

Vol. 218
No. 23



सत्यमेव जयते

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT
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[P.T.O.]

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RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 22nd December, 2009/1 Pausha, 1931 (Saka)

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

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table. Shri M. Veerappa Moily.

Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the Indian Law Institute, New Delhi and related papers

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) Fifty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Law Institute (ILI), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

Statement by Government accepting the above Report [Placed in Library.
See No. L.T. 1429/15/09]

I. Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the IREDA, New Delhi and related papers

II. Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the SSS - NIRE, Kapurthala and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): Sir, on behalf of Dr. Farooq Abdullah, I lay on the Table:

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (a) Twenty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1468/15/09]

- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

- (a) Eleventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Sardar Swaran Singh-National Institute of Renewable Energy (SSS-NIRE), Kapurthala, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1467/15/09]

Accounts (2007-08) of the DDA, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Sir, on behalf of Shri S. Jaipal Reddy, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of Section 25 of the Delhi Development Act, 1957, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- (a) Annual Accounts of the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), New Delhi, for the year 2007-08 and the Audit Report thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Authority. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 958/15/09]

I. Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the Airports Authority of India, New Delhi and related papers

II. Report and Accounts (2007-08) and (2008-09) of the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi, Fursatganj, Raebareli and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): Sir, on behalf of Shri Praful Patel, I lay on the Table:

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 28 of the Airport Authority of India Act, 1994:
- (a) Fourteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Airports Authority of India, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1430/15/09]
- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:
- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi, Fursatganj, Raebareli, 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 Annual Accounts mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1667/15/09]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi, Fursatganj, Raebareli, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1668/15/09]

- I. **Notification of the Ministry of Environment and Forests**
- II. **Report and Accounts (2007-08) of WBF DCL, Kolkata and related papers**
- III. **Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the CEE, Ahmedabad and related papers**
- IV. **Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the CPREEC, Chennai and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Environment and Forests Notification No. S.O. 2465 (E), dated the 29th September, 2009, publishing the Transport of Animals (Amendment) Rules, 2009, under Section 38A of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1669/15/09]
- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:
 - (a) Thirty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the West Bengal Forest Development Corporation Limited (WBFDC), Kolkata, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1670/15/09]

A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- III. (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Environment Education (CEE), Ahmedabad, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1385/15/09]
- IV. Annual Report and Accounts of the C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre (CPREEC), Chennai, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working the above Centre. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1384/15/09]
- I. **Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the PEPC, New Delhi and related papers**
- II. **Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the CAPEXIL, Kolkata and related papers**

III. Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the Coffee Board of India, Bangalore and related papers

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, on behalf of Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia, I lay on the Table:

A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- (I) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Project Exports Promotion Council of India (PEPC), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1671/15/09]
- (II) (a) Fifty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the CAPEXIL, Kolkata, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1672/15/09]
- (III) (a) Sixty-ninth Annual Report of the Coffee Board of India, Bangalore, for the year 2008-09.
- (b) Annual Accounts of Coffee Board (General Fund Accounts and Pool Fund), for the year 2008-09, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Board. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1673/15/09]

Notifications of the Ministry of Home Affairs

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Home Affairs, under Section 26 of the National Investigation Agency, Act 2008:
 - (i) G.S.R. 817 (E), dated the 12th November, 2009, publishing the Ministry of Home Affairs, National Investigation Agency (Group 'C' Posts) Recruitment Rules, 2009.
 - (ii) S.O. 2215 (E), dated the 1st September, 2009, notifying special Court of the Special Judge, Central Bureau of Investigation, Assam at Guwahati as the Special Court for the trial of Scheduled Offences.
 - (iii) S.O. 2948 (E), dated the 18th November, 2009, notifying Court of District Judge-V (South), Patiala House, National Capital Territory of Delhi as the Special Court for the trial of Scheduled Offences.
 - (iv) S.O. 3205 (E), dated the 15th December, 2009, notifying the Special Court II of the Special Judge, Central Bureau of Investigation, Kerala at Kochi as the Special court for trial of Scheduled Offences. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1674/15/09]

- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Notification No. G.S.R. 862 (E), dated the 4th December, 2009, publishing the Determination of Price of the Forfeited Property (Amendment) Rules, 2009, under sub-section (1) of Section 53 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1675/15/09]
- III. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Notification No. G.S.R. 646 (E), dated the 8th September, 2009, publishing the Sashastra Seema Bal Group "A" Combatised (General Duty) Officers Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2009, under sub-section (3) of Section 155 of the Sashastra Seema Bal Act, 2007. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1676/15/09]
- I. **Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the HHEC, New Delhi and related papers**
- II. **Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the CWDB, Jodhpur and related papers**
- III. **MoU (2009-10) between the Government of India and CCIC**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:
 - (a) Fifty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Limited (HHEC), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1446/15/09]
- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:
 - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Wool Development Board (CWDB), Jodhpur, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditors Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Board. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1448/15/09]
- III. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Textiles) and the Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Limited (CCIC), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1677/15/09]

Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the IRDA, Hyderabad and related papers

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, on behalf of Shri Namo Narain Meena, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of Section 20 of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA), Hyderabad, for the year 2008-09 together with the Auditors Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1478/15/09]

**Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the the Oil India Limited,
Dibrugarh, Assam and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- (a) Fiftieth Annual Report and Accounts of the Oil India Limited, Dibrugarh, Assam, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1449/15/09]

**Statements giving reasons for not laying various
Reports within stipulated period**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the Statements giving reasons for not laying the following Reports within stipulated period:

- (i) Annual Report of the Jammu and Kashmir Agro Industries Corporation Limited, for the years 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1678/15/09]
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bihar Agro Industries Corporation Limited, for the years 1987-88, 1988-89, 1989-90, 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1679/15/09]
- (iii) Annual Report of the Orissa Agro Industries Corporation Limited, for the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1680/15/09]
- (iv) Annual Report of the Kerala Agro Industries Corporation Limited, for the years 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1681/15/09]
- (v) Annual Report of the Assam Agro Industries Corporation Limited, for the years 2004-05 and 2005-06. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1682/15/09]

(vi) Annual Report of the Madhya Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, for the year 2007-08. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1683/15/09]

(vii) Annual Report of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, for the year 2007-08. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1684/15/09]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Power

II. Report and Accounts (2007-08) of the Damodar Valley Corporation, Kolkata and related papers

III. Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the SJVNL, New Shimla and related papers

IV. Report (2008-09) of the CERC, New Delhi and related papers

V. Report and Accounts(2008-09) of the CPRI, Bangalore and related papers

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I (i) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Power Notification No. L-7/143/158/2008-CERC, dated the 23rd October, 2009, publishing the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Procedure, Terms and Conditions for grant of trading licence and other related matters) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2009, under Section 179 of the Electricity Act, 2003. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1579/15/09]
- (ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Power Notification No. G.S.R. 107, dated the 25th July, 2009, publishing the Bhakra Beas Management Board (Amendment) Rules, 2008, under sub-section (3) of Section 97 of the Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1580/15/09]
- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (5) of Section 45 and sub-section (5) of Section 59 of the Damodar Valley Corporation Act, 1948:
- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Damodar Valley Corporation, Kolkata, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1577/15/09]
- III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (a) Twenty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (SJVNL), New Shimla, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1576/15/09]
- IV. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Annual Report of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, under Section 101 of the Electricity Act, 2003.
- V. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:
 - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Power Research Institute (CPRI), Bangalore, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1578/15/09]

Notification of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEV S. KHANDELA): Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub section (4) of section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways Notification No. ADTr/DMN/89/F.79/2009-2010/570, dated the 30th September, 2009, publishing the Daman and Diu Motor Vehicles (1st Amendment) Rules, 2009, together with Explanatory Memorandum on the Notification. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1582/15/09]

- I. **Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation (India) Limited, NOIDA and related papers**
- II. **Statements giving reasons for not laying the Annual Reports and Audited statement of Accounts of various institutions within the stipulated period**
- III. **Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore and related papers**
- IV. **Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India), New Delhi and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:
 - (a) Twenty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation (India) Limited (HSCC), NOIDA, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1584/15/09]

- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the Statements giving reasons for not laying the Annual Reports and Audited statement of Accounts of the following Institutions, within the stipulated period:
- (1) Medical Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09;
 - (2) National Board of Examination, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09;
 - (3) Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, for the year 2007-08 and 2008-09;
 - (4) All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09;
 - (5) Pharmacy Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09;
 - (6) Dental Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09;
 - (7) Indian Nursing Council, New Delhi, for the year 2007-08 and 2008-09;
 - (8) Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09;
 - (9) Indian Red Cross Society, for the year 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09;
 - (10) Pesture Institute of India, Coonoor, for the year 2008-09;
 - (11) National Institute of Biologicals, New Delhi, for the year 2007-08 and 2008-09;
 - (12) National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09;
 - (13) International Institute for Population Studies, Mumbai, for the year 2008-09;
 - (14) Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (GRANTS), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09;
 - (15) National Population Stabilization Fund for the year 2008-09.
 - (16) Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal, Manipur, for the year 2007-08 and 2008-09;
 - (17) Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (CCRYN), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09;
 - (18) Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09;
 - (19) National Institute of Homeopathy, Kolkata, for the year 2008-09;
 - (20) Central Council of Homoeopathy, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09;
 - (21) Central Council of Indian Medicine, New Delhi, 2008-09;
 - (22) Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited, Mohan, for the year 2008-09;

- (23) Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09;
- (24) National Institute of Unani Medicine, Bangalore, for the year 2008-09; and
- (25) National Institute of Siddha, Chennai, for the year 2008-09. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1591/15/09]

A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- III. (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1590/15/09]
- IV. (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Academy. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1589/15/09]

Report and Accounts (2007-08) of the CIWTC, Kolkata and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): Sir, on behalf of Shri Mukul Roy, I lay on the Table:

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:
 - (i) (a) Forty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited (CIWTC), Kolkata, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
 - (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. 1304/15/09]

Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the SRFTI, Kolkata and related papers

SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA: Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditors Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1345/15/09]

Report and Accounts (2008-09) of various companies and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): Sir, I lay on the Table:

A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (i) (a) Forty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Heavy Plate and Vessels Limited (BHPV), Visakhapatnam, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1455/15/09]
- (ii) (a) Forty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited (HPF), Chennai, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1457/15/09]
- (iii) (a) Twenty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited (BBUNL), Kolkata, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1458/15/09]
- (iv) (a) Fiftieth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Salts Limited (HSL), Jaipur, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1456/15/09]
- (v) (a) Forty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Sambhar Salts Limited (SSL), Jaipur, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1453/15/09]

- (vi) (a) Fifty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the HMT Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1454/15/09]

Accounts (1999-2000), (2000-01), (2001-02), (2002-03), (2003-04), (2004-05), (2005-06), (2006-07) of the Indian Council of World Affairs and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Papers:

- (i) Annual Accounts of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), for the year 1999-2000 and the Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), for the year 2000-01 and the Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), for the year 2001-02 and the Audit Report thereon.
- (iv) Annual Accounts of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), for the year 2002-03 and the Audit Report thereon.
- (v) Annual Accounts of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), for the year 2003-04 and the Audit Report thereon.
- (vi) Annual Accounts of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), for the year 2004-05 and the Audit Report thereon.
- (vii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), for the year 2005-06 and the Audit Report thereon.
- (viii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), for the year 2006-07 and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1428/15/09]

- I. **Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati and related papers**
- II. **Report and Accounts (2006-07) and (2007-08) of the NPCC, New Delhi and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Annual Report and Accounts of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditors Report on the Accounts, under Section- 21 of the Brahmaputra Board Act, 1980. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1685/15/09]

- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:
- (i) (a) Fiftieth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Projects Construction Corporation Limited (NPCC), New Delhi, for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1686/15/09]
- (ii) (a) Fifty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the National Projects Construction Corporation Limited (NPCC), New Delhi, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1687/15/09]

**Written Answer to Starred and Unstarred Questions set for
the 21st December, 2009***

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Amendment in MMDR Act

*441. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to amend the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act for speedy and time bound development of mineral resources available in the States;
- (b) whether Government proposes to empower the State Governments by providing more power by deleting parts 'A' and 'C' of Schedule-I of the Act; and
- (c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) A new draft Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act (MMDR Act) has been circulated to all the stakeholders including State Governments, Industry and concerned Ministries/Departments in July 2009 for comments, and uploaded on Website of Ministry.

*The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Monday, the 21st December, 2009 was adjourned on account of the passing away of Shri Suryakantabhai Acharya, a sitting member. Answers to Questions put down in the list for that day were laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday, the 22nd December, 2009.

After four meetings with the various stakeholders held between 11th August 2009 and 3rd September 2009, a modified draft Act was again circulated to stakeholders on 18th September 2009, and uploaded on Website of Ministry.

Subsequently, a workshop was held on the 9th and 10th October 2009 with all the stakeholders, and a revised draft Act has again been circulated for consultation and uploaded on the Website of the Ministry on 17th November, 2009. The various versions of the draft Act can be seen on the Ministry website www.mines.nic.in

After the consultation process is over, Bill will be introduced in Parliament after obtaining Cabinet approval. It is therefore not possible to indicate the nature of the provisions till the proposal is finalized with Cabinet approval.

Film and video piracy

*442. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

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

(a) whether Government proposes to formulate stringent law to check film and video piracy in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the bottlenecks found in the existing law;

(c) whether Government is also aware that several State Governments have completely failed to implement the law to check film and video piracy;

(d) if so, whether the film industry has been affected adversely as a result thereof; and

(e) if so, by when the new law to check film and video piracy is likely to be enforced?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Government is aware of the problems relating to infringement of copyright resulting in piracy, which arises due to a host of factors, such as, non-availability of filmed entertainment at an affordable price, lack of normal channels of distribution to a large chunk of population, relatively high rates of entertainment tax, relatively easy availability of cheap pirated films as well as lack of awareness among the public. Piracy and infringement of copyright adversely affect the owners of copyright.

Measures have been taken by the Union Government, and the State Governments towards reduction in the rates of custom duty, service tax and entertainment tax, amendments in the Copyright Act, improving the enforcement machinery and enhancing public awareness for checking film and video piracy.

Power Outages

*443. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large, medium and small consumers are spending around Rs.30,000 crore per annum on inverters and generators to meet perennial power shortage; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that power outages cost Rs.2.88 lakh crore every year, which can raise India's 1,50,000 MW capacity by about 50 per cent?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) There is a continuing shortage of power in the country. The quantum of shortage varies from State to State, on month to month and day to day, depending on demand and availability of power. The energy and peak shortages during April-November, 2009 were 52,878 Million Unit (9.6%) and 14,672 MW (12.6%) respectively. The consumers resort to use of inverters and generators to mitigate shortage of power. According to Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, 47,318 industries were engaged in the manufacturing of electric motors, generators, transformers and inverters in 2006-07. Electricity being one of the important inputs for various sectors, shortage of power leads to direct as well as indirect losses. However, no specific information is available with the Government regarding annual spending on invertors and generators by various types of consumers to meet power shortage and the loss due to power outages.

Use of high wall mining technology by SCCL

*444.SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR:

SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) has placed an order for production of coal using high wall mining technology;

(b) if so, the details of the terms and conditions of the contract;

(c) whether there have been deviations with regard to the terms of Work Order (WO) vis-a-vis Terms of Tender Document (TTD) by the company;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether extraction of coal reserves beneath high walls in opencast mines is being executed as per schedule of WO and if not, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. To conserve and facilitate the optimum extraction of valuable coal reserves locked beneath high walls in opencast mines, Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) has placed order for production of coal using high wall mining technology. The work has been awarded to M/s Advanced Mining Technology Pvt. Ltd. Hyderabad for extraction of 6 Million Tonnes (MT) of coal from Ramagundam [Opencast-(OC)] OC-I & II, Medapalli OC and Koyagudem OC-I for the total contract value of Rs.480.789 crore. The period of the contract is 7 years 6 months or completion of production of 6 MT or more whichever is earlier. The brief terms and conditions of the contract are as under:-

(1) Scope of Work: The scope of work includes the following:-

Phase-I

Conducting site scientific investigation, preparing study report, Design and obtaining Director General of Mines Safety (DGMS) approval for technology and equipment.

Phase-II:

Mining contract for production of coal on cost at per tonne basis. The payment for the Phase-I work will be payable after obtaining the permission from DGMS for coal production. 25% of the total amount would be paid on getting DGMS approval for each project in sequence of operation. These studies shall be completed in 4 months.

2) Payment Methodology:

Payment for production of coal will be made on fortnightly basis for the coal produced during the 15 days within the next 15 days.

Basis of payment would be on tonnage produced by arranging a Belt Weigher or on surveyed volume calculated on the agreed survey method.

(c) No, Sir

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

(e) The extraction of coal reserves from the said mines is yet to commence in view of the delay in obtaining permission from Directorate General of Mine Safety (DGMS) authorities and also delay in obtaining export license by the US principles for Honeywell Ore Recovery Tunneling Aid (HORTA) guiding system from the Government of USA. On the request of the firm, SCCL has given time extension upto 01-04-2010 with a condition to complete the work on or before 15-05-2015.

Approval of power projects

*445. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the time taken by the agency responsible for according approval for the power generation projects;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to cumbersome procedure, the decisions are not being taken in time; and

(c) whether Government is intending to appoint a Unified Agency/Central Authority for according approval to such projects to avoid procedural delays which hinder the approval for such projects so that the time taken in such projects could be reduced to the minimum?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) With the enactment of the Electricity Act, 2003, technical concurrence of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is not required for setting up of new Thermal Power Projects. However, technical concurrence of CEA is required for

setting up of Hydro Electric Projects (HEPs), estimated to involve a capital expenditure exceeding such sum as may be fixed from time to time, by notification by the Central Government. As per the CEA's guidelines, if an HEP is found to be technically acceptable with necessary inputs/clearances, the Authority shall accord concurrence for its implementation, as far as practicable within a period of 90 (ninety) working days from the date of submission of 22 copies of DPR, complete in all respects.

(b) While according technical clearance to all HEP, the CEA takes the assistance of Central Water Commission (CWC), Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR), Geological Survey of India (GSI) etc. to ensure whether adequate studies have been made for optimum location of dam and other river works. The CEA also consults the State Government or Central Government or such other Government agencies as deemed appropriate.

For the years from 2003-04 to 2009-10 (upto 15.12.2009) average time taken to accord concurrence has been varying from 14 days to 49 days, however, the time taken for three projects, namely, Singoli Bhatwari HEP, Alaknanda HEP and Rupsiabagar Khasiabara HEP in Uttarakhand has been more than the time planned by CEA. This has been mainly due to non-resolution of issues related to design of various civil structures between the developer and Central Water Commission (CWC) as also longer time taken in obtaining clearance from Geological Survey of India (GSI) on account of inadequate geological investigations.

(c) Single window clearance of HEPs for according technical concurrence has been implemented in CEA. The Office of the Secretary, CEA is acting as single window in CEA and the project developers have to interact with this office only.

Appointment of judges

*446.SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding appointment of High Court judges during 2005 to 2008, year-wise;
- (b) how many from the above were women, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Other Backward Class and minority category; and
- (c) the total number of judges in the Supreme Court and the number of vacancies as on 1 July, 2009?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) During the calendar years 2005 to 2008, the following number of High Court Judges were appointed:

Calendar year	Number of High Court Judges appointed
2005	86
2006	110
2007	59
2008	78

(b) Out of the above, total number of women Judges appointed was 26. Appointment of Judges of the High Courts is made under Article 217 of the Constitution of India, which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. Hence, statistics on caste or religious background of Judges is not maintained.

(c) Against the approved strength of 31 Judges of the Supreme Court, including the Chief Justice of India, 24 Judges were in position as on 1.7.2009 leaving 7 vacancies to be filled up.

Implementation of RGGVY in Bihar

*447. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) in various districts of Bihar indicating the village electrification infrastructure and the number of households benefited under this scheme;

(b) the number of Below Poverty Line/Scheduled Caste houses proposed to be electrified under this scheme during the current year;

(c) the funds allocated to the State under this scheme during the previous and the current year;

(d) whether funds have been fully utilized by the State Government; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), 43 Projects for 38 districts covering 23,211 un/de-electrified villages and 27.62 lakh Below Poverty Line (BPL) households have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs.2975.89 crores for the State of Bihar. Rs.2486.44 crores have been released to the State of Bihar upto 30.11.2009. Cumulatively, 17,520 unelectrified villages have been electrified and 8.53 lakh BPL connections have been released upto 30.11.2009. The District-wise coverage and achievement of un/de-electrified villages and release of BPL connections for the sanctioned projects under RGGVY in Bihar, is given in the statement (see below).

(b) 3,10,200 BPL connections including Scheduled Caste BPL households are proposed to be released during the year 2009-10 under the sanctioned projects of RGGVY in Bihar. During current year, as on 30.11.2009, electricity connections to 3,10,995 BPL households have been released.

(c) to (e) There is no upfront allocation of funds for any State including Bihar under RGGVY. The funds are released in installments based on the utilization of previous installments. Rs.695.90 crore during 2008-09 and Rs.192.80 crore during 2009-10 (till 30.11.2009) have been disbursed in Bihar.

Statement

District-wise coverage & achievement of electrification of un/de-electrified villages and release of BPL connections for the sanctioned projects in Bihar under RGGVY

(As on 01. 12.2009)

S.No.	Name of the District	Electrification of Un-/De- Electrified Villages		No. of Connections to BPL Households	
		Coverage in No.	Achievement No.	Coverage in No.	Achievement No.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Araria	593	459	37433	8781
2	Aurangabad	1239	1128	43050	31285
3	Banka	1408	1211	43805	39827
4	Begusarai	387	0	90912	0
5	Bhagalpur	598	517	30459	27780
6	Bhojpur	591	518	25761	12765
7	Buxar	516	516	18293	17703
8	Darbhanga (Total of 2 DPRs)	662	393	198909	56453
9	Gaya (Total of 2 DPRs)	2059	1910	74630	53408
10	Gopalganj	751	637	28409	26475
11	Jamui	1072	595	30067	17050
12	Jehanabad	540	376	23953	13375
13	Arwal				
14	Kaimur (Bhabua)	485	460	13794	13657
15	Katihar	1031	0	142350	0
16	Khagaria	133	0	36671	0
17	Kishanganj	564	477	25725	20756
18	Lakhisarai	175	99	7166	6320
19	Madhepura	234	0	75084	0
20	Madhubani (Total of 2 DPRs)	574	352	213640	71841
21	Munger	201	170	7885	7310
22	Muzaffarpur	335	1429	291343	32670

1	2	3	4	5	6
23	Nalanda	609	600	29122	24580
24	Nawada	613	510	27049	16875
25	Paschim Champaran	916	80	178284	26100
26	Patna	469	420	22362	21106
27	Purv Champaran (Total of 2 DPRs)	840	768	264848	96683
28	Purnia	583	550	25563	13680
29	Rohtas	982	998	36398	30447
30	Saharsa	267	0	72996	0
31	Samastipur	455	0	73332	0
32	Saran	925	901	39644	37664
33	Sheikhpura	162	0	30538	0
34	Sheohar (Total of 2 DPRs)	173	127	50146	11\200
35	Sitamarhi (Total of 2 DPRs)	550	328	194429	76815
36	Siwan	826	655	34417	24151
37	Supaul	357	0	80681	0
38	Vaishali	336	336	143307	16335
TOTAL		23211	17520	2762455	853092

Coverage of Commonwealth Games

*448. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry has planned any comprehensive system for the coverage of Commonwealth Games, 2010 in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether any private partnership has been planned; and

(c) whether the entire broadcasting will be handled by Doordarshan or Government has any plans to delegate the broadcasting rights to any private channels?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Yes Sir, Prasar Bharati has been appointed as the Host Broadcaster (HB) by the Organizing Committee (OC) for the Commonwealth Games (CWG). Prasar Bharati has formulated a comprehensive plan for ensuring coverage of the Commonwealth Games (CWG).

(b) Since Prasar Bharati does not have the requisite experience in-house to manage an event of this scale in HDTV format, the work of Production and Coverage has been awarded to international consultants having the necessary expertise as per the terms and conditions set forth by the Organizing Committee.

(c) The marketing of Telecast Rights for Broadcasting in different countries is being done by the Organizing Committee to the Right Holding Broadcasters. The sole telecast rights of Commonwealth Games for India are with Prasar Bharati as the Right Holding Broadcaster.

Coal Production

*449. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited is ready to spend Rs. 26,000 crores for additional coal production of 500 million tonnes per year through 130 projects across the country during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether so far, there are 65 projects with production capacity of 155.42 million tonnes per year on an investment of Rs.8,593.80 crores;

(c) whether the proposed investment is needed to revamp the coal production;

(d) whether the demand by the end of Eleventh Plan has been projected to be around 731 million tonnes; and

(e) if so, to what extent it will be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c): Yes, Sir. As per the XI Five Year Plan projections Coal India Limited (CIL) is envisaged to produce 520.50 Million tonnes of coal in 2011-12, the terminal year of the XI Plan. In order to support the production plan of CIL an outlay of Rs. 17390 crore has been provided in the XI Plan. The production programme includes taking up of 134 new coal projects for an ultimate capacity of 367.86 million tonnes per annum (mtpa) with an estimated investment of Rs. 35772.63 crore. Out of these 134 projects, 54 projects are likely to contribute to the tune of 102.45 million tonnes in the terminal year 2011-12 of XI Plan.

Out of these 134 projects, 67 projects have so far been approved with an ultimate capacity of 157.42 mtpa with an investment of Rs.8870.67 crore. Out of these 67 projects, 42 projects are likely to contribute about 76.15 million tonnes in the terminal year 2011-12 of XI Plan.

(d) and (e) The projected coal demand for the terminal year of XI plan i.e. 2011-12 is 731.10 million tonnes and the envisaged demand-supply plan is as follows.

(Figures in million tonnes)

Projections	2011-12
Demand	731.10
Availability from domestic sources	680.00
Gap	51.10

The gap is proposed to be met through import of coal.

Excess payment to coal contractors

*450. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries, especially the Western Coal Fields Ltd., have made excess payment to the coal contractors;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the excess payment made, company-wise and project-wise, during the last three years, till date;

(c) whether Government has prepared any action plan/policy to recover the excess payment made to these coal contractors;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by Government against the erring officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) There has been no excess payment made to coal contractors during the past three years and in current year till date in Western Coalfields Limited (WCL), However, in Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL), there was one case of excess payment to coal contractor in Samleshwari OCP, IB Valley Area during the last three years and the same has already been recovered. The details of excess amounts paid and recovered are as under:

Name of the Contractor	Name of work	Excess amount paid in Rupees	Remarks
M/s IB Valley Transport	Transportation of crushed coal from Samleshwari OCP	16,51,598.30	The amount has already been recovered.
M/s Gajanand Agarwal	CHP/Crushed Coal Stock to Siding-I, II & III.	18,65,474.05	The amount has already been recovered.
M/s Coal Carrier		22,01,371.58	The amount has already been recovered.
M/s Jalaram Transport		19,90,978.66	The amount has already been recovered.
TOTAL		77,09,422.59	

No excess payment to coal contractors has been made in any other subsidiary of Coal India Limited.

(c) and (d) Payment of Bills is the look out of coal companies as a routine business matter and Government's intervention in such matters is not needed.

(e) In view of the reply to part (a) to (d) above, taking action by the Government does not arise.

Refund of water cess to Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board

‡*451. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA:

MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that eighty per cent of the amount collected and sent by the Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board is required to be refunded by the Central Government under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977;

(b) if so, whether this amount has already been refunded to the Board; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when this amount will be refunded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Upto 80 per cent of the water cess amount collected by the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) is to be reimbursed to the SPCBs/PCCs in accordance with Section 8 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977, read with Ministry of Environment & Forests order No.Q-17011/1/88-CPW dated 28.12.1998 are given in the Statement (see below).

(b) and (c) Water cess has been reimbursed to Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board (MPPCB) against remittances made into the Consolidated Fund of India upto October 2007. In the financial year 2009-10, a total amount of Rs.1,35,83,200/- has been released by the Central Government to the said Board. As and when budgetary allocations are made for reimbursement of water cess, appropriate amounts are released to the State Boards, including the MPPCB.

Statement

No. Q-17011/1/88-CPW

Government of India

Ministry of Environment & Forests

Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex

Lodi Road, New Delhi - 110 003

Dated: 28.12.1998

ORDER

Section 8 of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977 provides that the proceeds of the cess levied under section 3 shall first be credited to the Consolidated Fund of India and the Central Government may, if Parliament by appropriation made by law in this behalf, so provides, pay to the Central Board and every State Board, from time to time, from out of such proceeds, after deducting the expenses on collection, such sums of money as it may think fit for being utilized under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. Provided that while determining the sum of money to be paid to any State Board under this Section, the Central Government shall have regard to the amount of cess collected by them.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The need for review of the norms for distribution of cess formulated in 1992 has been discussed with the State Pollution Control Boards and State Department of Environment. The views of the Central Pollution Control Board have also been taken by the Central Government.

In view of the above and after careful consideration, it has been decided, in supersession of this Ministry's earlier Order of even No. dated 15.7.92 regarding formula of cess reimbursement of water cess to State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees, that the following criteria shall be adopted for distribution of water cess amount to the Central Board and concerned State Board/Pollution Control Committee affective from 1.4.1998:

- i) Upto eighty per cent of the cess amount collected by the Pollution Control Boards in the States and Pollution Control Committees in the Union Territories will be reimbursed to the Boards/ Committees in accordance with Section 8 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977 for meeting their approved expenditure requirements. Of the cess amount collected, upto twenty percent will remain with the Central Government for undertaking specific projects in any part of the country through the Central Pollution Control Board subject to approval by the Central Government.
- ii) The Pollution Control Boards in the States and Pollution Control Committees in the Union Territories shall utilize the amount released to them for preventing and controlling pollution in accordance with Section 17 of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. The expenditure incurred on office operations and establishment by the Pollution Control Boards in the States and Pollution Control Committees in the Union Territories should not exceed 25% of the Amount so received. The remaining amount would be utilized on programme and activities directly related to the prevention and control of pollution;
- iii) The Pollution Control Boards in the States and Pollution Control Committees in the Union Territories shall inform the Central Government about the programmes and activities carried out by them in utilizing the cess amount reimbursed to them;
- iv) The Central Pollution Control Board shall monitor the programmes and activities undertaken by the Pollution Control Boards in the States and Pollution Control Committees in the Union Territories relating to the afore-mentioned provisions and report to the Central Government from time to time.

Sd/-

(VIJAY SHARMA)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

Copy to:

- 1) The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi.
- 2) The Chairman, All State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees of UTs.

- 3) The Secretary, Deptt. Of Environment, all States and UTs.
- 4) The Secretary, Department of Finance, all States and UTs.
- 5) The Accountant Generals, all States and UTs.
- 6) The Member Secretary, all State Pollution Control Boards/Committees of UTs.
- 7) Director of Audit, CW & Misc. - IP Estate, New Delhi.
- 8) Deputy Secretary, IFD/Account Officer, B&A, MoEF.
- 9) Guard File/Spare Copies.

Implementation of 15 Point Programme

*452. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the 15 Point Programme, especially for the agency areas of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the present status thereof, State-wise, especially the projects relating to tribal women in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) An important aim of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities is to ensure that the benefits of various government schemes for the underprivileged reach the disadvantaged sections of the minority communities in the country, and would include tribals and women belonging to the minority communities. It also provides that, wherever possible, 15% of targets and outlays under various schemes should be earmarked for minorities. The new programme envisages location of a certain proportion of development projects in minority concentration areas.

The status of implementation of the schemes in the country, including Andhra Pradesh, under the programme for 2008-09 is available in the Ministry's website on www.minorityaffairs.gov.in

Demands of hydro power developers

*453. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State-run utilities along with private sector players, in a bid to exploit 1,50,000 MW hydro potential of the country, have unanimously demanded immediate steps to simplify land acquisitions and securing of environmental and forest clearances;

(b) if so, whether the developers have stated that land acquisition is an area of concern which requires to be addressed by the State Governments;

(c) whether developers have also pointed out basic infrastructural facilities like road connectivity, communication, etc. need to be provided by Government to attract investment and expeditious implementation of the hydro power projects; and

(d) if so, what were the other main points mentioned in their demands?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The Government has not received any unanimous demand, made by State-run utilities along with private sector players regarding immediate steps to simplify land acquisitions and securing environmental and forest clearance. However, during various meetings with the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), State utilities as well as Independent Power Producers (IPPs) have expressed their concerns about problems faced in land acquisition and getting environmental/forest clearances. In case of forest clearance, the Project Developing Authorities have indicated that getting the requisite clearances takes long time.

(c) and (d) Other issues raised by the IPPs relate to non-availability of hydrological data, lack of power evacuation system, etc. Some IPPs have also raised the issue of non-availability of power at the construction stage and lack of infrastructural facilities, like road-connectivity and communication-system.

Grid and Off-grid solar power

454. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved the setting up of a 1,100 MW grid solar power and 200 MW off-grid solar application utilizing both solar, thermal and photovoltaic technologies in the first phase of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission; and

(b) whether in addition, the Mission will also focus on R&D and Human resource Development to develop and strengthen Indian skills and to enhance indigenous content to make the Mission sustainable?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved the target for the first phase of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission, to set up 1,100 MW of grid connected solar plants, which includes 100 MW capacity plants to be set up as rooftop and small solar power plants. In addition, 200 MW capacity equivalent off-grid solar applications and 7 million square metre solar thermal collector area are also proposed in the first phase of the Mission, till March 2013. The Mission also provides for support to research and development in solar energy technologies and manpower development through training, fellowships and education about solar energy technologies and applications.

National policy on climate change

*455. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to make a national policy on climate change;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) National Environment Policy, 2006 outlines essential elements of India's response to climate change. There, *inter-alia*, include adherence to principle of common but differentiated responsibility and respective capabilities of different countries, identification of Key vulnerabilities of India to climate change, in particular impacts on water resources, forests, coastal areas, agriculture and health, assessment of the need for adaptation to climate change and encouragement to the Indian Industry to participate in the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

Further, to address the urgent and critical concern of the country a 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 eight Missions in specific areas of Solar Energy, Enhanced Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Habitat, Water, Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system, Green India, Sustainable Agriculture and Strategic knowledge for Climate Change. All the National Missions have provision to revisit existing policies and regulatory options to support for achieving key goals in the context of climate change.

The objectives of the eight National Missions also support India's policies for sustainable development, by way of promotion of energy efficiency, appropriate mix of fuels and primary energy sources including nuclear, hydro and renewable sources, energy pricing, pollution abatement, afforestation, mass transport, besides differentially higher growth rates of less energy intensive services sectors as compared to manufacturing, results in a relatively Greenhouse Gas benign growth path.

Solar energy for remote village electrification programme

‡*456. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that proposals for generation of solar energy from different States have been received under Remote Village Electrification Programme during the last three years;

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

(c) the latest position thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. State-wise details of proposals received and sanctioned under Remote Village Electrification Programme of the Ministry during the last 3 years are given in the Statement-I (*See below*). In addition, the Coordination Committee for the Programme has also accorded approval to projects whose details are given in the Statement-II.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I

State-wise Details of proposals for Villages and Hamlets received from states and sanctioned under the Remote Village Electrification Programme during the last 3 years

Sl.No.	State	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (as on 30-11-09)
1	Andhra Pradesh		13	
2	Arunachal Pradesh			
3	Assam	1485		
4	Chhattisgarh	36	184	94
5	Gujarat			
6	Haryana		92	
7	Jammu & Kashmir	27	68	
8	Jharkhand		8	18
9	Karnataka	46	13	
10	Kerala	49		
11	Madhya Pradesh	75		47
12	Maharashtra		82	
13	Manipur	14	35	
14	Meghalaya			
15	Mizoram			
16	Nagaland			
17	Orissa		91	
18	Rajasthan			
19	Sikkim			
20	Tamil Nadu	32		
21	Tripura	205		
22	Uttarakhand	23	50	
23	Uttar Pradesh			105
24	West Bengal			6
	TOTAL	1992	636	270

Statement-II

State-wise Details of Proposals Approved by the Coordination Committee for Remote Village Electrification Programme in its Meeting held on 15-12-2009.

Sl.No.	State	No. of Villages
1.	West Bengal	18 villages
2.	Madhya Pradesh	79 villages
3.	Orissa	371 villages
4.	Orissa	165 villages subject to the state withdrawing these from the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana
5.	Jharkhand	18 villages
6.	Jharkhand	311 villages - approved in principle

Setting up of evening courts

*457.DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

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

(a) whether the Chief Justice of India (CJI) has urged Government to set up more evening courts in the country to clear the pending cases;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments have agreed to the above proposal; and

(c) if so, the estimated number of pending cases likely to be disposed off as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. At the Joint Conference of the Chief Ministers of States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts held on August 16, 2009, the Chief Justice of India laid stress upon the issue of setting up of Evening/Morning Courts in subordinate courts in the country.

While most States indicated their readiness to set up these courts, the representatives of the States of Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram stated that the concept of evening/morning courts may not be a viable proposition in these States, for, peculiar geographical conditions, lack of connectivity by road and low rate of pendency of cases. Evening courts are already in operation in Gujarat and National Capital Territory of Delhi and Morning courts in Andhra Pradesh.

It is expected that Evening/Morning courts, after being set up in all the States, will facilitate the disposal of the bulk of pending as well as freshly filed petty cases assigned for disposal by the High Court to these courts.

Climate change

*458.DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of stage of the concern and priorities of Government on climate change;
- (b) whether there is a National Plan, based on the experience and expertise and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether a Strength Weakness Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis was made and whether the country is confident of tackling the problem of climate change?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Climate change is a serious global environmental concern. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the global atmospheric concentrations of Greenhouse Gas have increased markedly as a result of human activities since 1750 and now far exceed pre-industrial values. As projected by IPCC, climate change can slow down the pace of progress towards sustainable development either directly through increased exposure to adverse impact or indirectly through erosion of the capacity to adapt. It may also alter the distribution and quality of India's natural resources. India is faced with the challenge of sustaining its rapid economic growth while dealing with the global threat of climate change.

Recognizing the challenge of climate change, the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) was prepared based on the experience, expertise and information available through various studies. The NAPCC was released on 30th June 2008 to outline India's strategy to meet the challenge of Climate Change. The National Action plan outlines eight Missions in specific areas of Solar Energy, Enhanced Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Habitat, Water, Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system, Green India, Sustainable Agriculture and Strategic knowledge for Climate Change. It outlines a number of steps that will enable the country to adapt to climate change and enhance the ecological sustainability of India's development path.

Climate Change is a multi-dimensional issue. Studies have been conducted on different aspects of the climate change phenomenon. NAPCC is a comprehensive response to the challenge of climate change in the country.

Commitment at Copenhagen Summit on climate change

*459. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has given any specific commitment at the Copenhagen Summit on climate change to reduce the quantum of greenhouse gases within a time frame;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has taken into consideration that the commitment in this regard does not hamper the development needs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) to (c) The Government has conveyed to the Parliament that India can have a 20-25 % reduction in emissions intensity between 2005 & 2020. This will be a voluntary domestic commitment and will not form part of any international agreement committing to binding emission intensity or emission reduction targets.

The exercise in Planning Commission has found that the emission intensity has declined by 17.06 % between 1990 and 2005. Further the Planning Commission has concluded that we can have a 20-25 % reduction in emissions intensity between 2005 & 2020. The government is fully committed to Sustainable Development in the Country.

Amendment in the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act

*460.DR. GYANPRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

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

(a) whether several amendments have been proposed by her Ministry in the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, to widen its scope and make the punishments more stringent;

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

(c) the efficacies of the shelter homes run by her Ministry, their number and their average annual occupancy; and

(d) to what extent the Ujjawala scheme has been effective in prevention of trafficking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposed Amendments inter-alia include raising the age of the child from 16 to 18 years, having a comprehensive definition for 'trafficking in persons', laying down punishment for a person who visits a brothel for purpose of sexual exploitation of trafficked victims, providing for "in-camera" trial to victims to protect their privacy and constitution of Central and State Authorities for dealing with trafficking. There is also a proposal to make Amendments to provide for enhanced punishment for perpetrators of the crime such as brothel keepers and traffickers. The purport of these Amendments is to extend the coverage of the Act, discourage trafficking and at the same time provide safeguards to the trafficked victims.

(c) The Ministry of Women and Child Development has been providing financial assistance to NGOs for setting up Shelter Homes. Under the Ujjawala Scheme, 58 Protective and Rehabilitative Homes have been set up which can accommodate nearly 2900 trafficked victims. These Homes provide facilities such as shelter, food, clothing, medical care, legal aid, education and vocational training to these victims.

In addition, there are 384 Short-Stay Homes and 314 Swadhar Homes across the country which can accommodate 28,405 women in difficult circumstances including the trafficked victims.

(d) The Ministry of Women and Child Development launched the Scheme of Ujjawala, in December, 2007 wherein, prevention of trafficking is included as a specific component. There has been an encouraging response to the Scheme. Financial assistance has already been provided to 94 NGOs for activities which include formation of community vigilance groups and adolescents groups, organizing sensitization workshops/seminars and awareness generation through mass media. In addition, the Ministry conducts training and capacity building as well as sensitization programmes for prevention of trafficking. Since, prevention of trafficking is a long term activity it is difficult to assess its impact in such a short period.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Violation of pollution rules by Coal India Ltd.

‡3392. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether, for want of approval of the Central Pollution Control Board, the production from open-cast coal mines of Ghodawadi sub-area of Kanhan Coalfields of Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh had to be discontinued;

(b) whether police has registered a case against the employees of Coal India Ltd. for the violation of pollution rules and for production in excess of the rules;

(c) if so, the persons responsible for such violation and the action taken against them; and

(d) the action being taken by the management to resume mining operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Police has not registered any case against any employee of any subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL) for the violation of pollution rules and production in excess of rules. However, Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Jabalpur has registered two Court Cases against Mohan (Maori) underground (UG) mine and Ghorawari (Jharna) UG of Kanhan Area, Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) for increasing production in excess of rules.

Barring the above, no police/court case has been registered against any employee of any subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL) for the violation of pollution rules and production in excess of rules.

(c) The matter connected with the court cases relating to Mohan (Maori) UG mine and Ghorawari (Jharana) UG of Kanhan Area, WCL is sub-judice.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) Environmental Clearance for peak production capacity has since been obtained from Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) for the mines mentioned in part (a) and both the mines are in operation within the approved capacities.

Production of coal

3393. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 201 coal blocks allotted till March, 2009, only 25 have become operational;

(b) if so, whether the above coal blocks have achieved the maximum level of coal production;

(c) how the Coal Controller is monitoring the production and other aspects of 25 coal blocks;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the allottees of the remaining coal blocks have highlighted some problems in exploitation of coal in a recent meeting;

(e) if so, the details of the concerns expressed; and

(f) how this Ministry is addressing those problems?

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

(b) Out of 25 operational coal blocks, 8 blocks have achieved maximum level of production of coal. The block-wise details are given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of Coal Block	Name of Allocattee
1	Talabira-I	HINDALCO Industries Limited
2	Tara (East)	West Bengal State Electricity Board
3	Tara (West)	West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
4-5	Gotitoria (East) & Gotitoria (West)	BLA Industries Ltd.
6	Gare Palma IV/1	Jindal Iron & Steel Ltd.
7	Gare Palma IV/5	Monnet Ispat Ltd.
8	Chotia	Prakash Industries Ltd.

(c) The Coal Controller under the Ministry of Coal has been mandated to monitor the progress of the milestone achieved by the mine and the end use projects in details. Office of the Coal Controller collects quarterly progress report of each coal block and associated EUP and compile the same and sends to the Ministry of Coal for review. Based on the report of Coal Controller, the progress in the development of coal blocks is reviewed at the Ministry level by a committee under the Chairmanship of Addl. Secretary (Coal). Office of the Coal Controller also collects monthly production data from the operational coal blocks.

(d) to (f) The progress of allocated coal blocks as well as linked end use plant is reviewed in the review meeting held under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Coal) alongwith the representatives from the Administrative Ministries and State Governments concerned. In the review meeting, allocatees present the status of progress made on the development of coal blocks as well as end use plants and they also share the difficulties faced at the field level with the Committee. The last review meeting was held on 22nd and 23rd June, 2009 with all the coal block allocatees to review the development of coal blocks and the end use projects. In the meeting the allocatees had indicated difficulties faced in obtaining statutory clearances and mining lease, preparing mining plan, acquisition of land, procuring machinery and equipment etc. for both mining as well as end-use project. The representatives of the concerned State Governments were requested to facilitate expeditious mitigation of difficulties faced by the allocatees. The administrative Ministries concerned were also requested to undertake review at their level and facilitate expeditious development of end use projects.

In a meeting convened on 10.08.2009, the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Coal had also asked the State Governments to form a Monitoring Committee headed by the Chief Secretary to facilitate expeditious development of coal/lignite blocks.

Greenfield Urea Project in West Bengal

3394. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any private group is going ahead with its Greenfield Urea Project in West Bengal with Coal Bed Methane (CBM) from Essar's Raniganj CBM Block;

(b) whether it is a fact that requisite land for the purpose has been identified and allocated in the nearby area by West Bengal Government;

(c) whether a meeting was held between the top officials of Department of Fertilizers and the group on policy issues concerning the project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As per the information received from Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers, M/s Matrix Fertilizers and Chemical Limited (MFCL), a Matrix Group Company has proposed for setting up of a Greenfield Gas Based Ammonia-Urea project in Burdwan District, West Bengal, based on Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Gas which will be supplied to them by Essar Oil Limited's Raniganj CBM block. The company has informed that the land has been identified by the Government of West Bengal.

(c) and (d) The representatives of company met the senior official of Department of Fertilizers and forwarded suggestions for amendments in the New Investment Policy for urea manufacturing units, notified by the Department of Fertilizers on 4th September, 2008.

Effects on health of coal mine labourers

3395. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the likely effects on the health of the labourers engaged in the mining of coal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the status of study and the step taken by Government to improve health of the labourers engaged in the mining of coal; and
- (d) the details of the medical facilities available to these labourers irrespective of their working status/position being provided by various coalfields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and would be laid down on the Table of the House.

(d) In Coal India Ltd. (CIL), the medical Out Patient Division (OPD) and indoor facilities are being provided to labourers through Colliery dispensaries, regional hospitals and central hospitals situated in different subsidiaries. If required, they are referred to empanelled hospitals and also different tertiary care hospitals in other parts of the country for specialized treatment irrespective of their working status/position.

Singareni Coal Collieries Ltd. (SCCL) has seven hospitals and 28 dispensaries. There are no super-speciality services in SCCL hospitals. The employees and their direct dependents who are in need on super-speciality services are referred to about 20 empanelled super speciality hospitals at Hyderabad and nearby places and the expenditure is borne by the SCCL.

Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. (NLC) has a general hospital with 389 bed facility offering services like General medicine, General surgery, Occupational Health Services, Paediatrics, Neonatology, Intensive Care, Renal Care, Reproductive and Child Health, Eye, Dental, Ortho, ENT, Skin, Revised National Tuberculosis Programme, Integrated counseling and Emergency Services providing holistic treatment care to the employees, labourers and their dependents. NCL hospital has tie-up arrangement with leading multi-speciality hospitals in Chennai, Puducherry for super speciality services in case of need.

Allotment/auction of coal blocks

3396. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the allotment of coal blocks is affecting the economy in the scale of production;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to discourage the same;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government's move to auction coal blocks has been strongly opposed; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The allocation of coal blocks contributes to the economic growth of the country, by helping the industrial sector to become self-reliant in coal, which is an important raw material required for generation of power, production of iron & steel, cement etc.

(c) and (d) Comprehensive consultations were held with the stakeholders before the proposal was finalized. Majority of the coal/lignite bearing State Governments and also other stake holders have supported the proposal.

Lignite coal reserves in Rajasthan

‡3397. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number and locations of lignite coal reserves identified in Rajasthan;
- (b) whether it has been agreed to utilize this lignite coal for power generation;
- (c) whether the approval of Neyveli Lignite Corporation is necessary to utilize the lignite coal of Rajasthan and whether it is hampering the development of the State; and
- (d) whether Government would consider to establish a separate corporation for the State on public-private participation basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Lignite reserves in Rajasthan have been identified mainly in three districts viz Barmer, Bikaner & Nagaur. The details of which are given in the Statement (see below).

- (b) Yes, Sir, lignite can be used for power generation also.
- (c) Lignite blocks are now identified in consultation with Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) and therefore, separate 'no objection certificate' from NLC is not called for. Since a large number of potential lignite blocks have already been allotted in Rajasthan, including 17 blocks to different State Govt. /private agencies with geological reserves of 12.22 million tonnes, the question of hampering the development of lignite resources in Rajasthan does not arise.
- (d) There is no proposal to establish a separate corporation for the State of Rajasthan at present.

Statement

Details of District wise Lignite blocks in Rajasthan

Rajasthan	Block
1	2
Bikaner	Palana, Barsinghsar, Gurha East, Gurha West, Bholasar, Bithnok Main, Bithnok East Ext., Gadiyala, Girirajsar, Raneri, Mandal Charnan, Hadla, Badhnu, Hira Ki Dhani, Chak-Vijaisinghpura

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2
	Xuchore (Napasar), Riri, Lalamdesar Bada, East of Riri, Bania, Kuchaur-Athuni, Sarupdesar-Palana west, Palana East, Gigasar-Kesardesar, Ambasar-Gigasar, Girirajsar Extn., Bapeau, Bigga-Abhaysingpura
Barmer	Kapurdi, Jalipa, Bothia (Jalipa N Ext.), Giral, Jogeshwartala, Sonari, Sachha-Sauda, Bharka, Bothia-Bharka-Dunga Sindhari East, Sindhari West, Kurla, Chokla North, Mahabar-Shivkar, Mithra, Hodu, Nimbalkot, Nimbalkot North, Nagurda, Nagurda(East), Munabao, Kawas Gravity Block, South of Nimbla
Jaisalmer & Barmer	Khuri
Nagaur	Kasnau-Igiar, Matasukh, Mokala, Nimbri-Chandawatan, Kaprion-Ka-Dhani, Merta Road & Meeranagar, Indawar, Kuchera, Lunsara
Jalore	Sewara

Annual profit of Coal India Ltd.

‡3398. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether an assessment has been made regarding increase in annual profit of Coal India Limited as a result of increase in selling price of coal;

(b) if so, the estimates thereof as a result of recent increase in price and the percentage of increase in profit; and

(c) whether the other alternatives for increasing profit have also been assessed and if so, the details thereof and the likely increase in profit from each alternative source?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Out of additional revenue of Rs.4,629 crore (approx.), expected to be generated from price revision, subject to full off-take of the production quantity, CIL is to absorb around Rs.200 crore per annum towards increased input cost of coal feed to washeries of CIL and balance amount will contribute to reduce the burden of increased wages cost, whose impact in the first year (i.e. 2009-10) is around Rs.4,000 crore.

(c) Apart from the profit from coal and its related operations like washeries and other, interest on term deposits lying with Banks also contribute towards total profit of CIL and its subsidiary

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

companies. Against interest income of Rs.2,241 crore during 2008-09, interest contribution during 2009-10 has been estimated to be reduced to Rs. 1,718.crore mainly because of significant reduction in the rates of interest on term deposits.

Master plan for Jharia and Raniganj coalfields

3399. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drawn a Master Plan for Jharia and Raniganj coalfields dealing with fire, rehabilitation of people, etc.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Master Plan dealing with fire, subsidence, rehabilitation and diversion of surface infrastructure in Jharia and Raniganj coalfields within the leasehold of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) at an estimated investment of Rs.9657.61 crore (Rs.7028.40 crore for Jharia Coalfield and Rs.2629.21 crore for Raniganj Coalfield) excluding Rs. 116.23 crore sanctioned earlier for various Schemes under Environmental Measures & Subsidence Control (EMSC) Schemes has been approved by the Government in August 2009. For implementation of the Master Plan, Jharia Rehabilitation and Development Authority (JRDA) and Asansol Durgapur Development Authority (ADDA) have been notified as implementing agencies by the respective State Governments of Jharkhand and West Bengal. A High Powered Central Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Coal) with representatives from other Ministries/Departments, State Governments of Jharkhand & West Bengal and concerned coal companies has been set up to monitor implementation of the Master Plan. Some actions have been taken, as pre-implementation activities of the Master Plan for fire control, stabilization, Demographic / Socio-Economic Survey, identification of area for rehabilitation, construction of houses for rehabilitation of endangered people etc. under various EMSC, rehabilitation and control of fire schemes both in Jharia and Raniganj coalfields.

Shortage of coal in power plants

3400. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of good quality coal especially required by the power plants in the country;

(b) if so, the grade-wise production of coal;

(c) what is the share of opencast (OC) and underground mines in production of good quality coal; and

(d) the details of the steps taken to increase production from underground mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Quality of coal produced in the country is largely of lower grades because of the reasons that coal deposits in India are having inherently high ash content due to Drift origin. Accordingly, most of

the Power Houses in India are designed for use of indigenous high ash coal. Grade-wise production of coal in the country during 2008-09 is given in the Statement (See below).

(c) During 2008-09, percentage of coal produced from underground mines was 12% and from opencast mines was 88%.

(d) Coal India Limited, the major producer of coal, has taken the following steps for augmenting coal production from underground mines:

1. Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI) was entrusted to prepare an Action Plan for modernization of its existing mines in consultation with subsidiaries. The action plan inter alia, envisages following major activities:

- a) Introduction of Mass Production and Longwall Technology at suitable locations
- b) replacement of manual loading by development of Side Discharge Loader(SDL)/Load Haul Dumper(LHD) and reorganization of transport system, wherever feasible
- c) enhancement of evacuation capacity by driving additional shaft and incline/drift
- d) development of additional coal winning equipment

2. Seven high capacity Greenfield underground mines have been identified for developing by state-of-the art technology with Private-Public partnership on risk-gain sharing basis.

3. 18 abandoned mines with estimated reserves of over 1600 million tonnes of high quality coking coal and thermal coal have been identified for developing under a Joint Venture Arrangement with association of global underground mining companies.

Statement

Gradewise production of coking coal and non coking coal in India

(Million Tonnes)		
Type	Grade	2008-09
1	2	3
Production of coking coal	Steel-I	0.075
	Steel-II	0.960
	SC-1	0.169
	Wash-I	0.318
	Wash-II	1.717
	Wash-III	8.090
	Wash-IV	23.472

1	2	3
	SLV1	0.008
	Met. Coal	17.301
	Non Met	17.508
	Total Coking coal	34.809
Production of Non-coking coal	A	10.179
	B	24.854
	C	51.058
	D	48.006
	E	112.993
	F	201.286
	G	9.332
	SLV2	0.000
	Ungr	0.240
	Total Non coking coal	457.948
	Total Coal	492.757

Recruitment process of CIL

†3401.SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the recruitment process of Coal India Limited (CIL) is fully transparent;
- (b) whether CIL has now started adopting the process of "Campus selection" for its various posts;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether his Ministry has any information about discontentment among the public from this recruitment procedure?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Details are given in the Statement (see below).

