	1841.626	74.713	1882.248	1918.832	36.584	1458.740	1541.354	82.614	
Puducherry	180.310	151.000	-29.310	169.701	162.195	-7.506	172.429	163.614\	-8.815	162.506	157.830	-4.676	

Proposals under Article 275(1) from Chhindwara

†2558. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution received by Government from Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh, along with the date of their receipt;

(b) the action taken thereon so far by Government and details of proposals received and accepted;

(c) the budget sanctioned by Government for Chhindwara under Article 275 (1) during the last three years, along with the works for which sanctioned; and

(d) by when the pending proposals are likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Under Article 275(1) of the Constitution, the Ministry has received a proposal from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh *vide* their letter No. F 23 / 3/09/ 3 /25 dated 12-5-2009 during the current financial year 2009-10 which *inter alia* includes proposal for an amount of Rs. 276.66 lakh, Rs.81.29 lakh, and Rs. 11.13 lakh in respect of ITDP Tamia, ITDP Saunsar and MADA Lahgadua respectively of Chhindawara district. Certain clarifications have been sought from the State Govt of Madhya Pradesh and the same are awaited.

(c) Under the provisions of Article 275(1) of the Constitution, grant is released to the State Governments and not to the districts. Information regarding the releases to the State of Madhya Pradesh during last three years is as under:-

Year	Amount released (Rs. in lakh)
2006-07	6052.44
2007-08	5973.00
2008-09	6466.80

As per the information received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, a list of sanctioned works out of this grant is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(d) Since clarifications sought are awaited, no time can be indicated for sanctioning the pending proposals.

Statement

*List of sanctioned works out of grant under Art. 275(1) of the Constitution
during last three years for Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh*

Year 2006-07		(Rs in lakh)
Sl. No.	Name of sanctioned Works	Amount
1	2	3
	ITDP Sausar (Chhindwara)	
1	Ghokra Ghata stopdam Chourai	33.00
2	Halal Khurd stop dam Chourai	51.00
3	Rope making for Sch. Tribe Women	18.24
	TOTAL :	102.24

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3
MADA Lahgudua (Chhindwara)		
1	Stop Dam at Khudjhahir	5.00
	TOTAL :	5.00
	GRAND TOTAL	107.24

Year 2007-08

ITDP Tamia (Chhindwara)		
1	Kapurnala storage weir	38.26
2	Dhamanoya storage weir	39.12
3	Sajwa Percolation Tank	8.35
4	Const. of storage tank in village Bhardi	45.34
	TOTAL :	131.07

ITDP Sausar (Chhindwara)		
1	100m.cc.road at Tumragari Jamuntola	2.35
2	200m.cc.road at Bordi	2.44
3	200m.cc.road at Sahanwari Chopandana	2.50
4	200m.cc.road at Togaon	2.35
5	Con. work of Talab at Gugarkheri	5.00
6	Con. work of Talab at Govindpur	5.00
7	Con. work of Talab at Sirantha	4.99
8	Monitoring/ Evaluation & Maintenance	5.50
	TOTAL :	30.13

MADA Lahgadua (Chhindwara)		
1	Stop Dam at Khudiya	3.58
	TOTAL :	3.58
	GRAND TOTAL :	164.78

Year 2008-09

ITDP Tamia (Chhindwara)		
1	Nistar Tand Tarai Block Junnardeo	45.78
2	Storage bear Dhulania Tamia	25.15
3	Storage bear Mayawadi Parasia (Project Cost Rs. 58.96 Lacs)	33.96
4	Nistari Tank Siyajhri Harrai	26.38
5	Nistari Tank Saliwada Amarawara	25.10

1	2	3
6	Stop Dam Iklamasani Junnardeo	4.99
7	Stop Dam Chikatharri Junnardeo	4.99
8	Stop Dam Chhabda Junnardeo	4.99
9	Stop Dam Kampipariya Junnardeo	4.99
10	Stop Dam Dabri Harrai	4.92
11	Stop Dam Shejwada Harrai	4.92
TOTAL :		186.17
ITDP Sausar (Chhindwara)		
1	Stop Dam cum kajweat devali jamlapani Block sausar	9.50
2	C.C.Road (800 mtr) at Karlai and Jamtara, Sidap Block Chaurai	12.00
3	Stop Dam cum road bridge at Khamra Datla, Block Bichhua	20.00
4	Const. work of returning wall at Tigaon Block Pandhurna	15.00
5	Const. work of Talab for fish production at Murre/Samarboh/Panathawadimal/Surrewani Blcok Bichhua	8.10
6	Const. work of Talab for fish production at Changoba/Rajdongri/Sendurjana/Bandhan	16.20
TOTAL :		80.80
MADA Lahgadua (Chhindwara)		
1	Stop Dam Pulpuldoh	4.99
2	Stop Dam Ghogara	3.58
TOTAL :		8.57
GRAND TOTAL :		275.54

Grants to States under Article 275 (1)

2559.SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the norms for fixing the amount of grants to be disbursed to States under the provisions of Article 275 (1) of the Constitution;

(b) the amount disbursed to each State under these provisions during 2008-09, with the purpose for which the same was disbursed; and

(c) the status of utilization of the amount so disbursed to each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) 90% of the total budget available as grant under the provision of Article 275 (1)

of the Constitution is allocated to States on the basis of ST population in each State as a percentage to the total tribal population of the country. Remaining 10% is allocated for innovative projects to those States who adopt TSP approach in letter and spirit.

(b) Grant is released for promotion of the welfare of Scheduled Tribes and up gradation of the levels of administration of Scheduled Areas. the State-wise funds released during 2008-09 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) As per instructions, States are required to report utilization of funds within one year from the date of release. UCs for the funds released during 2008-09 have not yet become due. The State of Orissa, however, has reported full utilization of funds.

Statement

Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution to States during 2008-09

(Rs. in lakh)

S.No.	States	2008-09 Amount Released
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	1863.44
2	Arunachal Pradesh	308.68
3	Assam	1444.88
4	Bihar	0.00
5	Chhattisgarh	3211.43
6	Goa	7.00
7	Gujarat	2372.77
8	Himachal Pradesh	148.32
9	Jammu & Kashmir	193.66
10	Jharkhand	1852.43
11	Karnataka	1496.37
12	Kerala	159.42
13	Madhya Pradesh	6466.80
14	Maharashtra	2441.46
15	Manipur	324.44
16	Meghalaya	155.33
17	Mizoram	403.57
18	Nagaland	200.00

1	2	3
19	Orissa	4129.73
20	Rajasthan	3107.04
21	Sikkim	65.00
22	Tamil Nadu	291.39
23	Tripura	434.88
24	Uttar Pradesh	391.28
25	Uttarakhand	20.00
26	West Bengal	2489.09
TOTAL :		33978.41

Grants to Maharashtra

2560.SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount given as grant by the Ministry to the Maharashtra Government during the last three years for various project;

(b) whether the Maharashtra Government has used this grant for the particular project or diverted this fund to other project(s); and

(c) whether the Maharashtra Government has timely submitted the expenditure account to the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) The details of funds released to the Maharashtra Government under various schemes of the Ministry during the last three years are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) No instance of diversion of funds by Government of Maharashtra has come to the notice of the Ministry.

(c) All grant are sanctioned based on complete proposals submitted by State Governments and subject to the utilization of previous grants.

Statement

Details of funds released to the Government of Maharashtra under various schemes during the last three years

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution	2508.35	3610.31	2441.46

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan	3888.00	4293.00	2500.00
3.	Post Matric Scholarship for ST students	750.00	2155.56	2500.00
4.	Upgradation of Merit	4.18	14.55	0.00
5.	Hostels for ST Girls & Boys	0.00	0.00	889.56
6.	Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Areas.	256.71	300.80	940.07
7.	Development of Particular Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PTGs)	456.96	546.77	2007.98
8.	Grants- in- aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations (STDCCs) etc. for Minor Forest Produce (MFP) Operations.	215.00	325.00	270.00
9.	Tribal Research Institutes	32.91	23.79	48.45
TOTAL :		8112.11	11269.78	11597.52

Education standard for tribals

†2561. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to initiate any incentive-based plan to improve the standard of education among the tribals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government agrees on augmenting the budget for welfare of tribals so that necessary improvement in the condition of these people can come about?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is already implementing education oriented schemes for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes/PTGs. There is no proposal of the Ministry to initiate any incentive-based plan to improve the standard of the education among tribals.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has submitted proposals for additional funds for tribal welfare.

Social security to domestic workers

2562.SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether the National Commission for Women had prepared and submitted to Government a draft law to provide social security to domestic workers who are exploited seriously;

(b) if so, the time-frame within which such law would be enacted, in view of the increasing violence against domestic workers in the country; and

(c) the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Schemes for development of women and children

2563. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of programmes and schemes of the Ministry for the development of women and children; and

(b) the details of 100 days programme of the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) The programmes and schemes of the Ministry for the development of women and children are given in the Annual Report which are available in the Library of Rajya Sabha and also in the Ministry's Website www.wcd.nic.in

(b) The following items indicated in the President's Address to the Joint Session of Parliament have been identified for implementation in a time bound manner by this Ministry:

(i) Revamp nutrition delivery with oversight by panchayats and provision of hot cooked meals.

(ii) A National Mission on Empowerment of Women for Implementation of women centric programmes in a mission mode.

(iii) Suitably institutionalised quarterly reporting on Flagship programmes as "Bharat Nirman Quarterly Reports" where Ministers would publicly report on progress through the media.

This Ministry has one flagship programme called Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, but it was not included in BHARAT Nirman campaign. However, the Ministry will be doing quarterly reporting through Media in consultation with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Working women's hostels in M.P.

†2564. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) in which cities Madhya Pradesh the working women's hostels are set up;
- (b) whether there is any provision for making working women's hostels in that State during the next fiscal year, if so, at which places and the amount of allocation made therefor; and
- (c) whether there are any working women's hostels in Gwalior and Ujjain and if so, the number of rooms therein and if not, by when these would be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) The list of completed hostels State-wise and location-wise is available on the Ministry's website <http://www.wcd.nic.in>.

(b) Under the scheme no State wise allocation has been envisaged. Sanction of the project depends on the receipt of viable proposal recommended by the State Government.

(c) There are 3 hostels in Gwalior and 1 in Ujjain to accommodate 228 and 100 women respectively.

Domestic violence and child marriage

2565.DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of findings of the latest NFHS-III survey, regarding domestic violence and child marriage in the country, State-wise;
- (b) Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) what remedial follow-up action has been taken;
- (d) how alarming is the above scenario, State-wise; and
- (e) whether Government agrees with the findings that marriage of minor girls and domestic violence are rampant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (d) Detailed findings of NFHS-III are posted on the website of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare viz. www.mohfw.nic.in.

(b), (c) and (e) The Government is aware of prevalence of Domestic Violence and Child Marriage in the country. In order to protect the rights of women who are victims of violence of any kind occurring within the family and for matters connected therewith, a legislation "The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005" (No. 43 of 2005) was enacted and brought into force *w.e.f.* 26th October, 2006.

In order to prohibit child marriages and to make the provisions of the Act more effective and punishment more stringent for offenders, a new legislation "The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act 2006" (No. 6 of 2007) was enacted and notified on 11th January, 2007.

Also awareness generation and advocacy measures are continuously being undertaken by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in this connection.

Child budgeting

2566.SHRI O.T. LEPPA:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has adopted the Child Budgeting and if so, the objectives of adopting it;
- (b) the Ministries that have incorporated child budgeting components, the details of allocations made during last three years on child-related schemes. Ministry-wise;
- (c) the comparison of child budget to total Union Budget during the last three years; and
- (d) whether the component of child budget changed in RE *vis-a-vis* the BE for the years; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Women and Child Development has been following the allocation and expenditure on the schemes and programmes of various Ministries and Departments for children with reference to the Union Budget and conducting an analysis thereof by including a chapter on "Child Budgeting" in the Annual Reports of the Ministry since 2004-05.

The specific schemes and programmes for children of various Ministries and Departments have been divided into four categories, namely, child development, child health, child education and child protection for the purpose of understanding the trend for allocation and expenditure. It has been observed in the Annual Report of the Ministry for the Year 2007-08 that the outlay for child specific schemes as a proportion of the Union Budget has been 4.25% in 2005-06 (RE), 4.86% in 2006-07 (BE) and 5.08% in 2007-08 (BE).

There is, however, non specific proposal at this stage for pursuing child budgeting.

Retention of high malnutrition rate

2567.MS. SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that malnutrition in children has remained stubbornly high;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) Malnutrition has remained high as it is a multifaceted problem, the determinants of which include food insecurity, female illiteracy, poor access to health services, safe drinking water, sanitation and poor purchasing power. Early marriages of girls, teenage pregnancies resulting in low birth weight of the new borns, poor breast feeding and poor complementary feeding practices, ignorance about nutritional needs of infants and young children and repeated infections further aggravate the situation.

However, the undernutrition in children (below 3 years) has declined from 42.7% as per National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-2, 1998-99 to 40.4% as per NFHS-3 2005-06.

(c) The Ministry of Women and Child Development is addressing the problem of undernutrition in children below six years through the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme in all States/UTs. The ICDS provides a package of six services namely supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-up, referral services, pre-school non-formal education and nutrition & health education.

The ICDS programme has since been revamped wherein the nutritional feeding and financial norms have been upwardly revised. The revised norms are as under :

Category	Revised Rates (per beneficiary per day)	Revised Nutritional Norms	
		Calories (K cal)	Protein (g)
(i) children (6 months to 72 months)	Rs. 4.00	500	12-15
(ii) Severely malnourished children (6 months-72 months)	Rs. 6.00	800	20-25
(iii) Pregnant women and Nursing mothers	Rs. 5.00	600	18-20

Besides the ICDS Programme, Government is implementing a number of schemes throughout the country, which directly or indirectly improve the nutritional status of women and children. A list of the schemes being implemented by various Ministries is given in the Statement.

Statement

Schemes/programmes to improve the nutritional status of children

1. Reproductive & Child Health Programme under the National Rural Health Mission being implemented by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has interventions for proper growth, development and survival of children which include:
 - Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) to promote institutional deliveries, improved coverage and quality of Antenatal care, skilled care to pregnant women, etc.
 - Immunization
 - Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness
 - Specific Programmes to prevent and combat micronutrient deficiencies of Vitamin A and Iron & Folic Acid through Vitamin A Supplementation for children till the age of 5 years and Iron & Folic acid Supplementation for infants, preschool children, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women. Iodised salt is being provided for combating Iodine Deficiency Disorders
 - Treatment of severe acute malnutrition through Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs) set up at public health facilities
2. Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free food grains to undernourished adolescent girls by Ministry of Women and Child Development.
3. National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meal Scheme) by the Department of School Education & Literacy.
4. Nutrition and Health Education to increase the awareness and bring about desired changes in the dietary practices including the promotion of breast feeding and dietary diversification. Food and Nutrition Board of the Ministry of Women & Child Development is engaged in advocacy, trainings and generating awareness on important nutrition issues among different level of functionaries and the masses.

Increased emphasis on promotion of appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices - Increased emphasis is given to:

- Initiation of breast feeding immediately after birth, preferably within one hour.
- Exclusive breast feeding for the first six months.
- Complementary feeding and continued breast feeding from six months onwards.
- The National Guidelines on Infant and Young Child Feeding have been developed and disseminated all over the country.

- Implementation of The Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act 1992, also known as the Infant Milk Substitute (IMS) Act.
- 5. Availability of essential food items at subsidized cost through Targeted Public Distribution System, Antodaya Anna Yojna by the Department of Food & Consumer Affairs
- 6. Other measures include.
 - Improving agricultural and horticulture produce
 - Improving the purchasing power of the people through various income generating scheme

Amendment in the Sati (Prevention) Act

2568.SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of incidents of 'Sati' committed in the country during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government is considering for change in the Sati (Prevention) Act 1987, to have far reaching impact on women; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and by when it is expected to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) As per the data maintained by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), four cases were registered under Sati Prevention Act during last three years. All the four cases were registered in Gujarat in 2008.

- (b) No, Madam.
- (c) Does not arise.

National mission on empowerment of women

2569.SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to set up a National Mission on Empowerment of Women for implementation of women-centric programmes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the women empowerment programmes are not implemented by some Ministries/Departments in an effective way; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure that women empowerment programmes are effectively implemented?

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

(b) The overall aim of the proposed Mission is to strengthen the processes that promote economic and social development of women. Convergence of activities of multi disciplinary nature and cross cutting holistic sectoral policies is an important ingredient in Mission mode approach. It is envisaged that the proposed Mission would set goals and monitor achievements while participating Ministries and State Governments will continue to implement the programmes and schemes.

(c) No, Madam

(d) Does not arise.

Welfare of girl child

2570.SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing any schemes for the welfare and development of girl child;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the status of implementation such as the number of girls benefited during each of the last three years, State wise;

(c) whether any financial allocation has been made for these schemes during 2009-10;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) whether Government is aware that generally parents give preference to male child than the female child; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing a number of schemes for the welfare and development of the girl child. Dhanalakshmi" - a Scheme for conditional Cash Transfer for the Girl Child is being implemented on a pilot basis in eleven blocks in seven States since 2008-09. The scheme provides for cash transfers to the family of a girl child on fulfilling certain conditionality relating to registration of birth, immunization, enrolment and retention in school till class VIII; and an insurance coverage if the girl remains

unmarried till the age of 18. The number of girls who are expected to benefit under the scheme, as reported by the state governments concerned, during 2008-09, is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

The Scheme of Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY) is being implemented in 6118 Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) projects for adolescent girls (11 to 18 years) using the infrastructure of ICDS for addressing the needs of self development, nutrition and health status, literacy and numerical skills, vocational skills, etc of adolescent girls, State-wise beneficiaries covered under KSY during the last three years are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

The Scheme of Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) is being implemented on a Pilot Project basis in 51 districts in the country. Undernourished adolescent girls in the age group of 11-19 years are provided free food grains @ 6 kg. per beneficiary per month. State-wise beneficiaries covered under NPAG during the last three years are given in the Statement-III (*See below*).

(c) and (d) During the year 2009-10, Rs. 10.00 crores has been allocated for Dhanalakshmi Scheme. State wise allocation will depend upon the proposals sent by the State Governments.

Total funds earmarked for States for Kishori Shakti Yojana is Rs.71.30 crores for 2009-10. Funds are released at the rate of Rs. 1.1 lakh per project per annum to the States/UTs.

Total funds earmarked for Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls for 2009-10 is Rs. 162.77 crore and State wise allocations are based on expected number of beneficiaries in each State.

(e) and (f) All the Schemes mentioned at (a & b) above are expected to encourage the families to retain the girl child.

Statement-I

Expected no. of beneficiaries during 2008-09 under Dhanalakshmi Scheme

States	No of Girls expected to benefit
Punjab	12,119
Chhattisgarh	24,493
Orissa	10,616
Andhra Pradesh	29,502
Jharkhand	2,825
TOTAL :	79,555

Statement-II

State-wise number of Girls benefitted under Kishori Shakti Yojana

during the last three years

(Information in respect of ICDS Projects during the entire year where KSY is being implemented as furnished by the Government)

Sl.No. Name of the State		2006-07				2007-08			2008-09		
		No. of Adolescent Girls (between 11-18 years)				No. of Adolescent Girls (between 11-18 years)			No. of Adolescent Girls (between 11-18 years)		
		Trained	Taken Nutrition Health Education (NHE)	Received SNP	Received IFA Tablet/ Deworming intervention	Taken vocational training/ NHE/ Non Formal Education	Received SNP	Received IFA/ Deworming Supplemen- tation	Taken vocational training/ NHE/Non Formal Education	Received SNP	Received IFA/ Deworming supplemen- tation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Andhra Pradesh					11644	0	757024	1699	650	125288
2	Arunachal Pradesh	13067		27970	28954	13187	24891	24891			
3	Assam	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR			
4	Bihar	469	190459	180454	0	NR	NR	NR			
5	Chattisgarh	45300	45300	38027	29899	47400	108638	37414			
6	Goa	1750				1375	0	0	850		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7	Gujarat	75132	267781	253171	1299337	227624	279156	1055689	324172	317158	427075
8	Haryana	61853		61623	56107	32685	32615	29476			
9	Himachal Pradesh	8979	130503	56044	55443	5887	91577	166236	720/37996	88933	41870
10	Jharkhand	133811	657467	229509	321022	NR	NR	NR	94414	240335	379177
11	Jammu & Kashmir	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR			
12	Karnataka	9282	45379	79248	131915	35808	29683	2821			
13	Kerala		348858	228067	0	247195	396906	0			
14	Madhya Pradesh*	280313	397805	253442	397622	NR	NR	NR			
15	Maharashtra	211326		259107	572421	1751815	1078993	951628	452134	214776	105021
16	Manipur	8500	8500	110075	0	NR	NR	NR			
17	Meghalaya	10863		10059	4150	12603	12100	4592	12002	12002	7935

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
18	Mizoram *					9666	9666	9666	4921	4921	2051
19	Nagaland	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR			
20	Orissa	34889	132972	252153	1438222	NR	NR	NR			
21	Punjab	62771		57782	53092	68490	68651	54429	50523	55082	29278
22	Rajasthan *	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR			
23	Sikkim	391	0	155	537	556		556			
24	Tripura	0	0	3420	3420	NR	NR	NR			
25	Tamil Nadu	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR			
26	Uttaranchal	51966		60543	31591	30357	64012	36784			
27	Uttar Pradesh	49500	49500	133329	58389	50400	331644	55179			
28	West Bengal	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
29	Delhi	564	2324	6423	3142	606	8856	3728	4480	8745	1575
30	Pondicherry	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR			
31	A & N island	180		916	180	120	1467	447	120	1666	324
32	Chandigarh*	2636		2636	2636	2798	2798	2798			
33	D & N Haveli	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR			950
34	Daman & Diu	530	0	10257	0	NR	NR	NR			
35	Lakshadweep	8306	8306	8306	0	NR	NR	NR	2204	590	0
TOTAL :		1072378	2285154	2322716	4488079	2550216	2541653	3193358	947519	944858	1119594

Statement-III

State-wise beneficiaries covered under NPAG during the last 3 years

Sl.No	State/UTs	2006-07 No. of girls received food grains	2007-08 No. of girls received food grains	2008-09 No. of girls received food grains
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	430056	220843	NR
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1040	NR	NR
3	Assam	NR	NR	NR
4	Bihar	113103	NR	NR
5	Chhattisgarh	93911	NR	NR
6	Goa	NR	NR	9675
7	Gujarat	126796	27169	NR
8	Haryana	11817	NR	NR
9	Himachal Pradesh	56769	NR	NR
10	Jammu & Kashmir	52008	NR	NR
11	Jharkhand	NR	NR	NR
12	Karnataka	73606	NR	NR
13	Kerala	107941	125737	92345
14	Madhya Pradesh	52675	91495	249948
15	Maharashtra	63094	387887	203124
16	Manipur	NR	NR	9013
17	Meghalaya	NR	NR	2750
18	Mizoram	3400	NR	NR
19	Nagaland	33263	NR	NR
20	Orissa	190138	NR	NR
21	Punjab	25776	26844	29381
22	Rajasthan	107981	104051	161030
23	Sikkim	5555	3700	NR
24	Tamil Nadu	NR	NR	NR

1	2	3	4	5
25	Tripura	NR	NR	NR
26	Uttar Pradesh	NR	60286	NR
27	Uttaranchal	NR	56496	NR
28	West Bengal	NR	NR	NR
29	Andaman & Nicobar	NR	NR	NR
30	Chandigarh	NR	7027	NR
31	Daman & Diu	Nil		
32	D & N Haveli	8611	NR	NR
33	Delhi	19821	15804	14164
34	Lakshadweep	NR	NR	NR
35	Pondicherry	0	3602	NR
TOTAL :		1577361	1130941	771430

12.00 Noon

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Reports of Law Commission of India

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- (a) Two Hundred and Twenty-fourth Report of the Law Commission of India on Amendment of Section 2 of the Divorce Act, 1869 enabling Non-domiciled Estranged Christian Wives to seek Divorce. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 457/15/09]
- (b) Two Hundred and Twenty-fifth Report of the Law Commission of India on Amendment of Sections 7, 7A and 7B of Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 making Advocates Eligible to man Labour Courts and Industrial Tribunals. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 458/15/09]

जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय का परिणामी बजट (2009-10)

जनजातीय कार्य मंत्री (श्री कांतिलाल भूरिया) : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आप की अनुमति से वर्ष 2009-10 के लिए जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय के संबंध में परिणामी बजट की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिंदी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ। [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 496/15/09]

I. Report and Accounts (2007-08) of NIFTEM, New Delhi and related papers

II. Outcome budget (2009-10) of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : Sir, I lay on the Table :

I (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under sub-section (4) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (a) First Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM), New Delhi, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (ii) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (I) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 576/15/09]
- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Outcome Budget for the year 2009-10 in respect of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 460/15/09]

I. Report (2007-08) of the NSC, New Delhi and related papers

II. Outcome Budget (2009-10) of the Ministry of Coal

III. Outcome Budget of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- I. (i) Annual Report of the National Statistical Commission (NSC), New Delhi, for the year 2007-08.
- (ii) Action Taken Report on the recommendations of the National Statistical Commission (NSC), New Delhi, for the year 2007-08. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 559/15/09]
- II. Outcome Budget for the year 2009-10 in respect of the Ministry of Coal. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 407/15/09]
- III. Outcome Budget for the year 2009-10 in respect of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 560/15/09]

MoU 2009-10 between Government of India and NMDFC Ltd.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Minority Affairs) and the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) Limited, for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 467/15/09]

I. Report and Accounts (2006-07) of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi and related papers

II. Report and Accounts (2007-08) of the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- I (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Board.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 497/15/09]
- II (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh New Delhi, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 498/15/09]

Notifications of the Ministry of Environment and Forest

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : Sir, I lay on the Table, under Section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Environment and Forests:

- (1) G.S.R. 158 (E), dated the 9th March, 2009, publishing the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) (Amendment) Rule, 2009. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 411/15/09]
- (2) G.S.R. 512 (E), dated the 9th July, 2009, publishing the Environment (Protection) Third Amendment Rules 2009. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 562/15/09]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

II. Outcome Budget (2009-10) of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:
 - (1) G.S.R. 381 (E), dated the 3rd June, 2009, publishing the Naphtha (Acquisition, Sale, Storage and Prevention of use in Automobile) Amendment Order, 2009.
 - (2) G.S.R. 382 (E), dated the 3rd June, 2009, publishing the Solvent, Raffinate and Slop (Acquisition, Sale, Storage and Prevention of use in Automobiles) Amendment Order, 2009. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 486/15/09]
- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Outcome Budget for the year 2009-10 in respect of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 487/15/09]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Power

II. MoU (2009-10) between Government of India and Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) : Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Power, under Section 179 of Electricity Act, 2003:
 - (1) No. L- 7/143/158/2008-CERC, dated the 24th February, 2009, publishing the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for grant of trading license and other related matters) Regulations, 2009.
 - (2) No.L-1(1)/2009-CERC, dated the 30th March, 2009, publishing the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Unscheduled Inter-change charges and related matters) Regulations, 2009. [Placed in Library. For (1) and (2) See No. L.T. 508/15/09]
 - (3) No.L-1(2)/2009-CERC, dated the 30th March, 2009, publishing the Indian Electricity Grid Code (Amendment) Regulations, 2009.
 - (4) No.L-7/105/121/2007-CERC, dated the 29th May, 2009, publishing the Open Access in Inter-State Transmission (Amendment) Regulations, 2009.
 - (5) No.L-7/143/158/2008-CERC, dated the 2nd June, 2009, publishing the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for grant of trading license and other related matters) (Amendment) Regulations, 2009.
 - (6) No.L-1(5)/2009-CERC, dated the 2nd June, 2009, publishing the Conduct of Business (Amendment) Regulations, 2009.
 - (7) No.L-7/145(160)/2008-CERC, dated the 17th June, 2009, publishing Corrigendum regarding the CERC (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2009.
 - (8) No.L-7/145(160)/2008-CERC, dated the 17th June, 2009, publishing Addendum regarding the CERC (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2009. [Placed in Library. For (3) to (6) See No. L.T. 509/15/09]
- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Power) and the Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited, for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 341/15/09]

I MoU (2009-10) between Government of India and BECL

II. Outcome Budget (2009-10) of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHARY MOHAN JATUA): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- I. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Information and Broadcasting) and the Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited (BECL), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 545/15/09]
- II. Outcome Budget for the year 2009-10 in respect of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 398/15/09]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Status of Implementation of recommendations contained in the Thirty-ninth report of the department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): Sir, I make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Thirty-ninth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Floods in Gujarat

श्री विजय कुमार रूपाणी (गुजरात) : उपसभापति महोदय, इस बार आंध्र देश में सूखा पड़ा है। हमारे गुजरात में बहुत बारिश हुई है। वैसे जुलाई के महीने में सिर्फ 15-20 परसेंट बारिश होती थी, लेकिन इस बार पिछले 10 दिनों में 60 परसेंट से ज्यादा मानसून की बारिश हमारे यहां हो गई है।

उपसभापति महोदय, भेरावड़ और हमारे जितने सागर तट हैं, उन में 50 फीसदी से ज्यादा, यानी कि 1000 मिली मीटर से ज्यादा एक साथ, एक दिन में बारिश हो गई है। महोदय, मुंबई में तूफानी मौजा की जो बैठ है, गुजरात के नौसारी, सूरत में उस का भी बहुत प्रकोप हो गया है। इस कारण गुजरात में बहुत भारी नुकसान हुआ है। महोदय, हमारे यहां जूनागढ़ डिस्ट्रिक्ट में मांगरौर, वैरावर, मारिया, सूत्रापाड़ा में एक दिन में 8-8 सौ मिली मीटर बारिश हुई है। इस सब से हमारे यहां बहुत भारी नुकसान हुआ है। महोदय, वहां घरों के अंदर 5-5 फुट पानी भर गया है, रास्ते सब टूट गए हैं जिस कारण करीबन 22 गावों से संपर्क टूट गया था। वहां मिलिट्री को भी भेजना पड़ा।

इस सब के कारण हमारे यहां बहुत नुकसान हुआ है। भारी बारिश के कारण पोरबंदर और जूनागढ़ डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स में dewatering की भी बहुत बड़ी समस्या पैदा हो गई है। वहां एनडीआरएफ की दो टीमों भेजी गई थीं। भारतीय वायुबल और भारतीय वायुसेना को भी वहां राहत के काम के लिए भेजा गया था। जामनगर जिले के लालपुर में 17 जुलाई को करीबन एक दिन में 800 मिली मीटर से ज्यादा बारिश हुई है। वहां 20 इंच से ज्यादा बारिश एक साथ हो गई है, जिससे वहां के 50 से ज्यादा गांव अतिवृष्टि के कारण ज्यादा गंभीर स्थिति में पहुंच गए हैं। इससे बिजली के इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर को भी भारी नुकसान हुआ है। वहां एसआरपी और एनडीआरएफ के विशेष दलों को भी भेजा गया है। वहां से करीबन 7,800 से ज्यादा लोगों को स्थानांतरित किया गया है। वहां पर करीब दो हेलीकॉप्टर्स द्वारा 70,000 से भी ज्यादा फूड पैकेट्स के वितरण का कार्य राज्य सरकार को करना पड़ा है। इस तरह इस natural calamity की दृष्टि से वहां पर इसकी तुरंत घोषणा होनी चाहिए। वहां गुजरात सरकार और सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए ताकि वहां के लोगों को ज्यादा से ज्यादा रिलिफ मिले, ऐसी हमारी डिमांड है ...**(समय की घंटी)**... मैं इस सभा में आप सब का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाना चाहता हूं।

श्री उपसभापति : इससे बहुत सारे लोग एसोसिएट कर रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र) : सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको संबद्ध करता हूं।

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल (राजस्थान) : सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको संबद्ध करता हूं।

श्रीमती माया सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश) : सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको संबद्ध करती हूं।

श्री कलराज मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको संबद्ध करता हूं।

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी (उत्तराखंड) : सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको संबद्ध करता हूं।

श्री विक्रम वर्मा (मध्य प्रदेश) : सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको संबद्ध करता हूं।

श्री परिमल नथवानी (झारखंड) : सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको संबद्ध करता हूं।

Metro rail services from Tollygange to Garia in Kolkata

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is learnt that the hon. Minister for Railways has decided to inaugurate the Kolkata Metro Railway Services extension portion between Tollygange to Garia on 23rd August, 2009. The announcement to this effect has already been made by the Minister herself without consulting the Government of West Bengal, which is sharing 33 per cent of the total cost of this project. It is a fact that the people of Kolkata are demanding the extension of the metro services from Tollygange to Garia and the completion of project is a very welcome step. The Government of West Bengal extended its full cooperation to fulfill the demand of people and up to 31st March spent so far Rs.221.46 crore for this project. Even the Government of West Bengal shares the 33 per cent of the escalated cost of this project. Initially, the project cost was Rs.696 crore, then subsequently revised to Rs.907.69 crore and then further revised to Rs. 1032.76 crore. The 33 per cent cost is borne by the State Government. The State Government also arranged to rehabilitate 500 families which were residing on the banks of Tolly Nallah. Not only that, the State Government allotted land for construction of metro rail services without any cost. But the hon. Minister for Railways simply forgot all these facts before declaring her inaugural programme as a pooja gift. Even in hurry, she appeared to be forgotten that the stretch of metro railway is yet to

be cleared by the Commissioner of Railway Safety which is a mandatory one. Sir, we request the Government to intervene and not to repeat such things.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I associate with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

Reservation for 'Gujjars' of Rajasthan

श्री ललित किशोर चतुर्वेदी : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं एक अत्यंत संवेदनशील इश्यू की ओर आपका और ध्यान सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित कर रहा हूँ।

राजस्थान में गुर्जर आरक्षण को लेकर एक बार फिर बड़ी गंभीर और विस्फोटक स्थिति बन गई है। मैं यहां उन बातों को दोहराना नहीं चाहता, जो देश और प्रदेश को पिछली बार इसके कारण क्षति हुई थी। मैं आपके माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ, उसे यह जानकारी होगी कि पिछली बार विधान सभा में सर्वसम्मति से, जिसमें रूलिंग पार्टी भी थी और अपोजिशन भी था, वह अपोजिशन जो कि आज सरकार में बैठा है, यह तय किया गया था कि गुर्जरों को 5 प्रतिशत और सामान्य श्रेणी के अति निर्धन लोगों को 14 प्रतिशत आरक्षण दिया जाए। इस पर लम्बी बहस हुई। इस मुद्दे पर विपक्ष की भी पूरी सहमति थी। महोदय, मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि उस समय विधि विभाग से भी इसकी सहमति ली गई थी और जो संशोधित प्रस्ताव आया, वह विधान सभा में सर्वसम्मति से पास किया गया।

किन्तु आज ऐसा लगता है कि सर्वसम्मति प्रस्ताव पास होने के बाद भी उस पर राजनीति की जा रही है। वे लोग जो उस वक्त विपक्ष में थे, आज सरकार में बैठे हैं, उस समय कहा करते थे कि सामान्य रूप से इसका हल हो जाएगा। मैं सदन की जानकारी के लिए यह भी बताना चाहता हूँ कि इस आरक्षण के मुद्दे को लेकर तत्कालीन सरकार ने एक आयोग का गठन किया था - श्री जसराज चोपड़ा आयोग, और उसने भी यह कहा था कि निश्चित रूप से इस बात को ...(व्यवधान)...

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर : सर, मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि पांच साल ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Please, don't intervene in between.

श्री ललित किशोर चतुर्वेदी : महोदय, मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि वे मेरा समय ले रही हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान) : पांच साल रहे, इन्होंने क्या किया ...(व्यवधान).... इस मुद्दे पर कुछ नहीं किया। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : प्रभा ठाकुर जी, आप क्यों खड़ी हो रही हैं। ...(व्यवधान).... बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री ललित किशोर चतुर्वेदी : वे मेरा समय ले रही हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर : इस मुद्दे पर कुछ नहीं किया। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : प्रभा ठाकुर जी, आप सदन का टाइम ...(व्यवधान).... आपको जवाब देने के लिए नहीं कहा गया है। ...(व्यवधान).... आप मैम्बर को बोलने दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री ललित किशोर चतुर्वेदी : सर, मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि सर्वसम्मति से प्रस्ताव पास हो गया, विपक्ष की सहमति हो गई ...(व्यवधान).... आज जब स्थिति ऐसी पैदा हो गई है तो कहा जा रहा है कि इस पर दस्तखत नहीं किए जा रहे हैं। मैं नहीं जानता कि महामहिम इस पर दस्तखत क्यों नहीं कर रहे हैं, वे जाने या भगवान जाने। किन्तु, मेरा आपसे निवेदन है कि इस मामले पर केन्द्र सरकार इंटरवीन करे, तुरंत उस पर निर्णय ले, अगर निर्णय नहीं लेगी तो इसका परिणाम क्या होगा, यह हमने पिछली बार देखा है।

मैं आपके माध्यम से कहना चाहता हूँ कि विस्फोटक स्थिति न बने। अभी कल ही मीटिंग हुई थी, पड़ाव डाल रखा है, अगले 24 घंटे के लिए उन्होंने अल्टीमेटम दिया है और उसके कारण क्या परिणाम होंगे, इसके बारे में केन्द्र सरकार जानकारी करके इसको ठीक करे।

श्री कलराज मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश) : *

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल (राजस्थान) : *

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर : *

श्री कलराज मिश्र : *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record...(Interruptions). आप बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मिश्र जी, आप बैठ जाइए। आप अब मत दीजिए ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर : *

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल : *

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप बैठिए। There is no provision for this. Please, sit down. आप बैठिए रामदास अग्रवाल जी। Now, Shri Bharatkumar Raut.

Unrest among the staff of Air India and Indian Airlines

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT (Maharashtra): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of the House some grievances which are being faced by the employees of Air India and Indian Airlines. I am associated with this as Bharatiya Kamgar Sena Union. Sir, on the last 22nd, yet another circular came from the Executive Director (Finance) of Air India stating that the CMD had directed that the PLI norms for the company were to be reviewed and parameters needed to be revised, hence deferring the PLI of Air India employees for the month of July, 2009 up to 20th August. Sir, just last week, the Civil Aviation Minister mentioned on the floor of this House that there would not be any retrenchment, no lay-off, and he also promised that the salary, that had already been deferred, would be paid. Within three days, another circular comes stating that PLI will be deferred further. What is PLI? It is Productivity Linked Incentive given to the employees. Technically, hon. Civil Aviation Minister was right. Wages and salaries have been paid. But, the PLI has been deferred. Now, what is the importance of the PLI? Let me tell you that the PLI of ground staff is almost 50 per cent of their gross emoluments, and 65 per cent of the gross emoluments in case of flying staff. If a person, who is a ground staff, earns Rs. 1000, then, Rs.500 come from PLI. it means, you have deferred 50 per cent of their salary; and 65 per cent in case of cabin crew. Have we become so pauper that we cannot even pay the salaries of the employees? If PLI constitutes this much portion, of the total emoluments, that actually means their referred salaries and wages. So, employees have every right to earn their PLI on the stipulated time and date. For India Airlines, the flying allowance is actually meal allowance. If a member of flying staff goes to London, or other stations, how will he eat and from where? Sir, this is an important thing. ...**(Time bell rings)**... Sir, I want you to use your good offices and pressurise the Ministry to see that the salaries are paid on time and not deferred.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR (Maharashtra): Sir, I associate myself with the views of hon. Member on this important issue.

* Not recorded.

Woman molested and stripped off in Patna

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : उपसभापति जी, दो-तीन दिन पहले पटना में अचानक एक ऐसी घटना घटी, मुझे लगता है कि आज़ादी के बाद आज तक इस तरह की शर्मनाक घटना बिहार में नहीं हुई है, बिहार की राजधानी में नहीं हुई है। एक औरत को होटल से निकाला गया, सरेआम सैंकड़ों आदमियों के बीच में, वहां पर ट्रैफिक पुलिस थी, कुछ दूरी पर पुलिस स्टेशन भी था, टी.वी. सीरियल वाले शायद पहले से खड़े थे, उन लोगों के बीच में एक औरत के कपड़े खोले गए, उसको नंगा किया गया...(व्यवधान)... यह भयानक है। मुझे कभी-कभी लगता है कि यह राज्य सरकार, अपने आपको सुशासन की सरकार कहती है?

महोदय, 15 सालों तक बिहार में हमारी सरकार चली * सरकार चली, तो इन लोगों ने कहा कि जंगल राज है। जब यह घटना घटी तो * ने कहा कि...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप किसी का नाम मत लीजिए...(व्यवधान)... आपको तो रूल्स मालूम हैं...(व्यवधान)... शिवानन्द जी, बैठिए, नाम निकाल दिया गया है...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : महोदय, सरकार के मंत्री ने कहा कि * कृष्ण भगवान की तरह उस औरत की रक्षा करने के लिए...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप नाम मत लीजिए, आपको जो बोलना है, केवल वह बोलिए, अच्छा विषय है, आप बोलिए...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : जब यह घटना घटी, तो पुलिस ने कहा कि उस महिला का चरित्र अच्छा नहीं था। मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि क्या हम लोग इस घटना के बारे में endorse करते हैं? यह इतनी शर्मनाक घटना है। हम लोगों की सरकार को जंगल राज कहा गया, लेकिन आज बिहार की स्थिति इतनी गंभीर है कि वहां पर कानून और व्यवस्था की स्थापना नहीं है। वहां पर हर दिन मर्डर हो रहा है, वहां पर हर दिन रेप हो रहा है और यह जो घटना घटी है, वह इतनी शर्मनाक है कि...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार) : ये क्या बोल रहे हैं? ये सदन में असम्य बोल रहे हैं...(व्यवधान)...

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : ये सदन में असत्य बोल रहे हैं...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : ठीक है, वे उनके विचार हैं, आपके नहीं, आप बैठिए...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : ये साबित करें कि पटना में हर दिन मर्डर हो रहा है, हर दिन रेप हो रहा है...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : अब आपको क्या बोलें, हम बोल सकते हैं क्या? आप बैठिए...(व्यवधान)... आप भी बोलते हैं, वे भी बोलते हैं...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठिए...(व्यवधान)... देखिए, वे आपकी बात नहीं करेंगे, अपनी बात करेंगे, आप लोग बैठ जाइए...(व्यवधान)... रुडी जी, आप बैठिए...(व्यवधान)... उनको परमिट किया गया है, वे जो बोलना चाहते हैं, ...(व्यवधान)... If it is not unparliamentary, he has every right to say that. ...(Interruptions)... आप बैठिए...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार) : उपसभापति जी, हमारी सरकार ने इसकी निंदा की है...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : अंसारी साहब, बैठिए...(व्यवधान)... देखिए, यह सही नहीं है, Nothing will go on record. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी : *

*Not recorded.

श्री उपसभापति : विप्लव जी, यह क्या बात है? आपसे किसने कहा है बोलने के लिए ...(व्यवधान)... मैंने उनको परमिट किया है, इसलिए वे बोल रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)... Viplove ji, what is this? It is not the way. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी : * ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी : *

श्री उपसभापति : देखिए, वे आपकी बात करेंगे क्या?

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : * ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन : * ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : अगर ये असत्य बोल रहे हैं, तो आप उनके ऊपर प्रिविलेज मोशन लाइए, अगर वे असत्य बोल रहे हैं, तो आप उनके खिलाफ प्रिविलेज नोटिस दीजिए ...(व्यवधान)... आप क्या बात कर रहे हैं? इनको बोलने के लिए अलाऊ किया गया है, इन्हें बोलने दीजिए! ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamil Nadu) : * ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति : रूल्स को नहीं समझ सकते ...(व्यवधान)... एक मिनट ...(व्यवधान)... जयन्ती जी, आप बैठिए! आप खत्म कीजिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : *

श्री उपसभापति : यह क्या बात है? ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN : *

श्री उपसभापति : * शब्द को निकाल दीजिए! ...(व्यवधान)... जयन्ती जी, आप बैठिए! ...(व्यवधान)... शिवानन्द जी, एक मैम्बर को जब बुलाया गया है, उसका जीरो ऑवर एडमिट हुआ है, जीरो ऑवर चेयरमैन साहब देखने के बाद एडमिट करते हैं! ...(व्यवधान)... हो सकता है कि मैम्बर आपके ...(व्यवधान)... सुनिए, आप पूरी बात सुनिए। वे जो बोलना चाहते हैं, अगर वह अनपार्लियामेंटरी है तो उसे हम कार्यवाही से निकाल देंगे, वरना उनको अपने विचार रखने दीजिए, इसमें आपको क्या आपत्ति है? ...(व्यवधान)... राजनीति प्रसाद जी, अब आप खत्म कीजिए! ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : मैं एक और बात कहना चाहता हूँ! ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विनय कटियार (उत्तर प्रदेश) : *

श्री उपसभापति : कांग्रेस बीजेपी का सवाल नहीं है, मैम्बर का सवाल है। आप बैठिए! ...(व्यवधान)... Nothing will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप बैठिए! ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठिए न! ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : अंत में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप जो कह रहे हैं, Nothing will go on record. I have not identified you. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप बैठिए! ...(व्यवधान)...

*Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No, no. This is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... Your three minutes are over. We will not take up the Motion for Suspension of Rule 272. ...*(Interruptions)*... Motion for Suspension of Rule 272 ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Minister, ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, मुझे बोलने नहीं दिया गया तो तीन मिनट कैसे हो गए? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : बस, अब हो गया। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

प्रो. अलका क्षत्रिय (गुजरात) : *

श्री उपसभापति : आपको नोटिस देना चाहिए था। क्या आपने यहां नोटिस दिया है? आपने नोटिस नहीं दिया है। यह क्या बात है? ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठिए। आप बैठिए न। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Sir, we all associate ourselves. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती वृन्दा कारत (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : सर, जो वहां पर हुआ ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : आप एसोसिएट कीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT : * ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... By intervening you can't take*(Interruptions)*... Without notice you can't speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal) : We associate ourselves, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu) : We associate ourselves, Sir ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record except What Mr. Rajniti Prasad was said...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Sir, we have only associated. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, you can associate.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : सर, मैं माननीय सदस्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

प्रो. अलका क्षत्रिय : सर, मैं माननीय सदस्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

सुश्री सुशीला तिरिया (उड़ीसा) : सर, मैं माननीय सदस्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान) : सर, मैं माननीय सदस्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Rajniti, I have called the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is over now. I have said that it is over. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, हमें तीन मिनट बोलने नहीं दिया गया।

श्री उपसभापति : आपके तीन मिनट हो गए हैं। मंत्री जी, आप बोलिए। Nothing will go on record.

*Not recorded.

MOTION FOR SUSPENSION OF RULE 272

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCE; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONAL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Rule 272 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States in its application to consideration of the Demands for Grants of the related Ministries/Departments for 2009-10 by Department-related Standing Committees be suspended".

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I want to say one thing. We will accept your request for suspending the Rule for this year only if the Government gives an assurance that for the rest of its tenure it is not going to come with a similar suspension motion.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Absolutely, Sir. This is not the intention of the Government to do away with the examination of demands by the Standing Committees. Only because this year we could not constitute the Standing Committees in time, we are seeking their permission for this.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DISCUSSION ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): Sir, I express my gratitude to the hon. Members who participated in the discussion on the working of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology. The deliberations were fruitful.

Discussions in Parliament reveal not only certain facts but also policies, objective and goal of the Government in a particular sector. I recall the words of Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer. He said, "Parliament is a grand inquest of the nation, the great auditor and the Ombudsman of the Executive, the final arbitrator, policy monitor, and destiny designer of the country." I do believe that the discussions held here must coincide with the definition that has been offered by Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer. As a Minister I do agree with what has been observed in the same Parliament by our mentor, Dr. C.N. Annadurai, when he was a Member of this House. He said, 'the highest is not above the law, the humblest is not beneath the law. With this in mind, I want to convince those who made arguments, of course, some allegations, before Parliament on the working of the Ministry.

Sir, when I was entrusted with the task of running this Ministry in May, 2007, I wanted to learn

quickly and rapidly the developments that were taking place. I do feel that I have done something in the Ministry which subject me to clarifications and criticism that have been offered, including those made by the Leader of the Opposition.

I am very glad that the Leader of Opposition for whom I have high regards as one of the top legal brains in the country is sitting here, not just for taking part in the discussion. I am also happy because my senior colleague, Mr. Arun Shourie, is present here whose presence is *inter alia* connected with the arguments going to be put forward by me while convincing other Members of Parliament.

Sir, I think that some of the arguments that have been made by the Members of Parliament were free from party prejudices and predilection and some were prejudices of political entity. I want to weigh both without any prejudice in my mind.

Sir, I had three Departments when I assumed this charge and it is still with me. Let me deal with them one by one. Since May, 2007, when I took charge as the Minister of Communications and Information Technology, some of the major achievements of this Government by making proactive policy decision are these.

As the hon. Members are aware, the Department of Posts is the largest postal network in the world which provides postal facilities within the reach of every citizen in the country at affordable prices. These include delivery of letters, e-mail, small savings, money remittances, provisions of life insurance and other core functions.

Sir, second to the Railways, the Postal Department is one of the biggest Department in the world having huge infrastructure. Due to rapid development in other areas of information technology and other private courier services, the profit which was earned by the Postal Department has dwindled. It is quite natural that to withstand in a competitive environment, something afresh must be done. The Government has anticipated new developments in this sector and it is well aware that the Postal Department cannot be used exclusively for commercial interests.

Of course, it has its own commitment towards the people, those who are living at the lowest ebb of the society in the remote areas. The service of the Postal Department cannot be ignored and even it cannot be equated with the other private courier services. Of course, through the non-Plan expenditure, every year, more than Rs.1000 crores or even more, is being compensated by the Government of India through the Finance Ministry as supplementary because the postal network has to be kept alive. But, that does not mean that the Government is totally inactive or inert in having a re-look at the working style of the Postal Department. For the first time, we took the decision. We have 1,55,035 post offices in the country. These 1,55,035 post offices, if at all the business is coming down, cannot be closed in one stance. So, we wanted to switch over the business to some other areas; we wanted to treat the local post offices in the remote areas as the outlet of the nationalised banks; we wanted to sell the gold coins with quality on a par with the Indian standards; and, we

wanted to have other services. We are even talking with private banks like ICICI Bank. If they want to avail of this infrastructure, revenue can be accrued for this Department and we can come out of the deficiency which is being incurred now, up to the tune of Rs.1000 crore and more. Sir, one of the major initiatives that has been ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति : देखिए, आप इन्हें बोलने दीजिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: No, no. It will be used. Some incentives will be given.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Madhu, please don't interrupt the Minister in between. It derails his thoughts.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, we can start savings bank account on behalf of the State Bank of India. We will operate the savings account. Out of which, some percentage can be given as commission. That's all. We are not going to privatise the Postal Department. How the deficiency, the loss incurred by the Department, can be managed is the point. That's all. Even we are not intending giving profits through privatisation. It is not the question of privatisation at all. The point is, how the infrastructure available in every nook and corner of the country can be used when the other technology is coming into the Department. We have to withstand the competitive environment. That is the motive of the Government.

Sir, the major initiatives have taken place in the Department. In the Eleventh Plan, we announced that major post offices in the country will be computerised. Accordingly, we have allotted Rs.2700 crores which has been earmarked for IT induction in the postal operations. Out of this fund, so far 9684 post offices have already been computerised till March 2009. About 1274 post offices have been linked through a web area network and a National Data Centre has been set up for this purpose.

Sir, I am continuing in the same Ministry from the last Government. The last Government announced an innovative scheme called Project ARROW. In a competitive world, not only the content of the article is important but the visibility of the article must also be impressive. So, in all the post offices running in the rural areas at the taluka level, block level or in the old buildings, we wanted to give them business model and give them a good visibility with the new equipment and IT instruments. So, we launched Project ARROW. Last year, we modernised 500 post offices across the country selectively in all the States without any deficiency by spending more than Rs.80 crores. This year, we have earmarked another 500 post offices which will be taken up under this project.

Sir, coming to the queries raised by the hon. Members, great concern was expressed that new post offices are not at all being opened. As I stated, every year, the Department is incurring a loss of Rs.1000 crores or more. But, the Government has committed that within the Eleventh Plan, we are going to start 3000 post offices across the country for which papers have been mooted and these are

being discussed in the Finance Ministry. I do hope the commitment that has been made by the Finance Ministry for the Eleventh Five Year Plan that 3000 post offices are going to be opened in the country soon will be fulfilled. For constraint, of time, I am not able to go by each and every name of the Member, Of course, some of the Members spoke about the recruitment in the Postal Department. Deep concern was expressed with regard to the extra departmental workers now renamed as Grameen Dak Sewak working in the rural areas and it was suggested that they should be regularised and new post offices should be opened. When the post offices are opened, those persons who are living in the locality, they must be appointed. These are the queries which have been raised by the Members of Parliament.

Mr. Jha raised the question that no recruitment has taken place in the Department of Posts since 1984. Sir, it is known to all that the recruitment of the new services is being governed by the Department of Personnel and Training. Only one third of the vacancies can be filled up according to the Department of Personnel and Training. Without prior approval of the Department of Personnel and Training and without the prior approval of the Ministry of Finance, we cannot fill up all the vacancies which are available. However, efforts are being made, and we are in touch with the Finance Ministry. The Postal Department should not be compared with other departments. This service is very essentially needed for the people and the rule that has been made generally for other departments, we cannot take shelter under that rule in the Department of Posts. The discussion is on, and I do hope that the exemption will be obtained from the Ministry of Finance, and in the course of time, we will appoint all the postmen against all the vacancies wherever it is essential.

He has raised another question that compassionate appointment cases must be considered. It is universally accepted in the country that only 5 per cent of direct recruitment vacancies can be filled up on compassionate ground. Even if direct recruitment is there, we cannot defeat the direct recruitment simply because some people are waiting on the basis of compassionate ground. The recruitment in the other areas cannot be curtailed according to the guidelines issued by the Department of Personnel and Training, and we will ensure that the 5 per cent that has been earmarked on compassionate ground will be strictly followed, the seniority will be strictly followed. I can give this assurance to you. Similarly, he raised another question that the Assured Career Progression scheme has not been applied to the Department of Posts. The Assured Career Progression scheme has been implemented, consequent upon the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission, modified Assured Career Progression scheme, as recommended by the Sixth Pay Commission, is also under implementation. GDS are holding civil posts, but they have not analysed this aspect. This was the allegation made by him. GDS, Mail Deliver, those who are working in the villages, according to our census, are spending only five hours or four hours or three hours; legal

impediments are there. When a person is working for five hours or four hours per day, he cannot be regularised. We appointed one-man Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. Natarajanmurthy, who had worked in the Postal Department earlier, to find out how their betterment can be ensured. He made a recommendation that some incentives must be given to the persons who are working in the extra departmental post offices. It is seriously considered by the Finance Ministry, and I hope, the Finance Ministry will clear this proposal. Thereafter, we will give some emoluments and some incentives will attract these people.

Sir, Mr. Nayak spoke about his constituency. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): The GDS people work for eight hours!

SHRI A. RAJA: Maybe, they work for 8 hours. Sometimes, they work for 4 hours and 3 hours. The Supreme Court judgment is there which says that the regularisation cannot be done unless they are being recruited as the full-time workers. That is the judgment.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: But they have been working for many years.

SHRI A. RAJA: I am fully concerned with them. I will be the first person to support the cause of the GDS. At the same time, this subject is not exclusively within my domain. For this purpose, I have to interact with the Ministry of Finance.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Kerala) : Increase their emoluments.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: That can be done.

SHRI A. RAJA: For that purpose, I appointed one-man Committee under the chairmanship of Natarajan Murthy, who was an officer in the Postal Department. He knew all the nitty-gritty of the department. He recommended some emoluments and incentives. It is being actively considered by my Ministry and the Finance Ministry. I will support the cause of the GDS.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: If the Finance Ministry is creating a problem, please elicit our support. We are with you. Please get their emoluments increased.

SHRI A. RAJA: We will do it.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: This is a very genuine problem. You prevail upon the Finance Ministry and get it done.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, some of the suggestions have been made by Mr. Hassan for strengthening the rural postal network. The suggestions are well taken. Similarly, I have already submitted to the House that the density of the post office is not commensurate with the norm of opening a post office. That has been highlighted by Mr. Chandan Mitra. I do agree with the concern expressed by him so far as the post office is concerned. Of course, these norms are being implemented wherever it is

possible. Because of the financial crunch we are not able to open post offices wherever the people need them. It has been referred to the Finance Ministry. They accepted that in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, 3,000 post offices will be, definitely, opened. Before the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan, I assure you, the post offices will be established, wherever required, as per the recommendations made by the Finance Ministry once it is cleared.

Similarly, Mr. Sudarsana Natichappan, said that the bonus on NSS it has been reduced. You may be aware, Sir, that the rate of interest, whoever be the person, whichever be the Department, so far as Government Departments are concerned, on the deposits, on the Government money, will be decided by the Finance Ministry. So, the Finance Ministry fixed the rate of interest on deposits, under the Post Office Savings Accounts, as 3.5 per cent. We are pursuing the Finance Ministry to consider, if possible, giving them, in the course of time, more incentives. Similarly, the commission of small saving agents has been reduced. These are also being governed by the Ministry of Finance.

On the revival of postal services in the rural areas, Mr. Rajniti Prasad has also spoken. Most of the Members are deeply concerned about the establishment of rural post offices. I assure this House that the persons who are. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD (Bihar) : Sir, my name is not 'Ranjit Prasad'! It is 'Rajniti Prasad'!

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : His name is Rajniti Prasad!

SHRI A. RAJA : I am sorry, Sir.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : 'Rajniti' means 'polities'; 'Political Prasad'!

SHRI A. RAJA : Sir, even some of the names I will leave. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : He never wants to use 'rajniti'!

SHRI A. RAJA : So far as the Postal Department is concerned, this does not mean that the Member's voice is being marginalised or is going to be ignored by the Ministry, or by the Minister. I will take a complete microscopic study done, by going through all the speeches which have been delivered here. So far as the Postal Department is concerned, we launched the 'Project Arrow'; we computerised the ten thousand post offices for which a huge amount has been given by this Government.

Now, I come to the Department of I.T. Sir, in the Department of information Technology, the credit of this Government stands on the new schemes which have been announced. Broadly, I can speak about the two schemes. In the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the National E-governance

Programme that has been announced by the Prime Minister of India, in the last Government, and it is being implemented by spending more than Rs.6,000 crores. In the first phase, we are going to create State Data Centres in every State Headquarter. Then, the District Headquarter will be connected; then, the Block Centres will be connected by e-governance, the complete e-governance, and, ultimately, across the country, one lakh Common Service Centres are going to be opened. Out of these, 40,000 Centres have already been opened across the country. The motto of the National E-governance Programme is that the administration should be paperless. We want that within a couple of years, up to the taluka level, the paperless Government must be ensured. After that, we want to create these Common Service Centres where the land records can be obtained by the villagers, those who are living in the village itself. Rail tickets and air tickets, all family details, and even the other departmental needs of the people will be put in the Common Service Centres so that a person need not have to travel to the District Headquarters or the Taluka Headquarters. Whatever be the need of the documents, including the revenue records, family cards, railway ticket booking and all other bookings will be held within the Common Service Centres. Then, it will be connected with the block level, the State level and the district level. The motto of the Government is to ensure that within two years, in the district level, there should be a paperless Government. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Madhu, let him reply.

SHRI A. RAJA: Yes, that is our motto. We are attending to that. Of course, we are lagging behind a little bit in the National E-governance Programme because it is not exclusively and directly implemented by the Central Government. We are depending upon the State Governments. The persons who are going to run the Common Service Centres with private participation have to be identified and it is being taken up with the State Governments through due process. Some of the State Governments are pro-active. There is a little bit of delay on the part of some of the State Governments — I am not accusing any State Government because of want of personnel and other things necessary to establish the Common Service Centres.

Sir, another important scheme, that is, the semi-conductor policy, has been announced by the Department of Information Technology. India is largely dependent on foreign countries, so far as manufacturing hardwares is concerned. Of course, even in the case of a small handset of mobile, most of the parts are being imported from abroad, assembled here and then sold here. So, the Government wants to have its own electronic hardware manufacturing hubs. We have announced the Special Economic Zones. As Members are aware, in the case of Special Economic Zones, 20 per cent incentives, tax holidays, etc., have already been announced. Notwithstanding the SEZs which have been given income-tax concessions and other incentives, the Government wants an exclusive policy for semi-conductor and it was announced by the previous Government. The previous

Government received proposals worth Rs.1,56,000 crores. This Government, as soon as I took over charge of this Ministry again, within a week, cleared and gave in-principle clearance to 8-10 projects worth more than Rs.75,000 crore. These projects are going to be implemented very soon. So, this is a major policy decision that has been taken by the Government in the Department of Information Technology.

Sir, while I mention the major achievements, I must also go through the Members' needs also. Of course, I was surprised when Mr. Jha mentioned it. I am thankful to Mr. Jha. He mooted a very important point. I do feel very sorry that our own Annual Report was not put on the website. This has been highlighted by him. I thank him for the reference that he had made. I had immediately asked the officers to put the Annual Report on the website. With regard to the other areas, he pointed out that the allocation by the DoIT for masses, gender, SC, ST and manpower development had remained unchanged over the years. I checked it. Yes, it is true that the allocation for Plan schemes under this domain is unchanged. The reason behind this is that we have other Plan schemes for manpower development and the Department has many other institutions like C-DoT, DOEACC, etc., which run manpower development programmes. We are going to align with the State Governments on how manpower development programmes can be implemented at the State level since we do feel handicapped in implementing this directly. We know that the students who get degrees from the universities and other institutions are not able to get jobs because once they leave the institutions there occurs a gap in the case of the rural people, the SCs, the STs and the OBCs and they are not able to update their skills. As they are not able to update their skills, they are not able to get jobs. This is a very important point. We will take up these issues with the State Governments in course time.

Similarly, Mr. Hassan has mentioned about the national knowledge network and e-grandhalaya. Of course, it is unusual to ask this question. When the Budget is increased, Members must be happy. Here, it is otherwise. Last year, it was Rs.100 crores. This year, it is Rs.600 crores. He asks: Why was there a hike without any justification? The hike is because the Technical Advisory Committee has recommended the design document of NKM. The high level committee approved the proposal of the TAG for a new project which costs Rs.5,990 crores.

In order to complete the new project in a phased manner, Rs. 600 crores have been given by the Government. There is another important area. Of course, I missed to mention the achievements of the Government. We are deeply concerned about cyber crimes. We amended the Information Technology Act, 2000 keeping in mind its greater significance. The number of cyber crimes was going up. Of course, our personnel, including the police officers were not competent to deal with and investigate cyber crimes. They were not aware under what provision of the law those people had to be booked. There were some grey areas in the Information Technology Act, 2000 and there were some issues which were not at all addressed during those days. Then there was no mention of many

other crimes. As soon as the crimes are identified, those crimes must be investigated and accordingly corresponding provisions should necessarily be made. The Government felt the necessity. Accordingly, in our last tenure, we amended the law. We strengthened the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team in the Department of Information Technology and together with industry associations like the Confederation of Indian Industry, NASSCOM, Data Security Council of India and software players like Microsoft has developed a website exclusively for this purpose. Various types of materials like posters, handouts, stickers, calendars, guidelines and animation videos on creating awareness aimed at school children, teachers and parents have been designed and hosted on the websites. Important issues have been addressed. This question was put by Shri Shantaram Laxman Naik. He also raised one important point that software should be developed in all regional languages. That is very important. He stated that software must be developed in all regional languages, without any discrimination. We are glad to announce that already 16 CDs have been made available in Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Urdu, Punjabi, Oriya, Kannada, Assamese, Malayalam, Gujarati, Sanskrit, Bodo, Dogri, Maithili and Nepali. Software CDs are available in all these 16 languages. In the case of balance six official languages, it will be done by September, 2009. So far as Bangla is concerned, of course, it is ready for launch. Sir, these are all the major achievements.

Some of the hon. Members expressed their concern about the loss in business of C-DoT. Of course, C-DoT was started way back in the year 1996 to design, develop and transfer the technology of digital switching system to indigenous manufacturing. It was started with good intentions but after liberalisation and globalisation, there is no preference for indigenous developed technologies. Therefore, C-DoT has suffered a lot because of globalisation and liberalisation. We wanted C-DoT to enter into the business of technology consultancy and attention on products of national importance. We wanted it to work as application service provider to international companies. I do hope that some business will be brought back to the basket of C-DoT and it will be revived in due course of time.

Now I come to telecom. Concerns were expressed with regard to the performance of BSNL and MTNL. Sir, due to constraint of time, I would like to summarise it broadly. Two allegations have been made against the performance of BSNL and MTNL. One is, its market share is coming down and the subscriber base is not picking up.

Sir, before going into the details of business modalities of the BSNL and MTNL, I must submit that the BSNL and the MTNL are public sector units, and PSUs have their own impediments and handicaps on some of the areas. We cannot tell ourselves that the BSNL and the MTNL should be treated on a par with Airtel, Vodafone, that is, exclusively for commercial uses. The BSNL is the only

operator which is serving 5,65,000 villages in the country, through its mobile operations, or, at least, the Village Panchayats with its telephone network. This is the only PSU connecting all the people, including those living in the hilly areas and in the rural areas. And, we have our own difficulties on certain issues, which I can partially share with the Members of Parliament. For example, when we talk of expansion of the BSNL, it is a corporate affair. Whether it is for value added services, or, for other small works, we have to float tenders; we have to consult the Ministry of Finance; and we have to go to the Management Board. It is only after we go through all these processes, that we can install any capacity building. Now, Sir, when my predecessor was there in office, a tender was floated for covering more than 23 million villages, which would fulfil the anticipated growth and anticipated needs for the next five years. Unfortunately, a company, which had participated in the tender, went to the Court. Accordingly, at the time of issuance of Advance Purchase Order, the company could obtain a stay on the entire tendering process for more than one-and-a-half years. What I want to impress upon the House is that if for one-and-a-half years, the expansion work is totally halted, for reasons best known to the person, who filed the case, and the Court of law, how can we expand the system in the rural areas and in the urban areas where the competitive atmosphere is too high and sensitive? Similarly, in other areas also, we have the security reasons. Some Chinese companies are selling their products to the private operators. In critical areas, — my predecessor is here, and he must be aware of these things — especially, in the border areas, we have the advice from the Home Ministry not to go in for Chinese companies." In the absence of Chinese companies, we have to bargain and negotiate exclusively with one or two companies, which might have quoted higher rates as compared to the prices which the private operators would have quoted in other tenders. So, the negotiation process will take a long time. We cannot interfere directly with the PSUs. So, all these days, the administrative delays, inevitable, delays, causes some sort of jeopardised approach on the part of the BSNL and the MTNL. However, some hon. Members, who spoke the other day, said that when the BSNL was earning a revenue of Rs.1000-1500 crores in the past, its revenue has now shrunk to Rs.100 crores. I do not know from where this figure of Rs.100 crores has been obtained. In spite of being in a competitive environment, we earn around Rs.500 crores and more. I do admit that there are some difficulties. These difficulties and the legal points must be appraised very carefully. It is not a question of direct equation with other companies. At the same time, the services being rendered by the BSNL and the MTNL cannot be ignored.

Sir, I do not want to go into issues like how many telephone connections are there, what our share is, etc. Now, on the telecom side, I want to deal with an area where ...*(Interruptions)*...

1.00 P.M.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Before you go to the other point, several hon. Members have raised about congestion and call drop. People get irritated when they have to call between 11 o'clock and 1 o'clock.

SHRI A. RAJA: I will come to that. This problem is not universal. Please bear with me. This may be there in some areas in Delhi, or, in the thickly populated areas. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I will come to you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Broadly, I share with you the difficulties being faced by BSNL. But, in spite of that, believe me, the quality of service is being maintained and monitored by the TRAI. According to the TRAI report, the quality of service of BSNL and MTNL is not universally bad. They have maintained the quality of service. But there are various reasons; I had a specific reason.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Bihar): Universally, not; nationally, yes.

SHRI A. RAJA: Universally means not in the sense of. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not common. I am saying it in that sense.

एक माननीय सदस्य : ऐज़ कंज्यूमर, हम लोगों को लग रहा है कि सर्विस ही खराब है।

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Could you yield for a second?

SHRI A. RAJA: Sure.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: To help ourselves; not for criticism.

SHRI A. RAJA: If, at all, it is criticism, I will take it in a positive sense, Sir, not in the negative sense.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, three or four years back I had raised this issue in the House. The then Minister had told us that there weren't enough towers and so the congestion was increasing. Just now you said that it was in cities like Delhi. No. In our own city of Chennai, you try to call between 11 o'clock to one on any day any time from the BSNL, you will find congestion, you will find call-drop; sometimes you get really irritated. I agree with you that BSNL has been doing a good job. There is no second opinion on that. I don't think anybody here has a second opinion on that. Yes, we all support you on BSNL. At the same time, you know we are consumers; if the facility is not good, you switch over to other people, like you shift from Air India to other airlines. So, keep this in mind as to how to remove that congestion, how to ensure that call-drop isn't there. The third point is, they don't say 'congestion'; they say, "यह नम्बर गलत है"! These are the points. Just take note of them.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, in Delhi, we are also facing another peculiar problem. The Department of Urban Development and the Department of Home do not permit us to install more towers in certain areas due to various reasons.

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Are private operators being permitted to do that?

SHRI A. RAJA: No. They are also not being permitted. These guidelines have been issued recently. For example, in South Avenue, we cannot erect any tower.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, there will be no lunch hour today. This is just for information.

SHRI A. RAJA: Of course, Sir, this point is well-taken. At the same time, I would like to say that in some areas in Bihar, we have come to know, towers are being manned by BSNL men. We checked a specific case and we found that the tower was being operated with the help of a diesel engine since there was no electricity. As we know, some of the areas in Bihar do not have electricity. Some times, due to the scarcity of diesel, these towers do not get activated, for small durations of half-an-hour or an hour. A person who travels across the tower will find out that when the tower is not activated, there are no signals. Those signals are not there, not because of BSNL's fault, but just because the diesel has not been put there at the right time. This happens in certain areas. However, the concern of the ...*(Interruptions)*...

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) in the Chair.]

I just wanted to share this incident with the House. There are other reasons too. The main reason is that we have not been able to expand our capacity because of court cases. ...*(Interruptions)* Yes, I am admitting that it is because of court cases. I must share this with the House; earlier all BTS and other instruments were procured through a centralised tender, one tender for the whole country. For the first time, I have divided it into four or five zones. Now, zonal-wise tenders will take place. If a person has a grievance in one zone in regard to a tender, let it be there but the whole process should not come to a halt. So, we invited another tender for 93 million telephone connections which will meet the requirements for another four or five years. Negotiations are going on. The APO is going to be issued shortly. Once these 93 million connections are installed, I hope there will be no problem in the BSNL commercial activity for the next four years and the telephone connections will be upgraded.

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: But why is it happening in Chennai? There is so much of congestion!

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, if there is anything specific, please let me know. I will look into it personally.

Sir, now I turn to spectrum.

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, before that, there is the issue of proposed privatisation of the BSNL. He has not touched that, ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Let him finish.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: I am raising this issue because he has completed his reply on BSNL. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: Of course, he is right. The BSNL is a Mini-Ratna Company. We wanted to have a new corporate style. I have already assured whether it is going to be privatised to the trade-union leaders who met me in this regard. I assured them that it is not the question of disinvestment or privatisation of the BSNL. At the same time, some sort of new modalities can be inculcated in the business model of the BSNL, if it is possible, we can go for a 10 per cent or 20 per cent IPO. The preferential shares can be given to those workers who are working in the BSNL. It was only a healthy decision which was held there. I met directly the leaders of trade-unions to find out some ways so that the BSNL can be upgraded with commercial values without losing its own entity as a PSU. So, discussions were held there. That is all. Nothing has happened. No...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Mr. Minister, your Secretary has gone on record mentioning that 10 per cent disinvestment has been listed. Only the timeframe should be decided by the Finance Ministry.

SHRI A. RAJA: Where is the question of 'has been listed'? By saying, 'has been listed', you are referring to 'past perfect'. 'Has been' is 'past perfect'. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Then, why is your Secretary saying it in the Press? ...*(Interruptions)*... It has been reported in the Press that 10 per cent disinvestment ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): This cannot be allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Brindaji, please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: How is it that he is allowed to make such statements in the Press? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Now, listen; you address the Chair.

SHRI A. RAJA: I am standing before you in Parliament. The Minister is saying it in Parliament; why are you afraid of the Secretaries and all? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Can you stop him from doing such things? ...*(Interruptions)*... He has given that statement in the Press.

SHRI A. RAJA: I will take care of it. ...*(Interruptions)*... That was the categorical assurance given by me to the trade-union leaders. Your own CPM trade-union leader met me. ...*(Interruptions)*... He met me.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: That is why, Sir, we are surprised. Following that, the Secretary says 10 per cent disinvestment in the BSNL. ...*(Interruptions)*... Who has given the Secretary the authority to speak? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): See, no cross-discussion should be there between you both. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, we are seeking certain clarifications. ...*(Interruptions)*... We are seeking some important clarifications.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I have already clarified it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Clarifications can be sought after the Minister's reply. ...*(Interruption)*... I will allow you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will allow you also, after the Minister's reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Mr. Minister.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, now I come to spectrum. Sir, no Minister in the Telecom Ministry has met such a new era which invited more criticism in the past. Why? Is it something different with Raja?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): You only address the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... No comments, please. I will allow you after the Minister's reply.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I want to recall my memory, when Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar wrote a letter, in the year 2007, when the spectrum issues were discussed in the Ministry, if my memory is correct, I quote, "I will be the first person to think over the auction of spectrum provided the laws and rules framed in this Ministry and approved by the Cabinet permit." Am I correct? ...*(Interruptions)*... What is meant by spectrum? I apprised the media, I apprised those people in the industry who are interested to know as to what is meant by 1G, what is meant by 2G and what is meant by 3G. Even the All India Radio is being operated with a spectrum; even police wireless is being operated with a spectrum. All the State Governments are paying money as 'spectrum charge' for the police wireless, 1G. See, spectrum cannot be equated in one slot, 1G, 2G, 3G. Sir, 3G spectrum cannot be compared with 2G, 2G spectrum cannot be compared with 1G.

Sir, let me now brief about the chronological events that happened in the Ministry so far as the spectrum process is concerned. When the mobile telephone came to India, the Government of India used to give licence and the spectrum on auction process. The existing operators who got some of the areas out of the auction route, they got licence and spectrum way-back in 1993. They failed miserably on two scores, which are very essential and important on two scores, which are very essential and important; one is, they were not able to give the real tele-density in the country as expected by the Government; the second is, the auction price was not paid by the operators on the ground that the business was not viable. So, the business is not viable, tele-density was not picking up; hence, a Group of Ministers was formed. Then, they came out with National Telecom Policy,

1999. What we achieved today, irrespective of the political entity; we worked as a Council of Ministers in the Government headed by Shri Atal Behari Vajpateji where the National Telecom Policy, 1999 came into existence.

Sir, not for political reasons, I must record in the House that because of the National Telecom Policy, 1999, the telecommunication revolution is happening now. There is no hesitation or reservation for me to accept it. The National Telecom Policy, 1999 was approved by the Cabinet. As I told the other day, when the Leader of the Opposition was also in the Cabinet, National Telecom Policy, 1999 says, 'The auction route failed on two scores—tele-density and revenue for the Government; both have miserably failed.' The National Telecom Policy, 1999 was devised for two mottoes; one is the affordable cost, the second is enhancing the tele-density. So, they decided to bring a new guidelines by virtue of National Telecom Policy, 1999, National Telecom Policy, was clearly says, 'The number of operators will be decided every three years.' How many operators are going to be in the country would be decided by TRAI. Then, the spectrum charges would be announced periodically by the TRAI. So, the National Telecom Policy, 1999 permitted the industry to go in for the revenue route from the auction route; how much revenue to be collected will be decided by the TRAI. How many operators are going to be permitted? It is with the TRAI. The TRAI, needless to say, is a statutory body.

Sir, that is why I shared with Parliament, no Minister has come across with such contacts because of TRAI recommendations. When I entered into the office, the TRAI recommendations came, of course, three-four months prior, to me. It was ready on my table where the TRAI said, 'There should not be any capping.' In this country, Sir, only for a few operators, four or five, 2G spectrum is available. Somebody wanted to name me, during the formation of the Government, that Raja is Spectrum King! Yes, with all my sincerity, I would like to admit that I am the spectrum king, the first in the country, in the Department; because, I only disclosed how much spectrum was available, and I am the first Minister to put that on the website.

Sir, only 100 MHz of space is available in 2G. When I assumed charge, 300 million telephone connections were there. 300 million telephone connections were being operated only within 30 to 35 MHz. Of course, the remaining 40 MHz was with the Defence. The remaining 20 MHz, invariably, was available in the country. When there is a scarce resource available on your hand, you are permitting only 4 operators. What is the formula devised by them? We will wait to reach a certain subscriber base; as soon as we reach X-million connections, the spectrum is in my armpit, I will give it to you as soon as you reach the subscriber base. Till then, there should be no competition! It is like having only 4 shops in a village. It is saying like, 'Biscuits are there, you eat these biscuits, then you come back to the same shop and do not go to a new shop!' There is no provision for a new shop. Is it a competition? It is not my idea, mooted by Raja in the Ministry.

Fortunately or unfortunately, I got the TRAI recommendations for healthy competition. All right. I went through all the records. Of course, I am a district court lawyer. The arguments that have been advanced by the Supreme Court lawyer, I am having high regards; I admit, he is one of the top legal brains in the country. What I wanted to impress upon the House is, as a Minister in the Ministry, I paid my due legal diligence in the issuance of licences, in the issuance of spectrum. What does the law say? All the technologies earlier — one is the cellular mobile, one is the landline; new technologies may come. So, there are several licences before National Telecom Policy, 1999. All these licences were unified into one and it was called in the nomenclature of 'unified access licence'.

So, Unified Access Licence says that you can get one licence, you can operate any technology — you go for landline, you go for CDMA, and you can go to GSM. If at all tomorrow a new technology may come, of course, 3G is going to come, in spite of that there will be no specific or exclusive another licence for the 3G. So, the licence is one. We gave it. As he put it, it was derived by TRAI that Rs. 1650 crore will be the licence fee as prescribed by the TRAI. Sir, the argument seems to be very legitimate and plausible when we are hearing the argument. The argument advanced by the Leader of the Opposition and others is that the price which was quoted in 2001, Rs. 1650 crore for the licence fee, is being kept alive by Raja or by the DoT, still even after the escalation in the other areas. Yes, nobody can say this cloth, which I got in 2001, cannot be available on the same price in 2009. Where is the gap? ...*(Interruptions)*... I am coming. Similarly, about spectrum, the question is very legitimate. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am coming. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is why I am only answering the questions. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Which is the shop, you please tell us. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Be patient, he is trying to explain. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: I am giving the answer. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, all the arguments are here but about one thing I do not attribute motives on the part of the Leader of the Opposition, of course, he levelled his argument on one side. I can't say that wilfully or want only he omitted the other side of the argument. What has been recommended by TRAI is this. Let me quote some of the provisions of the TRAI. Sir, NTP, 1999, para 3.1.1 says, 'the entry of more operators in service area shall be based on the recommendation of the TRAI who will review this as required and not later than every two years.' So, according to these 'two years', the recommendation came to me. 'The cellular mobile operators would be required to pay one time entry fee, the basis of determining the entry fee and the basis for the selection of the additional operators would be recommended by TRAI. Apart from the one time entry fee, the operators would also be required to pay licence fee based on the revenue share'. This is NTP, 1999. How much revenue share you have to collect will be decided by TRAI. What TRAI

recommended was that the entry fee of fourth cellular operator- of course, rightly observed by the Leader of the Opposition - would be what was the amount which was auctioned last time, it will be the entry fee. It further says that the entry fee must be nominal. Since you are going for the revenue share, the TRAI is empowered to give new figures periodically how revenue should be collected more and more. Sir, as I put it earlier, by way of licence fee and spectrum fee having migrated from the auction to the revenue route, we assessed yesterday, it is Rs.68,000 crores putting together which we collected. People are telling that Rs.1 lakh crore is the loss. In 2007-08 alone, the Government earned revenue out of spectrum charge and the licence charge to the tune of Rs.23,000 crores. How? It is based on the subscriber base. I can say in the layman sense that one call, which is being terminated by an operator, will have three paise or four paise, for example, to the Government. When the subscriber base goes up, the revenue will also go up. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: You have increased revenue from this nobody is denying that. You have got Rs.68,000 crores but how does that idea explain or justify the fact that you still kept the cost too low for eight years? So you have not answered your question about the shop. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: That is why the revenue is being accrued out of this Rs. 1650 crore every year.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: This is what is going to happen. The subscriber base in any case is going to increase. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: 'Subscriber' means, it is *inter alia* connected. ...*(Interruptions)*... We are collecting money not only on subscriber base but on licence also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Minister, are you yielding to these queries? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: I will come to you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Mr. Minister, continue please. Mr. Minister, are you yielding to the queries? ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. CHANDAN MITRA (Nominated): What. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: I will come to you ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Are you yielding to these queries in between? Tell me.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: The recommendation of Rs. 1650 crore was given to TRAI in 2001. Four months after you took charge you said that the file came to you on TRAI recommendation. That was in 2001. You didn't get a fresh recommendation on TRAI as on 2007.

SHRI A. RAJA: TRAI recommended, 'Go for new operators'. That is my submission. When TRAI gave the recommendation to go for new operators, they did not revise the entry fee on the reason that we are accruing the revenue on the basis of licence fee also.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: The point that I am making is...

SHRI A. RAJA: I think, I am not able to...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Mr. Minister, you finish your speech and then, you give them time. There cannot be an interaction like this. You finish your speech. I will give you time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: If he is willing to yield and it is a healthy debate and we are eliciting information, that way, it is good for the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): If the Minister is yielding, I have no objection.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Then why is the Chair curtailing it?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No, I don't want two to three people putting questions at the same time. If one Member is asking and the Minister is yielding, I have no problem. But I have a problem if two to three people put questions at the same time.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Raja has been kind enough to yield and because he has taken my name twice, I may just ask on this very point. Mr. Raja is taking shelter under the TRAI recommendations. So, my questions are specific to that. One is, would he please be prepared to disclose to the House the letters which the Chairman of TRAI wrote to the Secretary, Telecom protesting against the Telecom Department's assertion and the present Minister's assertions that TRAI recommendations were being followed. I know for a fact that these communications were sent and I would be very eager to learn from the Minister whether those documents would be brought to the House in support or in contradiction of what the Minister has just stated that...

SHRI A. RAJA: I will send it to you.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: One second. The second point, Sir, what my friend Arun Jaitley and Doctor has asked about is about 2001 recommendation being invoked in 2007 is not being answered. But what Mrs. Karat was just now really asking was not about the subscriber. We all understand about revenue share, but, whether in valuing the spectrum that subscriber base will really affect the current value of that assessment or not. When that has increased 20 fold, then, naturally spectrum becomes exactly the scarce resource which you are mentioning much more valuable and therefore, the question arises whether the Minister would be prepared to take the House into confidence in

regard to the companies allocations to which really created the problem which was Unitech and Swan. Finally, you just now said about the Chinese company and the security advice that was given. You just now said that actually then the decision was not along the border but the objection which the intelligence agency raised on record-whether it is a fact or not, I know it to be a fact but you will confirm it — Intelligence agencies in writing and in the meetings raised the objection that there has been many, many recorded instances in which software and hardware and such things were implanted in them which could be triggered to paralyse networks and therefore, such equipments should not be allowed to a particular country. I don't know whether this was just after all something which is disrupted in Nasik.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No, don't go to a speech.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: No, one question Sir. He just now said border. If it is disrupted in Nasik where we have an air base, in Pune, in Jamnagar. It is as effective as in Pithoragarh on the border of China. So, how did the Department then disregard the Intelligence agency which is a question which he has to clarify.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I wanted to put it like this. The question is: Whether the building can be given on outright sale, or, keep the deposit at lower level and get high monthly rent. That is the question. Sir, 2001 recommendations say to keep the entry fee nominal. When 2004 recommendations came to go in for new operators, it has suggested revenue-sharing in which percentage has to be high *i.e.*, from 2 per cent to 3 per cent or from 3 per cent to 4 per cent. They did not give any recommendation. To enhance the entry fee, since it has been categorically observed in 2001, we let the entry fee be nominal. The building can be given at lower deposit and you enhance the rent year-after-year. That is the recommendation of the TRAI. So, we went for that and, accordingly, we are collecting money.

But, as I already shared with you, what is the tele-density today? In 2004, when the NTP, 1999, came into existence, it was hardly 7 per cent or 8 per cent. Now, it is 39 per cent. I or this Government cannot take exclusive credit for this. Sir, it is because of NTP, 1999, because of shifting to revenue-sharing mechanism, the tele-density has gone up to 39 per cent today.

Sir, another question came about the spectrum. Licence is this. As I have already said, nobody knows that the spectrum is being given free of cost. Sir, 6.2 spectrum, initially, coupled with the agreement, was signed by the licence-holder. I got the licence by paying Rs. 1650 crores. The moment I got the licence, I am having my own contractual right over 6.2 — initially, it was 4.4 then it could go up to 6.2 — free of cost. There is a perception in the minds of the people and in the media. Of course, my friend, Mr. Maitreya, has referred the CVC. Sir, all these aspects, whether it is the common man, whether it is the media, or, with due respect to the hon. Members, Members or the officials in the Government, have been kept in their mind. He referred the C.V.C. Of course, I

discussed with the Chief Correspondent and the Chief Editor of two leading national dailies to apprise what is meant by spectrum, what is meant by licence, how the Ministry is working, how the Department is working on the spectrum issue. It took me three hours. Thereafter, they have convinced. It does not mean that I call all the newspapers which have been motivated with some political perception and convince them.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: But, Sir, the C.V.C. was not convinced.

SHRI A. RAJA: Who said that it is not convinced?

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, the C.V.C. itself has gone on record saying that it is not convinced.

SHRI A. RAJA: You are not the Chief of the C.V.C. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are not the C.V.C. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. I am not yielding ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, the C.V.C. has gone on record saying that it is not convinced with the clarifications given by the department.

SHRI A. RAJA: It is quite natural. ...*(Interruptions)*...The former Ministers are here. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Sir, the High Court has said that the spectrum is sold as cinema tickets.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Mr. Minister, you continue.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, the hon. Leader of the Opposition has made a point...*(Interruptions)*... Let them be patient. I do not know. A P.I.L. is pending before the court. I am having the details. I know the dates. I know how the P.I.L. is proceeding. I also know that the P.I.L. is going to be heard by September 15. I do not know whether remark made by the Members in the Parliament is either ratio decidendi or arbiter dictum of the judgment. I do not think either any judgment or order has been passed. But, he spoke something. That is why, in legal language, I am submitting to the hon. Leader of the Opposition that I do not know the remarks that have been passed, as alleged by him. Also, I do not know whether the remark made here is either ratio decidendi or arbiter dictum of judgment, I cannot comment upon that. But, I can come to the C.V.C.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): You make your point. Don't worry about that side.

SHRI A. RAJA: I am coming to the C.V.C. Sir, the C.V.C. is a par and parcel of the Government. He is not competent to say whether the C.V.C. is satisfied. He is not the C.V.C. But, I just wanted to mention one thing. The question itself starts like this. It does not mean that I am convincing the C.V.C. from here. I am speaking before Parliament. The question says, 'there are media reports that some licences are selling their equity at high values.' All these speculations, all these questions, whether they are from the C.V.C. or it is from the common man on the streets or whether it is from lawyer or Parliament, with due respect to all, I would say are being emanated from the media. That is

why I wanted to convince the House and not worried about what is happening or what has appeared in the media reports.

Sir, now, I come to the first-come-first-serve policy. Everybody is thinking that the first-come-first-serve policy is a new policy that has been introduced by me. As I submitted before the House, before the Unified Access Service Licence (UASL) was given, there were several licences — for mobile, for landline, for other basic services, like, the internet, etc., etc. So, before the NTP 1999, there were multiple types of licences. All these licences were unified into one by the NDA Government. The vision was correct. Of course, tomorrow, there may be some new technology. All technologies must be brought under one umbrella. So, they put it and the NTP 1999 came into existence. Then, as per the UASL, the first licence was during the NDA Government. After that, if my dates are correct, the licences were issued when Shri Arun Shourie was the Minister. It was, in fact, decided by the then hon. Minister, Shri Arun Shourie, in 2003 that all new UASL would be issued on first-come-first-serve basis and the spectrum will also be allotted in the same manner, subject to the availability. But the precipitation in the mind is that the first-come-first-serve policy has been designed and invented by me. I am not shifting the burden on some other Minister. I am just mentioning the chronological events. The first-come-first-serve policy for the spectrum licence was observed on the file by my predecessor, Shri Arun Shourie; and, thereafter, by Mr. Dayanidhi Maran. Why? I have discussed it with the Law Ministry also. When you recruit a person, there are two options. From commonsense point of view, I am telling you. Say, you have to appoint a Deputy Collector. One option is to go for a competitive exam, that is, open competition, notwithstanding any age, notwithstanding any region, notwithstanding any other thing. You can go as per merit. But in the absence of open competition, the option left is, you go by seniority. That's why my predecessor, Shri Arun Shourie, had imported the first-come-first-serve policy during his tenure. There was nothing wrong in that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: But the point is this. Did I ever change the date like you did? ...*(Interruptions)*... First one date is given, say, 1st October. Then, suddenly, this cut off date is changed to 25th September. ...*(Interruptions)*... There was free for all in the Sanchar Bhawan, my friend. ...*(Interruptions)* First you give 01st October as the cut off date. Then, all of a sudden, you change it to 25th September. ...*(Interruptions)*... You give me any precedence where such a thing had occurred either in my tenure or anybody else's tenure, including Mr. Dayanidhi's tenure. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: I am coming to each and everything one by one. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I think, the basic issue, raised in the House, is not being addressed. ...*(Interruptions)*... If something is being sold at the prices of 2001, in the year 2007, without assuming the velocity of the market. ...*(Interruptions)*... What are you saying? We,

the Members of Parliament, also have. ...*(Interruptions)*... The fact is that the very same material. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): He is not yielding. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): This way, I won't be able to hear anybody. ...*(Interruptions)*... No; no. Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not allowing you. ...*(Interruptions)*... No more interruptions please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Minister, you please address the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't get distracted by any interruption. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Please do that.

SHRI A. RAJA: Right, Sir. I will come to that one by one. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Only what the Minister is saying would go on record.

SHRI A. RAJA: I will come to that one by one. Why are you jumping.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): I told you to please look at the Chair and address the Chair. Why don't you address the Chair? That is the problem.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, the issue of first-cum-first-serve is very important.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): That is correct. But address the Chair.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, the first-cum-first serve policy was adopted as soon as we migrated to NTP 1999. I assumed the charge on 16th May, 2007. Just see, till April 5, up to my predecessor, Mr. Dayanidhi Maran's time, right from Arun Shourie's time, how many licences were issued? Fifty-one licences were issued on the first-cum-first serve basis. It has been observed in each and every file, in all 51 files. Just 20 days previous to my taking charge, invariably all Ministers, invariably all officers concerned, observed categorically on the file that this licence was being issued on first-cum-first-serve basis. What is wrong with Raja? So far as the rule is concerned, it was not devised by me. Even I am not attributing any motive on the part of the Ministers. That is why I justified it in other manner. There are two options; either go for competitive exam or for the employment seniority.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Mr. Minister, I am telling you to look at the Chair and address it. You don't have to look back. ...*(Interruptions)*... No; no; please, please ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): That will not go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... That will not go on record. I will allow you in the end.

