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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
RAJYA SABHA
OFFICIAL REPORT
CONTENTS

Reference on the First Anniversary of the Terrorist Attack in Mumbai on the 26th of November, 2008 (page 1)

Oral Answers to Questions (pages 1-21)

Written Answers to Starred Questions (pages 21-42)

Written Answers to Unstarred Questions (pages 42-195)

Papers Laid on the Table (pages 195-198)

Message from Lok Sabha—

Workmen's Compensation (Amendment Bill, 2009 — *Laid on the Table* (pages-198-199)

Reports of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development — *Presented* (page 199)

Reports of the Public Accounts Committee — *Laid on the Table* (pages 199-200)

Statement regarding Government Business (page 200)

Matters raised with permission—

Sixtieth Anniversary of adoption of the Constitution (pages 200-01)

Cultural and Heritage Committee of Railways and safety (pages 201-02)

Children falling sick due to inferior quality of mid-day Meals (page 202)

Withholding of additional Central Assistance by the Central Government to Uttarakhand (pages 202-04)

Non payment of promised assistance to victims of 26/11 terrorist attacks in Mumbai (pages 204-06)

Concern over the crisis arising out of the lack of fertilizers and seeds in Uttar Pradesh (pages 206-07)

Agitation of fishermen in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu (pages 207-08)

Special Financial Assistance of Kerala (pages 208-09)

Illegal mining by M/s Obulapuram Mining Company (pages 209-11)

Demands of Public Sector Employees (pages 211-12)

Special Mentions—

Concern over health hazard due to unsafe water and lack of hygiene (page 212)

Need to declare Cow as the national animal and impose ban on killing of bovines (pages 212-13)

Demand to implement three language formula (pages 213-14)

Demand to set up a memorial of Chaudhary Devi Lal, the former Deputy Prime Minister of the country (page 214)

Concern over converting all seats of a medical college in Ahmedabad into self financed seats (pages 214-15)

Concern over death of workers in BALCO construction site accident (page 215)

Concern over increasing of educational loan applications online in all banks of India (pages 215-16)

Demand for making process of educational loan applications online in all banks of India (page 216)

Need to reduce arbitrary hike in application fee for post of Junior Accounts Officer in BSNL (pages 216-17)

Need for formulating in anti-discriminatory law to address the violation of rights of people living with HIV/AIDS in the country (pages 217-18)

Concern over appalling condition of the workers engaged in manufacturing of the works in Sivakasi (pages 218-19)

Need for proper implementation of the labour laws in the country (page 219)

Demand for enquiry into the decision taken by the DGS&D, which is contrary to the decision taken by the Union Cabinet on Jute Bags (pages 219-20)

Need to strengthen the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act (pages 220-21)

Private Member's Resolution—

Need to take effective steps to avoid confrontation between the Legislature and the Judiciary — *Withdrawn* (pages 221-36)

Need to prepare in Action Plan for all-round development of Sikkim — *Discussion not concluded* (pages 236-51)

RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 26th November, 2009/5 Agrahayana, 1931 (Saka)

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

REFERENCE BY CHAIR

Reference to the victims of 26/11 Mumbai attack on its First Anniversary

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members today is the first anniversary of the terrorist attack in Mumbai which claimed hundreds of innocent lives and injured many others apart from causing loss of property. The indomitable spirit of human kind cannot be subdued by such senseless acts of violence. The way Mumbai quickly attained normalcy after the terrorist attack speaks volumes for the resolve of our people to confront and defeat the evil designs of those wishing to destabilise the nation and disrupt its progress. We remember today all those who lost their lives in the Mumbai attack and commend the valiant efforts of our security forces. In solemn remembrance of those who lost their lives in this horrific attack a year ago, I request Members to rise in their places and observe silence for a minute.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

दिल्ली में संरक्षित धरोहर स्थल

*101. श्री वृजभूषण तिवारी: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) दिल्ली में ऐसे ऐतिहासिक पुरावशेषों की संख्या कितनी है जिन्हें भारतीय पुरातत्व सर्वेक्षण (ए.एस.आई.) द्वारा संरक्षित धरोहरों का दर्जा दिया गया है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि इनमें से अधिकांश स्थलों पर न तो इनकी नाम-पट्टिका लगाई गई है और न ही इनका रख-रखाव किया जा रहा है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस तरह की लापरवाही के क्या कारण हैं और सरकार द्वारा इस संबंध में क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री वी. नारायणसामी): (क) से (ग) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा गया है।