(d) No, Sir. There is no information on discontentment among the people from this recruitment procedure.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Campus Recruitment by Coal India Limited

Name of the Discipline	No. of persons selected during 2007-08 & 2008-09	No. of persons selected during 2009-10 (upto 15th Dec, 2009)	Total
Mining	127	133	260
Electrical	076	039	115
Mechanical	080	045	125
Civil	016	005	021
Geology/Geophysics	056	008	064
Chemical	002	005	007
Systems	004	-	004
Materials Management	003	-	003
HR/Personnel	011	045	056
Finance	012	047	059
Legal	011	001	012
Electronics & Telecommunication	-	008	008
Environment	-	007	007

Names of the Institutes visited for campus selection:

1. Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata/Lucknow
2. Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur/Delhi/Guwahati/Roorkee/Kanpur/Mumbai.
3. Banaras Hindu University (BHU)
4. Indian School of Mines University, Dhanbad
5. National Institute of Technology Rourketa/Raipur/Surathkal/Nagpur/Bhopal/Jaipur/Allahabad/Trichy.
6. National Law University, Bhopal/Hyderabad.
7. Xavier's Labour Research Institute, (XLRI) Jamshedpur.

Proposal of coal linkage for power project in Andhra Pradesh

3402. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details and the latest status of the proposal received from Andhra Pradesh Government for allotment of coal linkage for 4000 MW Thermal Power Project near Vodarevu in Naguluppalapadu Mandal in Prakasham district of the State:

- (b) the reasons for delay in according sanction; and
- (c) by when it is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corporation Limited (APGENCO) has submitted an application dated 20.8.2009 to the Ministry of Coal seeking issue of Letter of Assurance for long term coal linkage for the proposed 4000 MW (5 x 800 MW) Super Critical Thermal Power Project near Vodarevu, Prakasam District in Andhra Pradesh. They have requested for allocation of 10 Million Tonnes of coal per annum. The application has been forwarded to Ministry of Power on 26.8.2009 for their comments. This application will be placed before the Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) for Power, as and when held for considering applications of 12th Plan Power Projects, subject to recommendations of Ministry of Power and other relevant factors. No time frame by which a decision will be taken on this application can be indicated at this stage.

Reforms in coal mining

3403. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering reforms in the coal mining;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether Government intends to involve private and foreign investors in coal mining to enhance the production capacity; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard and by when the reforms would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government had constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri T.L. Shankar to suggest measures to reform the coal sector. The Committee has submitted Part-I and Part-II of the report. The details of recommendations contained in these reports and action taken by the Government thereon are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Captive mining of coal is now permissible by private companies engaged in generation of power, production of iron and steel, production of cement, coal gasification and coal liquefaction and such other specified end uses as may be notified by the Government from time to time. As far as foreign direct investment (FDI) in coal sector is concerned, 100% FDI under the automatic route is allowed by the Government. Besides, the Coal Mines (Nationalization) Amendment Bill 2000 was introduced in Rajya Sabha in April, 2000, which seeks to permit private participation in coal mining, without the existing restriction of captive use, in order to augment coal production in the country. The Bill is pending for consideration in the Rajya Sabha.

Statement

The major recommendations of Expert Committee on restructuring/reforms in coal sector and action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon

S.No.	Major Recommendations	Action Taken /proposed to be taken
1	2	3
1	Augmenting domestic coal production to bridge the gap between demand and supply with emphasis on captive coal mining.	Government has allotted a number of new captive coal blocks, besides taking up a number of new coal projects under coal PSUs to augment coal production to bridge the gap between demand and supply.
2	As coal shall remain India's primary source of commercial energy supply, a time-bound plan to cover the entire country by regional mapping in 15 years should be prepared by Geological Survey of India, Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDIL) and Ministry of Coal (MOC).	An action Plan has been prepared to cover the balance coal bearing area of 5438 sq. km under regional exploration. It is envisaged that an area of 2791 sq. km will be covered during the XI Plan and the balance there after. Exploratory drilling capacity of CMPDIL is being doubled.
3	Coal India Limited (CIL) may be granted the status of Navratna company and the subsidiaries of CIL may be granted the status of Mini Ratna companies in which case only those proposals of such a subsidiary would need government approval wherein the capital expenditure exceeds Rs. 500 crore.	CIL has been granted Navaratna status. Besides this, 6 of its subsidiary companies (South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.; Western Coalfields Ltd.; Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.; Northern Coalfields Ltd.; Central Coalfields Ltd. & Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited) and Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. have been accorded Miniratna Category- 1 status. In July 2009 the Government has approved enhancing the financial powers of SCCL Board to approve projects, and to incur capital expenditure from 100 crore to Rs. 500 crores.
4	The issue of major restructuring of CIL should be considered during the 12th Plan Period.	This is agreed to.
5	The environmental issue in respect of coal projects should be taken up on priority consideration by the Government.	The Government has issued new Environment notification on 14.9.2006 as per which the proposals of coal mining projects are being processed for environmental clearance.

1	2	3
6	Planned imports of coal need to be encouraged.	Imports are planned by Power Sector every year in advance keeping in view the requirement. CIL is also contemplating to import coal.
7	Increasing proportion of all domestic coal that is not earmarked for Power Sector be brought into the E-auction market over the next 2 to 3 years.	E-auction of coal has already been started.
8	The current system of linkages feeding the power sector may be replaced with formal long term Fuel Supply and Transport Agreements that include the Railways.	The new coal distribution policy of Government provides for long term fuel supply and transport agreements that include railways.
9	All possible legal measures should be evolved to cancel the licenses issued earlier if the allottee has not taken adequate steps to bring the allotted mines to production or in setting up the end use units.	On the basis of regular review of the progress of captive blocks, de-allocation of some coal blocks has been done. Regular monitoring is being done to review the progress periodically.
10	Coal price would need to be regulated in light of the market realities. The regulation of coal price has to be differentiating the pricing of coal for power generation since it consumes 80% of the domestic production and the quality of coal it consumes is not easily saleable to the steel and cement sectors.	So far as Ministry of Coal is concerned, the pricing of coal has been fully deregulated after the Colliery Control Order, 2000 notified with effect from 1st January, 2000 in supersession of the Colliery Control Order, 1945. Under the Colliery Control Order, 2000 the Central Government has no power to fix the prices of coal. Coal Companies are empowered to fix the price of coal.
11	Promotion of underground mining.	Action has been initiated by CIL to enhance the level of production from underground mines from around 44 million tonnes achieved in 2006-07 to about 67 million tonnes by 2011-12 mainly by adopting mechanisation of operations, introduction of continuous miner technology and longwall technology. The additional investment has been estimated at Rs. 5185.59 crores for attaining this production

1	2	3
12	Improve production and productivity of men & machinery with focus on technology upgradation.	<p>level. CIL has also identified 7 blocks which can be developed into mega mine (more than 2 million tonnes production per annum) with state of the art consultancy and technology with foreign expertise.</p> <p>Action has been initiated to improve productivity of heavy earth moving machinery (HEMM) in opencast mines mainly by increasing the number of hours of operation and awarding maintenance and repair contracts streamlining the replacement of old equipment, and deployment of large size equipment. In underground mines, improvement in productivity is being addressed through mechanized coal loading operations adopting side discharge loaders, load haul dumpers, conveyor belts etc. and introduction of continuous miner technology and longwall technology wherever it is feasible. Shortwall technology on experimental basis has also been introduced. Adoption of Highwall technology is also envisaged in some of the opencast mines.</p>
13	There is need to have permanent cell for technology evaluation and monitoring and improving the systematic operating procedures for modern new equipment procurement (in CIL).	A department has already been created at Coal India and also at CMPDIL for adoption of new technology. CMPDIL as the planning wing of Coal India provides the initial inputs for adoption of new technology.
14	Switch over to Gross Calorific Value (GCV) based pricing and grading of coal.	For adopting the GCV system of grading of coal, it was agreed between Coal India Limited (CIL) and NTPC to try out the proposed bandwidth price structure with 300 k. cal/kg for coal supply at some NTPC power plants initially for 60 days. However, this has not come through due to the lapse of time agreed to between NTPC and Coal India Limited and also lack of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3
15	Promote coal washing	<p>installation of automatic mechanical samplers at the loading points. Accordingly, CIL has submitted a revised proposal mentioning the corresponding GCV values of sub-graded UHV bands and respective price ranges along with the time frame during which it proposes to install Auto Mechanical Samplers (AMSSs) at the loading points on priority basis so as to notify the same through a Gazette Notification for switching over to GCV based grading.</p> <p>Government has already taken a policy decision to encourage use of washed coal by permitting private entrepreneurs to set up washeries on coal company's land. CIL has also taken a decision to supply washed coal to power sector by setting up new washeries on Build Own Maintain (BOM) basis and funding will be made by CIL. Additional washing capacity of about 140 million tonnes per year is envisaged to be created in next five years time.</p>
16	Promotion of cutting edge technologies like Underground Coal Gasification (UCG), Coal Bed Methane (CBM), Coal Mine Methane (CMM), Coal to Liquid (CTL) etc.	<p>Government has already permitted CBM operations on commercial lines and 26 blocks have been allotted to various entrepreneurs. Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) under Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoP&NG) regulates the CBM operations. For CMM, coal companies are taking action to extract methane gas from the existing mines and a demonstration project in association with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) / Global Environmental Fund (GEF) is under implementation in one of the mines of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL). Government has recently</p>

2	3
	<p>recognized UCG, CTL as one of the permitted end uses under the captive mining policy.</p>
<p>17 Although India is not under any obligation under Kyoto Protocol to reduce emissions, it is recommended that India should assume their role of a responsible user of coal taking every effort to reduce the emission level of coal as well as its consumption.</p>	<p>Action already initiated for adopting clean coal technologies. CIL has committed to sell processed coal to all its consumers. Government has given lot of stress for the extraction of coal bed methane which would eventually reduce emission from burning coal.</p>
<p>18 Outsourcing should be differentiated from contract labour employment. It is not a method to extract more work and pay less to unskilled and semi skilled labour. In fact, it becomes relevant and inevitable in tasks, which call for specialized skills.</p>	<p>CIL and its subsidiaries have initiated action and have included clauses in the tenders/contracts to remove exploitation of labour and also have generated training programmes for uplifting skills of its own workmen.</p>
<p>19 Setting up of a Coal Governance & Regulation Authority (CGRA) to co-ordinate and attend to all issues relevant for development of coal resources, regulation of coal price (wherever necessary), and nurturing level playing field between the entrenched large public sector coal companies and the emerging small coal companies in the State public sector and the captive mining sector.</p>	<p>Action initiated for creating a Coal Regulatory Authority. The draft Bill for appointment of coal regulator is being finalized for consideration of the Government.</p>
<p>20 Ensure proper mine closure and restoration of mined out areas. The Coal Regulatory Authority should be given the responsibility to monitor the restoration work. A fee of Rs.10 per tonne of coal mined as Mine-restoration levy should be collected annually and release as grants on for such work.</p>	<p>Draft guidelines for mine closure have been issued by the Ministry of Coal which would be implemented by the Coal Controller till the Coal Regulatory Authority is put in place.</p>

1	2	3
21	Coal R&D fund should be created whereby half of one percent of the turnover of all coal companies in the public and private sectors is deposited. CGRA could manage the funds.	The creation of R&D fund is agreed to. It is preferable that the proposed fund should be kept available with the industry instead of the Coal Regulatory Authority. In the present system the R&D activities are identified, monitored and funded through a Standing Scientific Research Committee (SSRC), which is chaired by Secretary (Coal).

Criminal cases and departmental enquiries in CIL

3404. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of criminal cases and departmental enquiries are pending against the officials working with the Coal India Limited as on the 31st October, 2009;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, company-wise and category-wise;
- (c) the number and names of the officers suspended during the last three years and the time-frame within which generally the disciplinary committee submits a report and action is taken; and
- (d) the details of such cases brought to the notice of Government where the officers have been falsely implicated and harassed and the action taken in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Tie up with global mining firms by CIL

3405. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Coal India Limited has decided to have overseas tie up with several global mining firms to mine coal abroad and has floated an expression of interest for the same;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether CIL's venture with foreign firms to mine coal blocks abroad is beneficial for Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Coal India Limited (CIL) has floated a Global Expression of Interest (Eoi) to select Strategic Partner in Australia, USA, South Africa and Indonesia for tie up to mine coal abroad. The Eoi received encouraging responses and a high level Committee has been constituted to examine the responses to take the matter forward.

(c) and (d) The need for acquiring coal resources abroad has assumed larger dimension in view of increasing demand on CIL and the mandate given to it under the aegis of New Coal Distribution Policy (NCDP). Acquisition of coal resources abroad pertaining to high grade metallurgical and thermal coal and its import to India would supplement the efforts of CIL in augmenting coal supplies for domestic market.

Availability of ambulances in hospital of WCL Chhindwada

‡3406. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on ambulances available in hospital at Western Coal Fields Limited, Kanha and Pench area of district Chhindwada, Madhya Pradesh during the last three years, item-wise;

(b) the amount incurred on repair, diesel, oil, tyre-tube and drivers;

(c) whether the expenditure incurred on the above items is according to the stipulated norms and what are these stipulated norms for expenditure; and

(d) the number of patients, these ambulances rushed to hospital in a year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The details of item-wise amount spent on the ambulances available in hospital at western Coal Fields Ltd. in Kanhan and Pench areas of district Chhindwada. Madhya Pradesh during the last three years are as under:-

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Head	Kanhana area			Pench Area		
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Repairs	3.17	4.44	2.24	1.13	0.83	1.03
Petrol, Oil and Lubricants	4.34	2.30	1.41	20.06	14.24	12.09
Tyre-Tube	0.04	0.02	0.05	1.08	1.05	1.19
Drivers	7.19	6.74	7.42	35.47	37.07	35.03
Total	14.74	13.50	11.12	57.74	54.19	49.34

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Yes Sir. The expenditure incurred on the above items is in accordance with the stipulated norms, which are as under:

- i) Diesel mileage: 8 to 10 Km./Ltr.
- ii) Oil: Change every four monthly
- iii) Repairs: It is done as and when required
- iv) Tyre & Tube: Change every 20,000 to 30,000 Kms.
- v) Battery: Change every 2-3 yrs.

(d) Total number of patients transported by Ambulances during the last three years are as below:

Areas	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Pench	218	227	212
Kanhan	687	622	480

Refugees from Mizoram

†3407. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been any fresh increase in the number of refugees going outside from Mizoram;
- (b) the demands of the refugees; and
- (c) the efforts being made for permanent solution of the problem?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE):
(a) to (c) As per the information received from the Ministry of Home Affairs, in November, 2009, some Bru families reportedly fled from Mizoram to Tripura after some Bru hutments were burnt by unknown miscreants following the killing of a Mizo youth by suspected Bru militant outfit. Mizoram Government has taken steps to contain violence and restore normalcy. The State Government has been advised to instill confidence among Bru families living in Mizoram and to persuade those families who have fled to Tripura to return to Mizoram.

Contribution from NRIs in the development of NER

†3408. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Non-Resident Indians have not made desired contribution for the development of North Eastern Region;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) if not, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the steps taken and to be taken in future by Government to encourage the Non-Resident Indians to invest in the country?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE):
(a) to (d) As per the information received from the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) has received a large number of investment related queries, including those in respect of infrastructure and social sectors. OIFC has been successful in serving as a clearing house for investment related information to potential investors. It has also been successful as a one stop agency for replying queries and providing handholding services. Actual investment coming to India is a function of many factors.

This Ministry has organized a number of events in India and abroad to showcase the strength of the region with a view to attract investment. In this connection a North East India Investment Conference was organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) with the support of Ministry of DoNER in 2007-08 at Guwahati which was attended by a large number of NRIs.

New plan for speedy development of North Eastern Region

†3409. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister for DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is formulating a new plan for speedy development of the North Eastern Region, keeping in view the present gimmicks of China;
- (b) the status of implementation of Prime Minister's fund in the east; and
- (c) the details of construction of roads, electricity generation, railways and airports?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE):
(a) The prime responsibility of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region is to accelerate the pace of socio-economic development of the Region so that the North Eastern Region (NER) may enjoy growth parity with the rest of the country. This is to be achieved by planned strategy comprising following steps:-

- (i) Formulating policies/programmes for the rapid development of the Region.
- (ii) Intensifying interventions with other Central Ministries/Departments to spend 10% of their Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) for the socio-economic development of the NER.
- (iii) To develop infrastructure, especially to enhance connectivity in the Region -roads, railways, air, telecommunications and power, agriculture, tourism and food processing industries.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(iv) Facilitating mainstreaming of the Region through various programmes of the Ministry and also filling the resource gaps through various projects of the Ministry.

(b) and (c) As regards announcements made by the Prime Minister for the development of the North Eastern Region during his visits to the NE states from time to time, the implementation is undertaken by the concerned sector Ministries/Departments in coordination with the NE state governments. As regards projects covered under the Prime Minister's announcements in the specific sectors, the detailed information is hosted on the website of the Ministry (www.mdoner.gov.in).

State of Environment Report, 2009

3410. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 45 percent land of the country has been found degraded, air pollution is on the rise in all cities and rare flora and fauna is diminishing at a rapid rate as reported in the State of Environment Report India 2009;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendation and observations made in the said report; and

(c) the details of the action, so far, taken by the Central Government on each of the recommendations/observations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) According to State of Environment Report India, 2009, out of India's total geographical area of 328.73 Mha, 146.82 Mha is degraded land (based on the information of National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning, 2005). Some cities in India have witnessed decline in air pollution levels and many of the rare flora and fauna are on the verge of extinction. In this regard, some of the strategies identified to change land degradation *inter alia* include internalizing suitable policies in decision making, change in classification of land use statistics, use of advance technology like remote sensing, integrated pest management, land conserving crop rotations and integrated crop management. As regards reducing air pollution, main measures *inter alia* include integrated approach towards energy conservation, strengthening, monitoring and enforcement of emission standards. To protect the India's rich biodiversity wealth the report suggests to formulate conservation and prudent use strategies with the relevant stakeholders and local participation for conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

(c) Most of the recommendations/strategies suggested in the report are already enshrined in existing schemes/programmes of the government. Some of the important schemes/ programmes are as follows:

The Department of Land Resources has been implementing a modified scheme known as Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) comprising three area development

programmes namely Drought-Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) on watershed.

Some of the measures for control of Air Pollution in metro cities are: Bharat Stage (BS) III emission norms for passenger cars and BS II norms for two wheelers in ten metro cities apart from National Capital Region are implemented since 01.04.2005; BS IV norms for passenger cars and BS III for two wheelers in ten metro cities apart from National Capital Region have been notified with effect from 01.04.2010; the emission standards for industries have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and use of beneficiated coal in thermal power plants is in vogue. Action-plans for 24 Critically Polluted Areas are under implementation, etc.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is monitoring ambient air quality at 363 manual stations covering 139 cities, towns and industrial areas in the country which include 84 stations in 35 metro cities. Three major parameters, namely, Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and Particulate Matter of fine dust (PM₁₀) are monitored under National Air Monitoring Programme (NAMP) at all locations.

The Government seeks to conserve and manage flora and fauna of the country by regulatory and promotional measures. Under the promotional measures, there are 99 national park, 515 wildlife sanctuaries, 43 conservation reserves, 4 community reserves, 15 biosphere reserves, project tiger, elephant reserves etc. Under regulatory measures, there are Forest Conservation Act, Wildlife Protection Act, National Biodiversity Action Plan etc.

Pressure from western countries on global warming

‡3411. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is under pressure from the western countries with regard to global warming;
- (b) whether the cabinet is unanimous in this regard;
- (c) the plan to protect the country's interest in the next world talks; and
- (d) the efforts being made to maintain a balance between conservation of environment saving energy and growth in industrial production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The western countries have been urging that major developing countries, including India, should also take on emission reduction commitments to prevent global warming.

(b) and (c) The Government is of the view that in order to meet the Millennium Development Goals and eradication of poverty, our economy has to grow and thereby our emissions shall also grow. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) also recognizes

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

this fact, India's position is fully anchored in UN Convention on Climate Change including its Kyoto Protocol and Bali Action plan. The Government is committed to protect country's interest in the on-going as well as future climate change negotiations.

(d) As per Kyoto Protocol only developed countries are obliged to take on emission reduction commitments. Though not binding, India has taken a number of voluntary steps for conservation of environment while pursuing a path of sustainable development. These include The National Solar Mission and the National Mission on Enhanced Energy Efficiency, National Mission on Sustainable Habitat under The National Action Plan on Climate Change. Besides, Government has taken several steps towards sustainable development through a range of policies and programmes to mitigate climate change aimed at energy conservation, improved energy efficiency in various sectors; promoting use of renewable energy; power sector reforms; use of cleaner and lesser carbon intensive fuel for transport; fuel switching to cleaner energy; afforestation and conservation of forests; promotion of clean coal technologies and encouraging Mass Rapid Transport systems.

Projects for conservation and growth of wild animals

†3412. SHRI SHREGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

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

- (a) the special projects being implemented for conservation and growth of wild animals, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the killing of elephants and tortoise during the last year; and
- (c) the specific arrangements made to prevent it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Two Special Projects viz. Project Tiger and Project Elephant are under implementation for conservation and growth of wild animals. The States implementing Project Tiger and Project Elephant are given in the Statement (*See below*). In addition, Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats is implemented for conservation and growth of all wild animals under which following special programmes have been launched.

- i. Project Snow leopard in the Himalayan States of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Uttarakhand.
- ii. Vulture Conservation programme in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Orissa.
- iii. Project Hangul in the State of Jammu & Kashmir,
- iv. Conservation of Manipur Dancing Deer in the State of Manipur.
- v. Conservation of Edible Nest of Swiftlets in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) During 2008-2009, 13 elephants have been poached. The information of Tortoise killing is not collated in the Ministry.

(c) The steps taken by the Central Government for protection of wild animals including elephants and tortoises are:

1. Threatened species of wildlife including elephant and tortoises are included in the Schedule I 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.

Statement

The State implementing Project Tiger and Project Elephant

"Project Tiger"		"Project Elephant"	
Sl.No.	Name of State	Sl.No.	Name of State
1	Andhra Pradesh	1	Andhra Pradesh
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2	Arunachal Pradesh
3	Assam	3	Assam
4	Bihar	4	Chhattisgarh
5	Chhattisgarh	5	Jharkhand
6	Karnataka	6	Karnataka
7	Kerala	7	Kerala
8	Jharkhand	8	Maharashtra
9	Madhya Pradesh	9	Meghalaya
10	Maharashtra	10	Nagaland
11	Mizoram	11	Orissa
12	Orissa	12	Tamilnadu
13	Rajasthan	13	Tripura
14	Tamil Nadu	14	U.P.
15	Uttaranchal	15	Uttarakhand
16	Uttar Pradesh	16	W. Bengal
17	West Bengal		

Assessment of scientific reports on global warming and climate change

3413. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his Ministry has fully assessed from various scientific reports about the global warming and climate change in coming years;
- (b) if so, the findings thereof including the specific happening on the Brahmaputra and Ganga basin arising from Tibet Plateau;
- (c) the remedial measures, if any, already taken and likely to be taken in the near future;
- (d) whether any specific authority or cell is created for this purpose;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Government has accepted the findings of the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published in 2007, which provides an assessment of the scientific literature published in the international scientific journals on various aspects of climate change including *inter-alia* science, impact, adaptation, vulnerability and mitigation, it is also reported that glaciers in the Himalayas are receding faster than in any other part of the world. The current trend of glacial melt suggests that the Ganga, Indus, Brahmaputra and other rivers that criss-cross the northern Indian plains are likely to become seasonal rivers in the near future as a consequence of climate change.

As a part of the Initial National Communication of India to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), studies in regard to the vulnerability assessment and adaptation to climate change in various areas such as water resources, agriculture, forests, natural ecosystems, coastal zones, health energy and infrastructure have been made which have also projected future climate scenarios and likely impacts in these areas.

(c) Being aware of the likely implications of climate change the Government has released National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) on 30th June 2008. The National Action Plan outlines eight Missions in specific areas of solar energy, enhanced energy efficiency, sustainable habitat, water, sustaining Himalayan Ecosystems, Green India, sustainable agriculture and strategic knowledge for climate change. These National Missions are being institutionalized by respective Ministries for implementation.

(d) to (f) The National Missions are to be institutionalized by the respective Ministries and will be organized through inter-sectoral groups. Ministry of Environment has been designated for coordinating the implementation of all the Missions.

Yamuna Action Plan

‡3414. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that an amount of Rs,1200 crores has been spent on Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) by Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any time schedule has been fixed by Government for the Yamuna Action Plan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) The first phase of the Yamuna Action Plan (YAP), covering 21 towns of UP, Delhi & Haryana commenced in April, 1993. A total expenditure of Rs. 682 crore was incurred under this phase which was completed in 2003. The second Phase of YAP, an ongoing programme, has commenced in December, 2004. Till September, 2009, an expenditure of Rs 226.89 crore has been incurred under this phase.

The projects taken up under YAP include interception and diversion of raw sewage, setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants, creation of low cost sanitation facilities, setting up of electric/improved wood crematoria etc. Sewage treatment capacity of 753.25 mild has been created so far under this Plan.

Conservation of rivers is an ongoing and collective effort of the Central and State Governments, Besides YAP, the Government of NCT of Delhi has taken up sewerage and sewage treatment works under other schemes to fully address the pollution load being discharged into Yamuna.

Sanctuaries and National Parks in Andhra Pradesh

3415. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the sanctuaries, national parks, biosphere reserves in Andhra Pradesh compared to other States; and
- (b) the funds released and spent during the last five years in the State, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) There are 6 National Parks, 21 Wildlife Sanctuaries and no Biosphere Reserves in Andhra Pradesh. In the other States/Union Territories of the country there are 94 National Parks, 492 Wildlife Sanctuaries and 20 Biosphere Reserves.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Year-wise funds released to National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries of Andhra Pradesh under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz. Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, Project Tiger and Project Elephant during the last five years are as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Funds released and spent									
2004-05		2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
Released	Spent	Released	Spent	Released	Spent	Released	Spent	Released	Spent
197.70	180.42	361.83	215.25	366.14	304.35	435.90	261.62	296.34	227.01

National Forest Policy

†3416. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, in order to protect forests the target to bring 33 per cent of land area under forest cover had been set in the National Forest Policy formulated twenty years ago in 1988;

(b) if so, whether the target has been fulfilled;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures being taken by Government to fulfil the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) As per the National Forest Policy, 1988 the national goal is to have a minimum of one-third of the total land area of the country under forest or tree cover. In the hills and in mountainous regions, the aim is to maintain two-third of the area under such cover. According to the 'India State of Forest Report 2009' of Forest Survey of India, the forest and tree cover in the country is 78.37 million ha. in 2007, which is 23.84 % of the geographical area despite the large human and cattle population and widespread rural poverty due to which the forests of the country are subjected to enormous pressures. However, the National Afforestation Programme, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme; Additional Central Assistance for 'Accelerated Programme of Restoration and Regeneration of Forest Cover', a new State Plan Scheme; Eco-Development Force Scheme, a Central Scheme; NREGS having Afforestation/Tree Planting activities in its schedule and other Central and State Schemes help in achieving the Policy objectives.

Coffee plantation in degraded forests

3417. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the details of the funds released, so far, to Andhra Pradesh Forest Development Corporation (APFDC) for raising coffee plantation in degraded forest lands in Eastern Ghats of Visakhapatnam and East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh and the works done there so far, year-wise separately;

(b) the number of people provided jobs in these plantations; and

(c) the area brought under coffee cultivation so far alongwith the additional area proposed to be brought under coffee plantation during this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The coffee plantation has been raised over 1,482 ha. upto the year 1978 by the Andhra Pradesh Forest Department which, in turn, were handed over to AP Forest Development Corporation Ltd. (APFDC) for their further maintenance. The Andhra Pradesh Forest Development Corporation has also raised plantations over an extent of 2,528 ha between 1979 to 1984. These plantations have been raised by the APFDC with the internal resources of the Corporation and the subsidy amounts received from the Coffee Board. Thus the total area under cultivation of coffee under control of APFDC is 4,010 ha. The year-wise subsidies received from the Coffee Board are as follows:

Year	Area in Ha.	Amount of subsidy received from the Coffee Board (Rs. in lakhs)
1979	12.40	1.89
1980	433.75	1.78
1981	509.84	2.61
1982	1018.33	12.36
1983	271.85	16.28
1984	81.75	6.58
1985	0	15.77
1986, 1987	0	4.94
TOTAL	2527.92	62.21

(b) The Corporation is employing local tribals and other local workers for executing the works of maintenance in the Coffee estates. Sri Lanka repatriates who have been rehabilitated in this project by the Government of India are also being engaged in the plantation works, whose details are as under:

Sri Lanka repatriates	Local tribals	Other workers	Total
293	3200	365	3859

The APFDC is generating about 6.00 lakh mandays of employment in the Coffee Plantation every year.

(c) An area of 4,010 ha of coffee plantations have been raised in the project upto 1984. Since the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has come into effect, no fresh plantations have been raised in the notified forest area by APFDC as raising of new commercial crops like tea, coffee, spices, rubber etc., is a non forest activity and prohibited under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Dumping of e-waste

3418. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

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

(b) if, so the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to tackle this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Import of wastes is not allowed for dumping/disposal purposes in India as per the provisions of the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Trans-boundary Movements) Rules, 2008. However, import of recyclable wastes like plastics, paper wastes and metal scrap conforming to the specifications mentioned in the Rules is allowed for recycling subject to necessary approvals from the concerned authorities.

The Rules require all consignments to be accompanied by a pre shipment inspection certificate/test report from an accredited laboratory and a movement document. The Customs authorities are required to take random samples from the consignments to prevent misdeclaration. Further, the ministry has constituted a co-ordination committee including representatives from the Department of Revenue, DGFT, Central Pollution Control Board, State Pollution Control Boards and experts to oversee the implementation of the provisions laid down in the Rules, specially related to import and export of hazardous wastes.

Moratorium on open and field trials of GM crops

3419. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had made any study as to the impact of introduction of GM research and commercial release of GM foods in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government is planning to enforce a moratorium on all open and field trials of GM crops until an independent analysis proving safety to human life and environment is conducted; and

(c) whether Government would put pressure on States which had banned its introduction especially Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Government of India is following a policy of case by case assessment of

genetically modified (GM) crops. In view of various concerns related to the safety, efficacy and agronomic performance of transgenic seeds, extensive evaluation and regulatory approval process takes place before any GM plant is approved for commercial cultivation. This includes generation of relevant biosafety information and its elaborate analysis to ensure food, feed and environmental safety. The environmental safety assessment includes studies on pollen escape out-crossing, aggressiveness and weediness, effect of the gene on non-target organisms, presence of protein in soil and its effect on soil micro-flora, confirmation of the absence of terminator gene and baseline susceptibility studies. The food and feed safety studies include assessment on composition analysis, allergenicity and toxicological studies and feeding studies on fish, chicken, cows and buffaloes. In case, the transgenic crop is not found suitable for release in the environment or human consumption, the product is rejected during the trial stage itself. A final view on the commercialization of GM plants is taken only when there is a clear economic and technical justification for release of the product.

(b) There is no proposal to enforce a moratorium on all open field trials of GM crops. All field trials are subject to stringent norms such as maintaining (i) a crop specific isolation distance from the periphery of the experimental site to other sexually compatible rice fields as prescribed under the Indian Minimum Seed Certification Standards; (ii) biological barrier by planting border rows all around the experimental plot; (iii) submission of a validated event specific test protocol of 0.01% before undertaking the trials and (iv) Post harvest restrictions. The prescribed stipulations are adequate to minimize contamination due to gene flow, if any.

(c) The mandate of this Ministry under 'Rules for Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro Organisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells 1989' of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, is to address only biosafety issues before according approval for environmental release. This Ministry has no role in deciding commercial cultivation of agricultural seeds, genetically modified or otherwise in any state including Kerala.

Levy of carbon fee

3420. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to levy carbon fee in order to reduce carbon in environment; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under consideration by the Government.

Pollution by slaughter houses

3421. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of illegal slaughter houses are polluting water of various important rivers and drinking water in the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government has conducted any study in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether NHRC has also issued any orders in this regard;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the remedial measures taken by Government to check such activities of the slaughter houses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (f) As reported by CPCB, the Ministry of Agriculture have conducted a survey to identify the registered and unregistered slaughter houses in the country. The local municipal and administrative authorities are to take action for stopping all unauthorised activities including slaughtering of animals.

The measures taken by the Central Government to check pollution of rivers in various parts of the country from slaughter houses include notification of effluent standards under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) are empowered to grant consent to slaughter houses for discharge of effluent/emission as per the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. Central Pollution Control Board has published "Solid waste management in slaughter house" to guide the State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees and slaughter houses in taking pollution control measures. Training and awareness programmes are organized for the officials of the State Governments and slaughter houses.

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) had made recommendations to the Uttar Pradesh Government on closure of the illegal abattoir in Meerut. Subsequently, on submission of the action plan by the State Government, to control air and water pollution, the NHRC further recommended, as an interim measure, setting up of a temporary abattoir with ETP and the animal remains be disposed of by a private rendering plant. The NHRC directed the Municipal Commissioner and District Magistrate, Meerut to ensure demolition of the unauthorised furnaces.

Use of crackers on Deepavali and Dussehra

†3422. SHRI AVTAR SINGH KARIMPURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether use of firecrackers on Deepavali and Dussehra cause pollution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the effective steps taken by Government to check this pollution?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The bursting of firecrackers on Deepavali and Dussehra causes air pollution and noise pollution. The air pollution is found to be associated with increase in levels of Sulphur Dioxide, Nitrogen Dioxide and fine dust in ambient air.

(c) The Government has taken various steps which include the following:

i. The noise standards for firecrackers have been notified and Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO) is implementing the said noise standards.

ii. PESO has come out with the environment friendly chemical compositions for four types of commonly used firecrackers and all licensed fireworks manufacturers in India have been directed by PESO to adhere to said chemical compositions.

iii. PESO undertakes random sampling and testing for sound levels of firecrackers at the manufacturing point to ensure the compliance of noise standards.

iv. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), various State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) for Union Territories undertake special monitoring of ambient noise levels and air quality during Deepavali in select cities and towns across the country on the advise of the Central Government.

v. The CPCB, SPCBs/PCCs and select Department of Environment carryout press advertisements for public awareness about pollution due to firecrackers during festival season.

vi. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has ordered that there shall be complete ban on the bursting of sound emitting firecrackers between 10 pm and 6 am. The said orders are implemented by concerned Authorities under the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 across the country.

Felling of trees due to widening of NH-7

3423. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that large scale tree felling for widening of NH-7 from Seoni to Nagpur has resulted in cutting the wildlife corridor between Pench and Kanha and Panch and Nagzira-Navgaon;

(b) if so, what action has been taken on the opposition to this proposal by the National Tiger Conservation Authority; and

(c) whether the approval of his Ministry was obtained by the National Highways Authority for felling these trees on this massive scale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Felling of trees on the NH-7, close to the Pench Tiger Reserve was observed by the team of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) during their site

inspection. Accordingly, an advisory has been issued to the concerned collector for stopping of felling of trees. However, the proposal for diverting forest land for construction and widening of NH-7 on the periphery of Pench Mowgli Sanctuary of Pench Tiger Reserve, Seoni, Madhya Pradesh is under consideration of the Supreme Court of India on the recommendations of Central Empowered Committee, wherein the Central Empowered Committee has recommended that alternative alignment may be used for widening of the NH-7, taking into account the impact of widening of the NH-7 on Pench Tiger Reserve. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has not given any approval for felling of trees along the NH-7 in this stretch.

Simplifying forest conservation rules

3424. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mineral resources of Madhya Pradesh are not being exploited due to complicated provisions of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and the rules made thereunder;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to simplify these provisions;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) whether Government proposes to incorporate a provisions in the Forest Conservation Act 1980 and the rules there under for according approval to projects within a period of six months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) The mineral resources of the country are exploited in the forest land with prior approval of the Central Government to the Mining proposals submitted by the State/UTs, under provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and rules made there under.

These proposals are duly considered by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted under Section-3 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. While tendering the advice, the committee may suggest any conditions/restrictions on the use of any forest land for any non forestry purposes, which in its opinion would minimize adverse environmental impact. The recommendation/advice of the Forest Advisory Committee is considered by the Government for granting approval with or without conditions or reject the same. The Central Government is required to take decision within sixty day of receipt of the recommendations. This process has been followed uniformly for all categories of proposals including mining proposals for all the State/UTs. The Central Government do not propose any change in the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Government approach on international conference on climate change

‡3425. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

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

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether the developed countries have urged for reconsideration on Kuyoto protocol in the international conference on climate change to be held in Copenhagen in December;

(b) whether Government had strongly opposed this request alongwith other developing countries in the dialogue with UNFCCC;

(c) whether his Minister had proposed through a letter, to unite with G-20 against this protest:

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether India's commitment and reputation is not at stake?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The developed countries though agreeing to the Bali Action Plan at the 13th Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in December 2007, have often urged to dump the Kyoto Protocol. India and many other developing countries have strongly opposed this move and instead have asked developed countries to take deeper emission reduction commitments as per the requirements of Article 3.9 of the Kyoto Protocol.

(c) to (e) The Minister for Environment & Forests has been interacting with his counterparts including members of G-77 & China and G-20 and our approach has been anchored in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Kyoto Protocol (KP) and Bali Action Plan (BAP).

Green India Programme

3426. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to launch the Green India Programme;

(b) if so, the details of the Programme, including its components, its objectives etc.;

(c) how much money is going to be spent on this Programme; and

(d) what would be the funding route for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) "National Mission for a Green India" is one of the eight Missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change announced by the Prime Minister. This Mission focuses on enhancing ecosystem services and carbon sink through afforestation on degraded forest land in line with the National Policy of expanding forest and tree cover in the country. However, the Mission document has not been formulated.

Threat to ecology and environment in agency areas

3427. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is threat to the ecology and environment in the agency areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken to protect the same during the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The National Environment Policy 2006 recognises the key ecological and environmental challenges the country faces including agency areas. These challenges are connected with the state of environmental resources, such as land, water, air and flora and fauna. The causes of environmental degradation include population growth, inappropriate technology and consumption choices, poverty and livelihood dependence on natural resources and development activities such as intensive agriculture, polluting industry, unplanned urbanization, etc.

(c) National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) outlining the strategy to meet the challenge of Climate Change; setting up of National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) for conservation and holistic management of river Ganga; setting up of scientific, objective and transparent processes for environmental and forest clearance of the projects; revision of National Ambient and Air Quality Standards; release of guidelines and funds of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority for its utilisation; guidelines for convergence of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) and National Afforestation Programme (NAP) for pooling of resources, technology and information for Natural Resource Management; Voluntary relocation/rehabilitation of villages and human settlements from Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks for creating inviolate space and integrity of important wildlife habitats; Additional Central Assistance for 'Accelerated Programme of Restoration and Regeneration of Forest Cover'; introduction of National Green Tribunal (NGT) Bill for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection, forest conservation, and other natural resources including compensating victims of pollution and other environmental damage are some of the major steps initiated during the current plan period.

Genetic engineering tests

3428. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of crops and their varieties that have been approved for conducting genetic engineering tests in the country; and
- (b) the details of the agencies/organizations/research institutions which have been permitted to carry the experiments and the results of the experiments conducted, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee the apex body notified under the 'Rules for Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro Organisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells 1989' of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, has accorded approval for conducting genetic engineering tests with GM crops namely;

cotton, rice, okra, brinjal, potato, groundnut, tomato, corn, cabbage, cauliflower, mustard and sorghum for generation of biosafety data.

(b) The public and private institutions which have been permitted to conduct biosafety tests include; Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla, National Research Centre for Sorghum, Hyderabad; National Research Centre for Plant Biotechnology, New Delhi; Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Coimbatore; University of Agriculture, Dharwad; International Crop Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics, Hyderabad; M/s Bejo Sheetal Seeds Pvt. Ltd., Jalna; M/s Pioneer Overseas Corporation Hyderabad; M/s Dow Agro Science, Mumbai; M/s Monsanto India Limited, New Delhi; M/s Bayer BioSciences Pvt., Hyderabad; M/s J. K. Agri Genetics Limited, Hyderabad; M/s Nunhems India Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon; M/s Avesthagen Ltd., Bangalore, M/s Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Co. Ltd., Mumbai; M/s Sungro Seeds Research Ltd., M/s Metahelix Life Sciences, Bangalore and Delhi University. The results of the biosafety studies conducted in respect of Bt cotton and Bt Brinjal are available in the public domain (<http://www.envfor.nic.in>).

Suggestions of Centre for Science and Environment

‡3429. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI:

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

(a) whether the Centre for Science and Environment has given such suggestions as could be useful in managing environment within the sphere of production and consumption;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is acting upon these suggestions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Loss of forest cover

3430. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the details of the quantum of the loss of forest cover every year on the face of different data quoted by Government agencies in the Supreme Court, before the parliamentary committees and in the Forest Survey of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): As per 'India State Forest Report 2009'¹ published by Forest Survey of India, the forest cover of the country has shown a net increase of 728 km² (72,800 ha.) between 2005 & 2007 while the decadal change in forest cover of the country between the period 1997 and 2007 has been assessed as 31,349 km² (3.13 million ha.). The Government of India uses the data on the forest cover from the State of Forest Report's of Forest Survey of India before the parliamentary committees, in the Supreme Court, etc.

¹Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Smuggling of tigers

3431. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that China has been involved in smuggling of tigers in India;
- (b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard;
- (c) whether India has raised this issue with China; and
- (d) if so, the response of China thereto?

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

(b) to (d) Questions do not arise.

Amendments to Wildlife Protection Act

3432. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to bring in amendments to the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972 to prevent incidents of poaching and poisoning of remaining population of tigers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether most of the tiger reserves in the country are in precarious condition and thereby affecting tigers' and leopards' population;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and whether the Central Government has discussed the matter with the State Governments and proposes to provide special assistance for proper maintenance of tiger reserves; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has already been amended in 2006 to strengthen tiger conservation and antipoaching measures. Based on the said enabling provisions, the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau have been operationalised with effect from 4.9.2006 and 6.6.2007 respectively.

(c) to (e) The tiger reserves have been assessed by a panel of independent experts using 45 parameters based on the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) criteria, as adapted to Indian conditions, which was subjected to peer review by the IUCN. Both the assessment and peer review have been placed in both Houses of the Parliament in the Monsoon Session of 2006. Recently (2009), a rapid assessment of tiger reserves has been done.

Out of 38 tiger reserves, 13 are good, 9 are satisfactory and 16 are in a poor status, which include 7 reserves affected by extremist disturbances. A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) linked to fund flows has been executed with tiger States to strengthen tiger conservation. The milestone initiatives taken for conservation of tiger and the central assistance provided to tiger reserves during the last three years and the current year are given in the Statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

Statement-I

Milestone initiatives (including the recent) taken by the Government of India for protection of tigers and other wild animals

Legal steps

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

Administrative steps

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

9. An area of 29284.76 sq. km. has been notified by 15 Tiger States (out of 17) as core or critical tiger habitat under section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006 (Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal). Two tiger States (Bihar and Uttar Pradesh) have taken a decision for notifying the core or critical tiger habitats (2765.04 sq.km.). The State of Madhya Pradesh has not identified/notified the core/critical tiger habitat in its newly constituted tiger reserve (Sanjay National Park and Sanjay Dubri Wildlife Sanctuary).

Financial steps

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

International Cooperation

11. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.
12. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
13. During the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, with directions to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. The resolution was adopted as a decision with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming, and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance of continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.
14. Based on India's strong intervention during the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee of the CITES at Geneva from 6th to 10th July, 2009, the CITES Secretariat has issued a notification to Parties to submit reports relating to compliance of Decisions 14.69 and 14.65 within 90 days with effect from 20.10.2009 (Progress made on restricting captive breeding operations of tigers etc.).

Reintroduction of Tigers

15. As a part of active management to rebuild Sariska and Panna Tiger Reserves where tigers have become locally extinct, reintroduction of tigers/tigresses have been done.
16. Special advisories issued for in-situ build up of prey base and tiger population through active management in tiger reserves having low population status of tiger and its prey.

Creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF)

17. The policy initiatives announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech of 29.2.2008, *inter-alia*, contains action points relating to tiger protection. Based on the one time grant of Rs. 50.00 crore provided to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for raising, arming and deploying a Special Tiger Protection Force, the proposal for the said force has been approved by the competent authority for 13 tiger reserves. Rs. 93 lakhs each has been released to Corbett, Ranthambhore & Dudhwa Tiger Reserve for creation of STPF during 2008-09. Central Assistance will be provided to States for creation of STPF in remaining 10 Tiger Reserves in 2009-10. Since then, the guidelines of the STPF have been revised for deploying forest personnel in place of Police, with scope for involving local people like the Van Gujjars.
18. In collaboration with TRAFFIC-INDIA, action has been taken for an wildlife crime data base, and Generic Guidelines for preparation of reserve specific Security Plan has been evolved.

Recent Initiatives

19. Implementation a tripartite MOU with tiger States, linked to fund flows for effective implementation of tiger conservation initiatives.
20. Revised the Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) guidelines to involve local people Van Gujjars and others in field protection.
21. Rapid assessment of tiger reserves done (12 good, 9 satisfactory and 16 poor).
22. Special crack teams sent to tiger reserves affected by left wing extremism and low population status of tiger and its prey.
23. All India meeting of Field Directors convened on 25 and 26 July, 2009 under the Chairmanship of the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests for reviewing the status of field protection and related issues in tiger reserves.
24. Chief Ministers of tiger States addressed at the level of the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests on urgent issues, viz. implementation of the tripartite MoU, creation of the Tiger Conservation Foundation, stepping up protection etc.
25. Chief Ministers of States having tiger reserves affected by left wing extremism and low population status of tiger and its prey addressed for taking special initiatives.
26. Field visits to Bhadra, Corbett, Sariska and Ranthambhore made by the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests to review the initiatives and problems relating to tiger conservation.
27. Steps taken for modernizing the infrastructure and field protection.
28. Advisory issued for involvement of Non-Governmental Experts in the forthcoming all India tiger estimation.

29. Core Committee involving outside experts constituted for overseeing the forthcoming all India tiger estimation.
30. Report of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) constituted for looking into the local extinction of tiger in the Panna Tiger Reserve sent to the State (Madhya Pradesh) for the needful action.
31. Issue of tiger farming and trafficking of tiger body parts discussed at the level of Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests with the Chinese Authorities.
32. Action taken for amending the Wildlife (Protection) Act to ensure effective conservation.
33. Initiatives taken for improving the field delivery through capacity building of field officials, apart from providing incentives.
34. Decision taken to host the World Tiger Summit in October-November, 2010.

Statement-II

*Central Assistance provided to tiger States during the last three years
and the current financial year*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	Release 2006-07	Release 2007-08	Release 2008-09	Release 2009-10
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Achanakmar	-	-	68.55	1193.5000
2.	Anamalai	-	-	224.885	12.8300
3.	Bandhavgarh	185.99	499.46185	1814.94857	159.9600
4.	Bandipur	242.21	974.529	114.565	120.5920
5.	Bhadra	44.067	185.18591	158.06684	128.0870
6.	Buxa	69.22833	106.79414	67.64	38.5800
7.	Corbett	192.78	202.005	462.85	187.6550
8.	Dampa	115.16	82.90	241.45	128.0000
9.	Dandeli-Anshi	183.265	-	226.36	105.5000
10.	Dudhwa	10.00	134.89	392.513	316.0000
11.	Indravati	108.535	35.225	49.36966	42.1500
12.	Kalakad Mundanthurai	243.259	45.40	222.371	101.1300
13.	Kanha	30.00	270.42228	1638.28344	277.0600
14.	Kaziranga	-	-	306.7915	-
15.	Manas	50.70	60.00	740.7945	-
16.	Melghat	71.462	138.365	180.939	155.1850
17.	Mudumalai	21.10	-	243.55	21.6500
18.	Nagarahole	-	-	190.847	83.3760
19.	Nagarjunsagar	35.875	73.9175	56.983	94.9100

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Namdapha	35.875	30.00	136.852	-
21.	Nameri	15.00	35.614	44.793	19.7700
22.	Pakke	-	80.2542	109.31895	48.8600
23.	Palamau	18.00	45.16	115.3765	110.7350
24.	Panna	287.50	1822.849	2108.938	175.8950
25.	Parambikulam	-	-	96.74	97.0000
26.	Pench (MP)	47.80	220.846	169.09075	158.3200
27.	Pench (Mah.)	104.108	71.50407	71.18	74.7800
28.	Periyar	63.75	153.2449	170.35	151.8000
29.	Ranthambore	225.92	223.45	808.86	10560.0000
30.	Sanjay-Dubri	-	-	74.506	145.8400
31.	Sariska	69.00	187.23	1900.09	132.8900
32.	Satkosia	-	-	75.00	127.7300
33.	Satpura	47.90	162.362	1192.775	467.3710
34.	Similipal	32.88	43.28	550.99	42.3500
35.	Sunderban	138.33	201.88	160.75436	259.9700
36.	Tadoba-Andheri	446.22	85.85	159.00561	131.8200
37.	Udanti-Sitanadi	-	-	51.95	103.0500
38.	Valmiki	25.00	98.3205	49.6731*	8.0000
TOTAL		2879.895	6270.94035	15448.00078	15982.35

* With held for want of MoU

Pollution in Yamuna

3433. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how far the Yamuna Action Plan for the abatement of pollution in river Yamuna has succeeded in its objectives and if not, by when it would be achieved;

(b) the details of expenditure incurred;

(c) whether Delhi accounts for about 79 per cent of total wastewater generated from major towns located along the banks of river Yamuna;

(d) whether groundwater quality monitored by CPCB at selected locations of Delhi area indicates that water was not potable; and

(e) whether Yamuna is among the most polluted rivers of the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) for abatement of pollution in river Yamuna is being implemented by the Central and State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi with assistance from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). YAP, Phase-I was

implemented from April, 1993, to February, 2003. The second phase of YAP commenced in December, 2004. The total approved cost of both the phases is Rs.1339 crores. An expenditure of Rs. 908.89 crore has been incurred so far under both the phases. A total of 276 schemes have been completed in 21 towns of the three States and sewage treatment capacity of 753.25 million litres per day has been created till now under both the phases of YAP. The works completed under YAP include interception and diversion of raw sewage, setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants, creation of low cost sanitation facilities, setting up of electric/improved wood crematoria and River Front Development. In addition to YAP, the Government of NCT of Delhi has also taken up pollution abatement works for river Yamuna from other resources.

(c) to (e) According to a study conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the stretch of river Yamuna between Wazirabad and Okhla in Delhi is severely polluted. It has been reported that the volume of wastewater generated from Delhi accounts for about 79 per cent of the total wastewater generated from major towns located along the banks of river Yamuna. The groundwater quality monitored by CPCB at selected locations in Delhi has indicated that at one location during the pre-monsoon period, the concentration of toxic metals exceeded the drinking water quality standards prescribed by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). However, the groundwater quality improves in the post monsoon period due to recharge.

Clearance for Platinum-2 ship breaking at Alang

‡3434. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

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

(a) whether the Central Government has refused to give permission to beaching and breaking of platinum-2 ship brought from America to the Alang ship breaking yard in Gujarat;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the reasons for refusing permission has been assigned to presence of toxic and radioactive substances thereon which are hazardous to the environmental safety;

(c) the ground on which the said ship was permitted to be brought to India;

(d) whether documents were tampered with for bringing in this ship; and

(e) if so, the action taken against the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) The passenger ship "Platinum-II" was anchored at Bhavnagar anchoring point on 6.10.2009 with the permission of the Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) after necessary desk review by the authorities concerned. Subsequently, this Ministry has received complaints pertaining to falsified flag and registry of the ship and presence of hazardous substances.

An inter-ministerial technical team was constituted to inspect the ship. As per the report submitted by this team, there are no hazardous and radio-active wastes on board the ship in loose

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

form or as cargo. However, hazardous materials like asbestos, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and radio-active materials are present in the ship as part of its structure. There are 653 smoke detectors and exit points in the ship containing radio active materials as in-built structure of the ship. The team also estimated that approx. 238 MT of Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) is present in the structure of the ship. A team of officers of Gujarat State Pollution Control Board inspected the ship on 10.10.2009 and estimated that about 20 MT of PCBs are present as in-built structure of the ship.

In exercising the 'Precautionary Principle', this Ministry has communicated to GMB that granting permission for beaching and breaking purposes of the ship will not be advisable.

Quantity of ozone gas

†3435. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the Central Pollution Control Board, the quantity of ozone gas is increasing due to CNG operated vehicles;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the possibility of being affected with various diseases like skin cancer, asthma, heart disease, etc. increases due to increase in the quantity of ozone in the atmosphere;

(c) whether we may get rid of this problem by making some scientific changes in engine technique in CNG operated vehicles; and

(d) if so, whether Government would encourage scientists in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is monitoring the ambient Ozone levels on continuous basis at three locations in Delhi namely Bahadurshah Zafar Marg (ITO intersection), Delhi College of Engineering (DCE) and Sirifort. The monitoring of ozone in other cities is yet to be started.

The levels of Ozone observed in Delhi during 2007, 2008 and 2009 are as under :

Year	DCE	B.S.Z. Marg, ITO	Sirifort
2007	71	31	46
2008	45	40	31
2009*	50	44	36

*Upto October, 2009 All values are in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

As evident from the above data, there is no definite trend in Ozone levels. The co-relation of the observed concentration/ levels of Ozone with the emissions arising out of CNG operated vehicles has not been established.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) As per the World Health Organization Guidelines on Air Quality (2005), Ozone levels below $100 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ have very limited health impact. However, Ozone levels beyond $160 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ have potential to cause respiratory diseases like asthma, airway inflammation, etc.

(c) and (d) The CNG vehicles manufactured by Original Equipment Manufacture (OEMs) are equipped with catalytic converters and meet the current emission regulations. Further, there is no established linkage of Ozone levels with emissions of CNG vehicles. Therefore, the need for change in engine technology in CNG vehicles is not felt at this stage.

Extinction of tigers from Panna Tiger Reserve

3436. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a recent census of tiger population, the tigers in Panna Tiger Reserve has gone extinct;

(b) when the last census was undertaken in the Reserve and what was the tiger population as per the census; and

(c) whether Government has probed the reasons for extinction of tigers there and if so, the results of that probe?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) As per the assessment of tiger status done by the Wildlife Institute of India, the tiger population in the Panna Tiger Reserve of Madhya Pradesh had gone locally extinct.

(b) As per findings of the last All India estimation of tiger population, using the refined methodology in 2008, the Panna landscape, *inter-alia* encompassing the Panna Tiger Reserve and its surrounds, sustained 24 (± 1 Standard Error, range 15-32) tigers.

(c) The Government of India had constituted a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to look into the causative factors for disappearance of tigers from the Panna Tiger Reserve. The SIT has submitted its report and attributed the main cause of tiger disappearance to poaching. The report has been forwarded to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for taking appropriate administrative and ecological measures.

Genetically modified agriculture produce

3437. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

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

(a) the different eatable agriculture produce which are genetically modified and approved by the Government to be produced in the country;

(b) whether Government has conducted enough tests to ensure that they are not affecting the health of the innocent public; and

(c) whether Government is aware that producers of such GM products are making huge profits at the cost of the health of the ordinary citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) in its meeting held on 14.10.2009 has concluded that Bt brinjal is safe for environmental release based on scientific facts data generated during 2002-2009 and international experience with GM crops. However, as the Ministry has received strong views both in favour and against commercialization of Bt brinjal in India from various stakeholders including the State Governments, farmers, civil societies, NGOs and scientists, the Ministry has decided to hold national consultations with the stakeholders before a final view on the environmental release of Bt brinjal is taken.