* Not recorded.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, my sincere submission is, licences were issued on first-cum-first-serve basis on the same rate, just ten days prior to my assumption of the charge. They were issued on the same rate in 2001. Just 15 days prior to my taking charge, 51 licences were issued in all; but no question was asked against them. Had it been asked, Parliament could have thought over it, and, if necessary, a Group of Ministers could have been appointed to see whether it was possible or not. However, as a lawyer, I am fully satisfied with the legal measures that had been taken by the NDA Government. I am standing here as a Cabinet Minister in the UPA Government. That is different. But as a lawyer, I applied my mind. Sir, I am coming again to 25th September. Sir, the TRAI recommendation says, 'there should be no capping; you issue as many licences which are needed by the country,' On 25th September, we issued a Press Note saying that 'those who are having the intention to apply for the Telecom, they can apply.' At that time, neither the Minister nor the Secretary of the Ministry or any other officer in the Ministry could foresee that such a huge number of applications would come. When we issued the Press Note on 25th September for inviting new applications, there were some pending applications also. The TRAI recommendations came in the Ministry on 25th September. In other words, I can say, the moment I got the TRAI recommendation asking for going for new operators, they filed applications. The applications were received. Even an interpretation can be given. Of course, the PIL is pending in the High Court. An interpretation can be offered why the Department has received these applications. That is a different matter. That is a matter of argument before the Court. What I wanted to impress upon the Parliament is, why we had chosen 25 September. Three hundred applications cannot be processed, cannot be given licences. Suppose we have to issue three hundred licences, even three hundred people may not be eligible. There could be twenty or twenty-five licences in a circle. Even twenty-five is too high a figure for this country. So, we wanted to have a reasonable restriction. Now, how can we demarcate it? The reasonable restriction is, demarcate the applications originally pending before calling new applications. These applications were pending before the call for new applications was made by the Press Note. All right, the Press Note was issued with due diligence. I may submit before the House that the issuance of new licences, dual technology and the allotment of new spectrum were challenged, before it was given, by the Cellular Operators Association of India. The moment they came to know that the Ministry is going to give new operators the spectrum, the Cellular Operators Association of India, of which Airtel, Aircel, Vodafone, Idea, etc., are members, filed a case in the TDSAT saying that no new licence should be given, no new technology should be given and no spectrum should be allotted where the case is filed in the TDSAT.

The Solicitor General of India appeared before the TDSAT, which is headed by a retired Judge of the Supreme Court, and said that these people wanted to curtail healthy competition; these people wanted to maintain a cartel; this is the TRAI recommendation; this is the policy of the Government;

this is the policy of NTP, 1999, and so, there should not be any stay. Of course, there was a stay for ten days. For ten days there was a stay, which was given by the Court orally, saying that no licenses should be issued, no spectrum should be allotted. After hearing the argument, TDSAT said, no stay can be granted; it is policy of the Government; let them go. Then they filed an appeal in the Delhi High Court. The Delhi High Court heard the matter including whether the date, 25th September, was correct or not. The Delhi High Court took the decision taken by the Government as correct. The only point I wanted to personally share with my learned friends was whether as a Minister of the Telecom Department I showed due diligence in choosing the date of 25th September. Sometimes I get disturbed when am told where is transparency, I maintained utmost transparency in the Ministry. How? I issued a Press Release; whether it is first-come-first-serve policy or how licences are to be issued. The discretion if, at all, exercised by the DoT, the Department of Telecom is not a Government discretion, as observed by the judges. Judges observed in one case that discretion exercised by the Executive or the Judiciary at the lower level, should not be considered to be Government discretion. This Press Release speaks much. The Department issued a Press Release on 10th January. Where is the question of concealing facts or something else? The Press Release says, "In the light of the Unified Access License Service guidelines issued on 14th December, 2005 — undoubtedly, in the Government headed by the NDA. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: NDA was not there in 2005; it was Dayanidhi Maran. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: I amend it; I amend it. The guidelines by the Department regarding number of licenses to service area a reference was made to TRAI on 13.04.2007. The TRAI, on 28.08.2007, recommended that no cap be placed on the number of access service providers in any service area. The Government accepted this recommendation of TRAI. Government means, after deliberations the Telecom Commission also, where the Telecom Commission is being represented by Secretary (Finance), Secretary (Industry) and other Secretaries. Hon. Prime Minister also emphasized on increased competition while inaugurating India Telecom, 2007. Accordingly, DoT has decided to issue letter of intent to all the eligible applicants on the date of application who applied up to 25.09.2007. Now, what law says, and even Article 14 of the Constitution, as the Leader of the Opposition is aware, is that the classification going to be done by the State must be reasonable and not class legislation. What has been prohibited by the Constitution is class legislation, not the reasonable classification. This is a reasonable classification, according to us, that has been deliberated upon in this Ministry. Thereafter, nothing was done surreptitiously or in a stealthy manner. We issued this Press note. It says, 'UAS license authorises a license to roll out a telecom access service using any digital technology which includes wire line, wireless, GSM, CDMA services. They can also provide internet telephony. For this, UAS license has to obtain another license, that is,

wireless operating license". Then, the third paragraph is very important. DoT has been implementing a policy of first-cum-first-serve for grant of UAS licences under which initially an application which is received first will be processed first and, thereafter, if found eligible, will be granted LOI, and then, whosoever complies with conditions of LOI first will be granted UAS license. So, how are we going to give licenses? It is on the basis of first-come-first serve policy. It is there in the Press Note. We have chosen 25th September in the Press Note. My only submission before the Parliament is that neither the cut-off date was imposed by the Ministry nor the policy for giving licences was adopted in a stealthy or secretive manner. Of course, it is challengeable. Anybody could challenge the Press Note. Anybody could challenge the decision of the Government. That is different. What I wanted to impress upon the House is that nothing has been done in a clandestine, surreptitious or stealthy manner. To that extent, I am sure.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: You have said that the High Court upheld the change from 1st October to 25th September. Is that correct?

SHRI A. RAJA: Which one?

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: You have just told us that the High Court ...*(Interruptions)*... My friend Arun Jaitley says that that specific point was quashed by the Court. So, please don't mislead. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: In one case, the order of the TDSAT has been upheld. Then after a long time, maybe six or seven months, one among the operators, namely, S-Tel, filed another case in the Delhi High Court suppressing the fact that another judgement is there. He got an order that his application should be considered, ignoring the press note. That is why I am telling that press note is challengeable, PIL is pending and cases are pending. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: But he is saying that the High Court quashed on it.

SHRI A. RAJA: It is in the COAI matter, There are two cases. Cellular Operators Association of India filed a case in TDSAT - miscellaneous petition for stay. That was appealed to the High Court; that was denied by the High Court for which they preferred a Supreme Court appeal. That is pending. That process is something different. Notwithstanding the Cellular Operators Association of India, another proceeding has been initiated by some other operator suppressing the fact that there is a judgement for which we filed an appeal. That is why I am telling that legal positions are there. I am not a competent person to say what has been done is judicially right or wrong. That is different. Again and again, I wanted to submit before the House whether the due diligence was applied by the Ministry or by the ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: You have said that High Court approved the change. But Jaitley's

recollection is that High Court quashed that change. Please tell us what is the truth. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: There are two conflicting judgements. On 25th September, dual technology, additional spectrum and all these issues ..*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Between 1st October to 25th September, you claimed that the High Court had approved it.. ..*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: There is a judgement both against the Government and in favour of the Government. It is being argued in the Supreme Court. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Between 1st October to 25th September how many applications were received? You said that first application was considered first. After that subsequent applications were also being considered ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, our argument is ...*(Interruptions)*... My records are correct. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir on S-Tel judgement ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE : Sir, it may be a matter of privilege. So, I want to caution the Minister that I have with me the text. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Why don't you raise it after he completes his reply?

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: The respondent cannot be allowed to change the rules of the game after the game had begun. This is what the Court said in regard to the judgement ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: In one judgement I accept it. ...*(Interruptions)*... But it is being appealed to the Supreme Court, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Mr. Raja, you had said it specifically. I am not against you. I don't want a situation in which we are forced to move the matter of privilege. You said specifically that the change had been approved by the High Court. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: Not approved by the Court. I never said that this was approved by the High Court. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: The High Court said, "No, you cannot change the rule after the game had begun." ...*(Interruptions)*... That was the point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: I didn't change the rule. ...*(Interruptions)*... I gave the press note.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. A. Raja., ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: I am not yielding. I will finish it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Mr. Raja, after you finish your speech I will allow hon. Members for clarification. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I admit that there is a judgement. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): You continue with your speech. ...*(Interruptions)*... You say whatever you want to say. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I admit that there is a judgement quashing the order of the Government. That is different. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : Let the hon. Minister finish. Then we have some clarifications. ...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I have come across that S-Tel filed a case ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): How much time do you want? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: I need ten minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): After that I will allow clarifications. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, S-tel filed a case, it came very recently, and I think, last month only. Sir, I think, the judgment came last month that he challenged that 25th September cut-off date was not correct. It was upheld by the Court that the decision taken by the Government was not correct. It mentioned that we should go for the other applications also. It is being appealed in the High Court. I did not suppress any fact ...*(Interruptions)*.... One other judgment. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Mr. Minister, why do you reply to interruptions? You should say what you have to say. Any Member may put a question and you start replying First, finish your speech.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, there are conflicting judgments. Proceedings are pending. That is why, I told that PIL is pending. I cannot go beyond the limit that how the judgment will come. If at all, the judgment comes tomorrow, I have to bow my head. That is different. As a lawyer, I know that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, my only submission is. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Please, look at the Chair. You are looking back at every Member. Please, address the Chair.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, what I wanted to say is that the procedure contemplated for first-come-first-serve has been followed right from 2004 invariably by all the Ministers. This justifies that no other alternative is available to the Government. 25th September also is not a surreptitious act. We have not done anything stealthily. The Press Note was given. It was opposed. After six months or one year, some one has filed a case. The judgment came against the Government wherein other references were made, and TDSAT and the other Court where all these cases, like dual technology spectrum, were upheld. That has also been challenged by the COAI. So, cases are pending in the

High Court and the Supreme Court. Notwithstanding the proceedings in the Courts, what I wanted to say is that in issuance of licence, in issuance of spectrum, we followed the rule. There is no departure as per the earlier records available in the Ministry. We paid due attention to due diligence in terms of spectrum, in terms licence. I hope that the questions put by hon. Members have broadly been answered by me. If at all, some questions have been left out, I will write directly to the Members. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, the hon. Minister has answered the debate at length. And, he has gone into various issues which were of some considerable importance. The core issue was neither the Postal Department nor the IT Department. We are grateful to him that he has gone into the issue at length - that the TRAI said, "Don't cap. Give it to as many as possible. There must be revenue sharing." The policy of first-come-first-serve is an old one. We have heard this indefinitely. But, as the hon. Member pointed out, there was one core question, and that one core question has not been answered. That one core question was whether when in 2007, without capping, you decided by 25th September or 1st October — I am not into the arbitrariness of the date also at the moment - to give additional licences and you shortlisted some 9-odd people who had to be given licences. I am not even on the figure. For that licence plus spectrum, 4.4 MHz or 6.2 MHz, how much should the Government have charged in 2007? That is the only question today. And, the whole nation wants to know whether that charge, which the Government has taken for that licence plus spectrum, of Rs.1650 crores, represents the fair value which the Government should have got as on that date. Sir, I am constrained to observe that if no answer, or no satisfactory answer, is being given, then we are entitled to presume that no answer could have been given. And, the reason being, first, the Minister rightly posed a question that the cost of a shirt in 2001 was different and in 2007, it had to be different. Therefore, either the inflation index or the net present value from 2001 to be brought to 2007, should the Government not have considered, even if it did not want an auction, to improve upon the 2001 value in 2007 when this licence plus spectrum was being valued? Secondly, does the Minister now feel after the event, now that we have all the information available, that some of the recipients of these licences at Rs. 1,650 crore, immediately upon receiving the licence, availed the FDI policy in the telecom sector, and, off loaded 50 to 74 per cent of their shares to foreign collaborators, and, for that purpose, the valuation overnight changed from Rs. 1,650 crores to \$ 2 billion, which is roughly Rs. 9,000 crores. Today, is he convinced that Rs. 1,650 crore price was under-valued?

Mr. Arun Shourie referred to the point, and, asked a question, if there is a correspondence from TRAI saying, "our recommendation has not been followed", and, even when the TRAI said, don't cap, and issue fresh licences, did the TRAI, at the same time, say - and, I am reading the sentence — "the entry fee as it exists today is, in fact, a result of a price discovered through a market-based mechanism applicable for the grant of licence to the fourth cellular operator. In today's dynamism

and unprecedented growth of the telecom sector, the entry fee determined then, that is, 2001, is also not the realistic price for obtaining a licence; perhaps it needs to be reassessed through a market mechanism." ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Don't interrupt. You can reply later. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Therefore, the TRAI says, don't cap; but not the 2001 price, determine it by a market mechanism. You determine the 2001 on NPV of 2007. The evidence came the very next day when within days of receiving the licences, 50 to 74 per cent shares were off loaded and the valuation discovered was not Rs. 1,650 but \$ 2 billion. Today, is the Minister convinced that this Rs. 1,650 crore value was grossly undervalued. That is the core question, and, I am afraid that on this question, no satisfactory reply is coming.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, let us also seek the clarifications, then, the Minister can reply. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Okay. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Raja, you can reply at the end. Shri Sitaram Yechury. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please don't resort to speeches. Just seek clarification.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, only due to this, I am not even proposing to repeat what the hon. Leader of Opposition has said. I am not going into that.

My only point is that it was sold at Rs. 1,650 crore, but after that the off loading was done by two companies to the tune of 50 to 74 per cent of their holdings, for an amount close to Rs. 10,000 crore. Now, this discrepancy is what has been suspected by all of us as a scam. What was that? The Minister will have to answer all of us about it. Either there was a genuine reason for them to price it so low, in which case it is a matter of omission, not commission, made by somebody, and, Sir, under the Indian Penal Code, both the acts of omission or commission, are acts of corruption. So, if it was an act of omission and they had put it at Rs. 1,650 crore; that has to be explained. If it was not an omission, ex-post, looking back, when Rs. 10,000 crores could be made by off loading only 50 to 74 per cent, of what they were holding, then there was commission. Now, whether there was an act of omission, or, an act of commission, or, both, in each case, this is corruption. That aspect has to be addressed.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Now, Mr. Maitreyan. Please seek only clarification.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, there are two questions involved. One is with regard to the licence fee of Rs. 1,650 crore or more, which the Leader of Opposition, Shri Arun Jaitley has asked. Second is with regard to 'first-come, first-serve' policy, which the Government pursued. Sir, I want to know from the Minister the criteria for selection of the companies. As far as quality is concerned, were

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those companies experienced in the telecom sector? They were all real-estate companies. They had no experience whatsoever in the field of telecom sector. So, it is just like that I start a letter-pad company, get the licence, and, transfer it to somebody. So, whether the factors like quality, past-experience and performance of the company in the field during the last decade, were taken into consideration. And, if these factors were not taken into consideration, then, who is accountable?

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR (Karnataka): Sir, up to 2001, all 2-G licences were given through a process of tender. Mr. Minister mentioned my letter to him, When I first raised the issue of spectrum in 2007, the Minister responded saying, "this is consistent with the existing Government policy". I think, the most important question that Parliament needs to know is, at what stage this very simple process of tendering became this first-come-first-serve and why? Who made this recommendation and what was behind it? My second question is, will you now accept that there is a need to make a reference to the regulator for a new pricing mechanism for spectrum because the crux of the issue is spectrum is valuable? The price of Rs. 1650 crores is not an acceptable price for the spectrum? Will you, at least, now make a commitment to the Parliament that you will now make a reference to TRAI *suo motu* to fix a new price for spectrum?

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: My only point is, considering the gravity of the issues which have come, concerning the loss to the exchequer, the estimates ranges from rupees sixty thousand crores to one lakh crores on this one issue, there has been a demand that there should be an impartial inquiry into this entire incident. We have been demanding a JPC also on it, Sir. What I would like to know from the Minister is, this demand, which is being made in both the Houses of Parliament, will it be considered?

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, मैं आदरणीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो ग्राम डाक सेवक हैं, उनकी डिमांड बहुत समय से pending पड़ी है। यूपीए ने अपने मैनिफेस्टो में यह commitment किया था कि हम उनके लिए आने वाले बजट में प्रावधान करेंगे, लेकिन न तो बजट में उनके लिए प्रावधान हुआ है और न ही आदरणीय मंत्री जी ने इसके बारे में कुछ कहा। मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि गोपीनाथ कमेटी की जो रिपोर्ट है, जिसमें उन्होंने पे स्केल के बारे में recommend किया है, उसको लागू करने के बारे में आप विचार करेंगे, क्योंकि पोस्टल डिपार्टमेंट में village level पर इस सर्विस को मजबूत करने के काम में डाक सेवकों का बहुत बड़ा योगदान है? इसके बारे में मंत्री जी कृपया बताएं।

DR. CHANDAN MITRA : Sir, my question is very short and simple. It is a follow-up of what Dr. Maitreyan has asked. I would like to know from the Minister whether any process of due diligence was conducted before the allotment of first-come-first-serve spectrum to certain companies and whether the ownership pattern of these companies, that were allotted, is known. And, is it true that

there are certain real estate companies from Tamil Nadu which took large shares in the companies that were allotted the spectrum and, therefore, were the beneficiaries when the spectrum was sold to a Singapore-based company at 5-6 times of the value? ...*(Interruptions)*... Will the Minister please clarify the ownership pattern of the original allottee of the first-come-first-serve pattern?

श्री प्रभात झा (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे खुशी है कि मैंने चर्चा के दौरान communication and information technology के बारे में जो कुछ भी तथ्य उजागर किए थे, उन्हें मंत्री जी ने स्वीकार किया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No, no, you ask the question.

श्री प्रभात झा : सर, मेरी कुछ भ्रातियां हैं, उन्हें तो दूर करना पड़ेगा ना। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No, no. if you have questions, you ask. Otherwise, no.

श्री प्रभात झा : सर, उन्हें मेरे confusion को दूर करना होगा ना। मैं आपको confusion तो बताऊं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : ठीक है, आप जल्दी बताइए।

श्री प्रभात झा : अगर आप जल्दी में हैं, तो मैं बैठ जाता हूं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : ठीक है। Yes Minister.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, I want to ask one question.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No, no.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Why Sir?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): People have already asked from your party. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seat.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Please let me ask, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No, no. Not at all. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, he is a trade union leader.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No more speakers. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have allowed two speakers from your party. ...*(Interruptions)* Let me be fair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Thank you very much for that, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am only saying that he is a trade union leader. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): I am not allowing all those who spoke. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not allowing all those who spoke. I have already allowed both of you. I have to be fair.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, this is not a party-based question. Clarifications cannot be party-based clarifications. He was in the trade union meeting. He has got questions to raise.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): How many should I allow? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Last point, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): How many should I allow? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Brindaji, so many hon. Members are asking, that is my problem. Where do I stop? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: But he is directly meeting trade unions. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Then every Member has a claim. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, he initiated the debate. At least, let him ask. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): I said, जल्दी बोलो. He said, 'no' What can I do? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, allow both of them half a minute each. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Since the Leader of the Opposition has intervened, I concede it.

श्री प्रभात झा : डाक-तार विभाग को लेकर जितनी बातें कही गई थीं, इन्होंने उन्हें स्वीकार किया। किसी चीज़ को राजनैतिक रूप में न लेते हुए इन्होंने विभाग की दृष्टि से देखा है, इसके लिए मैं इनको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। इन्होंने एक बात बीएसएनएल और एमटीएनएल के बारे में कही, यह मेरी रिपोर्ट नहीं है, यह आपके विभाग की रिपोर्ट है और यह टाइम्स ऑफ इंडिया में कही गई है और मैं इसे पढ़कर सुनाना चाहता हूँ, "बीएसएनएल और एमटीएनएल घाटे में हैं", लेकिन आपने यह कहा कि घाटे में नहीं है। आप यह कैसे कह रहे हैं? आप यह बताइए कि अगर घाटे में नहीं है तो कितने फायदे में है?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : ठीक है, हो गया।

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN : Sir, I am on the non-core questions. On core questions, I join my colleagues. The other non-core questions have not been touched by the hon. Minister in his reply.

One, he told that the BSNL and the MTNL cater to 5,00,000 villages. I really appreciate that. But, at the same time, he has not clarified why then the other private operators are allowed to share the Universal Service Obligation Fund.

Two, and this question was raised during the discussion also, what is the basic reason behind the decrease in the net profit of the BSNL in the current year? In the current year, its net profit has gone down to Rs.104 crore from Rs.3,000 crore last year and from Rs.8,000 crore year before last. And why is the BSNL continuing with a huge arrear of revenue collection? What is the reason? What is the basic thing behind that?

Three, a point was raised about Extra Departmental Employees and the Grameen Dak Sevak. ...*(Interruptions)*... That has also not been replied by the hon. Minister.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): He has replied to that. ...*(Interruptions)*... No more questions.

SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Please take your seat.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, earlier I submitted this before the House and to the Leader of Opposition. What has been categorically recommended by TRAI, I shared it with him and Parliament.

Regarding the portion that was read by the Leader of Opposition, yes, I do admit that that observation is there. Equally true is that other observations are also there. Page 47 of the TRAI recommendation says, "Keeping in view the objective of growth, affordability, penetration of wireless service in semi-urban and rural areas, the Authority is in favour of changing the spectrum fee regime for a new entrant. Opportunity for equal competition has always been one of the prime principles of the Authority in suggesting a regulatory framework in telecom services. ...*(Interruptions)*... One minute. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No interruptions are permitted. ...*(Interruptions)*... No.

SHRI A. RAJA: "Any differential! treatment to a new entrant will affect the principle of level-playing field." That is why I submitted this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please make your reply brief.

SHRI A. RAJA: Twenty days prior to my career in the Ministry, the licence was issued at the same rate. We deliberated TRAI recommendations and then the recommendations one, two, three and four came into existence. Till 2001, and even 2007, so many recommendations came. The second recommendation of the 2002 says that you increase the subscriber base. Then they are telling that by increasing the subscriber base, it is incumbent upon TRAI to raise the base value, entry fee also. What I submitted before the House is that both the observations are there. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, he is not talking about the revenue point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: See both the recommendations. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, he is not answering the main question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I cannot question TRAI. It is a statutory body.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Did you protest that?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Brindaji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... You say what you have to say. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't listen to them. *(Interruptions)* You say what you have to say, ...*(Interruptions)*... You address the Chair and say what you have to say. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't listen to them. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, TRAI is a statutory body. It can give recommendations on its own accord. *Suo motu* recommendations can be given. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, this is not the way ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No interruption please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Only what the Minister says will go on record, ...*(Interruptions)*... You look at the Chair and say what you have to say. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing else will go on record.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, right from the beginning, I am saying that so far as the recommendations or rules are concerned, the Department never flouted. That's why, I clarified the observation made by the court as well as the hon. Member whether it is ratio decidendi or obiter dictum. No doubt, entry fee must be nominal. That has been contemplated in the TRAI recommendation. It has to be revisited. By whom? TRAI has to revisit. I am not the competent authority. We felt that at the time of the discussion before the issuance of licence. But, it has not been revisited by TRAI. Ten days back, the same licence is issued by the existing operators, namely, Vodafone and others. So, the revenue share has been enhanced in terms of percentage. TRAI has not recommended it. That is why, I am, again and again, submitting before the House that due diligence was taken and revenue was being enhanced out of the licence fee on the spectrum. Not only spectrum, there is a licence fee on the basis of revenue sharing also. Ten per cent is collected on the licence — five per cent for USO and five per cent for the other side. So, ten per cent is being collected. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No, no. Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Tiwariji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: I have not been directed ...*(Interruptions)*... I have not been directed by TRAI to change it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Has he been directed not to change it? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Are you yielding to the Leader of Opposition? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: If the Minister is so convinced that he is not wrong, is he willing to have a JPC as suggested? ...*(Interruptions)*... You are not answering the question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Are you willing to have a JPC? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I have only one question. If the Minister says there is nothing wrong, why don't we have a JPC? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: I can't say that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Is the Minister or the Government willing for a JPC on this subject?
...(Interruptions)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार) : सर, ...(व्यवधान)... इसकी जे.पी.सी. से जांच करवाइए ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No. ...(Interruptions)... Please, take your seat.
...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: What is the process of selection of companies? ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Mr. Maitreyan, please sit down.
...(Interruptions)... If all of you will stand up at once, neither can I hear nor can the Minister.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI A. RAJA; Sir, I would conclude in three minutes. Issuance of licence is in my domain. Issuance of spectrum is in my domain. What I want to submit is that there is no departure from the TRAI recommendation. If you say that TRAI has failed to recommend something or the Ministry has failed to refer it, that is a different matter. ...(Interruptions)... They have to give. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Did you study that issue? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I am not yielding, ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Don't look at them. You look at the Chair and say what you have to say. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, revisiting the licence fee is in the domain of the TRAI. TRAI can recommend it tomorrow or a day after tomorrow. My apprehension, with all my sincerity to the Parliament, is that even if TRAI recommends for 3G auction, the person who is going to take spectrum on auction, that person or the company is going to be given licence. Even for that, TRAI has not recommended. At least, for 3G, the entry fee must be high. Please accept me. ...(Interruptions)... TRAI recommendation for 3G spectrum was that 3G spectrum should be auctioned because it is a value added service. Rice can be given in PDS at subsidised rates, but ghee cannot be given at subsidised rates. TRAI recommended 3G can be auctioned. The operators can be permitted globally. Not only Indians, but, any global operator can come in for getting the 3G spectrum, but, a licence has to be issued. That is the rule we made. It is a guideline. Even then, the licence fee was not revisited by TRAI. My submission is, if it is revisited by TRAI, the Department will definitely accept it. Coming to the Unitech Swan, Sir, issuance of licence is with me. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Nothing except the Minister's statement will go on record.

SHRI A. RAJA: Licence is with me, Spectrum is with me, we followed the rules contemplated for licence and the Spectrum. Having given this, this is the first time, and that is why I submitted before

*Not recorded.

the Parliament that I am the first Minister who travelled the new domain as per the TRAI recommendations ...*(Interruptions)*... No Minister has been compelled to go to the other domain in the absence of the TRAI recommendations. The recommendation of the TRAI says; go for competition. We put it. Having given the spectrum, having given the licence. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN: *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Don't react to that. That is not going on record. Why do you react to that? You address the Chair and say what you want to say.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, when Essar got it, they are not in the telecom. The qualification has been prescribed, so far as I am concerned. When I assumed charge, guidelines are there as to what will be the network, what will be the nature of the company, what will be the Indian margin, what will be the percentage, FIB clearance, these are all the issues. It is mentioned in the guidelines. If any breach or any violation is there in the licence conditions, then the Department can be held liable. Coming to the Unitech Swan, I already submitted before the House during the Question Hour that issuance of licence is with me, issuance of spectrum is with me ...*(Interruptions)*... In the past also, whether it is Airtel, Aircel, they diluted their share for huge money. It is already submitted that it is not that the money is going to individual pocket. It is a corporate law. I am not concerned with it. Having issued licence, having issued spectrum, FDI policy immediately will attract. According to the FDI policy, they are doing. I discussed that with the Finance Ministry at my level. I think that I am the first Minister in the Ministry who wrote to the department to deliberate with the Telecom Commission that the equity of sale for three years should not be permitted. There was no condition prior to me. After discussing all these things because this is a new era for us, I have come across this type of FDI policy will enrich some companies. So, I made a law that equity of the sale should be prohibited. Remaining norms under FDI, permit them to go for that. That is all.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: We want a JPC. Mr. Minister, will you agree to the appointment of a JPC? ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, we are completely dissatisfied with the reply of the Minister on this issue. It is a huge monumental scandal. Therefore, we are going to walk out.

(At this stage some Hon. Members left the Chamber.)

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: We want a JPC. We are not satisfied with the reply of the Minister. We are walking out ...*(Interruptions)*...

(At this stage some Hon. Members left the Chamber.)

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : महोदय, मंत्री जी के ...*(व्यवधान)*... भ्रष्टाचार बहुत बढ़ा है और उसकी जांच भी नहीं हो रही है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह सरकार पर आक्षेप है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

(तत्पश्चात् कुछ माननीय सदस्य सदन से उठकर चले गए)

*Not recorded.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Okay. Now, we will take up the Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2009. Shri Namo Narain Meena, Please keep quiet. Don't make noise.

GOVERNMENT BILL

The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2009

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAYAN MEENA): Sir, on behalf of my senior colleague, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, I beg to move that the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2009-10, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Mr. Minister, do you want to say Something?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA : No, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Now, Shri Vikram Verma.

श्री विक्रम वर्मा (मध्य प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, माननीय मंत्री जी ने इस विनियोग विधेयक के माध्यम से 304 खरब, 32 अरब, 55 करोड़, 88 लाख रुपए की स्वीकृति सदन से चाही है। वैसे तो इसे पास करने या न पास करने से कोई विशेष फर्क नहीं पड़ता, क्योंकि देश में योजनाओं की जो स्थिति है, जिसके लिए सरकार को धन की आवश्यकता होती है, उन योजनाओं की यदि आप देखें तो उनका कार्यान्वयन ठीक से नहीं हो रहा है और इसीलिए उनकी उपयोगिता एक प्रकार से प्रायः कम हो जाती है। बजट को पेश हुए भी लगभग 20 दिन हो गये। इसे 6 जुलाई को पेश किया गया था। देश में एकाध दिन को छोड़कर, जो प्रैस विज्ञप्ति सरकार की तरफ से आई, उसके बाद प्रायः पूरे देश के अंदर एक निराशा का वातावरण है। देश में एक प्रकार का जो आर्थिक विश्वास पैदा होना चाहिए था, उस प्रकार का कोई आर्थिक विश्वास पूरे देश के अंदर पैदा नहीं हो पाया। इसलिए जो उम्मीदें थीं कि कुछ सकारात्मक काम होंगे, आम आदमी को राहत मिल पाएगी, इस प्रकार का कोई संकेत आज तक इस दिशा में नहीं आ पाया है।

अभी शुक्रवार को माननीय वेंकैया जी ने आंध्र प्रदेश सरकार का एक विज्ञापन जो अखबारों में छपा था, वह सदन के पटल पर रखा था, उसके बारे में बताया था। मैं उसके बारे में ज्यादा नहीं कहना चाहता। उसमें आंध्र प्रदेश सरकार ने स्वयं यह बताया था कि वहां किन-किन वस्तुओं के दाम बढ़े हैं। वह अपने आप में इस बात का ज्ञापन है कि किस प्रकार से महंगाई एकदम बढ़ती चली जा रही है। दूसरी तरफ, हम देखते हैं कि सरकार की तरफ से जो बराबर आता है, टीवी पर आ रहा है और समाचार पत्रों में आ रहा है कि महंगाई का रेट माइनस से भी नीचे चला गया है। यानी, दोनों में कहीं समानता नहीं दिखती, क्योंकि एक तरफ तो आंध्र प्रदेश की सरकार स्वयं महंगाई के आंकड़े प्रस्तुत कर रही है। आप बाजार में चले जाएं, आपको महंगाई पता चल जायेगी, लेकिन दूसरी तरफ इस प्रकार की जो बातें हैं, वे कोई विश्वास पैदा करने वाली बातें नहीं हैं। बाजार में चीजों की कमी है। दालें आयात की गईं, लेकिन आज वे आयातित दालें कहां हैं? वे दालें कहां गईं? वह जनता के बीच में नहीं पहुंची। उपभोक्ता को नहीं

मिल पा रही है और इसलिए उसका भाव 90 रुपये और 100 रुपये तक जा रहा है। आखिर ये सब चीजें आयातित होती हैं, बुलाई जाती हैं, लेकिन कहां जा रही हैं?

माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी ने शुक्रवार को यहां पर एक घोषणा की कि सरकार ने गेहूं और बासमती चावल के निर्यात पर रोक लगा दी है। माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, चावल के निर्यात पर रोक पहले भी लगी थी, दालों के निर्यात के ऊपर भी रोक लगी थी, लेकिन दालों को निर्यात कर दिया गया। इसी सदन के अंदर मामले उठे। क्या आज तक उसकी जांच हो पाई? क्या यह पता लग पाया कि आखिर किन लोगों ने निर्यात किया, किस प्रकार से हुआ या किस चैनल से हुआ? इसी प्रकार, अभी आप बासमती चावल के निर्यात पर रोक लगाने की बात कर रहे हैं, लेकिन इस मांग पर, जो पिछली बार चावल और बाकी चीजों के बारे में हुई, करीब 2,500 करोड़ रुपये के घोटाले का मामला "आउटलुक" में, इसी सदन के अंदर और बाकी जगह भी उठाया गया। कहां गया वह? यह सीधा-सीधा 2,500 करोड़ रुपये का स्कैम है। आप यह घोषणा कर रहे हैं कि हमने निर्यात पर रोक लगाई। जो निर्यात उस दाम हुआ, वह आखिर कहां गया? आप देखें, घाना के राष्ट्रपति जी ने इसको और स्पष्ट किया है कि हमारे यहां वह चावल घाना पहुंचा ही नहीं। आज यह स्थिति बनी हुई है। जहां तक माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी का दावा है कि हमने हर योजना की राशि पहले से अधिक बढ़ा दी है, इसे बढ़ा कर जितनी राशि की गई है, खास तौर पर राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी योजना में, उसमें 39,100 करोड़ रुपये और पिछले वर्ष के बजट से 144 परसेंट अधिक दर्शाया गया है। हालांकि यह आठ महीने का बजट है, यह पूरे नौ महीने का भी नहीं। आठ महीने में आपने राशि बढ़ाने की बात की है, लेकिन आप जरा देखें कि पिछला बजट जो 365 दिन का, पूरे वर्ष का था, उसमें पूरे देश के रोजगार का एवरेज 42 दिन आया था। जब आपने 365 दिनों में 100 दिनों के रोजगार देने की बात की तो अधिकतम कार्य का विवरण केवल 42 दिन, ज्यादा से ज्यादा 44 दिन, इसी सदन के क्वेश्चंस के अंदर आया। आपका इस बार का बजट 365 दिनों का नहीं है बल्कि यह अब केवल 242 दिनों का है। आप यह कैसे कल्पना कर रहे हैं कि इन 242 दिनों में लोगों को आप 100 दिनों तक का रोजगार उपलब्ध करा पाएंगे?

दूसरी बात, जिसको एक प्रकार से इसमें छिपाया गया है, वह यह है कि पहले जब बजट कम था, तब यह योजना पूरे देश में लागू नहीं थी। NDA सरकार के समय जब कुछ पिछड़े जिलों में फूड फॉर वर्क योजना लागू की गई थी, जब रोजगार गारंटी योजना लागू की गई, तो उन्हीं डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स को हाथ में लिया गया। पहले जब यह योजना प्रारंभ हुई तो यह केवल 200 डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स में लागू हुई, उसके बाद 300 डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स में लागू की गई और चुनाव से पहले आपने इसको पूरे देश में लागू करने की घोषणा की। लेकिन, आधा समय बीत चुका था जब आपने इसकी घोषणा की और इसलिए स्वाभाविक रूप से आपका यह दावा कि हमने रोजगार गारंटी योजना में 144 प्रतिशत अधिक धनराशि 39,100 करोड़ रुपया दिया है, सही नहीं है। मैं इसके इम्प्लिमेंटेशन की बात कर रहा हूँ कि जब पहले ही इसका कार्यान्वयन नहीं हो पाया, तो अब आपका इतनी धनराशि बढ़ाना केवल दिखावे के लिए है, क्योंकि वहां पर काम होना नहीं है। आपके पास न समय है और जो यह

(श्री उपसभापति पीठासीन हुए)

आपका दावा है, वह दावा इस आधार पर गलत है कि पहले यह योजना कम डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स में थी, अब चूंकि पूरे देश को इसमें कवर किया जा रहा है, इसलिए स्वाभाविक रूप से बजट प्रोविजन्स आपको बढ़ाने पड़ेंगे - 200, 300 जिलों के नहीं बल्कि अब 550 से अधिक जिलों के हिसाब से आप करने जा रहे हैं।

इसमें जो एक दूसरा कम्पोनेंट जोड़ा जा रहा है, वह है कि स्थायी परिसम्पत्तियों का निर्माण होना चाहिए। निश्चित रूप से यदि रोजगार के साथ-साथ हम वहां कोई स्थायी कार्य कर सकें तो ज्यादा अच्छा है, इसका हम समर्थन करते हैं। लेकिन, मैं ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों की बात बता सकता हूँ। हमसे कई बार प्रश्न पूछे जाते हैं कि हमारा जॉब कार्ड सरपंच ने, सचिव ने या किसी और ने ले लिया, आज तक हमारा क्या काम है, क्या नहीं है, हमारे पास आया ही नहीं। अब ये जो नीचे के लेवल की कठिनाई है, इम्प्लिमेंटेशन में नीचे जो खामियां हैं, उसके बारे में भी इतने वर्षों बाद, योजना लागू होने के बाद भी हम उन खामियों को दूर नहीं कर पाए।

आपने अब यह किया कि बैंक से पेमेंट चालू करेंगे। अब जो बैंक है, हर पंचायत में जहां-तहां आप काम खोल रहे हैं, लेकिन वहां बैंक नहीं हैं, बैंक कम से कम 15, 20 या 25 किलोमीटर की दूरी पर है। अब आप उसका वहां एकाउंट खोलने जा रहे हैं। बड़ा बैंक तो एकाउंट खोलने को तैयार नहीं, उनका कहना है कि 100 रुपए रोज का, उस समय तो 85 रुपए था, तो 80 और 85 रुपए रोज का है, इसका हम खाता कैसे खोलें। उनके लिए तो यह एक प्रकार से, उनके नार्म्स के हिसाब से, खर्चीला बैठता है, इसलिए वे इसके लिए तैयार नहीं हैं। लेकिन, जैसे जैसे करके अगर एकाउंट खोल भी दिया तो किस्तें जमा नहीं हो पाती हैं। इसलिए जब मजदूर अपना दो, चार, आठ या दस दिन का पेमेंट लेने के लिए जाता है, तो दो-दो तीन-तीन बार उसको चक्कर लगाने पड़ते हैं। अपने पास से किराया देकर उसको बैंक जाना पड़ता है, वह दिनभर वहां खड़ा रहता है, तब जाकर कहीं पेमेंट होता है। तो यह जो इसकी वास्तविक धरातल पर कमियां हैं, इन कमियों को यदि आप दूर नहीं कर पाएंगे तो इसकी उपयोगिता बिल्कुल नहीं हो पाएगी। इसलिए इन सब कमियों को दूर करने की दिशा में प्रयास होना चाहिए।

आपका दूसरा क्षेत्र है प्रधानमंत्री ग्रामीण सड़क योजना। आप देखें पेज 11 पर आपके बजट में आपने 59% अधिक राशि से 12,000 करोड़ रुपए का प्रावधान किया है। यह योजना इस वर्ष सिर्फ 6 महीने चलेगी। आप कह रहे हैं कि हमने 59% ज्यादा राशि रख दी है, लेकिन योजना चलने वाली कितने दिन है। अभी आपका 15 सितम्बर तक कंस्ट्रक्शन का काम नहीं होता है और स्वाभाविक रूप से 15 सितम्बर के बाद ही काम चालू होता है, इसलिए इस योजना में आपके पास 6-7 महीने हैं। इन 6-7 महीने में आप यह देखें कि पुराने टारगेट तो आप पूरे कर नहीं पाएंगे और आप कह रहे हैं कि हमने इतने प्रतिशत घनराशि बढ़ा दी है। केवल वाहवाही लेने के लिए कि हम कितने गंभीर हैं इस मामले में, इसके लिए यह केवल आंकड़ेबाजी है, निश्चित रूप से यह नहीं हो पाना है। इसमें नीचे तक जो काम होना चाहिए, वह संभव नहीं है। मैं आपके सामने बताता हूँ कि यह योजना सन् 2000 में प्रारंभ हुई थी। यह योजना कितनी उपयोगी है, आप जरा इसको देखें। सर, गवर्नमेंट का document यह बताता है कि इस योजना से कितना लाभ होना है। 'ग्रामीण सम्पर्क' के पेज 5 पर प्रधान मंत्री ग्रामीण सड़क योजना के बारे में आप देखिए - अनुमान है कि PMGSY के प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन से एक दशक में ही प्रतिव्यक्ति सकल घरेलू उत्पाद, GDP, में तीन गुणा वृद्धि होगी।.....

इस प्रकार इस कार्यक्रम के पूरा होने पर राष्ट्रीय अर्थव्यवस्था में 2.3 प्रतिशत की महत्वपूर्ण वृद्धि होगी। अब आप यह स्वीकार कर रहे हैं, लेकिन इसकी स्थिति यह है कि 6,00,000 किलोमीटर सड़क बननी है, लेकिन अभी तक केवल 2 लाख किलोमीटर सड़क ही बन पाई है। एक तरफ आप यह दावा कर रहे हैं कि हमने इतना अधिक पैसा रख दिया है, लेकिन उतना पैसा रखने के बाद भी, उस प्रोजेक्ट की स्थिति कैसी है? रूरल डेवलपमेंट मिनिस्ट्री की

यह जो एनुअल रिपोर्ट आई है, आप इसी के आंकड़े देख लीजिए कि अभी तक कुल कितनी सड़क बनी है, कितना काम हो पाया है। इसलिए मैं आपके सामने इस बात को रखना चाहता हूँ कि अभी तक कुल मिलाकर लगभग 3,42,845 गांवों को जोड़ना बाकी है। वर्ष 2000 में जब यह योजना प्रारंभ की गई थी, तब उसका टारगेट यह था कि वर्ष 2007 तक हिंदुस्तान की 500 लोगों की आबादी को एक प्रकार से बारहमासी सड़क उपलब्ध कराकर जोड़ा जाएगा। वर्ष 2004 की प्रगति के तुलनात्मक आंकड़े आप देखें, उसके बाद आज 2009 आ गया है, लेकिन 2009 तक भी वह टारगेट पूरा नहीं हो पाया है। अब आपका टारगेट है कि हम 2010 तक इसे पूरा करेंगे, बाद में फिर आपने इसमें संशोधन किया कि हम इसको 2012 तक पूरा करेंगे, इसका मतलब है कि सरकार की इसके प्रति उत्तनी गंभीरता नहीं है, क्योंकि इतनी धीमी गति से यह काम चल रहा है। केवल बजट प्रावधान बढ़ाकर दिखाने से सड़क का निर्माण संभव नहीं है।

महोदय, अभी स्थिति यह है कि 3,42,845 गांव इसमें जोड़ने हैं और कुल 3,65,094 किलोमीटर सड़क अभी बनानी है, तब जाकर हम ढाई सौ तक की आबादी को कवर करेंगे और इसके लिए 1,32,000 करोड़ रुपये की आज भी जरूरत पड़ेगी। यह मैं आपकी रूरल डेवलपमेंट मिनिस्ट्री की एनुअल रिपोर्ट के आधार पर बता रहा हूँ। पहले 600,000 किलोमीटर सड़क बननी थी, उसमें से अभी तक कुल 200,000 किलोमीटर सड़क बन पाई है, 4,000 किलोमीटर सड़क बनाने का काम अभी बाकी है और इसके अलावा tribal areas, hill areas तक जाना है, मुझे नहीं लगता कि वह संभव हो पाएगा। इसी प्रकार आप ऊर्जा के बारे में देख लीजिए, आपकी आर्थिक समीक्षा के पेज 225 पर आप देख लीजिएगा कि इसमें बताया गया है कि 2008-09 के दौरान विद्युत इकाइयों द्वारा किए गए विद्युत उत्पादन में 2.7 प्रतिशत वृद्धि हुई, जो कि 9.1 परसेंट के लक्ष्य से काफी कम है। आपका टारगेट था 9.1 परसेंट और आपकी वृद्धि हुई है 2.7 परसेंट। अब आप पैसा मांग रहे हैं, बात कर रहे हैं, सब कुछ कर रहे हैं और यह कह रहे हैं कि हम budget provisions बढ़ा रहे हैं, लेकिन मेरा कहना यह है कि आप पैसे की डिमांड तो कर रहे हैं, लेकिन जो टारगेट है, उससे आप बहुत पीछे चल रहे हैं। बिजली की यह स्थिति आपकी बनी हुई है। बजट में केवल साढ़े तीन ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is only the Appropriation Bill. बजट पर डिस्कशन हो गया है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री विक्रम वर्मा : नहीं, मैं बजट पर नहीं बोल रहा हूँ ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I am just pointing it out to you. आप फिर दोबारा ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री विक्रम वर्मा : मैं यह कह रहा हूँ कि जब आप पार्लियामेंट से एप्रूवल ले रहे हैं, तो आपका कोई टारगेट तो हो, टारगेट से आप कितना पीछे चल रहे हैं, कम से कम सदन को यह तो पता होना चाहिए। मैं दो-दो लाइनों में केवल कुछ प्वाइंट्स बताना चाहता हूँ, जो दो-तीन महत्वपूर्ण चीजें हैं, मैं केवल उनके बारे में आपको बताने जा रहा हूँ।

आप पालिसी को देख लें। आप इलेक्ट्रिसिटी पालिसी में स्वयं अमेंडमेंट लाए, उसमें तीन चीजों का फोकस था - एक था Rural Electrification Policy, इसके लिए राजीव गांधी ग्रामीण विद्युत परियोजना आप देखें, उसमें आपके sanctioned provisions थे for access to electricity to all households by the year 2009. वर्ष 2009 तक हिंदुस्तान के हरेक गांव के घर-घर तक आपको बिजली पहुंचानी थी, यह आपने अपने पॉलिसी ड्रॉफ्ट में लिखा है।

आज स्थिति क्या है, 2009 में हम कहां तक पहुंच पाए हैं, क्या हम सारे गांवों तक पहुंच पाए हैं? दूसरा इसमें जो महत्वपूर्ण बात थी, वह यह थी - Quality and reliable power supply at reasonable rate. अब quality and reliable power supply की ओर मैं केवल इसलिए ध्यान दिला रहा हूं कि केवल सरकार को पैसा दे देना, बजट दे देना काफी नहीं है। प्रोविजन करके आपने ले लिया, लेकिन आपने रूल्स बनाए, आपने पालिसी बनाई, आपने टारगेट बनाया, क्या वहां तक हम पहुंच पा रहे हैं? संसद को यह जानने का अधिकार है, इसलिए मैं इन मुद्दों को ला रहा हूं कि आप Appropriation Bill के माध्यम से इतनी बड़ी धनराशि तो ले रहे हैं, लेकिन हम कितना पीछे चल रहे हैं? फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर और आपके जितने भी डिपार्टमेंट्स हैं, उनके बारे में सदन को यह बताएं कि आपके जो अपने टारगेट हैं, इनको आप कब तक और कैसे पूरा करेंगे?