विवरण

प्राचीन संस्मारक तथा पुरातत्वीय स्थल और अवशेष अधिनियम, 1958 के संगत प्रावधानों के अनुसार दिल्ली में 174 स्मारकों को राष्ट्रीय महत्व का घोषित किया गया है जिसमें मस्जिदें, मकबरें, किले, मीनारें, बाउलियां, उत्कीर्णित स्तंभ, शिला लेख तथा कब्रिस्तान शामिल हैं जो मौर्य, गुप्त, तोमर, चौहान, मामुलुक, खलजी, तुगलक, सैय्यद, लोधी, सुर, आदि मुगल, उत्तर मुगल तथा ब्रिटिश काल से संबंधित हैं जो तीसरी शताब्दी ई.पू. से 18वीं शताब्दी ई. तक की अवधि के हैं। इनमें से हुमायूँ का मकबरा, कुतुब परिसर तथा लाल किला के उत्कृष्ट सार्वभौमिक महत्व पर विचार करते हुए यूनेस्को की विश्व दाय समिति द्वारा इन्हें विश्व विरासत सूची में शामिल किया गया है। इन स्मारकों में से अधिकांश में सुरक्षा नोटिस बोर्डों के अलावा इनका नाम, इतिहास, कला, वस्तुशिल्प तथा अन्य महत्वपूर्ण विशेषताओं का उल्लेख करते हुए नोटिस बोर्ड लगाए गए हैं। प्रमुख स्मारकों पर दिशापरक सूचना पट्ट लगाए गए हैं। तथापि, राष्ट्र मंडल खेल, 2010 के परिप्रेक्ष्य में विस्तृत रूप से संवारने तथा उन्नयन करने के लिए 46 स्मारकों की पहचान की गई है जिसमें अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ स्मारकों का व्यापक संरक्षण करना, स्मारक परिवेश में पर्यावरणीय विकास करना तथा बेहतर पर्यटक सुविधाएं (पेय जल सुविधाएं, प्रसाधन कक्ष, स्मारिका दुकानें, कैफेटेरिया आदि) उपलब्ध कराना शामिल है। इन चुनिंदा स्मारकों पर स्मारकों तक पहुंच, पर्यटक सुविधाएं, स्थल मानचित्रों आदि को दर्शाने वाले दिशापरक सूचना पट्ट भी लगाए जा रहे हैं।

Preserved heritage sites in Delhi

† *101. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of historical remnants in Delhi that have been granted the status of preserved heritage by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI);

(b) whether it is a fact that most of these sites neither have any name plates nor they are being maintained; and

(c) if so, the reasons for such negligence and the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

There are 174 monuments in Delhi declared to be of national importance as per the relevant provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, comprising of mosques, tombs, forts, minars, baolis, inscribed pillars, rock edict and cemeteries belonging to Mauryan, Gupta, Tomar, Chauhan, Mamuluk, Khalji, Tughluq, Sayyid, Lodi, Sur, early Mughal, late Mughal and British periods ranging in dates between 3rd century BC to 18th century AD. Of these, Humayun's Tomb, Qutb Complex and Red Fort have been inscribed on the World Heritage List considering their outstanding universal value by the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO. Most of these monuments have been provided with notice boards indicating their name, history, art, architecture and other salient feature, besides the protection-notice boards. Major monuments have been provided with directional signages. However, in view of the Commonwealth Games, 2010, 46 monuments have been identified for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

elaborate sprucing up and uplift which, *inter-alia*, include comprehensive conservation of the monuments, environment development in the monument precincts and providing of better visitor-amenities (drinking water facilities, toilets, souvenir shops, cafeteria, etc.). Directional Signages indicating approach to monuments, visitor facilities, site-maps, etc., are also being provided at these select monuments.