(b) On the issue of adverse impact on human health due to consumption of GM food, it may be noted the Government of India is following a policy of case by case approval of GM crops. Any company involved in the development of GM crops has to undertake extensive biosafety assessment which includes environmental safety as well as food and feed safety assessment even if it has been approved for commercial cultivation in other countries. The environmental safety assessment includes studies on pollen escape out-crossing, aggressiveness and weediness, effect of the gene on non-target organisms, presence of the protein in soil and its effect on soil micro-flora, confirmation of the absence of Terminator Gene and baseline susceptibility studies. The food and feed safety assessment studies include composition analysis, allergenicity and toxicological studies and feeding studies on fish, chicken, cows and buffaloes. In case the transgenic crop is found to be not suitable for human consumption, the product is rejected during the trial stage itself. A final view on the commercialization of GM plants is taken only when there is a clear economic and technical justification for release of the product.

(c) As of date Bt cotton is the only transgenic crop approved for commercial cultivation in India after extensive biosafety testing. Experience with Bt cotton indicates that it has been beneficial to farmers in terms of enhanced economic benefits accrued from higher marketable yield and lower usage of pesticide sprays.

Mission Clean Ganga

†3438. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that an estimate of Rs.15,000 crore has been made for the purpose of expenditure on Mission Clean Ganga by the end of 2020;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that no unanimous formula has been finalized to collect above said amount;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof and the proposals of various formulae considered by the Central Government and State Governments so far; and

(e) whether now it has been decided that Planning Commission would work out a unanimous formula in this regard and if so, by when this formula would be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) The first meeting of the 'National Ganga River Basin Authority' (NGRBA) held on 5th October 2009 resolved that by the year 2020, it will be ensured that no untreated municipal sewage or industrial effluent flows into Ganga. Currently, sewage treatment capacity of 1025 million litres per day (mild) is available against about 3000 mild being generated in the towns along Ganga. An estimated investment of Rs.15,000 crore over the next 10 years will be required to create the necessary treatment and sewerage infrastructure.

Under the ongoing centrally sponsored scheme of National River Conservation Plan, Centre and States share the capital costs in the ratio of 70:30 respectively, it was decided in the aforesaid meeting of NGRBA that funds required for 'Mission Clean Ganga' will be shared suitably between Centre and States after consultation with the States, Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission.

Conservation of lakes

3439. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of existing lakes in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to lack of conservation, these lakes have dried up in the recent past; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to conserve these lakes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Ministry is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) for conservation and management of polluted and degraded lakes in urban and semi-urban areas of the country. Under the Scheme, the Ministry has so far, sanctioned projects for conservation of 58 lakes identified by the states, at a cost of Rs. 883.94 crore.

The proposals for new lakes are considered for sanction subject to their admissibility as per NLCP guidelines, pollution status, prioritization and availability of funds under the Plan. This Ministry has not received any report from the States regarding drying of lakes in the recent past.

Copenhagen meeting on climate change

3440. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Copenhagen meet on climate change could appreciate the stand of India and its domestic commitment; and

(b) if so, which are the countries working together with India in this international meet and co-operate for future commitments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) India's approach to Climate Change is fully anchored in the United Nations Framework on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Kyoto Protocol and the Bali Action Plan. The actions of the Government of India are guided by the principles of equity and the common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities as enshrined in the Convention and the policy laid down in the National Action Plan on Climate Change. Developed countries however often speak of dumping the Kyoto Protocol and that major developing countries should also take on emission reduction commitments. India has taken a position that our voluntary domestic commitments that are not supported by international finance and technology should not be subject to any international Monitoring, Reporting and Verification.

(b) India is an active participant in the G-77 & China. Besides, India along with Brazil, South Africa and China (BASIC Countries) often coordinate their position on various issues of climate change at international negotiations including at Copenhagen.

Environmental clearance to hydro power projects

3441. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that environmental clearance has been sought for building about 168 large hydro power projects in the geologically and ecologically fragile, seismically active and culturally-sensitive Brahmaputra river basin; and

(b) if so, the details of these projects and the decision of his Ministry on giving clearance to these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Under the provisions of Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006, Ministry of Environment and Forests has received two hydroelectric projects for environmental clearance which are located in Brahmaputra Basin for environmental clearance. These are Demwe Lower Hydroelectric project (1750 MW) in Lohit District, Arunachal Pradesh and Gongri Hydroelectric project (90 MW) in West Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh. Both the projects have been considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee at its meeting held on 16.12.2009 and recommended for environmental clearance.

Impact of climate change

3442. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference on "Forestry Solutions: Strategies for Mitigation and Adaptation of the Impact of Climate Change in Western Himalayan Mountain States" has recently been held in the country;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) whether a 16-point agenda has been introduced by experts in the field of forestry and environment, as its solution to combat the adverse impact of climate change, which are far more severe due to power projects, cement industry and other projects, in the fragile Himalayan ecology; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith Government's views thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A National conference on "Forestry Solutions: Strategies for Mitigation and Adaptation of the Impact of Climate Change in Western Himalayan mountain states" was held at Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, from 19-21 November 2009.

(c) and (d) The Conference recommended the following agenda to guide the states of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand in the formulation and implementation of policies and strategies for the forestry sector:-

- i) There is a need to formulate a separate and distinct forest policy for western Himalayan states in view of their high vulnerability to climate change; critical role as watershed states for the northern Indian plains and unique ecosystems and forested landscapes rich in biodiversity.
- ii) There is an urgent need to establish long-term monitoring plots across representative eco-zones, to gather scientific data on climatic and biological parameters, especially in Riverine, Alpine and Shivalik ecosystems.
- iii) Mapping climate change driven adaptations in natural resource use and livelihood patterns across eco-zones.
- iv) Development of a database on Carbon sequestration potential of forest flora in these States.
- v) Periodic assessment of carbon stock including soil carbon under different ecosystems.
- vi) Effective deployment of new and advanced technologies, such as GIS, remote sensing, climate modeling in natural resource management.
- vii) Urgent need to incentivise community involvement in some mainstream forest department activities including forest protection, afforestation and fire fighting.
- viii) Integrating and extending the concept and practice of Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) within the states to compensate for foregone land-use and occupation options adversely impacting the environment.
- ix) Conservation of biological diversity should guide afforestation programmes and not carbon sequestration potential alone.

- x) Re-orienting afforestation programmes to focus on species that help mitigate man-animal conflict.
- xi) Revisiting forestry operations to realize full water conservation potential of forests leading to development of water sanctuaries.
- xii) Gender specific policies are required to help cope with the loss of control over natural resources, technologies and credit to deal with seasonal and episodic weather and natural disasters.
- xiii) Impress upon Government of India to move beyond Green Bonus to adequately compensate these states for ecosystem services flows.
- xiv) Re-orient developmental interventions adopting watershed as the unit for planning and fund flows.
- xv) Re-design the existing tourism policy to produce alternative mountain-specific tourism models focusing on environmental sustainability.
- xvi) Forest departments should be more proactive in influencing policies of other sectors such as Road Construction, Transportation, Power and Industries which impinge on conservation issues.

Guidelines and best practices for the governance for sustaining Himalayan Eco-system have been developed and shared with all State Governments in the Himalayan Region.

Logging of trees by Everest Power Private Ltd.

3443. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the Everest Power Private Limited (EPPL) axed 364 trees and destroyed 115 bighas of forest area in the lush green Malana valley without obtaining prior permission from his Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the company has also dumped muck and road debris along the Malana riverside, burying alive thousands of smaller species of plants and local herbs;
- (d) if so, whether Government has conducted any inquiry in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the action Government has taken against the company and other responsible authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As reported by Forest Department, Government of Himachal Pradesh that Everest Power Private Limited (EPPL) has damaged (not axed) 365 trees, out of which 2 trees were felled illicitly during the construction of Malana-II Hydro Electric Project. The damage started with the construction of road leading to dam site in 2006 to 2007. The area damaged

due to rolling down of muck is only 15 Bighas and not 115 Bighas. Damage bills were issued to the user agency from time to time and same were realized during 11/2006, 01/2007, 05/2007 and 10/2007.

(c) In most of the road construction work the muck has been dumped on the designated lumping sites duly approved by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India. However, in certain areas, due to topography and rock formation, some muck has rolled down on the lower side. The area where such incident occurred is almost a vertical rocky cliff, where it is not possible to hold all the muck. Since it is a rocky cliff, there is hardly any vegetation except for some grasses and shrubs growing on the natural crevices. The trees damaged and area affected by the rolling muck has been accounted for by issuing damage bills.

(d) Yes, the inquiry was conducted and the company has been penalised for all the work done in contravention to permission accorded by Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.

(e) Damage bill as per prevailing market rates of trees and muck dumping along with 100% penalty amounting Rs.1,18,46,866/- has been raised against the user agency i.e. M/s Everest Power Private Limited and the user agency has released the payments.

Eco-system development scheme

3444. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of eco-system development scheme running with the involvement of private people;

(b) the number of projected schemes implemented in the country, especially in Maharashtra; and

(c) the obstacles/reasons for non-implementation of the above said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) There is no specific eco-system development scheme running with the involvement of private people. However, the Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing the National Afforestation Programme aimed at regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining areas, through a two tier institutional set-up of Forest Development Agencies (FDAs) at the district level and Joint Forest Management Committees at the village level. There are 795 FDA projects in the country including 47 in the State of Maharashtra.

Construction in non-forest area by Vedanta Resources

3445. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

(a) whether the Central Government has asked the Orissa Government to explain how the multinational Vedanta Resources was allowed to carry out constructions in non-forest areas in Kalahandi district;

(b) if so, the details of explanation given by the State Government;

(c) whether the said multinational company has violated the norms; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and further action Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) The Central Government has accorded in principle approval under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 on 11.12.2008 for diversion of 660.749 ha of forest land for mining of bauxite ore in Lanjigarh Bauxite mines in favour of Orissa Mining Corporation Limited (OMCL) in Kalahandi and Rayagada Districts in Orissa. However, the forest land will be handed over to the project proponent after receipt of compliance of conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval. On receipt of complaint regarding work on the forest land, the Central Government has got the site inspected by its officials of Regional Office, Bhubaneswar. It has been reported that no work has been carried out in the forest area. It is pertinent to mention that construction work on non-forest areas does not technically violate the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. However, these activities do not give them any right for clearance of the proposal under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Collective position on climate change

3446. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had delinked from G-77 collective position regarding climate change;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether India had reached any consensus with any other countries for collective functioning in Copenhagen Summit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) India is an active participant in the G-77 & China and our approach has been rooted in the group position. However, depending on national circumstances, constituent blocks within the group viz. Africa, Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) have divergent opinion on few specific issues.

(c) The BASIC countries which include India, Brazil, South Africa & China often coordinate their position on various issues of Climate Change during international negotiations, including at Copenhagen.

Industrial units processing fruits and vegetables

3447. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of industrial units for processing fruits and vegetables in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government has received any proposal for setting up such units in the areas like Sorbhog, Howly, Barpeta Road, Kharupetia, etc. in Assam;
- (c) whether Government is aware that some fruit and vegetable processing units in these areas are being closed;
- (d) if so, whether Government has any policy to revive such units; and
- (e) the details of present policy of Government with regard to processing units of fruits and vegetables in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (e) As per the data maintained by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 5166 fruits and vegetables processing units were licensed under Fruit Products Order (FPO), 1955 in the country as on 01.01.2009. State-wise fruit and vegetable processing units are given in the Statement (*See below*).

Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has received some proposals from areas like Kamrup, Karimganj District of Assam for financial assistance for setting up of fruit and vegetable processing units during 11th Plan. The data on functioning of food processing industries/units in the country, including that in the State of Assam is not centrally maintained by MFPI. MFPI has no specific scheme/policy for revival of sick fruit and vegetable processing units. However, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has been implementing various schemes for promotion and development of food processing industries in the country. MFPI through its various 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. 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 Fruit & Vegetables units.

Under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Modernization/Establishment of Food Processing Industries, MFPI extends financial assistance to food processing industries including fruit and vegetable 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 maximum of Rs. 4.00 crore for setting up and Rs. 1.00 crore for Upgradation of fruit and vegetables processing is available. A National Horticulture Mission (NHM) has been launched with an objective to boost the horticulture sector.

Statement

State-wise fruit and vegetable processing units (licensed under FPO 1955) as on 01.01.2009.

S.No.	Name of State	No. of units
1	2	3
1.	Delhi	209
2.	Chandigarh	10
3.	Rajasthan	106
4.	Haryana	166
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	77
6.	Punjab	230
7.	Himachal Pradesh	116
8.	Uttar Pradesh	485
9.	Uttaranchal	129
10.	Maharashtra	1048
11.	Goa	42
12.	Madhya Pradesh	113
13.	Chhattisgarh	6
14.	Gujarat	305
15.	Dadra Nagar Haveli & Daman Diu	7
16.	Andhra Pradesh	296
17.	Karnataka	328
18.	Kerala	445
19.	Tamil Nadu	544
20.	Pondicherry	9
21.	West Bengal	308
22.	Jharkhand	28

1	2	3
23.	Bihar	43
24.	Orissa	20
25.	Andaman & Nicobar	2
26.	Assam	46
27.	Meghalaya	10
28.	Sikkim	4
29.	Arunachal Pradesh	2
30.	Mizoram	3
31.	Tripura	7
32.	Manipur	16
33.	Nagaland	6
34.	Lakshadweep Islands	0
TOTAL		5166

Source: Food Safety & Standards Authority of India

Wastage of fruits

3448. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that though the country has a top position in the production of horticultural products, the extent of fruit processing is below 2 per cent;

(b) whether Government is going to take up a special programme in enhancing fruit processing to restrain the wastage of fruits produced by hard toil of farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) The level of processing of fruits & vegetables in the country is estimated at 2.20%. The low level of fruit and vegetable processing is due to non-availability of processable varieties of raw materials at right quantity and quality, seasonable nature of industry, lack of adequate post-harvest infrastructure such as lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage facilities etc. However, over the last few years, there has been a positive growth in fruit and vegetable processed products such as ready-to-serve beverages, fruit juices and pulps, dehydrated and frozen fruits and vegetable products, tomato products, pickle, convenience veg-spice pastes, processed mushrooms and curried vegetables. As per the data maintained by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the installed capacity of fruits and vegetables processing units (FPO licensed units) has increased from 26.38 lakh tones as on 01.01.08 to 30.89 lakh tones as on 01.01.09.

In order to increase level of processing and to promote food processing industries to exploit both the domestic and international market potential for processed food products, Vision 2015 Document has been finalized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), which envisages tripling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20% value addition from 20% 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.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has been implementing various schemes for promotion and development of food processing industries in the country, MFPI through its various 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. 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 including fruit & vegetables processing units.

Under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Modernization/Establishment of Food Processing Industries, MFPI extends financial assistance to food processing industries including fruit and vegetable 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 maximum of Rs. 4.00 crore for setting up and Rs. 1.00 crore for Upgradation of fruit and vegetables processing is available. A National Horticulture Mission (NHM) has been launched with an objective to boost the horticulture sector.

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.

Level of processing of agricultural products

3449. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the level of processing of the various agricultural products in the country is very low as compared to the developed and even some developing countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of major constraints food processing industry is confronting; and
- (d) the details of measures being contemplated by Government to overcome these constraints?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The level of processing of fruits & vegetables in the country is estimated at 2.20%.

(c) The major constraints food processing industry is confronting at various stages of handling after harvesting due to fragmented and traditional farming, lack of adequate post-harvest infrastructure such as lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage facilities, lack of processable variety of raw material, lack of adequate inflow of investment in the sector etc.

(d) The Government is implementing various schemes for overcoming constraints in the development of the sector. These include creation and development of processing infrastructure, setting up/modernization/upgradation of the food processing units, food safety and quality control, skill upgradation and capacity building.

Operationalisation of food parks

3450. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of food parks sanctioned to be set up in various States, so far, States-wise;
- (b) the reasons for slow progress in operationalising the food parks; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken to ensure that all the conditions, necessary for the success of food parks, are put in place quickly?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) 56 Food Parks have been sanctioned so far in various States during the 8th to 10th Plan Periods. Food Park Scheme has been discontinued in the 11th Five Year Plan. List of Food Parks is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries had engaged reputed external agencies namely EDI, Ahmedabad and Consulting Engineers Ltd. to carry out evaluation of the Food Park Scheme. As

per the study report, most of these Food Parks were promoted by State Industrial Development Agencies, they were conceptualized in traditional industrial estate mode with no forward and backward linkages. This resulted in valuable real estate being acquired but utilized at low levels of efficiency. Major reasons for the poor functioning of parks are mentioned below:

- Poor site selection
- Delay in providing basic infrastructure facilities like power, water, road etc.
- Absence of strong backward linkages
- Weak linkages with the market
- Delay in release of financial assistance due to slow progress
- Poor management and implementation capabilities
- Lack of funding for components such as internal roads, drainage, environmental control facilities and soiled waste management facilities etc., which are also important infrastructure needed in the park.

(c) In view of the experience gained in the implementation of the Food Park Scheme during 8th to 10th Plan periods and keeping the recommendations of the evaluation studies into consideration, Food Park Scheme has been suitably revised and restructured into a new scheme for establishing Mega Food Park, which is a demand driven scheme with strong backward and forwarded linkages. Continuous efforts are being taken by the Ministry to revitalise the earlier Food Parks to make them functional. Progress of food parks is periodically reviewed with implementing agencies. Periodical physical inspection of food parks is carried out from time to time by the SNAs. Joint inspections associating SNA, Ministry's representative and the Bank are also conducted. State Governments have been requested to coordinate and cooperate with implementing agencies so as to overcome the constraints being faced by food parks. A revitalization-cum diagnostic study has been assigned by the Ministry to Tariff Commission in those cases where progress has been slow. The Program Management Agency (PMA) for the ongoing Mega Food Park Scheme has also been entrusted to visit the 20 selected old Food Parks to study and suggest the way out for their early completion and operationalisation.

Statement

List of Food Parks

S.No.	State	Location of the Project	Implementing agency	Year of approval
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Kuppam, Dist.- Chittoor	Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Ltd.,	2000-01
2.	Assam	Chaygaon, Distt. Kamrup	Assam small Industries Development Corporation Ltd.,	2000-01

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Bihar	Hajipur, District Vaishali	North Bihar Ind. Area Dev. Authority, C/o Department of Industries	2002-03
4.	Chhattisgarh	Village Teadesara, Dist -Rajnandgaon	Chhattisgarh State Industrial Development Corporation	2001-02
5.	Haryana	Saha, Distt. - Ambala	Haryana state Ind. Dev. Corporation Ltd.,	2001-02
6.	Haryana	Rai, Distt.-Sonipat,	Haryana state Ind. Dev. Corporation Ltd.	2001-02
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	Khunmoh, Distt. - Srinagar	J&K State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd.	2000-01
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	Sopore, Baramulla	J&K State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. (J&KSIDCO)	2002-03
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu	Jammu Agro Industrial Food Park,	2001-02
10	Karnataka	Mayur, Distt.-Kolar,	Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board/Food Karnataka Limited	2000-01
11	Karnataka	Bagalkot,	Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board/Food Karnataka Limited	2000-01
12	Karnataka	Jevargi	Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board Food Karnataka Limited	2002-03
13	Karnataka	Hirriyur	M/s Akshay Food Park Limited	2006-07
14	Kerala	Distt. Mallapuram,	Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation	1996-97
15	Kerala	Aroor, Distt. - Alappuzha,	Marine Products Infrastructure Development Corporation P. Ltd. (MIDCON) / Seafood Park India Ltd.	2001-02
16	Kerala	Mazhuvannur, Ernakulam	Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA)	2002-03
17	Kerala	Adoor	Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA)	2005-06

1	2	3	4	5
18	Madhya Pradesh	Jaggakhedi, Distt. - Mandsaur,	Madhya Pradesh Audyogic Kendra Vikas Nigam (Indore) Ltd.,	2000-01
19	Madhya Pradesh	Nimrani, Dist. Khargone,	Madhya Pradesh Audyogic Kendra Vikas Nigam (Indore) Ltd.,	2001-02
20	Madhya Pradesh	Piparia, Babai, Distt. Hoshangabad	Madhya Pradesh Audyogic Kendra Vikas Nigam (Bhopal) Ltd	2001-02
21	Madhya Pradesh	Borgaon, Distt. Chhindwara	M.P.Audyogik Kendra, Vikas Nigam (Jabalpur) Ltd.,	2001-02
22	Madhya Pradesh	Malanpur, Ghirongi, District Bhind (M.P)	. M.P.Audyogik Kendra, Vikas Nigam (Gwalior) Ltd	2002-03
23	Madhya Pradesh	Maneri, Distt. Mandla	M.P.Audyogik Kendra, Vikas Nigam (Jabalpur) Ltd.	2002-03
24	Maharashtra	Butibori, Distt. - Nagpur,	Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation Ltd.	2000-01
25	Maharashtra	Vinchur. Distt. Nashik	Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation	2001-02
26	Maharashtra	Mouza Gumthala, Bhandara Road, Dist. Nagpur.	M/s Haldiram Krishi Udyog Pvt. Ltd., Dist. Nagpur.	2002-03
27	Maharashtra	Village Sangvi, Distt. Satara	M/s Agrifood Informatics (India) Ltd, Pune-411013	2002-03
28	Maharashtra	Palus, Distt. - Sangli	Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation	2003-04
29	Maharashtra	Kapsi, Taluka Kamtee, Distt. Nagpur	M/s Maa Umiya Audyogic sahakari asahat Maryadit	2005-06
30	Maharashtra	MIDC Industrial Area, Shendra, Aurangabad	M/s Laxmi Nirmal Pratisthan	2006-07
31	Manipur	Lamphelpat, Imphal	Manipur Food Industries Corporation Ltd.	2000-01
32	Manipur	Distt. Ukhrul	Rishang Keishing Foundation for Management of Tribal Areas	2001-02
33	Mizoram	Chhingchip,	Mizoram Food and Allied industries	2001-02
34	Nagaland	Bamunpukri, Dimapur	Progressive Rural Development Society	2006-07

1	2	3	4	5
35	Orissa	Khurda	Orissa Indl. Infrastructure Development Corporation	2001-02
36	Punjab	Sirhind, Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib	Punjab Agri Export Corporation	2000-01
37	Rajasthan	Ranpur, Distt. Kota.	Rajasthan State Industrial Development & Investment Corporation Ltd., (RIICO)	2002-03
38	Rajasthan	Boranada, District - Jodhpur	Rajasthan State Industrial Development & Investment Corporation Ltd., (RIICO),	2002-03
39	Rajasthan	Sri Ganganagar	Rajasthan State Industrial Development & Investment Corporation Ltd., (RIICO),	2003-04
40	Rajasthan	Alwar	Rajasthan State Industrial Development & Investment Corporation Ltd., (RIICO),	2006-07
41	Tamil Nadu	Virudhunagar, Distt. -Madurai	V.P.S Ayyemperumal Nadar & Sons.	2000-01
42	Tamil Nadu	Dindigul District	Nilakottai Food Park Ltd.	2004-05
43	Tripura	Bodhjungnagar, West Tripura	Tripura Industrial Development Corporation Ltd.	2000-01
44	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad	Wise Industrial Park Ltd.	1999-00
45	Uttar Pradesh	Kharkion, Distt. - Varanasi	U.P State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd.	2000-01
46	Uttar Pradesh	Shahajanwa, Gorakhpur	Gorakhpur Industrial Dev. Authority.	2004-05
47	Uttar Pradesh	Village Kushalipur, District Saharanpur.	M/S Kushal International Limited,	2002-03
48	Uttar Pradesh	Kursi Road, Distt. - Barabanki	U.P State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd.	2000-01
49	West Bengal	Chakgaria, 24 Parganas (South)	State Fishermen's Cooperative Ltd., (BENFISH), Kolkata	1998-99
50	West Bengal	Dankuni, Distt. Hooghly	Modular Consultants Pvt. Ltd.	1996-97
51	West Bengal	Haldia District Midnapore.	Haldia Development Authority, Haldia,	2002-03

1	2	3	4	5
52	West Bengal	Sultanpur, South 24 Parganas	State Fishermen's Cooperative Ltd., (BENFISH), Kolkata	2003-04
53	West Bengal	Malda	Deptt. of Food Processing Industries and Horticulture, Govt. of West Bengal.	2003-04
54	West Bengal	Shankarapur, Dist. Purba Medinipur,	Department of Fisheries, Aquaculture, Aquatic Resources, Govt. of West Bengal,	2004-05
55	West Bengal	Sankhrail, Howrah	West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation (WBIDC)	2004-05
56	West Bengal	Murshidabad	M/s Pataka Industries Limited	2005-06

Registration of newspapers

3451. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of cases of title verification and allotment of registration numbers are pending with the Registrar of Newspapers in India (RNI);
- (b) if so, the details in this regard, and
- (c) the steps Government proposes to clear the backlog of title verification and allotment of registration numbers expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (c) There is no delay in allotment of title and their registration on the part of the Office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India. The specified time limit for verification of titles is 15 days from the date of receipt of completed application in the office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India from the District Magistrate. Similarly the time limit for registration of titles is 30 days from the date of receipt of documents complete in all respects from the publisher. The time limits fixed are being adhered to. As on 17.12.2009, 134 cases of title verification and 654 cases of registration are pending.

Setting up of FM Radio stations in A.P.

3452. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some requests for setting up of FM Radios in Andhra Pradesh are pending;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken to complete them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) to (c) The request regarding setting up of All India Radio (AIR) FM Radio Station at Kakinada is pending.

The Scheme for setting up of AIR FM Radio Station at Kakinada was approved under the 10th Five Year Plan. However, due to curtailment of overall Plan funds, this scheme was not included in the 11th Five Year Plan proposal by Prasar Bharati

Discrimination in releasing advertisements

3453. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Directorate of Audio Visual Publicity (DAVP) discriminates in releasing the Central Government advertisements to small, medium and large size newspapers and especially small and regional language newspapers have to bear the brunt of it;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government to prevent it;
- (c) whether it is a fact that certain M.Ps have also complained about discrimination by the Directorate in releasing advertisements and they have suggested or transparency in it;
- (d) if so, the action taken by Government on their suggestions; and
- (e) the amount of advertisements given to small, medium and large sized newspapers, separately, during the last two years in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) No, Sir. Government has already made provisions for allocating display budget in the ratio of 50%, 35% and 15% for big, medium and small category of newspapers respectively and also 30%, 35% and 35% for English, Hindi and regional/other language newspapers respectively. However, Publicity requirements, target audience, budgetary provisions and preferences indicated by the client departments are also taken into account.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) and (d) No such complaint has been received in the recent past.
- (e) Details are given below:-

(in rupees)			
Year	Small	Medium	Big
2007-08	1,43,60,315	3,19,07,277	4,01,08,975
2008-09	1,59,92,519	5,74,43,416	6,42,90,864

Gazette Notification for Officers of Doordarshan

3454. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the posts of TVNCS\ANCS/ANES in doordarshan are in the category of Group A for which gazette notification are necessary;
- (b) whether it is a fact that no notification has been issued, so far;
- (c) whether the gazette notification were issued in respect of producers who were regularized by the same order;
- (d) whether the notifications were prepared in 1997 and 2009 but were not sent for publication;
- (e) whether their recruitment rules have not been prepared even after 21 years; and
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) The post of TVNCs in Doordarshan is in the pay scale of Group 'A'. However gazette notification is necessary only in case of conscious decision to treat concerned officers as gazetted officers. There is no such decision on record in respect of TVNCs etc.

- (b) Yes Sir.
- (c) Yes Sir.
- (d) Draft Recruitment Rules have not been finalized so far.
- (e) and (f) Recruitment Rules of TVNCs/TVANCs/TVANES are under finalization in consultation with the nodal departments.

Telecast of religion-related channels

†3455. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the foreign television channels of religious effects are being illegally telecasted in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that not only Government is losing revenue due to illegal transmission of Islamic television channels but this also raises security related concerns of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) Some instances of unauthorized channels being shown have been brought to the notice of this Ministry. Whenever these instances are noticed State Governments are asked to take strict action against those cable operators who show unauthorized channels. Under the provisions of Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act 1995 and the Rules framed thereunder, no Satellite TV channel can be telecast in the country unless authorized by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) No Sir. Government realizes revenue only from channels which are permitted. Though, the transmission of illegal channel is an offence under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, no security related concern in this respect has been brought to the notice of this Ministry. However, in order to ensure that no unregistered channel is carried on the cable network, monitoring committees have been constituted at the State level and at the District level. The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 has provision for authorized officers which include District Magistrates, Sub-Divisional Magistrates, Commissioners of Police to take action against the cable operators in case of carriage of unregistered channels.

Media coverage of sensitive incidents

3456. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalized guidelines for live coverage of sensitive incidents like the Mumbai terror attacks by the electronic media; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of entertainment and news channels

3457. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a large number of demands for setting up of new entertainment and news channels;

(b) if so, whether Government has drawn up any parameters on eligibility of the applicants and viability of the channel to ensure job security for their employees;

(c) whether Government has also assessed the extent of availability of spectrum needed for setting up of new channels in consultation with the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) Yes Sir. Many applications have been received for permission for new channels. As on date, 157 applications are pending for permission to uplink from India and 14 applications are pending for permission to downlink in India.

(b) Detailed eligibility criteria and other requirements for private satellite TV channels have been prescribed in the Guidelines for Uplinking from India and Policy Guidelines for Downlinking of Television Channels. The Guidelines do not provide for job security of the employees of the channels.

(c) and (d) A reference has been made by this Ministry to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in October 2009. Among other things, TRAI has been requested to examine the maximum number of channels which can be permitted in the country keeping in view the available spectrum and transponder capacities as well as technological developments and general practice internationally.

Uplinking and downlinking of channels

3458. SHRI JABIR HUSAIN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry has decided to streamline and expedite clearance process for applicants seeking permission for uplinking and downlinking of channels in the country;

(b) if so, whether any step has been initiated after her Ministry received complaints that a few individuals were posing as consultants claiming to secure such permission for applicants from her Ministry;

(c) whether Director, Broadcasting has been asked to hold a meeting on 5th of each month to entertain any difficulty that applicants are experiencing in getting clearances; and

(d) if so, the final decision in streamlining clearance process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Streamlining of process and expediting clearances is an on-going process. No such specific complaints were received in the Ministry regarding persons as Consultants. However, by way of abundant caution the Ministry has posted a notice on its website making it categorically clear that the Ministry does not recognize any such consultants and that they have no role in getting permission from I & B Ministry.

(c) and (d) The Ministry has placed a notice on its website for conducting the 'Open House' meetings on 5th of every month to clarify doubts and inform the participants about the status of their pending papers. Two meetings have been held by Director (BC), Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, with the representatives of the companies during the months of November and December, 2009.

Foreign investment in broadcasting sector

†3459 SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that foreign capital investment is still allowed in various fields of broadcasting sector;

(b) if so, the fields of broadcasting sector and percentage of foreign capital investment allowed therein;

(c) whether a proposal to increase this investment further is under consideration;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the present percentage of foreign capital investment out of the total investment in broadcasting sector?

†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) Yes, Sir.

(b) The percentage of foreign capital investment allowed in different fields of broadcasting sector is as follows:

(i) FM Radio	20%
(ii) DTH Broadcasting Service	49% Within this, FDI component not to exceed 20%
(iii) Cable Television Services	
(iv) Headend-in -the-Sky Services	49%
(v) News & Current Affairs TV Broadcasters	74%
(vi) Non -News TV Broadcasters	26%
(vii) Setting up of hardware facilities such as Uplinking, HUB etc.	100%
	49%

(c) and (d) On a reference made by the Government on 11.12.2007, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 26.04.2008 submitted the recommendations on foreign investment limits for broadcasting sector. While recommending raising of FDI levels TRAI considered that (i) instead of having differing limits for various sub-sectors of broadcasting, a uniformity of approach is required depending on it being a carriage service or a content service (ii) convergence of technologies in the Telecom and Broadcasting services has made it necessary for a level playing field with respect to FDI in the two sectors and (iii) Foreign investment in Carriage services like DTH, HITS, Cable Network, Satellite radio and Mobile television services should be 74%. While TRAI has recommended foreign investment should be 49% in FM Radio and Uplinking of TV News channels. It has recommended status quo for 100% foreign investment allowed in Downlinking of TV channels and Uplinking of Non-News TV channels. The details of the recommendations of TRAI are available on their website (www.traai.gov.in).

In view of the Press Note No. 2 and 4 (2009 Series) issued by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) in February 2009 rationalizing calculation of indirect foreign investment in sectors attracting FDI caps including the broadcasting sector, the Ministry has on 30.9.2009 requested the TRAI to revisit the recommendations in the light of these press notes.

(e) Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry has informed that from April 2000 to September 2009 as per data maintained by them, the FDI received in Radio Broadcasting and electronic media is 0.91% and 0.22% of the total inflows in the respective sectors.

Expansion of AIR and DD

3460. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is funding the expansion of AIR and DD; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the remaining period of current Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For the remaining period of 11th Five Year Plan i.e.2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 there is an allocation of Rs.1084.92 crore for expansion of AIR and Rs. 1381.17 for expansion of Doordarshan.

Irregularities in awarding coverage rights

3461. DR.(SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the CVC has gone on record stating that irregularities were committed while awarding the coverage rights by Doordarshan;

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

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed; and

(d) if so, the action taken against the persons involved in the incident?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (d) The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has informed that on the direction of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, an investigation has been undertaken by them regarding irregularities in awarding telecast rights etc. in Prasar Bharati. Since the investigation is going on, no details have been made available.

Unacceptable scenes and images in broadcasting media

†3462. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

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

(a) whether it is fact that scenes and images unacceptable to the traditions and beliefs of Indian culture are still finding place in broadcasting media;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto and whether the Government is aware of this matter; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not banning these scenes and images misguiding the society, particularly the children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) No such specific complaint has been brought to the notice of the Government. However, some instances of objectionable content shown on Television have come to the notice of the Government. The details of Show Cause Notices issued to Television Channels and action taken thereon is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) There is no pre-censorship of the Programme telecast on Private TV channels. However, all programmes and advertisements telecast on TV channels transmitted/retransmitted through the Cable TV network, are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. Action is taken as per rules whenever violation of Codes is brought to the notice of the Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Status of Show Cause Notice issued to TV channels for objectionable content till date.

Sl. No.	Name of the channel	Reasons for issue of SCN	Date of SCN issued	Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5
1.	MH1	A SCN was issued for telecasting songs "Kabhi Aar Kabhi Paar", "Bin Tere Sanam", "Leke Pehla Pehla Pyaar", "Meri Beri Ke Ber"	18.10.2004	Final order issued to the channel with the direction to run apology scroll for three days. The channel complied the direction. Matter closed.
2.	ETC	A SCN was issued for telecasting songs " Bin Tere Sanam ", "Chadati Jawani", " Kabhi Aar Kabhi Paar", "Leke Pehla Pehla Pyar", "Meri Beri Ke Ber",	18.10.2004	-do- Matter closed.
3.	Channel [V]	SCN was issued for telecasting song "Chadti Jawani"	18.10.2004	-do- Matter closed.
4.	B4U	SCN was issued for telecasting songs "Kabhi Aar Kabhi Paar", "Bin Tere Sanam", "Leke Pehla Pehla Pyaar"	18.10.2004	-do- Matter closed.

5.	Balle Balle	SCN was issued for telecasting songs "Chadati Jawani", "Kabhi Aar Kabhi Paar", "Meri Beri Ke Ber", "Bin Tere Sanam", "Leke Pehla Pehla Pyaar"	18.10.2004	-do- Matter closed
6.	Punjabi Channel	SCN was issued for telecasting song "Kabhi Aar Kabhi Paar"	18.10.2004	Matter closed.
7.	Cine World	A SCN was issued to Cine World for telecasting an adult movie on 26.11.2004.	23.12.2004	The uplinking permission was temporarily withdrawn for a period of 30 days and prohibited from transmission on DTH Service vide dated 24.03.2005. Matter closed.
8.	MTV	SCN was issued for telecasting songs "Leke Pehla Pehla Pyaar, Kabhi Aar Kabhi Par, Kanta Laga, Meri Beri Ke Ber, Chadti Jawani, Bin tere Sanam"	02.02.2005	-do- Matter closed.
9.	India TV	Telecast of a programme on private activities of MPs and MLAs telecast on 27.02.2005 in violation of Programme Code.	23.03.2005	A warning issued to India TV. Matter closed.
10.	India TV	Telecast of news item on sexual involvement of priest of the Swaminarayan Temple telecast at 9:00 p.m. on 16.03.2005.	19.05.2005	A warning issued to India TV. Matter closed.

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Fashion TV	Telecast of several obscene programmes	25.05.2005	An Advisory dated 13.04.2006 issued to the Channel. Matter closed.
12.	Trendz TV (Zee Telefilms Ltd.)	Telecast of programmes namely 'Lingerie Show' etc.	25.08.2005	Decision taken to issue an Advisory.
13.	Star One Channel	Telecast of obscene advt. of "Gen-X" undergarments.	12.08.2005	Warning issued on 21.09.2005. Matter closed.
14.	NDTV	Telecast of obscene advts of "Gen-X" and "FrenchieX". undergarments	12.08.2005	Warning issued on 21.09.2005. Matter closed.
15.	Sahara TV	Telecast of obscene advertisement of "Gen-X" undergarments.	12.08.2005	Warning issued on 21.09.2005. Matter closed.
16.	In Digital Channel	Telecast of an adult film "Khawahish" on 27.9.2005	30.09.2005	Channel had been warned <i>vide</i> Order dated 12.07.2006. Matter closed.
17.	TEJA TV	Telecast of an obscene programme "Kamasutra"	19.10.2005	The Channel was directed <i>vide</i> Order dated 23.03.2006 to run a scroll of apology. The channel complied with. Matter closed.
18.	Zee Gujrati Channel/ Zee TV	Telecast of an obscene programme titled "Item Bomb"	19.10.2005	Final order issued on 3.4.06 to the channel directing them not to telecast/re-telecast the advertisement. Matter closed.
19.	FTV	Telecast of an obscene programme on 09.12.05.	13.12.2005	An advisory issued to FTV. Matter closed.

20.	Maa TV	Telecast of programmes titled "Kamasutra", "Manmadha Samrajyam", "Samaram Samayam" and "Sarasm"	29.12.2005	Violation not upheld. Matter closed.
21.	Zoom Channel	Telecast of obscene trailers of "Fun, Sheesha, Shabd and Chahat" films.	05.01.2006	Decision taken to issue an Advisory.
22.	ETC	Telecast of obscene trailers of "Fun, Sheesha, Shabd and Chahat Films	05.01.2006	Decision taken to issue an Advisory.
23.	MTV	Telecast of song from film the 'Zehar'	16.03.2006	violation not upheld/Matter closed.
24.	MH1 Channel	Telecast of an obscene song titled "Ashiq Banaya Aapne" from an adult movie Ashiq Banaya Aapne	10.04.2006	No specific date of telecast of the song was given, matter was not processed further. Matter Closed.
25.	MTV	Telecast of an obscene song titled "Ashiq Banaya Aapne" from an adult movie Ashiq Banaya Aapne	10.04.2006	The Channel was directed <i>vide</i> Order dated 28.6.2006 to run a scroll of apology. The Channel complied with. Matter closed.
26.	Channel 7	Telecast of obscene advertisement of Lux Gen-X' undergarments.	18.4.2006	Matter closed.
27.	Sahara Samay Bihar Channel	Telecast of obscene advertisements of Lux Gen-X' undergarments.	18.4.2006	Matter closed.
28.	Sun TV	Telecast of obscene advt. of Lux Gen-X undergarments.	10.01.2006	Matter closed.
29.	AXN	Telecast of obscene programme 'World's Sexiest Advertisements'.	26.6.2006	AXN Channel banned from 17.01.2007 to 28.02.2007. Matter closed.

1	2	3	4	5
30.	Yo Music	Telecast of obscene songs on 11.05.2006.	27.07.2006	Violation not upheld. Matter closed.
31.	Zee Telugu	Telecast of obscene programme 'Soyagam'	27.07.2006	A warning dated 17.10.2006 had been issued to the channel. Matter closed
32.	Vh1	Telecast of song snake sung by singer R. Kelly from album chocolate factory on 10.06.2006	28.07.2006	Violation not upheld. Matter closed.
33.	Star Plus	Telecast of adult certified film 'Apaharan'.	04.08.2006	Violation not upheld. Matter closed.
34.	FTV	Telecast of an obscene programme 'Midnight Hot'.	09.08.2006	The Channel was banned for a period of two months <i>vide</i> Order dated 29.03.2007. Matter closed.
35.	Sony Max Channel	Telecast of an advertisement of 'Flavoured Condoms'.	03.11.2006	A Warning dated 05.02.2007 issued to the Channel. Matter closed.
36.	IBN7	Telecast of an obscene programme 'Kiss Par Rok Nahi'	28.03.2007	IBN7 Channel was directed <i>vide</i> Order dated 14.11.2007 to run an apology scroll for three days. The Channel complied with. Matter closed.
37.	Zee News	Telecast of an obscene programme 'Jumma Chumma De De'	28.03.2007	Zee News Channel was directed <i>vide</i> Order dated 14.11.2007 to run an apology scroll for three days. The Channel complied with. Matter closed.

38.	Star News	Telecast of obscene programmes Sex Me Twist and 'Kiss Karo'	28.03.2007	Advisory dated 25.06.2008 issued to the Channel. Matter closed.
39.	India TV	Telecast of an objectionable programme on Ms. Jhanvi Kapur	02.07.2007	Ms. Jhanvi has also filed a W.P. before Hon'ble Delhi High Court which is pending. Opinion of M/o Law & Justice has been sought. A Warning dated 03.07.2009 issued to the channel for running apology scroll for three days as the telecast was based on distorted facts.
40.	IBN7	Telecast of an obscene programme 'Kissa Kiss Ka'	06.07.2007	A Warning dated 06.12.2007 issued to the Channel. Matter closed.
41.	India TV	Telecast of programme 'India Bol' containing adult language.	31.10.2007	Advisory dated 19.12.2007 issued to the Channel. Matter closed
42.	NDTV	Telecast of News item on mob violence in Guwahati and adivasi women being beaten up by men.	19.12.2007	Warning dated 05.09.2008 issued to the Channel. Matter closed.
43.	IBN7	Telecast of News item on mob violence in Guwahati and adivasi women being beaten up by men.	19.12.2007	Warning dated 05.09.2008 issued to the Channel. Matter closed.
44.	NETV	Telecast of News item on mob violence in Guwahati and adivasi women being beaten up by men.	19.12.2007.	Warning dated 05.09.2008 issued to the Channel. Matter closed.

1	2	3	4	5
45.	MTV	Telecast of obscene advt. of 'New Axe Deodorant',	22.02.2008	MTV Channel was directed <i>vide</i> Order dated 02.05.2008 to run an apology scroll or three days. The Channel complied with. Matter closed.
46.	Star News	Telecast of obscene advt. of 'New Axe Deodorant'.	22.02.2008	Star News Channel was directed <i>vide</i> Order dated 02.05.2008 to run an apology scroll for three days. The Channel complied with. Matter closed.
47.	India News	Telecast of News item based on MMS depicting sexual activities of Arushi and Hemraj.	09.06.2008	Warning dated 05.09.2008 issued to the Channel. Matter closed.
48.	Headlines Today	Telecast of an obscene News item titled 'Birth Day Suit' based on completion of 62 years of bikini.	11.08.2008	An Advisory dated 23.03-2009 issued to the Channel. Matter closed.
49.	MTV	Telecast of obscene Reality Show titled 'Splitsvilla'	11.08.2008	No violation observed. Matter closed.
50.	ETV Bangla	Telecast of vulgar and obscene advt. of AXE Dark Temptation Deodorant	22.08.2008	Advertisement has been modified.
51.	Aaj Tak	Telecast of vulgar and obscene advt. of AXE Dark Temptation Deodorant.	22.08.2008	Advertisement has been modified.
52.	Discovery	Telecast of vulgar and obscene advt. of AXE Dark Temptation Deodorant.	22.08.2008	Advertisement has been modified.

53.	Bindass	Telecast of vulgar Programme titled 'Dadagiri'	11.09.2008	Warning dated 25.11.2008. Matter closed.
54.	Star Movies	Telecast of an obscene advertisement of 'Virgin Mobile'	19.09.2008	Advertisement has been withdrawn. Matter closed.
55.	Discovery	Telecast of an obscene advertisement of 'Virgin Mobile'	19.09.2008	Advertisement has been withdrawn. Matter closed.
56.	Hungama	Telecast of a cartoon show namely "Shin-Chan" containing obscene visuals and it denigrates children	23.09.2008	No action taken as the programme has already been stopped. Matter closed.
57.	Channel [V]	Telecast of an obscene reality beauty show titled 'Get Gorgeous 5'	08.10.2008	Warning dated 03.07.2009 issued to the Channel. Matter closed.
58.	News 24	Telecast of a reality show 'Big Boss Season - 2'	28.11.2008	Warning dated 03.06.2009 issued to the Channel. Matter closed.
59.	Colors	Telecast of a reality show 'Big Boss Season - 2'	28.11.2008	Advisory - dated 03.06.2009 issued to the Channel Matter closed.
60.	India TV	Telecast of a News item titled 'Ye Bachchon Ka Khel Nahi' denigrating children.	12.12.2008	India TV Channel represented to NCPCR and they being satisfied with the Channel requested this Ministry not to proceed the matter further. As such, the matter was not processed further. Matter closed.
61.	MTV	Telecast of obscene, indecent and vulgar programme titled 'MTV Rodies'.	31.03.2009	Order dated 01.07.2009 issued to the Channel directing it to run apology scroll for three days. Matter closed.

1	2	3	4	5
62.	MTV Channel	Telecast of the programme titled 'Vodafone MTV Splitsvilla-2' uttering unfair remark to another participant	02.06.2009	IMC's recommendation obtained. Final Orders under issue.
63.	Real TV	Telecast of indecent Reality Show titled 'Sarkar Ki Duniya'	30.06.2009	IMC's recommendation obtained. Final Orders under issue.
64.	NDTV India	Telecast of a news item based on indecent Reality Show titled 'Sarkar Ki Duniya'	30.06.2009	IMC's recommendation obtained. Final Orders under issue.
65.	Star Plus	Telecast of a vulgar and indecent Reality Game Show titled 'Such Ka Samna'	22.07.2009	A Warning dated 27.11.2009 issued to the channel. The channel was also directed that while formatting a programme based on international format, channel should keep in view the Indian ethos and culture as well. Matter Closed.
66.	Bindass	Telecast of an indecent serial 'Sun Yaar Chill Maar'	29.07.2009	IMC's recommendation obtained. Final Orders under issue.
67.	Channel [V]	Telecast of an indecent programme titled 'Launch Pad'	29.07.2009	A Warning dated 11.12.2009 Issued to the channel. Matter closed
68.	Bindass	Telecast of the Reality Show 'Dadagiri'	26.08.2009	Reply awaited. Reminder sent.
69.	Sony	Telecast of the Reality Show 'Iss Jungle Se Mujhe Bachao'	26.08.2009	A Warning dated 11.12.2009 issued to the channel. Matter closed
70.	FTV. com India	Telecast of obscene visuals	11.09.2009	Reply under consideration.
71.	Colors Channel	Telecast of the reality show 'BIG BOSS Season-3'	26.10.2009	Reply under consideration.

Expansion of TV broadcasting industry

‡3463. SHRI RAVISHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that television broadcasting industry has advanced continuously over the years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during 2004 to 2009;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Central and State Governments collect taxes from this industry;
- (d) if so, the basis for tax collection and rates thereof; and
- (e) the amount of average annual tax collection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) Yes Sir. Number of private satellite TV channels has grown steadily over the years. From one private satellite TV channel in 2000, the number has grown to 512 at present.

(b) The year-wise details of the TV channels permitted to uplink/downlink under uplinking and downlinking guidelines are given below:

Years	Number of channels
2004	37
2005	24
2006	39
2007	75
2008	167
2009	77

(c) to (e) Yes Sir. Different methods are adopted by different States for levying Entertainment tax as follows:

- i) Advalorem basis - varying from 15% to 30%.
- ii) Per connection basis - varying from Rs.10 to Rs.25 per connection.
- iii) Lump sum basis - Rs.15000/- p.a.

The rates of entertainment tax for DTH services vary from State to State. As of now, seven States have levied entertainment tax on DTH services. These are UP, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Goa, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Maharashtra. While Maharashtra, Goa and Bihar have levied it on per connection basis with rates ranging from Rs.15 to Rs.45 per connection, others have levied it as a percentage of amount received with rates varying from 6% to 30%. Central taxes such as Income Tax, Service Tax are also levied as may be applicable. The rate of Service Tax is 10.3% on subscription as well as advertisement revenue.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Telecast rights of commonwealth games

‡3464. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that telecasting rights of the Commonwealth Games 2010 are being considered to be given to a company called Satellite Information Service of Britain;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the Prasar Bharati has recommended these rights to be given to the said firm; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the grounds for these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The telecast rights of Commonwealth Games Delhi 2010 are not given to Satellite Information Services (SIS Live), UK. Prasar Bharati has outsourced the production and coverage of the Commonwealth Games Delhi 2010 SIS Live U.K. However, the telecast rights of Commonwealth Games Delhi 2010 for India continue to be with Prasar Bharati as a Right Holding Broadcaster.

(c) Does not arise.

Irregularities in awarding telecast rights and contracts

3465. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N. K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether the CVC has recently found serious irregularities in awarding telecast rights and contracts by public broadcaster Prasar Bharati during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the procedures adopted by the Prasar Bharati in awarding telecast rights were outrageous and arbitrary; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps Government has taken to fix responsibility on those who have committed financial irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (d) The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has informed that on the direction of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, an investigation has been undertaken by them regarding irregularities in awarding telecast rights etc. in Prasar Bharati. Since the investigation is going on, no details are available at present.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Selection of films for IFFI

3466. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any complaints regarding the selection of films for Indian Panorama of the last International Film Festival of India at Goa;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any initiative to enquire it and the outcome of this; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the four films produced by Reliance had got entry to the Panorama?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The complaints have been looked into and duly replied.

(c) Among others, the four films produced by Reliance Big Pictures were selected unanimously by the Feature Films Jury consisting of eminent film personalities, for Indian Panorama-2009.

FM stations in Goa

3467. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of REFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of FM stations operating in Goa;

(b) the types of programmes they broadcast;

(c) the coverage range of these stations;

(d) the number of news bulletins these channels or any of them broadcast;

(e) the timings and durations thereof; and

(f) the efforts, if any, being made by Prasar Bharati to increase the popularity of these channels and their use during emergency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) At present, only 1 FM station of All India Radio (6 KW) is functioning at Panaji in Goa. Besides one FM Gyan-Vani Channel (10 KW) of IGNOU is also functioning. In addition, three private FM radio channels are also operational at Panaji in Goa.

(b) FM AIR, Panaji broadcasts for 18 hours daily. It broadcasts mostly in-house programmes planned, designed and produced by the station which include live phone-in programmes, SMS and letter based programmes, sports programmes, guest hour, and special listener-based programmes.

Insofar as private FM radio stations are concerned, under the Grant of Permission Agreement (GOPA) signed between the Ministry of I&B and the private FM radio & broadcasters, the latter are

required to follow the same Programme and Advertisement codes as followed by AIR as amended from time to time or any other applicable code which may come into force. They are also required to ensure that 50% of the programmes broadcast are produced in India. Further they are generally guided by the objective of generating a variety of quality programmes with a localized flavour in terms of content and relevance.

(c) The primary radial coverage range of the existing AIR FM transmitter is 47 km and it covers almost 90% of the area and population of Goa state. The radial coverage range in respect of the private FM radio channels is 15 km.

(d) FM Rainbow, Panaji broadcasts News headlines 19 times in a day. No news and current affairs programmes are permitted under the existing private FM radio broadcasting policy (Phase-II).

(e) 1. Ten Konkani News Headlines are broadcast at 0630, 0730, 0830, 0930, 1330, 1430, 1730, 1830, 1930, 2030 hours, each of 2 minutes duration.

2. 9 Headlines are relayed from Delhi at 1000, 1100, 1200, 1500, 1600, 1700, 2300, 0000 hours, each of 2 minutes duration.

(f) FM Rainbow, Panaji has increased its popularity by increasing the number of interactive programmes, inviting celebrities that visit Goa on a regular basis, conducting and organizing live outside broadcasts during state festivals like Shigmo, Carnival, Christmas, New Year, Annual International Film Festival of India in Goa. Efforts are constantly on to design suitable programmes from time to time based on the opinion and feedback of the listeners. FM Rainbow, Panaji acts promptly during emergency situations like natural calamities, various government appeals, urgent blood requirements from authentic institutions etc.

Setting up of a bench of Allahabad High Court

†3468. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Government of Uttar Pradesh has made any request to the Central Government to set up a bench of Allahabad High Court in western Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is bringing any Bill in this regard; and

(d) the immediate steps being taken by Government to set up the bench?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) Setting up of a Bench of a High Court away from its principal seat is considered by the Central Government on receipt of a complete proposal from the State Government in terms of section 51(2) of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956, which has the consent of the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. The Central Government has not received any such proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for setting up of a Bench of the Allahabad High Court in western Uttar Pradesh.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Pending appeals

3469. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the appeals of several thousand persons who have been convicted by lower courts are pending in various High Courts and these poor people are waiting for justice for the last 10-15 years; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government to bring the number of pending appeals in the appellate courts to bare minimum?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) No such information is being maintained in the Department of Justice.

(b) It is for the courts to entertain and dispose of the pending appeals.

Functioning of Gram Nyayalayas

†3470. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing a scheme of Gram Nyayalayas to dispose of the cases at village level itself for the people living in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the number of villagers whose cases have been resolved through these courts, so far; and

(c) if not, the progress made by Government in this direction and by when this scheme would be operational and modus operandi that would be adopted by these courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government does not maintain such information centrally.

(c) The Central Government has enacted the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 on 07.01.2009 which enables the State Governments to establish one or more Gram Nyayalayas for every Panchayat at intermediate level to cater to specified Civil and Criminal cases in the rural areas. The Gram Nyayalayas Act was brought into force with effect from October 2, 2009. Under the Scheme, over 5000 Gram Nyayalayas are likely to be set up across the country.

While concerned State Governments have been requested to set up Gram Nyayalayas in their respective States, the Central Government will provide financial assistance to the States for establishing the Gram Nyayalayas and for operating the same during the first three years by bearing the non-recurring cost of establishment of Gram Nyayalayas subject to a ceiling of Rs. 18.00 lakhs per Gram Nyayalaya and 50% of Rs. 6.40 lakhs per annum as recurring cost of one Gram Nyayalaya for the first three years.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Government of Madhya Pradesh has notified 40 Gram Nyayalayas which started functioning from October 2, 2009. The Government of Maharashtra has inaugurated 9 Gram Nyayalayas on 2nd October 2009 out of which 5 Gram Nyayalayas have started functioning. The Government of Orissa has notified one Gram Nyayalaya which has been inaugurated on October 2, 2009. The Government of Rajasthan is opening 45 Gram Nyayalayas. The Government of Assam has decided, in principle, to establish Gram Nyayalayas in each district excluding 2 Hill districts within one year in the first phase.

The functioning of these Courts is prescribed in the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008. These Courts will operate under the directions of the respective High Courts.

Cases awaiting verdict

3471. SHRI RAM CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any specific period for the trial of cases in courts and pronouncement of judgement;

(b) whether it is a fact that after completion of hearing, witness examination of both the sides, pronouncement of judgment could be pending for years together; and

(c) if so, the number of cases in different High Courts in which judgement has not been pronounced even after one year of completion of hearing?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) As per Section 309 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, in every inquiry or trial, the proceedings shall be held as expeditiously as possible and in particular, when the examination of witnesses has once begun, the same shall be continued from day to day until all the witnesses in attendance have been examined, unless the Court finds the adjournment of the same beyond the following day to be necessary for reasons to be recorded.