आप जरा भुखमरी और कुपोषण पर देखें। माननीय कोयला मंत्री जी यहां बैठे हुए हैं, बिजली की बात चली है, तो मैं पहले कहना चाहता हूं कि आप कोयले की सप्लाई दे नहीं रहे हैं। मध्य प्रदेश में हमारा कोयला है, और भी States का अपना कोयला है, आज भी एक-दो जगह की बात आई है, कोयला हमारा है, जमीन हमारी है, लेकिन उस पर अधिकार आपका है। वहां बिजली के लिए आपसे एग्रीमेंट होता है, आप खुद बताते हैं, लेकिन आप उतना दे नहीं रहे हैं, तो फिर यह जो आपका टारगेट है कि गांव के हर household तक बिजली पहुंचे, आखिर ऐसी स्थिति में यह कैसे पहुंच पाएगी? जब तक राज्यों के साथ आपका सकारात्मक सहयोग नहीं बनेगा, उन्हें आवश्यकता के हिसाब से नहीं देंगे, तब तक आपके ये टारगेट कैसे पूरे होंगे?

आप आर्थिक समीक्षा की पेज सं. 263 को पढ़ें। एक प्रकार की दर्दनाक स्थिति बनी हुई है। उस सर्वे में आया है निर्धनतम सात राज्यों के सोलह जिलों के 75 प्रतिशत परिवारों को दो वक्त का नियमित भोजन नहीं मिलता है, यह इस रिपोर्ट में है। आज हमारी यह स्थिति है कि 29 प्रतिशत लोगों को मुश्किल से खाना मिल पाता है। राष्ट्रीय सैम्पल सर्वे संगठन की रिपोर्ट पर विश्वास करें, तो देश की आबादी का ऊपरी तबका अपने भोजन से जो कैलोरी प्राप्त करता है, उससे 30 से 50 प्रतिशत से भी कम कैलोरी देश की बहुसंख्यक आबादी प्राप्त करती है।

श्री उपसभापति : इससे Appropriation Bill का क्या लगाव है ...(व्यवधान)... देखिए, मैं आपसे यह नहीं कह रहा हूं कि आप नहीं बोलिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विक्रम वर्मा : माननीय उपसभापति जी, जब हम आम आदमी की सरकार और आम आदमी का बजट की बात कर रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आपको बोलना है, तो बोलें ...(व्यवधान)... Budget Session में आपको यह बात बोलने का मौका था ...(व्यवधान)... जो आपने किया।

श्री विक्रम वर्मा : देश के अंदर भुखमरी और कुपोषण है और बाकी की स्थिति ऐसी बनी हुई है। अब आप अंदाजा लगा लीजिए कि आखिर हम इसका उपयोग कैसे कर पा रहे हैं और इसके लिए नीचे योजना का क्रियान्वयन किस प्रकार से हो रहा है?

आज एग्रीकल्चर में देख लीजिए। जिस प्रकार से आपने टारगेट तय किया है, आज एग्रीकल्चर सेक्टर 52 से 54 प्रतिशत रोजगार उपलब्ध कराता है। एक बार केवल ऋण मुक्ति कर देने से हमारा काम नहीं चल पाएगा। हमें ऋण मुक्ति के अलावा कुछ वर्ष तक यानी तीन, चार, पांच साल तक सतत किसानों को मजबूत करने के लिए और निरंतर योजनाओं की बात करनी होगी, अन्यथा इस साल सूखा पड़ गया या कहीं बाढ़ आ गई, फिर वही की वही

स्थिति बन जाएगी और फिर किसान कर्ज के चक्रव्यूह में पड़ जाएगा। इसलिए स्वाभाविक है कि यदि समय रहते हम बजट में कुछ इस प्रकार के प्रोवीजन नहीं करेंगे, तो कल यह स्थिति बनेगी। जैसे कि आज कुछ मुख्यमंत्रियों ने सूखे के कारण उत्पन्न स्थिति से निपटने के लिए मांग की है, उनके लिए इस विनियोग कोई प्रोवीजन की बात नहीं की गई है कि उनके लिए किस प्रकार से एलोकेशन किया जाएगा। आपने केवल यह कह दिया है कि एक मद होता है, जिसके तहत उनको दिया जाता है। अभी जो तात्कालिक परिस्थितियां सामने आ रही हैं, जिसके कारण किसान फिर नए कर्ज के चक्र में पड़ने वाला है, उसके बारे में किसी प्रकार के उपाय या किसी प्रकार के सुझाव या किसी प्रकार का कोई प्रावधान नहीं किया गया है। इसमें इस प्रकार की कोई बात नहीं की गई है, अन्यथा फिर थोड़े दिन में वही की वही परिस्थिति बनने की बात होगी।

आपने बजट में यह घोषणा जरूर कर दी कि जो समय पर ऋण का किस्त चुकाएगा, हम उसको एक परसेंट कम यानी सात की जगह छः परसेंट की ब्याज पर और ऋण देंगे। पर आज स्थिति यह है कि सूखे और बाढ़ के कारण खेती की यह हालत होने वाली है तो समय पर कौन किस्त चुका पाएगा? कुछ राज्यों ने ब्याज दर कम किए, उन राज्यों को सहायता देने के बारे में इसमें कोई प्रावधान नहीं है। आपने सीधा-सीधा बजट भाषण में घोषणा कर दी कि हम उनके लिए छः परसेंट करेंगे, जो समय पर किस्त चुकाएगा। लेकिन जिन राज्यों ने अपने पास से इसको पांच परसेंट पर लाया, मध्य प्रदेश तीन परसेंट पर लाया, तीन परसेंट पर और किसानों को देने वाला है, ऐसे राज्यों को सहायता देने के बारे में कोई प्रावधान नहीं है।

श्री उपसभापति : आपके दो सदस्य और बोलने वाले हैं और आपके बीस मिनट हो गए है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री विक्रम वर्मा : महोदय, मैं दो-तीन मिनट में अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं। मैंने केवल दो-तीन बिन्दुओं पर ध्यान आकर्षित कराया है कि जो राज्य आज वास्तव में अपने पास से और अपने संसाधन से इस प्रकार की सहायता और सुविधा दे रहे हैं, उन राज्यों को कुछ भी सहायता देने के लिए इस विनियोग में कहीं भी किसी प्रकार के कोई प्रावधान नहीं रखे गए हैं और इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूंगा कि वे इस बारे में जरूर चिंता करें।

इसके अलावा शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य और जो अन्य चीजें हैं, जो रिपोर्ट्स हैं, उनका इम्प्लीमेंटेशन नहीं हो रहा है, उनके संबंध में मेरा बार-बार सरकार से आग्रह है कि हम बजट इसीलिए पास करते हैं या नीचे तक धनराशि इसीलिए जाती है कि हम सब उसका उपयोग करके, जो अपने टारगेट्स तय किए हैं, जो आपके अपने बजट भाषण में है, पिछले बजट भाषण में है या उसके पहले बजट भाषण में है या जो पॉलिसीज हैं, according to the policies, हम कहां तक पहुंचे हैं। इस विनियोग विधेयक के माध्यम से हमारा निवेदन है कि जो प्रमुख सेक्टर्स हैं, उन्हें देखने की आवश्यकता है। जो आपकी रिपोर्ट आयी है, उस रिपोर्ट के अनुसार आज हमारे यहां पचास परसेंट के ऊपर तीन से पांच साल के जो बच्चे हैं, वे कुपोषण की बीमारी से ग्रस्त हैं। आपकी जो रिपोर्ट आई है, यह उस रिपोर्ट में है। यदि उन बच्चों की तरफ हम ध्यान नहीं देंगे, चिंता नहीं करेंगे तो आप कल्पना करें कि आगे क्या स्थिति होगी। महोदय, मैं आखिर में इस विनियोग विधेयक के संबंध में माननीय मंत्री जी से यही निवेदन करूंगा कि पिछले वर्षों के कार्यान्वयन को देखते हुए, इस वर्ष जो भी धनराशि आप प्राप्त करना चाहते हैं, कृपया उसके साथ यह भी देखें कि इसका कार्यान्वयन और उपयोग ठीक से हो तथा वास्तव में हम जो टारगेट प्राप्त करना चाहते हैं और जो लाभ उन्हें देना चाहते हैं, उस बारे में आप जरूर ध्यान दें। धन्यवाद।

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Maharashtra): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I support the Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2009 by which, for about 105 services and purposes, certain sums from the Consolidated Fund of India have been sought under article 114(1).

In my college days, Sir, whenever Budget was presented, to know whether it was good or not, I used to read Palkhiwala's comments; if Palkhiwala opposed the Budget, I always thought the Budget must be good. That is because certain elite or people from a certain class spoke only for that class of people. He used to hold a huge meeting at the Brabourne Stadium. At that time, a commoner like me always used to conclude from his opposition to the Budget that the Budget must really have been good. Nowadays, Rahul Bajajji criticises the Budget and I immediately come to the conclusion that it must be a good Budget.

Anyway, Sir, this Budget had a human approach. Therefore, the Appropriation Bill also has that approach. The Budget was community-oriented, rather than corporate-oriented. Therefore, it has a human approach. Why I am saying this is, one, because of emphasis on infrastructure and, two, because of emphasis on social sector. But, if the emphasis on infrastructure has to succeed, then, the most important part is the implementation part. The delay that is caused in implementation of infrastructural projects is tremendous; it is criminal and it is a wastage of money in the sense that, many a time, we have to spend double the estimated amount on infrastructure because of delays. These delays occur basically on account of the corrupt attitude of those involved. Therefore, without any hesitation, the Government has to invoke all the laws of the land including the Prevention of Corruption Act for the purpose of straightening those who are involved in delaying the projects. Secondly, if officers, whoever they may be and of whatever rank they may be, indulge in any delay or criminal negligence, then strict action must be taken under the Service Rules and those cases must be expedited and disposed of within six months. If this approach is taken and if they are aware of this approach of the Government, I am sure the infrastructure delay will be reduced to a considerable extent.

We know what happens in Delhi and other places. That is why, these are the instances, which I have given here. When crores of rupees infrastructure is going to come in the next few years, we have to straighten these lines for the purpose of achieving good results. Sir, because this involves funding, I would like to come to the demand of the State of Goa for a Special Category State. Recently, Sir, two days back, the hon. Finance Minister had come there, and we also acquainted him of the matter. There is a Gadgil Formula under which the distribution of funds is done. There were amendments in it from time to time, and as of today, there are eleven States to which the funds are allotted as per Special Category norms, Goa had missed two Five Year Plans. We were under the Portuguese rule for 450 years. We have to cater to international tourists to a large extent. Therefore,

Goa has to be considered as the 12th State in the category of Special Category States for the allotment of funds. I am saying this because for the Special Category States, 90 per cent is grant and 10 per cent is loan. So, for a small State like Goa, this facility has to be given.

Then, Sir, as far as tax concessions are concerned, it was given to Goa for a limited period. After some time, they were taken away and the entire industries shifted to Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal. These industries shifted from Goa because the tax concessions in Goa were withdrawn, आप बुरा मत मानिए, लेकिन हालत ठीक है। After 2007, it was decided by the then Finance Minister and the Government of India that a level-playing field will be available; there will be no concessions. Fine, we accepted that. But, somehow, there was a pressure from your State and ultimately the extension was there and today we are in trouble.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Naik, you should have mentioned all these things in the General Budget. ...*(Interruptions)*... How Goa is. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Sir, if I go technically, then I can quote every figure and then speak on that figure. There are 105 services mentioned here and my points are under that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, Sir; I can justify that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can justify anything, but the Appropriation Bill is ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: You see the debate on the Budget. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is the convention that you speak on the issues in general terms also. If we start speaking on figures, the House will be empty. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, Sir, the question is this, Goa is a small State. We have got limited land; we have got limited population. ...*(Interruptions)*... We would like to protect our land. ...*(Interruptions)*... We would like to protect our land. Therefore, we would like to have an amendment to article 371, just as Nagaland and Mizoram have done. I am asking for this because unless there is a constitutional backing, we cannot have a legislation to regulate land transactions. This is very vital for our growth. You may not see what is the provision for it in the Budget. Unless we do that, our land will not be protected. The same question arises in regard to migrants. I am not opposed to this thing. But, we have got a population of 14 lakh and 3,700 square metres of area. If two lakh migrant people come to Goa every year, then, how will we cope with it? Where is the infrastructure for it? We don't have power; we don't have water. So, these are the questions which should be seen from that angle.

Sir, ultimately, the officers of the All India Services who are there in Goa have to help the Government in implementing various schemes of the Budget. They have to help the Government in advising in each Department how to go about. These people of All India Services go to Goa for two years. We call them 'briefcase officers', because they just enjoy their posting there for two years, their family remains here. They would like to come here for weekend; go there on Monday, and they

do things like that. They are not interested in any project of the State. They don't advise the Government properly about the various projects of the Government of India. They do it because they know that they are there for two-three years. They are not committed to the good projects of the State. They are not committed to any project being implemented by the State of Goa. They don't give any advice. Not only that, Sir. The most important task which they have to do is to bring in the schemes of the Government of India to the State. In order to bring in the schemes of the Government of India to the State, they have to study those schemes. They have to find out what those schemes are. They don't take any initiative, Sir. Therefore, we are asking now for a special cadre of All India Services for Goa. Unless we get a special cadre, the Budget provisions for various programmes and all other programmes cannot be effectively administered.

Secondly, Sir, we have demanded before the Finance Minister when he came to Goa and held discussions with our Chief Minister. Our Finance Minister with our Chief Minister has announced a sea-link project from Dauna-pala to Panjim. It is a big adventure, for which we will require help from the Finance Minister. The Finance Minister was kind enough when he came to Goa to announce that he would render the necessary help to the Government of Goa in having the sea-link bridge, just like we have one in Mumbai. Though there may be less traffic on this route, but it would be a big tourist attraction for those who visit Goa.

Then, I would like to submit one or two points. As far as education is concerned, today is the world of internet, electronic medium. Those who give education on computer literacy are charged service tax. I do not think on schools who run secondary or higher secondary classes the service tax is levied. But, if a computer literacy institution educates in computers, it is charged service tax heavily. I think, the Government should reconsider and encourage such institutions. At the most, you can rate the institutions because so many institutions are mushrooming. You can grade them and good offer can be given this facility.

Sir, as far as the income-tax is concerned, I would like to make a small suggestion. Currently, there are no time-limits prescribed for the disposal of rectification of applications for orders giving effect to appellate orders. The Act needs to prescribe time-limit for the disposal of rectification of applications for orders giving effect to appellate orders. Secondly, currently, all refunds from the Income-Tax Department are issued manually and this can be time consuming and requires constant follow up with the tax authorities.

Sir, as far as depreciation is concerned, traditional definition according to old economy for depreciation is wearing out of capital and it is not relevant to IT products as these never wear out, they just become obsolete. It is, therefore, strongly recommended that the rate of depreciation on IT products be increased to 100 per cent from the existing 60 per cent reflecting the true active life. This

will indirectly subsidise the cost of ITs to the corporates by at least 14 per cent and lead to consumption of additional one million computers created in replacement and ensuring investment in cutting-age technology. This is required because they do not wear out, they just become obsolete. Therefore, depreciation concept, as far as computers are concerned, should be given rethinking. Thank you very much, Sir, for the time given.

SHRI MATILAL SARKAR (Tripura): Sir, thank you, I have some observations in regard to the Appropriation Bill (No.3), 2009. I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Finance Minister, on the observation, to clause 3 of the Bill. It is stated that the sums shall be appreciated for the services and purposes expressed in the schedule. I will speak on clause 3 in regard to the items of the sums sought for here.

Sir, coming to the agricultural sector, we have seen in the annual report, it is stated, "The production of wheat, coarse cereals, sugarcane, pulses is decreasing year-to-year," It is decreasing. On the other hand, cash crops production is increasing. So, for the export benefit, cash crops are being produced in some areas. As a result, what happens? There is a shifting of cultivation from foodgrains to cash crops. That is why, we are becoming dependent on the other countries in regard to wheat, coarse cereals, pulses, etc.

So, what is the aim of the Government to revive this sector so that we may not depend on import for our day-to-day food and other essential commodities? Sir, what is seen is that the import cost was about Rs.30,000 crores in the year 2008-09. If we can divert this amount to support the farmers in respect of irrigation, in respect of giving them credit flow at the rate of 4 per cent interest, as Prof. Swaminathan recommended and if we can do it, then our farmers would be able to produce more, they would be benefited and at the same time, production would go up. Why do you not reverse this? At the same time, for not doing this, what is the plight of the farmers? Sir, every year about 15,000 to 17,000 farmers are committing suicide. There are two main reasons for these suicides by the farmers. One reason is credit flow. They are not getting institutional credit flow from the banks and other financial institutions. They are not getting it. They are rushing to the moneylenders. What about the moneylenders? The moneylenders can get loans from the banks and they are giving loans to the small farmers. So, the rate of interest is three or four times high. This is way the farmers are destined to commit suicide in some areas of the country. So, why care has not been taken to see how we can combat the farmers' suicides. Coming to Item No. 16, PDS, Sir, our demand is that PDS should be universalised. There should be no difference in providing food and other essential commodities. Sir, what happened in the Budget? For the BPL, it has been reduced from 35 kgs. to 25 kgs. I am asking the hon. Minister whether he is advising the poor to remain half fed because you are reducing it from 35 kgs. to 25 kgs. You are giving at Rs.3 per kg., that is right but you are reducing the quantity. If somebody requires 35 kgs., for 10 kgs. how much he will be spending you

can easily see. Ultimately, they are not getting food at the lower cost. They are not getting it. You maintain 35 kgs. They are to pay more, more than what was necessary in the previous time. So, this is not helping the poor. Sir, price hike is one of the most important things. I am sorry to say, Sir, we have seen NDA and we have seen UPA, nobody is worried about this price hike. It is skyrocketing. What is to be done, I do not know. Sir, I am giving one suggestion. If the Government is ready to supply 14 to 15 essential commodities at the affordable rates through Fair Price Shops I can challenge that the prices will come down. I do not know whether the Government is ready to take this suggestion. They should distribute 14 or 15 items through Fair Price Shops at affordable rate. Sir, now I come to the Item No.80 about NREGA. While discussing NREGA and the sanctioned amount that the Government has sought in the Bill, I am to mention about my State, the State of Tripura. As regards the completion of the projects, we stand first. In the whole country, we stand first. As regards the quality and other things, we stand second.

So, I have the legitimate right to comment on NREGA affairs. Sir, here for 100 days you are not keeping provision. The provision you are keeping here comes out to be 39 to 40 days per labour. So what about the Act? The Act was for 100 days. You are not keeping provision for 100 days. Last year in Tripura we have gone up to 62 days. That is because the money was not received on time. My State is efficient enough to spend 100 days' component also. But, that was not available in time. That is the thing. Sir, my demand is that there should be 200 days. You amend the rule and make it 200 days. You are providing 100 days. What about the other days? Where will they get work? ...(Time bell rings)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have only two more minutes.

SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: I will take five more minutes, Let me try.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. I have been requesting the Members not to make it a General Budget discussion.

SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister one very important issue. In my State, the State Government of Tripura has taken a decision about a programme called the Urban Employment Programme for the poor of the urban areas and this is the first of its kind in the country. It is already in force. It is called the Tripura Urban Employment Programme. The slum dwellers and other poor people living in the other cities deserve benefits like NREGA scheme. They also deserve this. But, in no other city in the country it is invoked. In our State we have started it and, I think, in all other cities if the Central Government takes the decision it can be spread to all other cities. Sir, only two points I have to mention about the Right to Forest Dwellers. This is a very commendable Act which we have passed. Airedy we have started. We have already given pattas to about 60 per cent of the forest dwellers. There was election and the rest 40 per cent

we will complete soon. The problem is about three generations that you have mentioned in the Act. They have to give documents that they are living there for three generations. Sir, the tribal people, the primitive people did not bother for documents. They are living there. They are enjoying and making use of forest for themselves. That was the custom. If we ask for the document, from where will they give it? From the kings' period they have been living there. So, this is the thing to be followed liberally. I think, the condition should be relaxed on the point about the three generations. That should be substituted by some other suitable criteria. Sir, in Tripura, there are not only tribals, there are non-tribals also. Indira-Mujib Pact says that, "All those refugees who entered India prior to March 25, 1971 will be allowed to stay in India. It is clearly written in Indira-Mujib Pact. So, if you impose "three generations" that will be an injustice to those who came before March 25, 1971. So, that has to be looked into, They are refugees. They entered into forest. They managed to live there for bread and butter. They had to rush there for fear of life. They had entered into forest for fear of life at the time of partition of India. For these two reasons, the documentation criteria have to be relaxed. The last point is about the Sixth Central Pay Commission. Sir, the Government has accepted the recommendations and implemented the same for the Central Government employees. But, at the same time, the State Government employees are not getting this benefit. Sir, the State Government employees and the Central Government employees are purchasing commodities from the same market, residing side-by-side. But, on the one hand the Central Government employees are getting the benefit of the Sixth Pay Commission and on the other the State Government employees are not getting it. So, is it not the duty of the Central Government to look after them also? The State Government may not be having money. What share are you giving to the States? Sir, in the NDC meeting, the Chief Ministers of States unanimously demanded that the share of the Central revenue should be raised to 50 per cent to the States. Now, you are giving 25 Percent or 29 per cent, not more than that and keeping the rest with you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sarkar, you have to conclude. You have taken a lot of time. Please, conclude.

SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: I am concluding, Sir.

Sir, the Report of the Sixth Pay Commission should also be implemented for the employees of the States and the money should be given to the States according to the demands.

With these words, I conclude my speech. Thank you.

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : धन्यवाद उपसभापति महोदय। सर्वप्रथम मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि जो विनियोग विधेयक 2009 है, उस पर सरकार कार्य करे। विगत 60 सालों के अन्दर हर सरकार अपना विनियोग विधेयक लाती रही है और उन्हें पारित कराती रही है। Budget allocations होते हैं, उसके बाद पास कर दिए जाते

हैं, लेकिन implementation बहुत ही खराब है। अगर पिछले 60 सालों में implementation सही रहा होता, तो शायद आज आम आदमी को सड़क, बिजली, पानी, रोटी, कपड़ा, मकान आदि समस्याओं से नहीं जूझना पड़ता। सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से आपके माध्यम से यह अनुरोध करूंगा कि वे कृपया accountability की ओर ध्यान दें और यह देखें कि जो निर्णय लिए जाते हैं, जो budget allocations दिए जाते हैं, appropriation करके जो रुपए दिए जाते हैं, उनका सही उपयोग क्यों नहीं होता है और आम आदमी तक वे सुविधाएं क्यों नहीं पहुंचती हैं।

हम सभी जानते हैं कि आज हमारे देश की 60 प्रतिशत से अधिक जनता कृषि में लगी हुई है और हमारे सकल घरेलू उत्पाद में कृषि का योगदान 27 प्रतिशत है। यह असमानता ही हमारी कृषि को आकर्षणहीन बना रही है, जिसके कारण आज लोग कृषि में न लग कर इधर-उधर जा रहे हैं। भारत में विश्व की सब्जियों का उत्पादन लगभग 15 प्रतिशत है, विश्व में भारत में फलों का उत्पादन लगभग 8 प्रतिशत होता है, लेकिन 40 प्रतिशत फल और सब्जियां बाजार में पहुंचने से पहले ही बर्बाद हो जाती हैं। इस ओर विशेष ध्यान देने की जरूरत है कि कृषि के जो उत्पाद हैं, उन्हें कैसे सही ढंग से बाजार में पहुंचाया जाए, जिससे हमारे किसान आत्मनिर्भर हों, किसान की आमदनी बढ़े और कैसे सरकार बिचौलियों को समाप्त करे, क्योंकि जब तक हमारा किसान मजबूत नहीं होगा, हमारे किसान के पास पैसा नहीं होगा, तब तक हमारा देश आगे नहीं बढ़ पाएगा। किसानों और मजदूरों की ओर हमें विशेष रूप से ध्यान देना चाहिए।

यह भी एक रिपोर्ट आई थी, जिसमें कहा गया है कि देश के 73 प्रतिशत किसानों की बैंकों तक पहुंच है, लेकिन क्या वास्तव में उन बैंकों का लाभ किसानों को मिल रहा है, इस ओर ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है।

डीजल बराबर महंगा होता चला जा रहा है। आज हालत यह है कि मानसून बिगड़ चुका है। इसके लिए विशेष सहायता की आवश्यकता है। इसके लिए हमारे इस बजट में कोई भी विशेष प्रावधान नहीं किया गया है। इसकी ओर सरकार को ध्यान देना चाहिए।

भारत निर्माण योजना, जिसे सरकार ने चार साल पहले बड़े जोर-शोर से लागू किया था, असल में उसमें भी कुछ नहीं हो रहा है। केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा योजना के तहत जो लक्ष्य दिल्ली में निर्धारित किए गए थे, राज्यों तक पहुंच कर वे सब सिकुड़ जाते हैं। उनका implementation सही नहीं होता है। 2005-06 से 2008-09 तक एक करोड़ हेक्टेयर खेतों को सिंचित करने का लक्ष्य रखा गया था। परियोजना का कार्यकाल पूरा होने के बाद भी लक्ष्य की परिधि में रखे गए किसानों को अधिकतर खेत-पानी के लिए तरसना पड़ रहा है। भारत निर्माण योजना के अन्तिम वर्ष 2008-09 के जो आंकड़े हैं, अगर उसे देखा जाए, तो 9878.25 हजार हेक्टेयर सिंचाई का लक्ष्य प्राप्त करना था, जिसके स्थान पर केवल 1196.777 हेक्टेयर का लक्ष्य ही प्राप्त हो सका है। हम किस प्रकार अपने लक्ष्यों को पाएंगे, इसके लिए बहुत आवश्यक है कि इम्प्लिमेंटेशन की ओर बहुत ध्यान दिया जाए। जम्मू-कश्मीर के लिए 101.55 हजार एकड़ का लक्ष्य था, लेकिन प्रगति शून्य रही। बिहार में 1699 हजार एकड़ के लक्ष्य के विपरीत मात्र 16 हजार एकड़, उत्तर प्रदेश में 977 हजार एकड़ के विपरीत केवल 377 हजार एकड़ लक्ष्य प्राप्त हुआ, यानी केन्द्र का राज्यों के साथ कोई सामंजस्य नहीं रहा है। इस ओर विशेष ध्यान देने की जरूरत है।

देश में खेती और किसानों की यह दुर्गति है, अगर स्थिति यही बनी रही तो हम आर्थिक प्रगति के 9% के आंकड़ों तक कैसे पहुंच पाएंगे? इसके लिए बहुत आवश्यक है कि जल्द ही इस ओर ध्यान दिया जाए। सरकार ने

यह भी कहा है कि हम खाद्य सुरक्षा के लिए एक विधेयक लाएंगे, लेकिन इसे किस प्रकार से किया जाएगा? मेरी राय यह है कि इस ओर थोड़ा तेजी से कार्य किया जाए।

विश्व की जो रिपोर्ट्स आ रही हैं, उनमें यह कहा गया है कि विश्व के एक-चौथाई, अर्थात् 25% लोग भारत में रहते हैं। यह संख्या 2 करोड़ 30 लाख है तथा साढ़े चार करोड़ के लगभग लोग ऐसे हैं, जिन्हें शाम का खाना भी नसीब नहीं हो पा रहा है।

विकास में भी असमानताएं हैं। जो प्रदेश महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात विकास की दृष्टि से अति विकसित प्रदेश हैं, वहां पर भी भुखमरी की स्थिति ज्यादा खतरनाक है। दिल्ली, जहां पर प्रतिव्यक्ति आय सबसे ज्यादा है, वहां पर 26% बच्चे कुपोषण के शिकार हो रहे हैं।

गरीब जनता तक सही दामों पर भोजन को पहुंचाने के लिए जो बहुत ही आवश्यक आधार है, वह है पीडीएस सिस्टम। पीडीएस सिस्टम के अन्दर भी बहुत कमियां हैं और हर जगह पर इसमें रुपयों का गोलमाल किया जा रहा है। पीडीएस सिस्टम के लिए जो अनाज दिया जाता है, वह खुले बाजार में बिक जाता है। दलहन अनाज की स्थिति भी यही हो रही है। यहां पर हमें देखना होगा कि किस प्रकार हम पीडीएस सिस्टम को और स्ट्रॉंग करके सही व्यक्ति तक अपने सामान को पहुंचाने की व्यवस्था कर सकें।

आज हमारा पूरा पीडीएस सिस्टम फेल हो रहा है। क्यों? सदन में कृषि मंत्री जी ने स्वयं स्वीकार किया है कि पीडीएस सिस्टम में खामियां हैं। इसमें बोगस राशन कार्ड की समस्या है। लेकिन केवल सदन में इसकी स्वीकारोक्ति कर देने से ही बात समाप्त नहीं हो जाती है, उसका कोई हल निकाला जाए। इसी प्रकार से बीपीएल को लेकर भी एक बड़ी भारी समस्या है कि वास्तव में बीपीएल कौन है? कौन-से व्यक्ति बीपीएल में आते हैं? कृषि मूल्य नीति में कहा गया था कि खाद्य सुरक्षा नीति के तहत हर गरीब को सही समय पर अन्न की आपूर्ति की जाएगी, लेकिन अभी तक सरकार गरीबी का ही निर्धारण नहीं कर पा रही है कि कौन गरीब है। ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय के लिए गरीबी की परिभाषा अलग है, खाद्य मंत्रालय के लिए गरीबी की परिभाषा अलग है, राज्यों में अलग है और योजना आयोग गरीबी को अलग तरीके से परिभाषित करता है। कम से कम केन्द्र सरकार यह तो देखे कि हर जगह पर गरीबी की परिभाषाएं एक सी हो जाएं। 1990 तक पीडीएस सार्वभौमिक था और 1987-88 में सूखे के समय इसकी अहम भूमिका रही। 1997 में आप टार्गेटिड पीडीएस सिस्टम लेकर आए और इस सिस्टम में आपने बीपीएल और एपीएल दो भागों में पूरी जनसंख्या को विभाजित कर दिया, लेकिन फिर भी उसके अनुसार कार्य नहीं हो पाया।

उपसभापति महोदय, आपके माध्यम से मैं सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा कि जिस प्रकार से हम लोगों ने ऐलोकेशन किया है और क्या उसके हिसाब से हम आगे भी चल रहे हैं? प्रधान मंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना में हमने 12,000 करोड़ रुपया बढ़ाया, पावर सैक्टर में हमने यह कहा कि हम कम से कम अपना 5000 मेगावाट जोड़ेंगे। ऐसा क्यों? अगर चीन एक लाख मेगावाट जोड़ता है तो हम 5000 मेगावाट की बात क्यों करते हैं? अभी कुछ समय पहले प्रश्न काल में एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में विद्युत मंत्री जी कह रहे थे कि 1 लाख 50 हजार मेगावाट का प्रोडक्शन है, केवल 15 हजार मेगावाट की कमी है। अगर केवल 15 हजार मेगावाट की कमी है, तो फिर इतनी अधिक बिजली की कटौतियां क्यों हो रही हैं? लोगों को बिजली क्यों नहीं उपलब्ध हो रही है? कहा जा रहा है कि हम राजीव गांधी विद्युतीकरण योजना के अंतर्गत हर गांव तक बिजली पहुंचा रहे हैं। क्या वहां पर केवल बिजली का कनेक्शन देने से ही उन्हें बिजली प्राप्त हो जाएगी। जब तक वहां बिजली का उत्पादन नहीं होगा, जब तक बिजली

नहीं पहुंचेगी, जब तक उनके घरों में बल्ब नहीं जलेंगे, तब तक ऐसे बिजली को पहुंचाने से क्या फायदा? इसी प्रकार रोड ट्रांसपोर्ट और हाइवेज के अंतर्गत बहुत खराब एलोकेशन किया गया है। हालांकि इसके लिए बजटरी सपोर्ट दिया जा रहा है, जिसकी मैं प्रशंसा करता हूँ, लेकिन उसके इम्प्लिमेंटेशन का क्या हो रहा है? जब तक उसका इम्प्लिमेंटेशन ही सही तरीके से नहीं होगा, तो क्या होगा? हम हमेशा बात करते हैं कि हम अपने यहां मालन्यूट्रिशियन को समाप्त कर रहे हैं, लेकिन क्या वास्तव में यह समाप्त हो रहा है? मेरा अनुरोध है कि इस ओर देखा जाए और इसे समाप्त किया जाए। इसके लिए बहुत आवश्यक है कि इन सब चीजों की मॉनिटरिंग हो। जब तक एकाउंटेबिलिटी नहीं होगी कि कौन अधिकारी किस काम के लिए जिम्मेदार है, जब तक उनके अन्दर यह भय पैदा नहीं किया जाएगा कि जो कार्य उसे दिया गया है, उसे उसने समय पर पूरा करना है, तब तक कोई कार्य समय पर नहीं हो सकेगा। यदि वह ऐसा नहीं करता तो उसके सर्विस रिकॉर्ड में एंट्री हो, उसके ऊपर ऐक्शन हो, कार्यवाही हो और उसकी जानकारी सदन को दी जाए। जब तक इस प्रकार के कार्य नहीं किए जाएंगे, तब तक मैं नहीं समझता हूँ कि सरकार आम आदमी के लिए जो कुछ कार्य करना चाहती है और जिस लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करना चाहती है, उसमें उसे सफलता प्राप्त हो पाएगी। इसके लिए यह बहुत आवश्यक है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... नरेगा की स्कीम्स के बारे में भी बहुत-सी चर्चाएं हो चुकी हैं। सौ दिनों के कार्य की बात हो रही थी। अभी हमारे एक पूर्व वक्ता ने कहा कि जो बजट एलोकेशन है, वह केवल 30 दिनों के लिए है, तो इस प्रकार से कैसे काम होगा? हमें राज्य सरकारों पर दबाव बनाना चाहिए, उसकी मॉनिटरिंग सिस्टम सही करना चाहिए कि कम-से-कम जो लोग बेरोजगार हैं, उन्हें सौ दिन कार्य करने का मौका प्राप्त हो। अगर वह नहीं होगा, तो किस प्रकार हम देश में गरीबी को समाप्त करेंगे?

उपसभापति जी, इन सब बातों को देखते हुए और समय की बाध्यता को देखते हुए मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से केवल यह अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि वह कृपया गरीबी की परिभाषा और मापदंड को तय करें जो हर विभाग के लिए एक हो। गरीबी से संबंधित विश्वसनीय और पर्याप्त आंकड़े हों, जिसे राज्य सरकारों से भी वैध कराया जाए। भ्रष्टाचार दूर हो, उचित मूल्य की दुकानों की सही व्यवस्था हो, सामान को सही समय और पर्याप्त ढंग से सही रूप से गंतव्य तक पहुंचाने के लिए आवश्यक व्यवस्था की जाए, जिससे कि हमारे उत्पादकों की जो बरबादी हो रही है, वह न हो। बेघर आदिवासी और दूरदराज के इलाकों को इस व्यवस्था में विशेष रूप से शामिल किया जाए।

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मुझे विश्वास है कि माननीय मंत्री जी का जो उद्देश्य है, जो माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा या माननीय राष्ट्रपति जी ने अपने अभिभाषण में कहा कि वे इस देश की गरीबी को समाप्त करना चाहते हैं, यहां पर एक अच्छा माहौल पैदा करना चाहते हैं, हर व्यक्ति को रोटी, कपड़ा और मकान की सुविधा उपलब्ध कराना चाहते हैं, तो उन सबके लिए यह बहुत आवश्यक है कि इस और सतत कार्य किए जाएं और ऐसा न हो कि जो सौ रुपए खर्च किए जाते हैं - जैसा कि कहा जाता है कि सरकार के सौ रुपए में से 10 रुपए ही आम आदमी तक पहुंचते हैं और बाकी 90 रुपए भ्रष्ट अधिकारियों और इधर-उधर के बीच-बिचौलियों के बीच में बंट जाते हैं, यह चीज समाप्त हो और सही रूप से कार्य किए जाएं। आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से मेरा यही अनुरोध है कि इस प्रकार के कार्यों को सही रूप से किया जाए। धन्यवाद।

श्री उपसभापति महोदय : श्री आर.सी. सिंह। आपके पांच मिनट हैं।

श्री आर.सी. सिंह (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : सर, मैं अपनी बात पांच मिनट के पहले खत्म करने की कोशिश करूंगा।

श्री उपसभापति : ठीक है। आप उतने में ही खत्म कर दीजिए, आपका धन्यवाद। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री आर.सी. सिंह : अगर थोड़ा आगे-पीछे हो जाए, तो आपकी थोड़ी मदद चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

सर, सबसे पहले मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो बजट है, यह तो आम लोगों के लिए नहीं है, क्योंकि आप देखेंगे कि जब महंगाई आसमान छू रही है, उस समय सरकार को जो आम लोगों को बजट में रिलीफ देनी चाहिए, उसकी जगह पर कुछ व्यक्तिगत मालिकों को बजट में छूट देने की कोशिश हो रही है। मुझे याद आता है कि बजट स्पीच के पैराग्राफ 93 में कहा गया है कि "the business of laying and operating cross country natural gas or crude or petroleum oil pipeline network for description..." सर, इसके लिए सरकार ने इनकम टैक्स का जो 1961 का कानून था, उसमें एक नयी धारा 35 AD जोड़ी और उसे जोड़ कर 100 परसेंट टैक्स रिबेट दे दिया है। इसमें एक विशेष कंपनी को, रिलायंस गैस ट्रांसपोर्टेशन इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर लिमिटेड को 20 हजार करोड़ रुपए की छूट दी गई, जो आम लोगों तक जा सकती थी, जिसको आम लोगों के लिए नहीं रखा गया। जहां हम देश के आम लोगों की बात कहते हैं, देश के आम लोगों की हालत यह है कि जो सबसे गरीब किसान है, जिसके पास जमीन का एक छोटा-सा टुकड़ा है, इस महंगाई के आलम में वह अपनी जमीन को बेच कर के दीन-मजदूरों की लाइन में खड़ा हो रहा है। वह किसान से मजदूर बन रहा है। ऐसे किसान, जो हमारे देश के जी.डी.पी में 22 परसेंट का योगदान करते हैं, 70 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा जिनकी जीविका खेती पर निर्भर करती है, उनके लिए जो रिलीफ देनी चाहिए थी, इसमें बजट में वह रिलीफ नहीं मिल सकी है, इसमें इसे जोड़ने की जरूरत थी। इस तरह जितनी राशि उनके वेलफेयर के लिए, उनकी जरूरतों के लिए देनी चाहिए थी, women के लिए, children's development के लिए, youths' affairs के लिए, इस बजट में sufficient प्रावधान नहीं रखा गया है, जिसको कि रखा जाना चाहिए था।

सर, मैं एक बात और कहना चाहूंगा कि कृषक को जो लोन देने की बात कही गई है, इंटररेस्ट रेट 6 परसेंट उनके लिए है जो इसे टाइमली पे करेंगे, उनको रिलीफ दिया जा रहा है, लेकिन इस सूखे के मौसम में उनके घर में जो थोड़ा-बहुत धान बीज के लिए पड़ा हुआ था...। जो सूखे में चला गया, अब वे अपना टैक्स नहीं दे सकते हैं। इसलिए मेरा कहना है कि जो time bound relief देने की बात कही गयी है, उस की जगह उन लोगों को permanent relief देने की व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए क्योंकि अभी प्रोडक्शन में 4.7 परसेंट की कमी आयी है और यह सूखे के चलते और बढ़ेगी। इसलिए उनको वह रिलीफ जारी रखी जानी चाहिए।

महोदय, मेरा तीसरा सवाल यह है कि वैश्विक मंदी में कंपनियों के बंद होने के चलते, Hire and Fire की नीति के चलते बहुत से लोग बेरोजगार हो गए हैं और मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि वे 1.2 करोड़ लोगों को रोजगार के अवसर प्रदान करेंगे। मुझे लगता है कि वह "नरेगा" की ही बात कर रहे हैं। इसलिए "नरेगा" में 100 दिन का रोजगार एक परिवार को देने के बजाय इसे बढ़ाकर 250 दिन किए जाएं ताकि वे लोग जिंदा रह सकें। महोदय, इस तरह की व्यवस्था इस बजट में की जानी चाहिए थी। चौथी बात, इस देश का जो आम आदमी है, अभी उसे 4-5 घंटे से ज्यादा बिजली नहीं मिल पाती है और अधिकतर गांवों में तो बिजली है ही नहीं। महोदय, किसानों को खेती के लिए बिजली उपलब्ध नहीं है। बिजली उत्पादन को इस बजट में और बढ़ावा देने के लिए जिन materials से बिजली

पैदा होती है, जैसे कोयला इत्यादि, उन्हें और मजबूती देने के लिए बजट में ज्यादा allocation किए जाने की जरूरत थी जिस से कि देश में ज्यादा से ज्यादा बिजली पैदा की जा सकती। महोदय, हम जानते हैं कि देश में वर्ष 2008-09 में बिजली उत्पादन के टारगेट में 9.1 परसेंट की कमी थी, इसलिए इस के allocation में और ज्यादा पैसा देने की जरूरत थी।

महोदय, मैं यह भी कहना चाहूंगा कि mines and minerals के डवलपमेंट पर भी सरकार को ज्यादा ध्यान देना चाहिए क्योंकि वे देश के लिए बहुत उपयोगी हैं। महोदय, मैं आखिरी एक बात कहकर अपना भाषण समाप्त करूंगा। महोदय, आज जहां देश में बिजली की ज्यादा जरूरत है और उस के लिए कोयले के production की भी जरूरत है। हम विदेश से कोयला लाते हैं तो उन कंपनियों को 6 हजार टन के हिसाब से पैसा देते हैं, वहीं अपने देश में 3 हजार रुपए टन के हिसाब से payment करते हैं। मैं चाहूंगा कि बिजली कंपनियों को हमारी कोल कंपनियां उसी रेट से payment करने की व्यवस्था करें।

महोदय, अभी Public Distribution System सिर्फ बी.पी.एल. से नीचे रहने वालों के लिए ही नहीं। मैं चाहूंगा कि यह सिस्टम देश में सारे लोगों के लिए लागू हो, जिससे कि आम आदमी को relief मिल सके।

महोदय, पश्चिमी बंगाल में "आइला" के चलते, समुद्री जल के प्रकोप से पूरे पश्चिमी बंगाल का उत्तर चौबीस परगना, दक्षिण चौबीस परगना क्षेत्र के लोग व हावड़ा, हुगली नदिया जिले के लोग बुरी तरह से affected हुए हैं। इस के प्रकोप से वहां की फसल बर्बाद हो गयी है। जो लोग वहां फूल की खेती व मछली पैदा करने का काम करते थे, सब्जी उगाते थे उनका काम पूरी तरह से नष्ट हो गया है। इसलिए उस इलाके में खारे पानी में जो फसल उगायी जा सके, इस तरह के बीज supply किए जाने चाहिए। महोदय, उन लोगों को relief देने के लिए सरकार ने 1 हजार करोड़ रुपए की राशि की घोषणा की है जोकि पर्याप्त नहीं है। उनके लिए यह राशि बढ़ाकर जल्द-से-जल्द प्रदान करने की मैं आप के माध्यम से मांग करता हूँ।

SHRI N. K. SINGH (Bihar): Thank you, Sir. I am conscious that The Appropriation Bill has already been passed in the Lok Sabha and it has come to us for some broad discussions on the framework of the appropriations, which the Finance Minister has sought from us.

At this stage, Sir, I would just like to propose four or five suggestions for the consideration of the Finance Minister, which are more in the nature of institutional reform, in the manner in which expenditures are composed, expenditures are evaluated and the entire budgetary process is conducted.

Sir, my first suggestion is that the Finance Minister himself is quite conscious of the fact that large public outlays require scrutiny of the quality of these public outlays, in a manner which is concurrent and a manner which is independent. In the document which the Finance Ministry has circulated along with the Budget document, they have circulated a document on medium-term fiscal initiatives. In the fourth section of that medium-term initiative, they have proposed the constitution of an office of Independent Evaluator at an arm's length relationship with Government. I urge the Finance Ministry to act quickly on its own suggestion and to create an office for Independent Evaluation so that this

House can have the benefit of evaluation from an independent source on the quality of where large public outlays for which they seek our authorisation.