As per section 353 of the Code, the judgement in every trial in any Criminal Court of original jurisdiction shall be pronounced in open Court by the Presiding Officer immediately after the termination of the trial or at some subsequent time of which notice shall be given to the parties or their pleaders...

(b) and (c) In majority of cases, judgments are delivered by the judges as soon as the hearing is completed. Information on the number of cases in different High Courts in which judgement has not been pronounced even after one year of completion of hearing is not maintained.

However, as per the information received, no case is pending for more than one year for pronouncement of judgment in the High Courts of Kerala, Chhattisgarh and Himachal Pradesh. 3 cases in 2007 and 27 cases in 2008 were awaiting verdict for more than one year in the High Court of Calcutta.

Complaints about EVMs

3472. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of complaints have been lodged before the Election Commission by various parties regarding the use and service of the Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs);

(b) the details of the complaints and the steps taken to mitigate the said complaints; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the electoral officers appointed by Government do not have sufficient knowledge about the machines?

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

Scrapping of outdated laws

3473. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are a number of laws which have outlined their necessity and need to be scrapped;

(b) if so, whether Government has made a list of such laws; and

(c) whether Government is planning to scrap such out-dated laws within a strict time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) Yes, Sir. Review/repeal of all laws, including those enacted during the British era, with a view to bring them in harmony with the current economic, social and political situation in the country is a continuous process. This task is undertaken by concerned nodal Ministries/Departments of the Central Government administering the respective laws and generally by the Law Commission of India. The concerned Ministry/Department examines the recommendations of the Law Commission of India in respect of laws being administered by them as to its feasibility of reviewing or repealing them.

(b) and (c) The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances of the Central Government had already set up a Committee on Review of Administrative Laws under the chairmanship of Shri P.C Jain with the objective of examining the need of amendments in and repeal of laws, among others. The salient features of the recommendations of the said Committee included, among others, amendment of laws/ rules, review of Acts of critical importance and repeal of dysfunctional/irrelevant laws. The implementation of the report submitted by the said Committee on Review of Administrative Laws is being monitored by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances. The status of repeal and review of Statutes recommended by the Committee is given in the Statement.

Statement

Status of repeal of outmoded and Inessential laws recommended by the Commission on Review of Administrative Laws

(As on 30.09.2009)

Sl.No.	Acts	Total number of Acts	Number of Acts decided to be repealed & at various stages of repeal	Number of Acts decided to be retained	Number of Acts under examination (Excluding col. 4 & 5)	Acts repealed (Action completed)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Central Acts (including 11 Pre-Nationalisation Acts and 20 Validation Acts)	166	13	72	03	68	10 (Out of 166 Central Acts, 6 Acts pertains to State List and 41 Acts repeated in the list)
2	Amendment Acts	315	0	0	0	315	
3	British Statutes	11	3	0	0	8	
4	War-time permanent ordinances	17	1	6	5	5	
5	Central Acts relating State list	114	0	0	0	5	109 (Action is to be taken by State Govts.)
6	Appropriation Acts	700	0	700	0	0	
7	Reorganisation Acts	35	0	27	1	7	
8	Laws applicable to High Courts	12	0	5	0	7	
9	Personal Laws	12	0	12	0	0	
TOTAL		1382	17	822	09	415	119

Statistics of balance action pending for repeal

1.	Acts recommended for repeal	1382
2.	Acts repealed so far (col.7) (-)	415
3.	Acts decided not to be repealed (Col. 5) (-)	822
4.	Action to be taken by State Govt. (109 + 6 out of 166 Central Acts) (-)	115
5.	Acts repealed in the list of 166 Central Acts (-)	4
	Balance action pending	26

Withdrawal of criminal cases against M.F. Hussain

3474. SHRI BHARATKUAMR RAUT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to withdraw criminal cases against artist M.F. Hussain;

(b) the details of charges pending against him; and

(c) what is the reason for this action?

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

Application of Central Acts in Nagaland

3475. SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a State Act called the Nagaland Ownership and Transfer of Land and its Resources Act, 1990 is in operation in Nagaland; and

(b) whether Government has identified the provisions in the Central Acts, Rules and Regulations that would not apply to Nagaland in regard to "land and its resources" as prescribed in article 371 - A (1) (a) of the Constitution of India, in view of the said State Act?

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

Elevation of High Court Judge to Supreme Court

3476. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding case of Karnataka High Court Chief Justice being referred to the Central Government;

(b) whether there were similar references in the past ten years from the Supreme Court to Government; and

(c) what is the difference between the status of Chief Justice of High Court and a Justice of Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) The Chief Justice of India had recommended, inter alia, the name of the Chief Justice of Karnataka High Court for appointment as a Judge of the Supreme Court. When complaints against him were received by the Chief Justice of India and the Government, the Chief Justice of India and his Collegium have deferred that recommendation.

(b) Yes, Sir. In the past ten years i.e. from December, 1999 to December 2009, there was one such case.

(c) A Judge of the Supreme Court as well as a Chief Justice of a High Court are appointed as per the provisions of the Constitution of India and discharge their duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Constitution in their respective courts.

Pending cheque bounce cases

3477. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of pending cheque bounce cases in lower courts, State-wise;

(b) whether Government is considering to set up Fast Track Courts to deal with such cases; and

(c) if so, by when this exercise is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) Such information is not being maintained centrally.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Does not arise.

Grants for Fast Track Courts

3478. SHRI N. R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has discontinued the status of the centrally sponsored scheme for the Fast Track Courts functioning in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the grant to these Courts is very meagre compared to the recurring and non-recurring expenditure; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to increase the grant?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Government has not discontinued the scheme of central assistance to the states for the Fast Track Courts. In fact, while extending the scheme for a period of five years beyond 31.3.2005, Government

enhanced central assistance for non-recurring expenditure and made a provision for an additional amount of Rs. 8.60 lakh per court being given to the States for the first two years after 31.3.2005.

Central assistance to the States under the scheme is provided on the basis of the approved norm i.e. Rs. 4.80 lakh per court per annum towards the recurring expenditure. Some of the States have reported expenditure in excess of the assistance provided to them. The central assistance released to the States and the expenditure incurred by them during the year 2007-08 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

There is no proposal at present to increase the rate of central assistance to the States for the Fast Track Courts.

Statement

State-wise Central grant released and actual expenditure incurred by the States during 2007-08 under the scheme of Fast Track Courts

(Rs. In lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of States	Central Grant released	Expenditure incurred by the States
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	412.80	568.58
2	Arunachal Pradesh	14.40	22.07
3	Assam	96.00	136.58
4	Bihar	720.00	1238.60
5	Chhattisgarh	129.60	247.95
6	Goa	24.00	75.67
7	Gujarat	571.20	1006.89 *
8	Haryana	67.20	138.00
9	Himachal Pradesh	0	Not received
10	Jharkhand	190.17	426.63
11	Karnataka	230.40	598.90
12	Kerala	148.80	563.85
13	Madhya Pradesh	259.80	522.11
14	Maharashtra	782.40	2232.23
15	Manipur	9.60	17.14
16	Meghalaya	0	20.70
17	Mizoram	14.40	14.40
18	Nagaland	9.60	9.60

1	2	3	4
19	Orissa	158.40	300.69
20	Punjab	51.20	117.64
21	Rajasthan	398.40	1232.17
22	Tamil Nadu	235.20	634.87
23	Tripura	0	8.30
24	Uttar Pradesh	495.52	1258.00
25	Uttaranchal	129.60	70.82
26	West Bengal	571.20	1662.01
	TOTAL	5719.89	13124.40

* Expenditure from April, 2007 to September 2007.

Changes in personal laws

3479. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has recommended changes in the existing matrimonial laws and make conversions illegal and punishable; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) The 18th Law Commission headed by Justice A.R. Lakshmanan examined the existing legal position of bigamy in India and suggested ways to check the social malaise of bigamy through the route of sham conversion in its 227th Report on 'Preventing Bigamy via Conversion to Islam - A Proposal for giving Statutory Effect to Supreme Court Rulings'. The said Report has been laid on the Table of House on 14.12.2009 and also available on the website of the Law Commission <http://www.lawcommissionofindia.nic.in>

Review of Judges Inquiry Act

3480. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:

SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

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

(a) whether Government intends to review the Judges Inquiry Act in view of a long and cumbersome procedure prescribed in the Act;

(b) if so, by when;

(c) the status of inquiry initiated against Justice Saumitra Sen of Kolkata High Court;

- (d) whether there is any time limit for conclusion of the inquiry; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) The Government is considering to bring in a fresh legislation on the subject of judicial standards and accountability of Judges.

(c) to (e) An enquiry Committee under the provisions of the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968 has been constituted by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha which is looking into the records. Rule 9 (2) (c) of the Judges (Inquiry) Rules, 1969 requires the Inquiry Committee to forward its report within three months from the date of service of the charges framed under sub-section (3) of Section 3 of the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968. This time limit can, however, be extended for sufficient causes.

Misuse of 498 A of IPC

3481. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many reports come to Government regarding the misuse of section 498 A of the Indian Penal Code;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action Government has taken to prevent misuse of the above section?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) A number of representations have been received from various quarters regarding the misuse of the provision of Section 498 A of IPC. Information regarding its misuse is not collected by National Crime Records Bureau. An Advisory has been issued to the State Governments to prevent the misuse of the said Section.

Restriction on regional parties to contest elections

3482. SHRI R.C. SINGH:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a P1L was filed in the Supreme Court with a request to issue a Writ of Mandamus and direct the Central Government to pass a law and allow only national parties to contest Lok Sabha elections and regional parties be allowed to contest State elections;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any view has been taken by Government in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

Categorization of cross border terrorism

3483. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

DR.T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Chief Justice of India has expressed serious concern over cross border terrorism and suggested that such attacks should be treated as an offence recognized under the International Criminal Law as 'Crime Against Humanity' and tried before a supra-national body such as the International Criminal Court;

(b) if so, whether his suggestions have been seriously considered by Government; and

(c) if so, by when they are likely to be implemented?

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

Undertrials in jails

3484. SHRI R.C. SINGH:

SHRI D. RAJA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of undertrials are incarcerated in various jails for the periods exceeding the term of their probable sentence;

(b) if so, the number of such undertrials in various jails;

(c) whether it is also a fact that various pronouncements of High Courts and the Supreme Court on this issue have not been found effective in reducing the number of undertrials in jails; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the failure in the matter and what new measures are proposed to be taken to reduce the number of undertrials in various jails in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) Information on the time spent by under-trial prisoners, while their cases are under the process of adjudication in the courts, as against the period of their respective probable sentences is not maintained centrally. However, as per the information available, 2,50,727 under-trial prisoners were under detention at the end of 2007. Out of these, 1,03,624, i.e. 41.3% of the total number of under-trial prisoners in jails were under detention for a period up to three months.

Conducting trial expeditiously to render justice to the under-trials is a matter within the domain of the judiciary and the facilitation of such trials is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. Central Government has taken the following steps for facilitating delivery of justice to the under-trials and also to provide that under-trials do not spend long periods in jail:

(i) A new section viz 436A has been inserted in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 to provide that where an under-trial prisoner other than the one accused of an offence for which death

has been prescribed as one of the punishments, has been under detention for a period extending to one-half of the maximum period of imprisonment provided for the alleged offence, he should be released on his personal bond, with or without sureties. It also provides that in no case will an under-trial prisoner be detained beyond the maximum period of imprisonment for which he can be convicted for the alleged offence.

Section 436(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 has also been amended to make a mandatory provision that if the arrested person is accused of a bailable offence and he is an indigent and cannot furnish surety, the Court shall release him on his execution of a bond without sureties.

(ii) In 2006, the Government of India introduced the system of 'plea bargaining', primarily to reduce pendency of cases in trial courts and overcrowding in prisons.

(iii) Fast Track Courts were set up for speedy disposal of long pending sessions cases and the cases of under-trial prisoners.

Royalty on minerals

3485. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Minerals Industries (FIMI) has opposed the proposed market linked royalty on minerals including iron ore;

(b) if so, whether the Federation has also urged Government to hike the levy in the existing production linked system;

(c) if so, the criteria laid down on providing royalty to the States on minerals;

(d) whether Government proposes to revise the criteria; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (e) The Central Government constituted a Study Group for revision of rates of royalty and dead rent, which included State Governments, concerned Ministries/Departments of Central Government and Federation of Indian Minerals Industries (FIMI). The views of FIMI were considered by the Study Group and rates of royalty and dead rent recommended to Central Government taking into account the dynamics of market and provides buoyancy in revenues without interference of Government. The Report of the Study Group is available on the website of Ministry of Mines (<http://www.mines.gov.in>). Based on the recommendations of Study Group, Government has revised rates of royalty and dead rent vide Official Gazette Notification No. G. S. R. 574(E) dated 13.8.2009 and G. S. R. 575(E) dated 13.8.2009 respectively.

Minority dominated districts

†3486. SHRIMATT MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) the number of districts in the country considered as minority dominated;
- (b) the number of districts considered sensitive out of these;
- (c) whether discussion has taken place with the Ministry of Home Affairs on this matter;
- (d) the reasons for considering them as sensitive; and
- (e) whether there are sufficient security arrangement in these districts and if so, for whom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) 90 districts in the country have been identified as minority concentration districts.

(b) to (d) As per available information, 57 districts are considered communally sensitive/hyper sensitive by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the basis of their communal history and population profile. No discussion has taken place on this issue with the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(e) 'Police' and 'Public Order' being State subjects under the Constitution of India, the primary responsibility of maintaining law and order rests with the State Governments. To maintain communal harmony in the country, the Central Government assists the State Government/Union Territory Administration in a variety of ways like sharing of intelligence, sending alert messages, sending Central para-military Forces on specific request including RAF to deal with communal situations. In addition, the Union Government sends advisories to maintain communal harmony time to time. The Central Government has also circulated revised Guidelines to promote communal harmony, to the States and Union Territories in the month of June, 2008.

Atrocities on minorities in Mizoram

†3487. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 12 villages of minority 'Bru' community of Mizoram were set on fire on 14 November, 2009;

(b) whether thousands of displaced members of this community are living in relief camps of other States; and

(c) the efforts being made to provide them relief in collaboration with other Ministries and bring them back to their native places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Committee for welfare of Muslim

3488. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether the Prime Minister has constituted any committee for the Welfare of Muslim minorities after the Sachar Committee submitted its recommendations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, by when such committee would be formed to benefit Muslims in the country especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, Sir. However, the Government has taken various decisions on the recommendations of Sachar Committee and follow up action on these decisions are monitored periodically. Besides, the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities was announced in June, 2006. An important aim of the new programme is to ensure that the benefits of various government schemes for the underprivileged reach the disadvantaged sections of the minority communities, and it includes the Muslims. In order to ensure that the benefits of these schemes flow equitably to the minorities, the new programme envisages location of a certain proportion of development projects in minority concentration areas. It also provides that, wherever possible, 15% of targets and outlays under various schemes should be earmarked for minorities.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Accessibility to Report of NCRLM

3489. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that report of the National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities (NCRLM) was made accessible to media persons even though this report is yet to be made public; and
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Grant under Maulana Azad Foundation

3490. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of grant given to the Minority Educational Institutions in Bihar under the Maulana Azad Foundation during the last three years; and
- (b) the number of educational institutions benefited under the scheme all over the country during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Maulana Azad Education Foundation sanctions grants-in-aid to Non Government Organizations (NGOs) for infrastructural development of educational institutions recognized by the State/Central Board, where the number of beneficiaries from educationally backward minority communities is more than 50% subject to other eligibility criteria.

Under this scheme the Foundation has provided financial assistance amounting to Rs. 60.00 Lakhs, in the State of Bihar during the last three years.

(b) Maulana Azad Education Foundation has sanctioned grants-in-aid to a total number of 227 Non Government Organisations (NGOs) all over the country during the last three years under its grants-in-aid scheme.

Initiative for welfare of minority communities

3491. SHRI SABIR ALI:

SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the new initiatives of Government for the welfare of minority communities;
- (b) whether any targets have been fixed in that direction;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken to achieve those targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (d) The Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities was launched in June, 2006 incorporating programme specific interventions. The new programme envisages location of a certain proportion of development projects in minority concentration areas. It also provides that, wherever possible, 15% of targets and outlays under various schemes should be earmarked for minorities. Targets fixed for schemes included in the programme considered amenable to earmarking and the achievements made during 2008-09 are available in the website of the Ministry on www.minorityaffairs.gov.in. The programme provides for a close monitoring mechanism and the status of implementation has been reviewed regularly.

Progress of renewable energy schemes

3492. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the financial outlays and physical targets set under major renewable energy schemes/programmes during last three years and the current year;
- (b) in what manner the intended targets have been achieved;
- (c) the allocations made and targets set for Rajasthan, during the above period, for family type biogas plants, SPV lighting system for remote villages/hamlets, solar power and wind power; and
- (d) the achievements thereof?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Details of financial outlays, physical targets set and achievements under major renewable energy schemes/programmes of the Ministry during the last three years (2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10) are given in the Statement-I (See below).

(c) and (d) Details of allocations made, targets set and achievements made in respect of family type biogas plants, SPV lighting system for remote villages/hamlets, solar power and wind power during the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 in Rajasthan are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of financial outlays, physical targets set and achievements under major renewable energy schemes / programmes of the Ministry during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto 31.10.2009)

S.No.	Programme	Allocation	2007-08		Allocation	2008-09		Allocation	2009-10	
		(CFA)/ Actual Expenditure (Rs. in crore)	Target	Ach.	(CFA)/ Expenditure (Rs. in crore)	Target	Ach.	(CFA)/ Expenditure (Rs. in crore)	Target.	Ach. (31.10.99)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Grid Interactive and Off-Grid/Distributed Power										
(Capacities in MW)										
1.	Wind Power		1500.00	1663.50		2000.00	1485.50		2500.00	649.00
2.	Small Hydro		200.00	204.75		250.00	248.93		300.00	90.11
3.	Bio Power		275.00	81.00		300.00	97.50		405.00	113.50
4.	Bagasse Cogeneration			185.00			247.90	220.00 /114.24		192.00
5.	Waste to Power - Urban	110.00/	2.00	-	150.00/	5.00				
	Indstl.	87.92	10.00	11.72	116.20	8.00	3.66		15.00	8.41
6.	Solar Power		-	-		14.00	-		4.00	1.10
	TOTAL					2577.00	2083.49		3224.00	1054.12
Off-Grid / Distributed Power (MWeq.)										
7.	Waste to Power - Urban		3.00	3.00		5.00				
	- Indstl		5.00	4.00		7.00	7.36		10.00	3.91

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8.	Non-bag Cogen		20.00	49.20		30.00	75.77		50.00	10.60
9.	Gasifiers - Rural		1.00	1.02		1.00	1.03		3.00	0.06
	- Indstl.		10.00	11.62		10.00	13.20		10.00	2.85
10.	Aero-Gens/ Hybrid systems		0.15	0.11		0.30	0.11		0.30	-
11.	SPY Plants + Street Lights		-	0.33		-	1.00		5.00	-
12.	Water Mills (WMs) / Micro/mini-hydel plants		-	0.37		-	0.70		17.50	1.75
				(144 Nos. WMs)			(339 Nos. WMs)			(19 Nos. WMs)
	Total		39.15	69.65		53.30	99.17		95.80	19.17
W= Megawatt;										
MWeq = Megawatt equivalent;										
Decentralised Renewable Energy Systems										
13.	Remote Village Electrification (Nos. of Villages + Hamlets)		2000	1992 Sanctioned /1280 completed		1500	636 sanctioned/ /325 completed		1500	270 Sanctioned/ 700 completed
14.	Family type Biogas Plants (No. in Lakh)		1.00	0.89		1.24	1.08		1.50	0.16
15.	SPV Home Light Systems (Nos.)	280.00 / 211.51	63.250	57.382	186.00 / 167.54	*	65.904	230.00 / 84.05	*	2815
(up to 31.10.09)										

16.	SPV Street Lights (Nos.)	7,000	3,120	16.769	7,391	*	-
17.	SPV Lanterns (Nos.)	94,000	46958	*	56,397	*	58,064
18.	SPV Pumps (Nos.)	100	42	*	56	*	-
19.	Solar Water Heating - collector area (Million sq. meter)	0.60	0.45	0.60	0.56	0.60.	0.22
20.	Solar Cookers (Nos.)	20,000	20,165	20.000	20,590	20,000	NA
21.	Wind Pumps (Nos.)	140	80	100	NA	Nil	-

MW - Megawatt; kW = kilowatt, kWp = kilowatt peak; sq.m. = square meter; NA: Report Not Available.

* Practice of assigning targets discontinued. CFA sanctioned based on specific proposals to be submitted in project mode.

Statement-II

Details of allocations made, targets set and achievements made under family type biogas plants, SPV lighting system for remote villages/hamlets, solar power and wind power during the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 in Rajasthan

Sl.No.	Name of Scheme/ programme	2007-08			2008-09			2009-10 (as on 31.10.2009)		
		Target	Achs.	Allocation (Rs. in lakh)	Target	Achs.	Allocation (Rs.in lakh)	Target	Achs.	Allocation (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Family type biogas plants	25	90	1.05	100	92	4.20	50	39	2.10
2.	SPV Lighting Systems for Remote Village / Hamlets	*	Nil	Nil	*	Nil	Nil	*	Nil	Nil
3.	Solar power Plants	Nil	Nil	Nil	-	-	-	*	10 kWp	6.25
4.	Wind power	*	69 MW	Nil	*	199.60 MW	Nil	*	109.35 MW	Nil

MW = Megawatt; kWp = Kilowatt peak, HLS = Home systems; SLS - Street lighting systems;

* State-wise targets are not fixed.

Potential of solar and wind energy

3493. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey to find out the potential of solar energy and wind energy in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which this potential is being tapped in the State, at present; and
- (d) the action Government proposes to take to fully tap the potential of solar energy and wind energy in the State?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India Meteorological Department (IMD) measures solar radiation in the country including Tamil Nadu, As per IMD reports, the State of Tamil Nadu receives on an annual average basis solar energy up to 5.5 kilowatt-hour per square meter of area. The Centre for Wind Energy Technology undertakes the wind resource assessment studies in the country including Tamil Nadu. The wind power potential in Tamil Nadu has been estimated to be 5530 MW.

(c) Recently, two grid interactive solar power projects of aggregate capacity of 6 MW have been allocated to the State. In addition, a number of decentralized solar applications have been deployed under various programmes of the Ministry. The cumulative installed capacity of wind power in Tamil Nadu so far is 4584MW.

(d) The Government has recently launched Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission which unveils an enabling policy framework for deployment of grid connected solar power and also off-grid solar systems for various applications for tapping the potential in the country including Tamil Nadu.

The Government has been promoting wind power projects through private sector investment in the country including Tamil Nadu by providing fiscal incentives, loan from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and other financial institutions. This apart, preferential tariff is being provided to increase wind energy investment in the potential states including Tamilnadu. Recently, Government has approved for the 11th plan period, General Based Incentive for electricity from wind power projects to run concurrently with the benefit of accelerated depreciation, but in a mutually exclusive manner.

Requirement of foodgrains for Bio-fuels

‡3494. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of foodgrains would be required to be used for bio-fuels in future which may result in food crisis;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's action plan and target concerning bio-fuel production and before-hand plan of Government to address the apprehension of food crisis?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Indian approach differs from current international approaches towards biofuels. In India, biofuel production is based solely on non-food feedstocks to avoid any conflict with foodgrain production.

(c) A comprehensive National Policy on Biofuels has been approved by the Cabinet. The Policy provides an indicative road map and directions for production of biofuels from non-food feedstocks, their conversion and utilization.

Electricity from decomposition of solid waste

3495. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the survey by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) regarding solid waste generated by the cities;

(b) if so, the quantum of solid waste generated in the cities due to lack of adequate treatment and disposal facilities;

(c) whether landfill gas is a natural by-product of the de-composition of solid waste in landfills and is primarily comprised of carbon dioxide and methane which can be used as a substitute for electricity generated by thermal or coal; and

(d) if so, the Central contribution thereto?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has brought out a report in August 2009, on survey of current status of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) management in 22 cities. The report indicates that 23,425 tonnes per day of solid waste out of a total of 27,018 tonnes per day generated in these 22 cities, is dumped in the landfills. This shows a lack of adequate treatment of solid waste before it's disposal.

(c) Landfill gas, which is a product of decomposition of the biodegradable fraction of solid waste in scientifically constructed landfill, can be used as a fuel for generating electricity. However, as per the provisions of Municipal Solid Waste (Handling & Management) Rules - 2000, Municipal Corporations / Urban Local Bodies are supposed to treat the biodegradable waste through composting or other state-of-the-art technologies for power generation, etc. and dump only the inert fraction of solid waste in the landfills.

(d) Ministry of Urban Development has approved solid waste management projects based on an integrated approach under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, in 40 cities,

including 15 of the 22 cities covered by the survey, at an estimated cost of Rs. 2186.14 crore. The projects include segregation at source, collection, transportation, processing & treatment and disposal of solid waste in accordance with Municipal Solid Waste (Handling & Management) Rules-2000.

Propagation of new and renewable energy sources

3496. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

SHRI SABIR ALI:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the new initiatives of his Ministry for increased propagation and adoption of new and renewable energy sources by the masses;
- (b) the targets fixed in this regard; and
- (c) the subsidies being offered to the users?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) The major new initiatives taken by the Ministry in recent past for propagation and adoption of various renewable energy sources in the country are as under:

- A National Solar Mission has been approved with first phase target of 1100 MW grid-interactive and 200 MW off-grid solar power by 2013.
- Following new schemes have been introduced:
 - Generation Based Incentive for wind power projects with a capacity addition target of 4000 MW during 11th Plan period.
 - Schemes for SPV Power plants at tail-end of grid and Roof-top SPV systems for diesel abatement, with a target of 8.25 MWp for 11th Plan.
 - UNDP/GEF assisted project for large-scale promotion of Solar Water Heating systems initiative.
 - Scheme for promotion of Green Buildings with target of 35 lakhs sq.m. covered area. A National rating system 'GRIHA' has been introduced.
 - Scheme for Incentivising Banks for financing Solar Home lighting Scheme with target of 2.5 lakh systems till March 2011.
 - Scheme for demonstration of Renewable energy systems at Iconic buildings —Scheme for micro-hydel/water-mills for border areas with target of installation of 50 micro-hydel and 2000 watermills during 11th Plan.
- Focus on promotion of power generation from rice husk for rural electrification.
- Policy and Regulatory initiatives relating to renewable power: Normative guidelines for tariff setting for renewable power issued through CERC; scheme for Renewable Energy Certificates, etc.

(c) Details of the existing levels of Central Financial Assistance/subsidies offered under various renewable energy programmes/schemes of the Ministry are given in the statement.

Statement

Central Financial Assistance/subsidies provided under various renewable energy programmes/schemes throughout the country

A. Off-grid Renewable Energy Programme

S.No.	Scheme/Programme	Central Financial Assistance provided
1	2	3
1.	Remote Village Electrification: Electricity generation/lighting systems for households in remote unelectrified census villages/ hamlets	90% of the cost of electricity generation systems subject to a pre-specified maximum amount for each technology and an overall ceiling of Rs.18,000 per household.100% cost of a single light SPV home lighting system for BPL households.
2.	Family Type Biogas Plants NE Region States including Sikkim (except plain areas of Assam) Plain areas of Assam J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand (excluding Terai region), Nilgiris of Tamil Nadu, Sadar, Kurseong and Kalimpong sub-divisions of Darjeeling, Sunderbans, A&N Islands All Others	Rs.11,700 to Rs.14,700 per plant depending on capacity of plant and under CDM Programme or NBMMP Rs.9,000 to Rs.10,000 per plant depending on capacity of plant and under CDM Programme or NBMMP Rs.3,000 to Rs.10,000 per plant depending on capacity of plant and under CDM Programme or NBMMP Rs.2,100 to Rs.8,000 per plant depending on capacity of plant and under CDM Programme or NBMMP
3.	Biomass Gasifiers for Rural Areas	Rs.15.00 lakh/100 kWe on prorated basis of multiple their for village level electrical applications, (with 100% producer gas engine) 20% higher subsidy for Special Category States & Islands
4.	Biomass Gasifiers for Industrial Applications	Rs.2.00 lakh/300 kWe for thermal applications

1	2	3	
		Rs.2.50 lakh/100 kWe with dual fuel engine	
		Rs.10.00 lakh/100 kWe with 100% producer gas engine	
		Rs.15.00 lakh/100 kWe with 100% producer gas engine in institutions	
5.	Biomass Co-generation (non-bagasse) for captive use in industry	Rs.20.00 lakhs per MW subject to a maximum of Rs.1 crore/ project. (20% higher subsidy for Special Category States)	
6.	Urban Waste to Energy	Rs.1.0 to 3.0 crore / MWe, depending on technology. (20% higher subsidy for Special Category States)	
7.	Industrial Waste-to-Energy Plants	Rs.20.00 lakh to Rs.1.00 crore/ MWe. depending on technology. (20% higher subsidy for Special Category States)	
8.	Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) Systems		
	Aggregate Systems capacity	CFA	
		NE Region and Special Category States	Other States/ UTs
	SPV Home-lighting systems	4500 (18Wp) 8660 (37-74Wp)	2500 (18Wp) 4800 (37-74 Wp)
	SPV Street Lighting systems	17300 (74Wp)	9600 (74 Wp)
	Stand-alone SPV Power plants more than 1 kWp (with capacity less than 1 kWp on case to case basis.)	Rs.225/Wp	Rs.270/ Wp
	more than 10 kWp with distribution line	Rs.270/Wp	Rs. 150/ Wp
	SPV Traffic Lights - up to 100 Wp module capacity	Rs.150/Wp for systems with battery bank of 6 hrs/Rs.1.15/Wp without battery bank for organizations not availing accelerated depreciation.	
	PV Blinkers		
	Solar Power Packs Up to 1 kWp	Rs.100/Wp for systems with battery bank of 6 hrs / Rs.75/Wp without battery bank for organizations availing accelerated depreciation.	

1	2	3
	Solar Illuminating Hoardings/ Bill boards -up to 1 kWp modules capacity Other systems for community use in Urban and industrial Areas	Rs. 75/ Wp, limited to 30% of the cost of systems to profit making bodies availing depreciation benefits
	SPV Roof-top Systems in Urban Areas - from 10kW to 100kW	Rs. 100/ Wp limited to 40% of the cost of systems to non- profit making bodies
	SPV lanterns	Rs. 2,400 for NE and special areas; nil for other. 100% cost of one SPV lantern for school going girl child of BPL family studying in class IX -XII during entire period of school study
	SPV Water Pumping Systems	Rs.30/ Wp of SPV array used, subject to a maximum of Rs.50,000 per system.
9.	Small Aero-Generators and Hybrid Systems	90% of ex-works cost or Rs.2.40 lakh/ kW, whichever is less, in unelectrified islands 75% of ex-works cost or Rs.2.00 lakh/kW, whichever is less, in other areas, for government/ community use. 50% of ex-works cost or Rs.1.25 lakh/ kW, whichever is less, for all other users.
10.	Solar Thermal Systems/Devices	Box type cookers; Incentive to SNA: - Rs.200 per cooker of ISI brand - Rs.100 per cooker of non-ISI brand - Up to Rs.1.50 lakh for pub./workshops etc. Support to manufacturers: reimbursement of 50% fees for obtaining BIS approval.
11.	Solar Thermal Systems/ Devices (Continued)	Solar Water Heating systems: - Subsidized Loan @ 2% to domestic users (nil) for special category states), 3% to institutions and 5% to community users plus Rs.100/ square meter of collector area as incentive to motivator.

1	2	3
		- Capital subsidy @ Rs. 1400/1750/1900 per sq.m. to commercial establishments/institutions/housing complex developers.
		Solar Air Heating/ Steam Generating Systems:
		Capital subsidy @ 35-50% of the cost subject to certain ceilings.
		Dish / community type solar cookers:
		30% of cost limited to Rs.1,500 for Dish type cookers and Rs. 15,000 for Scheffler/Community type cooker.
12.	Akshay Urja Shops	Subsidized loan @7% upto Rs.10 lakh and performance based grant & incentive up to Rs.10,000 per month.

B. Grid-Interactive Renewable Power Programmes

S. No.	Projects Category	Central Financial Assistance provided	
		Special Category States (NE Region, Sikkim, J&K, HP and Uttaranchal)	Other States
1	2	3	4
1	Small Hydro Power Projects	Rs.2.25 crore X (C) ^ 0.646	Rs.1.50 crore X (C) ^ 0.646
2	Biomass Power Projects	Rs.25 lakh X (C) ^0.646	Rs.20 lakh X (C) ^0.646
3	Bagasse Co-generation Projects by private sector	Rs.18 lakh X (C) ^0.646 40 bar & above	Rs.15 lakh X (C) ^0.646
4	Bagasse Co-generation Projects (by cooperative/public/ joint sector)	Rs.40 lakh/MW*	Rs.40 lakh/MW*
	40 bar & above	Rs.50 lakh/MW*	Rs.50 lakh/MW*
	60 bar & above	Rs.60 lakh/MW*	Rs.60 lakh/MW*
	80 bar & above	Limited to Rs.8 crore/project	Limited to Rs.8 crore/ project
5	Biomass Power using Advanced Technologies	Rs.1.2 crore X @ ^0.646	Rs.1.0 crore X @ ^0.646

1	2	3	4
6	Wind Power projects	Rs.3.00 crore X @ ^0.646	Rs.2.50 crore X @ ^0.646
7.	Biomass Gasifier	20% higher CFA	Rs.150.0 lakh / Kwe on prorate basis or multiple thereof
8.	Solar PV Power	50% of project cost subject to a maximum of Rs.10 crore / MW for tail end grid power projects to be implemented by utilities or generation companies in the State sector	

C: Capacity of the project in MW; ^: raised to the power

* For new sugar mills (which are yet to start production and sugar mills employing backpressure route/seasonal/incidental cogeneration) subsidies shall be one-half of the level mentioned above.

Biogas plants in Tamil Nadu

3497. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of individual and community biogas plants established in Tamil Nadu during the last five years, year-wise and district-wise;

(b) whether Government has fixed any targets of biogas plants for the State during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) how Government proposes to achieve these targets in the State?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Individual/family type of biogas plants are installed under National Biogas Manure Management Programme (NBMMP) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy in various States of the country. Number of family type biogas plants installed under the programme in the State of Tamil Nadu during the last five years is given in the Statement (*See below*). District-wise information is maintained at the State level. The Ministry is not implementing programme for community biogas plants.

(b) and (c) Under the National Biogas Manure Management Programme only year-wise targets are fixed for various States. For the year 2009-10 a target for the installation of 1500 plants has been fixed for the State of Tamil Nadu.

(d) In order to achieve the targets for setting up of family type biogas plants the concerned State government department takes up action for training and installation in accordance with the provisions contained in the Administrative Approval of the National Biogas and Manure Management Programme.

Statement

*Year-wise Number of Family type Biogas Plants installed under
NBMMMP in Tamil Nadu during the last Five Years*

S.No.	Year	No. of Plants Installed
1.	2004-05	2146
2.	2005-06	1837
3.	2006-07	1745
4.	2007-08	1636
5.	2008-09	1711
TOTAL		9075

Grid electricity in remote villages and remote hamlets

3498. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether grid electricity is unlikely to reach in 24,418 remote villages and remote hamlets by the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government for electrification of the villages and hamlets and the funds allocated for the purpose;

(c) whether Government's Common Minimum Programme (CMP) envisages electrification of all households by 2009; and

(d) if so, the measures taken to achieve the CMP?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) On the basis of information provided by the state government agencies for renewable energy, the number of remote unelectrified census villages where grid was not likely to reach was tentatively estimated during 2003-04 at 24,418. Subsequently, Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana was initiated by Ministry of Power for electrification of all unelectrified villages. The remote villages and remote hamlets where grid connectivity may not be feasible are shortlisted by the respective state governments and endorsed by the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), which is the apex implementing agency for Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana. So far around 8650 such remote villages and hamlets have been identified.

(b) The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy is implementing a programme for providing financial assistance to the state implementing agencies for providing lighting/basic electricity in remote villages and remote hamlets through renewable energy sources. Central Financial Assistance (CFA) of upto 90% of the cost of the systems subject to the pre-specified maximum amounts is provided for approved projects. For the 11th Plan, an outlay of Rs.867.89 crores has been approved.

(c) The National Common Minimum Programme of the previous Government envisaged to provide access to electricity to all rural households in 5 years.

(d) The Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana of Ministry of Power targets to complete the sanctioned 1,18,499 villages by the end of the 11th Plan while the Remote Village Electrification Programme of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has set a target of covering 10,000 remote villages and remote hamlets during the same period.

Transmission losses

†3499. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that loss of power is a nation-wide problem;
- (b) the details of the percentage of transmission and distribution losses, State wise;
- (c) whether Government would propose to provide soft loan to the State generation divisions for strengthening the infrastructure to reduce transmission losses;
- (d) whether the experiment of electronic meters has been a success to check distribution losses;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether Government has received any reports about procurement of substandard material by the transmission and distribution corporations from any source and if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the proposed arrangement for improvement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) T & D losses as measure of grid losses were replaced with AT&C losses for better clarity and to capture commercial losses. States/UT wise Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) losses for the year 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 as contained in the 6th 'Report on Performance of State Power Utilities' published by Power Finance Corporation are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) No, Sir. However, the Government of India launched Restructured APDRP in July, 2008 as a Central Sector Scheme for XI Plan. The focus of the programme is on actual, demonstrable performance in terms of loss reduction. Projects under the scheme to be taken up in two parts. Part-A is the projects for establishment of baseline data and IT applications for energy accounting/auditing & IT based consumer service centres. The objective of the scheme is to reduce the AT&C losses to 15% in the project areas at the end of the scheme. The Utilities are also to achieve the following target of AT&C loss reduction at utility level:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- 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

Power Finance Corporation(PFC) is the nodal agency to operationalise the R-APDRP. 100% loan is provided under R-APDRP for Part-A projects and shall be converted to grant on completion and verification of same by Third Party Independent Evaluating Agencies (TPIEA) being appointed by MoP/PFC. Government of India has earmarked Rs. 10,000 Crores for Part-A.

Part-B is regular distribution strengthening projects. 25% loan is provided under Part-B projects and up to 50% of scheme cost is convertible to grant depending on extent of maintaining AT&C loss level at 15% level for five years. For special category states, 90% loan is provided by GOI for Part-B projects and entire GOI loan shall be converted to grant in five tranches depending on extent of maintaining AT&C loss level at 15% level for five years. GOI has earmarked Rs.40,000 crores as loan for Part-B of R-APDRP.

Under Part-A of R-APDRP, so far 1283 projects at the cost of Rs. 4730.38 Crore have been approved for 22 States (Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam, Kerala, Tripura, Jammu & Kashmir). Rs. 934.24 Crore loan has been disbursed by PFC to the State utilities.

(d) and (e) The electronic meters do have facility to record temper events. The AT&C losses have reduced after installation of static or electronic meters. However the reduction of AT&C losses cannot be attributed solely to installation of electronic meters. Utilities have taken other measures also to reduce AT&C losses which includes installation of HVDS, ABC (Ariel Bunched Cables), taking anti theft measures, upgrading their distribution Network etc.

(f) and (g) No, Sir.

Statement

State/UT-wise AT&C Loss (%)

Sl. No.	State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	16.68	17.88	16.19
2	Arunachal Pradesh	69.02	57.96	61.59
3	Assam	35.24	36.64	34.18
4	Bihar	83.74	43.99	44.45
5	Chhattisgarh	38.76	29.26	32.18
6	Delhi	40.32	34.32	37.96

1	2	3	4	5
7	Goa	12.38	16.89	13.12
8	Gujarat	26.72	23.60	22.81
9	Himachal Pradesh	17.05	13.47	17.15
10	Haryana	42.83	25.60	32.29
11	J&K	63.24	64.68	71.92
12	Jharkhand	52.13	54.41	58.17
13	Karnataka	38.04	32.76	32.13
14	Kerala	23.61	23.34	21.52
15	Madhya Pradesh	44.44	45.67	46.78
16	Maharashtra	33.15	34.59	31.32
17	Manipur	Data not available		
18	Meghalaya	37.95	39.08	39.45
19	Mizoram	22.28	55.90	17.91
20	Nagaland	50.64	52.66	49.11
21	Orissa	44.07	39.90	41.38
22	Pondicherry	17.48	17.45	18.69
23	Punjab	23.31	22.54	19.10
24	Rajasthan	42.19	35.74	32.87
25	Sikkim	44.83	61.43	51.32
26	Tamilnadu	17.09	16.21	15.70
27	Tripura	32.31	29.19	30.16
28	Uttar Pradesh	43.89	44.25	34.99
29	Uttaranchal	27.98	35.54	38.32
30	West Bengal	28.33	30.66	22.70
GRAND TOTAL		33.02	30.59	29.24

Source: PFC

Peak power shortage

3500. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether August, 2009 recorded the worst peak month power deficit during the last three years;

- (b) if so, the power supply, demand and deficit during that period, month-wise;
- (c) the reasons for such shortfall; and
- (d) the action taken by Government to minimize the gap between demand and supply of power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) During the last three years the worst peak deficit occurred during the month of January and February, 2008, when peak shortage was 19,048 MW (17.7%) and 19,499 MW (17.9%) respectively. The peak deficit during August, 2009 was 17,004 MW (14.6%), which happened to be maximum peak deficit during the year 2009-10 (April to November, 2009).

(b) Month-wise peak shortage in the country along with peak demand and peak met during the last three years i.e. December, 2006 to November, 2009 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The main reasons for enhanced peak deficit in the month of August, 2009 were failure of monsoon and inadequate availability of coal.

(d) The measures taken/being taken by the Government to minimize the gap between demand and supply of power in the country include (i) quantum jump in generation capacity addition envisaged in 11th Five Year Plan and their rigorous monitoring for timely completion, (ii) coordinated operation and maintenance of hydro, thermal, nuclear and gas based power stations to optimally utilize the existing generation capacity, (iii) import of coal to meet the shortfall in coal supplies to thermal power stations from indigenous sources, (iv) allocation of gas from KG Basin (D6) for gas based power stations in the country, (v) harnessing surplus power from captive power plants into Grid, (vi) development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4000 MW each to reap benefits of economies of scale, (vii) renovation, modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generation units, (viii) strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution network through Acceleration Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) as a major step towards loss reduction, (ix) import of power from hydro power stations located in Bhutan.

Statement

*Month-wise Peak Demand, Peak Met and Shortage for the period
from December, 2006 to November, 2009*

Month	Year	Peak Demand	Peak Met	Shortage	
		(MW)	(MW)	(MW)	%
1	2	3	4	5	6
December	2006	100403	83753	16650	16.6
January	2007	100715	84698	16017	15.9
February	2007	99793	85089	14704	14.7

1	2	3	4	5	6
March	2007	100546	86818	13728	13.7
April	2007	102428	87538	14890	14.5
May	2007	101084	88624	12460	12.3
June	2007	99973	88393	11580	11.6
July	2007	98672	88743	9929	10.1
August	2007	98097	87714	10383	10.6
September	2007	98648	90022	8626	8.7
October	2007	106624	90019	16605	15.6
November	2007	105963	90793	15170	14.3
December	2007	105626	88671	16955	16.1
January	2008	107791	88743	19048	17.7
February	2008	108866	89367	19499	17.9
March	2008	107379	89894	17485	16.3
April	2008	106922	89510	17412	16.3
May	2008	103688	91363	12325	11.9
June	2008	104263	90065	14198	13.6
July	2008	104959	88654	16305	15.5
August	2008	105967	90520	15447	14.6
September	2008	109304	93327	15977	14.6
October	2008	109809	94634	15175	13.8
November	2008	105787	91068	14719	13.9
December	2008	105761	91022	14739	13.9
January	2009	105969	93198	12771	12.1
February	2009	109047	94896	14151	13.0
March	2009	109492	96785	12707	11.6
April	2009	110958	97355	13603	12.3
May	2009	107920	95033	12887	11.9
June	2009	111662	96871	14791	13.2
July	2009	109553	96282	13271	12.1
August	2009	116281	99277	17004	14.6
September	20.09	115116	101609	13507	11.7
October	2009	115432	101564	13868	12.0
November *	2009	109611	96245	13366	12.2

* Provisional

RGGVY in Karnataka

3501. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's sanction has since been accorded for Dhakshin Kannada and Udupi districts of Karnataka under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) during the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, by when the funds under the scheme are likely to be released, and if not, by when the sanction is likely to be accorded and the funds released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) Government of Karnataka has sent proposals for Dakshin Kannada and Udupi districts under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY). Both the schemes have been identified for consideration in the next phase of RGGVY, as and when fund are made available for the Phase-II of RGGVY.

Import of Chinese power equipments

3502. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether of late, most of the public and private power producers in India, are opting for China made power project equipments like boilers, turbines, etc.;

(b) whether, on the issue of unfair trade practices, the Chinese exports are routinely subsidized and that the export of 'super critical' boilers by Chinese licences is not allowed legally; and

(c) if so, whether Government would mandate an offset policy for Chinese power equipment import, whereby Chinese power equipment manufacturers come forward to invest in manufacturing facilities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has informed that at present 21,519 MW of capacity, both in thermal and hydro, is being implemented during 11th Plan, using equipments from China. Out of this, 4794 MW is being implemented in the Government Sector (Central Sector 1200 MW and State Sector 3594 MW) and 16725 MW in the Private Sector. For 12th Plan, orders for thermal capacity of about 14,000 MW have been placed on Chinese manufacturers/suppliers.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House.

Service Tax on power transmission firms

3503. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to keep power transmission out of service tax net;

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

(c) whether any norms have been issued by the Central Electricity Regulatory Authority (CERA) to reimburse service tax to power transmission firms; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) As per the information provided by Ministry of Finance, the issue regarding levy of service tax on power transmission is pending decision before the Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal (CESTAT). Based on the stay order of the CESTAT in the matter of Madhya Pradesh Power Transmission Company Limited Versus Commissioner of Central Excise, Bhopal [(reported in 2008) 15 Service Tax Today 222 (New Delhi - CESTAT)] protective show cause notices have been issued to power transmission companies demanding service tax.

(c) and (d) Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) through Petition No.62/2009 filed with Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has sought permission to bill and recover from the respondents the service tax for the period 01.05.2006 to 30.09.2008, together with education cess, interest, penalty, if any, chargeable in terms of Section 64 of the Finance Act, 1994. The CERC has adjourned the matter sine die with liberty to the petitioner to approach the CERC if so required, after a decision of the Tax authorities.

Coal supply to power stations

3504. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is big gap between supply and requirement of Coal-based utility Thermal Power Stations for 2009 and 2010; and

(b) if so, how the target would be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The coal requirement for meeting the generation target and building coal stock upto normative level for the year 2009-10 was assessed as 404 Million Tonne (MT) and the coal requirement for the year 2010-11 has been estimated as 444 Million Tonne. Against this requirement, the indigenous coal availability is expected to be 363 during the year 2009-10 and 388 Million Tonne during 2010-11, leaving a shortfall of 41 Million Tonne and 56 Million Tonne in the respective year. To bridge the gap, power utilities have been advised to import 28.7 Million Tonne (equivalent to 41 MT of domestic coal because of higher calorific value of imported coal) during 2009-10. It is also proposed to import coal to bridge the gap between its requirement and availability from domestic sources during the year 2010-11.

Maharatna status for NTPC

3505. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to upgrade the status of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) from Navratna to Maharatna company;

- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether Government has fixed any norms for providing such status;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) by when Government would give Maharatna status to NTPC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) to (e) The proposal for introduction of Maharatna Scheme is under consideration of the Government.

Effects of coal quality on power generation

‡3506. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether power generation is getting affected due to disproportionate size and quantity of coal;
- (b) if so, the places from where such coal is being supplied and the names of affected units; and
- (c) the measures being adopted to maintain power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) While, the power generation is getting affected due to inadequate availability of coal, disproportionate size of coal in general does not have a direct impact on power generation. The oversized coal, however, leads to unloading problems at power stations including chocking of grizzly and damaging the Coal Handling Plant and delays in release of railways rakes leading to demurrage charges.

(b) The power utilities have reported receipt of oversized coal in the power stations from Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL), Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL), Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL) and Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. (MCL). The power plants which have reported receipt of oversized coal from these coalfields are given in the Statement (see below).

(c) The measures being taken to maintain generation of electricity include:

- i) monitoring of coal supply to thermal power stations of Power Utilities on daily basis.
- ii) reviewing and resolving the problems of coal supply to thermal power stations on weekly basis by an Inter-Ministerial Sub-Group under the aegis of Ministry of Coal.
- iii) reviewing the coal production and supply to thermal power stations in the Infrastructure Constraints Review Committee headed by Secretary (Co-ordination), Cabinet Secretariat every month.
- iv) import of coal by the Power Utilities to bridge the shortfall between requirement of coal and its availability from the domestic sources.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Power Plants Reported to have received Oversized Coal from the Coal Companies

Sl. No.	Coal Company	Thermal Power Station
1.	Central Coal Fields Ltd. (CCL)	Badarpur, Panipat, Lehra Mohabbat, Bhatinda, Ropar, Parichha, Tanda and Unchahar
2.	Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL)	Badarpur, Panipat, Yamunanagar, Lehra Mohabbat, Bhatinda, Ropar, Harduaganj, Panki, Parichha, Kolaghat and Bakreswar
3.	Eastern Coal Fields Ltd. (ECL)	Lehra Mohabbat, Tuticorin, Bakreswa and Kolaghat
4.	Mahanadi Coal Fields Ltd. (MCL)	Ennore, Mettore and Tuticorin

Power shortage in Assam

3507. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Assam is facing heavy shortage of power supply which is affecting all section of people in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the total demand of power in the State and the actual supply of the same;
- (c) whether immediate measures have been initiated by Government to improve electricity generation in the State during the next five years and met the demand of consumers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) During April to November, 2009, Assam experienced energy shortage of 9.9% and peak shortage of 8.2% as compared to 12.4% energy shortage and 17.9% peak shortage in the North Eastern Region. The details in this regard are given under :

State/ System/ Region	Require- ment (MU)	Energy Availa- bility (MU)	Surplus/ Deficit (-) (MU) (%)	Demand (MW)	Peak Met Deficit (-) (MW)	Surplus/ (MW) (%)
Assam	3570	3217	353 9.9	920	845	75 8.2
N.E. Region	6363	5577	786 12.4	1760	1445	315 17.9

(c) to (e) Electricity being a concurrent subject, supply and distribution of electricity in a State as per demand is under the purview of the State Government/State Power Utility concerned.

Government of India supplements the efforts of State Governments by commissioning power projects through Central Public Sector Undertakings.

The following steps have been taken/are being taken by the Government to improve availability of power in Assam:

- (i) Assam has been allocated 806 - 821 Mega Watt (MW) power from the Central Generating Stations.
- (ii) Assam has been allocated 381 MW firm power from Bongaigaon TPS (3x250 MW), which is under implemented by NTPC and is being monitored for giving benefit during the 11th Plan.

Power generation in NER

3508. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the hydro power potential of the North Eastern Region (NER) and Assam;
- (b) the details of the hydro power potential exploited till October, 2009 in NER, State-wise;
- (c) the promotion of investment being made by Government in hydro power sector in the entire NER along with the proportion of foreign assistance thereto;
- (d) the details of thermal/atomic power generation potential exploited in NER so far; and
- (e) the proportion of thermal/atomic and hydropower in the total power generation in the entire NER?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
 (a) and (b) As per the reassessment studies completed by Central Electricity Authority in 1987, the total identified hydro capacity in the country is of the order of 148701 MW which comprises 58971 MW in the North Eastern Region (NER). The state-wise details of Hydro power potential in NER, in terms of installed capacity (above 25 MW) and details of the hydro power potential exploited till Oct., 2009 in the region, is given below:

State	Identified Hydro Capacity as per re-assessment study (MW)		Capacity Under Construction	
	Total (MW)	(above 25 MW)	(MW)	(MW)
1	2	3	4	5
Meghalaya	2394	2298	156.0	166.0
Tripura	15	0	0.0	0.0
Manipur	1784	1761	105.0	0.0
Assam	680	650	375.0	0.0

1	2	3	4	5
Nagaland	1574	1452	75.0	0.0
Arunachal Pradesh	50328	50064	405.0	2710.0
Mizoram	2196	2131	0.0	0.0
Sub-total (NER)	58971	58356	1116.0	2876.0

(c) Investment in Hydro power in the North Eastern Region(NER) is promoted by the Central Government through formulation of policies conducive for attracting investment in the Hydro power sector of the region. As per the Mega Power Policy of the Central Government, the qualifying threshold capacity for Hydro power plants set up in the NER for availing Mega power project benefits is 350 MW, whereas for States other than J&K, Sikkim and the seven States in the NER, the threshold capacity is 500 MW. Further, the Hydro policy 2008 seeks to induce larger private investments in the development of Hydro power projects in the country including the NER, which is particularly rich in hydro power resources. The Central Government also invests in the equities of the power projects of some of the Central Power Sector units implementing Hydro Electric Projects in the region. Besides, the possibility of availing concessional finance for hydro power projects in the form of viability gap funding, subordinate debt through Central Government etc. are explored, if found necessary in the national interest.

The Project Developers in the Central and State sector explore the possibility of foreign assistance/loan to finance their projects from the foreign assistance available for this sector for the period. The foreign assistance is availed project wise as per due procedure. At present Pare Hydro Electric Project(HEP) being executed by North Eastern Electric Power Corporation(NEEPCO) and Renovation and Modernization of Umiam II HEP being executed by the Meghalaya State Electricity Board are the two externally aided projects under construction in the NER with a foreign loan component for Euro 80 million and Japanese yen 1965 million respectively.

(d) Thermal Power Plants (include Coal, Gas, and Diesel), aggregating to total installed capacity of 968.74 MW, have been set up so far in the NER. No atomic power plant has so far been set up in the NER.

(e) The total installed capacity of NER as on 30.11.2009 was 2284.82 MW. The proportion of thermal and hydro in the total power generation in NER is given below:

Mode of Generation	I.C. (MW)	Proportion of Total I.C. (%)
Thermal	968.74	42.4
Atomic	Nil	Nil
Hydro	1116	48.8
Renewable Energy Sources (MNRE)	200.08	8.8
TOTAL	2284.82	

Renewable energy project of NTPC

3509. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that NTPC has plans to invest more than Rs.2000 crores for setting up of over 1000 MW Renewable Energy Project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether feasibility studies for the project have been completed; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) NTPC Ltd. has set a target of 1000 MW capacity up to 2017 using renewable energy resources such as sourcing Wind Energy, Hydro Energy, Solar (Photo Voltaic and Thermal) Energy, Biomass Energy, etc. NTPC has made a provision of investment to Rs.68 crores in 2009-10 (Revised Estimate) and Rs.480 crores in 2010-11 for developing Renewable Energy schemes.

(c) and (d) Feasibility Studies for the following Renewable Energy projects have been completed:

1. 100 MW wind Energy Project in Karnataka.
2. 8 MW Hydro energy Project in Uttar Pradesh.
3. 15 MW Solar energy project in Rajasthan.