My second suggestion, Sir, is that I had in this House brought to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister that the present classification of Government accounts remain in a state of colossal mess. The artificial distinction between plan expenditure and non-plan expenditure, between revenue and capital expenditure is something, which needs to be holistically visited. For instance, Sir, we are often told that it is Government's objective to bring down the revenue expenditure significantly in the next two years, but perhaps Government themselves are conscious that large devolution to States on health and education is something which comes on the revenue account and the multiplier benefits of what happens in education and health have long-term benefits for the economy and, therefore, does not automatically follow that old revenue expenditure is ab initio something which we need to curtail. So, Sir, this requires a re-visiting of the classification of Government account. The issue of plan and non-plan is something on which this House has deliberated earlier and maybe the Finance Minister can give some thought to the constitution of a Government Reclassification Committee with the former CAG which can have expenditure and others to look into classification of Government accounts.

My third point, Sir, is that it is about time that the Ministry of Finance begins to reform itself and that the Ministry of Finance begins to reform the Reserve Bank of India. In fact, without wanting to embarrass the Prime Minister, I would certainly like to bring to the suggestion that in many discussions and in many speeches which the Prime Minister has made on earlier occasions before he was Prime Minister, he talked and mentioned that the most unreformed institution of the Government was the Reserve Bank of India and one of the most unreformed institutions was the Ministry of Finance. Whereas the Finance Minister and the Finance Ministry have talked the paradigm of reforms to others, this is one of those things in which one can say, 'Doctor heal theyself first.' And what kind of a change on the Reserve Bank, am I suggesting? On the Reserve Bank I am suggesting two important areas of reforms. The first, Sir, is that there is an inherent conflict of interests when the Reserve Bank, apart from fixing its monetary and credit policy, is also the principal portfolio manager of the Government. It is the investment banker of the Government. There is an inherent conflict of interest between the Reserve Bank functioning as an investment manager and the Reserve Bank functioning also as a credit monitoring institution and determining the foreign exchange policy. So, that is the first area where I think there is a conflict of interest. That may entail, of course, the creation of an independent debt management office on which there is now sufficient literature and experience available.

The other area of reforms of the Reserve Bank is, all over the world people have regarded that the functions of the Central banker must not be mixed up with the functions of the Central banker doing the supervision of individual banks. All over the world, Sir, people have created an independent

Banking Regulatory Authority. They have treated it an arms length with Central Banker which acts as a kind of an independent surveillance instrument to again avoid an inherent conflict of interest between the functions which the Central Bank is asked to perform and these two functions which I have mentioned, namely, the portfolio manager function and the function of micro supervision of banking responsibility. The Ministry of Finance itself, Sir, in terms of classification of these three Departments — Revenue, Expenditure and Economic Affairs — needs a re-think if we are to really meet the more complex challenges which lie ahead of us in the management of our economy.

My next point, Sir, is that since the Finance Ministry is keen on moving towards greater transparency in budget-making, I would urge them to consider the adoption of the OECD Budget transparency mechanism.

What does this mechanism entail? It entails that Budget is not a surprise. It is not one fine day, when something is unravelled. It is the people, public policy makers, think tanks, and, perhaps, the Parliament is engaged more decisively in the formation of the budgetary processes. This entails my final point, that point is, Sir, to improve the quality and depth of Parliamentary oversight into the Budget-making process. All over the world, Parliaments are engaged at different stages before ideas take a final crystal shape. Would, for instance, the Finance Minister consider taking this House and having a sneak preview of what the economy look like, let us say, in the Winter Session of Parliament by bringing a mid-term review paper which would you enable us to have a better grasp instead of being confronted with a surprise? Improved Parliamentary oversight, Sir, is another area where I think the institutions need to be reformed. I brought to your notice, Sir, the need for making institutional changes, the need for some far-reaching reforms in the working of the Ministry of Finance and in the working of the Reserve Bank of India. The Finance Minister has put, by having this huge outlay, his trust in money. I hope that we can trust the money in the nature with which these large public outlays have been entailed. And, these cannot be achieved unless some of the underlying institutions are reformed more fundamentally. Thank you, Sir.

श्री मंगल किसन (उड़ीसा) : उपसभापति जी, आज जो एप्रोप्रिएशन का बिल आया है, इसमें भारत सरकार को total 304,32,55,88,00,000 रुपए (तीन सौ चार खरब, बत्तीस अरब, पचपन करोड़, अठासी लाख रुपए) खर्च करने के लिए व्यवस्था की गई है। आजादी के बाद से हर साल का बजट प्रोविजन तो बढ़ता जा रहा है, लेकिन आम आदमी को जो सुविधा या facility मिलनी चाहिए, वह कम होती जा रही है और केवल चंद लोगों को, जो ऊपर के दर्जे में हैं, उनको facilities मिलती जा रही हैं। उदाहरण के लिए 6th Pay Commission में वेतनमान का जो निर्धारण किया गया, उसमें Highest salary और lowest salary का जो गैप है, उसको कम किया जाना चाहिए था। हर गरीब, आम जनता, जो poor family से आता है, जो छोटी-मोटी नौकरी करता है, उसके लिए भी यह एक बाजार है और जो highest salary और हाई पोस्ट पर आते हैं, उनके लिए भी यह एक मार्केट या बाजार है। इसलिए यह जो इतना गैप है, इस पर सरकार को विचार करना चाहिए था। This gap between the highest-paid person and the lowest-paid person gap should be minimised. इसके बाद देश के आजाद होने के बाद से जितने भी प्रोजेक्ट्स बनें हैं, चाहे इरिगेशन प्रोजेक्ट्स हों, पब्लिक सैक्टर प्रोजेक्ट्स हों या माइनिंग प्रोजेक्ट्स हों,

इन प्रोजेक्ट्स के लिए जिस परिवार ने अपना सब कुछ गवा दिया है, जिनका displacement हुआ है, उनका अभी तक resettlement नहीं हुआ है। लगभग 5,00,000 से अधिक परिवार अभी displaced हुए हैं, लेकिन उनका अभी तक हिन्दुस्तान में resettlement नहीं हुआ है। इसके चलते उन लोगों को शहर के किनारे या जंगल में रहना पड़ता है - उनके पास न घर है, न ठिकाना है, न ही उनके पास बच्चों को पढ़ाने के लिए या कुछ हेल्थ सर्विस available कराने के लिए कुछ रिसोर्सिज हैं। इसलिए आजादी के 62 साल बाद इस Appropriation Bill में या बजट में उनके लिए कुछ resettlement करने की सुविधा देने के लिए कुछ व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए थी। यह दुःख की बात है कि आज तक उनके लिए भारत सरकार ने कुछ नहीं सोचा है। हिंदुस्तान में developed States हैं और poor States हैं। जैसे उड़ीसा एक गरीब राज्य है, झारखंड एक गरीब राज्य है, बिहार एक गरीब राज्य है। इन राज्यों में रहने वाले बाशिंदों को बराबर स्तर पर लाने के लिए कम से कम बजट में स्पेशल प्रोविजन होना चाहिए, लेकिन दुःख की बात है कि जो पैदल जाता है, उसको बजट बोलता है कि जो aeroplane में जाते हैं, उनको दौड़ाओं। This is the bad economic system of the Government of India. We should rethink about it, and, if it is possible, it should be reviewed.

उपसभापति महोदय, दूसरी बात यह है कि कुछ States, mineral resources में richest हैं, लेकिन economically poor हैं। उनकी जमीन बरबाद होती है, उनके परिवार displaced होते हैं, लेकिन जब mineral resources की इनकम होती है, उसको respective States को देने के लिए जो फार्मूला भारत सरकार ने बनाया है, वह गलत है। इसलिए जिस स्टेट में mineral resources हैं, उनके operation में, उनके exploitation में उनकी प्रॉब्लम बढ़ती है और वे displaced होते हैं। वहां का रास्ता खराब होता है, वहां का drinking water source खराब होता है, environment hazards होते हैं, लेकिन जो respective companies और भारत सरकार है, इन सब सोशल प्रॉब्लम्स को हल करने के लिए उनके पास कोई solution नहीं है। इसलिए इस बारे में भारत सरकार को सोचना चाहिए।

इसके बाद मेरा आखिरी प्वाइंट यह है कि जो जंगल में रहते हैं - आदिवासी हैं, शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स और शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज हैं, दूसरे गरीब वर्ग भी जो उस शैड्यूल्ड एरिया में रहते हैं, यह शैड्यूल्ड एरिया इतना पिछड़ा हुआ है कि जब तक आप इसे देखेंगे नहीं, तब तक आपको विश्वास नहीं होगा। आज भी जो primitive groups हैं, उनके बदन पर कपड़ा नहीं है, उनके खाने के लिए कुछ व्यवस्था नहीं है, उनके रहने के लिए घर नहीं हैं। वे लोग हर रोज nomadic life बिताते हैं और उनकी दुर्दशा होती है। बारिश के समय उनकी हालत देखकर आप भी रो पड़ेंगे। इस तरह के जो शैड्यूल्ड एरियाज हैं और वहां रहने वाले जो primitive groups हैं, उनके लिए बजट में आज तक जो भी किया गया है, वह बहुत कम है। उस एरिया के डेवलपमेंट के बारे में जब भारत सरकार अच्छी तरह से सोचेगी, तभी उनको कुछ फायदा हो सकता है। आज तक जो लोग बात करना नहीं जानते थे, जो लोग एक आम आदमी को देखकर डर जाते थे, आज उनकी हालत यह हो गई है कि उन्होंने हाथ में बंदूक उठा ली है। इसीलिए भारत सरकार को उनके बारे में सोचना पड़ेगा और उनकी डिमांड भी सुननी पड़ेगी। धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Rupani. You have eight minutes.

श्री विजय कुमार रूपाणी (गुजरात) : उपसभापति जी, सबसे पहले तो मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार को बताना चाहता हूँ कि जब चुनाव चल रहे थे, तब प्रधानमंत्री जी ने एक इंटरव्यू में बताया था कि स्विस् बैंक में यहां के भारतीयों का जो काला धन पड़ा हुआ है, सरकार बनने के बाद, उसको हम वापस लाने के लिए तुरंत ही ठोस कदम उठाएंगे और 100 दिनों में हम कुछ न कुछ ठोस कदम अवश्य उठाएंगे, लेकिन राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण में इसके बारे में कोई उल्लेख नहीं हुआ है, प्रणब मुखर्जी की बजट स्पीच में भी इसके बारे में एक लफ़्ज़ तक नहीं आया है।

आज हमारे यहां पूंजी की कमी है, इसके कारण हम डेवलपमेंट नहीं कर सकते हैं। इतनी बड़ी पूंजी यहां से आए और वह देश के डेवलपमेंट में लगे, इसके लिए पूरे देशवासी आतुर हैं और हम भी मानते हैं कि वह पैसा Swiss Bank से यहां आना चाहिए, लेकिन इस बजट में उसके बारे में कुछ बताया नहीं है। सौ दिनों में से साठ दिन तो चले गए हैं, मैं आपको सिर्फ याद दिला रहा हूँ, अब तीन-चालीस दिन बाकी है। उसके बारे में भी आप कोई ठोस कदम उठाएं, ऐसी हमारी पहली मांग है।

आप लोगों ने कर्मचारियों को छठे वेतन आयोग के तहत जो वेतन में वृद्धि की है, इस वृद्धि के कारण सब राज्य सरकारों पर काफी बोझा बढ़ गया है, क्योंकि यहां सभी केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों को छठे वेतन आयोग का लाभ मिल रहा है, तो natural course में सभी राज्यों के कर्मचारी वहीं डिमाण्ड कर रहे हैं और ज्यादातर राज्य सरकारों ने उसके बारे में घोषणा भी कर दी है कि छठा वेतन आयोग लागू होगा, लेकिन राज्यों की जो रेवेन्यू इनकम है, वह बहुत कम है, इसलिए सभी राज्यों को छठा वेतन आयोग लागू करने के लिए पैसे की मदद मिलनी चाहिए, ऐसी भी हमारी मांग है।

अब केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारियों के लिए पांच टका महंगाई भत्ता बढ़ने का समय आ गया है। 01.07.2009 से 22 टका डी.ए. मिलता है, वह 27 टका मिलना चाहिए। यह केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों का डिमाण्ड है, इसलिए उनका डी.ए. पांच टका बढ़ना चाहिए, इसलिए हमारी जो मांग है उसको स्वीकार करके केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों को पांच टका डी.ए. मिलना चाहिए।

आज सुबह प्रश्न काल में भी विद्युत की चर्चा हुई थी। जो देश में infrastructure बढ़ाने की बात है, उसमें ऊर्जा सेक्टर पर ज्यादा ध्यान देना चाहिए। एनडीए की सरकार में तय हुआ था कि 2009 तक हर घर में बिजली होगी, हर गांव में तो होगी, लेकिन हर घर में भी बिजली होगी। लेकिन पिछले पांच वर्षों में यूपीए सरकार को बिजली का जो उत्पादन बढ़ाना चाहिए था और जिस काम को 2009 में पूरा करना था, अब वह आप 2012 की बात कर रहे हैं। गुजरात में हमने 17 हजार गांवों में without interruption तीन फेज बिजली दे दी है। साठ साल की आजादी के बाद पूरे देश की यह पहली आवश्यकता है कि हर गांव और हर घर में बिजली हो। इसके बारे में अच्छी तरह से प्रावधान नहीं किए गए हैं। हम अभी भी जो बात कर रहे हैं कि 2012 में होगी, लेकिन जो बीपीएल कार्ड रखते हैं, उनके घर में मुफ्त बिजली मिलेगी और बीपीएल में भी जो criteria था, वह भी कम कर दिया है और बीपीएल की जो वास्तविक संख्या है, उससे कम दिखाई जा रही है। जब तक real में बिजली नहीं पहुंचेगी, तब तक हमारा विकास अधूरा रहेगा और हम बिजली के आधार पर जो बाकी सब समृद्धि लाना चाहते हैं, वह नहीं ला पाएंगे और "गरीबी हटाओ" जो कार्यक्रम है, उसको भी हम अच्छी तरह से पूरा नहीं कर पाएंगे। इसके लिए ठोस कदम उठाना चाहिए और बजट में इसके लिए रकम की व्यवस्था रखनी चाहिए। जो बिजली का generation यानी power manufacturing है, वह भी हम अच्छी तरह से करें और तुरंत यानी 2010 तक हर गांव में बिजली, हर घर में बिजली होनी चाहिए, उसके लिए भी बजट में प्रावधान ठीक से रखना चाहिए।

हम स्वास्थ्य के बारे में बात करते हैं कि प्रत्येक गांव में डॉक्टर जाए, यह हमारी कल्पना है और जब डॉक्टर गांव में नहीं होगा, वहां उनकी सुविधा नहीं मिलेगी... दवाइयां भी नहीं रहेंगी। जब डॉक्टर होंगे, तो वे वहीं रहेंगे। इसलिए डॉक्टर्स के लिए जो फैसिलिटी देनी चाहिए, वह तो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट का विषय है, लेकिन उनको प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए कि डॉक्टर्स को भी गांव में अच्छा घर मिल सके, उनको रहने की अच्छी सुविधा हो, डॉक्टर्स को वहां रहने की इच्छा हो, ऐसा प्रोविजन जब होगा, तभी प्रत्येक गांव में डॉक्टर्स रहेंगे और तभी प्रत्येक गांववासी को उनकी सुविधा मिलेगी। इसलिए मैं मानता हूँ कि इसके लिए कुछ न कुछ प्रोविजन हमें रखना चाहिए। साथ ही आज जो आवश्यकता है कि प्रेग्नेंट माताएं और नजवात शिशुओं की जो मृत्यु दर है, उसको कम करने के लिए वहां ये सब सुविधाएं होनी चाहिए। "चिरंजीवी योजना" जैसी योजनाएं वहां लागू करनी चाहिए और प्रत्येक गांव में उनकी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए।

महोदय, हमारे गुजरात की बात करें, तो शिप ब्रेकिंग का हमारे यहां बहुत बड़ा बिजनेस चलता है और भावनगर में अलग उसके लिए मशहूर है। वहां बाहर से जो शिप आते हैं ब्रेकिंग करने के लिए, उस पर पांच टका इम्पोर्ट ड्यूटी है, उसे जीरो परसेंट करना चाहिए। बहुत सालों से हम लोग यह डिमांड कर रहे हैं और पूरे विश्व का शिप ब्रेकिंग बिजनेस हमारे देश में तभी बढ़ सकता है, जब उसकी ड्यूटी हम जीरो परसेंट करेंगे।

दूसरे, गुजरात और महाराष्ट्र में जो कोऑपरेटिव बैंक चलते हैं, वहां पिछले पांच साल से, माननीय चिदम्बरम जी जब फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर थे, तब से उन कोऑपरेटिव बैंकों पर इनकम टैक्स लगाया हुआ है, उसको वापस लेना चाहिए। महोदय, गांवों में और शहरों में कोऑपरेटिव को बढ़ावा देने के लिए महात्मा गांधी जी की जो कल्पना थी, उसके कारण वह कोऑपरेटिव का बिजनेस चलता है, इसलिए उसे प्रॉफिट मेकिंग संस्था के तौर पर नहीं देखना चाहिए। वह कोऑपरेटिव मूवमेंट आगे बढ़े, इसलिए इनके बैंकों पर भी जो इनकम टैक्स लगाया गया है, वह वापस होना चाहिए। इसके साथ ही हमारी डिमांड है कि पूरे देश में Evening Courts होने चाहिए। आज सभी courts में बहुत सारे केसेज पेंडिंग हैं, इसलिए पूरे देश में Evening Courts चलाए जाने चाहिए। इसके लिए सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट का लॉ डिपार्टमेंट initiative लें, उनके लिए बजट प्रोविजन करे, ऐसी हमारी डिमांड है।

श्री नमो नारायण मीणा : माननीय उपसभापति जी, आज एप्रोप्रिएशन बिल को इस सदन में विचारार्थ और रिटर्न करने के लिए प्रस्तुत किया गया था। वैसे तो जनरल बजट की बहस में माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने जवाब दे दिया है, लेकिन फाइनेंस बिल इस हाउस में पुनः डिसकशन के लिए आएगा। तब उसमें चर्चा होगी और फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर उसका जवाब देंगे।

महोदय, विभिन्न मंत्रालयों की डिमांड्स के सिलसिले में भी अलग-अलग मंत्रालयों के लिए माननीय सदस्यों ने जो भी queries उठाई थीं, उनके जवाब प्रस्तुत कर दिए गए हैं। आज इस चर्चा में आठ महानुभावों ने अपने विचार रखे हैं। मैंने सबको ध्यानपूर्वक सुना है, सबको नोट किया है और भारत सरकार द्वारा जो विभिन्न योजनाएं चलाई जा रही हैं, उनमें माननीय सदस्यों ने यह अपेक्षा की है कि उनका इम्प्लिमेंटेशन सही हो। बजट पिछले सालों से ज्यादा रखा गया है, अच्छी बात है, लेकिन उसका इम्प्लिमेंटेशन सही हो, डिलीवरी सिस्टम सही हो और अंतिम व्यक्ति जिसके लिए वह है, उसको उसका लाभ पहुंचे - उनकी इस बात से मैं पूर्णतः सहमत हूँ, लेकिन साथ ही मैं यह भी अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि विभिन्न मंत्रालय इन योजनाओं को अपनी गाइडलाइन्स के द्वारा चला रहे हैं और राज्य सरकारें उनको इम्प्लिमेंट कर रही हैं।

लेकिन फिर भी बीच-बीच में हम लोग और सभी माननीय सदस्य अपने-अपने क्षेत्र में जाते हैं। मैं स्वयं भी जब अपने संसदीय क्षेत्र में जाता हूँ तो लोगों से तरह-तरह की शिकायतें मिलती हैं कि implementation में कहीं न कहीं कोई कमी है, इसमें सुधार किया जाना चाहिए - सब मंत्रालयों को भी करना चाहिए, स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को भी करना चाहिए। इस बार हमारी सरकार ने, delivery mechanism सही हो और implementation सही हो, उसके प्रयास किए हैं। रोजगार गारंटी के लिए राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण में ombudsman नियुक्त करने की बात कही गयी है ताकि भ्रष्टाचार की जो शिकायतें होती हैं, उनका तुरंत हल किया जाए और ये योजनाएं सही तरीके से चल सकें। श्री एन.के. सिंह साहब ने कई रिफॉर्म्स के बारे में सुझाव दिए हैं। जैसे scrutiny of the outlays - यह बात बिल्कुल सही है कि जो भी outlays हैं उनकी scrutiny हो। क्या दिया गया, क्या खर्च किया गया, क्यों नहीं खर्च हुआ, यह देखा जाए। इसके साथ ही classification of Government accounts, reforms in banking in general and Reserve Bank in particular और adoption of transparency in Budget-making. ये सब अच्छे सुझाव हैं। इन पर हमारा मंत्रालय विचार करेगा कि क्या कुछ किया जा सकता है। इसके अलावा अन्य सदस्यों ने कई सुझाव दिए। मैंने सब नोट किया है। आपने रोजगार गारंटी के बारे में सुझाव दिए हैं, प्रधान मंत्री सड़क योजना के बारे में सुझाव दिए हैं, विद्युत उत्पादन के बारे में, पीडीएस के बारे में, अकाउंट्स और रिटर्न्स के बारे में सुझाव दिए हैं। इसी प्रकार NREGA के बारे में, Sixth Pay Commission के बारे में और सिंचाई के लक्ष्य पूरे करने के बारे में भी सुझाव दिए हैं। मैं आपको विश्वास दिलाता हूँ कि इन सब पर कार्यवाही होगी और फाइनेंस बिल आपके बीच में आ रहा है, उसमें आप लोगों के और महत्वपूर्ण विचार व्यक्त किए जाएंगे। उपसभापति महोदय, इसी के साथ मैं आपसे अनुरोध करता हूँ कि इसको consider करके return करने का काम करें।

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा) : सर, रूपाणी जी ने गवर्नमेंट इम्प्लाइज़ को पांच परसेंट डीए ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the question is:

That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2009-10, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 4 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, I beg to move:

That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

The increasing obscenity and vulgarity in television programmes being shown on different channels against cultural ethos of the country

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up Short Duration Discussion on the increasing obscenity and vulgarity in television programmes being shown on different channels against cultural ethos of the country. Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad.

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, आपने इस अति लोक महत्व के विषय पर मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया है, इसके लिए मैं आपका कृतज्ञ हूँ। अपनी टिप्पणी आरंभ करने के पहले मेरे जेहन में एक सवाल उठता है कि मैं किस हैसियत से बात करूँ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : फॉर्मर मिनिस्टर की हैसियत से।

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : इस हाउस में अम्बिका सोनी जी हैं जो अभी I&B मिनिस्टर हैं, Leader of Opposition अरुण जेटली जी हैं, वे भी I&B मिनिस्टर रह चुके हैं और मैं भी I&B मिनिस्टर रहा हूँ। हम तीनों में एक और समानता है। मैं पार्टी का राष्ट्रीय प्रवक्ता हूँ। अम्बिका सोनी जी भी पहले मीडिया को सुनाती रही हैं, सुनती रही हैं और झेलती भी रही हैं। अरुण जी का भी बहुत व्यापक अनुभव है, लेकिन इस सबके साथ-साथ हम सभी सांसद हैं। और हम सभी की एक व्यापक जवाबदेही भी बनती है देश के प्रति, समाज के प्रति। संविधान के छात्र के रूप में मैं प्रेस के अधिकारों को समझता हूँ और जब मैं प्रेस की बात करता हूँ, मीडिया की बात करता हूँ, टी.वी. की बात करता हूँ, तो मुझे इस बात का बहुत गर्व है कि भारत में इसका बहुत जबरदस्त विकास हुआ है। We are indeed proud of the great growth of media and television in India. माननीया अम्बिका जी, अगर नए आंकड़े होंगे तो मुझे बताइएगा, यह 2005-2006 की रजिस्ट्रार ऑफ न्यूज पेपर की रिपोर्ट है, जहां तक लगभग मुझे याद है, उसके बाद कोई सर्वे हुआ हो तो बताइएगा। इस देश में लगभग साढ़े बासठ हजार रजिस्टर्ड न्यूज पेपर्स हैं - पीरिओडिकल, वीकली और डेली, जिनकी टोटल रीडरशिप 18 करोड़ है। अगर 5 लोग पढ़ते हैं तो लगभग देश के 60-70 करोड़ लोग प्रिंटेड मेटिरियल्स पढ़ते हैं। लगभग 2130 न्यूज पेपर्स हैं Again correct me if I am wrong. You are the best person to do so. और लगभग आठ करोड़ अठारसी लाख लोग डेली न्यूज पेपर विभिन्न भाषाओं के पढ़ते हैं।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) पीठासीन हुए।]

हिन्दी के न्यूज पेपर के जानने की मैं जो कोशिश करता हूँ, लगभग 712 हिन्दी के न्यूज पेपर हैं, जिनकी रीडरशिप साढ़े सात करोड़ है। अगर हम टेलीविजन की बात लें, तो देश के आसमान में लगभग 325 चैनल घूम रहे हैं। Their signals are there. Correct me if I am wrong. This is what I have heard. All the more good, 480. लगभग 175 हम डाउनलोड करते हैं By the satellite principles and guidelines which we follow. मंत्री महोदया, मुझे फिर करवट करिएगा, जहां तक मेरी जानकारी है कि इस देश में 24 घंटे विभिन्न भाषाओं में 45 न्यूज चैनल्स हैं। अब आपने और दिया होगा तो बताइएगा। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, इस देश में 11 करोड़ टेलीविजन होम हैं - सेटलाइट, केबिल, दूरदर्शन चैनल और अगर एक टी.वी. 5-6 लोग देखते हैं तो इस देश के लगभग 65-70 करोड़ लोग टेलीविजन देखते हैं। अब जो नया डायरेक्ट-टू-होम आया है, उसकी रेंज क्या है शायद उसकी गणना अभी नहीं हुई है। We are very newsy people Television entertainment is rising very fast. और एक नया सिस्टम निकला है No news is local news. जो पहले आधे घंटे में जिले का न्यूज है, वह दूसरे आधे घंटे में स्टेट का न्यूज बनता है और वह तीसरे आधे घंटे में केंद्री का न्यूज बनता है, और अगर उसमें कंटेंट है तो इंटरनेशनल न्यूज बन जाता है। जब मैं आज संसद में बोल रहा हूँ तो मुझे स्वीकार करना पड़ेगा कि हम प्रेस की आजादी के पूरे समर्थक हैं। मेरी पार्टी कमिटेड है दी फ्रीडम ऑफ प्रेस, मैं व्यक्तिगत रूप से भी हूँ। प्रेस को इस बात का अधिकार है कि वह

4.00 P.M.

हमारी आलोचना भी करे और हमें उस आलोचना को स्वीकार करना चाहिए। लोकतंत्र है तो हमें आलोचना करने के अधिकार को देना पड़ेगा। कभी-कभी उनके अन-कंवेंशनल तरीकों पर हमारी आपत्ति होती है, वह चर्चा का विषय आता है। उन्होंने कई एम.पीज. के खिलाफ स्टिंग ऑपरेशन किया, जिन्होंने पैसे लेकर सवाल पूछे थे। लेकिन मैं इसके पॉजिटिव आस्पेक्ट को देखता हूँ, उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, कि यही संसद है जिसने उस अवसर का उपयोग करके अपने उन 11 एम.पीज. को एक्सपेल किया, जिसको सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कांस्टीट्यूशनली वेलिड माना है। तो अगर मीडिया हमारी कमजोरियाँ दिखाता है तो हमको उसका सम्मान भी करना चाहिए। इसलिए मूलतः प्रमाणिक रूप से भारत में जो टेलीविजन का विरोध हुआ है We need to be very proud of that. उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, एक शब्द है - Freedom of media, दूसरा शब्द है right of creativity, तीसरा शब्द है obligation towards society. इनके बीच में क्या रिश्ते हों?

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं अपने मन में एक सवाल पूछता हूँ कि समाज, सरकार, संसद, सर्जना और सेंसर, इसके बीच में क्या रिश्ता हो? यह सवाल एक लोकतंत्र में हमेशा उठता है। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मेरी समझ यह है कि सेंसर की सुई इस प्रकार से नहीं चलनी चाहिए कि सर्जना की सरिता सूख जाए। इसके साथ ही, इतना आवश्यक यह भी है कि सर्जना का अधिकार इतना उच्छृंखल नहीं होना चाहिए कि संस्कारों के सरोवर गंदे हो जाएं। यह basic bench-mark है। Censor should not kill creativity, and the Right of Creativity should not be so irresponsible that it pollutes the time-tested propriety. यह मौलिक बिंदु हमको समझना पड़ेगा, जो बहुत आवश्यक है। लेकिन कई बार लक्ष्मण रेखा का अतिक्रमण होता जाता है। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, अब उसका निदान कौन करेगा, बात यहां पर आती है। मैं बहुत प्रमाणिकता से महसूस करता हूँ कि सरकार की भूमिका इसमें बहुत कम होनी चाहिए। We need to respect the freedom of the media and the Right of Creativity, and the Government should have a minimum role. लेकिन समस्या तो है और जब हम संसद में हैं, अगर देश यह चिंता करता है, तो हमें इसका उत्तर ढूँढना पड़ेगा, इसका क्या उत्तर होगा? इसके पीछे समस्या क्या है? मैं कुछ बातें आज खुलकर कहना चाहता हूँ - मीडिया से भी, क्योंकि मीडिया के लोग हमारे मित्र हैं। आप गलतियों को जरूर निकालिए, लेकिन एक sting operation हुआ एक टीचर अरोड़ा के साथ। उस sting operation के बाद हमने उसको पिटते हुए देखा है। बाद में मालूम हुआ कि वह पूरा sting operation गलत था। क्या हम उसके सम्मान को रेस्टोर कर सके? यह सवाल कहीं न कहीं उठाना पड़ेगा? हम उसके कितनी बड़ी क्षति कर गए, उसकी पूरी प्रतिष्ठा को, सम्मान को, His entire reputation stands completely destroyed before his pupils, before his students, and also before the society. उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, एक कार्यक्रम गुड़िया का था। यह एक चैनल पर आया था। वह मुस्लिम समाज से आती थी। उसका पति शायद गायब हो गया था। उसकी दूसरी शादी हो गयी थी। बाद में उसका पति वापिस आ गया। उसकी शादी का असर क्या है, यह चर्चा में आ गया। मुझे मेरे पत्रकार मित्रों ने बताया कि बाकी चैनल वाले उस चैनल के यहां पहुंच गए, कुछ लोग एफ.आई.आर. कर रहे हैं कि हमको भी गुड़िया मिलनी चाहिए, क्योंकि इस गुड़िया को हम भी दिखाएंगे। आप उस औरत की मानसिक परेशानी को समझिए। How she feels? मुझे याद है कि पटना में हमारे कुछ मित्रों ने धरना-प्रदर्शन में बद कर रखा था और दानापुर के पास,

तारिक अनवर जी, आपने वह कहानी देखी होगी, एक महिला डिलिवरी के लिए जा रही थी और बंद के कारण उसकी डिलीवरी सड़क पर ही हो गई। अब सुबह से शाम तक उस बेचारी महिला की तस्वीर, आपको कैसा लग रहा है, it was down right atrocious; I have not the slightest doubt in saying that. यह क्यों होना चाहिए, यह कब तक होना चाहिए? ये बड़े सवाल हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, जहां एक और मैं इस देश के टेलीविजन के इंटरटेनमेंट और मीडिया की तारीफ करूंगा कि इसने देश में बहुत अच्छे काम किए हैं। आज लोग इंटरटेनमेंट को एप्रिसिएट करना सीख गए। मुझे याद है, मैं टेलीविजन की डिबेट में जाता हूं, जयन्ती और अभिषेक हैं, हां, अभिषेक आज हैं, आज आपको मैं बहुत दिन के बाद देख रहा हूं। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, पहले जब हम टी.वी. डिबेट के लिए जाया करते थे, आपको याद होगा, तो हम लोगों की कोशिश होती थी कि हम लोग दूसरे को बोलने नहीं दें, सिब्ल साहब भी हैं, He has also been an equally important face on television debates. लेकिन देश ने हमसे अपेक्षा की कि आप civilised debate करिए, अपनी पारी का इंतजार करिए और आहिस्ता-आहिस्ता आज देश में हर टेलीविजन की डिबेट का स्तर बढ़ा है। उसी प्रकार से जो प्रोग्राम्स के कंटेंट हैं, उनका भी असर बढ़ा है। अगर कोई प्रोग्राम पूरा होता है, लोग उसको लाइक नहीं करते हैं, लेकिन महोदय, दिक्कत कहां आ रही है, यह बहुत समझने की जरूरत है। दिक्कत यहां आती है कि क्या बिकता है, क्या चलता है, क्या लोग देखना चाहते हैं? अब सवाल पूछिए कि ऐसा क्यों होता है? मुझे याद है, मेरे एक बड़े अच्छे दोस्त थे, जो टेलीविजन के कॉरिस्पोंडेंट थे। वे पॉलिटिकल इश्यूज को कवर करते थे। उन्होंने मुझ से कहा कि रवि जी, मैं दो सपेरो को लेकर आगरा गया था, क्योंकि मुझे दो सांप खोजने थे, जो साथ-साथ नांचते थे। मैंने कहा कि आपको क्या हो गया है? उन्होंने कहा कि क्या बोलूं, आजकल यही बिकता है, इसलिए खोज कर रहा था। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सबसे बड़ी चिंता यही है और इससे बड़ा सवाल यह उठता है, लोग कहते हैं कि ये लोग देखना चाहते हैं। इसके साथ यह सवाल उठता है कि आप दिखाना क्या चाहते हैं? आपको किसने यह अधिकार दे दिया कि देश क्या देखना चाहता है और इसकी सही समझ आपको ही है। They are important issues. We need to understand them. महोदय, जो मैंने समझा है, वह यह है कि इस पूरे घालमेल के पीछे जो एक सबसे बड़ी परेशानी है, वह है TRP की राजनीति, the politics of Television Rating Points. जो आज सबसे अधिक अन-साइंटिफिक तरीके से हो रहा है। कोई कहता है कि हमारा चैनल सबसे बड़ा तेज चैनल है, तो कैसे है? आज की TRP में हमारा प्वाइंट ऊपर है, तो दूसरा कहता है कि उनकी TRP का प्वाइंट एक बजे तक ऊपर था, तीन बजे के बाद हम ऊपर चले गए हैं। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आज इस हाउस को बड़ी नम्रता से यह बताना चाहता हूं कि The greatest fraud is being played on the country in the management of the TRP; and I say so with full sense of responsibility. यह देश कोई 110 या 112 करोड़ का है। यहां एक या दो प्राइवेट एजेंसीज हैं। उन्होंने कहां से यह अधिकार प्राप्त कर लिया और देश में कुछ हजार मीटर्स रख लिए तथा कुछ शहरों में रख दिए। बस, उनको यह मोनोपली मिल गई कि हम यह तय करेंगे कि इनकी रेटिंग A है और इनकी रेटिंग B है। जब आपकी रेटिंग अच्छी होगी, तो आपको विज्ञापन मिलेगा। रेटिंग अच्छी करने के लिए आई बॉल चाहिए। आई बॉल करने के

लिए बस, यही बिकता है। This is the whole unfortunate nexus. मुझे मालूम है कि हमारे टेलीविजन में काम करने वाले एक से एक अच्छे लोग हैं। हमारे न्यूज चैनल्स में एक से अच्छे लोग हैं, जो देश को यह बताना चाहते हैं कि देश कैसे आगे बढ़ रहा है तथा देश कहां उलझ रहा है? उनके पास इसकी एक से एक स्टोरी है, लेकिन उनसे कहा जाता है कि आपकी स्टोरी बिकती नहीं है, क्योंकि इसमें TRP नहीं है। That is the real problem. उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे आज तक याद है कि एक चैनल का एक कार्यक्रम था कि इस देश के दलितों की स्थिति कैसी है? I remember that programme, a five-day programme, on the rights of our oppressed people, one symbol. उत्तर प्रदेश के किसी गांव की कहानी थी कि वह दलित साइकिल से आ रहा था और एक घर के सामने वह साइकिल से उतर गया। He would ride on that cycle even after 60 years of independence. जब वह उस घर को पार कर जाएगा फिर वह साइकिल चलाएगा। यह एक इतना रचनात्मक शोर्ट था, हमने कहा कि यह उन्होंने देश की एक बहुत बड़ी समस्या को किस तरीके से उठाया है। मुझे मालूम है कि हर चैनल में बहुत अच्छा काम करने वाले लोग हैं, लेकिन बिकता नहीं है। सर, आज सबसे बड़ी बात इस देश को सोचनी है, संसद को सोचनी है और मंत्री जी मैं इस पर आपका उत्तर चाहूंगा कि What steps are you taking to undo this wholly non-transparent TRP business going on in this country? What is their accountability? Who has created it? What is their legal sanctity? All these things are required to be taken note of. मैं बिहार से आता हूं और कई लोग बंगाल से आते हैं तथा यहां पर असम से भी लोग हैं। वहां पर एक भी डिब्बा नहीं है। यदि पटना में दो-तीन मिल जाएं तो बड़ी गनीमत होगी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उत्तर प्रदेश का वही हाल है, कांशी में नहीं हैं, असम में नहीं है और लखनऊ में नहीं है, लेकिन मुम्बई में होगा, दिल्ली में होगा क्योंकि विज्ञापन का सारा केन्द्र मुम्बई है, दिल्ली है। यहां पर विज्ञापन बनते हैं। यदि विज्ञापन चलाना है तो आई बॉल चाहिए। यदि आई बॉल चाहिए तो दिखाना है। यह वेस्टेड नेक्सेस बन गया है। मंत्री जी, मैं स्पष्ट करना चाहूंगा, मैंने साफ कहा है कि मैं किसी सरकारी हस्तक्षेप के पक्ष में नहीं हूं, But it is high time you should have a law, have an autonomous regulator to determine the TRP of all the channels in the country by a proper support of law and we are willing to support you. यह मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूं। आज देश में हमें गर्व होना चाहिए कि हिंदुस्तान में इतने चैनल्स हैं। उनका रेट ऑफ ग्रॉथ फिफ्टीन परसेंट है We are proud of that growth. आज हिंदुस्तान के टेलीविजन के अच्छे प्रोग्राम वर्ल्ड के बेस्ट प्रोग्राम्स में आते हैं। इसके बारे में ईमानदारी से सोचना पड़ेगा और देश को फैसला करना पड़ेगा कि एक ऑटोनॉमस रेग्युलेटर हो, उसमें मीडिया के भी लोग रहें, वे लोग न्याय हित में हों, वे टी.आर.पी. तय करें। मैं सोचता हूं कि यह पूरी TRP मंथ टू मंथ तय होनी चाहिए, प्रोग्राम वाइज, डे वाइज और ऑवर वाइज नहीं तय होनी चाहिए। This creates the biggest vested interest. हम चाहेंगे कि आप इस दिशा में कुछ प्रमाणिकता से फैसला करें। एक और समस्या है ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप मुझे पांच मिनट का समय दीजिए, बड़ी कृपा होगी, मैं बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बात कहने जा रहा हूं। एक विज्ञापन की समस्या है। माननीय अंबिका सोनी जी, आपका जो रूल है, आपको याद होगा कि केवल कंडक्ट्स रूल के अंतर्गत आप एक घंटे में सिर्फ बारह मिनट का विज्ञापन दिखा सकते हैं। आपको पता है कि विज्ञापन कितनी देर दिखाया जाता है। अकसर विज्ञापन का जो मामला

है मुझे याद है, मैं उन दिनों पद पर था, दो-तीन विज्ञापनों को लेकर बहुत चिंता हुई। वह मैंने नोटिस किया, उन्होंने कहा कि एडवरटाइमेंट कौंसिल, उनकी एक अंदर की बॉडी है, वह इसे देखती है। जब यह विषय अखबार में आया तो एडवरटाइजमेंट कौंसिल के एक अवकाश प्राप्त सचिव ने मुझे पत्र लिखा कि मंत्री जी, एडवरटाइजमेंट कौंसिल कुछ नहीं करती। जब तक वह नोटिस करती है, जवाब आता है, तब तक विज्ञापन का एक साल का कोर्स खत्म हो जाता है। Some of the advertisements are very good. जो मुझे सबसे ज्यादा भाता है, वह एक फोन कंपनी का विज्ञापन है, जिसमें एक छोटा कुत्ता, एक छोटी लड़की के साथ होता है, यह हाइट ऑफ क्रिएटिविटी है। उसके साथ ही साथ कितने भदे विज्ञापन आते हैं, जो भारतीय महिलाओं के प्रति कितना बड़ा अन्याय है, मैं उनके लिए शब्दों का प्रयोग नहीं कर सकता हूँ। इन विज्ञापनों में कोई क्रिएटिविटी नहीं होती है। मंत्री जी आप जानती होंगी कि It is plain and simple commerce to promote good. इसलिए उसके बारे में जरूर विचार करना पड़ेगा। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मुझे आपसे दो-तीन बातें और कहनी हैं। यह जो ऑब्सेनिटी की बात करते हैं, समय बदला है तो हमें समय के अनुसार बदलना पड़ेगा, जैसे इस देश में लगभग सिकसटी परसेंट से प्लस यूथ हैं। यूथ हैं तो उनके पांव थिरकेंगे और संसद में बैठकर हम कभी यह न सोचें कि हम नौजवानों को उनके पांव थिरकने से रोकेंगे, लेकिन इससे बड़ा एक और विषय है कि यह देश क्या सोचता है। मैं आपको एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ कि 1995-96 के दशक में हिंदी फिल्मों में डबल मीनिंग वाले गानों को लिखने का एक चलन हो गया था। वे गाने इतने फूहड़ हैं कि मैं उनको सदन के पटल पर रखने की हिम्मत नहीं कर सकता हूँ। अच्छे-अच्छे गीतकार इंदीवर सरीखे गीतकार भी खटिया सरका रहे थे, ऐसे गाने लिख रहे थे। उसी समय जावेद अख्तर साहब ने 1942, ए लव स्टोरी में एक गाना लिखा, एक लड़की को देखा तो ऐसा लगा, जैसे खिलता गुलाब, It was the height of romantic creativity. वह गाना देश में लोकप्रिय हो गया। यह इतना लोकप्रिय हुआ कि पूरे देश में इसे गुनगुना रहे थे। मैं अपने मित्रों से कहूंगा कि यही हिंदुस्तान है। इस हिंदुस्तान के सही मर्म को समझना जरूरी है। मैं आजकल देखता हूँ कि नए प्रोग्राम आते हैं, नए टी.वी. आते हैं, नया चैनल आता है तो कहते हैं कि आप हमारे यहां रामायण देखिए, दूसरा चैनल कहता है आप हमारे यहां कृष्ण देखिए, उनकी टी.आर.पी. बढ़ती है, विज्ञापन भी मिलता है। एक चैनल अपने यहां मीराबाई को दिखाने की कोशिश कर रहा है, लोग देख रहे हैं। इतनी बड़ी संख्या में spiritual चैनल्स आए हैं, उनकी रेटिंग कितनी बड़ी है। आज रामदेव बाबा योग दिखाते हैं, उनकी रेटिंग कितनी बढ़ी है, लेकिन होता क्या है कि टेलीविजन की पूरी डिबेट has gone haywire. आप कभी सार्थक चर्चा भी कीजिए तो आप मीडिया के राइट को कंट्रोल कर रहे हैं, आप फ्रीडम ऑफ प्रेस को कंट्रोल कर रहे हैं। मेरे ख्याल से यह दृष्टिकोण ठीक नहीं है। मैं बहुत विनम्रता से अपने मीडिया के लोगों से कहना चाहूंगा कि हम उनके पूरे अधिकारों का सम्मान करते हैं, लेकिन जब हम संसद में बैठते हैं तो हमारी जवाबदेही देश के प्रति बनती है। हो सकता है कि आज मेरी कई टिप्पणियां तीखी लगी होंगी, हो सकता है कि शाम को कई चैनल्स पर मेरा चेहरा दिखाया जाएगा, लेकिन शायद मेरी जवाबदेही देश के प्रति भी बनती है और अगर हमारी मीडिया के मित्र, एंटरटेनमेंट के मित्र उस जवाबदेही को समझेंगे तो मैंने चिंतन के लिए जो बात कही है, वे उसका स्वागत करेंगे, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, on this particular topic of media and

its self-control, I would like to say that as a democratic country, we are giving a lot of freedom to the people as well as the media. The survival of democracy is in the hands of the media. The media has to impart proper knowledge to the people. If they understand the people's mood, and if they work on what is needed for the country, then, the country will develop. But, taking advantage of the freedom, which is given in the Constitution, and interpreting article 19 (2), that freedom of expression allows everybody to say whatever they like. It would then mean there should be a law to curtail it. But the laws, which are available with us now, are very vague in every respect. If we look at Sections 292 and 293 of the Indian Penal Code, it gives a lot of exemptions, justifiably for public good; for example, those in the interest of science, literature, art of learning, or, for *bona fide* religious purposes, or, any ancient monument, within the meaning of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, or, any temple, or, any car used for the conveyance of idols. This is a basic structure-on which our democracy has been built even before the colonial countries had occupied our nation. It is no doubt that every temple, Hindu temple, is depicting various postures. The Konarak Temple, which is one of the major attractions for all the tourists, is the best example. But it is a part of science. People have to explain to the ordinary persons who may not have the advantage of knowing what sex is. But it should be confined to only those persons who need it. But when they make things available in every aspect, and advertise certain things in order to sell their product, which is in no way connected with sex at all — they include sexual words and pictures in it — we have to find out under what definition they are doing it. If you take the Information and Technology Act, Section 67 allows publishing or transmission. It is not clearly defined. At the same time, it has given the punishment period of 5 years to 10 years and a fine of Rs.2 lakhs for violation of the law under Section 67. If you take the Indian Penal Code, the punishment is only for two years and a fine of Rs.2,000 or Rs.5,000. These are all contradictions under which we are having laws. Now, when there is a contradiction, what is the definition that we take? There is no definition at all in our law. But, when we look at the definition of the U.S., the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statute defines it in Section 5909. It says, "The average person applying contemporary community standards would find that the subject matter taken, as a whole, appeals to the prudent interest." This is a definition given by the Americans. If we take the definition of an Eastern country, say, Japan, article 175 of the Constitution says, "It aroused and stimulated sexual desire, offended a common sense of modesty or shame and violated proper concepts of sexual morality." The U.K. defines it in the Obscene Publication Act, 1959, using the words "deprived and corrupt". These are the words which we have also borrowed when we amended the Act in 1969.