Power shortage

3510. SHRI B.K. HARI PRASAD : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Economic Advisory Council (EAC) headed by Dr. C, Rangarajan has recently highlighted the problem of shortage of power which was well above 10 per cent during peak hours during the last decade followed by 11 per cent last year and 12.4 per cent for the current year;
- (b) whether country's record in capacity addition has been below par and that the target for capacity addition during the current plan period set at 78,700 MW is unlikely to be met;
- (c) whether EAC has called for great intervention of both the Centre and the States in capacity creation and other supportive components of the power sector; and
- (d) if so, Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) The Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC) has highlighted the problem of shortage of power in the country in the "Economic Outlook for 2009-10" brought out by EAC in October, 2009.

(b) Planning Commission had fixed a capacity addition target of 78,700 MW during the 11th Plan to meet the power requirement of the country. Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has recently

reviewed the likely capacity addition during 11th Plan after meeting with project developers. Based on the inputs provided by the project developers and suppliers, CEA has assessed that a total capacity of 62,374 MW is likely to be commissioned with high level of certainty during 11th Plan. In addition, projects aggregating 12,590 MW are being attempted for commissioning on best efforts basis during the 11th Plan.

(c) The report of Economic Advisory Council (EAC), *inter-alia* brings out the following:

Government has the largest role to play in the electricity sector, being the dominant producer with a virtual monopoly on the transmission side and also on the distribution side through State Government utilities. Thus, without a high order of government intervention in capacity creation and other supportive components of the electricity business, we will not be able to make the necessary improvements in the electricity sector which is so vital for the economy to maintain a high rate of growth of 8 to 9 percent. It is equally important to facilitate and encourage more private investment in power generation.

(d) Several measures have been initiated by the Government to address the issue of power shortage and facilitate private investment. These include 100% FDI on automatic route in respect of projects relating to electricity generation, transmission and distribution; close and comprehensive monitoring of power projects under construction; initiative for facilitating the development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of about 4000 MW capacity each under the tariff based competitive bidding route using super critical technology; institution of an award scheme for early completion of power projects; stress on augmentation of manufacturing capacity of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, and liberalization of Mega Power Policy.

Popularisation of energy efficiency

3511. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:

SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of an article captioned 'Energizing Kids to Conserve Energy', appearing in November, 2009 issue of Business at Zero Hour;

(b) if so, what is the response of the painting competition scheme launched by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) for children; and

(c) whether BEE proposes to launch similar scheme in various colleges and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Ministry of Power, Government of India initiated the national painting competition since 2005 for children. Children of Class IV, V and VI are eligible to participate in this competition. The

objective of the competition is to sensitize the children, their teachers and parents in order to influence their opinions at a very early stage in favour of energy efficiency and conservation. The response of the competition has been increasing as indicated below:

Year of Painting Competition	No. of Schools	No. of Children (in Lakhs)	No. of Winners
2005	17,560	3.43	10
2006	17,991	3.99	11
2007	24,385	5.25	23
2008	25,375	6.96	23
2009	40,814	9.12	23

(c) There is no such proposal at present because the painting competition is aimed at moulding the opinion of young children during their formative years.

Overdrawal of power

3512. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the States are drawing more than their allocated quota from the regional and national power grids;

(b) if so, the position during October-December, 2008 and January-May, 2009, State-wise;

(c) whether this overdrawal of power by State Electricity Boards is being diverted to rural areas which continue to face acute shortage of power;

(d) what additional capacity of power generation has been planned for 2009; and

(e) whether this additional power would be dedicated to rural agriculture and agro based industries so that poor and marginal farmers get maximum relief?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes Sir, some of the states do overdraw more their allocated quota from the regional and national grids.

(b) State-wise details of schedule for drawal and actual drawal as well as under-drawal / over drawal during October to December, 2008 and January to May, 2009 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The supply and distribution of power to various areas within a State comes under the purview of concerned State Government/Power Utilities and they decide the priorities for supply. No specific information in regard to supply of power by them to rural and urban areas in general and diversion of power over-drawn from the grid to the rural areas in particular is available with the Government.

(d) Generating capacity addition of 14,507 MW has been planned for commissioning during 2009-10, out of which a capacity of 6,375 MW has already been commissioned till 07.12.2009.

(e) As already indicated in reply to part (c) above, the matter comes under the purview of concerned State Governments.

Statement

State-wise/ Month-wise Schedule - Drawal during October to December, 2008 and January to May, 2009

States/Stations/ System	October to December, 2008			January to May, 2009		
	Schedule	Drawal	Over Drawal (+)/ Under Drawal (-)	Schedule	Drawal	Over Drawal (+)/ Under Drawal (-)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Northern Region						
Chandigarh	341.54	303.08	-38.46	569.70	561.71	-7.99
Delhi	2730.2	2363.3	-366.90	5175.00	4477.78	-697.22
Haryana	2383.09	2664.56	281.47	3499.50	4231.25	731.75
H.P.	985.54	926.28	-59.26	1744.33	1742.35	-1.98
J&K.	1811.98	1777.68	-34.30	2907.98	2711.84	-196.14
Punjab	2406.34	2405.04	-1.30	4693.45	4937.86	244.41
Rajasthan	4852.62	4613.52	-239.10	6742.61	7698.96	956.35
U.P.	6177.75	6593.15	415.40	10942.15	11263.09	320.94
Uttarakhand	825.72	843.58	17.86	1682.34	1913.29	230.95
Western Region						
Chhattisgarh	-69	-401.6	-332.60	-10.00	-999.90	-989.90
Gujarat	3985.2	4264.3	279.10	6142.10	5805.00	-337.10
Madhya Pradesh	4791.7	5216.1	424.40	6445.50	6301.30	-144.20
Maharashtra	6512.7	6745.1	232.40	11634.10	12059.80	425.70
DD	332.5	358.3	25.80	590.60	651.30	60.70
DNH	669.8	788.4	118.60	1181.30	1361.70	180.40
Goa	703.85	621.14	-82.71	1159.62	1114.19	-45.43
Southern Region						
Andhra Pr.	3953.97	4135.9	181.93	7507.15	7596.44	89.29
Karnataka	1760.01	2218.6	458.59	5095.77	5663.50	567.72

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Kerala	1445.41	1516.39	70.98	2643.00	2667.84	24.84
Tamil Nadu	3739.24	3957.37	218.13	8508.16	8655.71	147.55
Puducherry	391.62	380.26	-11.36	849.24	754.01	-95.23
Eastern Region						0.00
Bihar	1876.854	1961.151	84.30	3422.88	3436.46	13.58
DVC	-99.36	-304.854	-205.49	-700.53	-473.38	227.15
Jharkhand	488.845	424.169	-64.68	781.99	706.79	-75.20
Orissa	1357.782	1330.062	-27.72	2715.09	2942.92	227.83
W. Bengal	206.722	32.653	-174.07	1392.37	1015.76	-376.61
Sikkim	37.859	-79.348	-117.21	138.29	162.54	24.25
N.E. Region						
Arunachal Pradesh	72.935	84.78	11.85	104.70	117.05	12.35
Assam	733.752	617.12	-116.63	1206.63	1019.76	-186.87
Manipur	150.793	138.16	-12.63	156.05	156.41	0.36
Meghalaya	207.46	203.86	-3.60	295.48	296.64	1.17
Mizoram	74.35	73.92	-0.43	96.91	114.16	17.25
Nagaland	85.65	84.55	-1.10	136.77	151.54	14.77
Tripura	21.11	0.53	-20.58	52.15	32.56	-19.60

Note: (-) schedule and drawal represent is injection to the grid

Fund raising efforts by REC

‡3513. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), a public sector unit, is making efforts to raise finance from international market in the current financial year through bonds and loans;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has assessed the likely adverse impact thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd. (REC) has approval from Reserve Bank of India for raising funds from the international market upto US\$ 500 million (External Commercial Borrowings) during the fiscal 2009-10. Raising of funds from the international market shall be subject to prevailing market conditions at the time of raising of the same.

(c) and (d) Presently, no ill effects are being anticipated.

Rural electrification in Rajasthan

3514. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has sent schemes for approval under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana;

(b) if so, the schemes approved so far and the schemes which are still pending;

(c) the amount to be allocated to the State under RGGVY for 2009-10;

(d) by when all the sanctioned schemes and pending schemes in the State under RGGVY would be completed; and

(e) the cost escalation due to the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) Rajasthan Government had sent 40 projects for approval under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY). 25 projects have been sanctioned in X Plan and 15 projects have been sanctioned in XI Plan for implementation under RGGVY. Thus all 40 projects have been sanctioned for implementation and no project of Rajasthan is pending.

(c) There is no upfront allocation of funds for any State under RGGVY. An amount of Rs.15.71 crore has been released during the year 2009-10 upto 30.11.2009 under RGGVY to Rajasthan, Cumulatively, Rs.630.46 crore has been released under RGGVY to Rajasthan upto 30.11.2009.

(d) and (e) All the sanctioned schemes in Rajasthan under RGGVY are likely to be completed by the end of XI Plan period. The final executed project costs would be known only at the time of closure of the projects.

Allotment of gas for power plant in Andhra Pradesh

3515. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details and the latest status of the proposal of Andhra Pradesh Government for allotment of 9.5 MM CMD of gas for 3x7 MW gas based combined cycle plant at Nedunoor in Karimnagar district of the State;

(b) the reasons for delay in allotment of required gas; and

(c) by when it is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) to (c) A proposal regarding allotment of 8 Million Metric Standard Cubic Meter Per Day (MMSCMD) of gas for commissioning of a new green field gas based combined cycle power project (3x700 MW) at Nedunoor Village of Karimnagar district of Andhra Pradesh was forwarded by Government of Andhra Pradesh to Central Government.

So far, Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) has allocated gas to only existing gas power projects (including 2009-10 projects). Further, EGoM in meeting dated 27.10.2009 decided that the requirement of natural gas for plants to be commissioned beyond 2009-10 would be reviewed from time to time by the EGoM for making firm allotments to such plants from the fallback quantity available.

As regards power projects which are in the pipeline, Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) has decided that, subject to the availability of gas, necessary allocations from KG D-6 fields will be made to these projects as and when they are ready to commence production.

Power deficit

3516. SHRI M. V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country's power deficit is set to rise further by 12.61 per cent in FY 2010 as reported in the Business Standard dated 27 May, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government plans to make available requisite quantity of gas to power plants to meet the peak power deficit for 2009-10; and

(d) if so, the manner in which Government proposes to cope with the power demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) The power deficit both in terms of energy and peak power for All India for the period April to November, 2009 was 9.6% and 12.6% respectively as compared to energy deficit of 10.8% and peak deficit of 13.8% during April to November, 2008. According to the estimation made by CEA, the energy and peak deficit in the country in 2009-10 is likely to be 9.33% and 12.61% respectively.

(c) Since the start of gas production from RIL's KG D-6 gas blocks in the month of April, 2009, gas has been allocated to power sector on priority. Gas from KG D-6 block has been allocated by Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) to existing power projects to run at 75% Plant Load Factor (PLF) for plants located in Andhra Pradesh and 70% PLF for Plants located outside Andhra Pradesh. The gas has been allocated on firm basis to those projects likely to be commissioned during 2009-10. All existing gas based power plants and those plants commissioned this year could

draw gas on fallback basis also up to a maximum of 12 MMSCMD, to further increase their PLF. The gas based generation during April to November, 2009 increased to 62,036 Million Unit (provisional) as compared to 59,430 Million Unit during April to November, 2008, representing a growth of approximately 31.4%.

(d) Following measures have been taken/are being taken by the Government to cope with the power demands:

- (i) Rigorous monitoring of capacity addition of the on-going generation projects.
- (ii) Coordinated operation and maintenance of hydro, thermal, nuclear and gas based power stations to optimally utilize the existing generation capacity.
- (iii) Import of coal by the power utilities to bridge the gap between requirement of coal and its supply from the domestic sources.
- (iv) Allocation of gas from KG Basin (D6) has been made for gas based power stations in the country.
- (v) Harnessing surplus power from captive power plants into Grid.
- (vi) Development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4000 MW each to reap benefits of economies of scale.
- (vii) Renovation, modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generation units.
- (viii) Strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution network through Acceleration Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) as a major step towards loss reduction.
- (ix) Import of power from hydro power stations located in Bhutan.

Status of hydel projects

3517. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that several hydel projects in the northern parts of the country are on the brink of closure;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the firms operating these projects have sought easier regulatory terms and incentives;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether, in the absence of providing easier regulatory terms and incentives to hydel projects, the power generation has been affected; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and further steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) and (b) No hydro-electric power project having station capacity of more than 25 MW in the Northern parts of the country being monitored by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is facing any closure.

(c) and (d) The Government has not received any such request.

(e) and (f) Power generation has not been affected due to absence of providing easier regulatory terms and incentives to hydel power projects.

Use of IPO proceeds by NHPC

3518. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:

SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Hydro Power Corporation (NHPC) is facing problems in depositing Rs. 4,000 crores collected through IPOs due to guidelines of public sector enterprises;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that NHPC is using interest component in view of these guidelines;

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

(d) whether other PSUs which are coming with IPOs would also face the same problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) to (c) NHPC has intimated that they are not facing any problem in depositing the IPO proceeds as per the guidelines of investment of Public Sector Enterprises, which provide for deposit in bank on Card rates. These guidelines do not provide for competitive bidding which could fetch higher rates of interest for the deposit/investment and to the extent there is loss in interest. However, the same can not be quantified.

(d) The guidelines circulated by the Government will apply equally in all cases of IPO proceeds of Public Sector Undertakings. No such problem of utilizing IPO proceeds is envisaged for power sector CPSUs proposing an Initial Public Offer/Follow-on Public Offer.

Power station in RVUN

3519. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state the reasons for including both thermal power stations of Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam (RVUN) in the list of power stations identified for importing coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
Against the requirement of 404 Million Tonne coal for the power utilities for the year 2009-10, the

availability of coal from the domestic sources was indicated as 363 Million Tonne leaving a shortfall of 41 Million Tonne. In order to bridge this gap, Power Utilities were advised to import 28.7 Million Tonne coal (equivalent to 41 Million Tonne of domestic coal in view of higher calorific value) which 7.1% of the total coal requirement for 2009-10. Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam (RVUN) has been advised to import 0.8 Million Tonne coal which is about 5.8% of their annual coal requirement for its existing units of Kota and Suratgarh.

Gas to NTPC from RIL

3520. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC has petitioned the Supreme Court to secure gas at the contracted price from Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL); and

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) NTPC had invited bids under International Competitive Bidding for procurement of natural gas @ 132 Trillion British Thermal Unit (TBtu) per annum for Kawas-II and Gandhar-II Expansion projects for a period of 17 years. M/s Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) was evaluated the lowest techno-commercially acceptable bidder and was issued a Letter of Intent (LOI) on 16.06.2004. However, RIL did not sign the Gas Sale Purchase Agreement (GSPA).

Accordingly, NTPC filed a suit in the High Court of Bombay in Dec'05 against Reliance (RIL) for specific performance of the said contract. Since December 2005 hearing of the case has been held on number of occasions. The affidavit of evidence has also been served in the court. The suit came up for hearing for recording of evidence on 10.02.2009.

In the meanwhile, RIL filed Chamber Summons for amendment to the Written Statement. NTPC challenged the Chamber Summons. However, in the hearing on 20th April' 09, the court passed order in favour of RIL. NTPC again appealed against the aforesaid Court order and on 30.07.2009, the court dismissed the Appeal of NTPC.

NTPC filed Special Leave Petition against the order dated 30.07.2009 of the Bombay High Court in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Special Leave Petition was dismissed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court by its order dated 01.10.2009 and allowed NTPC to file its replication to RIL allegations, if any, made in the additional written statement to be filed by RIL in the NTPC suit. The Hon'ble Supreme Court also ordered for expediting the NTPC's case in Bombay High Court.

Per unit cost of gas production

3521. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Reliance Industries Ltd. participated in an international bid floated by NTPC for supply of gas at \$2.34 per MMBTU;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons behind fixing a higher price;
- (c) whether gas developer companies are required to disclose their unit production costs to the Director General of Hydrocarbons and his Ministry;
- (d) if so, whether RIL and other gas developers have declared the unit cost of production; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
 (a) and (b) NTPC had invited bids under International Competitive Bidding for procurement of natural gas @ 132 Trillion British Thermal Unit (TBtu) per annum for Kawas-II and Gandhar-II Expansion projects for a period of 17 years. M/s Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) was evaluated the lowest techno-commercially acceptable bidder and was issued a Letter of Intent (LOI) on 16.06.2004 resulting into a binding contract. However, RIL did not sign the Gas Sale Purchase Agreement (GSPA). Accordingly, NTPC filed a suit in the High Court of Bombay in Dec'05 against RIL for specific performance of the said contract. The matter is presently *sub-judice* in High Court of Bombay. As per the aforesaid contract, the gas commodity price is US\$ 2.34 MMBTU (landfall price at Kakinada). The price of \$2.34 is discovered through International Competitive Bidding.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. However, Contractors for Exploration & Production of oil & gas under Production Sharing Contract (PSC) regime are required to submit annual work programme, annual budget & audited annual accounts to Director General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) under various provisions laid down in the PSC.

Amendment of MPLADS guidelines

3522. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to amend the MPLADS guidelines; and
- (b) if so, the details of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) At present there is no proposal to amend the MPLADS Guidelines. However, as and when any issue is brought to the notice of the Ministry, clarification/circular is issued.

MPLAD scheme

3523. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) has been challenged in the Supreme Court;

- (b) if so, when the petition was filed and admitted;
- (c) whether hearings in the case are over and a judgement has been delivered; and
- (d) the stand of the petitioners and Government's stand in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Writ Petition dated 4.1.1999 was filed in the Supreme Court and admitted for hearing on 1.6.1999.

(c) The hearings have been completed and the judgement is kept reserved by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(d) The Petitioners mainly challenged the constitutional validity of the Scheme on the plea that:

- (i) it was violative of Article 14 of the Constitution (Right to Equality) as it gave discretionary power to an MP to use this fund without any proper checks and balances, monitoring and accountability;
- (ii) the money is withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund of India for implementation of the MPLAD scheme which is violative of the provisions of constitution;
- (iii) expenditure incurred under the scheme is outside the purview of any law established by Parliament; and
- (iv) the MPs have unlimited powers for allocating funds which amounts to corrupt practices.

The Government pleaded that neither the scheme is ultra virus of the constitution nor arbitrary, since implementation is done on the basis of a set of guidelines. There is also no conflict of legislative or executive powers and no office of profit is involved, as under the MPLAD Scheme, MPs only recommend the works based on the felt needs of the local community and the execution including expenditure is carried out by the Government machinery.

Cost and time over run in major projects

3524. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that majority of top 200 major projects under implementations have over run cost and time schedule;
- (b) if so, the details of projects delayed by more than six months and cost escalated by more than 25 percent with reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any responsibilities have been fixed for delays and cost over run; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) As on 30th September, 2009, out of top 200 central sector major projects in terms of their anticipated cost, on the monitor of the Ministry, 44 projects have both time and cost overruns.

(b) Out of 44 projects with time and cost overruns, 24 projects have reported delay of six months and more and have cost overrun of 25% or more. Sector-wise number of projects is given below:

Sl. No.	Sector Name	No. of Projects
1	Coal	2
2	Steel	1
3	Petroleum	7
4	Power	6
5	Railways	7
6	Water Resources	1
TOTAL		24

The main reasons for cost and time overruns include; delay in land acquisition, delay in procurement of equipment, law and order problems, inadequate infrastructure, delay in mobilization by contractors, general cost escalation due to delay, increase in prices of cement and steel and exchange rate variation.

(c) and (d) The mechanism of Standing Committee in the Ministries identifies reasons for time and cost overruns and agencies/individual responsible for delay and cost overruns. The recommendations of the Committee are implemented by the Ministries concerned which inter alia submit Action Taken Report along with the revised cost estimates for approval of the Cabinet.

Expenditure on food and non-food items in rural and urban areas

3525. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state the real expenditure in rupees on food and non-food items in rural and urban areas as on 30th September, 2009?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): As per latest NSS, survey on "Household Consumer Expenditure in India", conducted during July 2006-June 2007, the monthly per capita expenditure in rupees on food and non-food items in rural and urban areas in 2006-07 at all-India level is given below:

Item group	Monthly Per Capita Expenditure (Rs.)	
	Rural	Urban
Food	363	517
Non-food	332	795
TOTAL	695	1312

Rationalization of CPI

3526. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) which is currently used as a measure of inflation is an inadequate indicator;

(b) if so, the steps taken for an All India Consumer Price Index (CPI) to make inflation measurement more rational as recommended by the National Statistical Commission; and

(c) the steps taken for the revision of base year more frequently to capture the changes in industrial structure on account of liberalization?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) is generally not used to observe the changes in the prices of goods and services purchased by the consumers.

(b) The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has taken steps to compile Consumer Price Index (CPI) numbers separately for urban and rural population considering all sections of the population as recommended by the National Statistical Commission. The Ministry has also decided to bring national CPI by merging CPI (Urban) and CPI (Rural) with appropriate weights.

(c) With a view to reflecting adequately the changes that have taken place in the structure of the economy, WPI is revised on an average at every ten years by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

As the weighting diagrams of CPI (Urban) and CPI (Rural) have been derived from the five yearly Consumer Expenditure Survey of the National Sample Survey Organisation, these CPI series would be revised more frequently to capture the changes in the consumption patterns of the urban and rural population.

Development of forest villages

3527. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are 2,474 forest villages in 12 States and Government provides Rs. 15 lakh for development of each village;

(b) the parameters of deciding an area as forest villages and the infrastructural facilities covered under the development; and

(c) the minimum or maximum number of habitants who are given financial assistance and the procedure adopted therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir. Funding is done in two phases amounting to Rs. 30.00 lakh per village.

(b) As per information received from Ministry of Environment and Forests, "Forest Village" means the settlements which have been established inside the forests by the forest department of any State Government for forestry operations or which were converted into forest villages through the forest reservation process and includes forest settlement villages, fixed demand holding, all type of *taungya* settlements, by whatever name called, for such villages and includes lands for cultivation and other uses permitted by the Government.

Under the programme, infrastructure work relating to basic services and facilities viz. approach roads, healthcare, primary education, minor irrigation, rainwater harvesting, drinking water, sanitation, community halls etc and activities related to livelihood are taken up for implementation.

(c) Financial assistance is provided for the development of whole forest village including income generating activities to inhabitants.

Funds for Chhattisgarh and Orissa

†3528. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals for funds were received from Chhattisgarh and Orissa under the article 275 (1) of the constitution in 2008-09;

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned and the amount disbursed so far; and

(c) the details of the orders issued for tribal sub-plan specially for backward class group, post matric scholarship, expenditure on hostel buildings, skill development, implementation of recognition to forest rights and the proposals for integrated tribal development project of Chhattisgarh and Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 2008-09, Rs. 3211.43 lakh to Government of Chhattisgarh, and Rs.4129.73 lakh to Government of Orissa were released under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India.

(c) TSP is a strategy for a focused socio-economic development of ST population through the programmes/schemes implemented by the concerned State Governments. The details in respect of schemes of Ministry of Tribal Affairs and those for backward classes of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment are given in the Statement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Grant released by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to Governments of Orissa & Chhattisgarh under various schemes during 2008-09.

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Chhattisgarh	Orissa
1	Post Matric Scholarship for ST students	160.28	461.75
2	Upgradation of Merit for ST Students	0.00	17.94
3	Vocational Training in Tribal Areas	124.14	0.00
4	Establishment of Ashram Schools in TSP Areas	886.80	1020.00
5	Construction of Hostels for ST Girls and Boys	803.83	87.60
6#	Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP)	6829.20	10110.50
7#	Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution *	3211.43	4129.73

* Includes grant released for Implementation of Forest Rights Act.

Implemented through integrated Tribal Development Projects/Integrated Tribal Development Agencies.

Grant released under the Schemes for Other Backward Classes (OBC) - Implemented by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Chhattisgarh	Orissa
1	Pre-matric Scholarships to OBC Students.	0.00	0.00
2	Post-matric Scholarships to the OBC Students.	0.00	441.00
3	Hostels for OBC Boys a Girls	17.28	0.00
4	Assistance to Voluntary Organizations for Welfare of OBCs.	1.87	11.08

Workshop and schemes for tribals

3529. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is organizing workshops and giving incentives to the tribals who are participating in the schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when their involvement would be ensured in tribal projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Under the sub-scheme, "Supporting Projects of All India or Inter-State Nature" grant-in-aid is provided to institutions or a group of institutions for organizing seminars/workshops. These seminars/workshops focus upon problem areas and developmental issues in the broad field of tribal development, disseminate research findings and spread awareness about the Government policies/programmes amongst the tribals. However, there is no provision for giving incentives to the tribals who are participating in the Seminars/Workshops. The details of agencies to whom grants-in-aid were released for organizing seminars/workshops during 2008-09 are contained in the Annual Report of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs 2008-09.

Fund for construction of Ashram Bhavan

‡3530. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an amount of Rupees 127.51 lakhs and 400 lakhs is due to be released in regard to the construction of Ashram Bhavan for 2002-03 and 2008-09 respectively; and

(b) if so, by when the sanction would be granted and the proposed desired and pending funds would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) No specific State has been mentioned for which information has been asked. The grants-in-aid released during the year 2002-03 and 2008-09 to various State Governments under the scheme of "Establishment of Ashram School in Tribal Sub Plan Areas" is given in the Statement.

Statement

Grants-in-aid released to various States/UTs during the year 2002-03 and 2008-09 under the scheme of "Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas."

(Amt. in Lakh)			
Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	2002-03	2008-09
		Amt. released	Amt. released
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00
3	Assam	0.00	0.00
4	Bihar	0.00	0.00
5	Chhattisgarh	0.00	886.80
6	Goa	0.00	0.00

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4
7	Gujarat	0.00	0.00
8	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00
9	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00
10	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00
11	Karnataka	130.00	153.13
12	Kerala	0.00	0.00
13	Madhya Pradesh	820.00	0.00
14	Maharashtra	0.00	940.07
15	Manipur	0.00	0.00
16	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00
17	Mizoram	0.00	0.00
18	Nagaland	0.00	0.00
19	Orissa	0.00	1020.00
20	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00
21	Sikkim	0.00	0.00
22	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00
23	Tripura	0.00	0.00
24	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00
25	Uttrakhand	0.00	0.00
26	West Bengal	0.00	0.00
27	A & N Islands	0.00	0.00
28	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00
TOTAL		950.00	3000.00

Tribal hostel in Madhya Pradesh

3531. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal of Rs. 4 crores for construction of a hostel for tribal students for 2007-08 and for Rs. 4 crores for 2008-09 from Madhya Pradesh Government is pending; and

(b) if so, by when this proposal would be sanctioned and the pending amount would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has already sanctioned an amount of Rs. 10.00 crore during the year 2009-10 to State Govt. of Madhya Pradesh for construction of hostels which includes funds for the proposals for the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and also another fresh proposal for the year 2009-10.

Police sensitivity on women victims

3532. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the police remain insensitive to women victims of domestic violence;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken for women who seek protection from law?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) Union Government attaches highest importance to the matter of prevention of all forms of crime against women, including domestic violence. Government of India has enacted various legislations to prevent crimes against women, including the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005. As per Seventh Schedule, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Constitution, and as such the primary responsibility of prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crimes, including crimes against women, lies with the State Governments. Government of India has been advising all the State Governments/UT Administrations from time to time to give more focused attention for prevention of crime against women.

(c) A detailed advisory dated 4th September, 2009 has been sent to all State Governments/UT Administrations (copy available on Ministry of Home Affairs website - www.mha.nic.in, wherein States have been directed to have a comprehensive review of the effectiveness of the machinery in tackling the problem of violence against women and to take appropriate measures aimed at increasing the responsiveness of the law and order machinery.

Provision already exists under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 for appointment of Protection Officers who on receipt of a complaint of domestic violence shall inform the aggrieved person:

- (i) of her right to make an application for obtaining relief by way of a protection order, an order for monetary relief, a custody order, a residence order, a compensation order or more than one such order;
- (ii) of the availability of services of service providers;
- (iii) of the availability of services of the Protection Officers;
- (iv) of her right to free legal services under the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987;
- (v) of her right to file a complaint under Section 498-A of the India Penal Code, wherever relevant.

Continuance of dowry-death cases

3533. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether dowry-death cases pertaining to young brides are continuing unabated despite implementation of the Dowry-Prohibition Act, 1961; and

(b) if so, the number of cases reported during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) NCRB data shows rising trend in the cases of dowry death in the recent past.

(b) As per NCRB data, total number of 6787, 7618 and 8093 cases were registered during 2005, 2006 and 2007 respectively.

Child death

3534. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR:

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

(a) whether UNICEF has recently revealed in its report that nearly 5000 children die under the age of five due to preventable causes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) Government's reaction thereto alongwith the reasons therfor;

(d) whether the various programmes/schemes launched by the Central Government for the development of children are not effective and child mortality rate is increasing; and

(e) if so, the concrete steps Government has taken on the basis of UNICEF's report alongwith the amount allocated to meet those steps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) As per report of Registrar General of India (report No. 2 of 2008) the child mortality rate (0-4 years) in India is 16.

As per the 'Causes of Death, 2001-03', Registrar General of India, the top 10 causes of death among children aged 0 to 4 years are:

- Perinatal conditions (33%),
- Respiratory infections (22%),
- Diarrhoeal diseases (14%),
- Other infectious and parasitic diseases (11%),
- Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions (3.4%),

- Unintentional injuries: other (3.2%),
- Nutritional deficiencies (2.8%),
- Malaria (2.7%),
- Congenital anomalies (2.7%), and
- Fever of unknown origin (1.5%).

(c) to (e) The child mortality in the country decreased from 32 to 18 as per NFHS-3 report (2005-06).

Government of India in the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is taking various steps including implementation of National rural Health Mission, Janani Suraksha Yojana, Reproductive and Child Health programme and other disease control programmes to reduce the incidence of child mortality.

Key strategies are to increase coverage of skilled care at birth for newborns together with maternal care, strengthening and augmenting of existing services, implementation of multi-year strategic plan for Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP). Components of child care include Navjat Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram, Infant and Young Child Feeding, Vitamin A supplementation and iron and folic acid supplementation, early detection and appropriate management of Acute respiratory infections, diarrhoea and other infections, Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (IMNCI), Facility based IMNCI, Home based care of newborns and management of children with malnutrition, treatment of severe acute malnutrition through Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs).

The Government is also implementing the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme which provide a package of six services which include supplementary nutrition for children under six years, pregnant and lactating women. Government has universalized ICDS scheme with increased budgetary allocation in 2009-10 for expansion of Anganwadi centers as well as increase in financial and nutritional norms. Besides, there are other programmes such as Rajiv Gandhi Mission for Drinking Water and Total Sanitation Campaign which are being implemented and have impact on improving health and nutritional status.

Convention on child rights

3535. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:

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

(a) whether the country has participated in the 20th anniversary celebration of the Convention on the Rights of the Child held during October-November, 2009 which has always upheld a universally agreed-upon set of non-negotiable basic human rights, standards and obligations, including the right of survival and protection;

(b) whether the convention forcefully reiterated its rhetoric reconmmittment to protecting girls and ending sons preference; and

(c) if so, whether any guidelines for eliminating gender-gaps were formulated and synergetic implementation modalities evolved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, In India, the anniversary was marked by the release of 'The State of World's Children Report', special edition in a function organized in Delhi by UNICEF on 20th November, 2009. The function was attended by the representatives of the Government. The focus of the event was on overall progress of children in India and the remaining challenges. Specific details of protecting girls' rights and the guidelines for eliminating gender gaps were not discussed.

Rice and wheat at BPL rates for Anganwadi centres

‡3536. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI SHIVPRATAP SINGH:

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

(a) whether any request has been received from Chhattisgarh for providing rice and wheat to Anganwadi Centres at BPL rates for 2009-10;

(b) the demand made and quantity released in this regard; and

(c) by when the remaining quantity would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Under Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP) linked to Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, the State of Chhattisgarh has been allocated total of 22,500 MTs of Wheat and 34,852 MTs of Rice in three quarter vis-a-vis the initial requirement of 45,000 MTs of Wheat and 40,000 MTs of Rice received from the State Government for the year 2009-10.

Under Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) the State has been allocated 2253.87 MTs of Rice in 2 quarters vis-a-vis the requirements of 3944.26 MTs of Rice conveyed by the State Government. Requirement of 42000 MTs of Rice for the 4th quarter of the current financial year has been received from the State Government.

Under Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP), the remaining quantities would be released during 4th quarter of the current financial year subject to availability of foodgrains in sufficient quantity as per overall demand.

Under NPAG, the remaining quantity would be released subject to the submission of Utilisation Certificate by the State Government.

Anganwadis in Orissa

3537. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) the number of anganwadis functioning in Orissa, taluka-wise;
- (b) the number of Anganwadis workers employed in these Anganwadis, taluka-wise and post-wise;
- (c) the remuneration paid to them by the Central Government and contribution made by the State Government; and
- (d) whether there is any proposal to improve the working conditions in Anganwadis and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) There are 46589 Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) working in 50393 functional Anganwadis in Orissa. Taluka-wise details are available at Ministry's website:

http://www.wcd.nic.in/icdsimg/taluka_wwawcor09.pdf.

(c) Presently, the honorarium being paid to Anganwadi Workers ranges from Rs.1438/- to Rs.1563/- per month, depending upon their qualifications and experience, whereas Anganwadi Workers engaged in Mini-Anganwadis are paid an honorarium of Rs.750/- per month. The Above are shared between the Government of India and State Government of Orissa in the ratio of 90:10 w.e.f. 1.4.2009. In addition, Government of Orissa is paying additional honoraria of Rs.500/- p.m. per AWW of Angawadi & Rs.250 p.m. per AWW of mini-Anganwadi.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

Malnourished children

3538. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that, in terms of certain indicators such as underweight and stunted growth of children in the country, the situation is worse than sub Saharan countries such as Ethiopia, Angola, Sudan and Congo;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps Government has taken in the recent years to address the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) As per National Family Health Survey 3 (2005-06) the percentage of underweight and stunted children below 5 years of age in India is 42.5% and 48% respectively.

As far as comparison with other countries is concerned there are no authentic and comparable sources of data. One of the Reports captioned Tracking Progress on Child and Maternal Malnutrition' by UNICEF has given country-wise data. However, such data is for the reference years 2003-2008, which is not uniform and in case of some countries, the data is limited and has variations as indicated in the footnotes. Hence comparison cannot be made on a rational basis.

The problem of malnutrition is multi-dimensional and inter-generational in nature, the determinants of which include household food insecurity, illiteracy and lack of awareness especially in women, access to health services, availability of safe drinking water, sanitation and environmental conditions and purchasing power etc. Besides early age at marriage of girls, teenage pregnancies resulting in low birth weight of the newborns, poor breastfeeding practices, poor complementary feeding practices, ignorance about nutritional needs of infants and young children and repeated infections further aggravate the malnutrition amongst children.

Tackling malnutrition amongst children requires an integrated approach. Prevention of early marriage, appropriate spacing in pregnancy, better Infant and Young child Feeding Practices including exclusive breast feeding, age appropriate complementary feeding, better hygienic conditions, immunization, Vitamin A supplementation, deworming, Oral Rehydration, Zinc supplementation during diarrhea, timely and quality feeding for acute malnutrition conditions, improved nutrition for adolescent girls, prevention of anemia, improved food and nutrient intake during pregnancy and lactation, better information and awareness about nutritional needs & behaviors and prevention and control of diseases would need to be promoted for mitigated the impact of malnutrition. All these need to be addressed in a holistic manner by effective intersectoral coordination, convergence and improved systems of delivery of services under different schemes and programmes of Central and State Governments.

(c) The Ministry of Women & Child Development is implementing the Implementing the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme through State Governments/UT Administration. The scheme provides a package of six services namely supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-up, referral services, pre-school non-formal education and nutrition & health education for children 0-6 years, pregnant and lactating mothers.

To address the problem of malnutrition and ensure effective implementation of the scheme, the Government has recently Universalized the Scheme with special focus on SC/ST and minority habitations, revised the cost norms as well as the Nutritional and Feeding norms of the Supplementary Nutrition component of ICDS among others.

The revised Nutritional and Feeding norms are as under :

Category	Revised Rates (per beneficiary per day)	Revised	Nutritional
		Norms	
		Calories (Kcal)	Protein (g)
(i) Children (6 to 72 month)	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 this, the schemes being implemented by different Ministries aimed at improving the nutritional status of children have been listed in the Statement.

Statement

Schemes/programmes which address malnutrition

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 Child Hood Illness
 - Specific Programmes to prevent and combat micronutrient deficiencies of Vitamin A and Iron & Folic Acid through Vitamin A Supplementation for children till the age of 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 and Krishi Shakti Yojna by Ministry of Women and Child Development.
3. National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meai 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 which are as follows:-

- Initiation of breastfeeding immediately after birth, preferably within one hour.
- Exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months
- Appropriate and adequate Complementary feeding from six months of age while continuing breastfeeding.
- 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 and amended in 2003.

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 and Improving the purchasing power of the people through various income generating scheme.

Global monitoring report on malnutrition and ICDS

3539. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

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

(a) whether UNESCO's Global Monitoring report 'Education for all, 2009' has found most of the States in the country with the worst malnutrition and have the lowest coverage of ICDS programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether her Ministry's on the basis of UNESCO's report proposes, take corrective steps and to expand the Anganwadi centres across the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) In the Report, UNESCO has observed certain inadequacies of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, which suffer from lack of proper understanding of ICDS, besides, factual and contextual inaccuracies such as regarding coverage and attendance of under 3 children.

Malnutrition is not only the result of a single cause. It is a multi-faceted problem acting singly or in combination with other complex factors like poverty, food availability, health care, poor sanitation and ignorance. Some chronic diseases like malaria are also the cause of both anaemia and malnutrition.

ICDS seeks to provide a package of six services viz. supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-up, referral services, pre-school non-formal education and nutrition and health education to children in the age group of 0-6 years and pregnant and lactating mothers through effective convergence with line Ministries viz. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Panchayati Raj Institutions, Ministry of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development etc.

The Supplementary Nutrition Programme under ICDS is a gap filling Nutrition Programme.

(c) and (d) In order to better achieve the intended objectives, the Government has universalized the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme to cover all habitations with particular focus on SC/ST/Minority habitations. The financial norms of various components including cost norms, nutritional & feeding norms of Supplementary Nutrition have been enhanced. New

World Health Organization (WHO) Growth Standards for monitoring the growth of children have been introduced. There is also a provision for sanction of 'Anganwadi on Demand' in habitations which have 40 children without an Anganwadi Centre. States have been directed to comply with Government of India guidelines dated 24.02.2009 and Supreme Court directions of 22.04.2009. The details of these are available on the Ministry's website.

Vulnerability of children to GM foods

3540. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD:

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

(a) whether her Ministry has done any assessment on the vulnerability of women and children to GM foods;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, how her Ministry intends to proceed with regard to GM foods and their adverse impacts on women and children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) Indian Council of Agricultural Research is undertaking research to develop genetically modified crops such as rice, rapeseed, mustard, soyabean, potato, brinjal etc. Appropriate risk analysis of these GM crops is being undertaken for necessary approval of environmental release. Such risk analysis procedure includes aspects of vulnerabilities and hazard measurement of all categories of human beings.

The Ministry of Environment and Forest has set up a mechanism to make bio-safety assessment of GM Crops/Foods by following a policy of case to case event based approval by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC), an apex body to accord approval for large scale use and commercial release of genetically modified organisms.

Introduction of any new GM food/food crops is preceded by a careful analysis of risk and evaluation of long term benefits for which extensive rules and guidelines have been framed by the Government of evaluating environmental and health safety impacts of genetically modified organisms.

Rules for Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganism/genetically engineered organism or cells 1989 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 have been notified.

The Government of India has put in place a robust and transparent regulatory mechanism to assess the positive and negative impact of GM crops. The GM crops are monitored and reviewed at all stages of development including research and field trials stage. Consultations with all stakeholders at each stage of development are an integral part of the regulatory mechanisms.

As of date, GEAC has approved commercial release of Bt cotton, 20 recombinant Pharmaceuticals and import of GM soybean oil. The GEAC has also approved the confined field trials

of several GM crops for generation of bio-safety data both from the private and public sector institutions of which Bt brinjal is under consideration for commercial release.

In so far as the issue of adverse impact on human health due to consumption of GM Food is concerned, Government of India is following a Policy of case by case assessment of GM crops. Any Company involved in the development of GM crops has to undertake extensive bio-safety assessment which includes environmental safety as well as food and feed safety assessment even if it has been approved for commercial cultivation in other countries.

Destitute and neglected children

‡3541. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

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

(a) the schemes being run by her Ministry for destitute and neglected children; and

(b) the facilities provided to the destitute and neglected children in Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jharkhand from January, 2008 to September, 2009?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Women and Child Development was implementing two schemes namely [i] A Programme for Juvenile Justice and [ii] An Integrated Programme for Street Children, prior to 2009-10. for the welfare & rehabilitation of children in need of care and protection including destitute & neglected children and children in conflict with law. The State-wise details of grants released, homes/projects assisted and beneficiaries covered under the above said schemes during the year 2008-09 are available on the Ministry's website - www.wcd.nic.in.

The Ministry has launched a new centrally sponsored scheme namely Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) with the objectives to provide safe and secure environment for overall development of the children who are in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law, in the country. The above said schemes have been merged under ICPS and this scheme is implemented through the State Governments/Union territory Administrations, Childline India Foundation (GIF), Mumbai, National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD), and Central Adoption Resource Agency (CARA), from the current financial year 2009-10.

The ICPS provides for establishment and maintenance of open shelters, children homes and shelter homes, etc. for children in need of care and protection including destitute and neglected children. Provisions have been made for children where they can play, use their time productively and engage themselves in creative activities through music, dance, drama, yoga and meditation,

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

computers, indoor and outdoor games, etc. for their overall growth and development. It also provides for fulfilling their basic requirements for food, nutrition, health and also quality and flexi-time education & vocational training.

During current financial year 2009-10, no fund could be released under this scheme, to the State Governments of Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jharkhand due to non-receipt of proposals from them.

Cases of malnutrition in Maharashtra

3542. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the cases of malnutrition in Belghat region of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken for nutritional challenges with sustainability and equity to deal with the cases of malnutrition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per information received from Government of Maharashtra, the State Government is working on improving the nutritional and health status of the children in the age group of 0-6 years. There are 181 anganwadi centres functioning in chikhaldara project and 215 anganwadi centres functioning in Dharni projects, total 396 anganwadi centres are functioning in Melghat region of Maharashtra to reduce the rate of malnutrition. Details of malnourishment status (under ICDS) in Melghat region are given in the Statement (See below). The details of various measures by the State Government to reduce malnutrition are given in the Statement-II (See below)

The Government of India has approved universalisation of the scheme of Integrated Child Development (ICDS) where population norms have been revised for sanction of anganwadi centre. The revised population norms are given in the statement-III. The States/UTs have been advised to certify that SC/ST Minority habitations have been saturated. The scheme, inter-alia, provides a component of Supplementary Nutrition which is primarily designed to bridge the gap between the Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDA) and the Average Dietary Intake (ADI). The Government has also enhanced the financial as well as nutritional norms for different categories of beneficiaries as follows:

Category	Revised Rates (per beneficiary per day)	Revised Nutritional Norms	
		Calories (Kcal)	Protein (g)
(i) Children (6 months to 72 month)	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

Statement-I

Details of Child Deaths and Malnourishment Status Under ICDS in Melghat - (Satpuda)

Year District Project	2003-2004			2004-2005			2005-2006			2006-2007			2007-2008			2008-2009		
	Melghat (Amrawati)			Melghat (Amrawati)			Melghat (Amrawati)			Melghat (Amrawati)			Melghat (Amrawati)			Melghat (Amrawati)		
	Chikhal- dhara	Dharni	Total Melghat	Chikhal- dhara	Dharni	Total Melghat	Chikhal- dhara	Dharni	Total Melghat	Chikhal-Dharni	Total Melghat	Chikhal- dhara	Dharni	Total Melghat	Chikhal- dhara	Dharni	Total Melghat	
Live Birth	1837	3654	5491	2026	2559	5585	2299	3800	6099	2509	3823	6332	2440	3451	5891	2436	3895	6331
Death Below 1 year	77	145	222	100	170	270	111	189	300	96	219	315	100	197	297	110	194	304
IMR	42	40	40	49	48	48	48	50	49	38	57	50	41	57	50	45	50	48
Death 1 to 6 year	52	185	237	52	121	173	54	131	185	51	100	151	29	77	106	45	96	141
NORMWT	4117	6359	10476	4189	5803	9992	5105	7025	12130	5050	7826	12876	5085	7740	12825	5143	7998	13141
GR1	4978	9350	14328	5000	9050	14050	6159	9903	16062	5836	9851	15687	5382	9017	14399	5370	8815	14184
GR2	2865	6754	9619	2768	6563	9331	3474	6889	10363	3166	6018	9184	2690	5060	7750	2419	4543	7062
GR3+4	190	616	806	222	615	837	296	548	844	260	485	745	226	438	658	188	327	515
Total	12150	23079	35229	12179	22031	34210	15034	24365	39399	14312	24180	38492	13382	22250	35632	13220	21682	34902
%Normal Weight to Total Children Weighed	33.88	27.55	29.74	34.40	26.34	29.21	33.96	28.83	30.79	35.29	32.37	33.45	38.00	34.79	35.99	38.90	36.89	37.65
%Grade I to Total Children Weighed	40.97	40.51	40.67	41.05	41.08	41.07	40.97	40.64	40.77	40.78	40.74	40.75	40.22	40.53	40.41	40.62	40.65	40.64
%Grade II to Total Children Weighed	23.58	29.26	27.30	22.73	29.79	27.28	23.11	28.27	26.30	22.12	24.89	23.86	20.10	22.71	21.75	19.05	20.95	20.23
%Grade III + IV to Total Children Weighed	1.56	2.67	2.29	1.82	2.79	2.45	1.97	2.25	2.14	1.82	2.01	1.94	1.69	1.94	1.85	1.42	1.51	1.48

Details of Child Deaths and Malnourishment Status under ICDS in Melghat - (Satpuda)

Year	April, 2009			May, 2009			June, 2009			Jul., 2009			Aug., 2009			Sept. 2009			Oct., 2009		
District	Melghat (Amrawati)			Melghat (Amrawati)			Melghat (Amrawati)			Melghat (Amrawati)			Melghat (Amrawati)			Melghat (Amrawati)					
(Amrawati)																					
Project	Chikhhal-dhara	Dharni	Total	Chikhhal-dhara	Dharni	Total	Chikhhal-dhara	Dharni	Total	Chikhhal-dhara	Dharni	Total	Chikhhal-dhara	Dharni	Total	Chikhhal-dhara	Dharni	Total	Chikhhal-dhara	Dharni	Total
Live Birth	177	273	450	216	267	483	259	329	588	232	343	575	249	419	668	210	419	629	163	293	456
Death																					
Below 1 year	15	13	28	4	19	23	15	13	28	11	12	23	10	32	42	12	33	45	17	21	38
Death 1 to 6 year	3	4	7	2	6	8	3	6	9	2	11	13	6	12	18	12	23	35	8	17	25
NORMWT	4925	8705	13630	4865	8189	13054	4797	7982	12779	4888	7521	12409	4888	7461	12349	4780	7434	12214	4916	7763	12679
GR1	5330	8858	14188	5312	8853	14165	5549	8948	14497	5564	8870	14434	5564	8884	14448	5658	8898	14556	5712	8826	14538
GR2	2348	4072	6420	2565	4288	6853	2842	4738	7580	2494	4306	6800	2494	4539	7033	2610	4632	7242	2510	4501	7011
GR3+4	164	218	382	214	318	532	274	360	634	243	329	572	243	371	614	269	367	636	280	312	592
Total	12767	21853	34620	12956	21648	34604	13462	22028	35490	13189	21026	34215	13189	21255	34444	13317	21331	34648	13418	21402	34820
%Normal Weight to Total Children Weighed	38.58	39.83	39.37	37.55	37.83	37.72	35.63	36.24	36.01	37.06	35.77	36.27	37.06	35.10	35.85	35.89	34.85	35.25	36.64	36.27	36.41
%Grade I to Total Children Weighed	41.75	40.53	40.98	41.00	40.90	40.93	41.22	40.62	40.85	42.19	42.19	42.19	42.19	41.80	41.95	42.49	41.71	42.01	42.57	41.24	41.75
%Grade II to Total Children Weighed	0.18	0.19	0.19	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.21	0.22	0.21	0.19	0.20	0.20	0.19	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.22	0.21	0.19	0.21	0.20
%Grade III+ IV to Total Children Weighed	1.28	1.00	1.10	1.65	1.47	1.54	2.04	1.63	1.79	1.84	1.56	1.67	1.84	1.75	1.78	2.02	1.72	1.84	2.09	1.46	1.70

Statement-II

Efforts taken by ICDS to prevent Malnutrition in Melghat

Integrated Child Development Services is a Central Government Scheme implemented by State Government Services given at Anganwadi Centres are Pre-School Education, Supplementary Nutrition Programme, Immunization, Nutrition and Health Education, Health Check-up and Referral Services. The main objective of ICDS scheme is to reduce malnutrition and overall development of the children's upto 6 years. Various schemes are implemented through ICDS in Melghat Area to reduce malnutrition between 0-6 year's children are as follows.

- 1) Supplementary Nutrition Programme: A special scheme called Navsanjeevan Yojana is implemented in Tribal areas; under this scheme, the beneficiaries, *i.e.* children from 6 months-6 years, pregnant women, lactating mothers and adolescent girls are given extra supplementary nutrition. With the aim to have nutrition security for children in Tribal area tonics containing Vitamins and Minerals are provided for malnourished children to be consumed after eating Khichadi/any other supplementary food at AWACs.
- 2) Training Programme in Melghat: In collaboration with Bhavishya Alliance and ICICI Banks Human Nutrition section and CLR (Pune Based NGO) have started a training programme for Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers, in totality is improve quality of life through nutrition and child rearing practices.
- 3) ICDS has taken the assistance of the Breast feeding promotion Network of India (BPNI) to impart training to AWW. All the AWWs in Melghat are trained under this program. This program is help to reduce neonatal mortality as also build up the immunity of children.
- 4) Kishori Shakti Yojana imparts health and hygiene education and training to adolescent girls, Deliberation on bad effects of early marriage, frequent child births, need for balance diet, having green vegetables etc. are given.

Statement-III

Revised population norms

The revised Population norms for setting up a Project, Anganwadi Centre and Mini-AWC are as under:

Projects (i) Community Development Block in a State should be the unit for sanction of an ICDS Project in rural/tribal areas, irrespective of number of villages/population in it.

- (ii) The existing norms of 1 lakh population for sanction of urban project may continue.

Further to this, for blocks with more than two lac population, States could opt for more than one Project (@ one per one lac population) or could opt for one project only. In the latter case, staff could be suitably strengthened based on population or number of AWCs in the block. Similarly for blocks with population of less than 1 lac or so, staffing pattern of CDPO office could be less than that of a normal block.

Anganwadi Centres (AWC)

For Rural/ Urban Projects

400-800	-	1AWC
800-1600	-	2 AWCs
1600-2400	-	3 AWCs

Thereafter in multiples of 800 1 AWC

For Mini-AWC

150-400		1 Mini-AWC
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For Tribal / Riverine / Desert, Hilly and other difficult areas/ Projects

300-800		1 AWC
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For Mini-AWC

150-300		1 Mini AWC
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Sexual abuse of children

3543. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

(a) whether according to a study conducted by Government, it has been revealed that a large number of children are facing one or more form of sexual abuse;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the 'Child Abuse: India 2007' published by her Ministry has revealed shocking instances of child sexual abuse; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and further steps Government has taken/proposes to take to check such instances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (d) A study on Child Abuse was undertaken by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in 2007 which covered 13 States with a sample size of 12447 children, 2324 young adults and 2449 stakeholders. Major findings of the Study regarding sexual abuse of children are given in the Statement (*See below*).

The issues relating to child abuse are being addressed by the Government through policies, legislations, plans, schemes and programmes which include National Policy on Children 1974, National Charter for Children 2003, Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2000 and its amendment in 2006. Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986, National Plan of Action for Children 2005, Integrated Child Protection Scheme, Scheme for Working Children, etc. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, a statutory body set up in March 2007, also inquires into the complaints of violation of child rights.

Statement

Sexual Abuse

1. 53.22% children reported having faced one or more forms of sexual abuse.
2. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar and Delhi reported the highest percentage of sexual abuse among both boys and girls.
3. 21.90% child respondents reported facing severe forms of sexual abuse and 50.76% other forms of sexual abuse.
4. Out of the child respondents, 5.69% reported being sexually assaulted.
5. Children in Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Delhi reported the highest incidence of sexual assault.
6. Children on street, children at work and children in institutional care reported the highest incidence of sexual assault.
7. 50% abuses are persons known to the child or in a position of trust and responsibility.
8. Most children did not report the matter to anyone.

Formation of state commission for protection of child rights

3544. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN:

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

(a) whether her Ministry is not happy with the State Governments for not forming State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights for more than four years since the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, was passed in 2005;

(b) if so, whether under section 17, the States have been asked to form Commissions for Protection of Child Rights;

(c) if so, whether the State Commissions would function under the State Governments; and

(d) the reasons therefore and whether Government has taken a view and has asked the State Governments to take immediate measures in implementing the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (d) The Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 prescribes under Section 17 that a State Government may constitute a body to be known as the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights. So far the State Commissions have been set up in Delhi, Goa, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Sikkim. The Ministry of Women and Child Development has been requesting the State Governments and UT Administrations from time to time to set up State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights as provided under the Act. Necessary action is being taken by other State Governments to set up the State Commissions.

Assistance to orphanages

3545. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the orphanages are running on charity as no Central assistance is given to them by Government and the children in these orphanage have to lead a miserable life;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) whether Government proposes to make budgetary provisions to give financial assistance to the orphanages to improve the lot of orphan children getting shelter in them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) Ministry of Women and Child Development was implementing two schemes prior to 2009-10, for the welfare & rehabilitation of children who are in need of care and protection including orphan children. These were:-

(i) Scheme of Assistance to Homes for Children [Shishu Greh] to Promote In-country Adoption under which grant-in-aid was given to Voluntary Organizations and State Government run homes for orphaned/abandoned children of 0-6 years for giving them quality child care and placement in adoption. The details of voluntary organizations and State Governments which were provided assistance under this scheme during the last three years are available on Central Adoption Resource Agency [CARA]'s website – www.adoptionindia.nic.in.

(ii) A Programme for Juvenile Justice under which financial assistance was provided to the State Governments/UT Administrations to meet 50 per cent of their expenditure requirements for establishment and maintenance of children's homes either by themselves or in association with voluntary organizations, under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 as amended in 2006. The ratio of expenditure in case of NGO run homes was 45:45:10 among Centre, State and NGOs. The State Governments/UTs Administrations in turn released grants, adding their own share, to concerned authorities and NGOs for running the children's homes. The details of grants released under this scheme to the States/UTs during last three years are available on the Ministry's website - www.wcd.nic.in.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched a new centrally sponsored scheme, namely 'Integrated Child Protection Scheme [ICPS]', with the objectives to provide a safe and secure environment for overall development of the children who are in need and protection including orphan children and children in conflict with law, in the country. The above said two schemes have been merged under ICPS and the new scheme is implemented from the current

financial year 2009-10. Under this scheme provisions have been made to give financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations, as per predefined cost norms, for establishment and maintenance of children homes, shelter homes, orphanages, etc. for the children in need of care and protection including orphan children. The budget provisions for the current financial year 2009-10 under this scheme is Rs.60.00 crore.

Plight of Himachali girls

3546. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the miserable condition of Himachali girls, who were married outside the State but had to return back to their own State after divorce or death of their husband and are denied bonafide certificate as well as a BPL ration card just because of the fact that they were married outside the State;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government considers to issue any directions to the State Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, 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, Sir.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform the Members that a letter has been received from Shri Rishang Keishing, stating that he could not attend the House due to illness. He has, therefore, requested for grant of Leave of Absence from the 7th to the 21st December, 2009 of the current (218th) Session of the Rajya Sabha?

Does he have the permission of the House for remaining absent from 7th to 21st December, 2009 of the current Session of the Rajya Sabha?

(No Hon. Member dissented)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Inhuman and deplorable activities being carried on children in public shows in Jehanabad district of Bihar

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार): उपसभापति महोदय, दो दिन पहले हम लोगों ने एक टीवी सीरियल में देखा कि जहानाबाद, बिहार में एक बच्चे को शीशे के टुकड़ों पर सुलाया जाता है और ऊपर से लकड़ी का कुंडा रखा

जाता है। उसके बाद उसको कुल्हड़ी से काटा जाता है। बच्चे के ऊपर लकड़ी रखी जाती है और वह बच्चा तब तक सोया रहता है, जब तक लकड़ी दो भागों में, दो खंडों में कट न जाती हो। महोदय, बचपन में हम लोगों ने देखा था कि मौत की छलांग होती थी - एक डेढ़ सौ फुट सीढ़ी पर चढ़कर लोग आग लगाकर कुएं में कूदते थे। इसी तरह से एक चकरी बनायी जाती थी, जाल बनाया जाता था जिसमें मोटरसाइकिल चलती थी। जो मानव आयोग है, उसने यह सब बंद कर दिया और कहा कि यह सब करना ठीक नहीं है इसलिए यह सब नहीं चलेगा। वे सब लोग तो ये करतब बहादुरी के लिए दिखाते थे, लेकिन 5-6 बरस के बच्चे को कांच के टुकड़ों पर सुलाकर, ऊपर से लकड़ी रखकर काटना - इस प्रकार का तमाशा दिखाने का काम अमानवीय है। सबसे ज्यादा दर्दनाक बात यह है कि वहां पुलिस खड़ी रहती है, उसके बावजूद भी वहां पर उसे रोका नहीं जाता है, कोई कुछ नहीं करता है। मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि यह कृत्य एक अपराध है, एक अमानवीय घटना है और इस प्रकार की घटना को निश्चित रूप से रोकने का काम करना चाहिए। धन्यवाद।

Withdrawal of the army from Jammu and Kashmir

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया (झारखंड) : उपसभापति महोदय, 19 तारीख को अखबार में एक खबर पढ़ी, जिसकी डेडलाइन थी - 30,000 troops were withdrawn from Kashmir. उसका हवाला रक्षा मंत्री, श्री ए.के. अन्तोनी द्वारा था। मन में प्रसन्नता हुई। शायद हर भारतवासी का एक सपना है कि कब कश्मीर में शांति हो, वहां से troops हटें और अशांत कश्मीर में शांति हो। उसमें जो लॉजिक दिए गए, वे यह थे कि वहां पर शांति बहाल हो गई है इसलिए उन्हें वापस ले रहे हैं। यह सर्वविदित है, हरेक आदमी को पता है - जो अखबार पढ़ता है या टेलीविजन देखता है उसको पता है कि वहां पर शांति है या नहीं। अशांत कश्मीर में, खासकर जहां पर 1990 में Disturbed Area Act लागू किया गया हो - राजोरी और पुंछ में - जिसका इंटरनेशनल बॉर्डर, लाइन ऑफ कंट्रोल 200 किलोमीटर लम्बा है, वहां से करीब 30,000 soldiers वापस लिए गए, आर्मी की presence कम की गई, इसका मूल कारण यह है ...**(व्यवधान)**... मेरे ख्याल से कोई भी मंत्री इसमें interested ही नहीं हैं, सुनना ही नहीं चाहते हैं। जिनका ध्यान आकर्षित करने के लिए बात कही जाती है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : होम मिनिस्टर साहब बैठे हैं।

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : जो quite diplomacy कश्मीर में चल रही है, उस quite diplomacy को एक नया नाम दिया गया है कि गुप-चुप समझौता चल रहा है-धीरे-धीरे बोल कोई सुन न ले - ये जुगल जोड़ी बैठकर किसके साथ बात कर रही है, कौन से गुप्स हैं, जिनके साथ समझौता हो रहा है, जिसकी पहली मांग थी कि वहां से आर्मी वापस ली जाए? दूसरी मांग है कि 370 को permanent किया जाए। तीसरी मांग है कि धारा 356 कभी कश्मीर में लागू न हो। चौथी मांग है कि वहां का गवर्नर जब भी नियुक्त हो, वह जम्मू-कश्मीर का ही होना चाहिए, बाहर का नहीं होना चाहिए। ये सारी मांगें गुप-चुप मानी जा रही हैं और उसी की ओर पहला कदम उठाया गया है कि वहां से आर्मी विदड़ों हुई। महोदय, उसके साथ-साथ ये कह रहे हैं कि Armed Forces Special Power Act, जो सिर्फ कश्मीर में नहीं है, नॉर्थ ईस्ट में भी लागू है, मणिपुर में भी लागू है, उसको भी वापस लिया जाए। इन सारी

चीजों पर विचार हो रहा है और यह सब कुछ quietly हो रहा है। महोदय, पिछले एक महीने से सदन चल रहा था किन्तु सदन को विश्वास में नहीं लिया गया। 18 तारीख को लोक सभा sine die हुई और उसी दिन रक्षा मंत्री का यह बयान आता है कि 30,000 soldiers वापस लिए गए हैं। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि आइंदा और भी कुछ soldiers वापस लिए जाएंगे। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या शांति बहाल हो चुकी है, क्या आतंकवाद रुक चुका है, क्या अलगावादी ताकतें चुप हो गई हैं, शांति हो गई है, क्या वे अलगाववाद की भावना छोड़कर भारतीय संविधान के स्ट्रक्चर के अंदर भारतीय स्वायत्तता को मानते हुए सब कुछ मानने के लिए तैयार हैं? इसी बीच वहाँ के मुख्य मंत्री का बयान आया कि कुछ लोग भारतीय संविधान के खिलाफ हैं। 60 फीसदी वोट क्या है और 60 फीसदी में भी ऐसा नहीं है कि लोग भारत के खिलाफ हैं। महोदय, मेरा यह कहना है कि सरकार कोई भी कदम उठाने से पहले सदन को विश्वास में ले, ऐसा न हो कि बजट सेशन आने से पहले आप कोई बड़ी घोषणा कर दें।

श्री कृष्ण लाल बाल्मीकि (राजस्थान) : महोदय, मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री रघुनन्दन शर्मा (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

Gang rape of a school girl in Kanpur

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान) : सर, अभी हाल में दो-तीन दिन पहले उत्तर प्रदेश के कानपुर शहर में एक नाबालिग लड़की के साथ गैंग रेप का हादसा हुआ है। मैं खुद भी उस समय वहाँ लड़की को हॉस्पिटल देखने गई थी। मेरे साथ वहाँ की पी.सी.सी. अध्यक्ष रीता बहुगुणा जी भी थी। सर, अफसोस और दुख की बात यह है कि वहाँ की पुलिस मामले को दबाने में लगी हुई है। उस लड़की के मां-बाप परेशान हैं, जो गरीब तबके के लोग हैं। उन्होंने यह बताया कि अब हम कैसे कहें और कैसे बोलें कि हमारे ऊपर कई तरह का दबाव है और उनको प्रलोभन भी दिया जा रहा है। वहाँ अस्पताल में चार-चार जूनियर डॉक्टर्स थे, जिनसे हमने पूछा कि इस लड़की का किस बात के लिए इलाज किया जा रहा है। लेकिन कोई मुंह खोलने के लिए तैयार नहीं थी, सब डॉक्टर्स कह रहे थे कि सीनियर्स को मालूम है। जब उनसे कहा कि आखिर इसको ट्रीटमेंट किस बात का दिया जा रहा है, तो वह बिल्कुल यह बतलाने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं कि उसको किस चीज का इलाज किया जा रहा है, बल्कि हमारे देखने के बाद उस लड़की को आई.सी.यू. में शिफ्ट कर दिया गया। महोदय, आज महिला मुख्य मंत्री के राज्य में जिस तरह उत्तर प्रदेश में महिलाओं के प्रति अपराधों में इतनी वृद्धि हुई है कि पूरे देश भर में जितनी महिलाओं के प्रति अपराध हो रहे हैं, उसमें 50 फीसदी से ज्यादा केवल उत्तर प्रदेश में हो रहे हैं। इस मामले में डॉक्टर्स की मेडिकल रिपोर्ट से पहले डी.आई.जी. का स्टेटमेंट आता है कि रेप नहीं हुआ है। मतलब, मेडिकल जांच रिपोर्ट से पहले ही उनका वक्तव्य आ रहा है। इस प्रकार पुलिस और प्रशासन पर दबाव है, डॉक्टर्स पर दबाव है। सर, ऐसी स्थिति में हमें पूरा अंदेशा है कि लड़की को न्याय मिलेगा या नहीं। हमारी मांग है कि डॉक्टर्स की मेडिकल रिपोर्ट पूरी तरह से निष्पक्ष हो, लड़की को न्याय मिले, इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से पूरे सदन के ध्यान में और सरकार के ध्यान में यह बात लाना चाहती हूँ कि इस बात की पूरी मॉनिटरिंग होनी चाहिए कि उस लड़की को अन्याय न मिले, एक तो उसके साथ रेप हुआ है, बदनामी हुई है और उसकी जीवन खराब हुआ है और मामले को दबा करके उसको दोहरा दण्ड न मिले, इसके लिए मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करती हूँ।

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the concern expressed by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the concern expressed by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the concern expressed by the hon. Member.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY CHAIR

Welcome to Parliamentary Delegation from Thailand

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have an announcement to make. We have with us, seated in the special box, members of a parliamentary delegation from Thailand, currently on a visit to our country under the distinguished leadership of his Excellency Mr. Chai Chidchob, President of the National Assembly and Speaker of the House of Representatives of Thailand. On behalf of the Members of the House and on my own behalf, I take pleasure in extending a hearty welcome to the Leader and other Members of the delegation and wish our distinguished guests an enjoyable and fruitful stay in our country. We hope that during their stay here they would be able to see and learn more about our Parliamentary system, our country and our people, and that their visit to this country will further strengthen the friendly bonds that exist between India and Thailand. Through them, we convey our greetings and best wishes to the Parliament and the friendly people of Thailand.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION (contd.)

Ruchika's sexual harassment case

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a most shocking case, the Ruchika case which all our hon. Members may have read in the papers today. The reason I raised it, Sir, is because it reveals the deep infirmities in our systems of delivery of justice. The sickness in the system in which a custodial crime and the criminal who committed that crime in Police uniform escaped justice for 19 years was rewarded with promotion after promotion while the young girl, the fourteen year old child — I would call here was so traumatised because once she reported the sexual harassment case against her, not only was she harassed by the Police Officer but her brother had false cases foisted on him. He was taken to the *thana*. He was beaten mercilessly, as a result of which that young girl felt so helpless and so traumatised that she committed suicide. Nineteen years later, this criminal has finally been found guilty but what has he got as punishment? Just six months imprisonment.

And, the day he was convicted, he was out on bail within 10 minutes ! Is it not shame for all of us? I want to state that it is not anybody else but a very sensitive family — Anand and Madhu Prakash and their brave daughter Aradhna who were friends of the victim — stood 19 years as witness in this case. They refused to be cowed down. As a result of which the criminal has, at last, been found to be guilty. My point is, how long are we going to tolerate these kinds of cases in which our young girls

have absolutely no security and when justice is delayed the way it has been in this case is nothing but justice denied and justice destroyed? Therefore, I would appeal to the hon. Law Minister who is sitting here and the hon. Home Minister who is also sitting here to think what can be done to reform our laws to ensure fast track justice. We are talking about commercial courts for big companies to get justice in disputes. But, our young children find no justice. So, please have a fast track justice system for these young minors who are the victims of sexual harassment.

And, I would say, just as a mark of recognition, to give a reward to Anand and Madhu Prakash and that brave Aradhna who fought for 19 long years for justice to Ruchika. Thank you.

HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we all associate with the issue raised by Smt. Karat.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes. The entire House associates with it.

Problems of Barauni railway station

श्री सैयद अजीज पाशा (आन्ध्र प्रदेश) : सर, बिहार राज्य में जो बरौनी जंक्शन है, मैं उसकी हालत के बारे में बताने के लिए यहां पर खड़ा हुआ हूँ। बरौनी रेलवे जंक्शन जैसे तो एक बहुत ही बड़ा इंडस्ट्रियल सैन्टर है, इसके बावजूद सबसे बड़ी ताज्जुब की बात यह है कि वहां पर प्लेटफार्म नं.1 नहीं है। क्या कहीं ऐसा भी हो सकता है कि किसी जंक्शन पर प्लेटफार्म नं.1 ही न हो और प्लेटफार्म नं.2 and प्लेटफार्म नं.3 हो। वहां पर प्लेटफार्म नं.1 के लिए दो किलोमीटर दूर जाना पड़ता है। वहां पर दूसरा स्टेशन दो किलोमीटर की दूरी पर है। इस सर्दी के मौसम में, स्टाफ को और पैसेन्जर्स को तथा अन्य लोगों को दो किलोमीटर पैदल चलकर यहां पर जाना पड़ता है। इसके साथ ही साथ मैं बिहार के बारे में भी बोल रहा हूँ।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप अपनी बात बोलिए, नहीं तो आपका वक्त निकल जाएगा।

श्री सैयद अजीज पाशा : मैं रेलवे मंत्री जी से यह दरखास्त करूंगा कि वे वहां इस पर इस प्रकार की तमाम सुविधाएं उपलब्ध करवाएं। यदि वहां पर पूरे स्टेशन को देखा जाए, तो उसकी हालत बहुत खराब है। इसलिए उसकी कंडिशन को ठीक करने के लिए, प्लेटफार्म नं.1 करने के लिए उचित कदम उठाए जाएं। इसके साथ ही मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो बेगुसराय डिस्ट्रिक्ट हेडक्वार्टर है, वहां पर कोई गाड़ी नहीं रुकती है। इसके लिए वहां के लोगों की काफी समय से डिमांड है कि वहां पर गाड़ियां रुकें। मैं उपरोक्त दो चीजें कहने के लिए ही खड़ा हुआ हूँ और मुझे उम्मीद है कि इस मामले पर रेलवे मंत्री जी फौरन कोई कदम उठाएंगे।

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार) : मैं एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please lay Special Mentions on the Table.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Demand to adopt the Islamic system of banking for inclusive growth of the country

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार) : महोदय, समावेशी विकास की बातें बहुत होती हैं, लेकिन जिस प्रकार हमारे कारपोरेट सेक्टर को स्टॉक बाजार के द्वारा ब्याज मुक्त पूंजी मिल रही है, क्या हमारे देश के 92 प्रतिशत

कामगार जिन कारोबारी इकाइयों में काम करते हैं, उन्हें ब्याज मुक्त पूंजी मिल रही है? यह एक न्याय का प्रश्न भी है। जब तक ऐसा नहीं होगा, तब तक देश की बड़ी आबादी को विकास का समान अवसर नहीं मिल सकता। हम आर्थिक विकास को केवल संसेक्स में ही देखते रहेंगे तथा गरीबों, छोटे किसानों और कारीगरों की आत्महत्याओं की खबरों पर राजनीति से अधिक कुछ नहीं कर पाएंगे।

महोदय, इस्लामिक बैंकिंग के द्वारा ब्याज मुक्त पूंजी गरीब किसानों, छोटे कारोबारियों, कारीगरों आदि को दिलाई जा सकती है। दुनिया के बड़े औद्योगिक और विकसित देश जैसे ब्रिटेन, सिंगापुर, जापान, हांगकांग, फ्रांस आदि ने बैंकिंग के नियमों में आवश्यक संशोधन करके इस्लामिक बैंकिंग को Accommodate किया है। इस्लामिक बैंकिंग केवल मुसलमानों के लिए नहीं है, बल्कि यह Socially Responsible Investment और लाभ-हानि पर आधारित बैंकिंग है। मलेशिया के इस्लामिक बैंकों में 40 प्रतिशत खातादार चीनी मूल के गैर-इस्लामिक नागरिक हैं, तो ब्रिटेन के इस्लामिक बैंकों में 20 प्रतिशत हिन्दू, सिख एवं ईसाई हैं।

इसके अतिरिक्त योजना आयोग द्वारा गठित वित्तीय क्षेत्र सुधार संबंधित डा. रघुरामजी राजन कमेटी की रिपोर्ट में भी ब्याज मुक्त बैंकिंग उपलब्ध कराने संबंधी उपाय किए जाने की अनुशंसा की गई है। 9/11 के बाद अरब जगत भी निरंतर पूंजी निवेश के लिए भारत की ओर देख रहा है। वर्तमान आर्थिक संकट के संदर्भ में इस्लामिक बैंकिंग एक संभव, सहज एवं बेहतर विकल्प प्रस्तुत करता है।

मेरी मांग है कि त्वरित कार्रवाई करते हुए इस्लामिक बैंकिंग अपनाई जाए, ताकि समावेशी विकास का सपना साकार हो और देश से गरीबी दूर की जा सके। धन्यवाद।

**Demand to provide bullet proof jackets to the security forces in view
of the current terrorist activities in the country**

श्री धर्म पाल सभ्रवाल (पंजाब) : महोदय, जैसा कि हम सब जानते हैं कि आतंकवादियों ने पिछले सालों में संसद भवन, अक्षरधाम मंदिर और दिल्ली के कई बाजारों में हमला किया। पिछले वर्ष 26/11 का मुम्बई आतंकवाद अभी हम भुला नहीं पाये हैं। 26/11 के हमले में हमारे पैरामिलिट्री फोर्स के कई जवान शहीद हुए। इसका मुख्य कारण था कि हमारे जवानों के पास बुलेट प्रूफ जैकेटें नहीं थीं। 26/11 के हमले के बाद गृह मंत्रालय इन जैकेटों को लेने के लिए केवल टेंडर, री-टेंडर और इस किस्म की प्रतिक्रियाओं में व्यस्त है। गृह मंत्रालय की इस धीमी गति के कारण हमारे जवानों को जैकेटें उपलब्ध नहीं हो पा रही हैं, जो कि अति आवश्यक हैं।

महोदय, मैं प्रधान मंत्री और गृह मंत्री जी से यह अनुरोध करूंगा कि वे किसी और आतंकवादी हमले का इंतजार न करें और जल्दी से जल्दी बुलेट प्रूफ जैकेटों को खरीदें, ताकि हमारे जवानों की सुरक्षा बनी रहे और गृह मंत्रालय पर प्रश्नचिन्ह न लगे।

**Demand to simplify the process of issuing passports in the country,
particularly in Andhra Pradesh**

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, day by day, the procedure for issuing of passport is becoming more difficult and cumbersome. Usually the passport is issued after getting the verification report from the police in one or two months. Now, it is being delayed on the pretext of not having enough passport books. Despite these problems raised in the Passport Adalat, which

normally takes place once a week, grievances raised in that Adalat have not been redressed so far. People are coming to District Headquarters from far flung areas, and are suffering great pain and agony. Staff are not adequate in the Department which is also a cause for delay. With the existing strength of staff, it is very difficult to meet the increasing demand day by day. It is pertinent to mention here that in Karnataka and a few other places, after the direction of the hon. Minister, passports are issued within three days.

I urge upon the Government to streamline and overhaul the entire system so that passport can be issued within a week after police verification. Stationeries, such as passport books, seem to be a great problem in Andhra Pradesh. This should be sorted out immediately, and the strength of existing manpower should also be increased to meet the demand.

**Demand to provide equitable basic services in all regions so as
to stop migration to cities**

SHRI AVTAR SINGH KARIMPURI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, India's urban population is increasing at a faster rate than its total population. Urbanisation has been recognised as an important component of economic growth with over 575 million people, India will have 41 per cent of its population living in cities and towns by 2030 from the present level of 286 million. But this success has been accompanied by poverty in urban areas. This urban poverty poses the problems of housing and shelter, water, sanitation, health education, social security and livelihood along with special needs of vulnerable groups like women, children and aged.

As per 2001 Census Report, the slum population of India in cities and towns with a population of 50,000 and above was 42.6 million. Poor people live in slums which are over-crowded, polluted and lack basic civic amenities. Also as per 2001 Census, the total urban homeless population is 7,78,599, Delhi had 3.1 per cent of the national level. Their condition is chiefly linked to the lack of adequate shelter. In Delhi, for over a 100,000 homeless people, Government runs 14 night shelters with a maximum capacity of 2937 which is totally inadequate.

I urge upon the Government that they should do greater equity in the provision of basic services to States so that migration to cities should stop, thus reducing homelessness and slums. Restructuring of programmes and schemes is needed so that it reaches the vulnerable. The Government should delegate more powers to municipalities so that they could devolve the schemes announced by the Government among the vulnerable.

**Demand to impose ban on the export of coir fibres to save
the domestic coir industry, particularly in Kerala**

SHRI P.R. RAJAN (Kerala): Sir, Kerala's coir industry having a history of 150 years enjoying monopoly on the coir products is in a crisis now. The resources for the products have declined with time due to diverse reasons. To protect the employment of traditional workers in this sector, the Government of Kerala is rendering its maximum support with its limited resources.

Coir fibre is the major raw material for the production of coir products and the State of Kerala is facing difficulty to inculcate indigenous production of coir fibre to meet the demand in the product segment. Although Government of Kerala has devised long-term strategies to accrue the availability of fibre, this industry in Kerala is still demanding dependency on neighbouring States to cater its raw material requirement.

The price fluctuation in the raw material is having a negative bearing on the coir products. Now, due to variable reasons, there is an acute shortage of coir fibre for the industry. The scarcity of coir fibre resulted in an unprecedented increase in cost. There is an increase of 70 per cent abnormal price hike of coir fibre compared to the previous year.

The export of coir fibre has increased 20 per cent in 2008-09 and according to the figure of the Coir Board for the first four months of 2009-10, there is an increase to 41 per cent against the same period of the previous year. The scarcity will further increase. This will lead to a deadly blow to this traditional industry and will make lakhs of people jobless.

Considering the grave situation arising out of export of coir fibre, the Central Government must ban the export of coir fibre as an essential commodity for the domestic industry to save lakhs of women working in this sector.

Demand to announce a scheme for granting amnesty from disclosure under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for persons holding artifacts prior to 2003

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Sir, I rise to commend the attention of this House over an anomalous situation. The Wild Life Protection Act, 1972 prohibits the usage of artefacts made out of the organs of endangered species. While the Act was indeed needed for the protection of these species, an anomalous situation has emerged for those who possessed such artefacts either prior to notification of the Act or notification of such endangered species or even purchased such artefacts from the places where the particular species was not notified as endangered. Such genuinely innocent cases can be termed as unlawful under the existing Act. To discount such unintended consequences, the Government in 2003 announced amnesty and allowed people to voluntarily disclose their possessions. Such disclosures were required to be made as per the prescribed format along with relevant authentic documents. However, due to inadequate and restricted publicity, only a minuscule section of citizens declared their possessions. The Government should verify the places from where majority of disclosures were made. It is reasonable to presume that the disclosures were not comparable to the actual prevalence of such artefacts, therefore, ask the Government to re-open the amnesty and give full blown publicity at every level using the mass-media so as to invite people to declare their artefacts. It will give the Government the realistic benchmark to monitor the illegal trade in such artefacts. While announcing such scheme the Government should give amnesty only to pre-2003 possessions of such artefacts, thereby discounting any misuse of amnesty.

Demand to implement pension scheme and waiving the ceiling for deduction as provident fund for employees of Gramin Banks in the country

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA (Orissa): Sir, all bank officers and employees are now eligible for getting pension, except Grameen Banks and there is also discrimination in deducting Provident Fund as there is a ceiling of deduction up to Rs. 6,500. If every worker of the country, including casual labour and contract labour, is getting the benefit up to Rs. 10,000, why is there a ceiling of Rs. 6,500 for Grameen Bank employees? Sir, the hon. Supreme Court has ordered for equal salary and allowance and other facilities as per the other nationalised banks. But, till today, Grameen Bank officers are not getting allowance and other benefits as per nationalised banks.

More so, although Grameen Bank has no pension, around 6 per cent of their enhanced salary will go to the Pension Fund which is totally unjust, illegal as they are not the part of the Pension Fund. How is it that that they contribute to Pension Fund?

Hence, I urge upon the Government to implement pension scheme in Grameen Banks and also waive Rs. 6,500 ceiling for the purpose of deducting Provident Fund.

Demand to restore the composite Wakf Board of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh

SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, the composite Wakf Board of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh, up to July, 2003, was with the Central Government. It was, then, split into four boards by the Central Government. This decision was not supported by the Muslims of those States. Now, the Wakf Boards of Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh are on the verge of extinction. The Haryana Wakf Board also underwent upheavals. The Punjab Wakf Board, which was once a premier Board of the country, is, now, one of the worst Boards. The Punjab Government is, now, aiming to declare most of the Wakf properties as the properties of the State Government. The mutation of Wakf properties are being systematically cancelled to deprive the Wakf Board of its properties. Six Wakf property cases, at Jalandhar, which worth somewhere between Rs. 10,000 crores to Rs. 50,000 crores, have recently been decided against the Wakf Board, apparently, not on merit. The powers of the Punjab Wakf Board have been withdrawn and the Board is being crippled. The Board cannot do any work. The income of the Board is decreasing fast. The Sachar Committee Report is against the bifurcation of the Punjab Wakf Board. The JPC on Wakf is also not in favour of bifurcation of the composite Punjab Wakf Board. There are not enough Muslims in those States for properly constituting the Board under section 14 of the Wakf Act. The situation is very grave. There is a need for urgent action on the part of the Central Government. I request the Central Government to take over and save those Wakf Boards by issuing an Ordinance so that the Wakf Act may be amended in due course.

Demand to make laws for disabled in the country in harmony with the UN convention on the rights of persons with disabilities

SHRIMTI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): It is a shame that even after 14 years of the adoption of the Persons with Disabilities Act, the disabled continue to remain on the fringes of social and political life. Disability Rights Activists have pointed out infirmity in the Act and the urgent need to define 'disability' in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). The multiplicity of laws and agencies have failed in ameliorating the conditions of this section which continues to remain marginalised and outside the mainstream. They remain outcasts, condemned to charity and mercy. Persons with disabilities continue to be viewed as 'objects' in need of medical treatment rather than 'holders' of rights. The worst sufferers are the disabled poor and women.

The welfare and advancement of the disabled is crucially linked to the recognition of their rights as equal citizens. Towards this end, special drives to enumerate the disabled, issuing a universally acceptable identity card, creation of barrier-free environment, inclusion of disabled in the Right to Education Act, special drives to fill the backlog of vacancies, involvement of all stakeholders while deciding on issues concerning them, protection and empowerment of women with disabilities are all issues that call for urgent attention.

The Indian laws have to be brought in harmony with the UNCRPD. There must be a provision for punitive action against the violators. A monitoring mechanism to oversee the implementation of these laws and a separate Ministry for Disability Affairs has to be created,

Demand to enhance budgetary allocation for setting up more educational institutions in the country

SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I have risen to raise a very pertinent and significant issue which concerns the students who despite obtaining good marks do not get admission in good colleges. Though the trend of attaining more than 90 per cent marks in Senior Secondary Examinations is very encouraging yet it alarms us of implicit implications. First, students securing less than 90 per cent have to rub their hands in utter despair as they have less chance of getting admission in prestigious or reputed colleges or institutions. Added to this, the latest news that IITs will take only those students who get 80 per cent or more marks has further dampened their spirit. Secondly, obtaining less marks, i.e., 70 or 80 per cent, frustrates students so much that they think of committing suicide. At the bottom of all this lies the main problem of inadequate number of good colleges and educational institutions which can accommodate only limited number of students according to their merit.

Strictly speaking, the real intelligence of a student cannot be measured in terms of marks obtained. Securing 70 or 80 per cent marks are equally good and when it comes to competing in

examinations like Civil Services, IITs, CAT, Medical, etc., they too qualify these examinations. This leads us to conclude that students who score 70 or 80 per cent marks can, in no way, be termed less intelligent and they should also get seats in good colleges and educational institutions.

But with the constraints we have, it cannot be possible unless there exist large number of good colleges and institutions for higher studies. I, therefore, request the Government to enhance budgetary allocation for education sector for setting up more good colleges/institutions in the country.

**Demand to take action against Anti-social elements involved in trafficking
of girls in the State of Jharkhand**

श्री प्रभात झा (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, एक सर्वे के अनुसार पिछले तीन सालों में झारखंड से 23 हजार लड़कियां गायब हो चुकी हैं जिनका अता-पता नहीं चला और इस कार्य में झारखंड में एक बहुत बड़ा नेटवर्क काम कर रहा है जिसमें कई प्रभावशाली लोग भी शामिल हैं। झारखंड के कई जिलों में फैले नेटवर्क में शामिल लोग योजनाबद्ध तरीके से काम करते हैं और इस कार्य को अंजाम देने के लिए कई तरीके अपनाए जाते हैं। पहले वे उन परिवारों की तलाश करते हैं जो पुरुषविहीन हों। तलाश पूरी होने के बाद समाज के कुछ लोगों से मेलजोल बढ़ाकर वे उस परिवार की एक महिला सदस्य को डायन करार कर देते हैं। इसके बाद उस परिवार को तरह-तरह से प्रताड़ित किया जाता है। उस वक्त परिवार के सदस्यों को तलाश होती है, एक रहनुमा की। बस इसी सुनहरे मौके की तलाश षड्यंत्रकारियों को रहती है। पार्टी के दूसरे सदस्य रहनुमा बनकर उस परिवार के प्रति सहानुभूति दिखाते हैं और घर में मौजूद खूबसूरत व जवान लड़कियों को काम का लालच देकर बाहर जाने के लिए तैयार करते हैं। इसके बाद उनके साथ हुई घटनाओं, जैसे अमानवीय यातनाएं, शारीरिक शोषण आदि को समय-समय पर हम विभिन्न समाचरपत्रों और चैनलों में देखते एवं सुनते रहते हैं।

महोदय, पूरे झारखंड में लड़कियों को इस तरह से जाल में फंसाकर बेचने का धंधा जोरों पर है। इस धंधे में कुछ स्थानीय लोगों की अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका रहती है। यदाकदा कुछ लड़कियों को इस नेटवर्क के चंगुल से निकालने की बातें भी प्रकाश में आती रहती हैं, बावजूद इसके यह धंधा तेजी से उद्योग का रूप लेता जा रहा है। मेरी सरकार से मांग है कि झारखंड में इस प्रकार की गतिविधियों में संलग्न असामाजिक तत्वों एवं गिरोहों के विरुद्ध अभियान चलाकर उनके विरुद्ध कड़ी कार्यवाही की जाए। धन्यवाद।

श्री कांजीभाई पटेल (गुजरात) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती माया सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्रीमती जया बघन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

सुश्री अनुसुइया उइके (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

**Demand to take effective measures to protect Indian Generic Pesticides
Industry against the European Pesticides**

SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI (Maharashtra): Sir, several reports have been coming up that the European Union is sending large sums of money to Indian Environment NGOs, who are working against the Indian Agrochemical industry and against Indian farmers by pressurizing to ban

some farmer-friendly pesticides. Our country is not only able to manufacture quality pesticides, but also, export it all over the world. The environment NGOs are spending money, and even indulging in corrupt practices, so that good farmer-friendly pesticides manufactured by Indian companies are banned.

Sir, there appears to be a planned move by the European Union to phase out farmer-friendly Indian pesticides with the help of Indian NGOs. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to this through you, Sir, and request that inquiries be conducted immediately with special reference to the funding received by environmental activist organizations in our country during the last five years from countries of the European Union and to check whether these funds are being used for promoting European business and trade interests in the field of pesticides. The Government may also look into the matter and see to it that the organisations involved in environmental activities do not work against generic pesticides manufactured and exported from our country. The Government should also take effective measures to protect Indian generic pesticides industry against European pesticides.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI VIKRAM VERMA (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Civil Defence (Amendment) Bill, 2009

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Civil Defence Act, 1968, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, it is strongly felt that the civil defence can play a vital role in disaster management also. Therefore, it has been proposed to extend the role of civil defence by amending the definition of 'Civil Defence' as contained in clause 'a' of section 2 of the Civil Defence Act, 1968, so as to bring, within its purview, the measures which may be taken for the purpose of disaster management during, at, before or after any disaster.

Sir, this Bill seeks to achieve this objective.

The question was proposed.

श्री अनिल माधव दवे (मध्य प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभापति जी, सबसे पहले तो मैं बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि इस प्रकार का बिल टेबल पर लाया गया है। जिस प्रकार के बिल मध्य प्रदेश और गुजरात से लौटा दिए गए थे, उससे कभी-कभी लगता था कि क्या हम आतंकवाद से लड़ना चाहते हैं, कानून बनाना चाहते हैं या नहीं चाहते हैं? यह बहुत अच्छी बात है कि इस प्रकार का बिल आया है, लेकिन यह बिल तब तक सफल नहीं हो सकता है, जब तक कि इसके अंदर प्राण नहीं फूँके जाएंगे। मैं आर्टिकल 51(a) के (d) भाग के तहत कहता हूँ कि इस देश के

नागरिकों के जो कर्तव्य हैं, उन कर्तव्यों के अंदर जब देश को आवश्यकता है कि उसकी पूर्ति के लिए प्रयत्न किए जाने चाहिए। वे प्रयत्न केवल आपातकालीन परिस्थितियों के लिए नहीं हैं, वे 365 दिन के प्रयत्न हैं और वे प्रयत्न प्रशिक्षित होने चाहिए। हम एक रिस्पांसेस सिविल डिफेंस चाहते हैं, लेकिन क्या हमारे पास रिस्पांसेस सिविल डिफेंस है? क्या हम यह खड़ा कर सकते हैं? उपसभापति महोदय, सेना में कितने मुसलमान हैं, अगर हम इसकी गिनती करके इस देश के नागरिकों से यह कहें कि आप देश की सुरक्षा में लग जाइए, तो यह ठीक दिशा नहीं है। हमें कहीं न कहीं अपने काम करने और सोचने की दिशा में एक साम्यता लानी पड़ेगी, क्योंकि देश हमारी ओर देखता है, हम देखते हैं, हम लोगों से पूछते हैं। क्या हम किसी डॉक्टर से ऑपरेशन करते समय पूछते हैं कि तुम्हारा धर्म क्या है, तुम्हारी जाति क्या है, लेकिन यहां हम देख रहे हैं कि इस प्रकार के प्रयत्न होते हैं, जिन प्रयत्नों के अंदर हम शासकीय संस्थाओं के अंदर, सेना के अंदर इस बात का प्रयत्न लगाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं और दूसरी तरफ कह रहे हैं कि हम सिविल डिफेंस के लिए आगे बढ़ना चाहते हैं। सर, मैं पहली बार बोल रहा हूँ, मेरा आपसे निवेदन है कि कृपया सुन लीजिए।...(व्यवधान)... अगली बार से आप जितना चाहेंगे, मैं उतनी चर्चा करूंगा। आप पहली बार सुन लीजिए, अगली बार से मैं आपको जवाब देने के लिए तैयार हूँ।

उपसभापति महोदय, मुझे ऐसा लग रहा है कि जो कोपेनहेगेन में हुआ है, वैसा ही यहां पर भी हो रहा है। वहां बहुराष्ट्रीय कम्पनियों, बड़े लोग और Developed Nations agenda set करते हैं और उसके ऊपर बाकी सब लोग बात करते हैं। उन्होंने वहां एक agenda set किया कि carbon trading करेंगे। यह carbon trading क्या होती है? क्या पाप की trading हो सकती है, क्या sin की trading हो सकती है? क्या हम यह कह सकते हैं कि मैं पाप करूंगा, आप पुण्य करिए, मैं आपके पुण्य खरीद लूंगा, उससे मेरे पाप adjust हो जाएंगे? मैं कार्बन उत्सर्जन करूंगा, आप ऑक्सीजन करिए, मैं उसे carbon trading के नाम से खरीद लूंगा। उपसभापति महोदय, Developed Nations के द्वारा set किए जाने वाले trend और syllabus से बाहर आकर सोचने के लिए एक प्रभुतासम्पन्न राष्ट्र के प्रतिनिधियों को इस बात का ध्यान रखना चाहिए कि हम उनके set किए हुए एजेंडे में बात न करें। ठीक वैसे ही यहां पर भी वही चीज हो रही है। यहां हम agenda set कर रहे हैं। इस देश का कोई जिला ऐसा नहीं है, जो आईएसआई की मार और पहुंच से बाहर हो, इस देश के विकास खण्ड का कोई हिस्सा ऐसा नहीं है, जहां लश्कर या अन्य आतंकवादी संगठन पहुंचे न हों और इस देश का कोई उपविकास खण्ड ऐसा नहीं है, जहां sleeper cells नहीं हैं। हमें इस देश के नागरिकों को आतंकवाद के विरुद्ध खड़ा करना है। उन्हें प्रशिक्षित करना है, उसके लिए तैयार करना है और यह राष्ट्रीय चरित्र के बगैर नहीं हो सकता। मैं आपके सामने राष्ट्रीय चरित्र का बहुत छोटा उदाहरण दे रहा हूँ। 9/11 को WTC गिरा। देश के एक व्यक्ति ने भी खड़े होकर यह नहीं कहा कि देश का राष्ट्रपति अयोग्य है और उसे इस्तीफा दे देना चाहिए। किसी एक व्यक्ति ने, हममें से नहीं, पूरी दुनिया में किसी ने सड़ी हुई लाश नहीं देखी, बिलखती हुई माँ से यह नहीं पूछा कि आपकी बेटी इसके नीचे दबी हुई है, बताइए कब निकलेगी और वह कह रही हो कि मेरी बेटी दब गई है। इस राष्ट्र ने, इस देश ने, इस विश्व ने ऐसा कोई चित्र नहीं देखा। यह national character है। हमारे यहां मुम्बई के हमले में क्या हो रहा था? मुम्बई के हमले के समय हम पूरी दुनिया को बता रहे थे। मुम्बई के लोग वहां खड़े होकर तमाशा देख रहे थे। जब कारगिल के अन्दर हम लड़ाई लड़ रहे थे, तब इस देश के, इस समय वे सदन में उपस्थित नहीं है, इसलिए मैं उनका नाम नहीं लेना चाहता, आप देश के प्रधान

मंत्री से इस्तीफा मांग रहे थे ! मनमोहन सिंह जी आतंकवादियों से मुम्बई में लड़ें या इस्तीफे का कागज लेकर ढूँढते फिरें कि मैं इस्तीफा कैसे दूंगा! देश के प्रधान मंत्री से, जब वे आतंकवाद से लड़ रहे थे, हम उनसे इस्तीफा मांग रहे थे। कारगिल के समय में यह हुआ था। यह राष्ट्रीय चरित्र के विपरीत जाने वाली चीज है, जो नहीं होना चाहिए। लेकिन ऐसा भी नहीं है कि अपने देश के अन्दर बहुत कुछ सकारात्मक नहीं हो रहा है। बहुत सारे एनजीओ सेक्टर्स के लोग हैं, जो देश के अन्दर देश की सुरक्षा को लेकर काम कर रहे हैं, देश की सेवा कर रहा हैं। चूंकि मैं राष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवक संघ का स्वयंसेवक रहा हूँ, इसलिए मैं इसे बता सकता हूँ। जब श्रीनगर के अन्दर पाकिस्तान के घुसपैठिए घुस आए थे, अगर उस समय रात भर जग कर एयरपोर्ट बनाने का काम किया था, तो इस देश के नागरिकों ने ही किया था। आप उन्हें स्वयंसेवक बाद में कहिएगा। जब चरखी दादरी में दो प्लेन टकरा जाते हैं, तो रातों रात उठाने वाला व्यक्ति सामने वाले का धर्म नहीं पूछ रहा है, उसकी सेवा कर रहा है। जब गुजरात में भूकम्प आता है, जब तमिलनाडु के अन्दर सुनामी आती है, जब आन्ध्र प्रदेश के अन्दर बाढ़ आती है, तो ऐसे सारे कामों के अन्दर हजारों-लाखों संस्थाएं हैं, लोग हैं, वे काम कर रहे हैं।

उपसभापति महोदय, अपनी बात को खत्म करने के पहले मैं इतना जरूर कहूंगा कि यह बिल लाने से नहीं होगा, इसके अन्दर प्राण फूंकने पड़ेंगे। जैसा द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध के अन्दर लेनिनग्राड में हुआ कि जिन तस्वीरों को उतार दिया गया, जिन बातों को मिटा दिया गया, लेनिनग्राड में लड़ती हुई सेना के कहा गया कि यह वह महान पुरुष है, ये तुम्हारे पूर्वज हैं, ये दो सौ साल पहले हुए थे, ये तीन सौ साल पहले हुए थे, इनके लिए लड़ो। वे लोग लड़े। एक-एक नुक्कड़, एक-एक खिड़की, एक-एक दरवाजे, एक-एक गली, एक-एक मोड़ पर लड़ाई हुई और लेनिनग्राड के अन्दर मित्र राष्ट्रों की सेना ने नाजी सेना को हरा दिया। अगर हम इस बिल के अन्दर लोगों को यह नहीं समझाएंगे कि भगत सिंह क्यों 22 साल की उम्र में फांसी के फंदे पर झूल गए...। सदन में बम फेंकने के बाद में यह आदमी क्यों नहीं भागा? 25 साल का चन्द्र शेखर आजाद अल्फ्रेड पार्क, इलाहाबाद के अन्दर क्यों लड़ता हुआ इस दुनिया से चला गया? पाकिस्तान की सेना से लड़ते हुए अब्दुल हमीद आत्मोत्सर्ग कर देता है? निर्मलजीत सिंह शेखों के बारे में आप क्या जानते हैं। जब श्रीनगर के एयरपोर्ट पर बम्बार्डमेंट हो रहा था, साइबर जेट्स हमला कर रहे थे, ऐसे समय में वह अपना छोटा से जेट ले करके टेक-ऑफ करता है और साइबर जेट को गिरा देता है। अगर आप निर्मलजीत सिंह शेखों बनने के लिए लोगों को नहीं सिखाएंगे, तो यह देश खड़ा नहीं हो पाएगा। इस देश को खड़ा करने के लिए यह जरूरी है।

उपसभापति महोदय, अंत में मैं इतनी ही बात कहता हूँ कि इस देश के एक अरब, पन्द्रह करोड़ लोगों को, इस देश की सुरक्षा में सन्नद्ध करना पड़ेगा। इस देश की दो अरब, तीस लाख आंखों को देश के अन्दर आतंकवादियों को पहचानने लायक बनाना पड़ेगा। इसके लिए मध्य प्रदेश सरकार के माध्यम से स्कूली शिक्षा विभाग ने एक छोटी सी पहल की है। उन्होंने मातृभूमि रक्षा मंच बनाया है। उस मंच के माध्यम से उन्होंने कहा है कि जो छठी से बारहवीं तक के बच्चे हैं, वे बच्चे, महिलाएं और एनजीओज़, इन सबको साथ लिया जाए, क्योंकि ये हमारे लिए सबसे बड़े सैगमेंट हैं। इन लोगों के अन्दर गलत को पढ़ लेने की विलक्षण क्षमता होती है। सुदूर ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में रहने वाली महिला भी एक सैकेंड के अन्दर यह बता सकती है कि इस आदमी का इरादा ठीक नहीं है। उसकी आंखों में

ईश्वर ने वह योग्यता दी है। ऐसे ही जो तरुण युवक हैं, उन युवकों के अन्दर भी क्षमता होती है कि वे देख कर ही यह बता देते हैं कि आज जब मैं स्कूल जा रहा था, तो मैंने देखा कि एक गलत टाइप का आदमी घूम रहा था।

अभी 15 दिन पहले हमारे गृह मंत्री जी इस्लामिक टैररिज्म और हिन्दु टैररिज्म की बात को ले करके सदन में इंटरवीन करते हुए कह रहे थे कि चौबीस घंटे इस व्यवस्था के साथ रहता हूँ, इसलिए मैं आपका कष्ट समझ सकता हूँ। मैं समझ सकता हूँ कि जब एक व्यक्ति को दिन-भर इस प्रकार की आतंकवादी गतिविधियों की जानकारी दी जाती है, तो उस व्यक्ति की नींद और चैन सब खराब हो जाता है। उसका हरदम यह लगता है कि मैं देश की सुरक्षा कैसे करूँ? इसलिए मुझे लगता है कि इसके अन्दर आप एक अरब, पन्द्रह करोड़ लोगों को काम में लगा सकते हैं। इससे बड़ी देश की सेवा कोई हो नहीं सकती है। आपको केअरफुल भी बहुत रहना पड़ेगा। ऐसा मैं इसलिए कह रहा हूँ क्योंकि आज से 10-15 साल पहले इस देश के एक प्रधान मंत्री ने गंगा को साफ करने के लिए एक इरादा दिया, वादा किया, पैसे दिए, लेकिन उनके साथ वालों ने उनको यह काम करने नहीं दिया और वह इस संसार से चले गए। गंगा आज भी मैली है, गंगा साफ नहीं हुई। इसलिए आप इस बिल अमेंड कर रहे हैं, इसका स्वागत है, आप करिए, लेकिन इसके अन्दर प्राण फूँकिए। इसके लिए इस देश के एक अरब, पन्द्रह करोड़ लोगों को और एक-एक पंचायत को अगर आप काम में लगा लेंगे, तो मुझे लगता है कि यह बिल सार्थक होगा। पूरा समाज आपके साथ खड़ा हो जायेगा। लेकिन यह सब करने के लिए जो प्रशिक्षण की आवश्यकता है, लिट्रेचर की आवश्यकता है, वह भी पूरी करनी पड़ेगी। इसको खड़ा करते समय आप वह गलती न करें, जो भारतीय सेना के अन्दर धर्म के आधार पर गिनती करके की जा रही है। इस प्रकार की गलतियाँ अगर आप नहीं करेंगे, तो हो सकता है कि आने वाले दो-पांच या सात सालों के अन्दर यह बिल एक प्रभावी गिल के रूप में हमारे सामने प्रस्तुत होगा। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। वन्दे मातरम् !

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill, the Civil Defence (Amendment) Bill, 2009 which has been based on the recommendation of K.M. Singh Committee partially. Mr. Dave has made a few comments. It was his maiden speech. I really didn't want to react to his points which he had been raising but some points which he had raised do need clarification. I fully agree that there is a fear of terrorism in different parts of the country. I fully agree that this is the responsibility of every citizen in the country. But I also like to know from him what that organization which he belongs to — I am not mentioning the names — is doing in this effort. I don't want to go into those details.

Sir, he has talked of national character. The national character is the responsibility of every citizen of the country. It is not the responsibility of the Government alone, it is the responsibility of you and me and everybody else. I fully support you on that. The character of MPs, MLAs, bureaucrats, businessmen and ordinary man on the road has to improve. And how will it improve? It would improve by education. I have no problem on that. I fully support him when he says that training has to be given in the schools. Even for this purpose, training has to start in the schools. He says that they want resignation from the Prime Minister on Kargil; but is it not true that the Foreign Minister of the country had gone along with one terrorist? Was that right? He has forgotten to mention about that.

Was that a right action taken to save this country? ...*(Interruptions)*... He has mentioned, that is why I am saying this. Otherwise, I would not have mentioned this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया (झारखंड) : बागड़ोदिया जी ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, I heard him very carefully; I heard him very peacefully. But they cannot change their habit of interrupting. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : सर ...*(व्यवधान)*... नहीं, नहीं। उन्होंने कोई ऐसी बात नहीं कही ...*(व्यवधान)*... उन्होंने दोनों चीजों का उदाहरण दिया ...*(व्यवधान)*... मुंबई का भी दिया और कारगिल का भी दिया ...*(व्यवधान)*... बागड़ोदिया जी ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has not yielded. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing will go on record.

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : *

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Mr. Ahluwalia will not change his habit of interfering.

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : *

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: You cannot cow me down. I have not allowed you to interrupt. If I have made a wrong statement, it would be deleted. ...*(Interruptions)*... Have I said anything unparliamentary? Did I interrupt him? Then, you may also peacefully listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : *

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया : सुनने की तो हिम्मत है नहीं। उन्होंने गंगा प्लन के बारे में कहा। Yes, राजीव गांधी जी ने गंगा प्लान दिया। उन्होंने उसको क्लीन करवाया। लेकिन, उसके बाद उसकी सफाई नहीं की गई। ये जो प्लांस होते हैं, उन्हें आपको समझने की आवश्यकता है। अगर एक बार घर में सफाई होती है तो वह घर फिर गंदा नहीं होता, ऐसा तो नहीं है। वहां पर गंदगी की हमेशा सफाई करनी पड़ती है। वह continuity maintain नहीं हुई। बीच में आप भी सरकार में आए थे। आपने continuity maintain नहीं की, इसलिए इसकी जिम्मेवारी आप की भी है। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि हमारी सरकार की जिम्मेवारी नहीं है, हम भी जिम्मेवार हैं, लेकिन आपको भी वह continuity maintain करनी चाहिए थी, जिसे नहीं कर पाए। Anyway, coming back to the Bill, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती जया बच्चन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*... उन्होंने तो कुछ किया ही नहीं ...*(व्यवधान)*... उन्हें कुछ भी नहीं किया, मगर इन्होंने क्या किया? यह मैं जानना चाहती हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया : हमने तो गंगा को साफ किया। उसके लिए रुपया दिया और उसकी सफाई करवाई। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : आप बोलिए, बोलिए।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Coming to the Bill, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

*Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is now coming to the Bill. Please, allow him to speak.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, the Statement of Objects and Reasons states that this Bill affords protection to any person, property, place or thing in India against any hostile attack, whether from air, land, sea, etc., and civil defence is intended to be organised timely on voluntary basis. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is speaking on the Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: When we talk of voluntary basis, I would like to mention here, Sir, in the United States there are volunteers for civil defence; doctors, engineers, politicians and big businessmen, all get trained themselves for. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति : आप प्लीज़ सुनिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... वह जो बोलना चाहते हैं, वही बोलेंगे। आप जो चाहते हैं, उसे वह नहीं बोलेंगे।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, they get themselves trained even at the age of 40, 50 or 60 years. They want to be trained for civil defence because they want to do something for the society. That kind of character needs to be inculcated in our society, that we must also get trained. You cannot become a fire-fighter without training. You cannot do medical service without training. I would request the hon. Minister to start that kind of training for every citizen in the country, and whoever wants to be trained voluntarily, must be trained that way. Only then voluntary service would start.

Sir, the Disaster Management Act, 2005, has been enacted. Now, there is an Act for that. I have no objection on including disaster management in this Bill. But, I will request the Government that please do not depend only on the civil defence system. Disaster management cannot be handled — it is just impossible — only by the civil defence systems because this is a much bigger problem. For example, I will straightway tell you about what happened in Jaipur. Recently, we had a fire in the oil depot in Jaipur. It is our own Government. I am not going into that, and different Governments have come at different times. But, the point I am trying to make is that the District Administration had no detailed disaster management preparedness programme. I accept this because it is not there in most parts of the country. Sir, while dealing with the recent fire in the oil depot in Jaipur, the District Administration did not have any plan. As I said, the delay in relief caused massive loss of life and property. It has now been reported that the District authorities later conjured up a district disaster plan by copying and pasting other districts' plan. If we do these kinds of activities, it is not going to help the country, or any citizen in the country. The court has now ordered the court has to interfere here also — that FIR should be lodged against people involved in it. I have mentioned this because it is very easy to say that include disaster management in this Civil Defence

Bill. But, do we have enough resources? Do we have enough volunteers to handle that kind of situation? Sir, the Committee has recommended many more things. If they are coming under the rules, I have no objection, but they should not be overlooked, like the Building Material Technology Promotion Council has classified 241 districts as multi-hazard districts. What are we doing about that? K.M. Singh Committee recommended authorisation of 800 wardens per district or 20 lakh populations. Do we have this plan of 800 wardens? Do we have resources for this? Sir, the Committee has also recommended strengthening of training institutions, involvement of Panchayati Raj institutions, revamping the structure of civil defence. Do we have plans for all this? Do we have resources for all this? Sir, the NCC, NSS, Nehru Yuva Kendras are being integrated with civil defence networks. All these things should be trained for civil defence. For all this, Rs.100 crore has been provided in the Eleventh Plan to revamp the civil defence. Sir, I request the hon. Minister to appeal to the Finance Minister, Rs.100 crore in five years is neither here nor there. Further, we want to include the disaster management also in this, and we want Rs.20 crore for a large country like this. We need much bigger amount of resources and we need much more training. We have to have a plan for that. Sir, under the scheme, the Civil Defence Institutes in 20 States, U.T.s will be strengthened, and civil defence set-ups in 100 identified districts will be strengthened.

(THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR) in the Chair)

It is in 100 identified districts only, out of probably 600 districts. How can we manage? We cannot do it in ten years. There is no question of identifying. If we want every citizen in the country to get the benefit of civil defence, we have to strengthen this system in every district, every village, every town. There is no question of identifying only 100, and then leaving other 500 districts out of the purview from this kind of service. What will happen to those districts? Sir, I request the Government to respond. The State Governments and district authorities should have a list of enlisted volunteers. Do you have the list of volunteers? Do you have a plan to have a register of volunteers? If there is any exigency, an organised response is required. How are these volunteers organised? Are they attached to any district police formation, or are there permanent district-level civil defence formations? What are we doing about strengthening this information? I would like to tell the hon. Minister that we don't have all this information readily available. Unfortunately, we do not have proper registers even for the blood groups, what to speak of this kind of much better registers.

The disasters are defined as natural or manmade. Our cities have been the targets of terror strikes; our countryside is witnessing naxal violence; certain States are witnessing even secessionist violence; and, incidents of communal and caste violence are reported in the country. Why did I mention all this? Sir, including disaster management in the civil defence is all right but we have much

bigger problems than this. I support this Bill; I will support further activities also but we need much more strengthening. That is why, I am stressing on the point that simply including the disaster management in the civil defence is not the solution; this requires much more effort than this.

The naxals are attacking the civil infrastructure or the running trains. How can the volunteers be used to provide relief to those affected in an accident or a bomb blast. He mentioned about 'Bombay'. This is true. 'Bombay' is a much bigger thing. How many people will take the risk of their lives? When there is an accident on the road, how many people are willing to help that accident victim? In France, there is a law according to which, if you find an accident victim on the road, it is obligatory on your part to help him and take him to the hospital. Do we have that kind of law? Do we have that kind of character? We are scared. If there is a trouble on the road — I have seen it with my own eyes—somebody with one pistol can control probably one thousand people. Nobody wants to come forward. We have seen women being assaulted. How many people come forward to help those women? Whatever we talk about character, it requires much stronger training, much stronger effort. I am not complaining about any individual or any organisation. Mr. Dave, I am with you. We need a complete support from every side, and, that is why, I say, character can be built only if all of us are willing to join together and try to build up the character. ...*(Interruptions)*... I do not know what he has said.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Bihar): What about political character! ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Yes, you are right. Even our political character has to improve, and, I think, some of you have to improve more than what is required in case of some of us. This is but natural. I am not excluding the politicians. They are also part of the system. I have said that every individual in the country needs to improve upon himself. If he is good, he has to be better. Even the religious heads, even the religious leaders, everybody has to improve. ...*(Interruptions)*... I do not know but I am told that many of your friends are within. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): Please do not disturb. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: You are also with the Party. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): Please address the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, through you, I am telling him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): Don't divert. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, I am looking at you because you are looking handsome, smart and all that. But let me look around also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): Thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, I will not take very long time. Will the NDMA, the National Disaster Management Authority, also consider using the Territorial Army for this purpose? This is a trained Territorial Army, which is available in the country. Should we include that also in the civil defence. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, we must have a system by which. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, there should be some disaster management in the House also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): Rudyji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't disturb. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Yes, there should be some disaster management in the House and your cooperation is required. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): Why are you responding?