Sir, the Supreme Court of Canada, talking about undue exploitation holds that the dominant test should be the community standard. However, it is the standard of tolerance, not taste, that is relevant. South Africa's definition talks about (a) child pornography (b) explicit violent sexual conduct (c) bestiality. In that way, every country has its own definitions. The European Convention

of Human Rights says, the definition must be clear, contextually sensitive and responsive to the progress in the knowledge and understanding of the phenomenon towards which the legislation is directed. Vagueness is dangerous.

Sir, it is high time that we brought in a proper law. We need not ban everything because we do not have the right to choose channels. It is in the hands of the common man to make a choice with channels. But we can have one test. If the grandfather, grandmother, daughter, son and grandchildren can all sit together in their living room and watch television and if all that they are watching is acceptable, then there is no question of obscenity. Thank you, Sir.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, this is a very important topic and I express my appreciation to the Chair for giving us time to discuss it.

When it was known, Sir, that we are going to have such a discussion, I heard several commentators on television asking the question: Is it the right of Members of Parliament to decide what viewers are going to watch on television? It is not the job of parliamentarians to decide what channel, viewers are going to watch. But Sir, I think, when there is such an outrageous violation of certain minimum norms which have been set up, both in the Constitution and in various laws prevailing in India, it is certainly the duty of parliamentarians to discuss it and suggest remedial measures, and particularly so, when, as my colleague, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, has said, certain channels descend to the lowest depths while chasing TRPs. Of course, there are exceptions.

Sir, as a participant in women's movements, which for several decades now have been fighting against assault on the dignity of women, the aspects which I would like to focus upon are the portrayal in sections of the media, demeaning women, treating women as sex objects, commodifying women's bodies. These are aspects, Sir, about which we have laws in this country but which are being flagrantly violated. It is this which I object to. There are, at present two types of portrayals of women which, I think, are objectionable. The first is, as I said, which treats women as sex objects. The second is that which assaults a woman's dignity by portraying her in an extremely submissive, subordinate and passive role; a woman who in the name of self-sacrifice and sacrifice for the family, or in the name of some cultural constructs, permits the worst kind of atrocities against herself and her own body. That also, Sir, is extremely demeaning to women. We have seen serials which show a woman who is a victim of rape falling at the feet of the rapist and saying that she would be helped if he marries her. This is also very demeaning. The reason why these kinds of images of women are being portrayed — it is not of academic interest — but it is directly related to public behaviour and public approach towards women. We cannot deny the huge reach and power to influence minds that

the television has. Sir, studies have shown, both internationally and in our own country, the influence that such portrayals of women have in shaping public approaches to women.

And that is why, it is of direct interest that a control should be put on this. My party, Sir, and the Women's Organisation — I have been associated with the All-India Democratic Women's Association — have made it very clear. We are entirely against any type of Government censorship. In the name of censorship to censor channels, and, particularly, news channels, is abhorrent to the minimum norms of democracy. We are opposed to it. We are also opposed to the Government taking on itself the role of the upholder of the so-called morality. I am opposed to any kind of moral policing. But, I want to differentiate between moral policing in the name of culture and the dignity of women, the integrity of women's bodies and the commodification of women. Therefore, what I believe and what is required today is, what the Supreme Court had suggested many, many years ago, and with so many recommendations have come to the Government, *i.e.*, to set up a public authority, set up an independent regulatory authority with representatives of the public who can decide a code of conduct. I can tell you very clearly that the media has utterly failed in any type of self-regulation. And it is this utter failure of the media in self-regulation, it is the utter failure of these bodies set up and the associations set up by the media — whether it is the Advertising Council of India, whether it is the Indian Broadcasters' Federation, whether it is the News Broadcasters' Federation to implement their mandate, to have some kind of self-regulation that today Parliament is forced to have a discussion like this, and to say, "No more. We are not going to tolerate this assault on women's dignity; we are not going to tolerate this promotion of obscurantism, this promotion of superstition, this promotion of caste-based identities which are harmful to oppressed castes, which treat with contempt poor people". This kind of thing, Sir, is abhorrent to public broadcasting and, therefore, we believe it is time the Government should come up with an independent regulatory authority, and I stand here today to forcefully make that demand.

The second point I want to make in this is, my friend has given many examples of what is happening today, which are very, very accurate and correct. But, you look at advertising today in this country, Sir. It seems that these advertisers have absolutely no code whatsoever. You look at the recent advertisements which have come for male deodorants. I mean, they are just absolutely shocking and obscene, and they make an absolute mockery of woman's sexuality. I am not against the depiction of woman's sexuality. You see it in Khajuraho; you see it in Konark. That does not undignify women. But, here you have an expression of woman's sexuality which is nothing but sensationalism; nothing but the use of women's bodies and nothing but titillation. It is absolutely

outright objectionable. And all these advertisements which utilise women's bodies from selling soap, to cars, to computers, there has to be some limit, Sir. The Advertising Council of India has this Consumer Council. I know it because we have made so many complaints to it. How many complaints have not made on behalf of my organisation? Only recently, we have made two complaints. We have made a complaint about 'Fair and Lovely'. Why? It is because it is a racist ad. In a country like India, you are trying to demean people who have a dark skin; you are promoting fairness; and you are promoting fairness by the use of chemicals which are hazardous, apart from everything else. This was several years ago, Sir. I had made a complaint. They set up some mechanism, but, till date, those ads are continuing. So, in this type of advertising code, I am afraid to say, the Council has utterly failed and the Government has also utterly failed because the Government had set up a Committee. That Committee, Sir, had various representatives of various sections. My organisation, AIDWA was also represented on it.

It has given its report; I mean, it was a very partial report, I do not agree fully with it. But, there are some very important recommendations that committee has made. The Government is sitting on it for the last two years. What is the use of setting up a committee to look at code of conduct if you are not bothered to implement at least some of the recommendations which may be very positive?

Then, one more thing I want to talk about, on news channels. Our news channels have a certain element of support because there should be no censorship on news. Just now, I was sitting in the Central Hall of Parliament. I do not want to mention the news channel because I am not specifically targeting or pointing to this or that news channel. There, it says, so and so, नीचे लिखा है News. What is being shown on that channel, right now? 'Belly dancing' with women who have very little clothes on. Now, since when this belly dancing, depicting women with very little clothes on constitutes news? The point is, even as far as news is concerned, this is the manipulation of news to utilise women's bodies, to push up the TRP ratings. This exactly is what I say, Sir, highly objectionable. Within this also, something is probably more shocking and, that is, the use of children and use of children's bodies. I have seen, Sir, video films made, picturisation of songs. It is very good to see picturisation of songs, they are good, they make you happy and they are very entertaining. But, there must be some standards on picturisation of songs. You have young women attired in school uniform, thereby showing them, as school girls, depicting themselves to attract the male gaze in a way which is really harmful and damaging to the young mind. Is this something we can accept or tolerate in the name of freedom of the channels to project what they want to project?

I had earlier made this point and I want to reiterate by quoting a survey which we have done. We had gone to Delhi University and Amity University. We had a 500 questionnaire. We questioned young boys and girls of equal number. You will be surprised to find. We had the list of some of the TV programmes which we felt were highly objectionable. Some advertisements were really demeaning to women. 80 per cent of the girls we spoke to felt that they were really demeaning and should be

scrapped. But, unfortunately, the large majority of young men who were interviewed felt the exact opposite. Some of the comments that they made were so revealing because their feeling was that girls want to be portrayed in that way and, therefore, it was permissible. So, in other words, you are projecting a picture as though young women in this country or women in this country equate modernity with the number of men that you can sexually attract! This is how minds and frameworks and mentalities are formed. Is this what modernity is going to be about? Is this the projection of modernity which is going to help young people to understand? So, this is what is extremely objectionable, Sir.

Therefore, I would like to reiterate that firstly we are not for moral policing. We know, in the name of culture, the most retrograde codes are imposed on women whether it is the dress code or behavioural codes; I am not, in the least, in support of any type of moral policing from any quarter. But, at the same time, this kind of freedom which is there today, used and misused by TV channels and by many newspapers should be put to an end by setting up this regulatory authority.

Sir, my last example, and I am very sorry that I have to do this; I feel a bit embarrassed also to bring this up in the House, in front of so many of my male colleagues. But, the reason I want to do this is because it is not just fly-by-night television operators who are here today and gone tomorrow. Sir, this is one of the most respected and read national newspapers. This newspaper on June 29, and I am going to lay this on the Table of the House, — has got a page which is "Evergreen Legends of Dilli". And what are these evergreen legends of Delhi, Sir? You excuse me, Sir, and my colleagues may excuse me if I just talk about this. ...*(Interruptions)*... All my colleagues, yes. ...*(Interruptions)*... What it says is that 'continuing the traditional art of bottom pinching in buses, despite all odds. For being undeterred by age, caste, creed. For the supreme ability to keep a poker face along with his twitching fingers for leaving his mark behind on society'. And for those who are nominated they are going to give award to two people. This is nothing but encouraging sexual harassment of women in buses. How can we permit such a thing? I demand, Sir, the Government launches criminal prosecution against those responsible for this. It is absolutely outrageous. It is not an advertisement; it is a programme, which is being run by this national newspaper in which they are giving awards for encouraging sexual harassment. It is absolutely disgusting and outrageous and I certainly demand that the Government and our very sensitive Minister - I do not know whether it will come under the Law Ministry or the Home Ministry or some other Ministry - to please look at this, take action against it and make an example of people who want to try and add humour to an act which is most degrading and objectionable to women. I strongly object to it, Sir, and I hope that the Government will do something about it. Thank you.

श्री कमाल अख्तर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। आज पूरे देश के अंदर सांस्कृतिक मूल्यों के विरोध में, टीवी चैनल्स में बढ़ती हुई अश्लीलता और मर्यादाओं के उल्लंघन, जैसे महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर संसद के अंदर चर्चा हो रही है। सर, रवि शंकर जी ने और वृंदा जी ने, सब

लोगों ने इस पर अपनी बातें कहीं, मैं उनकी बातों से इतिहास करता हूँ कि हम लोग टीवी चैनल्स या मीडिया की आजादी के खिलाफ नहीं हैं। हम लोग यह मानते हैं कि आज देश के विकास में उनका बहुत महत्वपूर्ण योगदान है। एक जमाना था कि जब दिल्ली या मुम्बई में कोई घटना होती थी तो गांव के अंदर उसकी सूचना पहुंचने में और उसे लोगों के सुनने में दो-दो, तीन-तीन दिन लगते थे। आज यह मीडिया और टीवी चैनल्स की बदौलत है कि लोगों के बैठने में, उठने में, पहनने में और सारी चीजों में परिवर्तन हुए हैं। आज देश के अंदर राजनीतिक या किसी भी प्रकार की छोटी से छोटी घटना भी होती है तो उसकी सूचना चंद सेकंड्स के अंदर गांवों तक लोगों के बीच में पहुंच जाती है। हम लोगों को यह भी मानना चाहिए कि इस भारत के अंदर, इस हिंदुस्तान के अंदर मर्यादा पुरुषोत्तम राम, भगवान कृष्ण, अशफाकउल्ला खॉं, मौलाना अबुल कलाम आजाद, चंद्रशेखर और भगत सिंह जैसे लोगों के आचरण, उनके सिद्धांतों और उनकी नीतियों पर चलने वाले लोग भी हैं। हमने उनसे सीखा है, उनको पढ़ा है, उनके उसूलों को पढ़ा है। आजादी के नाम पर यह नहीं हो सकता। हम लोगों ने यहां पर 22 तारीख को एक मुद्रा रखा था। हम लोग Reality Shows या TV Serials के खिलाफ नहीं हैं, लेकिन आज Reality Shows और TV Serials के नाम पर हमारी मर्यादाओं, नीतियों, सिद्धांतों, हमारे बुजुर्गों ने हमें जो आचरण दिए और हमारे लोगों ने इस देश के अंदर रहने का जो एक कायदा-कानून बनाया, उसके साथ खिलवाड़ हो रहा है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इसके ऊपर आपको गंभीरता से सोचना पड़ेगा। आपने देखा होगा कि आज इस तरह के serials बनाये जा रहे हैं, आप लोगों ने इसी संसद के अंदर कानून बनाया और हम सभी लोग बाल विवाह के विरोधी हैं। हम यह कहते हैं कि बाल विवाह नहीं होना चाहिए, लेकिन आज इस चीज को serials के माध्यम से, "बालिका-वधू" के नाम से पूरी तरह से महिमा मंडित किया जा रहा है। जब उनसे इसके बारे में पूछा गया तो उन्होंने बताया कि यह कार्यक्रम बाल विवाह के विरोध में है।

सर, आज जहां लोग अपने TV Channels से देशभक्ति की फिल्में देखकर देशभक्ति की प्रेरणा लेते हैं, reality shows से अच्छे-अच्छे गायक और talented लोग निकलकर आते हैं, वहीं बालिका वधू, इस जंगल से मुझे बचाओ, सच का सामना और ऐसे-ऐसे प्रोग्राम्स हैं, जिनको मैं इस सदन में बोल नहीं सकता, वह असंसदीय कहलाएगा। लेकिन, मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन reality shows को तो छोड़ दीजिए, मैं अपने मीडिया के साथियों से कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो हमारे समाचार चैनल्स हैं, उनमें भी एक-आध देखा जाता है कि न्यूज खत्म होने के बाद जिस तरह के advertisement आज दिए जाते हैं, मैं मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि कोई भी सज्जन आदमी, हिन्दुस्तान का कोई भी बुजुर्गों में आस्था रखने वाला आदमी, उस चीज को बर्दाश्त नहीं करना चाहता। मैं बोलना तो नहीं चाहता, लेकिन मुझे इसलिए बोलना पड़ रहा है ताकि देश को पता चलना चाहिए कि वे कितना गलत कहते हैं। एक TV Channel में समाचार के बाद एक महिला फोन उठाती है और दूसरी महिला से पूछती है कि कैसे हुआ, कब हुआ, कितने घंटे हो गए। वह बोली कि अभी दस घंटे हो गए। तो दूसरी बोलती है कि 72 घंटे के अंदर इस गोली को ले लो, गर्भ का कोई खतरा नहीं है। इस तरह के अगर advertisement दिए जाएंगे तो बताइए कि किस तरह का प्रभाव लोगों पर और हमारी आने वाली जनरेशन पर जाएगा?

सर, मैं मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि गांव के अंदर हम लोग देखते हैं कि मेला, उर्स लगते हैं। मेले के अंदर अगर कोई भी नोटंकी या डांस पार्टी लगाना चाहता है तो उससे कहा जाता है कि आप पहले DM या SDM से अनुमति लेकर आइए। उन्हें इसलिए अनुमति नहीं दी जाती कि वहां पर सेंसर से पास हुए गानों पर नाच-गाना होता

है, शांति भंग होने का खतरा होता है और उससे लोगों में गलत संदेश जाता है। लेकिन, सर, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि अभी एक TV Channel पर मैं गया, वहाँ पर बहस चल रही थी, बहस में उन्होंने कहा कि अगर आपको यह channel पसंद नहीं है तो आपको इसे बंद कर देना चाहिए। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह एक channel नहीं है, इस तरह के ऐसे-ऐसे और इतने channels हैं कि अगर उन channels को आप बंद करेंगे तो लोग TV देखना बंद कर देंगे।

एक यह बात मैं आपके संज्ञान में लाना चाहता हूँ कि एक VH Music Channel है, जिसमें Night Live NEWS होता है और उसमें पिछले Saturday की रात को, उस प्रोग्राम में भारत के झंडे का कलर पीछे करके उस पर बड़े-बड़े अक्षरों में लिखा जाता है - The Biggest Condom. सर, यह कितनी घटिया बात है।

सर, हम लोग मंत्री जी से यह कहना चाहते हैं कि न तो हम लोग reality shows के खिलाफ हैं, न हम serials के खिलाफ हैं, लेकिन जब ये पास किए जाते हैं, जब इस तरह के प्रोग्राम्स जनता के बीच में प्रसारित होने के लिए जाते हैं, तो कम से कम कोई ऐसी समिति बनाएं या उनको इस प्रकार से सेंसर जरूर करें, ताकि जो ये अश्लील बातें हैं, अश्लील विचार हैं, ये हमारे नौजवानों या समाज के बीच में न जाएं, जिससे उन पर गलत असर पड़े। हमारा सिर्फ इतना ही अनुरोध है कि और जो इस तरह के कार्यक्रम आपकी निगाह में हैं, अभी आपने नोटिस लिया है, आप ऐसे channels के खिलाफ, ऐसे कार्यक्रमों के खिलाफ कड़ाई से कदम उठाएं, ताकि वे इस समाज के अंदर अश्लीलता न फैला पाएं। मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि सरकार इस ओर ध्यान देगी।

आपने मुझे बोलने का समय दिया, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

DR. K. MALAISAMY (Tamil Nadu): Thank you very much, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I appreciate the sponsors instrumental for bringing this topic for discussion because it is very much the felt need of the society and it is more timely also. In other words, a right topic has been chosen at a right time. My job is pretty easy, particularly, after listening to Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad and Shrimati Brinda Karat. They have done enough justice to their job.

Coming to the subject, any place on earth has got its own origin, history, culture, character, etc. in the same way, India has got its unique features in terms of its own culture and character. Sir, particularly, I have got the greatest appreciation for our Hindu family system, hospitality, character and culture in which a family has been built. I have also got the greatest appreciation of how our children are brought up, how elders are respected by children, etc. It is unique to India alone. We have borrowed so many things from other countries. If we borrow right things, it is well and good. But, at the same time, the Western countries' cultural invasion over India has done the greatest damage. I mean, this is very much , instrumental because of our media.

Sir, yourself and the entire House knew that the Indian democracy stands on three pillars — Executive, Legislature and Judiciary — operating through bureaucracy and assisted by the Fourth Estate. Sir, the Fourth Estate, namely media, is a very important tool in our democracy. Media has been playing its role in several ways. We appreciate the other ways. But, it has done the greatest

damage to the society as rightly pointed out by our colleagues spoken earlier. A man is said to be fully grown only when his body is grown, his mind is grown and his soul is grown, Unless body, mind and soul are grown together, man is not complete. We look at it in this way. On the one hand, due to media's influence, man's body is out, health is out, mind is out and soul is out. I do not like to go into the details at all. And, on the other, serials, advertisements and other features, in T.V. which have been explained by our friends, have been doing the greatest damage to our society. This is how I look at it. As rightly said by Shri Sudarsana Natchiappan, the law is inadequate. The hon. Minister and the officials concerned may try to say that we have got this law, we have got this system and all that. But, according to me, whatever may be the system in existence, whatever measure that we are taking, they are all inadequate and ineffective. This is the first point.

Secondly, Sir, for any objective to be achieved, one should have organisation, manpower and operation. According to me, your organisation or your operation is inadequate to meet the situation. You have got legislation only for the name sake. What is the use of any law which confines itself only to paper? It should be effectively implemented. There has to be an effective law and it should be implemented effectively. Sir, unless law is rigorously implemented, unless persons are given deterrent punishment and the violators are dealt with severely, things cannot improve. In short, what I am trying to say is, law should be effective and the system to implement that law should be much more effective. On the whole, the society needs that Television channels should be disciplined to the extent, that our character and culture is safeguarded. Thank you.

Sir, you should thank me, because, today, I have completed my speech much earlier than the time allotted to me. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): You have not done that. What you have done is: you have taken up the speeches of both, Brindaji and Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad. Your points are also there. You have also taken their points, I heard them. Anyway, thank you for sticking to the time. I Will be very happy if you behave like this every time.

SHRI SHYAM BENEGAL (Nominated): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I have heard with great interest the earlier speakers. There is very little to disagree with them, except, I think, the conclusions drawn are not something that I would entirely endorse because I believe that the Government has really very little role in all this. Essentially, culture is dynamic. The whole process is evolving. What was culturally unacceptable, yesterday, is culturally acceptable today. And, what was culturally acceptable, yesterday, is maybe culturally unacceptable today. So, it is a constantly changing pattern. When it comes to television. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Benegalji, isn't there is something basic?

SHRI SHYAM BENEGAL: Yes, there is. For instance, you have classic culture; you have folk culture; you have popular cultures; you have mass cultures. Now, the fact is that until the middle of 20th century, you really did not think in terms of mass culture. Today, you have to think in terms of mass culture. And, this mass culture is made possible, essentially, because of the kind of technology that we have today. For instance, television is part of this mass culture. The manner, in which television functions, is incredible. We know that it has enormous power because it reaches everybody. To me, the important thing here is really the fact that it is a social medium. Because it is a social medium, there has to be a sense of social responsibility. Now, this is where really the problem really exists. In our country, I can tell you, like, for instance, we have had the Censor Board for cinema for many years. And, I do not believe that the Censor Board is actually an effective way of regulation because it has not functioned efficiently in all these many years. It has not functioned well at all. We have a certain kind of sense of cord. Obviously, that sense of cord is, essentially, based on ideas that can be interpreted very subjectively. In any case, for instance, in matters of culture, in matters of taste, it is a question of my word against yours. I do not believe that there can actually be an objective way of judging these things. It is a question of I like it or I don't like it; or, somebody likes it and other's don't. But, this whole debate has started because of a few programmes that are being shown on television. Now, this particular set of programmes, as you well know, have been directly taken from television, outside our country, that is, from American television. For instance Sach ka Saamna is nothing but a copy of something, called, "Moment of Truth". 'Moment of Truth' has been showing even in India over a long period of time. Nobody objected to it. It is strange that nobody objected to it because it is as though we are not offended if some foreigner demeans himself or herself. But we suddenly get affected when our own people demean themselves. Ultimately, what is this particular programme? This programme is simply, like, say, "I will give you so much money, if you strip naked in public". This is what the programme is all about. It is a very simple thing. This programme is demeaning to human being as such; it is a terrible thing; it is a terrible kind of programme and concept. If anybody says, "Yes, it has got very high TRPs. Obviously, it will have very high TRP. It is a simple thing. If there is an accident on the road, who does not want to watch that? Everybody does that. If there is an act of extreme violence, who does not watch that? Everybody watches that. Day-before-yesterday or yesterday, we saw on television a lady being stripped and people were just watching, doing nothing but watching, just spectating. Now, this kind of spectating is involuntary. It is not voluntary. People do not do it by choice. Similarly, pornography is also the same thing. It is demeaning. After you have seen something like that your own sense of self-esteem disappears. People do these things in private. For instance, if you go to a cyber cafe,

you have young people, teenagers, on one side, and you have a dirty old men on the other side watching porn sites. I don't particularly worry about that because they are individuals and they are doing it in private on which you cannot legislate anything at all.

It is a very simple thing. Television is a social medium and if it is a social medium, it means that it is going to be watched by public at large, often families; it is family viewing and 90 per cent of the time, it is family viewing. But, even then, I do not believe that the Government has any serious role to play in this. I think, what needs to be done is, we need to create regulatory, self-regulatory body. That self-regulatory body of the Broadcasting Council or whatever, needs to have an equal number of people from civil society. I do not at all believe that you need to have Government people on it. I don't think the Government people should really be involved in all this. I believe that you need to have a regulatory body which consists of people from the industry itself, television industry itself, and, on the other side, you should have a group of people who happen to be members of the civil society. I also believe that the casting vote should be in the hands of a person belonging to civil society. I think, that is the most important thing. Otherwise, I don't think we can get rid of it, and, I certainly don't believe that the Government has any serious role to play in this. I can immediately tell you that from 1928 we have had the Film Censor Board. Can we say that it has succeeded? It hasn't succeeded because if you look at the history of the last 10 or 15 years, you will find that the Censor Board, which has quasi-judicial powers, will actually give a Censor Certificate to a film. But then one or another political interest will suddenly decide that they will go and attack the cinema house. And, what happens? Is that Censor Certificate worth anything at all? It is because often the Police will stop the film saying that it is a threat to law and order. This has happened time and time again.

So, I personally do not think that the Government has any role. But I do believe that civil society has a role in this and the Broadcasting Council itself has a role in it. I think, we can determine how to set that kind of a body. Thank you very much.

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज मैं एक ऐसे विषय पर बोलने जा रहा हूँ, जो आए दिन लोगों को, mass को प्रभावित करता है और कभी-कभी ऐसा लगता है कि वह जो दिखा रहा है, वही सच है और जो हम लोग देख रहे हैं, चाहे वह मजबूरी में देखें, चाहे जैसे भी देखना हो देखें, लेकिन इतनी बात सच है कि टेलीविजन में जो कार्यक्रम आ रहे हैं, उन कार्यक्रमों में थोड़ा रिसट्रिक्शन होना जरूरी है। श्याम बेनेगल साहब ने जो कहा कि सरकार उस पर प्रतिबंध नहीं लगा सकती है, मैं उस विचार से सहमत नहीं हूँ क्योंकि अगर सिनेमा दिखाने के लिए सेंसर बोर्ड है, तो टेलीविजन के लिए भी एक सेंसर बोर्ड होना जरूरी है। हमारे एक मित्र ने कहा कि अगर मेले में कोई फंक्शन करने जाता है, कोई नाच-गाने का कार्यक्रम करना चाहता है, वह कार्यक्रम सही है या हंगामे वाला है। तो अगर एक साधारण नाच-गाने का प्रोग्राम कोई मेले में करने जाता है और उसके लिए उसको परमिशन की जरूरत है, तो टेलीविजन तो लाखों-करोड़ों लोग देखते हैं, उसमें अगर कुछ obscene दिखाया जाता है, कोई

गलत बात दिखाई जाती है, किसी को अपमानित करने के लिए दिखाया जाता है, किसी को नीचा दिखाने के लिए किया जाता है, तो उसके लिए अगर कोई रेग्युलेटरी अथॉरिटी नहीं होगी, तो फिर यह मामला कैसे चलेगा? उदाहरण के लिए मैं एक सवाल यहां रखना चाहता हूं। बच्चों का एक कार्यक्रम होता है - कार्टून फिल्म! छोटे-छोटे बच्चे जो कार्टून फिल्म देखते हैं - उसको बच्चे नहीं समझते, हम समझते हैं कि उसमें कार्टून के माध्यम से इतना violence दिखाया जाता है कि बच्चे को अगर आप पढ़ने के लिए कहिए, तो वह गुस्सा हो जाता है और कार्टून में एकदम involve हो जाता है। वह foreign की कार्टून फिल्म होती है, उसको यहां लाकर borrow किया जाता है और हमारे घरों में बच्चे इतना कार्टून देखते हैं कि उनका पढ़ने का मन नहीं करता है।

वे पढ़ाई करने के लिए जाने को तैयार नहीं होते हैं। इन cartoon films में यह सब दिखाया जाता है कि इधर से कोई मार रहा है, उधर से कोई और मार रहा है। इसके बारे में जरूर विचार करना चाहिए। सर, अब मैं "बालिका वधू" के बारे में कहना चाहता हूं। "बालिका वधू" में बच्चों की शादी हो जाती है। अगर आप उस पूरे सीरियल को देखेंगे, तभी कोई conclusion निकाल पाएंगे, लेकिन अगर कोई आधा ही सीरियल देखेगा तो उसे यही पता चलेगा कि बच्ची नई-नई शादी करके आई है, उसकी दादी कैसे उसको रूम में बंद करती है और खुद रूम के बाहर खड़ी हो जाती है। फिर कैसे 5 घंटे, 6 घंटे, रात भर उसको रूम में बंद कर देती है कि तुम इसमें रहो, तुम्हें बाहर नहीं निकलना। इस प्रकार ये जो violence वाले सीन हैं, जो मानवीय दृष्टि से खराब हैं, उनके बारे में हम लोगों को जरूर विचार करना चाहिए। अगर आप इन पर विचार नहीं करेंगे तो उनका बहुत बुरा प्रभाव पड़ेगा। हमारे एक मित्र ने अभी बहुत अच्छी बात कही, शायद रवि शंकर प्रसाद जी ने कहा था, कि एक महिला, जो स्कूल की टीचर थी, उसके बारे में टेलीविजन में क्या-क्या नहीं दिखाया गया लेकिन बाद में वह सब गलत पाया गया। इस प्रकार वह महिला तो अपमानित हो गई, अब उसका क्या होगा? जब कोई ट्रायल चलता है, judiciary का ट्रायल चलता है, लेकिन ट्रायल मीडिया में हो जाता है कि उसने ऐसे किया, वैसे किया। यह क्यों होता है? क्या हमारी मंत्री महोदया या हमारी सरकार इस पर रोक नहीं लगा सकती है? क्या आप मीडिया का ट्रायल करेंगे? यह एक गंभीर समस्या आपके सामने है और इस समस्या के संबंध में हम लोगों को कुछ करना पड़ेगा, नहीं तो बहुत मुश्किल हो जाएगी। हमारे माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि आज बच्चों के साथ बैठकर कोई बहुत अच्छे सीरियल या टेलीविजन के प्रोग्राम देखने लायक नहीं रह गए हैं। कभी कोई गड़बड़ हो जाती है तो हम लोग रिमोट अपने पास रखते हैं ताकि उसे बंद किया जा सके, जैसे अगर हम लोगों के साथ कहीं कोई बच्चा बैठा है और कहीं कुछ गड़बड़ हो जाती है, जैसे किसी को मार दिया, उसे हम लोग देखना चाहते हैं, लेकिन बच्चों को नहीं दिखना चाहते हैं। इस प्रकार आज हम पारिवारिक परिवेश में टेलीविजन नहीं देख सकते। ऐसे घर, जहां एक ही टेलीविजन है, उसी में सबको सब कुछ देखना है। अगर पारिवारिक परिवेश नहीं बनेगा तो दूरदर्शन या टेलीविजन देखना मुश्किल हो जाएगा। सर, कुछ अच्छे प्रोग्राम्स आते हैं। कुछ अच्छी बातें आती हैं जैसे Discovery Channel है, जिसे देखना हम लोग पसंद करते हैं। लेकिन जो रिएलिटी शोज हैं, जैसे "सच का सामना" नामक सीरियल आता है जो रात को साढ़े दस बजे स्टार टीवी पर आता है। उसमें पचास क्वेश्चंस पूछे जाते हैं और एक करोड़ रुपए मिलते हैं। आपको सच बोलना है कि किस लड़की से आपको प्यार था, नहीं था, परिवार के बारे में सच बोलिए और एक करोड़ रुपए पाइए। अगर असत्य पकड़ा गया तो फिर आपका गेम खत्म हो गया। यह सीरियल "कौन बनेगा करोड़पति" की तरह है जो रात को साढ़े

दस बजे "स्टार टीवी" पर दिखाते हैं। सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इन पर जरूर रोक लगनी चाहिए। अगर आप रोक नहीं लगाएंगे तो आने वाले समय में हम लोगों को बहुत मुश्किल होगी। हमें कभी-कभी लगता है कि लोगों में टेलीविजन देखने की जो एक बाढ़ सी आ गई है, आने वाले समय में एक ऐसी स्थिति आ जाएगी कि लोग इसको देखना बंद कर देंगे और फिर रेडियो के चैनल्स शुरू होंगे, रेडियो पर गाने शुरू होंगे। इसलिए अभी से ऐसा कुछ काम करिए, जिससे obscene यहां नहीं दिखाए जाएं, लोगों को प्रोग्राम देखने में अच्छा लगे। इस बात पर जरूर विचार करना चाहिए। आपने हमें मौका दिया, इसके लिए आपका धन्यवाद।

श्रीमती माया सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश) : आदरणीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, इस विषय पर मेरी पार्टी की ओर से श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद जी ने बहुत ही सुंदर तरीके से अपनी बात रखी है और मेरे पूर्व वक्ताओं ने भी काफी कुछ प्रकाश डाला है। इस संबंध में मुझे अपनी ओर से भी दो-चार बातें कहनी हैं। सच बोलना कोई गुनाह नहीं है। लेकिन यह सत्य है कि सच बोलने के लिए साहस की जरूरत होती है और इन तर्कों के सहारे हम अश्लीलता और अशिष्टता के प्रदर्शन को जायज नहीं ठहरा सकते। इस तरह के जो कार्यक्रम आते हैं, उनको मैं एक तरह से समाज विरोधी ही कहूंगी। बंद कमरे में होने वाली बातों से अलग सार्वजनिक अभिव्यक्ति की और अपनी मर्यादा की अलग सीमाएं होती हैं, क्योंकि तब ये बातें व्यक्तिगत न होकर सार्वजनिक हो जाती हैं और इसका असर किसी व्यक्ति पर न पड़कर पूरे समाज पर पड़ता है। अब आप उदाहरण के तौर पर यही देख लीजिए कि जो बलात्कार की शिकार महिला होती है उसका नाम सार्वजनिक नहीं करने की मर्यादा का पालन, मीडिया स्वयं करता है, उसके ऊपर कोई दबाव नहीं है। उस सामाजिक जिम्मेदारी को वह अच्छे से निभाता है। मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि ऐसी ही जिम्मेदारी की भूमिका की अपेक्षा हमें इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया से अन्य कार्यक्रमों के प्रसारण में भी है। टी.आर.पी. की होड़ में सामाजिक सरोकार की अपेक्षा मीडिया भले ही पूरी न कर सके जिसकी उससे अपेक्षा है, लेकिन इतना संयम तो उसे बरतना ही चाहिए कि किसी की निजी जिंदगी, नितांत निजी सच की प्रस्तुति का तर्क देकर वह उसे जायज नहीं ठहरा सकता है। इसी तरीके से हमारे समाज में जो विसंगतियां हैं, कुरीतियां हैं, जो रूढ़ियां हैं, और अंधविश्वास हैं, आजकल देखिए कि कितने सारे चैनलों पर जो सीरियल आ रहे हैं, अब उसमें हद हो गई है, जहां एक तरफ हम female foeticide की बात करते हैं, लेकिन वहां सिर्फ एक महिला ने दोबारा बच्ची को जन्म दिया है इस कारण परिवार वाले लड़के की दूसरी शादी कर रहे हैं। यह हम क्या दिखा रहे हैं? अन्य सीरियल में एक जगह बंदूक की नोक पर शादी की जाती है और उस लड़की के साथ जिस तरह परिवार में अत्याचार होते हैं और वह सह रही है तो मुझे समझ में नहीं आता है कि यह क्या दिखला रहे हैं। ऐसे एक नहीं सैकड़ों सीरियल्स हैं। इसी तरह से विज्ञापन भी ऐसे हैं जिन विज्ञापनों के बारे में पूर्व में भी कहा गया है, समय अभाव के कारण मैं उनको नहीं दोहराना चाहूंगी, लेकिन उनके पीछे यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि कार्यक्रमों को दर्शक पसंद करना चाहते हैं। आपको देखना होगा कि इनकी संख्या कुल आबादी में कितनी है? जो लोग इन बातों पर विश्वास करते हैं और इनको बढ़ावा दे रहे हैं वही इसे पसंद कर रहे हैं तो उनको आप इस तरह की बातें दिखला कर समाज में यह संदेश देना चाहते हैं कि ये बातें बुरी नहीं हैं तथा इनसे हमें निजात नहीं पाना है। तो इसी तरीके से मैं कहना चाहूंगी कि जो इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया है, टी.वी. है उन्हें स्वयं को यह देखना होगा कि उनकी प्रस्तुति का समाज पर क्या असर पड़ रहा है। इसी तरीके से मैं यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि सत्य वही है

जो समाज को नई दिशा दे और उनके अंदर एक सृजनात्मक और रचनात्मक अच्छे कार्यों को प्रोत्साहित करे। तो टी.वी. चैनल्स खास तौर से भी स्वयं इस बात का ध्यान रखें।

महोदय, आपके माध्यम से मुझे और कहना है कि यह जो मीडिया और चैनल हैं, उन पर सेंसरशिप हो। जो मेरी पार्टी का पक्ष है, वह रवि शंकर प्रसाद जी ने रखा है। मैं भी स्वयं उसकी वकालत नहीं करती हूँ, वह नहीं होना चाहिए, लेकिन आज सदन में मैं जरूर मांग करूंगी कि इन सब पर एक सामाजिक सेंसर जैसी व्यवस्था जरूर लागू होनी चाहिए। अगर इसके लिए कानून बनाने की जरूर पड़ती है तो सरकार को संकोच नहीं करना चाहिए, क्योंकि यह अभिव्यक्ति की आजादी के साथ ही जो हमारे व्यापक सार्वजनिक हित का मामला भी है और अभिव्यक्ति की ऐसी आजादी को हमारा संविधान भी हमें इजाजत नहीं देता है, जिसके अंतर्गत हमारे जो सामाजिक हित हैं उनके ऊपर कुठाराघात हो। इसलिए मैं यह कहना चाहूंगी कि एक तरफ जहां हमें इनको संयम बरतने के लिए इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया को कहते हैं, साथ ही संसद में भी सभी सांसदों से आग्रह करना चाहूंगी कि जब संसद में हम आज इस बात को उठा रहे हैं, तो जब वे संसद के बाहर अपने क्षेत्रों में जाते हैं तो वहां पर भी जाकर जागरूकता पैदा करने का प्रयास करना चाहिए, ताकि जो अश्लीलता है और अशिष्टता की अभिव्यक्ति होती है, उसके खिलाफ हम जन दबाव बना सकें।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, Shri Shantaram Laxman Naik; not more than seven minutes.

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): Sir, please give me ten minutes. I gave the notice.

The source of entire freedom which is being used by the electronic media is said to be article 19. This article 19 is no licence by any stretch of imagination for the very fact that it mentions that nothing prevents a State from enacting law to impose reasonable restrictions on grounds of public order, morality and decency. This article is very clear, and, in no circumstances, it can be used as a licence. Besides this, we have got section 292 of IPC, and the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986. In the later part of my speech, I will read both Codes Programme Code and Advertisement Code - which is very much there under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995. This entire set of laws can never permit what we are talking today. Only thing is that there must be a will to implement these existing regulations. Secondly, Sir, media, unfortunately, takes advantage of the fact that we are scared of the media, or, our respect for the media. Even when Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad was speaking, he was apologising after every sentence because he was * that he might be misunderstood.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Don't say that he was * That is expunged.

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Naturally, Sir, we are politicians; we have to go to the field. We are * Let me say, I am scared because we are public figures, we have to go to the people.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): You can say you are scared; not in his case.

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Today, why are we having a debate on this issue? It is not because of all those serials being telecast on television. Umpteen times, we have discussed this matter. The immediate reason for me, and others also, to give notice was the serial, Sach Ka Samna. That provoked us to give notice and we have hardly spoken on this serial. What are the questions asked? Question asked to a lady was whether she, at any time, thought of killing her husband. This was the question asked. Then, in front of her husband, in front of her relatives, other such questions were asked like, "Did you sleep with some one else after your marriage?". By what stretch of imagination, can this serial be permitted? I was shocked to know that a person like Vir Sanghvi, the Editor of a leading newspaper, justified the serial. Because these people go to programmes and they earn lakhs of rupees. Therefore, they justify anything which comes on television. This is shocking to me. Therefore, Sir, we have to do something about this aspect. The argument that these people come voluntarily on the programme and they are told about the questions is no justification. It is not their question only. What about those people who listen, children who listen such things? Vir Sanghvi says, "Switch off your television." Switching off the television is not a solution. Therefore, this is a TV serial which has to be considered seriously. We have discussed other serials earlier also. Now, programmes are also being shown on astrology. People sit with laptop. बताइये, आपकी डेट क्या है, कितने बजे जन्म हुआ था, कहां पर जन्म हुआ था? फिर, टुक, टुक करके भविष्य बताते हैं। क्या बताएं, आपकी शादी कब होगी, फलां, फलां समय और दिन आपका शुभ नहीं है, उस वक्त आप कुछ काम मत करिए उसके बाद एक अंगूठी पहल लीजिए या फिर कुछ religious rites करिए, आपकी शादी हो जाएगी। ये लेपटॉप वाले आ गए हैं। At least, there are two-three programmes where these people sit with laptop take two-three details of the person and then immediately, they tell the future. Such misguiding serials are being shown. Is this permissible under any law? Then, there are programmes where, time and again, we are told, " दुनिया खत्म हो रही है", "the world is going to finish". कितनी बार ऐसा प्रोग्राम हो गया है।

Everybody was scared. Maybe that we were not scared to that extent. But sometimes, we also feel that it may be so. Who knows? गांव के लोगों को तो बहुत सारे डर होते हैं।

Second aspect is superstitious programmes based on superstitious beliefs. First of all, we have to blame ourselves because sometimes, we, as politicians, also perform some other rites which are akin to superstitious beliefs. Our Constitution speaks about maintaining 'scientific temper'. Everywhere, we say that 'scientific temper' should be increased amongst children. Around 25-28 years ago, Late Indira ji, in her Twenty Point Programme, had also mentioned about it. But we are

not increasing scientific temper in our political, private or social life, and, are performing so many rites which are nothing but superstitious beliefs.

Down South, in the last elections, a political party's president asked every candidate seeking ticket to the election, to come with an application along with his or her horoscope. This is what the leaders perform. Shyam Benegal ji, I agree with you on most of the issues except when you said that if somebody goes to a cyber cafe and watches some porno, there is no objection or something. It is not so. Now, under the I.T. Amendment Act, that is a serious offence. The other day, I said, people should be educated; students should be educated because they do not know about this law. Students from various schools and colleges can be picked up by the police because this has become an offence. Earlier, it was considered under 'privacy'.

Moreover, Sir, these TV channels do not look after what we do here. Nobody reports the functioning of the Parliament or shows the debates in which we participate. They do not cover a single sentence which is spoken by the Members; the Question Hour is also not covered. But, if any of our Member, more so, fortunately, if some actor or actress is standing outside and waiting for his or her car, that photo will appear on the front page. But nobody bothers about what we say inside this House. Let the television channels ponder over it, and, do something about it. I have seen it several times. These are the incidents.

Sir, I congratulate doordarshan. Madam, I am also telling you that unless you watch doordarshan, you cannot get the exact picture of what is happening in the country. If you really want to know about the activities of the Government or of other organisations, you have to watch doordarshan because there is no other channel except doordarshan, which covers this aspect.

I remember an incident when our former Member, Shatrughan Sinha, and, our Member, Jaya ji, both criticized the doordarshan. I told them, it is the doordarshan, which made you popular in villages, when these channels were not there. People used to see you on television in the movies which were telecasted on Sundays, and, thereby, Mr. Shatrughan Sinha became popular; Jaya ji became popular during Guddi days. ...**(Time-bell rings)**... Sir, will take only two minutes more. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Sir, nobody referred to the law of the land on this? Because of lack of time, I will not go into the details. Sir, The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 prescribes two codes, one is the programme code and the other is the advertisement code. It is elaborately mentioned as to which programmes cannot be aired by the television operators. It has been done specifically and these are exhaustive guidelines. But the only thing is that these restrictions are there only for the poor cable television operator, and, for those who produce programmes, there is no restriction. You have put restrictions only on the Cable Network people. Therefore, there is a need for a regulatory body to cover all these aspects. Let media not take it as an offence; we have to do that one day or the other. Thank you.

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. I would also like to thank the people who are responsible for mooted this Short Duration Discussion

on Increasing Obscenity and Vulgarly in Television Programmes. Sir, at this juncture I would like to say,

"As our refined woman
Does possess the qualities of
Elegant walk,
Straight Vision
And Uncompromising doctrines,
Never do they divert
From their uprightness"

This is what Bharathiar says. This is how a lady should be, always straightforward. But, what is being shown in the television is really very, very disgusting. There are only two types of women being shown in the television programmes, one lady is always crying; whatever is going on, she is being beaten up, she is being ill-treated and the other woman, who is being depicted over there, is shown almost like a villain. She is depicted as all bad. Either this sort of thing or that sort of thing is shown. But, this is not the reality. In case of cinema, we have to spend some time as well as some money. But in this case, this comes to our house where we can see it. Umpteen number of channels are there. I mean, a lot of private channels are there. When DD-I and DD-II were there, 'Junoon' and 'Dard', were shown on television. We cannot forget the characters. In a TV serial extra marital affair of Keshav Kalsi is shown. Whatever is shown there, that is all justified. Each and every character is being depicted, is being shown as if everybody is having some extra marital affair. I just wonder what will happen to the minds of the people, the housewives, and the children who are watching these programmes from minimum 6.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. And there are some really poor husbands. They are not even given their meal at proper time when the serials are going on.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Pool husband! Teach him to cook.

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: This we can discuss later. This is some other subject. I don't want you to intervene in this please, Madam.

So, they are regularly seeing such serials which are corrupting their minds like anything. Suppose any foreigner - all foreign channels are coming to us and we are seeing them — comes here and see, is this what is India, is this our culture which is shown in our television serials.