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, I come to my last point. ...**(Time-bell rings)**...
...*(Interruptions)*...

Sir, they will not let me make my last point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. Order please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया : हमारे मित्र हैं, बात करने में अच्छा लगता है, कोई हर्ज नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): No, no. Don't respond. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, I am not going to be disturbed. इस सबसे क्या फर्क पड़ता है? ये सब लोग एक साथ बोलेंगे, तब भी कोई फर्क नहीं पड़ेगा। भगवान ने मेरी voice को top पर लाकर छोड़ दिया, फिर वह मशीन ही गायब हो गई। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अब उसको वापस कंट्रोल करने का सिस्टम नहीं है। Sir, the last point I want to make is ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी : सर, लॉ पर बहस चल रही है, लेकिन इनकी पार्टी के सदस्य नहीं सुन रहे हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): Your point please. ...*(Interruptions)*... रूडी जी... ऐसे टाइम वेस्ट हो रहा है।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: For this, Sir, what kind of system should be there for monitoring the performance of the district authorities? We should have a monitoring system which is available not on three months' basis or six months' basis, but we should have a monitoring system which is available on weekly basis. Then only something good can happen to the country. In today's world, when we have the computer system, I am not saying daily, at least, weekly report should come to the proper authorities so that if there is any problem in any district, it can be corrected immediately.

With these words, Sir, I would like to conclude. And, Sir, I believe, that there is no combat activity in this. This is meant for civil defence, even if it is national disaster. We are not trained for combating. That is the responsibility of the Army. With these words, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. I hope everybody in the country will support this and the day we take this responsibility, whether the ISI, whether any divisive forces, either because of religious or because of caste, nobody will be able to touch anybody in the country.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): Thank you.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: I remember in 1947, I was in Kolkata. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती वृंदा कारत (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : सर, ये फिर शुरू हो गए।

श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया : सर, अगर मेरा टाइम पूरा हो गया है, तो मैं बोलना छोड़ दूंगा।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री तारिक अनवर) : आप खत्म कीजिए।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: I think, I am allowed and I have enough time. Still I am going to finish.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): Please conclude.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, in Kolkata, my house was surrounded by all minority people in 1947. There was so much fear, so much bloodshed all around. But the people both Hindus and Muslims were there in our own area. Those who come from Kolkata or who know Kolkata, there was a Shudh Khadi Bhandar which was opened by Mahatma Gandhi, I was staying in that house only. There were Muslims just behind my house. We could talk to everybody. सबको हम चाचा, मामा, ताऊ बोलते थे। And, during that trouble also, there was hardly any bloodshed in that area because we tried to help each other. That kind of training, that kind of desire has to come in you, in me, in these people and everybody else. If we start saying that don't count either in the Army or somewhere else, or, you don't do this, don't do that on religious basis, please let things move. We have to help every community. Either due to religion or due to caste, we cannot differentiate. If some community or some people from any other religion are not developed enough, we have to have figures. We have to have information about it. What is wrong in taking the information? Sir, with this, I once again thank you for allowing me to speak on this subject. Thank you.

श्री समन पाठक (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नागरिक सुरक्षा (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2009 का समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। इस विधेयक का समर्थन करते हुए मैं कुछ विषयों की ओर मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहूंगा। महोदय, नागरिक सुरक्षा का यह विषय भारत जैसी विशाल आबादी वाले देश के लिए बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। सरकार की यह जिम्मेदारी बनती है कि आम आदमी को सुरक्षा प्रदान की जाए, लेकिन यह सुरक्षा सिर्फ यांत्रिक रूप से, मशीनी रूप से नहीं, बल्कि आम आदमी को इसमें involve करा कर, विभिन्न सरकारी

एजेंसियों, गैर सरकारी एजेंसियों और स्वेच्छा संस्थानों, सभी को इसमें involve कराकर इस नागरिक सुरक्षा को कैसे और मज़बूत किया जाए, इस पर गंभीरता से सोचने की जरूरत है। आपदा प्रबंधन विधेयक के संबंध में अभी-अभी माननीय सदस्यों ने यहां पर जिक्र किया कि आतंकवाद, आतंकवादी हमला, नक्सलवाद, देश में होने वाली कोई भी घटना या प्राकृतिक प्रकोप या अन्य कोई ऐसी दुर्घटना, जो देश को नुकसान पहुंचाती हो या ऐसी मानवीय आपदाएं, जिनके कारण विभिन्न समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ता हो, ऐसी आपदाओं से हम कैसे निपटें ताकि जान माल की हानि कम से कम हो और ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोगों को सुरक्षा प्रदान की जाए, इसके लिए disaster management को और अधिक शक्तिशाली और चुस्त करने की जरूरत है। महोदय, 2005 में आपदा प्रबंधन अधिनियम बनाने के बाद हर जिला स्तर पर, हर डिस्ट्रिक्ट लेवल पर इसको लेकर जाना था, लेकिन आज की तारीख में स्थिति यह है कि देश के कई हिस्सों में लोग इस आपदा प्रबंधन अधिनियम का नाम तक नहीं जानते हैं। यह बड़ी दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण बात है। इसलिए केवल विधेयक लाने से ही काम नहीं चलेगा, इसके लिए एक मजबूत संकल्प की जरूरत है। मैं सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि इस ओर भी ध्यान देना चाहिए कि कैसे इसका सही तरह से implementation हो। साथ ही साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो disaster management है, इसको केवल बिल से नहीं, बल्कि infrastructure की दृष्टि से और equipments की दृष्टि से भी मजबूत करना जरूरी है। अगर आपके पास कोई infrastructure नहीं है, आपके पास मजबूत equipments नहीं हैं तो कैसे आप इसको manage कर पाएंगे? मैंने इस विधेयक में कहीं पर ऐसा नहीं देखा कि किस तरह से आप इसको अपडेट कर रहे हैं, आप किस तरह के equipments, किस तरह का infrastructure तैयार कर रहे हैं, किस तरह की व्यवस्था कर रहे हैं, यह सब मैंने इस विधेयक में नहीं देखा। दूसरी चीज़ यह है कि कोई भी घटना हो - जैसे प्राकृतिक प्रकोप के लिए यह जरूरी है कि forecasting या पूर्वानुमान सही ढंग से हो और यह forecast साधारण आदमी तक, आम आदमी तक समय पर पहुंच सके। लेकिन दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण बात यह है कि दुर्घटना होने के बाद हम लोग उसका विश्लेषण करते हैं, उसकी पुष्टि करते हैं कि ऐसा होने वाला था, लेकिन हम लोग पहले से उसका सही तरह से पूर्वानुमान लगाकर उसकी घोषणा नहीं करते। इसी प्रकार मौसम विभाग की हालत है। हमारे देश के ग्रामीण एरिया में, मछुआरे या किसान आम तौर पर मौसम पर निर्भर रहते हैं। जो लोग मौसम की forecasting करते हैं, वे यह कह देते हैं कि कहीं-कहीं गरज के साथ छीटें पड़ने वाले हैं, लेकिन कहां-कहां पर ऐसा होने वाला है, इसके बारे में सटीक रूप से नहीं बताया जाता है। इस प्रकार का जो हमारा infrastructure है, उससे हम कैसे disaster management को मजबूत बना सकेंगे, इसके बारे में गंभीरता से सोचना बहुत जरूरी है। इसके लिए उच्च तकनीक की जरूरत है तथा सुरक्षा एजेंसियों और equipments को मजबूत करना बहुत जरूरी है। इसके साथ-साथ मैं एक जरूरी बात यह कहना चाहता हूँ - जैसे माननीय सदस्य ने अभी-अभी जिक्र किया कि इसके लिए जो funding system है, वह ठीक नहीं है। कोई भी आपदा आने के बाद हम सबको गुहार लगाते हैं कि इसके लिए फंड की जरूरत है। पहले से एक मजबूत funding होना बहुत जरूरी है ताकि दुर्घटना होने के बाद हम उस जगह पर तुरंत relief दे सकें, इसके लिए पहले से ही फंड्स की सही व्यवस्था करना बहुत जरूरी है। साथ ही नागरिक सुरक्षा को ध्यान में रखते हुए आपदा संबंधी सुरक्षा के लिए व्यापक रूप से प्रशिक्षण जरूरी है।

12.00 NOON

आज हर नागरिक को ट्रेनिंग की जरूरत है, सरकारी और गैर सरकारी संस्थान को या जो स्वेच्छिक संस्थान हैं, जो वोलिंटियरिटी काम करते हैं, उनको भी सही तरीके से ट्रेनिंग देने की जरूरत है, अवेयरनेस करने की जरूरत है। आज देश में ऐसी स्थिति है कि अगर कोई बच्चा खाई में गिर जाता है तो हमको इसके लिए सेना को बुलाना पड़ता है। तब जाकर ही उसको बचाया जा सकता है। तो हम हर नागरिक को इस तरह से ट्रेनिंग दें, हर एजेंसी को ट्रेनिंग करें जिससे हमें छोटी-छोटी घटनाओं के लिए सेना का इंतजार न करना पड़े कि जब सेना आएगी तभी यह काम होगा। आतंकवाद के सवाल पर या प्राकृतिक आपदा के सवाल पर हो या कोई भी छोटी-मोटी घटनाओं के ऊपर हो, इस तरह से जो केम्पेनिंग और ट्रेनिंग है, यह हर एक नागरिक तक पहुंचे, इसकी भी व्यवस्था करना जरूरी है।

लास्ट में, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का रिहेबिलिटेशन की तरफ ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा कि कोई भी नेच्युरल कलैमिटी हो या आपदा हो या कोई भी ऐसी दुर्घटना के बाद रिहेबिलिटेशन का सिस्टम है, इसमें कोई भी सरकार हो या कोई भी मंत्री हों, वहां तुरंत जाकर एलान कर देते हैं कि हम लोग ये देने वाले हैं तथा बड़े-बड़े वायदे कर देते हैं, घोषणाएं कर देते हैं। लेकिन असलियत में उनकी जो रिहेबिलिटेशन की सुविधा विक्टम तक पहुंचने में बहुत देरी लगती है, कहीं-कहीं तो वह घोषणा, घोषणा ही रह जाती है। उन तक राहत नहीं पहुंचती है। इसलिए इस ओर भी बहुत गंभीरता से सोचने की जरूरत है। इसके साथ ही मैं यह नागरिक सुरक्षा विधेयक का स्वागत करूंगा और हर नागरिक को इससे लाभ पहुंचे, हर नागरिक को ट्रेंड करें और मैंने जो खामियां बताई हैं, मंत्री जी, जरा इस पर ध्यान दें। धन्यवाद।

श्रीमती जया बघन : धन्यवाद, सर। महोदय, मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करती हूँ। मुझे याद आता है कि जब मैं बहुत छोटी थी, तो मेरी माता जी ने मुझे सिखाया था कि जब खाना खाओ, उतना ही अपनी थाली में लो जितना आप खा सकती हो या हजम कर सकती हो। वह इसलिए कहती थी कि वे जब छोटी थी तो बंगाल में अकाल पड़ा था, और वहां लोग कटोरा लेकर घर-घर जाते थे और कहते थे, मां, भात दाओ, फेन दाओ। भात दाओ मीन्स चावल दो, फेन दाओ मीन्स, चावल का पानी दो। तो वहां लोग इतने भूखे थे तथा मर रहे थे। यह जो बात थी, उसका असर मेरे दिमाग पर बहुत ज्यादा पड़ा और आज तक यह आदत मुझ में है कि मैं जितना खाना चाहती हूँ उतना ही लेती हूँ। यही शिक्षा मैंने अपने बच्चों को भी दी है। कहीं अगर मैं देखती हूँ कि कोई खाना वेस्ट कर रहा है तो मुझे बहुत बुरा लगता है। कभी-कभी आप बाहर जाते हैं, होटलों में मैंने देखा कि वहां खाना आर्डर करते हैं और कुछ बच जाता है। मैं हमेशा यह कहती हूँ कि इसको पैक कर दो और रास्ते में कोई गरीब मांगता होगा तो उसे दे देंगे। इस देश में कोई भूखा नहीं मरना चाहिए, यह मेरी इच्छा है। पता नहीं, यह मेरे जीवनकाल में पूरा होगा या नहीं। मुझे बहुत शर्म आ रही है कि आज मैं यहां खड़ी हूँ इस बिल को सपोर्ट करने के लिए, मेरे पास और कोई चारा नहीं है। हिन्दुस्तान में यही अवस्था है हर इंसान की, हर जाग्रत इंसान की यही है सोच। इतने सालों बाद भी हम इस तरह के शब्द अपने बिल में इस्तेमाल कर रहे हैं - 'a vibrant institution' 1968 का बिल हम vibrant institution बनाना चाहते हैं। इतने दिन तक वाइब्रेशन क्यों नहीं हुआ, मुझे समझ में नहीं आया? इतना मौका हम लोगों को मिला, सर, यह बहुत दुख की बात है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : जब जागा तब सवेरा।

श्रीमती जया बच्चन : जब जागे तभी सवेरा, यही तो मार गया हम सबको। हमको जगना चाहिए था, 60 साल पहले। उस वक्त अंग्रेज आए थे, अब अमेरिकन आएंगे, लिख लीजिए। आप लोगों की पूरी तैयारी है। यह हमारी बदनसीबी है कि शायद हम हमेशा गुलामी से ही गुजरेंगे। हर फिर लड़ेंगे, उस लड़ाई में कुछ बड़े-बड़े लोग मर जाएंगे, तब फिर देश को आजादी मिलेगी। इसके बाद कुछ लोग और आ जाएंगे, देश को फिर गुलाम बनाने के लिए। जब जागे तभी सवेरा, मैं इस बात में बिल्कुल यकीन नहीं करती हूँ। यह गलत बात है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री तारिक अनवर) : आप उधर ध्यान न दें और अपनी बात कहें।

श्रीमती जया बच्चन : उन्होंने टिप्पणी की थी, इसीलिए मैंने बोला है। सर, हम डिफेंस की बात करते हैं, लेकिन जो हमारे पास मौजूदा डिफेंस है, हम उसको तो तैयार भी नहीं रख सकते हैं। हम उनको जूते नहीं दे सकते हैं। हमारे जवान बर्फ में काम करते हैं। वे वहां पर दुश्मन से लड़ने के लिए तैयार हैं, लेकिन हम उनको मोजे व जूते नहीं दे सकते हैं। बहुत सी छोटी-छोटी बातें हैं, जिनको कहकर मैं शर्मिन्दा नहीं करना चाहती हूँ। जो हमारी सुरक्षा के लिए लगाए गए हैं, उनको तकलीफें नहीं होनी चाहिए। अगर हम उनको ये चीजें प्रेवाइड नहीं कर सकते हैं, बेसिक नेसेसिटीज़, कम्फर्ट और लगजरीज़ की बात को छोड़ ही दीजिए, तो फिर हम किस बिल की बात कर रहे हैं? हम किस को वाइब्रेंट करने की बात कर रहे हैं? मुझे कभी-कभी ऐसा लगता है और मैं शर्मिन्दा भी बहुत महसूस करती हूँ कि यह कुछ व्हाइटवाश किया जा रहा है। मुम्बई में एक तो डिजास्टर हो गया, आपने अभी कहा मुम्बई के लोग खड़े होकर देख रहे थे, यह गलत बात है। मुम्बई के लोग खड़े होकर देख नहीं रहे थे, बल्कि मुम्बई के लोग बाहर आए। वे हमेशा हर तकलीफ में एक दूसरे की मदद करने के लिए खड़े रहते हैं। मैं यह कहती हूँ कि मुम्बई की सरकार खड़ी होकर देख रही थी। यह तो होना ही नहीं चाहिए था। मुम्बई में फ्लड आया, नहीं आना चाहिए था। मुम्बई में आतंकवादी आए, वे नहीं आने चाहिए थे। Mumbai, which is the financial city of the country, financial capital of the country! Are we prepared? Were we prepared for the defence of that city? I am really confused. सर, मैं भावुक हो गई थी। मैं बुद्धिजीवी नहीं हूँ, हृदयजीवी हूँ, इसलिए भावुकता की बात करती हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री तारिक अनवर) : बोलिए, आप बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्रीमती जया बच्चन : आप लोग तो यही चाहते हैं कि शार्टकट में काम खत्म हो जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप दो घंटे तक बात कीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... बिल पर ही आ रही हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री तारिक अनवर) : जया जी, आपका समय बर्बाद हो रहा है।

श्रीमती जया बच्चन : सर, अगर वे इस तरह से टोकेंगे, तो मैं समय लूंगी। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री तारिक अनवर) : प्लीज़, आप लोग बीच में न बोलें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्रीमती जया बच्चन : आप मुझे मत टोकिए, मैं समय नहीं लूंगी। यदि आप टोकेंगे, तो मैं समय लूंगी। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री तारिक अनवर) : प्लीज़, प्लीज़। आप बोलिए

श्रीमती जया बघन : भुवनेश्वर कालिता जी, मकान नहीं दिया, तो ठीक है, लेकिन टिप्पणी तो मत करिए। मैं टिप्पणी करूंगी तो आपको बुरा लगेगा। आप मेरा मुंह मत खुलवाइए।...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री तारिक अनवर) : बोलने दीजिए, बोलने दीजिए।

श्रीमती जया बघन : सर, असल बात तो यह है कि जो हमारे डिफेंस के लोग हैं या जो हमारे कर्मचारी हैं, चाहे वे किसी भी सरकारी ओहदे पर हैं, अगर हम उनकी देखभाल नहीं करेंगे, तो आज के इस जमाने में, महंगाई के जमाने में, उनकी तनखाहें नहीं बढ़ाएंगे, उनको सुविधाएं नहीं देंगे, तो डिजास्टर होते रहेंगे। Disaster of corruption of mind, heart and intention. सर, हमें इसको रोकना है। हमें इसके लिए तैयारी करनी है। हमारे देश में अमीर लोग जिंदा रह सकते हैं, मगर आम आदमी आज जिंदा रहने के काबिल नहीं है। मैं छोटी-छोटी बातें बता रही हूँ कि हम किस तरह से तैयारी रखते हैं। अभी हमारे यहां दिल्ली में कॉमन वेल्थ गेम्स की तैयारी चल रही है। जिसकी वजह से मेट्रो बन रही है, फ्लाई ओवर्स बन रहे हैं, हर कहीं सड़कें बंद की गई हैं। There is no proper lighting up of the signboards. रात को गाड़ियां चलती हैं, एक्सीडेंट्स होते हैं। Road breakers, speed breakers are made without properly giving any kind of guidance to the person who is on the road driving a car. There are accidents every day. उस दिन जब मैं अपने घर से यहां आ रही थी, मुझे आधा घंटा, पैंतालीस मिनट लगते हैं, सड़के इतनी खराब थीं, मुझे लगा कि स्पॉन्डेलाइटिस की यह तकलीफ मुझे कॉमन वेल्थ की वजह से हो गई है। Roads are so bad. If we are preparing Metro links, if we are making flyovers, should we have not thought of giving people on the road, at last, smooth roads? Forget the traffic jams. What kind of preparedness are we talking about? मुझे याद है, उस दिन जब मंत्री जी कह रहे थे, वे बहुत सीनियर मंत्री हैं, कि मीडिया ट्रायल मत करिए, मगर सर, मीडिया ट्रायल जरूरी है। अगर मीडिया ट्रायल नहीं होगा तो ये लोग सुधरेंगे नहीं। Who is going to point out these things? We bring a Bill; we discuss it; we pass the Bill without any debate! And, then, what happens? In 60 years, we have not been prepared for any kind of disaster that this country is facing every now and then. Whether it is floods, whether it is महंगाई। आप क्यों नहीं सोचते हैं कि हम इस महंगाई को रोक नहीं सकते हैं, लेकिन सम्भाल तो सकते हैं? इस तरह के preparedness को हम क्यों नहीं समझ रहे हैं? And you are wanting to bring vibrancy! Where? I don't know! How? I don't know! I do support this Bill, but with a lot of hesitation and with a lot of guilt. And I only hope that this Bill really means what they are trying to say.

I would like to bring out certain points here. They are talking about 'against any hostile act'. I do not know what they mean by 'hostile act'. You have people in the defence, civil defence. They are so poorly paid that instead of defending people, they are extorting money! There is extortion. Is that preparedness? Okay, you are asking us to support your Bill. But what have you done in the past? What kind of defence have you given? These people you have are so poorly paid सर, उस आदमी के

पास और कोई चारा ही नहीं है। चाहे आप ट्रैफिक पुलिस को देख लीजिए, आम तौर पर आप फिल्मों में बहुत सी चीजें देखते हैं, जो देखने में अच्छी नहीं लगतीं, हम लोग पार्लियामेंट में आकर उनको क्रिटिसाइज करते हैं, सेंसर बोर्ड वाले काट देते हैं, मगर जो करप्शन की चीजें हैं, वे दिखाई जाती हैं, सच्चाई दिखाते हैं, शीशा दिखाते हैं। यह सही है। यह इसलिए है, because we have not given them proper provision; we have not looked after them in these last 60 years. I don't care whether the Government is this side or that side. Natha Singh and Prem Singh, one and the same thing! Every year, the Mumbai Police holds a charity programme for the welfare of its families. It is a shame, Sir! It is a shame that this huge Institution needs the help of charity welfare programmes for its families. It should be our primary concern to look after the people who are here to take care of us, whether it be Police or whether it be Defence Services. Nobody wants to join the Army, the Air Force and the Navy today! It is tough, Sir, because they are so poorly paid. किसकी रक्षा करेंगे? अपने परिवार की या अपने देश की? कोई जाना नहीं चाहता है। There is no future.

You have not created any national feelings among the younger generation of today. It is very sad. It is a very sad state of affairs.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री तारिक अनवर) : आप conclude कीजिए प्लीज़।

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: I am concluding, Sir. I realise that there is a lot to say if you start pointing out the faults. There are so many unaccountable ones. Anyway, I am supporting this Bill. My party supports this Bill with a hope that we are not going to be standing here after another 60 years and our grand-children will not be talking and discussing the same subject here. Thank you very much.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I welcome this piece of legislation which seeks to strengthen the role of Civil Defence in disaster management. I understand that this is the limited objective of this Bill. So, I confine myself to it.

Sir, the Government of the day may or may not be able to prevent a disaster. But the Government can surely ensure that the citizens and the public are well prepared to tackle a disaster once it occurs.

Sir, keeping in view the National Disaster Management Authority and its role, I would like to know from the Government whether the Civil Defence institutions will involve the panchayats and other local bodies like the municipalities to participate in disaster management. What are the plans of the Government to involve the panchayats and the municipal institutions in disaster management? There is a great scope for giving training and creating awareness in all panchayat bodies in disaster management.

Sir, we have a huge population. They can be mobilised and motivated by the Civil Defence Forces and they can be taught how to tackle and endure disasters, and also to understand what can be done. We have a number of institutions to be involved and made aware of disaster management. They must be made aware of disasters.

Sir, Civil Defence Forces can play a great role by attracting volunteers. The Civil Defence is a potent force. The Administrative Reforms Commission has recently stated that the ideal number of volunteers would be one for every thousand population. So, the Civil Defence should concentrate on raising volunteers and training them. They would be the first to face the disaster.

Sir, the Government should also clarify whether the National Disaster Management Authority would have jurisdiction over the Civil Defence or whether it would be with the Home Ministry. It should be clarified. The Government should also define the role of the National Disaster Management Authority in the management of National Disaster Response Forces, Right now the Home Ministry coordinates the Response Forces. With the strengthening of the Civil Defence, what would be the relationship among the various bodies dealing with disaster management in the country? The Government must clarify. The Government should also clarify how it will create synergy among the National Disaster Management Authority, the Home Ministry, the National Disaster Response Forces and the Civil Defence. There is always a danger of each of them pulling in different directions. It must be defined and clarified. This amendment, I understand, will enable the Government to use the Civil Defence for disaster management. That is the limited object of this Bill. Let us hope that the Government will implement such plans on a fixed time-frame. What is the time-frame? Many a time in our country, we pass laws and then we forget about them. We imagine that once a law is passed, that law has been effectively implemented. But that does not happen in India. Unless the Government sets the targets and tests the targets of the Civil Defence, this effort will not be utilised to its full potential. Here I would like to know from the Government whether it has any plans to regularise the Civil Defence workers and make them permanent as per the rules. This is important in the context of preparedness of the country to face any disaster in any given situation. I think this Bill has only this limited objective. I am not here to raise all issues concerning internal security or external security. This Bill, I understand, has a limited objective of strengthening the role of the Civil Defence in disaster management. With these observations, I welcome this Bill. Thank you.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill with a few observations. I only want to seek one clarification from the hon. Minister. Sir, the Civil Defence Act, 1968 applicable to the whole of India aims at providing for continued maintenance of Civil Defence services which are already in position in the States and Union Territories. It further says, "The Civil Defence is intended to be organised primarily on voluntary basis as an integral part of the defence of the country on a limited scale. Several measures have been initiated to make it a vibrant institution capable of responding to various situations". But as Shrimati Jaya Bachchan pointed out, after nearly 40 years an amendment is being brought; whereas, several measures have been initiated in the past 40 years. Sir, many people have elaborated on natural disaster. They have cited many

instances. Based on those things and experiences of the past, the Government has enacted the Disaster Management Act, 2005. Subsequently, the Disaster Management Act, 2005 has been enacted, *inter alia*, to provide for requisite institutional mechanisms for drawing up and monitoring the implementation of the disaster management plans, ensuring measures by various wings of the Government for prevention and mitigating the effects of disasters and for undertaking a holistic, coordinated and prompt response to any disaster situation. Sir, this Bill serves the basic purpose of natural disaster. This Bill intends to include one clause. It says, "In clause (a) after the words "time of such attack", the words "or any measure taken for the purpose of disaster management, before, during, at, or after any disaster" shall be inserted. It has again been explained that 'disaster' means a disaster as defined in Clause (d) of Section 2 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005. Then 'disaster management' means the disaster management as defined in Clause (e) of Section 2 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005. Sir, while the Disaster Management Act itself has very clearly stated all these things, this has been included in the Civil Defence Act. I can understand the rationale behind it. My only clarification from the hon. Minister is, this amendment tantamount to an impression that powers of the State Government may be infringed upon by the Central Government. All these days, any assistance, from the Central Government, was extended to the State Governments only on the request of the State Governments. Now, this Amendment states that in case of natural disasters, the Central Government may, by itself, extend their assistance to the State Governments, which could infringe upon the rights of the State Governments. I would like to seek a clarification from the hon. Minister on this point, and, I hope, the clarification would allay the apprehensions of the State Governments. With these words, I support the Bill.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : सर, मैं इस बिल के समर्थन में बोलने के लिए खड़ी हुई हूँ। अभी यहां इस पर बहुत कुछ कहा गया है। मैं एक बात कहना चाहती हूँ कि nation के या मनुष्य के character का पता तभी लगता है जब उस पर मुसीबत आती है। जब भी इस देश पर कोई भी मुसीबत आई है, यह देश, यहां की जनता, यहां के लोग हमेशा एक होकर खड़े हुए हैं। चाहे आप 1948 का उदाहरण ले लीजिए, 1962 का ले लीजिए, 1965 का ले लीजिए, "सुनामी" का ले लीजिए या बाढ़ का ले लीजिए, हर समय इस देश ने एक होकर उसका सामना किया है। इसलिए यह कहना कि यहां character नहीं है, मेरे अनुसार गलत है। यहां character है और इसमें nationalism भी है। जब भी इस देश के लोगों के लिए आवाज उठाई गई है, उन्होंने एक होकर काम किया है।

(श्री उपसभापति पीठासीन हुए)

सर, यह बिल सिविल डिफेंस का है। इसमें मैं केवल यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि हर स्टेट ने अपने अलग-अलग मापदंड बनाए हुए हैं। हमारे यहां हर स्टेट में Home Guards हैं, जो सिविल डिफेंस की सबसे पहली सीढ़ी है,

पहली कड़ी है तथा जिनको हर जगह भेजा जाता है। उनके पास होता क्या है? एक डंडा। डंडा लेकर वे क्या डिफेंस करेंगे, वे क्या मैनेजमेंट करेंगे तथा वे क्या आगे आएंगे! उपसभापति जी, उनके जो wages हैं, वे बहुत कम होते हैं। मैं मंत्री जी को कहना चाहूंगी कि आप इसमें जो amendments ला रहे हैं, उनके बारे में ठीक ही कहा गया कि इतने सालों बाद लाए। आज जब हमारा पूरा ढांचा बदल गया है, technology बदल गई है, उसमें technical बातें आ गई हैं, equipments change हो गए, तब यह amendments लाना जरूरी था, लेकिन infrastructure का होना भी बहुत जरूरी है। इसलिए मैं यह कहूंगी कि Home Guards, जो हर स्टेट में सिविल डिफेंस की सबसे पहली कड़ी हैं, उनके wages बढ़ाए जाएं तथा उनको equipments दिए जाएं। उनको सिर्फ डंडे देकर ही नहीं खड़ा कर दिया जाए कि आप डंडा लीजिए और disaster management कीजिए। आज मुसीबत के सामने जब उनको आगे किया जाता है तब उनको पहले की तरह ही नहीं रखा जाए, इसलिए यह बहुत जरूरी है। आज से पहले होम गार्ड्स की ट्रेनिंग होती थी। वह SSB की ट्रेनिंग होती थी और गांव में भी ट्रेनिंग दी जाती थी। महिलाओं को ट्रेनिंग दी जाती थी और पुरुषों को भी ट्रेनिंग दी जाती थी। मैं तो यही कहूंगी कि जो Girls Guides हैं और Boys Scouts हैं, उनको भी सिविल डिफेंस में involve किया जाए। उन लोगों को भी इसकी ट्रेनिंग दी जाए। Colleges में जाकर वहां के students को भी बताया जाए, क्योंकि जब भी कोई ऐसी मुसीबत आती है तो विद्यार्थी ही सबसे आगे बढ़-चढ़ कर हिस्सा लेते हैं। लेकिन, इसमें उन्हें involve करने के लिए उनको भी बाकायदा ट्रेनिंग दी जानी चाहिए। ट्रेनिंग पर ज्यादा emphasize होना चाहिए तथा लोगों को aware करने के लिए ज्यादा emphasize होना चाहिए। इसलिए मैं यह कहूंगी कि इसमें जो changes आप ला रहे हैं, जो amendments ला रहे हैं, उसमें infrastructure और ट्रेनिंग पर ज्यादा ज़ोर दीजिए। पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में, पूरे भारत में, Home Guards एक State subject हैं। इनको स्टेट्स ही रखती हैं तथा वही इनको wages भी देती हैं, लेकिन यहां से इसमें यह प्रावधान होना चाहिए कि Home Guards के किसी भी cadet को, चाहे वह महिला हो या पुरुष हो, इतनी wages से कम नहीं दी जानी चाहिए। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... इसी सम्बन्ध में मैं एक बात और कहना चाहती हूं। यहां भी gender-biased है। Home Guards में जो महिलाएं हैं उनको कम पैसे दिये जाते हैं और जो पुरुष हैं उनको ज्यादा पैसे दिये जाते हैं, जबकि काम उनसे बराबर ही लिया जाता है। इसके बारे में भी सोचा जाए। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करती हूं। धन्यवाद।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): Sir, I am highly grateful to the honourable Members who have participated in the discussion on the Civil Defence (Amendment) Bill, 2009, passed by the Lok Sabha, and I sincerely thank them for their valuable suggestions. I am extremely happy that, altogether, seven Members have participated in the discussion and they have all supported this Bill. Once again, I express my sincere thanks to the honourable Members who have actively participated in the discussion on the Bill.

Sir, the concept of Civil Defence had originated during World War II. It was intended to safeguard the life and property of the civilian population. The able-bodied and the able-minded citizens were asked to help protect the common citizens from air raids, etc. during the War. The Civil Defence functioned as an extension of the Army among the common people.

The organisation which spearheaded the Civil Defence during those days was the Air Raid Prevention Organisation. After the conclusion of the Second World War, this organisation was wound up.

In independent India, the idea of involving the civil population in defence mechanism was mooted after the 1962 Chinese aggression and the 1965 Indo-Pak conflict. It was in 1968 that the Civil Defence Act was passed.

Sir, the Civil Defence is intended to be organised primarily on voluntary basis as an integral part of the defence of the country on a limited scale. However, after the 1971 Bangladesh War, the functioning of the Civil Defence became mostly defunct.

The 1968 Civil Defence Act includes any measure, not amounting to actual combat, for affording protection to any person, property, place or thing in India against any hostile attack, be it from air, land, sea or otherwise, whether such measures are taken before, during or after the time of such attack. The Act also aims at providing continued maintenance of Civil Defence services which are already in position in States and Union Territories.

Now, Sir, there are 225 cities and towns in the country which have been categorised as Civil Defence Towns and Cities. Of these 225 towns and cities, 88 have, however, not been activated.

The Civil Defence, at present, is limited to times of external aggression only. Several measures have been initiated for revamping the Civil Defence Organisation to make it a vibrant institution, capable of responding to various situations. In the aftermath of the Kargil War, the need for revamping and strengthening the Civil Defence was emphasised by the Central Government.

The role and the field of responsibility of Civil Defence have been further expanded through Executive instructions for utilising their services for mitigation, prevention and preparedness for disasters as well as for response and relief after a disaster has struck.

Subsequently, Sir, the Disaster Management Act, 2005 has been enacted to provide for requisite institutional mechanism for drawing up and monitoring the implementation of Disaster Management plans.

Further, Sir, as per the National Policy Approach Paper on Civil Defence, it was decided that the Civil Defence Act, 1968 may be amended to cater to the needs of disaster management. The Amendment will help to utilise Civil Defence Volunteers to effectively render their services as part of their duty and enhancement of public participation in Disaster Management related activities.

Sir, India is a country which is prone to natural disasters. In fact, 25 out of 29 States are prone to natural disasters. Sir, 58.6 per cent of our land mass is prone to earthquakes of moderate to very

high intensity. The country has a 7500 kilometres long coastal line, out of which, close to 5700 kms are cyclone-prone and are ravaged every now and then. The mighty rivers flowing through the length and breadth of the country make the country vulnerable to floods. Not only houses and properties are affected, the efforts of many months of hard work by farmers get washed away in these floods. Over 40 million hectares, that is, 12 per cent of the land, are prone to floods and river erosion. Sir, 68 per cent of the cultivable land is vulnerable to drought. Many times, when one part of the country is ravaged by floods, some other part would be reeling under severe drought.

Sir, the Government is responsible to protect the life and property of the people. But the Government machinery by itself may not be able to reach everywhere every time. If there are trained common people present at the site of natural disasters timely help could be better ensured. Trained and motivated civilians can extend a helping hand to the Government and during natural disasters assistance can be reached very fast and losses can be minimised.

Sir, after the passing of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 there is now a paradigm shift in our approach from the post-disaster relief and rehabilitation based 'reactive' approach to the pre-disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness based 'proactive' approach in a holistic manner.

Sir, the Civil Defence Advisory Committee under the Union Home Minister has recommended implementation of the Scheme for revamping the Civil Defence in the country at an estimated cost of Rs.100 crores during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

Sir, the Ministry of Home Affairs issued sanction for the above Scheme on 20th April, 2009, which is implemented through Director General of National Disaster Response Force and Civil Defence. The Scheme inter-alia includes upgradation of the existing 17 State Training Institutes in terms of infrastructure, transportation and equipment; establishment of 10 new State Training Institutes; upgradation of facilities in 100 identified Civil Defence Districts. The Scheme also has a pilot project involving an expenditure of Rs.3.25 crores for involving Civil Defence volunteers in assisting the police in law and order and internal security situations.

Sir, the common public who are volunteering to be part of the Civil Defence team can be trained to take action before the onset of a disaster or to identify the signs of natural disasters and warn the public so that life and property losses are minimised. Hence, Sir, it is acutely felt that the Civil Defence can play a very important role in disaster management, and, therefore, it has been proposed to expand the role of Civil Defence by amending the definition of "Civil Defence" as contained in clause (a) of Section 2 of Civil Defence Act 1968, so as to bring within its scope the measures which may be taken for the purpose of disaster management during, at, before or after any disaster. This is the very objective of the Bill, Sir.

Sir, some hon. Members have made some observations and sought certain clarifications on the Bill. One important suggestion which has been made by hon. Member, Shri D. Raja is about the role played by local bodies and panchayats in disaster awareness programmes and all that. Definitely, Sir, we will take this suggestion into serious consideration, and we will try our level best to involve local bodies, including panchayats and gram sabhas, etc., in the awareness programmes on disaster management.

Sir, another question which was posed by hon. Member, Shri Siva is about encroachment of the powers of the State Governments by Central Government. I wish to make it absolutely clear that there is no mala fide intention about interfering in the rights and powers of the State Governments by the Central Government. Not only that, Sir, before finalising the Bill, the State Governments were consulted on this, and all the States had agreed to the amendment. There is absolutely no reason why my dear friend, Shri Siva should express his apprehension in this regard. Sir, I don't think that there are any other important points which have been raised by the hon. Members, in this regard. After passing of this Bill, definitely, the Government of India will take care of the interest of the people, and we will try our level best to protect the property and life of the people of this country. So, I request the hon. Members to support this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Civil Defence Act, 1968, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be passed."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, we shall now take up the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2009. A decision has already been taken to pass this Bill without any discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

The Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2009

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1952, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI AJAY MAKEN: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be passed."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

**Motion for reference of the Bill to a select Committee
the Commercial Division of High Courts Bill, 2009.**

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): Sir, I move the following motion:-

"That the Bill, to provide for the constitution of a Commercial Division in the High Courts for adjudicating commercial disputes and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha consisting of the following Members:-

1. Shri Shantaram Laxman Naik
2. Shrimati Jayanthi Natarajan
3. Prof. P.J. Kurien
4. Shri Santosh Bagrodia
5. Shri M. Rama Jois
6. Shri Balavant *alias* Bal Apte
7. Dr. V. Maitreyan
8. Shri P. Rajeeve
9. Shri Virendra Bhatia
10. Shri Satish Chandra Misra
11. Shri Tiruchi Siva
12. Shri D. Raja

with instruction to report to the Rajya Sabha by six weeks."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Jairam Ramesh to make a statement on deliberations and results of COP-15 UNFCCC, held at Copenhagen on December 18, 2009.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Deliberation and results of COP-15 UNFCCC held at Copenhagen on December 18, 2009

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, normally I prefer to make spontaneous interventions. But, bound by your procedure, I have prepared a text. It is structured spontaneity in the text. I think, it is being distributed to all the hon. Members. Much against my wishes, I have your permission to read the text.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to make a *suo motu* statement on the 15th Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change that was held on Copenhagen, Denmark between December 7-18th, 2009.

Before I get into the statement, Sir, let me say that this is the fourth time in the last four weeks that I am speaking in some detail on the issue of climate change reflecting our Government's transparency and keenness to keep the Parliament fully informed at every step. It also reflects, of course, the great interest hon. MPs themselves have taken in this important subject. There was a Calling Attention Motion in the Rajya Sabha on November 24th and a Zero Hour discussion on December 7th. The Lok Sabha had a five-hour discussion on December 3rd. Let me reiterate that I am more than prepared to discuss this issue in Parliament at any time, in any form that the House desires and the Chairman directs.

To return to the Copenhagen Conference, there were two segments to it. The first was between December 7th and 15th that involved negotiations at the official level. The second was between the 16 and 18th of December that involved a High-Level Segment at the Ministerial level. In addition, the Danish Presidency of the Conference of Parties had invited Ministers from all countries for informal consultations from the 12th to the 17th of December, 2009. Heads of State or Heads of Government had also been invited to the High-Level Segment or during the 17th and 18th of December, 2009. Over a hundred heads of State/Government participated. Our Prime Minister addressed the Conference on the 18 of December and I had the privilege of speaking on behalf of the Government of India on the 16th of December. Sir, copies of both these speeches are attached to the *suo motu* Statement.

There were two specific outcomes of the Copenhagen Conference. In Bali, hon. Members may recall in December 2007, the Conference of Parties had decided to have negotiations on two

parallel tracks, both of which were expected to be concluded at Copenhagen. The first track relates to the outcome of the Bali Action Plan and the other track pertains to the commitment of the Annex I Parties of the developed countries for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol in the period extending beyond 2012. These negotiations could not be concluded and the Copenhagen Conference therefore, decided to continue these negotiations to be completed at the end of 2010 at the 16th Conference of Parties to be held in Mexico City in December 2010. In this respect, India, South Africa, Brazil, China and other developing countries were entirely successful in ensuring that there was no violation of the mandate for the Bali Action Plan, negotiations on the enhanced implementation of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Despite relentless attempts made by the developed countries, the Conference succeeded in continuing the negotiations under the Kyoto Protocol for the post 2012 period. Undoubtedly, many developed countries want to see an end to the Kyoto Protocol but we have been able to thwart these attempts for the time being. The major outcome of the Conference, therefore, is the fact that the negotiations under the UNFCCC will continue to proceed in two tracks as set out in the Bali Road Map one relating to the long-term cooperative action for enhancing implementation of the Convention and the second relating to the second commitment period of Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol. Another decision taken by the Conference relates to the Copenhagen Accord. India, with over twenty-five other countries that included Bangladesh, Maldives, Indonesia, China, Japan, South Korea, Papua New Guinea, Australia, Russia, Mexico, USA, Brazil, Colombia, Granada, South Africa, Algeria, Sudan, Gabon, Saudi Arabia, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Spain and the European Union, was invited by the host country to assist the President of the Conference in forging a consensus on several outstanding issues. The results of such informal consultations held on December 17th and 18th, 2009, were brought by the COP President, who happens to be the Danish Prime Minister, on his own responsibility, to the Plenary of the Conference for consideration on December 18th, 2009. Some countries that included Cuba, Nicaragua, Venezuela and Bolivia did not join the consensus on the draft Copenhagen Accord presented by the Danish Prime Minister in his capacity as the COP President. Since the Conference works on the principle of consensus, the Copenhagen Accord was not adopted as an outcome of the Conference. It was, however, taken note of. The contents of the Accord are not legally binding nor do they constitute a mandate for a new negotiating process under the UNFCCC.

6. The Copenhagen Accord deals with the various elements of the Bali Action Plan relating to the issues of mitigation, adaptation, financing and technology in the context of climate change. Let me present to you the highlights of the Accord.

7. The Accord recognizes the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities of the Parties in combating climate change. The Accord recognizes the need

to limit the global temperature rise by 2050 to below 2 degree Celsius above pre-industrial levels. While doing so, the Accord clearly sets out the goal in the context of equity and sustainable development. This ensures that in achieving this goal, the right of the developing countries like India to have an equitable share in access to global atmospheric resources cannot be ignored and is ensured. I might add here that this was a point repeatedly made by our hon. Prime Minister in all his interactions.

8. The Copenhagen Accord does speak of "cooperation in achieving the peaking of global and national emissions as soon as possible." However, the Accord explicitly recognises — this is very important — that the time-frame for peaking will be longer in developing countries. It also bears in mind that "social and economic development and poverty eradication are the first and overriding priorities of developing countries." The Accord, therefore, does not speak of a specific year for peaking for developing countries which has incidentally always been on the agenda of the developed countries. This is another area of success for us at Copenhagen. This is also consistent with the position of India as outlined by our Prime Minister over two years ago that our per capita emissions will never exceed the average per capita emissions of the developed countries.

There has been insistence from the Developed Countries to adopt quantified emission reduction targets in the long term by the global community. A global goal of 50 per cent emissions reduction by 2050, with reference to current levels of emissions, has generally been emphasized by the Annex I countries. And, this was reiterated relentlessly by many Heads of State of Annex I countries at Copenhagen also. Reference to such a specific numerical target in terms of emission reduction has been avoided in the Accord because of the insistence of the Developing Countries, particularly India, that a global goal should be expressed only in terms of limit in increase of temperature, and not in terms of a quantified emission reduction targets, Sir, let me repeat this, because of the insistence of the developing countries, particularly India, that a global goal should be expressed only in terms of limit in increase of temperature, and not in terms of a quantified emission reduction target. This is because such a target would impose in a binding commitment, for the Developing Countries which do not have such obligations under the UN Framework Convention on climate change. We can be satisfied that we were able to get our way on this issue as well.

The Accord obliges the Annex I countries to indicate their mid-term emission reduction targets for 2020 by January 31, 2010 to the Secretariat. Their actions in terms of emission reduction and financing support given to developing countries for mitigation actions in developing countries will be subject to measurement, reporting and verification as per the guidelines adopted by the Conference of Parties. The MRV applies to the Developed Countries as well.

1.00 P.M.

The mitigation actions of the Developing Countries — Sir, this is very important, perhaps, the most important paragraph in my statement - are to be supported by the Developed Countries in accordance with article 4.7 of the UNFCCC. Mitigation actions of the Developing Countries will be subject to domestic measurement, domestic reporting and domestic verification as per its internal procedures. Reports of such mitigation actions, supported or unsupported, will be made to the Secretariat through the National Communications which will be made every two years. There is a provision — I expect there will be a debate on this — for international consultations and analysis for implementation of the actions reported through the National Communications. The guidelines for such consultations and analysis will be devised and defined in due course. We have been able — I reiterate, as forcibly as I can—to incorporate a specific provision that these clearly defined guidelines will ensure that the national sovereignty is respected. This is not "an empty sentiment", these are actually words written in the Accord. Hon. Members, who have had an opportunity of reading the Accord would know, and let me just read out to you what the Accord says. It says that non-Annex I parties will communicate information on the implementation of their actions through the National Communications with provision for international consultations and analysis under clearly defined guidelines that will ensure that national sovereignty is protected.

This is not an empty boast. It is respected. It is not an empty boast. You can see who had a hand in drafting of this. This is not an empty boast. but this is actual text that is reflected in the Accord. This is another accomplishment for us at Copenhagen. Of course, as I have stated on earlier occasions, the supported mitigation actions will be open to international measurement, reporting and verification as per guidelines adopted by the Conference of Parties.

Sir, under the Accord, the developed country Parties have agreed to set up a Climate Fund named "Copenhagen Green Climate Fund" to provide resources approaching US \$ 30 billion during the period 2010-2012 to support the adaptation and mitigation actions of the developing country Parties. The funding for adaptation will be focused on the least-developed countries, small-island developing States and Africa. They have also undertaken a commitment to mobilize US \$ 100 billion a year by 2020 for such purposes and a high-level panel will be set up under the guidance of Conference of Parties to review the progress of these commitments.

A Technology Mechanism is also proposed to be established to accelerate technology development and transfer in support of adaptation and mitigation actions in the developing countries.

Negotiations on the precise architecture of this Mechanism are underway in the UNFCCC and, Sir, I am pleased and proud to say that many of the proposals made by India in this regard have found acceptance. Hon. Members may recall that we had a high-level conference in Delhi on this issue on the 23rd and 24th October and following the recommendations of this Conference, a network of technology innovation centres has been proposed by India as a part of this mechanism.

The objectives and the implementation of the Accord will be assessed and the process of assessment will be completed by 2015 in order to consider the possibility of further strengthening the long-term goal of limiting the temperature rise to below 1.5 degree Celsius. Sir, this is in response to a demand made by 43 small island developing States that includes Maldives. Bangladesh and Nepal have also supported this idea.

Sir, a notable feature of this Conference — Sir, this is the second most important paragraph in my Statement—that has been widely commented on is the manner in which the BASIC group of countries coordinated their positions. Sir, the BASIC group comprises of Brazil, South Africa, India and China. Ministers of the BASIC group comprising Brazil, South Africa, India and China had met in Beijing, as part of the pre-Copenhagen preparations, on November 27th and 28th, 2009, to prepare for Copenhagen in a joint manner. I had attended that meeting. The hon. Members may recall that I had briefed them in my earlier interventions on the results of that meeting. The BASIC Group Ministers met virtually on an hourly basis right through the Copenhagen Conference. Within BASIC, India and China worked very, very closely together. I believe that the BASIC group has emerged as a powerful force in climate change negotiations and India should have every reason to feel satisfied on the role that it has played in catalyzing the emergence of this new quartet. Their unity, the unity of Brazil, South Africa, India and China, was instrumental in ensuring that the Accord was finalized in accordance with the negotiating framework as laid out in the UNFCCC, the Bali Action Plan and the Kyoto Protocol. We will continue to work with Brazil, South Africa and China as well as other countries of the G-77 to ensure that the interests of the developing countries, in general, and India, in particular, are protected in course of negotiations during 2010 and beyond. I should also mention here, Sir, that President Obama interacted with the two Prime Ministers, Prime Minister, Wen Jiabao and Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, and the two Presidents, President Lula and President Zuma of the BASIC Group and it was at this meeting of the BASIC Heads of the States and President Obama that the Copenhagen Accord was clinched to the satisfaction of all present. It was at this crucial meeting that the BASIC group was able to get agreement on its proposals on global goals and on monitoring and verification.

It was at this meeting that the formulation, defined guidelines, clearly defined guidelines, that will respect national sovereignty was formulated and accepted by President Obama as well. It was able to ensure that the Copenhagen Accord was not legally binding. It was because of the BASIC group that the Copenhagen Accord was ensured to be not legally binding and that there is no mention of any new legally binding instrument in the Accord. Sir, this is a very, very important achievement. There is no mention whatsoever of a new legally binding instrument because this was clearly the intention of many European countries and it was the intervention of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister Wen Jiabao, President Zuma, President Lula supported by President Obama that ensured that there is no mention of a new legally binding instrument in the Copenhagen Accord.

Sir, I have been somewhat detailed in this *suo motu* statement. I have never hidden anything from Parliament and I have been very upfront about how our thinking on climate change has to evolve and not remain frozen in time. I have repeatedly sought from both Houses flexibility within a framework of certain non-negotiables. Earlier, I spoke to both Houses on the basis of my intentions and some hon. Members who are shaking their heads may recall that I had said, ultimately actions will speak louder than words. I had assured both Houses that we will negotiate in a manner that the national interest is not only protected but is also enhanced. Copenhagen, Sir, is not a destination but the beginning of a long process. There are indeed many risks. Sir, I would be the first to admit, there are many risks; there are many hazards; there are many threats. We have to be extraordinarily vigilant and careful, negotiating tough but negotiating always from a position of strength. For the moment, I believe that India has come out quite well at Copenhagen and we have been recognized for our constructive approach. We will continue to play such a role. We have to deepen our capacity to pursue proactive climate diplomacy internationally. We have to get down to implementing a comprehensive domestic agenda of both adaptation and mitigation and of moving on the road to cutting our emissions intensity of GDP by 20-25 per cent by 2020 on 2005 levels, an objective that I had announced in the Lok Sabha on the 3rd of December. This objective is not only eminently feasible but it can also be improved upon to the benefit of our own people. We must soon unveil a roadmap, a detailed roadmap, for a low-carbon growth strategy as part of the 12th Five Year Plan. We must also strengthen our own scientific capacity to measure, to monitor and to model the impacts of climate change on different sectors of our economy and in different regions of our country.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I will now be more than glad and willing to clarify any doubts and answer any questions that hon. Members may wish to raise. I see this statement as part of a continuing dialogue between our Government and hon. MPs, as a reflection of our determination to ensure accountability to Parliament. Thank you, Sir.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have heard and gone through the elaborate statement made by the hon. Minister. I cannot, Sir, hide my disappointment under the present circumstances. Even when it became clear that at Copenhagen a multilateral accord or a statement was not going to be possible, what instead has happened is a plurilateral accord with a reasonable prospect of this plurilateral accord eventually slowly but surely, being accepted by others and becoming the fresh basis for the furtherance of the negotiations.

In this detailed statement, Sir, the Minister has elaborately patted himself and the Government on the back for, what he calls, protecting the national interest. I do not know, Sir, whether the Government and the negotiators consciously agreed to the language, as has been framed, or they have been completely outwitted in the drafting of this language. Reports coming from across the world refer to this Accord as a global disappointment. It appears to be a complete betrayal of the poor and the weaker nations, the developing nations, and the more powerful nations have almost been left off the hook. And, after the Accord, what we find is a continuous campaign and spin-doctoring as a substitute for truth. We almost find that facts are being stated and represented, which are not even consistent with the very language of the Accord. Therefore, Sir, instead of referring to the statement while seeking clarifications, I shall refer to the original document, the Accord itself and the language of the Accord.

Sir, there are several questions which arise on the very language of the Accord. The first: If this plurilateral accord becomes a multilateral accord, which it is likely to, can it ever be reasonably argued that the Kyoto Protocol continues to subsist? The Kyoto Protocol had a specific, defined route and obligations. Annexure-1 Parties, the developed countries, had to, within the first specified period, bring down their 1990 emission levels by five per cent. This was subsequently increased and the developed countries themselves felt that the reductions will have to be increased by 25 to 40 per cent.

(THE VICE-CHAIRMAN, PROF. P.J. KURIEN, in the Chair)

Now, what do we find in the present document? It says that the reduction which is promised in the Kyoto Protocol and the subsequent declarations is now substituted. Now the Annexure-1 Parties which are left off the hook by 31st of January, 2010, would file a fresh declaration with the Secretariat and the fresh declaration would be that they would now indicate as to what their rate of emission standards is going to be.

Sir, I had asked, have we been outwitted in the drafting of this document? It is when they file these declarations that the only reference to the Kyoto Protocol comes. And it does not say that they will be bound by what the Kyoto Protocol says and that they will be moving a little ahead of what the

Kyoto Protocol says. Paragraph 4 says that Annexure-I Parties commit to implement, individually or jointly, quantified economy-wise emission targets for 2020, to be submitted in a format given in Appendix-I by Annexure-I Parties to the Secretariat by 31st January, 2010, for compliance in a inf. document. 'Inf.' in the UN parlance, I understand, means information. Annexure-I Parties that are parties to the Kyoto Protocol — so it binds only those who are defined to be parties to the Kyoto Protocol — will thereby further strengthen the emission reductions initiated by the Kyoto Protocol. So, it means, please strengthen what is initiated by the Kyoto Protocol. That is the only reference.