Apart from this, our media people are always after something sensational. When the Mumbai bomb blasts happened, the same day many more important things were going on, but nothing was shown. Each and every minute of the Mumbai blasts was shown. Everybody was watching that. In fact, we had to watch only that. This is another thing about media. They are teaching what is not allowed. As my colleague, Mr. Shyam Benegal, was telling, what is not even allowed even by the Censor Board in the Cinemas, in the big screen, it is being shown on the television. I will tell you what is being shown in a particular serial, Sir. We are going to enact a law against the acid being thrown

on ladies. We are about to enact some law against that. But what a television serial shows is, a person is taking one egg. He is removing what is inside it and with a syringe he is taking everything outside and then acid is being put inside. They are actually teaching in this particular serial how this acid thing is prepared and then thrown on the face of a lady. Of course, some good programmes are there. I was Member of the Censor Board. We had certain norms like what things are to be shown and what things are not to be shown and there are some bad words which should not be shown on the big screen like this. Is it possible to bring such a thing, such a regulatory system, for the small screen also? That is a question. You belong to my neighbouring State, Sir. In each and every State, we have our own culture. We have seen unity in diversity. So, the best thing would be, not as my colleague was telling, if the regulatory system is made only of the TV people, the same thing will happen. They will be encouraging, they will be advocating their own rights only. So, this regulatory system should be given certain guidelines like these are the things which can be shown, what is already prevailing in the Censor Board. Like eunuch people being always shown for comedy purpose.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*)

These sorts of things have to be avoided as per the Censor Board rules. Similarly, we can form a set of rules for this regulatory system uniformly for each and every television programme, which have to be followed. Whatever regulatory system we are going to propose, it should be there in every State. A minimum of ten people representing a cross-section of society should be present on the board, so that some effective steps can be taken to prevent vulgarity and obscenity from TV programmes. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for having given me this opportunity. I am sorry I was not here to listen to the debate. I am told that some hon. Members spoke wonderfully well. More time was given to women Members. They made good contribution to the entire debate. You know that we were held up in the General Purposes Committee meeting and that is why we could not be present in the House.

Sir, I just want to make two points. I was not expected to speak. I am Chairman of the Committee on Petitions. This matter came up before the Committee on Petitions. I would request the hon. Minister to pay some attention.

Hundreds and thousands of people met us at various places and some of them came and deposed before the Committee. They all asked us to stop this violence, vulgarity, and obscenity. People are really horrified to see what is being shown on TV. As far as content of the programme is concerned, comparatively, Doordarshan is better. There is no doubt about it, as far as the present context is concerned. If you see what is happening across the board, it is a very horrible situation. We feel pained. Are we so helpless? Can't we do something about this?

Fortunately, we have a lady Minister who represents our culture and tradition. I hope that she will take note of the sentiments of the House and the sentiments of the people and do something in this regard. This is my first suggestion.

Two, Sir, I do not know about the content which is shown on TV channels in this part of the country. In southern parts of the country, on certain channels, while some programme is going on, you get a scroll. Even in the morning, I saw it. It says, "Geeta, I love you. Where are you? Geeta, I want to kiss you." In the morning I saw it on the television. It is not that a person is speaking to another person. It is through SMS.

This is the reason why I stood up in the House to bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister. These kinds of SMSs are coming on TV channels. They take the name of any person, anybody's daughter or anybody's sister without their consent. If 'X' is loving 'Y,' I have no problem. I don't want to come in between them. They can talk to each other on the telephone. Or they can meet, greet, talk, walk and then do what is allowed. I said, 'what is allowed.' What is not allowed is not expected to be done. But the point is that it is shown on a screen meant for public.

Mr. Kapil Sibal is also here. He must also guide us how to take care of this. It is a very serious issue. It pains us. Every day on a television channel this scroll is coming mentioning a name and then it gives the name of place also like Rajahmundry, Visakhapatnam or Chennai.

Sending that sort of SMSs has become a big business. All sorts of vulgar messages are being aired by television channels. What will be the impact of that SMS on our young generation? That is a big issue which is agitating our minds. I just told my Leader also that I would take a minute to intervene in between and draw the attention of the hon. Minister to take care of the three aspects violence, vulgarity and obscenity.

Secondly, about this new technology or new business or commercial proposition of going into the personal lives of individuals and airing it on a television channel and then unnecessarily creating bad ideas in the minds of younger children of the country. It is a very bad thing. I know that you cannot control everything. I am also aware of it. But there are provisions whereby you can regulate this.

I hope the Minister also got the recommendations of the Committee on Petitions before her. It was placed before Parliament. We made a categorical recommendation saying that there has to be a similar organisation like the Press Council of India with more teeth. The Press Council of India is toothless. It is everybody's knowledge. There has to be a regulatory body for the electronic media also.

Sir, I may bring it to your notice that the people from the electronic media came and met the Committee. They said that they were planning to have self-regulation. I told them that self-regulation was the best regulation. But, it's not happening and everybody is not going by that. So, that being the case, there has to be a regulatory authority. We have the mushroom growth of the television channels. It is good in one way. Earlier, there was only Doordarshan. दूरदर्शन, यानी दूर से दर्शन करना

देश में अब बहुत दर्शन हो गया, बहुत सारे चैनल्स आ गए हैं और टीआरपी के लिए, कॉम्पटीशन के लिए चैनल्स में जिस तरह की अनहेल्दी प्रैक्टिस हो रही है, इसके बारे में हमें थोड़ा गंभीरता से सोचना चाहिए। I only urge upon the Minister to take note of the feelings of the people, keep in mind the recommendations of the Committee and do the needful. Thank you.

श्री राजीव शुक्ल (महाराष्ट्र) : उपसभापति महोदय, धन्यवाद। यहां से लेकर वहां तक मैं सबके भाषण सुन रहा हूँ...(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती वृंदा कारत : जो आप बोल रहे हैं, कहीं यह कॉन्फ्लिक्ट ऑफ इंटररेस्ट तो नहीं है।

श्री राजीव शुक्ल : नहीं यह कॉन्फ्लिक्ट ऑफ इंटररेस्ट बिल्कुल नहीं है। इस मामले में आप एकदम निश्चित रहिए।

1997 से इस तरह की स्पीचिज़ चल रही हैं। बारी-बारी से सब लोग सरकार में रह चुके हैं। एक भी दल ऐसा नहीं है, जिसका सरकार से डायरेक्टली या इन्डायरेक्टली नाता न रहा हो, लेकिन किसी ने कुछ नहीं किया। 'जब जागो तब सवेरा', इसलिए मैं समझता हूँ कि आज अगर यह बहस हो रही है, तो यह एक बहुत अच्छी शुरुआत है और फिर हमें अम्बिका जी जैसी मंत्री मिली हैं, जिनमें कुछ कर दिखाने का दम-खम है। हमारी अपेक्षा है कि आज जब यह बहस एक सार्थक मोड़ पर आ पहुंची है, तो इस मामले में कुछ न कुछ निर्णय अवश्य होना चाहिए। अब सवाल यह उठता है कि निर्णय क्या हो? निर्णय बहुत साफ है। मेरा अपना व्यू है और वृंदा जी ने भी कहा कि सरकार की मॉरल पुलिसिंग नहीं करनी चाहिए। 480 चैनल्स हैं, रोज़ टेक्नोलॉजी बदलती है, इसलिए सरकार को इस झंझट में नहीं पड़ना चाहिए। यह एक दिन की बात नहीं है। सरकार के वश में यह नहीं है कि वह इस तरह से कुछ रोक लगाए, डंडा चलाए, दारोगा बैठाए और नोटिस भेजे। ये सब काम सरकार के लिए बहुत मुश्किल हैं, क्योंकि अगर ऐसा होता है तो तमाम तरह की बातें शुरू हो जाएंगी। इसका सही उपाय सदन के सभी माननीय सदस्यों के भाषणों से निकल कर आ रहा है, जिसे श्री वीरप्पा मोइली जी के नेतृत्व में एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव रिफॉर्म कमिशन ने भी दिया था और लगातार इसके लिए सब तरफ से तमाम सिफारिशें आई हैं और वह यह है कि इसके लिए एक रेगुलेटरी अथॉरिटी बननी चाहिए। उस रेगुलेटरी अथॉरिटी में ब्रॉडकास्टर्स के रिप्रेजेंटेटिव्स हों, क्योंकि अगर ब्रॉडकास्टर्स मानते नहीं हैं, तो उनको इस बात के लिए मनाना चाहिए। इसलिए उसमें गवर्नमेंट के रिप्रेजेंटेटिव्स भी अवश्य हों और साथ ही समाज के अन्य वर्गों का भी प्रतिनिधित्व हो। वह अथॉरिटी कंटेंट के मामले में और अन्य मामलों में निर्णय ले। मैंने देखा कि सदन के सारे वक्ता इस अथॉरिटी की बात कर रहे हैं, इसलिए सरकार को रेगुलटरी अथॉरिटी तो हर हालत में बनानी चाहिए, यह मेरी भी मांग है और उसमें सभी का प्रतिनिधित्व होना चाहिए। अकेले सरकार के अफसरों से डंडा चलवाने से कहीं कुछ होने वाला नहीं है। उस झंझट में सरकार को पड़ना भी नहीं चाहिए।

दूसरी चीज़ यह है कि अगर आप उसमें पड़ते भी हैं तो कौन यह तय करेगा कि क्या ऑब्सीन है और क्या नहीं है, क्या अश्लीलता है और क्या नहीं है? कल जैसे वृंदा जी ने जिफ़र किया कि एक प्रोग्राम आ रहा था, जिसमें लोग बोल रहे थे कि संसद सदस्यों को इस पर बोलने का क्या अधिकार है। ये कौन होते हैं, जो सूखे की बात करें या गरीबी की बात करें? वे यह बात क्यों नहीं करते कि इस देश में भुखमरी है? बाद में यही लोग कहेंगे कि ये कहां से आ गए यह बताने के लिए कि कौन सा प्रोग्राम होना चाहिए और कौन सा नहीं होना चाहिए, इस देश में इस तरह की बहस शुरू हो जाएगी। कोई कहेगा कि यह अच्छा है और कोई कहेगा कि यह खराब है। अब मैं आपको एक छोटा सा

उदाहरण देता हूँ। पाकिस्तान के बॉलर एक होते थे, सरफराज़ नवाज़। गेंद की शाइनिंग के लिए उसे थाई पर रगड़ना पड़ता है और वह टीवी पर भी दिखाया जाता है, तो सारे मौलानाओं ने इसका विरोध कर दिया कि यह अश्लीलता है और यह बंद होना चाहिए। बॉलिंग करते वक्त, जब यह अपने रनअप पर चलता है, तब इसे टीवी पर बिल्कुल नहीं दिखाना चाहिए। इसलिए इस तरह की बहस यहां पर भी शुरू हो जाएगी, जैसे रब ने बना दी जोड़ी पर भी बहस हुई। मैंने शाहरुख खान से पूछा कि इस तरह की फिल्म आप क्यों कर रहे हो, तो वह कहने लगे कि लोग यही देख रहे हैं, ऐसी ही फिल्मों की मांग है और आप देखना कि यह फिल्म जरूर चलेगी और वे सारी फिल्में चलें।

जहां हम इस बहस में पड़ेंगे कि यह होना चाहिए, यह नहीं होना चाहिए, यह अश्लील है, यह अश्लील नहीं है अथवा क्या सवाल उठ रहे हैं, तब आप इस चक्कर में बेवजह फंस जाएंगे। इसलिए मंत्री जी को एक रेगुलेटरी अथॉरिटी के गठन की घोषणा अवश्य करनी चाहिए, जिसमें सबका प्रतिनिधित्व हो। मैं वृंदा जी की इस बात से बिल्कुल सहमत हूँ कि खाली मीडिया या ब्रॉडकास्टर इसको लागू नहीं कर सकते हैं। न्यूज़ के बारे में देख लिया गया है कि उसके लिए सेल्फ रेगुलेटरी का सिस्टम बना, एक ने उल्लंघन किया तो दूसरे ने भी उसे नहीं माना। इस तरह कितनी ही बातें कही जाती हैं, लेकिन आपस में भी वे उन्हें नहीं मानते और एक-दूसरे को डिफाई कर देते हैं। इससे काम नहीं चलेगा। कहीं न कहीं इसके लिए रेगुलेटरी अथॉरिटी बिठानी चाहिए। हो सके तो उसमें जुडीशियरी के, सुप्रीम कोर्ट के किसी रिटायर्ड या फॉर्मर जज को चेयरमैन बना दिया जाए अथवा जो कुछ भी किया जाए, उसको कुछ पावर्स दी जानी चाहिए।

वैक्या जी का जो सुझाव है कि इसे प्रेस काउंसिल ऑफ इंडिया की तरह होना चाहिए, यह बात थी तब थी जब सुषमा जी थी। उस समय मीडिया काउंसिल की बात आई थी, लेकिन मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि प्रेस काउंसिल ऑफ इंडिया से ज्यादा इनइफेक्टिव कोई बॉडी नहीं है। तीन साल तक मैं उसका मੈम्बर रहा हूँ। सर, उसमें ऐसे-ऐसे प्रतिनिधि हैं, जिनका खुद ही वजूद होना चाहिए कि वे पत्रकार हैं भी या नहीं और फिर भी वे तय करते हैं कि क्या गलत है और क्या सही है। इसलिए प्रेस काउंसिल ऑफ इंडिया से ज्यादा बेकार कोई बॉडी नहीं है। इस चक्कर में पड़ कर आप इस पूरे विषय को, जिस पर आज इतनी गम्भीर और सार्थक बहस शुरू हुई है, उसको खत्म कर देंगे। इसलिए प्रेस काउंसिल ऑफ इंडिया जैसी कोई बॉडी बनाकर उसे इस चीज़ को रेफर करने का कोई मतलब नहीं है। या तो आप प्रेस काउंसिल ऑफ इंडिया को यह पावर दीजिए कि जो गड़बड़ करेगा, उसको सरकार के DAVP का विज्ञापन बंद हो जाएगा। तब तो कुछ नुकसान से फर्क पड़ेगा, बाकी इन बातों से कुछ फर्क पड़ने वाला नहीं है। इसलिए इसमें रेगुलेटरी अथॉरिटी वाली जो बात है, उसका सबसे ज्यादा असर होता है।

एक बात रवि शंकर जी ने उठाई और बाकी लोगों ने भी उठाई। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... सर, यह मेरा लास्ट प्वायंट है। यह बात टी.आर.पी. को लेकर है। यह सारा झंझट शुरू होता है, TAM नाम की एजेंसी से, जोकि एक प्राइवेट एजेंसी है, जिसके पीछे advertisers हैं। एक बड़ी advertising agency इसको स्पॉन्सर करती है। उसका वेस्टेड इंटरेस्ट चाहे जो भी हो, वह हर हफ्ते-क्या टाइम्स ऑफ इंडिया की हर हफ्ते सर्कुलेशन की रिपोर्ट आती है? क्या हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स या दैनिक जागरण अथवा अन्य अखबारों की हर हफ्ते सर्कुलेशन की रिपोर्ट आती है कि इस हफ्ते कितने अखबार बेचे? अगर नहीं, तो फिर न्यूज़ चैनल की हर हफ्ते क्यों आती है कि इतना देखा गया या इतना नहीं देखा गया? इससे क्या होता है कि कम्पीटीशन होता है। कुछ दिनों में आप देख लीजिएगा, मैं चेतावनी दे रहा

हूँ, कि संसद का एक भी कवरेज नहीं होगा, प्रधान मंत्री या नेता-विपक्ष किसी का कोई कवरेज नहीं होगा। हम तो न्यूज चैनल नहीं चलाते, वृंदा जी ने कहा vested interest, लेकिन यह सही है कि हमारी पत्नी यह चलाती हैं। उसमें शुरु में यह हुआ कि पूरी न्यूज दो, न्यूज दिखाओ, न्यूज दिखाओ। बाद में यह हुआ कि बजट की TRP एक आई है, अगर वह TAM की rating सही है। TAM के बहुत कम मीटर हैं। बिहार, बंगाल आदि जगहों में वह कहते हैं कि साहब, यहां के लोग गरीब हैं, इनमें परचेसिंग पावर नहीं है, इसलिए यहां मीटर मत लगाओ। मुम्बई और गुजरात में बहुत सारे मीटर लगाओ, क्योंकि यहां के लोगों की परचेसिंग पावर बहुत है। उन्होंने उसमें पांच, छः या सात हजार मीटर लगा रखे हैं। उनमें क्या होता है, क्या नहीं होता है, किसकी रिपोर्ट देते हैं? वे कहते हैं कि कुत्ता और सांप की लड़ाई हुई, नाग-नागिन का प्रेम हुआ, इसकी TRP ज्यादा आ रही है। उसे वे दिखा रहे हैं। इस तरह इसमें TAM एक बहुत बड़ा विलेन है, यह जो TRP का सिस्टम TAM है। जैसा उन्होंने कहा कि एक प्राइवेट एजेंसी को इस बात का कोई अधिकार नहीं है कि वह इस देश के हजारों करोड़ का बिजनेस तय करे, इस देश की संस्कृति तय करे कि इस देश में कैसे लोग रहेंगे, क्योंकि वही जिम्मेदार हैं। अगर यह न हो, तो कोई इस तरह के प्रोग्राम्स भी न दिखाए, जिनकी आप आलोचना कर रहे हैं। उसकी मजबूरी में, क्योंकि इस चैनल की रेटिंग गिर गई, दूसरे की बढ़ गई ...**(समय की घंटी)**... और उनको यह करना पड़ता है। इसलिए इस पर रोक लगा कर मेरे ख्याल से एक कमिशन बनाना चाहिए, जो कम-से-कम एक लाख मीटर लगाए, देश के हर राज्य में मीटर लगे और वह छः महीने या साल-भर में अपनी यह रिपोर्ट दे कि इस चैनल की रेटिंग यह रही और उस चैनल की यह रही। न्यूज चैनल के मामले में तो यह जरूर कर देना चाहिए या न्यूज चैनल को आप TAM की परिधि में, उसकी ambit से बाहर निकालिए। उनकी रिपोर्ट छः महीने बाद दीजिए। इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया के बारे में भी यह करना चाहिए कि उसके लिए एक independent commission होना चाहिए। उसमें ब्रॉडकास्टर्स भी हों, गवर्नमेंट के लोग भी हों और उसमें एक सुप्रीम कोर्ट या हाई कोर्ट का कोई जज हो। उसके एक लाख मीटर्स भी हों। वह यह रिपोर्ट दे कि कौन-सा प्रोग्राम कैसा है। तब तो आप इसे सम्भाल पाएंगे, वरना कुछ दिन में ऐसा होने वाला है कि आप सब लोगों की कोई कवरेज नहीं होगी, पार्लियामेंट का कोई कवरेज नहीं होगा, देश का कोई कवरेज नहीं होगा। दूरदर्शन के बारे में वे बताते हैं कि वह बिल्कुल तीन दिखाई देता है, जो तीन टी.आर.पी. रेटिंग है, जबकि पूरे देश में उसका कवरेज है, मतलब वह हर जगह, नॉर्थ ईस्ट आदि सभी जगहों पर देखा जाता है। इस तरह का TAM agency ही है, जो ये सारी चीजें तय करती है। इसके विरुद्ध पूरे सदन को एक होना पड़ेगा, सरकार को यह करना पड़ेगा। वे आकर यह बताते हैं कि नहीं-नहीं, इसमें फिर कहां से रेटिंग आएगी? ये क्या हैं? ये सब vested interests हैं। हजारों करोड़ का निर्णय लेने का अधिकार किसी एक प्राइवेट एजेंसी को, जिसकी लगाम advertisers के हाथ में है, advertising agency के हाथ में है, नहीं देनी चाहिए। यही मेरी सरकार से मांग है। आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE (Maharashtra): Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. I think that legislators are the keepers of the conscience of the society and the country, and therefore, we have a role to play. The Government has a very meaningful role in this particular matter. Legislation is necessary, regulatory body is also very essential. Sir, all this is done in the name of art

and culture. But art and culture ennoble your minds, elevate your minds at higher level, but the expression of vulgarity and obscenity degrades your mind, and that is what we are seeing in various serials and advertisements and various things that are shown on TV.

This has already crossed the laxman rekha. It has completely abolished it. I do not blame all the media persons; they have contributed a lot to our country, to our cultural values. The Government, the people, responsible people, of our society are the custodians of cultural ethos of the country, and we have to preserve it. "Freedom of expression" does not mean "freedom of obscenity and vulgarity". We can define what is "vulgarity"; we can define what is "obscenity". Therefore, we should not be very vague about it and we should not create a feeling that the Government cannot do anything in this matter. Government may not be hundred per cent effective, but Government has a role to play in this particular matter. The language, the dialogue, the gestures, all these things are meant for sexual gratification, and the ulterior motive is commercialism. This has to be understood Constitution has imposed certain duties and obligations on the legislators and the parliamentarians, and on the Government also, and we have to do that. Our cultural ethos have to be protected at any cost. Thank you very much, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Shri Kalraj Mishra.

श्री कलराज मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, मैं आप का आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ कि आप ने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया। मैं इस संबंध में अपने सभी साथी, सम्मानित सदस्यों द्वारा प्रकट विचारों के साथ अपने को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ तथा यह अनुभव करता हूँ कि जो विषय हमारे सामने आया है, वह निश्चित रूप से हमारे सांस्कृतिक मूल्यों को अवमूल्यित करता है।

महोदय, इस बारे में निश्चित रूप से मीडिया के लोगों को और सदन को भी गंभीरतापूर्वक विचार करना चाहिए। हमारी पार्टी के श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद जी ने भी इस विषय में विस्तार से सारी बातें कही हैं।

महोदय, सीरियल "सच का सामना" के माध्यम से आज जिस विषय पर चर्चा की जा रही है, यह सही मायने में अमेरिका में प्रसारित एक सीरियल, "The Moment of Truth" पर आधारित है, जोकि बहुत ही विवादित था, लेकिन लोकप्रिय भी था। उस कार्यक्रम पर आधारित इस सीरियल "सच का सामना" को प्रसारित किया जा रहा है। महोदय, अमेरिका में बहुत ही विवादित कार्यक्रम होने के बावजूद उस कार्यक्रम की टी.आर.पी. बहुत बढ़ गई थी। संभवतः इस बात का आंकलन कर के इस चैनल ने यह विषय चुना और "सच का सामना" कार्यक्रम बनाया। महोदय, अभी माननीय सदस्य बनेगल साहब ने कहा कि उस के प्रथम, द्वितीय, तृतीय, चतुर्थ, पंचम एवं षष्ठ चरण - कुल 6 चरण हैं और षष्ठ चरण तो इतना भयंकर चरण है कि लोग उसे न देख सकते हैं और न सुन सकते हैं। इसलिए इस सीरियल से यह चर्चा उभरकर आई है।

महोदय, सीरियल "सच का सामना" तो केवल एक symbolic है, अगर आधार मानकर देखें तो पाएंगे कि आजकल टी.आर.पी. प्राप्त करने की होड़ में चैनल्स किन-किन प्रकार के विषयों को उजागर करने का प्रयत्न कर रहे हैं। इस बारे में लोगों ने अपने-अपने ढंग से वर्णन किया है। वृंदा कारत जी ने इस का वर्णन किया है, वसन्ती

स्टान्ली जी ने भी किया है और कहा है कि आज महिलाएं ही महिलाओं की दुश्मन हो गई हैं। सीरियल "सास बहू" के विषय पर आधारित कई सीरियल बने हैं जिन में एक महिला, दूसरी महिला को नीचा दिखाने के लिए क्या-क्या काम करती है, यह बताने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। आज Reality Show के माध्यम से ये चीजें दिखाई जा रही हैं। हालांकि उन में talent hunt भी हो रहा है, प्रतिभाएं सामने आ रही हैं, जोकि एक अच्छी बात है, लेकिन साथ-ही-साथ युवाओं के लिए बन रहे सीरियल्स "Roadies" है, "Split Villa" है, उन में लड़कियों के इतने कम वस्त्र होते हैं कि कोई टी.वी. की तरफ देख ही नहीं सकता है।

कोई बैठ ही नहीं सकता है। एक बड़ा वीमत्स स्वरूप दिखाई देता है। आखिर ऐसा क्यों है? केवल वह स्वरूप ही नहीं, बल्कि जो आपस की वार्ता होती है, जो आपस में संवाद होते हैं, जो आपस में चर्चाएं होती हैं, ये vulgarity से इतनी पूर्ण होती हैं कि आप उनको सुन भी नहीं सकते। गाली से भरी हुई ये चर्चाएं भयंकर हैं। एक-एक चीज़ जो सामने आती जा रही है, ये सारी चीजें, जो टीआरपी को बढ़ाने की होड़ में की जा रही हैं, यह दुःखद है। मैंने एक गैर-सरकारी विधेयक रखा था, जिसमें सारी चीजों का वर्णन किया गया था।

आज जितने भी विज्ञापन आ रहे हैं, उनको आप नहीं देख सकते। बच्चे उन विज्ञापनों को बड़े चाव से देखते हैं और कहते हैं कि हमें और कोई सीरियल नहीं देखना है, बल्कि वह विज्ञापन वाला सीरियल ही देखना है। चाहे वह विज्ञापन गर्भ-निरोधक का हो या जांधिया और बनियान का हो। जांधिया और बनियान का जो विज्ञापन है, उसमें क्या जरूरत है कि सारा स्वरूप उत्तेजक दिखाया जाए? संदेश तो अन्य तरीके से भी दिया जा सकता है, लेकिन उत्तेजक स्वरूप दिखाए जाने का प्रयत्न किया जाता है। ऐसी अनेक चीजें हैं। मैंने एक गैर-सरकारी विधेयक "इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया पर वाणिज्यिक विज्ञापन विनियमन विधेयक, 2005" दिया था। उस समय के मंत्री श्री मुंशी जी ने जवाब देते हुए मुझे बताया था कि "श्री मिश्र जी, our Government is actively seized of this matter and hopefully in this year itself I am going to bring forward a Bill on Content Regulatory Mechanism Authority in the country." उन्होंने यह उस समय कहा था। ये सारी बातें तो पहले आई हुई हैं, लेकिन इस पर होना क्या चाहिए? अब प्रेस के बंधुओं ने भी टीवी चैनल्स को नियंत्रित करने के लिए, self regulation के लिए, 'Ombudsman' नाम की एक संस्था बनाई। उसका चेयरमैन रिटायर्ड चीफ जस्टिस श्री जे.एस. वर्मा को बनाया गया। उनके क्या अधिकार हैं, यह माननीया मंत्री जी स्वयं बताएंगी। उन्होंने किस तरीके से नियंत्रण किया है, यह स्वयं उनको जानने का प्रयत्न करेंगी...(समय की घंटी)... ये सारी चीजें बड़ी तेजी के साथ चल रही हैं। मैं इसके लिए निश्चित रूप से सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ कि मीडिया के माध्यम से, चाहे वे चैनल्स हों या प्रिंट मीडिया हो, ये सारी चीजें तो की जा रही हैं, लेकिन ये सारी चीजें इसीलिए हो रही हैं। हम किसी भी प्रकार से यह नहीं कहना चाहते कि संविधान के द्वारा प्रदत्त अधिकार का नियमन किया जाए, उसको नियंत्रित किया जाए। Freedom of Speech और Freedom of Expression को नियंत्रित करने का कोई सवाल ही खड़ा नहीं होता, लेकिन उसकी मान्यता सुनिश्चित की जाए। Decency of morality के बारे में संविधान ने भी कहा है कि उसके आधार पर चार नियम बनाना चाहिए। इसके बारे में भी विचार किया जाए। मंत्री जी इस संबंध में National Cultural Policy बना सकती हैं, जो सब के लिए और विशेषकर मीडिया के लिए लागू हो सके। अभी पूर्व मंत्री जी ने regular Authority बनाने की जो बात कही है, इसके बारे में वे क्या विचार कर सकती हैं? इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह भी चाहूंगा कि इतनी सारी चीजें जो हो रही हैं और आपकी तरफ से गाइडलाइन्स भी दी गई हैं, तो क्या आपके विभाग के स्तर पर जो अधिकारीगण

हैं, वे इन सारी चीजों को देख नहीं पाते हैं? ...**(समय की घंटी)**... अगर वे देख पाते हैं तो इसको कंट्रोल करने के लिए वे क्या प्रयत्न करते हैं? ये सारी चीजें हैं, जिनके बारे में जानकारी दी जाए तो शायद हम सदन के माध्यम से देश को यह संदेश दे सकेंगे कि हम गंभीरतत्पूर्वक विचार करके इन सारी चीजों को नियंत्रित करते हुए एक सकारात्मक दिशा में विकास हो सके, इस दिशा में हम सोच रहे हैं, ऐसा हम अनुभव करते हैं। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान) : धन्यवाद, उपसभापति जी। बड़े महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर यह चर्चा हो रही है। जो इलैक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया है, जो टीवी चैनल्स हैं, वे देश में अभिव्यक्ति का एक सशक्त माध्यम हैं। देश की आजादी के दौरान भी जो प्रिन्ट मीडिया है, जो समाचार-पत्र हैं, उनकी बड़ी अच्छी भूमिका रही है। इस देश में जब टीवी चैनल्स आरंभ हुए, सबसे पहले दूरदर्शन पर तो बड़े अच्छे-अच्छे सीरियल्स आये, जिनके लिए पूरी ट्रेफिक रुक जाती थी। मुझे पता नहीं कि उनकी क्या टीआरपी हुआ करती थी। "हम लोग", "बुनियाद", "रामायण", "महाभारत" और "भारत एक खोज" जैसे कुछ सीरियल्स थे।

जो कि एक संदेश भी देते थे, जिनको पूरा देश एकजुट होकर देखा करता था। वे मनोरंजन भी देते थे और जानकारी भी। आज जो TV Channels हैं वे हमारे गाइड भी हैं, कहीं समाज के गुरु भी हैं, समाज का आइना भी हैं और वे कहीं न कहीं समाज को एक मार्गदर्शन देने की, आलोचना करने की, उसको उपदेश और संदेश देने की शक्तियां रखते हैं। इसलिए मीडिया की या TV Channels की जितनी शक्तियां हैं, उतनी ही उनकी जिम्मेदारी भी है। सर, इस सदन में जहां न्यायपालिका के कार्यकरण पर चर्चा होती है, जहां कार्यपालिका या विधायिका के कार्यकरण पर चर्चा होती है, जहां संसद सदस्य द्वारा अगर कहीं मर्यादाविहीन होकर आचरण होता है तो उन पर भी कार्यवाही होती है, इसलिए कोई भी संस्था इस देश में सामाजिक व्यवस्था, राष्ट्रहित और समाजहित से ऊपर नहीं है और इसीलिए जब भी कोई ऐसी बात होती है तो इस सदन में चर्चा होती है। आज जिस तरह से सदन को चिंता हुई है तो हम कहीं न कहीं आम आदमी की अभिव्यक्ति को, जो हम तक पहुंची है, हम उसको इस सदन के माध्यम से अभिव्यक्त कर रहे हैं। चिंता यह है कि मनोरंजन पहले भी मिला है, समाचार पहले भी मिले हैं, लेकिन अब एक ऐसी होड़ क्यों हो गई है। अगर इस होड़ की जड़ TRP है, TRP और advertisement जगत की मिलीभगत के कारण अगर इस तरह की होड़ लगी हुई है कि अमर्यादित कार्यक्रम, जो समाज में किशोर मन हैं, जो बच्चों के युवा दिमाग हैं, उनको कहीं न कहीं गलत प्रेरणा देते हैं या गलत राह पर डालते हैं, गलत दिशा में प्रेरित करते हैं, तो इससे एक चिंतनीय स्थिति पैदा होती है। मीडिया खुद लोकतंत्र का चौथा शक्तिशाली स्तम्भ है, इसलिए पहले तो उनको खुद ही अपनी लक्ष्मण रेखा का ज्ञान होना चाहिए। इस देश, इस राष्ट्र और समाज के प्रति उनको अपनी जिम्मेदारी का अहम बोध स्वयं ही होना चाहिए, ताकि यह स्थिति न आए कि इस तरह की चर्चा सदन में करनी पड़े।

महोदय, हमारे कई माननीय सदस्यों ने जो बातें कही हैं, बड़ी जिम्मेदारी के साथ कही हैं, चिंता और चिंतन के बाद कही हैं, चाहे वह किसी कार्यक्रम के बारे में कही गई हों या सच का सामना के बारे में कही गई हों। सर, अगर आप सच का सामना देखेंगे, तो आप उस सच का सामना नहीं कर पाएंगे। इस तरह की बातें उसमें कही और पूछी जाती हैं, मैं समझ नहीं सकती हूं कि किस तरह से वह सब allowed है। किसी TV Channel के नीचे अगर यह लिख

दिया जाए कि यह केवल व्यस्कों के लिए है, बच्चों के लिए इसे देखना मना है, यह तो फिल्म की तरह हो गया, जो कारगर नहीं है क्योंकि घर-घर में TV Channels लगे हुए हैं और parents हर वक्त तो घर पर होते नहीं हैं, हर वक्त तो वे बच्चों को रोक भी नहीं सकते। वहां पर किसी तरह से कोई adult वाला formula चल ही नहीं सकता। तो ऐसी स्थिति में बच्चों के हित के लिए, समाज के हित के लिए इस मामले को सरकार को देखना पड़ेगा। महोदय, हम जानते हैं कि माननीय मंत्री महोदया स्वयं एक महिला हैं, संवेदनशील हैं, अपनी जिम्मेदारी को अच्छी तरह से समझती हैं। महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदया से कहना चाहती हूं कि दूरदर्शन एक ऐसा चैनल है जिसके माध्यम से जो कार्यक्रम आते हैं, वे मर्यादित हैं और उस तरह की कोई न कोई guidelines और चैनल्स के लिए भी होना चाहिए। दूरदर्शन पर जो समाचार आते हैं, वे सचमुच में समाचार होते हैं, जैसे कि समाचार होने चाहिए। अब यह कोई तर्क नहीं है कि लोग यह कार्यक्रम पसंद कर रहे हैं, इसलिए हम इसे दिखा रहे हैं। लोग तो पसंद अच्छे-अच्छे कार्यक्रमों को भी कर रहे हैं, भारत एक खोज को भी इसी देश ने पसंद किया है, आज भी कई तरह के सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रमों को पसंद किया जा रहा है। तो ऐसी कोई लोगों की रुचि नहीं है, हम लोगों की रुचि का गलत आकलन न करें। भारतीय संस्कृति के प्रति राष्ट्र की जिम्मेदारी है। महोदय, मैं कहना चाहूंगी कि NEWS Channels NEWS के लिए थे, लेकिन आज वे अधिकांशतः मनोरंजन दे रहे हैं और मनोरंजन से भी ज्यादा दे रहे हैं, जैसे सनसनी। सनसनीखेज कार्यक्रमों के नाम पर रेप तथा ऐसे-ऐसे हिंसक व भयानक क्राइम उन पर दिखाए जाते हैं - पहले तो उनको रिपीट कर-करके दिखाया जाना, फिर एक कार्यक्रम की कल्पना करके कार्यक्रम बनाकर फिर उसका प्रस्तुतीकरण करना, इससे क्या मिल रहा है समाज को? कई बच्चों के दिमाग पर इसका बड़ा विपरीत असर पड़ता है और उन्हें लगता है कि यह कोई बड़ा जबरदस्त काम हो रहा है और उनका मन होता है उसे करने का। हम कई बार पढ़ते हैं कि इन-इन बच्चों ने फलां फिल्म या सीरियल देखकर इस तरह के अपराध को अंजाम दिया, वहां से वे ऐसे अपराध सीखते हैं। कई बार TV में हम देखते हैं कि विधि बताई जाती है - नकली दूध बनाया जा रहा है, नकली घी बनाया जा रहा है, नकली दवाएं बनाई जा रही हैं, वह तो ठीक।

लेकिन उनकी विधि भी बताई जा रही है कि कैसे बनाया जाता है। इससे कई लोग सीखेंगे, उसको बनाने के लिए प्रेरित होंगे, जो नकली चीज अगर एक जगह बिक रही है, तो सारे देश में बिकने लगेगी। अब कई जगह हम देखते हैं कि अगर किसी धर्म, जाति या संप्रदाय संबंधी कोई हादसा होता है या घटना होती है, तो आज टी.वी. चैनल्स से ज्यादा बढ़िया जिम्मेदारी कौन निभा सकता है कि वह उस आग पर पानी डालते हैं या उस आग में घी डालता है। वह चिंगारी आग बनती है, भड़कती है, वह देश के एक कोने में लगती है, लेकिन टी.वी. चैनल्स के माध्यम से वह आग पूरे देश में फैल सकती है। आज इन टीवी चैनल्स की अहम जिम्मेदारी है और वह बोध उनको होना चाहिए। सरकार को चाहिए कि वह इस दिशा में देखे और जैसे माननीय सदस्यों ने विचार रखा है कि इस तरह की अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता तो हो, लेकिन यह अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता और किसी की स्वतंत्रता का हरण न करे, समाज की जो संस्कृति है, उसका हरण न करे और सामाजिक मर्यादा का हरण न करे। इसके लिए जरूरी है कि भूत-प्रेत, जादू टोने, अंधविश्वास को बढ़ावा देने वाले कार्यक्रमों पर रोक लगे। आज इस तरह के कार्यक्रम आ रहे हैं कि गायें गायब हो रही हैं, गायें कहाँ जा रही हैं, वे बता रहे हैं कि गायें उठ रही हैं और आसमान में जा रही हैं, कोई रॉकेट जैसी चीज उनको खींच रहा है। ऐसी कल्पना से कार्यक्रम बनाकर लोगों में भ्रम फैलाया जा रहा है।

नरबलि जैसी चीजों को इस रूप में दिखाया जा रहा है। अपराध जगत और अंडरवर्ल्ड से जुड़े लोगों को ग्लोरिफाई किया जा रहा है, डॉन, अंडरवर्ल्ड का बादशाह, माफिया किंग-ऐसे टाईटिल उनको दिए जा रहे हैं, ताकि युवा पीढ़ी इन सबको देखकर प्रेरित हो। उनको कंडम करने के बजाय, उनको ग्लोरिफाई करने वाले शब्दों का इस्तेमाल होता है।

अंत में मैं यही कहूंगी कि सरकार इसके लिए कोई रेगुलेटरी अथॉरिटी जरूर बनाए, जैसे फिल्मों में सेंसरशिप होती है, वरना वहां भी क्या जरूरत है, वहां तो लोग फिर भी टिकट लेकर जाते हैं। इसलिए इस बारे में कुछ न कुछ व्यवस्था हो, कुछ नीति हो, कुछ अथॉरिटी हो, सरकार उसकी कुछ गाइडलाइन सुनिश्चित करे। जैसे दूरदर्शन पहले काम करता था, न्यूज चैनल्स काम करते थे, सारे चैनल उसी तरह से काम करें, उसी दिशा में काम करें और देश के समाज और संस्कृति को, देश की एकता और अखंडता को देखते हुए, अपनी जिम्मेदारी के साथ काम करें, मैं यही कहना चाहूंगी। धन्यवाद।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार) : उपसभापति जी, यह सदन बहुत गंभीरता के साथ इस सवाल पर चर्चा कर रहा है और मुझसे पहले बोलने वाले सदस्यों ने विस्तार से इस पर अपनी बातें रखी हैं, इसलिए इसमें बहुत ज्यादा जोड़ने की गुंजाइश मेरे पास नहीं है। मैं इतना जरूर कहूंगा कि टी.वी. चैनल वालों का यह कहना है कि लोग देखना चाहते हैं, इसलिए हम दिखाते हैं। मैं यह मानता हूँ कि sex and violence - ये दोनों चीजें ऐसी हैं, जिनके प्रति इंसान की उत्सुकता बहुत ज्यादा रहती है, लेकिन जैसे-जैसे सभ्यता का विकास हुआ, वैसे-वैसे मनुष्य ने समझा कि यदि sex and violence को मर्यादित नहीं किया गया, यदि उसको अनुशासित नहीं किया गया, संयमित नहीं किया गया, तो इंसान और समाज चल नहीं सकता है। इसलिए धीरे-धीरे sex and violence को अनुशासित बनाने के लिए समाज ने नियम और कायदे बनाए। सभ्यता के विकास के दौर में जिस ढंग से sex and violence को संयमित करने का प्रयास हुआ है, अनुशासित करने का प्रयास हुआ है, उसको फिर से अराजक बनाने की आज जो चेष्टा हो रही है, उस पर सदन की चिंता बिल्कुल जायज़ है। मैं श्याम बेनेगल जी की बात से बिल्कुल सहमत हूँ कि एक रेगुलेटरी अथॉरिटी बननी चाहिए, लेकिन सरकार के हाथ में उसको रेगुलेट करने का अधिकार दिया जाए, मैं इससे बिल्कुल असहमत हूँ। हमको याद है कि बिहार में एक बार हमारे यहां कांग्रेस पार्टी की सरकार थी और पंडित जगन्नाथ मिश्र जी उसके मुख्य मंत्री हुआ करते थे, वे एक Press Bill लेकर आए थे और यह भ्रम पैदा हुआ था कि उस Press Bill के जरिए, प्रेस की आजादी को नियंत्रित करने की कोशिश होगी और हम सब लोगों ने उसके खिलाफ आंदोलन किया था, उस आंदोलन में हमने लाठी खाई थी और हम करीब डेढ़ महीने तक जेल में रहे थे। इसलिए हम प्रेस की आजादी के पक्षधर हैं और यह मानते हैं कि प्रेस को नियंत्रित करने का कोई भी अधिकार सरकार के हाथ में नहीं रहना चाहिए। उस मामले में श्याम बेनेगल जी ने जो सुझाव दिया है, मैं उस सुझाव के साथ सहमत हूँ कि इसमें सिविल सोसायटी के लोगों को, प्रेस के प्रतिनिधियों को रखा जाना चाहिए और सरकार के प्रतिनिधि भी उसमें रहें।

ऐसी एक Regulatory Body बननी चाहिए, लेकिन वह दंत-विहीन और नख-विहीन नहीं होनी चाहिए। आज जैसे Press Council of India है, आप उसके सामने कोई शिकायत कीजिए, उसको कोई सुनने वाला नहीं है। जैसे वृंदा जी ने जिस अखबार का कतरन आपको दिखाया, आप उसको पढ़िए। उसको पढ़ने के बाद ऐसा लग रहा है कि पूरे दिल्ली शहर के लोगों को उकसाया जा रहा है, भड़काया जा रहा है कि तुम सार्वजनिक जगहों पर औरतों को

पीछे से च्यूटी काटो, अगर काटते हो, तो तुम बहादुर हो और तुमको तमगा मिलेगा। एक राष्ट्रीय अखबार के द्वारा इस तरह से भड़काना, जिसका बहुत सम्मान के साथ नाम लिया जाता है, उस तरह का अखबार इस तरह का विज्ञापन और इस तरह का competition चलाता है और हम लोग इसको चुपचाप देखते रहें। मैं तो अम्बिका जी को कहूंगा कि सबसे पहले यह जो आपके सामने चुनौती है कि जिस तरह के कार्यक्रम का और प्रतियोगिता का विज्ञापन इस अखबार ने निकाला है, इसके खिलाफ मुकदमा चलना चाहिए। इसके Editor और प्रकाशक के खिलाफ अपराधिक मामला दर्ज होना चाहिए। मैं इस बात का समर्थन करते हुए कि एक Regulatory Body बने और उसको ताकत दिया जाए और यह अधिकार दिया जाए कि वह जो फैसला करे, वह फैसला लागू हो। इसी के साथ मैं आपको धन्यवाद देते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Gireesh Kumar Sanghi; you have only five minutes.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: I hope there is no conflict of interest.

SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI (Andhra Pradesh): I run a newspaper. I don't run a TV channel. ...*(Interruptions)*... Still, if you have any objection, I will...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: It was a lighter comment. Come on, Gireesh. Take it easy.

SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Sir, an appeaser is one who feeds the crocodile hoping it will eat him in the last. सर, आज हम एक ऐसे मुद्दे पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं, जो पूरे समाज से संबंध रखता है और यह एक बहुत ही सामाजिक मुद्दा है। पता नहीं क्यों इस मुद्दे पर चर्चा करने के लिए जो एक हिचकिचाहट महसूस कर रहे थे, उसको उन्होंने रखा। कल क्या होगा? क्या टेलिवीजन चैनल वाले हमको बताएंगे या नहीं बताएंगे? अगर नहीं बताएंगे तो क्या होगा? मैं नहीं समझता कि यह सदन उनकी मेहरबानी पर चलता है। अगर वह हमें उनके चैनल से बताएं या नहीं बताएं, उनके बताने या नहीं बताने से पूरा समाज हमारे performance का जजमेंट करता है, जजमेंट तो वह यही करेगा कि अगर हम किसी मुद्दे पर सही बात करते हैं और अपनी बात निर्भय होकर रखते हैं, तो उसको सराहना जरूर मिलेगी।

सर, हमारी जो संस्कृति है, वह दुनिया में अपनी एक विशेषता रखती है। लॉर्ड मैकाले ने 1935 में कहा था, "I have travelled the length and breadth of this country and I did not find a single deceit, a single begger, a single cheat. Such is the high morale and ethos and culture of this country. And unless we change the whole perception, we cannot rule this country. And, I think, that is what is going to happen; it is happening gradually. अगर हम आने वाले बीस साल, पच्चीस साल या पचास साल देखें और कुछ आंकड़े यह बताते हैं कि 2050 में हमारे देश की आबादी 175 करोड़ हो जाएगी और विश्व का सबसे महत्वपूर्ण देश हो जाएगा, वह हम अभी भी हैं। हमारा देश 2050 में आबादी में विश्व का सबसे बड़ा देश होगा।

और 2060 तक विश्व की करीब एक-तिहाई आबादी हमारे देश में होगी। इसलिए यह तो हम सबको मिलकर तय करना है कि इस जनता को, इस आबादी को, इस समाज को किस दिशा में हम ले जाएं? क्या सीख हम उनको सिखाएं? हमारी आने वाली युवा पीढ़ी को हम क्या सिखाएं, क्या दिखाएं, उनको क्या समझाएं? A child tells in the street what his father and mother say at home. हमारा बच्चा जब बाहर जाता है तो हमारा जो आचरण

होता है, हम उसको जो सीख देते हैं, उसकी ही वह बाहर बात करता है और हम सब जानते हैं, हमारे देश में कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था नहीं है कि हर घर में पांच-दस टी.वी. या पांच-दस rooms हों। करीब 90 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा आबादी झुग्गी-झोंपड़ियों में रहती है या 2 rooms, 3 rooms set में रहती है और उनके पास बैठने के लिए एक ही room होता है और उसी room में बैठकर पोता टी.वी. देखता है, बाप देखता है, दादा देखता है। सकुटुंब उसी drawing room में बैठकर वे सब टेलीविजन देखते हैं, जैसा कि कई वक्ताओं ने बताया। जब हम बैठकर वह देखते हैं और कोई ऐसी चीज़ सामने आ जाती है, तो रिमोट हमें अपने हाथ में रखना पड़ता है, तुरंत चैनल बदलना पड़ता है क्योंकि बहु-बेटियां साथ में बैठी होती हैं - तो यह हमारी संस्कृति है! इस संस्कृति को हमें पूरे विश्व को देना है, यह नहीं कि पूरी पश्चिमी सभ्यता को हमें सीखना है। इसलिए यह जो मुद्दा है, यह बहुत अहम मुद्दा है और इस मुद्दे को मैं नहीं समझता, कोई नया कानून, कोई नया रेग्युलेटर और कोई ... आप चाहे कितने कानून बना लो, अम्बिका जी, चाहे कितनी सख्ती बरतें, बाद में विवाद आ जाएगा स्टेट एंड सेंटर का। अम्बिका जी अगर डायरेक्शन देंगी, तो इंप्लिमेंट कौन करेगा? स्टेट को करना पड़ेगा, स्टेट पुलिस को करना पड़ेगा। हमारी स्टेट पुलिस किस तरह से काम करती है, हमारे पास कितने कानून हैं, कहां-कहां क्लब चलते हैं, कहां-कहां डिस्को चलते हैं, कहां-कहां नाइट क्लब चलते हैं, यह सबको पता होता है और क्या action लिया जाता है, हम सबको पता है। इस चीज़ पर हमको बहुत ज्यादा गंभीरता से सोचना है, इसलिए समाज को इंद्रोस्पैक्शन करना होगा, टी.वी. चैनल वालों को इंद्रोस्पैक्शन करना होगा कि हम जो बता रहे हैं, वह समाज के लिए सही है या नहीं है। अगर हम सही नहीं बता रहे हैं, उसमें हमारा कोई लालच है, किसी पैसे कमाने के इरादे से वह बता रहे हैं, तो उससे समाज distort होगा, समाज में बुराइयां आएंगी। इसलिए उनको इंद्रोस्पैक्शन करके, आपस में चर्चा करके उस चीज़ को खुद बंद करना पड़ेगा। जब तक यह नहीं होगा, सामाजिक दबाव नहीं होगा, तो मैं नहीं समझता कि कोई कानून, कोई रूल्स या रेग्युलेशन, कोई नया एक्ट इसको कर सकता है।

महोदय, एक छोटी सी बात और मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से रखना चाहूंगा। मैं इस सदन में 2004 में आया हूं। एक से एक महान वक्ताओं को मैंने सुना है। बहुत कमिटेड लोग हैं, पर जब बाहर नेताओं के बारे में बताया जाता है कि नेता ऐसा है, नेता वैसा है, तो दुख होता है। कामकाज छोड़कर लोग समाज सेवा में जुटे हुए हं, कामकाज छोड़कर लोग प्रजा का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं और सैक्रिफाइस करते हैं और ऐसे-ऐसे लोग सैक्रिफाइस करते हैं, जिसकी कोई चर्चा ही नहीं होती है। दूसरी ओर नेताओं की दूसरी ही छवि बनाई जा रही है, इसलिए उसको भी हमें देखना है, उसके ऊपर भी विचार करना है। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी वाणी को विराम देता हूं।

श्री उपसभापति : लास्ट स्पीकर, श्री भारतकुमार राऊत हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी (उत्तराखंड) : सर, मेरा भी नाम है।

श्री उपसभापति : नहीं, आपका नाम नहीं है।

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी : सर, मेरा नाम है। मेरा नाम प्रस्ताव में दिया हुआ है।

श्री उपसभापति : बिल्कुल नहीं है.... मेरे पास नहीं है।...(व्यवधान).... प्रस्ताव का नहीं है। इस two and a half hours के शॉर्ट ड्यूरेशन डिसकशन में प्रस्ताव की बात नहीं होती है। राऊत जी, सिर्फ तीन मिनट बोलिए।

श्री भारतकुमार राऊत (महाराष्ट्र) : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपका आभारी हूँ कि लास्ट मिनट में आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया। मैंने सारी चर्चा बहुत गौर से देखी और सुनी है। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : मैं पूरे सदन को यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि daily हम bulletin में यह repeat कर रहे हैं कि डिबेट शुरू होने के आधा घंटा पहले जो भी नाम आएंगे, जिनका भी टाइम होगा, वही नाम लिए जाएंगे। हम repeat कर रहे हैं, यह decision हो चुका है कि कोई भी डिबेट में आखिरी moment में हाथ उठाकर participate नहीं कर सकता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आपकी पार्टी से नहीं दिया गया है। इसलिए मैं सदन से रिवेस्ट करता हूँ कि इन रूल्स का हम पालन करें।

श्री भारतकुमार राऊत : महोदय, जो चर्चा यहां पर दो घंटे से ज्यादा समय से हो रही है, उसे मैंने बड़ी रुचि से और गौर से सुना। मुझे यह बताना है कि जिस तरह से मीडिया की चर्चा हो रही है, उसे लेकर हम जरूरत से ज्यादा चिंतित हो गए हैं। मैं इस मीडिया का एक सदस्य हूँ। मेरे सब ज्येष्ठ सदस्य मुझसे गुस्सा होंगे, नाराज़ होंगे, फिर भी मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि जो-जो इल्लाम सबने मीडिया के ऊपर, विशेषतया electronic media के ऊपर लगाए हैं, ये सब मानने के बावजूद भी मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि इसके लिए इलाज गवर्नमेंट की regulatory authority नहीं है। अगर आप गवर्नमेंट की regulatory authority लाएंगे तो अन्य जो regulatory authorities हैं, उनका जो परिणाम हुआ, वही परिणाम इसका होगा। इससे हमें जो परिणाम चाहिए, वह नहीं मिलेंगे। इसलिए If at all we are interested in bringing in a better and civilised society, there should be self-restraint. वृंदा जी ने कहा कि महिला को कम दर्शाने वाले विज्ञापन आते हैं, प्रोग्राम्स आते हैं। मैं बिल्कुल मानता हूँ कि ऐसा होता है और मैं इसके लिए शर्मिन्दा हूँ। लेकिन वृंदा जी और यहां बैठे सब लोग बाहर की दुनिया में लीडर्स हैं। They are social, political and cultural leaders. अगर हमें इसके ऊपर कंट्रोल करना है, तो अम्बिका सोनी जी की गवर्नमेंट से कुछ नहीं होने वाला है। ये जो लोग हैं, इनको जनता मानती है, इनके पीछे लोग हैं, इनके पीछे संगठन हैं। ये लोग ऐसा कोई campaign करें कि लोग प्रोग्राम नहीं देखें। लोग क्यों ये प्रोग्राम्स देखते हैं? वे इसलिए देखते हैं क्योंकि इनमें उत्तकी रुचि है, अच्छे हों या बुरे हों, लेकिन उनकी रुचि होती है। अगर हम इनको बोलेंगे कि यह सब मत दिखाओ तो कोई कानून बनेगा। महोदय, कानून तोड़ने की natural प्रवृत्ति होती है, लोग कानून तोड़ेंगे। इसलिए इस तरह से कुछ करना चाहिए जिससे लोग इन्हें न देखें। यह जो आयुद्ध है, यह आयुद्ध सरकार के पास या कानून के पास नहीं है, यह social education के पास, cultural education के पास है और यह cultural education, यह social education हमारे नेताओं के बीच में है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... सर, मैं एक और बात बताना चाहता हूँ। यहां बहुत से लोग बोल रहे थे कि यहां पाश्चात्य संस्कृति लाई जाती है। सर, यह विश्व नज़दीक आ रहा है। We are coming very close to each other. हम technology की वजह से, scientific progress की वजह से नज़दीक आ रहे हैं। We cannot be selective. अगर वहां पर मोबाइल आता है तो वह मोबाइल हमें चाहिए, वहां विज्ञान की प्रगति होती है तो विज्ञान की प्रगति हमें चाहिए, वहां के विचार चाहिए, लेकिन वहां के कोई प्रोग्राम आए तो यहां पर नहीं चलेंगे - ऐसा selective attitude हमें नहीं देना चाहिए। अगर हम ऐसा करेंगे तो जनता यह नहीं मानेगी। जैसे श्याम बेनेगल साहब ने बताया कि एक प्रोग्राम जो वहां पर चला है, वही प्रोग्राम, वैसे का वैसे अगर इंडियन चैनल पर भी दिख रहा है तो उससे किसी को आपत्ति नहीं है, लेकिन जब वह दूसरे नाम से, हिन्दी नाम से यहां आता है तो हमें आपत्ति होती है। We cannot be that selective. मेरी एक ही गुजारिश है कि self regulatory होना चाहिए। मैं

न्यूजपेपर में काम करता हूं। जैसे हर न्यूजपेपर में अपना खुद का code of conduct होता है, कभी लिखित होता है, कभी अलिखित होता है लेकिन खुद का code of conduct होता है। वैसे ही चैनल्स में भी होता है। उस conduct को ठीक करने की कोशिश करो, उससे ही कुछ फायदा होगा, आपकी regulatory authority से मुझे नहीं मालूम कितना फायदा होगा। इसलिए मेरी मंत्री जी से दरखास्त है कि आप इस तरह की एक convention बुलाओ, एक seminar बुलाओ, जिसमें सबको बुलाकर उनकी राय लो और उनको खुद को regulate करने के लिए प्रेरित करो। धन्यवाद।

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am indeed very happy that we have had an instructive and a very extensive discussion. विस्तार से चर्चा हुई। चर्चा का विषय हम सब लोगों ने जैसे बार-बार दोहराया है। That the adverse impact which today some of the television programmes, which have excessive violence and are obscene, the impact, the adverse impact they have on our social values, on our family values and more especially on the young formative mind. Across the House Members have expressed their anguish and deep concern and I have very methodically noted the points of every single Member who spoke here today. I just want to assure the House that I am not any different. I may be a Minister today but I am a woman and I am a grandmother, I am as concerned as anyone of the Members who spoke and those who did not speak when we see that the values that we have grown up with are getting eroded. We all worry about our children seeing too much of television, even excessive viewing of Cartoon TV is not good. The increasing violence in society makes us think that the viewing of TV channels, TV shows and cinema are causing violence to increase in the society. But, as Mr. Shyam senegal pointed out and some others, including, we, as public representatives, are conscious of the fact that there are some sections of the people, many of whom are young, who, probably, may not be sharing our concerns in the same degree as we have voiced them today. Then, of course, all of us have directly or indirectly, placatingly or apprehensively talked of media. And the sensitivity of the media to any kind of control, any type of attempts, much more so by a Government to arbitrarily deal with them, regulate them or even to control them. We all realise that it is an extremely sensitive subject. There are competing priorities. On the one hand, the right under article 19 of the Freedom of Expression and, on the other hand, equally important the concerns of civil society, parliamentarians, NGOs, parents, weaker sections, courts directives and — Mr. Venkaiah Naidu has gone — the 32nd Report of the Rajya Sabha Petitions Committee which has dealt with it extensively. We all want to ensure that salutary community standards for broadcasting, etc. are established. These discussions are not new, I am new, I have been for seven weeks in this Office and, please, believe me when I tell you that from 1997, when it all began, in 1995 when we put the Cable Regulatory Act in place, in 1994 we made the rules, and in 1997 when the Government of that time brought a Broadcasting Bill to put in a mechanism in the Lok Sabha, the Lok Sabha was dissolved and the Bill lapsed. I have with me the entire chronology of what happened at different

times under different Governments and as Rajeev Shuklaji rightly said, all of us have been either directly or indirectly in the Government of India since 1997 till date. I do not want to read out the tabulation. The reason of my mentioning this is that we have all been concerned and yet this being such a sensitive subject that each time any Government or any group of people or a Ministry has taken up, made up its mind to put in place a mechanism, technology has advanced mushrooming of television channels has taken place, uplinking and downlinking rules have changed the scenario.

The whole thing has to be discussed, interacted and spoken of with the stakeholders all over again. I am making no excuses, but, realising the sensitivity all of us have condoned interaction, discussion, the evolving of a consensus on what to put in place. I would like to mention that I am so happy to hear so many of our hon. Members, in fact, almost everyone has spoken of the need to put in place some credible mechanism maybe self-regulatory, but, certainly independent to deal with Content Code and to deal with so many other issues concerning the various stakeholders. All over the world and probably India is one of the few countries — I have again a list of all the countries of the world — which have some regulator in place. Their powers, their terms of reference may be different. But there are in place, regulators. India is probably one of the very few countries which do not have regulations. The most popular model which most people have, not today, but, on earlier occasions in our interactions, have referred to is OFCOM which is what guides the BBC. But there are several countries all over the world that have these regulators in place. We in India also in the last few years have developed some mechanism. Maybe it is not effective, maybe it does not have any statutory power but the effort has been there and we should appreciate it. There is the National Broadcasters Association, the NBA; the Indian Broadcasters Federation, the IBF. We are not happy with ASCI, as Brindaji rightly said, because it takes for too long. The advertisements go on and they are not able to stop them. They and we all have to work within the rules and the framework which we have around us. We cannot ourselves violate something which has not yet given us the permission to deal with it effectively and quickly. But these organisations have also established their own codes. I welcome this for the simple reason, we may feel that they have not been able to do very much, but I welcome this because of the desire on the part of broadcasters to give a content which is not obscene, which is not violence prone, which can be seen by families together. That desire is there somewhere. Let us recognise it. Maybe it has not been effective and we still have aberrations like what the channels that have been mentioned in both Houses. In the course of one week there were two channels referred to and two programmes referred to. I would not like to limit this debate to any individual programme but I would like to say that even though they have set up these, they also realise that there are 480 channels today. I have the record of how many are uplinked and how many are downlinked. They don't have a universal membership. It is difficult for any Body or any association which exists today, no matter how correct their intentions or how deep their desire to conform to our standards of social

norms may be, to represent all 480 channels. Therefore, it has been felt increasingly, as years went on, to put in place a mechanism in the way of a Broadcasting Bill which would in its place put up a Broadcasting Regulatory Authority of India. The Government has not been sitting absolutely inactive and when I say Government I don't mean the one which came into office in 2009. I don't mean even the one which came earlier in power in 2004. I mean Government since 1997. All of us have tried to put in place committees, to have these discussions, to bring about Content Code regulations, to discuss with the broadcasters and other stakeholders.

But, we have not arrived at anything, because anything which is initiated by the Government turns out to be suspect. People feel that we are trying to control and that is not the intention of anyone of us.

I would also like to say that even though the Government should not interfere — in the absence of this mechanism, unfortunately, it has been the role of the Ministry of I & B, with the help of some of the self-regulatory bodies or associations, with the help of an Inter-Ministerial Committee which was specially put in place by the Government, headed by officer, with a definite proviso that the Ministry of Women and Child Development must be represented, to look into all these aberrations of violations referred to by Shri Naik and others codes of our Cable (Regulatory) Act, 1995 and the Uplinking and Downlinking Rules. So, all these violations are looked into by this Committee. I would say that it is an interim arrangement. The Government has also put in place, a year-or-so ago, a mechanism to monitor electronic media. We have increased the number of channels from 150 to 300. But, what I am trying to say is, we are not sitting हाथ के ऊपर हाथ रखकर। ये attempts वीक जरूर होंगे, मगर प्रयास जरूर हो रहा है कि हम कहीं न कहीं कुछ रोक तो लगा सकें। यह मामला इतना संवेदनशील है कि जो हमारे फैमिली वैल्यूज हैं, जो हमारी संस्कृति है, जो हम कल्चरल डायवर्सिटी की बात करते हैं, जो हम लोगों की सामूहिक सांस्कृतिक परंपराएं हैं, किसी को भी ठेस न पहुंचे, इस दृष्टिकोण से हमारा मंत्रालय कोशिश करता है। शायद आपको सुनने में हैरानी होगी कि पिछले तीन-चार सालों में 278 नोटिस दिए गए, 160 सिर्फ एडवर्टाइजमेंट के लिए नोटिस दिए गए और शायद 119 में हो सकता है, एक-दो ज्यादा या कम हों, 119 में से आगे बढ़कर भी कुछ कार्यवाही की गई। कुछ चैनल्स को बंद कर दिया गया था क्योंकि उनका content कुछ साल पहले भारत में बिल्कुल चल नहीं सकता था, लेकिन इसके अलावा आप यह सब जानते हैं क्योंकि मुझ से पहले भी मंत्री रहे हैं और उनसे पहले भी रहे हैं। जब content बदला नहीं गया, या जिसके कारण नोटिस मिला हो या उस नोटिस को लापरवाही के कारण नजर अंदाज किया हो, तो कई दफ़ा भले ही अच्छा नहीं भी लगता हो, लेकिन एक नियम का पालन करने के लिए जो भी कोड है, उसके अंतर्गत काम करने के लिए, चैनल्स भी कुछ अर्से के लिए बंद कर दिए गए। यह तरीका बहुत समय तक नहीं चल सकता है। आज 480 चैनल्स हैं, कल 550 चैनल्स हो जाएंगे और आगे ये 600 हो जाएंगे। मैं

विशेष तौर पर रवि शंकर प्रसाद जी से यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि ये भी इस मंत्रालय में मंत्री रह चुके हैं और ये मुझ से ज्यादा जानते हैं। इन्होंने जो TRP का मुद्दा उठाया है, राजीव शुक्ल जी ने भी उठाया है तथा और सदस्यों ने भी इसका जिक्र किया है, एक बहुत अहम बात है कि TRP बहुत मोटिवेटिंग फोर्स है और यह जो टैम बाडी है, यह इंडस्ट्री और एडवर्टाइजिंग की एक राय से बनी है। एक और कोशिश हुई कि एक ई-मैप भी बने, लेकिन वह चल नहीं सकी। एक BARC है, जो इसी मामले को देखना चाहती है। हम विशेष तौर पर TRP के मामले में ध्यान देने के लिए ट्राई के पास भी गए। उन्होंने कहा कि BARC कोई ऐसा इंतजाम करे, जिसमें सरकार के दो नुमाइंदे भी हों, बेशक उनको वोट देने का अधिकार न हो, लेकिन नुमाइंदे रहने चाहिए। उन्होंने सरकारी नुमाइंदे रखने के लिए साफ इंकार कर दिया, परन्तु कोशिश जरूर हो रही है। एक बात और है कि हम लोगों को और भी ध्यान देना पड़ेगा। आज 480 चैनल्स हैं, कल 550 आगे 600 चैनल्स होंगे, जब आपका हिटस सिस्टम, HD TV सिस्टम होगा और आज टेक्नॉलोजी इस रफ्तार से आगे बढ़ रही है...

दो सौ से अधिक न्यूज चैनल्स हमारे देश में हैं। लोगों को न्यूज चैनल्स से खबर नहीं मिलती तो टी.आर.पी. एक कारण है। जब खबर नहीं मिलती तो मैं देखती हूँ कि हम लोग खबर बनाने पर विवश हो जाते हैं। हमारे नौजवान बच्चे ही तो एंकर्स हैं। वे बेवारे टेलीविजन कैमरा लिए जर्नलिस्ट बनकर खबर की तलाश में घूमते हैं। जब हम यह कहते हैं कि मीडिया ने रोजगार उपलब्ध करवाने का एक बहुत बड़ा रास्ता हमें दिखाया है, तो हमें सोचना पड़ेगा। मैं कोई जस्टिफिकेशन नहीं दे रही हूँ, कारण बता रही हूँ कि कई कारण ऐसे बनते हैं, जो न भी बनने पर लोग बनाना चाहते हों। वह कोई जस्टिफिकेशन नहीं हो सकता है। मैंने कहा कि एक रेग्युलेटरी बॉडी बनाना बहुत अनिवार्य है। एक "कॉमन कॉज" एन.जी.ओ. है, शायद अरुण शौरी के पिताजी, एच.डी. शौरी उसके अध्यक्ष होते थे। उन्होंने सुप्रीम कोर्ट में एक पी.आई.एल. दर्ज की थी, वह चल रही है। पिछले आठ-नौ सालों में सुप्रीम कोर्ट में हमने खुद चार, पांच एफिलेविट्स फाइल किए हैं। NBA वहां गए हैं, IBF वहां गए हैं, सिविल सोसाइटी के नुमाइंदे बुलाए गए हैं। उन्होंने 2007 में जब गुज्जर आंदोलन हुआ था, तो सुप्रीम कोर्ट had suo motu put up two committees. One of them was under the distinguished legal luminary, Mr. Nariman, to look into the role of the media. We all had attended their meetings. We all had responded to their calls to give our points of view. They also came out strongly for a self-regulatory body. What I am saying is that this self-regulatory body seems to be the only way out. I am very happy to tell the House that for the last seven weeks, my colleagues, in the Ministry, and I myself had three meetings with the NBA, the IBF, the ASCI and other individual stakeholders on how to move forward. We cannot have these debates in Parliament and have Members of Parliament anguished and angry, and rightly so; have expressed their concerns and apprehensions. So, we have had three meetings so far. They want to talk, they want to discuss and interact and they wanted us to nominate somebody, from the Ministry, who would take this process further. We had, in the third meeting, named the Secretary, I&B, and his colleagues, whoever he wants to take with him, to have these discussions. And, I do hope that at the end of it, we will be able to arrive at a way of putting a regulatory body in place. There is a fear. And, the fear is, as many of you, especially, Mr. Benegal, said, that if this regulatory body will only be control-content, and it is the Government is a Member, who will be appointing the Chairman, and all the Members. There is an apprehension. So, we will try our best to not only make it credible, self-regulatory, independent, but we would also like to put in place representatives of stakeholders of the media, members of the civil society; maybe as ex officio members, the concerned officials of the

Government, just to keep abreast. And, the self-regulatory body is that what we have in mind. We have had discussions with the State Governments. Most of the State Governments have replied in support of this move. But the fear that our people have about, it being a controlled body, is what we are trying to dispel in the process. We have started to arrive at a clear format of what we are going to do.

Mr. Venkaiah Naidu had mentioned about the Rajya Sabha Committee. did want to tell him that the Ministry has taken some action on his report. But that is also on the same thing.

Some other suggestions have come up from civil society; and they are being implemented by channels, like parental locks. But then that doesn't work, it doesn't work in the sense that when we live in one room or one family having a single TV, it doesn't work. You watch a TV together, but parental locks are something which are increasingly being put in. Defusing, blurring of images of the dead, victims of violence, discrimination, exploitation, especially, women, are being increasingly done by channels. We are being conscious. Watershed system has been talked of that all borderline programmes should be permitted only from 11.00 p.m. to 4.00 a.m. A greater emphasis and care is being put by channels themselves in a self-regulatory mode to show live only what is live and not to have replay being shown as live. The Election Commission has come out with its own suggestions of do's and don'ts during elections. All these concerns, in my frank opinion, can be put in place only if we are able to work towards this self-regulatory body. I agree that the Press Council of India may not have teeth. But I don't think, in recent years, anyone has said that the Press Council of India is controlled by Government. Maybe, we have to look at it all afresh, visit these institutions and mechanisms once again. If the teeth are needed, what kind, this can only be done by discussion and by interaction. So. I am very happy that the Members, by and arge, were all for putting in place this body.

Believe me, the debate, the speeches, the points all of you have made, are going to be by themselves quite a pressure on all of us who are trying to define a way forward and to put in place this mechanism which have referred to several times.

Brindaji, I am extremely surprised to hear about it; I don't know how I missed it. I do read newspapers quite thoroughly. But I did miss this item on Delhi, I will take it out and send it to the Press Council of India for whatever they can do. But I do agree with Mr. Raut that something has to also be like a social movement by all of us. We need to switch off channels. I am not putting it all on you, please. I have already accepted that what we have to do, we have to do. But we have to also think a little out-of-the-box while all this mechanism is being formulated, while we keep you informed of all what we are doing and the progress we are achieving and keeping in mind that this process has been going on for the last 12 years. I do feel that it is a welcome idea if we start some kind of social

movements which will increase the voice of the people, especially, of all of us who don't want to see programmes which hurt our sensitivity.

रवि शंकर प्रसाद जी और राजीव शुक्ल जी ने TRP के बारे में कहा था। हम लोगों ने इसमें काफी कुछ काम किया है। हम लोग TRAI के पास गए। TRAI ने यह बात BARC के सुपुर्द की कि वह इसमें गवर्नमेंट के दो nominees रखे, लेकिन BARC सरकार के साथ बिल्कुल तालमेल नहीं रखना चाहता। इसके अलावा एक Standing Committee of Parliament on Information Technology ने भी अपनी रिपोर्ट सरकार को पेश की और पार्लियामेंट में रखी थी।...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Madam Minister, will you yield for a minute?

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Yes.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Madam Minister, you may recall, I did not at all talk of content regulation, and, I hope with your wide experience, you would know that TRP management has nothing at all to do with content. It is a private body which has acquired this right as a prop up of advertisers. Now, if we have 400 channels, mass viewing, why don't you come with a proper legislation making an autonomous body to monitor TRP? What is the problem there? There is no content conflict at all.

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: I am sorry, I did not say that TRP and content are the same. In seven weeks, I have, at least, learnt that much! I told you that TRP is a privately run organisation between the industry and advertising houses. It has got nothing to do with content. But you did say rightly that there is freedom of media; that there is right of creativity; there is obligation to society and creativity in advertisements should not dilute society. You said something like that. I am only upholding what you said.

श्री कलराज मिश्र : मैडम, आपने...(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती अम्बिका सोनी : मैं उनके सवाल का भी जवाब दे रही हूँ। हम लोगों ने सरकार की तरफ से टीआरपी के मामले में भी काफी कुछ कदम आगे बढ़ाए हैं। हम TRAI के पास भी गए, उन्होंने भी हमें अपने सुझाव दिए। मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ इन्फॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी की जो स्टैंडिंग कमेटी है, उसने भी अपनी रिपोर्ट दी है और ये सब एक ही दिशा की ओर चल रहे हैं कि वहां भी एक इंडिपेंडेंट बॉडी बनाई जाए, जो हफ्ते के हफ्ते अपनी टीआरपी रेटिंग न दे। हम सब लोगों को इस बात का एहसास है कि ये मीटर कहां-कहां लगाए जाते हैं। जो जम्मू-कश्मीर इत्यादि दूर-दराज के इलाकों में रहते हैं या फिर नॉर्थ-ईस्ट की स्टेट्स में रहते हैं, उनकी इच्छा के बारे में उन्हें कोई कन्सर्न नहीं रहता है। टीआरपी उनकी इच्छा को नहीं दिखाता है...(व्यवधान).... जी हां, बिहार, यूपी जहां भी आप जाएं, हम लोगों को सदा इन इलाकों की ज्यादा चिंता रही है। इसलिए मैं आपको कहना चाह रही हूँ कि न तो मेरा दिमाग बंद है, न मेरे कान बंद हैं और न ही मेरी आंखें बंद हैं। इसमें मैंने आपको बताना चाहा था कि जो काम हम कर रहे हैं...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : उपसभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी से मैं एक सवाल करना चाहता हूँ। पूरे हाउस ने यूनानिमस ढंग से जो कन्सर्न शो किया है, उसको कैसे मीट किया जाए, यह उनको और उनकी सरकार को देखना है।

श्री उपसभापति : वही तो वह बता रही हैं।

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Sir, I welcome the interventions of all the Members, and I specially underline that I felt strengthened and supported that everyone, in one way or the other, had

suggested that there should be some regulatory body, independent, credible and with some teeth, which would take care of violations by anyone, whether they be advertisers or content creators, if they violate either the code or the regulatory act, or the up-linking and down-linking rules, that would look after that. I have already welcomed that. I have told you that you must give me a little more time. You have taken 12 years; I am not asking for that much! This is the way to go forward.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, let her complete.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: The confusion is there because you are constantly talking about self-regulation when self-regulation has miserably failed. So, what we are unanimously suggesting in this House, Sir, is that an independent regulatory authority should be set up through an appropriate legislation by Parliament. This is what we are suggesting. Don't leave it to them to set up their own bodies.

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: I would like to inform the hon. Member that I did inform - and I do not want to repeat what I have said - that in the last couple of years, in the absence of anything else, and no, wanting Government to perform the role of a regulatory, self-regulation...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: We do not want Government regulation, Madam.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, let her complete. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the hon. Minister complete.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, I have to make this point. It is not about Government regulation. We want an independent regulator.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You may intervene later. Let the hon. Minister complete.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, it is not only Government that has to regulate, ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, it is not only Government control on the one hand and control of media barons on the other. These are not the only two alternatives in this country. We should have an independent regulator.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, let the hon. Minister complete.

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Sir, I am extremely sorry that I have not been able to convey what I am saying, in an articulate manner, to a very articulate MP, Shrimati Brinda Karat. I just said that I appreciate the self-regulatory bodies which have come up in the absence of anything else, which all of us had felt, should have been in place in the last 12 years, that is, an independent regulatory authority. I welcome this move. It should be viewed as a move towards adhering to the programme and advertisement code. We are talking about it with them. I have said that we are trying; the Broadcast Bill has been discussed with States.

The draft Bill made by my Ministry is on the Ministry's website. The idea of putting it on the website was to get more inputs and have a national debate. These things have to be talked out. The situation is always an evolving situation with technology moving daily at a fast pace. Whatever we

arrive at finally by legislation or by an Act of Parliament, it should have the maximum consensus around it. That is what we are trying to work out. I have only asked for some more time from the House. I hope the hon. Members would give me this time.

श्री कमाल अख्तर : सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : वह हो गया। ...(व्यवधान)... नहीं, नहीं। अब इनसे सवाल-जवाब बहुत हो गया ...(व्यवधान)... बहुत लम्बा डिस्कसन हो गया। ...(व्यवधान)... Message from Lok Sabha...(व्यवधान)... अब आप बैठ जाइए।

MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA

Motion on Constitution of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit

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:

"I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on Monday, the 27th July, 2009, adopted the annexed motion regarding Constitution of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit.

I am to request that the concurrence of Rajya Sabha in the said motion, and also the names of the members of Rajya Sabha appointed to the Joint Committee, may be communicated to this House."

Motion

"That a Joint Committee of the Houses to be called the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit be constituted consisting of fifteen members, ten from this House and five from the Rajya Sabha, who shall be elected from amongst the members of each House in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote:

That the functions of the Joint Committee shall be —

to examine the composition and character of all existing "committees" [other than those examined by the Joint Committee to which the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill, 1957 was referred] and all "committees" that may hereafter be constituted, membership of which may disqualify a person for being chosen as, and for being, a member of either House of Parliament under article 102 of the Constitution;

to recommend in relation to the "committees" examined by it what offices should disqualify and what offices should not disqualify;

to scrutinize, from time to time, the Schedule to the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959, and to recommend any amendments in the said Schedule, whether by way of addition, omission or otherwise;

That the Joint Committee shall, from time to time report to both Houses of Parliament in respect of all or any of the aforesaid matters;

That the members of the Joint Committee shall hold office for the duration of the present Lok Sabha;

That in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee, the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Committee;

That in other respects, the rules of procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees will apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

That this House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do join in the said Joint Committee and do communicate to this House the names of the Members to be appointed by the Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Concern over the horrendous scenario of witch-hunting in the country

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA (Rajasthan): It is an irony that within the country, where women are worshipped like goddesses, there is another India where 'Ghar-ki-Lakshmi' is branded a 'witch' and mercilessly slaughtered. There are endless instances where women have been called witches, stripped, shaven and made to make rounds of village and even eat and drink their own urine and excreta. In many parts of Rajasthan, particularly Dungarpur, Banswara, Udaipur, Tonk, Chittorgarh, Kota and Bhilwara it has been seen that women are branded as witches. If not killed, such women often commit suicide. Witch-hunting is prevalent in the tribal heartland of Central Gujarat, comprising Vadodara, Panchmahals and Dahod districts. Branded as 'dakan', about 100 cases are reported in these three districts every year. Most of these cases go unrecorded or are registered under mental or physical harassment.

A woman guilty of refusing advances, reluctance to sell land or bearing girl children, is likely to be branded a 'witch' and have her breasts chopped off, teeth broken, limbs amputated, eyes gouged out and then killed. Such cases abound especially in tribal-dominated belts.

Above alarming scenario of 'witch-hunting' is a crying shame and every State has its own horror stories. Hence, I would urge the hon. Minister for Home Affairs to take remedial steps on war footing.

Demand to confer Bharat Ratna on the veteran classical vocal musician

Gangubai Hangal posthumously

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार) : उपसभापति महोदय, पिछले 22 तारीख को कर्नाटक के हुबली में हिन्दुस्तानी शास्त्रीय संगीत की लब्ध-प्रतिष्ठित गायिका पद्मविभूषण गंगूबाई हंगल का निधन हो गया। गंगूबाई का जीवन कथा-कहानी की नायिका की तरह है। केवट जाति-जैसी पिछड़ी जाति में पैदा हुई गंगूबाई अपने खून में संगीत लेकर पैदा हुई थीं। यह वह जमाना था, जब गाने वाली लड़कियों को समाज में अच्छी निगाह से नहीं देखा जाता था, लेकिन गंगूबाई ने समाज की मान्यताओं और वर्जनाओं के विरुद्ध संघर्ष किया तथा कभी समर्पण नहीं किया।

गुरबत, सामाजिक अपमान और भूख से संघर्ष करते हुए गंगूबाई ने उस समय के विख्यात संगीतज्ञ, किराना घराना के उस्ताद, सवाई गंधर्व से संगीत सीखा। इसके लिए 30 किलोमीटर रेल की यात्रा और उसके बाद लम्बी पैदल यात्रा भी की। भारत रत्न पंडित भीमसेन जोशी इनके गुरु-भाई थे। दोनों ने साथ-साथ संगीत की शिक्षा प्राप्त की। दोनों में कौन बड़ा और कौन छोटा संगीत का पंडित है, यह कहना कठिन है।

अतः मैं भारत सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि वह इस महान संगीतज्ञ और एक आदर्श महिला, जिसने अपनी मान्यताओं और निष्ठा के लिए सतत् संघर्ष किया, को मरणोपरान्त भारत रत्न से सम्मानित करे। हालांकि यह सम्मान उनको जीवन-काल में ही मिल जाना चाहिए था।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : सर, मैं अपने आपको इस विशेष उल्लेख से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री शान्तराम लक्ष्मण नायक (गोवा) : सर, मैं भी अपने आपको इस विशेष उल्लेख से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

Concern over re-appointment and extension of term of the retired officers and employees

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA (Orissa): Sir, nowadays, retired officers and employees are getting extension in the name of vast experience. Civil servants are in a very advantageous position to get extension or get different postings before their retirement. Especially, all the State Chief Secretaries, Police DGPs, Principal Secretaries to the Government of India or State Governments usually find a suitable job for themselves before retirement. Now, the retirement age of the Doctors, Professors, Lecturers and civil servants has been increased. Even the private sector companies also prefer to appoint retired Government officers. Then, what will happen to the young civil servants, doctors, engineers, diploma holders and ITI diploma holders? Their future is blocked.

For example, in Punjab, recently, the Punjab State Electricity Board has decided to re-appoint the retired employees, having lot of experience, on consolidated salary of Rs.7000 for SSO and Rs.5000 for SSA thereby ignoring 20,000 diploma holders and ITI trained youngsters. If the financial condition of PSEB is not good, the Government should ask them to work on a consolidated salary. But, giving fresh employment to retired employees, who are also getting pension, and denying the right of employment to poor young people may create explosive situation in all the State Governments and the Central Government. I urge upon the House and the Government that the space for youngsters should not be encroached upon by the retired personnel. They have already enjoyed their share of the cake. Let others should get their share and the re-appointment of retired Government officers and employees should be stopped.

Demand to set up monitoring committees for implementation of laws relating to forest land management in the country

श्री मोती लाल बोरा (छत्तीसगढ़) : उपसभापति महोदय, वन भूमि व्यवस्थापन अधिनियम के लागू होने के बाद भी कई राज्य सरकारें राजनीतिक आधारों पर या तो कार्य-गति को धीमा किये हैं या फिर भेदभाव कर रही हैं। यहां तक कि आवेदन फार्म जमा करने में भी भेदभाव बरता जा रहा है। अतः राज्य स्तरीय निगरानी समितियों का गठन जरूरी है। इन्हें अधिकार संपन्न करने के लिए कानून में प्रावधान हेतु संशोधन आवश्यक होगा।

महोदय, वन भूमि का व्यवस्थापन एक समय सीमा में होना था, लेकिन भारत सरकार के स्पष्ट निर्देश के बाद भी अब तक अनेक राज्यों में भूमि व्यवस्थापन का काम पूरा नहीं हुआ है। यह समिति समूचे राज्य का दौरा कर इस कार्य को संपन्न कराएगी। इस समिति के सचिव, वन सचिव होंगे तथा समिति को समस्त आवश्यक कागजात व सुविधाएं राज्य शासन उपलब्ध कराएगी। इस के खर्च का वहन भारत सरकार करेगी। प्रत्येक 2 महीने में समिति अपनी अपनी कार्य सूचना केन्द्रीय वन मंत्री को देगी। महोदय, वन भूमि व्यवस्थापन आदिवासी राज्यों के जिलों में होना है, जिन में मध्य प्रदेश, छत्तीसगढ़, झारखंड, बिहार, महाराष्ट्र, राजस्थान, असम, त्रिपुरा, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, मेघालय, नागालैंड, मणिपुर, सिक्किम, मिजोरम, उत्तर प्रदेश, उत्तराखंड, उड़ीसा, आंध्र प्रदेश, तमिलनाडु, पुडुचेरी व अन्य राज्यों के जिले हैं।

महोदय, वन भूमि पर व्यवस्थापन का कार्य अत्यंत धीमी गति से चलाया जा रहा है। केन्द्र सरकार को चाहिए कि प्रत्येक राज्य में अब तक भूमि व्यवस्थापन का कार्य कितना शेष है, इस की जानकारी समस्त राज्यों से मंगाए और निर्देश जारी करे कि भूमि व्यवस्थापन में ढील बरतने वाले राज्यों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही की जाएगी। वन भूमि व्यवस्थापन पूरे तौर पर नहीं होने के कारण आदिवासियों में रोष है।

Demand to give incentives to sugar industry for its revival

SHRI N. R. GOVINDARAJAR (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to request the Government to consider the following demands of sugar industry. The sugar industry in our country is facing crisis. There is a steep drop in sugar output to 14.5 million tonnes in 2008-09 season against 26.4 million tonnes in 2007-08. It is due to deficit rains, which it has resulted in a surge in sugar prices in the open market. Many sugar mills are not able to utilize their crushing capacities sufficiently.

The sluggish progress of the South-West monsoon and likelihood of further reduction in sugarcane production may affect profit margins of sugar mills in the next season. Hence the sugar industry deserves incentives from the Government. The sugar industry should be allowed duty free import of sugarcane harvesting equipment. To purchase sugarcane harvesters, 3.5 per cent subsidy should be given to the Farmers' Cooperative Societies and also soft loan for the balance amount. The industry is asking for permanent withdrawal of tax on self-generated electricity to encourage captive power generation. The Government should provide special facilities for letters of credit to sugar factories to enable them to import raw sugar to tide over the shortage of domestic sugar production.

The excise duty on molasses should be rationalized to Rs. 250 per tonne which is not at Rs. 750 per tonne. Tax Holiday for the revenue earned from co-generated power should be extended for another ten years and thus will encourage more investment in this sector. "Declared goods" status should be granted to ethanol.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to pass necessary orders in this regard.

SHRI S. ANBALAGAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

Demand to increase number of seats in various medical colleges in Bihar

डा. सी.पी. ठाकुर (बिहार) : उपसभापति महोदय, 2008-09 के आर्थिक सर्वेक्षण के अनुसार देश की बढ़ती हुई आवश्यकता और वित्तीय संसाधन को देखते हुए यह सुझाया गया है कि हमारे पास जो भी पुराने संसाधन और

7.00 P.M.

आधारभूत संरचनाएं हैं, उनका समुचित दोहन किया जाए। इसी सुझाव के तहत मैं भारत सरकार से यह मांग करता हूँ कि वह पटना में 80 एकड़ में फैले और स्वयं के निर्मित भवन में कई वर्षों से चल रहे इंदिरा गांधी आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान (आई.जी.आई.एम.एस.) में 100 छात्रों के लिए मेडिकल की पढ़ाई शुरू करने की अनुमति प्रदान करे। साथ ही, बिहार के अन्य सभी मेडिकल कॉलेजों, यथा पटना मेडिकल कॉलेज, नालंदा मेडिकल कॉलेज, गया मेडिकल कॉलेज, मुजफ्फरपुर मेडिकल कॉलेज, दरभंगा मेडिकल कॉलेज, भागलपुर मेडिकल कॉलेज आदि में प्रत्येक में 50-50 सीटें बढ़ाई जाएं, जिससे बिहार के छात्रों को इस प्रयोजनार्थ अन्यत्र न भटकना पड़े और इस देश में चिकित्सकों की जो कमी है, उसकी भी भरपाई हो सके। सदन में प्रतिपक्ष के नेता भी अरुण जेटली ने भी स्वास्थ्य परिचर्या में भाग लेते हुए इस आशय का वक्तव्य दिया था।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार) : सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको संबद्ध करता हूँ।

Demand to stop supply of ready to use therapeutic foods in the country

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the recent information that international agencies like UNICEF have been importing some kind of branded 'Ready to Use Therapeutic Foods' for the treatment of severely malnourished children and this has been used and distributed without the permission of the Government of India. This is highly objectionable.

International agencies and vested interests are attempting to push these foods in contravention of the Government policy. I believe that indiscriminate distribution of such foods will commercialize young child feeding through market driven approaches. This would change the feeding patterns of young children in the villages and simplify the management of malnutrition. This will also destroy local solutions developed by the people; even the Indian Academy of Pediatrics recommends a modified family pot approach for this.

The Government of India's letter no. Z-28020/50/2003-CH, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare stated as follows:

"The Ready to Use Therapeutic Foods is plum peanut, from France @ US \$ 60 per child. RUTFs are not an accepted strategy of the Government of India, neither under RCH nor ICDS."

I am astonished how this food were procured and distributed by UNICEF in some of the States without any knowledge or approval of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India.

I demand that this RUTF procurement and supply should immediately be stopped.

Demand to take steps to facilitate early construction of Dadri Power Project in Uttar Pradesh

श्री मोहम्मद अदीब (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, मेरा Special Mention UP में power crises और shortage से मुताल्लिक है।

सर, 21 जुलाई को हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स में इशतिहार के ज़रिए उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने घोषणा पत्र जारी किया है, जिसमें सारे पावर प्रोजेक्ट्स का ब्यौरा दिया है। इस पत्र में दादरी पावर प्रोजेक्ट का नाम-ओ-निशां नहीं है। 2003 में सरकार ने 2500 एकड़ किसानों की उपजाऊ ज़मीन उनसे हासिल करके कम्पनी को उपलब्ध करा दी थी। आज 2009 में यह प्रोजेक्ट सिर्फ पेपर पर ही है। किसानों का बहुत बड़ा आन्दोलन हुआ था और वे जेल भी

discrimination and exclusion of rural students who cannot possess commercial properties. Hence I request the hon. Minister for Finance to direct the banks to accept the agricultural land as security for education loan and disburse the amount quickly so that the rural students can benefit in global market.

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं श्री नाच्चीयप्पन जी के स्पेशल मेशन को एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

**Demand to give status of Scheduled Tribes to Muslims belonging to
Mev and Mevasi castes**

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार) : महोदय, मेरा विशेष उल्लेख मेवों को मीणा जाति के समान अनुसूचित जनजाति का दर्जा दिलाने के संबंध में है।

महोदय, ऐतिहासिक साक्ष्यों के मुताबिक मेव और मेवासी जातियां मेवाती की तरह आदिवासी समूह हैं। मेवातियों को जहां जनजाति का दर्जा मिला हुआ है, वहीं मुस्लिम होने के कारण मेव और मेवासी इस सुविधा से वंचित हैं। महोदय, ये तीनों जातियां मीणों की तरह जनजातियां हैं। अकबर के काल तक तो मेव और मीणों में विवाह संबंध भी होते थे। चन्दबरदाई ने पृथ्वीराज रासों में मेवासी जाति का उल्लेख किया है। इमरत खां ने "तारीख-ए-मेव" में लिखा है कि मेव और मीणा कौम के पूर्वज एक ही थे, जिनका पेशा नाव चलाना था। अंग्रेजों ने जनजाति अपराध कानून के तहत मेव और मीणा दोनों जातियों को अपराधी जनजातियों की सूची में डाला था। आजादी के बाद यह कानून रद्द हो गया। मीणों को जहां जनजातियों की सुविधा दी गई, वहीं मुस्लिम होने के कारण मेव और मेवासियों को यह लाभ नहीं मिला। यह खेदजनक और दुखद है कि एक समान सामाजिक आर्थिक पृष्ठभूमि और ऐतिहासिक संदर्भ के बावजूद जहां एक ओर मीणा जनजाति का दर्जा पाकर सरकारी सेवा में विभिन्न पदों पर आसीन हैं, वहीं दूसरी ओर मेव अभी भी घोर सरकारी अपेक्षा के शिकार हैं। उन्हें मुख्य धारा में लाने के लिए, उन्हें विकसित करने के लिए, समान आर्थिक-राजनैतिक अवसर दिए जाने की आवश्यकता है।

महोदय, संविधान के अनुच्छेद 16(4) के तहत सरकार गैर हिन्दुओं को भी आरक्षण का लाभ दे सकती है। अतः मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि मेव और मेवासी जाति के पिछड़ेपन को देखते हुए उन्हें भी संविधान के अनुच्छेद 342 के तहत अनुसूचित जनजाति का दर्जा दिया जाए।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं श्री अंसारी जी के स्पेशल मेशन से अपने आपको एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

The House then adjourned at five minutes past seven of the clock
till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 28th July 2009.