Now, what happens after this arrangement is that you will have fresh kinds of reduction targets and obligations which are laid down. The Kyoto Protocol obliged them to follow route 'A'; the Copenhagen Accord will now oblige them to follow route 'B'. The consequences will be of route 'B' the obligations will be of route 'B'. Now, once they take this track, which is route 'B', which is the Copenhagen track, can it still be argued that the Kyoto Protocol and the obligations therein strictly continue to remain? And yet, we are being told that even though an alternative track has now been formulated, an alternative set of obligations has now come, which may not be as stringent, the Kyoto Protocol continues to exist. Sir, there is something called an 'implied abrogation'. Yes, this Document does not say that Kyoto stand is abrogated. But the moment a route alternative to Kyoto Protocol is discovered and then obliged, there is an implied abrogation as far as the Kyoto Protocol is concerned.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, if the hon. Member can yield for half-a-minute, I just want to clarify. Since he is using the Copenhagen Accord as the basis of his questioning or seeking clarifications, I just draw his attention to the fourth line at the very top of the Copenhagen Accord which recognises that there is a continuing mandate for negotiations under the existing tack of Kyoto Protocol. So, I just want him to realise that there is a mention of Kyoto Protocol separately. I just also want him to recognise that the Copenhagen Accord starts by accepting that negotiations under the Kyoto Protocol will continue and conclude by December 2010.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, I am placing a very simple question today. If fresh set of obligations, less onerous obligations are to be cast under the Copenhagen Accord, you will continue giving lip-sympathy to the Kyoto Protocol which are the obligations which will be applicable in future. It is the onerous obligations under the Kyoto Protocol or it is the fresh set of obligations that have been cast under the Copenhagen Accord. The hon. Minister intervened and said 'read the Preamble'. Please read the Preamble. "Line four of the Preamble", you said. The words are used 'in pursuit of the

ultimate objective of the Convention as stated in the Article'. Now, 'in pursuit of the objective', diluted from the Bali Action Plan language to achieve what is mentioned. So, 'achieve' is now read down to mean 'pursuit'. See the next line. Bali Action Plan said, 'for sustained implementation' that is now substituted by the words, 'being guided by'. Word by word, phrase by phrase the language of all other obligations stands diluted, and this is not only here. Let us for a moment ignore the obligations in the Kyoto Protocol. My question to the hon. Minister is, please be specific on this: Are the Annexure-I Parties today exempted and exonerated from the obligations of the Kyoto Protocol? If there is a repugnancy between the two Documents, which of the two is going to be made applicable — the less onerous one or the more onerous one? After all, you can't have two sets of conflicting obligations occupying the same space. One will have to choose which of the two responsibilities will be applicable. Now the Minister said that he has been very transparent and upfront. He told the Parliament that there will be no peaking here and he is not agreed to a peaking here and the Document, in effect, says so. Let us read the fourth line of paragraph 2 of the document. It says, "We should cooperate in achieving the peaking of global and national emissions as soon as possible, recognising that the timeframe for peaking will be longer for developing countries." Now what happens in the next round of negotiations? My difficulty is that the problem with this Government is the Sharm-el-Sheikh syndrome. The agreed Document says one thing, but the Government always understands it to mean differently. So, paragraph 2 clearly says, "We will cooperate in achieving the peaking of global and national emissions." So, when the peaking of national emissions takes place, that peaking will be fixed. The only concession given is, the peaking will be more stringent for the developed countries, will be a little more liberal as far as the developing countries are concerned.

So, in your next round of negotiations, you will be faced with the clear language which says, "You have agreed to the principle of peaking". All that happens is that if peaking for the developed world, for example, is 2020, the peaking for you will be 2025. The principle of peaking has been accepted; all that remains is the fixation of the specific year, as far as peaking is concerned. An assurance was given to this House that we would never agree to peaking. The principle of peaking is agreed. The peaking will be a little liberal as far as developing countries are concerned. The peaking year is yet to be fixed. That is what the Copenhagen Accord now says. So, I want the Minister to categorically tell us, and that is my specific query, will not the natural consequence of this in the next round of negotiations be that the two categories of peaking years for the developed and the developing countries will be fixed.

My third difficulty with this document is again an assurance given to this Parliament and to the country that unsupported domestic action will never agree for any international verification. I have the Minister's statement made in this House here: "All that will take place is only reporting. There can be a domestic accountability to the Parliament. But, as far as the international community is concerned,

we will only tell them what we have to do." The first thing that this document does, Sir, it completely obliterates the distinction between supported and unsupported actions. There is no distinction between the two. It then specifically says, "as far as Annexure-I Parties are concerned, whatever they do will be subject to some element of international verification." It then comes to what happens to the non-Annexure-1 countries. Now, if the document had said what the Minister assured this House, and what the Minister, in his statement, wants to again assure the House that it will be only reporting and nothing else, I would have nothing to say. But, again the Sharm el-Sheikh syndrome takes place; the document says something else. The document says, and I read paragraph 5, "Mitigation actions by non-Annexure-I Parties will be subject to their domestic measurement, reporting and verification, the results of which will be reported through their national communications every two years." Sir, I stop here for a moment. This is precisely what the Minister told us. This paragraph should have stopped here. There will be domestic measurement; there will be domestic verification. And, every two years, we will tell the international community what we have measured and what we have done. They have no role in the matter. This is what this House was categorically told. But, then, there is a next sentence, "Non-Annexure parties will communicate information on implementation of their actions through national communications with a provision, for international consultation and analysis under defined guidelines that will ensure that national sovereignty is respected." Now, it does not stop with reporting. Your responsibility does not get over with that. After you report, there will be an international consultation. That is the first thing that will happen. Then, there will be an international analysis of whether you have achieved that or not. Both these things will be done by a process — and that is the whole art of outwitting in the process of negotiations — under guidelines which are yet to be framed. So, the Secretariat will frame the guidelines. So, whatever we tell them, there will be consultation; there will be analysis. And, the guidelines will respect our national sovereignty. That is the sense of satisfaction we get. Now, what if the consultation and analysis report is that what we have achieved is only 20 per cent of what we had promised. Today, there is a statement made by the U.S. Administration saying, "We have now got India on hold and we will bind them by what is written therein, and we will make sure it is complied with." And, this is the process by which they will make sure that it is complied with. There will be guidelines framed, whatever we tell the world, there will be analysis, there will be consultations, and once they find that there is something lacking, then, the consequences will follow and you will enter into an era of conflict, an era where even trade sanctions can be imposed upon you. And yet we are being told that we must pat ourselves on the back because the language we have agreed is only reporting and nothing more. It is verification on those cases, it is now consultation and analysis under guidelines and the rest will follow. So, we again enter an era of ambiguity. We will say our understanding is different; their understanding is different. This is exactly what happened in the other

document at Sharm el-Sheikh. After all, negotiation is a process by which you create value for your country; negotiation is a process by which every word has to be measured. In a document, words are not used without any reference. There is no tutelage as far as international agreements are concerned that you use words which have no meaning. Every word has to be given the meaning which is intended to be given therein. Therefore, this analysis, this consultation, the guidelines and the consequences what the U.S. says will now emerge out of this. So, my query to the Minister is: What will be the consequences in his understanding of this consultation and analysis under the guidelines? Is it merely a case that we report and thereafter we don't look at them and they won't bother us? Or, have we travelled much beyond the commitment which we gave to Parliament?

Sir, we are now being told that this Accord was not adopted in the entire multilateral conference, but it is a clear plurilateral agreement between us, look at the language, and, therefore, no legally-binding agreement arises. Sir, it is an argument which cuts both ways. If no legally-binding agreement arises, then, what will be the consequence if the developed countries by 31st of January don't make their submissions in the Schedule in which they are supposed to submit and say we are not bound by this outcome? Was what happened in Copenhagen, the meeting between the developed countries and the basic group, an exercise in futility? Admittedly, it was not. Admittedly, this document now promises to become the centrestage document as far as the climate negotiations are concerned. And, then the national Parliament to be told, "Well, this is not a binding document". Paragraph 5, which is our obligation, starts with non-Annexure 1 parties to the Convention 'will' implement mitigation actions. Not 'may' implement, not 'could' implement, we 'will' implement, and what is it that we 'will' implement? We 'will' implement what we make a declaration by 31st of January to the Secretariat that these are going to be what my emission cuts or energy intensity cuts are going to be. It hardly lies with the Government after entering into an Accord which uses the word 'will' implement, then to come back and say, "Well, what I have signed is not binding; is not worth the paper it is written on. So, what is going to be, I want to ask the Minister, the consequence of this commitment that we 'will' implement.

The Minister said, Sir, that the most important part of this agreement is the one relating to the funding. Sir, an impression has been created and I asked some of my colleagues that we conceded all this because we are all going to get a hundred billion dollars a year. If you see the statement of the Minister, the statement itself is in clear conflict with the language of the Accord. It says, "They have also undertaken a commitment to mobilise US hundred billion dollars by the year 2020 for such

purpose". As though the developed countries are generous that hundred billion dollars will be taken out of the US Treasury and the EU Finances and will be placed on the table for the rest of the world. Please read paragraph 8 which deals with global funding. It clearly says, 'Funding for adaptation will be prioritised for the most vulnerable developing countries such as the least developing countries, small island developing States and Africa, So the 'others' get priority; 'we' are not on the 'priority list.' in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation, the developed world commit to a goal — now comes the most important world of 'mobilising'- they are not going to take it out of their treasury and put it on the table — jointly US 100 billion dollars a year by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries. This funding will come from a wide variety of sources, public and private, bilateral and multilateral, including alternative sources of finance. Now from the language it is clear that the 100 billion dollars does not come out of the US Treasury or the EU funding. This is public funding; this is private funding; this comes under various bilateral arrangements; and this will come under multilateral arrangements. Is the whole gambit of carbon trade going to be covered under this funding? And a very large part of that trade itself, which you would have got even without the Copenhagen Accord, is going to be a part of this amount of 100 billion dollars. So, this figure of 100 billion dollars is dressed up to say that you are making this concession; you are letting them off the hook of the Kyoto obligations; and they are going to pay for it. What is going to happen is that this will be public funding, private funding, multilateral funding, bilateral funding, and carbon trade, everything included is going to be totally accounting to 100 billion dollars a year by 2020.

Sir, when we look at all this, if you go through every word of this clause, and there are several other clauses, the language is completely altered. Now the hon. Minister in his statement said that our compliance will be according to articles 4.1 and 4.7 of the Convention. Why did they put 4.1 and 4.7? What did they miss out here? They missed out 4.3. Please read 4.3 of the Convention. Para 4.3 refers to funding for the purposes of technological development, which is one of the most important things. In paragraph 5, where they referred to what commitments we are going to make subject to the assurance of articles 4.1 and 4.7, what is missed out as a conscious omission is 4.3--Funding for the purposes of technological development. I recollect when my friend, Mr. Yechury, was debating this issue earlier and he took up the issue of IPRs on technological development. This document is a conscious omission. It is not a reference to what happens to the Intellectual Property Rights of the technology which we are going to get. Again, we will get into an era of ambiguity. You will say that as

far as the IPRs are concerned, it will be covered under some other convention, WIPO or otherwise, and therefore, we need not look at this particular document for it. And the others will contend, 'No, we have to really look at this document alone, and there is no reference as far as IPRs are concerned.'

Sir, these are some legitimate questions in relation to the issues which have arisen and which have created doubts in our minds. Sir, I think that in the Minister's statements, both in Copenhagen and here, there was a lot of concern that we should not be considered the fall guys. And, therefore, we were either hiding behind somebody or we were out to please somebody. Sir, it is true that we should not be seen as the fall guys. But, at the same time, we should not allow our own interest to fall. And I am afraid in our entire attempt to please some and avoid being seen as the fall guys we have decided to let our own interests to fall as far as this Copenhagen Accord is concerned. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, Shri D. Raja. ...*(Interruptions)*... We call by the names.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, what is the procedure you are following?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): First received is first. We call according to that order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, we had given his name yesterday. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Your name is not here. Have you given the name?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, the Deputy Chairman was in the Chair and he noted my name.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay, I will add. It was not here. ...*(Interruptions)*... Anyhow, I will call you. Now, Mr. Raja.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the Copenhagen Conference-created great expectations but ended in great disappointment. It was not the case of 'one step forward, two steps back'. Actually, it was 'no step forward, several steps backward'. Negotiations are kept alive. That is the only positive development at Copenhagen. The negotiations will remain till the next conference in Mexico. That is the only positive thing I find.

Sir, the so-called Copenhagen Accord, on which the Minister, our beloved Shri Jairam Ramesh, made a very long statement, does not lay down any binding target for the rich industrialised countries beyond 2012, as demanded by the Kyoto Protocol which the U.S. had all along refused to

ratify. Their attempt now is to kill the Kyoto Protocol. Sir, no wonder the accord could not be adopted by consensus. It was only taken note of. Sir, whether it is George W. Bush or whether it is Barack Obama, narrow self-interest of America must prevail over the interests of world community. The apprehension entertained by all the -poor nations that ultimately a deal will be imposed by the U.S. has proved to be correct. It was very sorry spectacle of succumbing to the U.S. pressure at Copenhagen.

Sir, the voluntary actions announced by countries like China, India and others to cut emissions will now be subject to 'international consultation and analysis', euphemism for review and international scrutiny. Sir, as pointed out by the Leader of Opposition also, a statement by a senior White House Adviser, David Axelrod that the U.S. will be able to "challenge India if it fails to meet the climate change goals". Having said that, Sir, I must ask the Minister about one particular issue. This issue was raised when we discussed during Zero Hour also, as mentioned by the Minister. That is about the REDD-Plus. I am coming to that. In the Copenhagen Accord that India and other countries agreed upon, repeated references are made to the scheme called 'REDD-Plus'. Paragraph 6 of the Accord says: "We recognize the crucial role of reducing emission from deforestation and forest degradation and the need to enhance removals of greenhouse gas emission by forests and agree on the need to provide positive incentives to such actions through the immediate establishment of a mechanism including REDD-plus, to enable the mobilization of financial resources from developed countries." "REDD-plus has been left undefined. In fact, the negotiations have left the question of what kind of forest protection will be financed." Let me finish. "And how this financing will be done, open for further discussions."

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Put your questions.

SHRI D. RAJA: I am asking the Minister because the Minister has not said about it. The point here is that it is part of the Accord. The Minister has not made any reference in his statement on this REDD-plus. That is why I am asking the Minister.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You see, we have to close this by 2 o'clock.

SHRI D. RAJA: I understand. On the one side, we talk about climate change as a serious issue.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Put your question.

SHRI D. RAJA: I am asking the question only. You are interrupting. Then how can I ask the question? The Chair should be considerate enough. Otherwise, I will stop.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You are expected only to ask questions. I am not interrupting. Don't say that. Don't make such comments.

SHRI D. RAJA: Yes, Sir. My question is, the negotiations have left the question of what kind of forest protection will be financed and how this financing will be done, open for further discussions. As per Government's earlier submissions, the Government of India wants to include afforestation and plantation programmes in this scheme, so that they are eligible for receiving money, and also make it possible to earn "carbon credits" (i.e. tradable permits to emit greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide) on the basis of carbon supposedly stored in forests. Now, I am asking the Minister one question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Don't interrupt. There is no time. We have to bind up this debate by 2 PM.

SHRI D. RAJA: At present, it is impossible for the Government of India to take some steps internationally as well as domestically. Internationally, the Government of India should withdraw its submission of June 2009 supporting the inclusion of afforestation programmes in REDD and stop supporting carbon trading as a mode of financing REDD. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, please conclude.

SHRI D. RAJA: I am asking whether the Government of India agree to it or not. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You ask so many questions. Mr. Raja, please take your seat. See, I will request hon. Members one thing. The problem is that there is shortage of time. By 2 PM, we have to conclude. That is the closing Session. That is the problem.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Shall I get some time?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Yes. You will be given time so that everybody will put questions only. No explanation, only questions.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: No, no. You see, the point is when the process began. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): You should not raise any question.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Mr. Narayanasamy forgets that he is a Minister also.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): He may be supporting the Minister. Why do you presume that he is opposing?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, let me put the record straight. I was part of the Indian Parliamentary Delegation. Okay. And I am going to speak only those parts to complete the report that the Minister has given, and speak of those issues where he has not spoken. I am completing the report.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Clarifications!

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Yes, clarification. But unfortunately, the whole tenor in which this discussion began with the Leader of the Opposition making his comments, and therefore, I think, you must be a little flexible in this matter. Sir, we will try to be as short as possible. But the fact of the matter is that we went to Copenhagen at a point when there was a very intense fight going on in order to jettison the Kyoto Protocol and the entire United Nations' framework and the Bali Plan of Action. This attempt to jettison was made, and continues to be made, by the developed countries, and the Copenhagen Accord, as it is called, is, actually, a compromise document that has emerged from here. Yes, to a certain extent, we have resisted in not letting the framework be completely jettisoned, but, at the same time, we have opened windows. We have opened windows for the possible jettisoning of the entire United Nations' framework, and that is a serious matter which we want the Minister to clarify that in the one year to come before Mexico, we will not allow this process to be jettisoned with the windows that are opened. I will just tell you the windows; that is why the clarifications are required.

The first window which we have to, really, recognise is that there is a window that is being left open for the jettisoning of the Kyoto Protocol itself. Now, if you take para 4 of the Copenhagen Accord, it says, for the first time: "Annex I parties that are party to the Kyoto Protocol will, thereby, further strengthen the emission targets which were, actually, initiated by the Kyoto Protocol." Okay. "Delivery of reductions and financing by developed countries will be measured, reported and verified in accordance with existing and any—underline 'further' further guidelines adopted by the Conference of Parties." Now, this is the window that is being opened up for jettisoning the Kyoto Protocol and bringing in any further protocol. Now, that is a matter of grave concern, and this is what we have to ensure, and the Minister has to assure us that it is not going to be allowed.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair)

And this framework of the three milestones—the United Nations' framework, the Kyoto Protocol and the Bali Action Plan — is something that will not be disturbed, and that cannot be allowed. So, that is my first clarification. That needs to be ensured.

Sir, the second redline that we have drawn for ourselves is the line which the Minister himself pointed out. But before I come to that, Sir, the Kyoto Protocol's jettisoning is also very interesting. This is the original Protocol that I have brought from Copenhagen. It comes with two Appendix pages — No. I and No. II. Number I talks of Annex I Parties who will voluntarily quantify their emissions and

who will voluntarily declare the date of the base year. By doing this, you have virtually accepted the negation of the Kyoto Protocol itself. Kyoto Protocol talks of binding, legally binding, emission-cuts by Annex- I countries. Now, by circulating a form like this, you are negating the Kyoto Protocol itself, and this is something which is not acceptable. This is number one.

Number two, Sir, that here, 'Kyoto' was a legally binding Agreement which talks of not only reduction of emissions but also of penalties for not reducing. Now, there are countries—they are developed countries; I do not want to name them because we have friendly relations with them — who have transgressed their commitment to the tune of 40 per cent; there are some who have transgressed to the tune of 18 per cent. And all of them we saw, in Copenhagen, working together and jettisoning the Kyoto Protocol! Now, what is it that we are doing to ensure the legally binding penalties on these countries? So, the first point, here, we must understand is that Copenhagen actually allowed them to get away scot free; on this entire issue, while they wanted to get away completely legally, that did not happen. Good. This process is kept alive. But in the one year that is going to take place before Mexico, we have got to ensure that it comes back to its original rails, and this cannot be allowed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I request the Members to be brief because we have fixed 2 o'clock for the valedictory address.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I wish such request came earlier, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you are brief, everybody else will also be brief.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I agree to that, but please give me a little flexibility. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, give me a only a little flexibility because I was present there.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know, I know.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: That is why I want to bring it to the awareness of this House, of this country and of the hon. Minister, and all of us together have to ensure that this does not happen; the windows that have been opened should not remain open; they must be closed.

The second window that has been opened up is with regard to the question of pressures coming on us for peaking in our emissions. Para 2 says here very clearly that "we agree that deep cuts in global emissions are required according to science." Okay. Good. Then what does it say? It says that we should cooperate in achieving the peaking of global and national emissions as soon as possible, recognising that the time frame for developing countries will be larger bearing in mind that social and economic development and poverty eradication are the first and overriding priorities of developing countries and that a low-emission development strategy is indispensable for sustainable

development. It says that we must announce a year. Okay, they may say 2020 and we may say 2050. But the point is that we have ourselves said in this Parliament, "No, we will not announce a year". So, we have to be very careful about this. This window has been opened up where there is a pressure on us, "You define your year. You tell us by which year". So, we have to be very careful in saying that we will not accept any year, but you will have to accept a year. What have we, the Prime Minister, said? We all stood by that. "Yes, our emissions level will not rise above their emissions level". But that doesn't mean that we commit ourselves to any year. That is something which we can't accept. That is the second window.

Sir, the third window that has been opened up is on the question of what has been discussed here also, consultation and analysis, which is, in my opinion, rephrasing of the term called, "measurement, reporting and verification" or MRV. Here what does it say? For the first time, again, as I have said, the binding commitments to Annexure-1 have been converted into voluntary commitments. It is so for Annexure-1 also, Here it says, in para 5, and I quote:

"Non-Annex I Parties will communicate information on the implementation of their actions through National Communications — I underline the following—with provisions for international consultations and analysis under clearly defined guidelines that will ensure that national sovereignty is respected".

All right, the national sovereignty is respected. Now these clearly defined guidelines are yet to come. What these clearly defined guidelines are going to be is very crucially important for us to realise that this consultation and analysis is not a pseudonym for MRV, namely, measurement, reporting and verification. Now, we want to ensure that they are not for MRV. Why I am raising this issue, which is very important, is that, according to the existing US laws, the moment there are clearly defined guidelines which are internationally acceptable, any country which they claim is violating these guidelines, sanctions can be imposed on that country. This is the existing US laws. That is why they want this. If this happens and there is an international agreement on these clearly defined guidelines — Sir, this is very important for us — then you are opened to sanctions.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, you are converting it into a debate.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, why I am saying this is because their own spokesman, Mr. Axelrod, today has gone on record saying, Yes, we now have India and China by their collar and now we can verify what they are doing. What they are saying is that they will reduce. This is a very clear-cut window, a very large window, which we opened up so that we can be pressurised.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think that we can have a detailed discussion on this in the Budget session.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: There will be no budget for this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. We will discuss it in the Budget session. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I have to respond. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have to respond. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, there are three points. Three windows have been opened up. One is to jettison the Kyoto Protocol and the entire framework of the UNFCCC and the Bali Declaration. The second window that has been opened up is on the question of MRV. The third window that has been opened up is on the question of what we talk of "4.7" of the Framework where our emission reductions will be contingent upon transfer of funding and technology by the developed countries. The "4.7" that you are talking of has been given a go-by whereby here the commitment is woolly commitment for financing, whereby they are not committing from their State exchequer. This is important. Please understand this. This is important because the entire climate change framework began by talking of a historical responsibility of the developed world which pillaged global climate and brought us to this situation. By not committing State finances, they are escaping from their historical responsibility. They are now talking of market forces and at a time of global recession market forces raising a 100 billion dollars annually is something that is absolutely impossible and we can't accept. Therefore, this window that has also been opened up, they can violate.

Sir, the fourth window is on the question of IPR regime. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: How many windows are there?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: There are four windows, north, south, east and west. The fourth window is the window of technology transfers without the IPR regimen. The Commerce Minister is here. He should also support us on this ground. Technology transfers without the IPR regimen was the demand that we have been putting, that has also been effectively negated in this Accord. Therefore, Sir, my only point is that we must be careful in the coming year. The effort by the West is to convert common but differentiated responsibility into common and undifferentiated responsibility. That is something which is not acceptable and India will have to work closer with the basic and the G-77 countries which the Minister has promised, which he has assured in his own statement for which I am glad. But that is the route that we will have to follow in order to ensure that these four windows that have been opened up to undermine the global climate change, will not be allowed to be undermined. That is the assurance we want from the Minister. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now Shri Yechuri has talked about it in detail, I would request you to seek only clarifications. Shri Tiruchi Siva.

2.00 P.M.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, this is a very serious issue which is being discussed with utmost concern. Let me start with the words of the Prime Minister that 'the worst affected by climate change are the least responsible for it'. The statement of the hon. Minister says, "Copenhagen is not a destination, it is only a beginning of a long process". As far as India is concerned, it has played a vital role in the Copenhagen Conference. I am afraid, the magnitude, the urgency and the challenges of the climate change have not been realised by the other participating countries in the Conference. But for India, the basic countries and the US Accord, the Conference would have ended as a complete failure. Now that this Accord is being discussed, at least, giving us a hope that the future course of action will be based on that. India has established itself in two ways. To ensure its responsibility, India has agreed to take on a voluntary target of reducing the emission intensity of our GDP growth by around 20 per cent by 2020 in comparison to 2005. This shows the responsibility of our Government. At the same time, this unilateral commitment is not internationally binding. In our efforts to uphold our sovereignty, India has made efforts to incorporate a specific provision that these clearly defined guidelines will ensure that the national sovereignty is respected, which applies to all the countries. Sir, this breakthrough lays the foundation for international action in the years to come. My questions are very pointed. For a supporting global climate change regime to put in place which is difficult one, and, at the same time, very urgent, what are the plans the Government is having? Sir, Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, the UN Secretary-General has observed, is reported to have said, "It must be transformed into a legally binding treaty". As far as I am concerned the Accord, by way of its definition means that the parties to it should act in certain areas or should desist from acting in certain areas. Why hasn't this Accord been agreed to by the other participant countries? I want to know this from the hon. Minister. There are two other things. Are not the financial tranches promised sketchy? Will it kill the Kyoto Protocol? What strategy is the Government of India having to transform this Copenhagen Accord, which has been initiated by our total involvement, into a legally binding treaty within a year as expected by all other people. Thank you.

श्री उपसभापति : श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी जी, आप क्या बोलेंगे? यहां पर आपका नाम है, क्या आपको कुछ क्लैरिफिकेशन पूछना है?

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार) : नहीं-नहीं, हम तो इस मुद्दे पर बोलना चाहते हैं।

श्री उपसभापति : नहीं, आप केवल क्लैरिफिकेशन पूछिए।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : उपसभापति महोदय, यह इतना संवेदनशील मामला है। इसको इस तरह से टेक्निकली टाइम-फ्रेम में बांधने पर हम लोग अपनी बात पूरी नहीं कर पाएंगे।

श्री उपसभापति : तिवारी जी, आप जरा समझिए, यह डिबेट नहीं है। हमने यहां पर चार मर्तबा इस पर डिसकस किया है। अब इन्होंने जो एक स्टेटमेंट दी है, उस पर आप सिर्फ क्लैरिफिकेशन पूछिए। इसमें और कुछ नहीं बोलना है।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : सर, एक अति महत्वपूर्ण मामले पर सरकार ने एक समझौता कोपेनहेगन में किया। पहले सरकार का जो स्टैंड था, उस स्टैंड में बहुत ही मौनिक ढंग से सरकार ने परिवर्तन लाया, बदलाव लाया। हम लोग कोपेनहेगन से पहले क्योटो प्रोटोकाल की बात सुनते रहे थे। उसमें जो इकरार किया गया था, उस के प्रति बाई एंड लार्ज सारे देश की और सारी दुनिया की सहमति बन रही थी। खास तौर पर दुनिया के जो गरीब देश हैं, जो छोटे-छोटे द्वीपों वाले देश हैं, वे हमारी ओर आशा भरी निगाहों से देख रहे थे कि उनके अस्तित्व पर जो खतरा है, उसकी लड़ाई हम लोग लड़ेंगे। हमारे बगल में ही मालदीव है। वहां समुद्र के भीतर उनकी सरकार के साथ मीटिंग सिर्फ इस बात की ओर ध्यान आकर्षित करने के लिए हुई कि हिन्दुस्तान हमारा पड़ोसी देश है, मजबूत देश है और हमारे एग्जिस्टेंस की वह रक्षा वह करेगा। लेकिन कोपेनहेगन में जो हुआ, उससे बड़ी भारी निराशा हुई।

वहां ग्रीनपीस का जो ब्रिटिश चैंप्टर है, उसके एक्टिंग डायरेक्टर ने बयान दिया कि 18 दिसम्बर की रात को ऐसा लग रहा था कि कोपेनहेगन में एक अपराध हुआ है और अपराधी हवाई अड्डे की ओर भाग रहे हैं। इस तरह हालत यह रही है। इसमें हिन्दुस्तान की भी बहुत बड़ी भूमिका रही है। क्योटो प्रोटोकाल में यह कहा गया था कि कार्बन एमिशन के उत्सर्जन में जो जितना ज्यादा दोषी है, उसको उतना ही ज्यादा उसका खामियाजा भुगतना पड़ेगा। यह न्याय पर आधारित सिद्धांत था। इसके लिए हिन्दुस्तान ने भी बहुत संघर्ष किया था, लेकिन क्या हो गया? हम लोग इससे पलट गए और इसी सदन में इसकी चर्चा हुई थी। माननीय मंत्री जी की जो चिट्ठी लीक हुई थी, उसी से यह पता लग रहा था कि हम लोग अमरीका का दामन थामने वाले हैं। वही नतीजा सामने आया। जितने भी धनी देश हैं, जलवायु संकट के प्रति उनके यहां जनमत इतना सचेत है कि उनको अपना चेहरा बचाना था और उनका चेहरा बचाने में हम लोग भी मददगार हुए। पिछले दिनों हमारे देश में जो ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : आप सवाल पूछिए न भई।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : उससे बहुत आश्चर्यजनक परिणाम नहीं आया है। अमरीका की आज क्या हालत है? अभी जून में वहां House of Representatives में बहस हो रही थी। डेमोक्रेटिक पार्टी का वहां बहुत बड़ा बहुमत है और वहां 119 के मुकाबले 112 से प्रस्ताव पास हुआ। वहां पर जार्जिया के एक रिप्रेजेंटेटिव पॉल ब्राउन ने भाषण दिया कि वैज्ञानिक लोग जलवायु परिवर्तन का धोखा दे रहे हैं और यह सब बिल्कुल झूठ और फरेब है।

श्री उपसभापति : तिवारी जी, आप सवाल पूछिए न।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : बस दो मिनट में हम अपनी बात खत्म कर रहे हैं। अमरीका में जो बहस हुई, उसे सुन करके दुनिया के विख्यात नोबल प्राइज़ विजेता, इकोनॉमिक पॉल कुगमैन ने कहा कि जलवायु संकट से इंकार की बात सुन करके मैं सोचता हूँ कि यह धरती के साथ गद्दारी है। जलवायु संकट से इंकार करना कितना गैर-जिम्मेदाराना और अनैतिक है, इसका अंदाजा हाल ही में हुए अनुसंधानों से लगाया जा सकता है। यह बात कुगमैन ने कही। आज दुनिया पर यह जो संकट आया है, इसके बारे में 100 बरस पहले महात्मा गांधी ने अपनी किताब "हिन्द स्वराज" में लिख दिया था। अब उनका शताब्दी बरस है। उन्होंने यह कहा था कि ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : तिवारी जी, आप जानते हैं कि इस पर क्लैरिफिकेशन ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : यह शैतानी सभ्यता है, अंधे आदमी को भी यह दिखाई देगा। अगर हम इस रास्ते पर बढ़ेंगे ...**(समय की घंटी)**... तो दुनिया विनाश की ओर जाएगी। यह बात उन्होंने कही थी। हमारे देश के पास मौका था। कोपेनहेगन में हम दुनिया के तमाम गरीब मुल्कों का नेतृत्व कर सकते थे, जिन्होंने हम पर भरोसा किया था ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : नेक्स्ट, श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : उनको हमने धोखा देने का काम किया है। इससे भारत का जो चेहरा है, हमको लगता है कि उस पर धब्बा लगा है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : अब आप बस कीजिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : आगे हमको लगता है कि सरकार को और माननीय मंत्री जी को ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : वह जवाब दे देंगे ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : आगे हमें क्योटो प्रोटोकॉल पर कायम रहना चाहिए।

श्री उपसभापति : श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी। आप सिर्फ सवाल पूछिए।

श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं सिर्फ सवाल ही पूछूंगा। मैं ज्यादा नहीं बोलूंगा।

सर, मंत्री जी ने सदन में जो बयान दिया, उससे कई आशंकाएं पैदा होती हैं। इन्होंने तो अपने को बहुत ही कामयाब बताते हुए अपनी पीठ थपथपाई है, परन्तु समाचार पत्रों में जो खबरें छपी हैं, उनसे यह लगता है कि दुनिया के तमाम गरीब और अविकसित देशों ने यह आपत्ति जताई कि यह जो पूरा समझौता हुआ या जो बातचीत हुई, यह पूरे सम्मेलन को अंधेरे में रख कर किया गया। इस समझौते के बारे में तुवालु के प्रतिनिधि इयन फ्राई ने कहा है कि "अगर बाइबल का संदर्भ देते हुए कहूं तो यह ऐसा लगता है जैसे हमें अपना भविष्य बेच देने के बदले चांदी के 30 टुकड़े किए गए हैं।"

मैं मंत्री जी से एक बात पूछना चाहता हूं। इसकी चर्चा भी हुई कि Kyoto Protocol में जो समझौता हुआ था, जो सहमति हुई थी, उसमें यह माना गया था कि प्रदूषण फैलाने के लिए सभी दोषी हैं, परन्तु जिन्होंने प्रदूषण ज्यादा फैलाया, उनका दोष इसमें ज्यादा है। इसमें एक बात यह कही गई थी कि हर देश को कार्बन के उत्सर्जन में एक सीमा तय करनी होगी, एक फौरी सीमा तय करनी होगी। परन्तु, आपने अमेरिका और अन्य देशों के बीच यह जो accord किया है, इसमें इस बात का कोई उल्लेख नहीं है कि आखिर कौन देश, विशेष कर वे विकसित देश, अपने कार्बन-उत्सर्जन की क्या सीमा तय करेंगे? कृषि वैज्ञानिकों ने माना है कि अगर जलवायु-परिवर्तन में तापमान एक डिग्री सेल्सियस तक रहता है तो गेहूं के उत्पादन में 14 फीसदी की कमी आएगी और बहुत से ऐसे देश हैं जिनका अस्तित्व ही समाप्त हो जाएगा। मैं माननीय मंत्री से पूछना चाहता हूं कि आपने यह जो वार्ता की है, इस पर क्या आप वैज्ञानिकों की इस राय को दृष्टि में रख कर और देश के अन्न-उत्पादन के भविष्य को दृष्टि में रख कर आगे बढ़ेंगे? इसके लिए आप क्या कदम उठाएंगे?

इसके साथ-ही-साथ 100 billion dollar की बात भी कही गई है। अभी माननीय नेता, प्रतिपक्ष ने कहा कि जिस प्रकार की एजेंसी बनेगी और तमाम लोग उसमें पैसा देंगे, यह कोई बाध्यकारी नहीं है कि यह पैसा कहां से आएगा और इसमें किन-किन देशों को कितना हिस्सा मिलेगा। इसलिए मुझे यह लगता है कि जो आश्वासन आपने सदन को दिया, उसके अनुसार जो Kyoto Protocol है, वह चलता है पूरब और आप फैसला पश्चिम का कर के आए हैं। ये जो आशंकाएं हैं, इनको आप कैसे दूर करेंगे? यही मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूं।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Mr. Deputy Chairman Sir, I compliment the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister for effective participation. I shall straightaway come to my clarifications.

Sir, the hon. Minister has said in his statement, "It is not a legally binding treaty". I would like to know if the Government has taken note of the recent statement by President Obama's Adviser, David Axelrod, that the US is going to review India's performance regarding the outcome of the Copenhagen Summit. Secondly, has the Government also taken into cognizance the reported statement by UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki Moon, that the Copenhagen Accord has to become legally binding by next year. If 'yes', what are the consequences of such a statement and what is the Government's reaction? Thirdly, the text recognises the need to limit global temperatures rising not more than two centigrade above pre-industrial levels. What is the benchmark for pre-industrial level temperature? Is the 2C cap legally binding? Next, the countries have been asked to spell out by 1st February their pledges for reducing carbon emissions by 2020. Is it different from our unilateral commitment of reducing Carbon intensity by 2020? Is India entitled to the financial aid of thirty billion US dollars in the next three years? If 'yes', what are the conditionalities regarding verifications? Then, who will contribute to the Green Climate Fund and how will that be utilised? Can India borrow from that Fund? If 'yes', under what conditionalities? The developing countries are required to submit national reports on their emission pledges. Pledges on climate mitigations are to be recorded in the Registry. What are the pledges that India is going to make? ...*(Time-bell rings)*... Sir, I am just seeking clarifications.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you ask so many questions, then, the hon. Minister will take a lot of time in answering them. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, I have just two more clarifications. A recent World Bank Report has suggested that India's commitment for 20-25 per cent, reduction in carbon emission is going to be extremely capital intensive. Has the Government estimated the capital required to meet this commitment? Has the Government taken cognizance of the said World Bank Report? If so, what are the details of that Report? Finally, Sir, what I would like to know from the hon. Minister is this. It has been suggested that the global climate change estimates are projected on the basis of the Western computation models, which, often, tend to exaggerate the projections. I want to know whether India is taking up a series of national ...*(Interruptions)*... laboratories to collect climatic and pollution data to give realistic projections. Thank you, Sir.

श्री जनार्दन द्विवेदी (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली) : महोदय, मेरा बहुत छोटा-सा स्पष्टीकरण है। "I believe that the BASIC Group has emerged as a powerful force in climate change negotiations and India should have every reason to be satisfied," बहुत कुछ मंत्री जी ने कहा है। प्रधान मंत्री के जाने से भारतीय प्रतिनिधि मंडल की गरिमा निश्चय ही बढ़ी है। मंत्री जी ने बहुत कुछ बताया है, लेकिन उन्होंने एक चीज़ नहीं बताया कि BASIC Group की एक बैठक में ओबामा साहब अचानक बिना schedule के आ गये, तो उस meeting में क्या हुआ? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

में उनसे दूसरा स्पष्टीकरण यह चाहता हूँ कि emission के मामले में एक पेचीदा सवाल यह पैदा होता है कि भारत जैसे देश में यह हिसाब लगाना चाहिए कि विकसित देशों की जो कम्पनियाँ हैं, उनके कारखाने हैं और उनके establishments हैं, उनका emission कितना है और अपनी जो भारतीय कम्पनियाँ हैं, उनका कितना है तथा उसके बारे में सरकार की क्या strategy है? मुझे ये दो ही बातें पूछनी थीं।

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA (Maharashtra): Sir, irrespective of what the hon. Leader of the Opposition has said, I would like to congratulate the Government for taking a tough posture at Copenhagen. My question is in relation to paragraph 17. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to how far China will go with us. How much confident is he about Chinese support to Indian cause? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Prof. Saif-ud-din Soz. Only one question. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is the former Environment Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, my understanding is that we could not have done better and India's achievement is spectacular, and the Prime Minister's presence in Copenhagen had a salutary effect, as we got news through media. And the emergence of the BASIC Group is a great idea and together with Brazil, China and South Africa we can do better. India is already considered to be leader in this arena of climate change discussions. But with China, Brazil and South Africa, India will be far stronger than earlier. And the objectives set by the hon. Minister for this country are acceptable, and we can have a discussion next time in the House. Those objectives, cutting-across-party lines, are acceptable in this country. But, we have to be a little alert. Sir, I would like to seek a clarification from the hon. Minister. But, before that, for half-a-minute, I would say this. The Leader of the Opposition made certain brilliant remarks from the level of a knowledgeable person. But, with due deference to him, I would say that India in Copenhagen struck very ably to the basic tenet of the Framework Convention on Climate Change. It is a common but a differentiated responsibility, and India in no way diluted that concept. That is a great achievement. But, India has to have constructive cooperation with the international community. Climate change is a disaster for human kind. Therefore, we have to be a responsible partner in the discussions. So, what we have achieved is very great because Copenhagen will show the way forward. But, I would still seek a clarification from Jairam Rameshji. As I said, the hon. Prime Minister's presence in Copenhagen had a salutary effect. While the hon. Prime Minister in the informal plenary made it clear on the Kyoto Protocol that we cannot be a party to any dilution of the Kyoto Protocol, a bird in hand is worth two in the bush. I would quote only one sentence of what the hon. Prime Minister said, 'It would go against the international public opinion if we acquiesce in its replacement by a new and a

weaker set of commitments.' So, we continue to accept Kyoto Protocol till we have a better protocol. But, Mr. Ramesh's statement has a phrase which, I think, should be deleted. He must consider that. While he was talking about the Kyoto Protocol, he said, 'But we have been able to thwart these attempts for the time being.' Please do not say 'for the time being'. Till we have a stronger protocol in hand, we shall be party to that. We cannot say that for the time being we have accepted a kind of dictation. This may please be considered.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, a large number of specific queries have been raised, ...*(Interruptions)*... I will be very short and crisp in my reply.

(MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair)

I will respond to some of the specific queries of individual Members in writing. Mr. Bagrodia has asked me 8 or 9 questions which I will respond to in writing. A number of other Members have raised specific questions which I will respond to individually. But, there are some common concerns that have been expressed. Firstly, by the Leader of the Opposition and then by my colleague, Shri Yechury and many others. So, I would rather address these common issues very, very pointedly.

Sir, the first issue that has been raised is, have we agreed to the abandonment of the Kyoto Protocol. Sir, with the greatest of respect to the Leader of the Opposition, I would reiterate the point I made in my speech and when I interrupted him that the Copenhagen Accord in no way spells the demise of the Kyoto Protocol. It accepts that the negotiations on the Kyoto Protocol will continue in 2010; but, I cannot disagree with him, that it provides an alternative alignment as well. But, we are committed, I want to reassure the House, to taking the negotiations forward in 2012 and which will culminate in Mexico.

But, the fact is, Sir, there are attempts to thwart the Kyoto Protocol. That is what I meant that there are attempts being made. The U.S. has not ratified the Kyoto Protocol. The entire problem on the Kyoto Protocol has been caused by the fact that there is a common and differentiated responsibility within the developed countries. The Europeans do not want to say, 'we want to take obligations different than the Americans.' So, we have to bring the U.S. into the mainstream of international environmental negotiations because they are the world's number two emitter, accounting for almost 22 per cent of the Greenhouse gases and emissions. Many countries want to leave the Kyoto Protocol. It is no secret that the country in which Kyoto is situated itself wants to leave the Kyoto Protocol, namely Japan. But, we are committed; the developing world is committed, the BASIC countries are committed. India is committed to completing these negotiations on this track and we are going to do our utmost to ensure that the emission reduction targets for the second commitment period, which is post-2012 period, will be negotiated with as much force as we can

muster individually as well as collectively. This much I want to reassure the House. And, I want to reassure the Leader of the Opposition and Mr. Yechury that, as I have repeatedly said, the troika for us — the UNFCCC, the Bali Action Plan, and the Kyoto Protocol are sacrosanct. And, we are not moving away from it in any manner.

Sir, the second issue which is perhaps the most contentious issue today relates to the world international consultations and analysis. Sir, may I just spend a couple of minutes on this because I want to assuage the concerns and fears of the Leader of the Opposition and many other Members. Sir, before we went to Copenhagen, I did say that we will accept international information reporting as far as our unsupported actions are concerned. But, Sir, the fact of the matter is that when the negotiations on the Copenhagen Accord started, the issue was that it was not anything to do with India, Sir, I have to be very careful because I am now talking about decisions and statements made by heads of states and of countries with whom we have excellent relations. We want to continue with these relations. But the fact of the matter is, Sir, this issue was not directed on India. This issue was really directed on China because today China has 23 per cent of the world greenhouse gas emissions and the world wants to bring China into the mainstream and they want to have confidence that the Chinese numbers, Chinese systems have some credibility. I can reassure this House, Sir, at no point of time, has any Government raised any doubt on our data, no Government; no head of State negotiator has raised doubts on our transparency. Never. Nobody has said that we are non-transparent. In fact, Sir, we should be showing the world the direction on transparency. There is no system as transparent as ours and I have said before in many statements that as far as MRV is concerned, the best domestic MRV in the world is in India. Between the Parliament, between the media, between civil society groups there can be no better MRV. Sir, the fact of the matter is that when it came to the crunch, it looked as if the entire negotiations involving 28 heads of State would break down on the issue that the United States wanted to use the word, 'scrutiny'. They wanted to use the word, 'review'. They wanted to use the word, 'verification'. Sir, we resisted that. We resisted it for almost 36 hours. China, India, Brazil and South Africa collectively resisted it. We said under no circumstances will we accept the words, 'review', 'scrutiny' or 'verification'. Then, we said, why not 'dialogue', why not 'discussion'? That was rejected. Then an alternative was posed to us. How about 'assessment'? We rejected it, We did not want 'assessment' and after this process of dialogues which took a lot of time, the four countries arrived at a common phraseology which said, 'international consultations and analysis but with clearly defined guidelines that will respect national sovereignty'. Sir, this formulation was accepted by the United States of America. Sir may I say that the word 'consultations' is not new in international diplomacy. We have under the article four of the International Monetary Fund consultations that are held between the IMF and the Indian Government every year. It has been going on for decades. No sovereignty has been eroded as a result of those

consultations. Sir, the Leader of the Opposition has been a distinguished Commerce Minister. He knows that consultations take place between the WTO and the Indian Government on trade policy. No sovereignty has been eroded. In fact, unilaterally in trade policy we have been more aggressive liberalisers than we have been under the WTO framework. So, we should not fear the word, 'consultations'. It is there in the IMF, it is there in the WTO and if it is there as far as climate change is concerned, I see no great sell out as far as India is concerned. We have protected ourselves by saying, 'it is within clearly defined guidelines'. Those guidelines will be defined by us. It will be defined by 194 countries who are party to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the most important paragraph there which China, India, Brazil and South Africa insisted on is that the clearly defined guidelines should be within the framework of respecting national sovereignty. Sir, I can understand not having consultations on nuclear power plants. There is sovereignty involved. But all the information on our emissions is already in the public domain. Sir, 40 per cent of our carbon dioxide emissions is from our power stations. Now, I have here, Sir, a document that was brought out last year by the Ministry of Power which gives you information on the carbon dioxide emissions from every single power plant in India. This is in the public domain. This is on their website. This project was funded by the German Government, We are having consultations on this. There are no foreign inspectors running around our power plants. All this information is in the public domain. We are having consultations. People are analysing our data. In fact, we have got encomiums for the data that we have presented. So, I think, Sir, that we should be careful. I agree. We should ensure that these guidelines do not lead to a proliferation of inspectors coming and seeing what we are doing and what we are not doing. But, the fact of the matter is, 'consultations' and 'analysis' does not mean review, scrutiny, verification or assessment. Let me give you one more example, because this is a very important issue that the hon. Leader of the Opposition has raised and I want to address this directly. Sir, eighteen years ago, in 1990, the USA — I had mentioned this example in Lok Sabha and I want to mention this here as well since this is an important point — put out a Report which said that Methane emissions from wet paddy cultivation in India is 38 million tonnes per year and it said that wet paddy cultivation in India is a major contributor to global Methane emissions. There was an Indian scientist who challenged this data. Unfortunately, the person is no more. He was a very distinguished scientist and a Fellow of the Royal Society of London, Dr. A.P. Mitra. He was the Director General of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. He put together a team of scientists. They, actually, measured the Methane emission from wet paddy cultivation. And, their conclusion was that the annual level of Methane emissions from wet paddy cultivation in India was between 2 to 6 million tonnes per year, with a median value of 4 million tonnes per year. Sir, do you know that, today, the accepted international figure, including the USA, is not 38 million tonnes per year for Methane emission from wet paddy cultivation, but it is 4 million tonnes from wet paddy

cultivation. So, I don't see why we should be defensive. We have the capacity to challenge the best scientists in the world. We have the capacity to do our own analysis. We have the capacity to do our own measurement and, as I have given you this example, our own example can become an international standard. Today, the numbers that we are quoting has become the internationally accepted norm as far as emissions from wet paddy cultivation are concerned. So, Sir, I agree that there is a difference between 'information' which I had committed to in this House and 'consultations' and 'analysis.' So, I plead guilty. Yes, I have moved from the word 'information' to 'consultations' and 'analysis.' I am not going to argue on that. I am not going to get into an argument on that. There has been a shift. But, Sir, that is what I meant by flexibility. When you are negotiating with these countries, when you are faced with conflicting poles and counter poles and the thing that I can assure the House that this was not a unilateral decision of India, this was a decision taken collectively by China, Brazil, South Africa and India. We decided that we will not be held responsible for the failure of Copenhagen. We decided that we will not be made the blame boys as far as the failure is concerned. A number of comments have been made on the USA. Let me also say that there was a statement made by the USA delegation during the negotiations. It said, 'we will not give money to countries like Bangladesh and Maldives if the issue of transparency is not settled.' The Bangladeshi delegates asked me, 'why are you not settling the issue of transparency?' The Maldives delegation asked me, 'why are you not setting the issue of transparency?' So, the issue of transparency had become a big stumbling block and, Sir, frankly, of all the countries in the world, India should not feel defensive of transparency. We should be, on the other hand, in the forefront of demanding transparency from all parties, including the BASIC parties, if I may add. So, I assure the hon. Leader of the Opposition, Shri Yechury and all other hon. Members that 'consultations' and 'analysis' means precisely consultations and analysis. We have years of experience on consultations and analysis with the IMF and the WTO, We have nothing to fear. Our sovereignty has not been eroded. On the other hand, those organisation have gained, we have also gained in the process and I want to reassure the House that when we frame these guidelines that will respect our national sovereignty. We will take the House into confidence. After all, this is going to be an exercise that is going to involve 194 countries which are members of the UNFCCC. It will take some time. But, I want to reassure the House that it will not be an intrusive consultations, it will not be an intrusive analysis. This much assurance I can give you on behalf of the Government of India.

Sir, the hon. Leader of the Opposition and many hon. Members have referred to a statement made by Mr. Axelrod...who is President Obama's close adviser. If I may be permitted, Sir, a small light-hearted comment, Mr. Axelrod is the Arun Jaitley of the Obama Administration. He is their top spin doctor. He has tried to give a spin to this Agreement. He has tried to say that in this Agreement we will hold China and India accountable. I don't want to get into Mr. Axelrod's statement. I will quote Mr. Axelrod's boss, Mr. Obama. Mr. Obama had said in a Press Conference, "It will not be legally binding, but what it will do is to allow each country to show to the world what they are doing, and there will be a sense in the part of each country that we are, in this, together; and who will know who is meeting and who is not meeting the mutual obligations that have been set forth." He gave this statement in Copenhagen after the Accord had been finalised. He just, then, went on to say, "These commitments will be subject to international consultations and analysis similar to that, for example, what takes place at WTO, etc., etc., etc. Mr. Axelrod's statement was meant for domestic consumption. He has to convince the Congress that China and India have been brought in. He has to convince the trade unions that China and India have been controlled. I don't want to get into the statement of Mr. Axelrod that has been made for purely domestic consumption. I go by what President Obama has himself said. And, nowhere has President Obama said that this record is meant to control or strangle China and India.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I hope you are not saying this for domestic consumption.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: No; no, I am saying this for parliamentary consumption. I don't make any distinction, Mr. Yechury, unlike many other distinguished Members of this House, in what I say in this House and what I say outside the House. It is always same. I don't make any changes.

I am sorry, Sir, I am taking a little bit more time because it is a very important issue. I will conclude very shortly. I was criticised for violating a commitment that I made on the floor of the House that we will not accept peaking year. On 16th November, the prospect was for an international agreement that would mention 2020-2025 as the peaking year for Developing Countries, like, India. This Accord does not mention a single year for peaking. That is a major accomplishment for us. It talks of global peaking, agreed. But it also talks of longer timeframe for Developing Countries, as the Leader of the Opposition read out. It also talks about the peaking in the context of the first and overriding priority being given to poverty eradication and livelihood security. This is not a new language. This was there in the L'aquila Declaration. This is a language that is repeated from the L'aquila Declaration. What I want to convey to the hon. Members is that the concept of peaking, when the hon. Prime Minister made his commitment two years ago that all of you had applauded,

which all of Indian media had applauded, which all of Indian NGOs had applauded, is that India's per capita emission will never exceed the per capita emission of the Developed World. We are implicitly accepting peaking. What we are saying is that we will peak once you peak. We are not giving a specific year for peaking. What we are saying is if you reach at a certain level of average per capita emission, we will ensure that we will never exceed that per capita emission. That, Sir, is an implicit peaking. What we have not done in this document is to mention a specific year for peaking. So, I do not plead guilty to this charge. I have not violated any commitment that I had made. I have not accepted, the Government of India has not accepted any peaking year for Developing Countries. We are not going to accept it as a part of the negotiations. We will continue to insist on the longer time frame. But, I am sure, and hon. Members will agree with me, that we should peak in the 21st century. Now, in which year in the 21st century, time alone will tell. But it should not be anybody's case that we should peak only in the 22nd century. We should peak sometime in the 21st century. If we don't peak in the 21st century, I think, then, we are having a very serious problem for us. ...*(Interruptions)*... There may not be a 22nd Century as the hon. Home Minister reminds us. Sir, many other issues have been raised on climate fund and many other issues have been raised on technology. Sir, I also want to say one point on funding. Sir, a country like India, I believe, this is my belief, this is the belief of many people, does not need any international aid. We do not want international aid. We can stand on our own feet. Green technology is an area where India can emerge as a world leader. Ten years from now, Sir, India should be selling Green Technology to the world. Let us not always keep talking of technology transfer, technology transfer, technology transfer. Nobody is going to transfer technology to you. Technology has to be negotiated, technology has to be bought, technology has to be bought on commercial terms. I want to say that many Indian companies have already seen business opportunities in this. China has moved ahead. Today, of the top 10 solar companies in the world, four are Chinese. Let us see this as a business opportunity. This is an opportunity for Indian technology to move ahead and I am sure that in the next couple of years, we will, actually, be selling technology rather than keep repeating the stale mantra of technology transfer all the time. Yes, we require international financial assistance. I am not for one who is suggesting we do not require international financial assistance. But, Sir, we are not in the same category as Bangladesh or Maldives or Ethiopia or Saint Lucia or Granada. There are countries in Africa, countries in small island States, countries in Asia which require this more urgently than us for adaptation and mitigation. A country like India should be able to stand on its own feet and say we will do what we have to do on our own. Why are we getting into this syndrome of always looking for international finance and international technology? This is something that we should be autonomously engaged in. Sir, I know that we are running out of time, but I want to summarise by thanking the Leader of the opposition and all other hon. Members for raising what I think are very

legitimate and valid queries. I think what I will do is, I will address each of them in a written form, a frequently-asked questions form, I will circulate it to all the Members of Parliament and I hope in the next Session of Parliament, we will have another debate on this issue because these negotiations will continue all of 2010. I will not hesitate from any discussion of any kind at any point of time simply because we have nothing to hide as far as our negotiating strategy is concerned. Thank you.

VALEDICTORY REMARKS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, the Two Hundred and Eighteenth Session of Rajya Sabha comes to a close today. It commenced on 19th November, 2009. A fair amount of legislative business was transacted and useful discussions were held on questions of public concern. Some of the matters discussed at great length in the course of Calling Attention notices as well as Short Duration Discussions related to internal security, rise in prices of essential commodities, the Report of Liberhan Commission, climate change, disinvestment, WTO negotiations, etc. On the other hand, 17 Government Bills were also passed during this period. Members were also provided regular opportunities to raise matters with permission, and to make Special Mentions on matters of public importance.

Despite the above, the Question Hour was lost on five days due to disruptions. Hon'ble Members do need to think about this because Questions in the House are an important instrumentality through which information is elicited and the Government's accountability ensured.

A significant achievement of this Session was the decision of the Rules Committee to streamline the Question Hour procedure in order to ensure a greater coverage of the Questions with wider opportunities to Members to raise Supplementaries.

I have directed the Secretary-General to make available statistical information regarding this Session.

Three new Members joined the House during the Session. I am sure they would make rich and valuable contributions to the House in the days to come.

I thank the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, the leaders of various parties and groups and the hon. Members for the cooperation extended by them to facilitate smooth functioning of the House.

I also thank the Deputy Chairman, the Members on the Panel of Vice-Chairmen and the officers and staff of the Secretariat for their help and cooperation.

Now, before we adjourn the House *sine die*, we will have the National Song.

(The National Song, "Vande Mataram", was then played.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned *sine die*.

The House then adjourned *sine die* at forty one minutes past two of the clock.