श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी: सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो उत्तर दिया है, उसमें इन्होंने यह कहा है कि 174 स्मारकों को राष्ट्रीय महत्व का घोषित किया गया है, परंतु इसमें बहुत से ऐसे स्मारक हैं जिनकी पहचान नहीं की गई है और जिन स्मारकों की पहचान की गई है, उनमें न तो नोटिस बोर्ड है, न उनके रख-रखाव की कोई व्यवस्था है और उनमें से अधिकांश पर लोगों ने अनधिकृत तरीके से कब्जा कर रखा है। महोदय, क्योंकि उत्तर में यह साफ नहीं है, इसलिए मैं मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इस प्रकार के ऐसे कितने स्मारक हैं जिन पर अनधिकृत लोगों ने कब्जा कर रखा है और उनमें देखरेख की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं की गई है?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Hon. Chairman, Sir, there are 174 monuments which have been Centrally identified under the Act. They are being maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India. As far as the monuments' maintenance and directional signages are concerned, the hon. Members has mentioned that most of the monuments are not having the signages and also the protection notice boards. Sir, from my side, I would like to submit that there are 159 monuments where protection notice boards, mentioning that this is a monument declared of national importance, are there. In most of the monuments, cultural notice boards have also been there wherein the architecture and historic value of the monument has been mentioned.

Thirdly, Sir, regarding directional signages, that has also been mentioned in some of the monuments. Yes, I agree with the hon. Member that while it is there in most of the monuments, in some of the monuments it is not there. The INTACH has been given the charge of completing this work for the remaining monuments and that has been done.

As far as encroachment part is concerned, right from 1992 till this day, more than 10 encroachments have been removed. In case of some encroachments, notices have been issued. The matter is pending in the courts. The courts have granted stay. We are pursuing with the courts to see the stay is vacated so that the encroachments can be removed.

श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी: महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने अपने उत्तर में लिखा है कि 2010 के राष्ट्रमंडल खेलों के संबंध में 46 स्मारकों की पहचान की गयी है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि दिल्ली बहुत ही ऐतिहासिक नगरी रही है और उसमें मुगलकाल के अलावा भी बहुत से ऐसे स्मारक हैं जिनकी पहचान करने की आवश्यकता है। मैं यह सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जो 46 स्मारकों की पहचान की गयी है, उसका आधार क्या रहा है? क्या मुगलकाल के अलावा भी जो दूसरे स्मारक हैं, उनकी भी पहचान की गयी है और उनको डेवलप करने के लिए क्या व्यवस्था की जा रही है?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, 46 monuments have been identified. Even a small tomb is a monument. The Red Fort is also a monument. The Humayun's Tomb is also a monument. The

Qutab Minar is a monument. There are many small and big monuments. The Ajmeri Gate is also a monument. Forty six such monuments where visitors go have been identified. An amount of Rs. 17.5 crore has been allocated this year for the purpose of refurbishing these monuments. Some of them are having toilet facilities, ticketing counter, counter for selling books, drinking water facilities, and parking facilities. For disabled people a provision has been made, so that they can visit these monuments. Landscaping has also to be done for their beautification. Forty six such monuments have been identified.

श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी: चुनाव का आधार क्या है, यह माननीय मंत्री जी ने नहीं बताया है।

श्री मोती लाल वोरा: माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि ये जो पुरातत्वीय स्थल के स्मारक हैं, ये अपने आप में ऐतिहासिक स्मारक हैं, इन ऐतिहासिक पुरातत्वीय स्थलों की देखरेख करने की जिम्मेदारी अधिनियम 1958 के अंतर्गत भारत सरकार की होती है और Archaeological Survey of India के माध्यम से यह देखरेख की जाती है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को यह सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ कि जिन स्मारकों का उन्होंने उल्लेख किया है, उन स्मारकों को एक बार माननीय मंत्री जी अगर स्वयं जाकर देख लें तो उन्हें सारी वस्तुस्थिति की जानकारी हो जाएगी। महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो कहा है, मैं उनके उस जवाब से संतुष्ट हूँ, लेकिन मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे यहां राष्ट्रमंडल के खेल 2010 में होने जा रहे हैं। ऐसे में विदेशों से आने वाले लोगों की इच्छा होती है कि किसी भी देश के ऐसे ऐतिहासिक स्मारकों को जाकर देखें। मेरा आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन है कि वे कम से कम कुछ स्मारकों को स्वयं जाकर देख लें कि उनकी क्या दशा है और उस दशा में क्या परिवर्तन किया जा सकता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि माननीय मंत्री जी इस दिशा में अवश्य ध्यान देंगे।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I took note of the senior hon. Member's suggestion. Refurbishing of monuments, including providing amenities to tourists, is being done. Out of 174 monuments, some of the monuments I myself will visit to see that all the facilities are provided to tourists who are going to see those monuments.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने encroachment की बात की और यह कहा कि कुछ केसिज़ कोर्ट में पेंडिंग हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि इन monuments में जो encroachment हुई, वह कब से हुई और उस समय के जो ऑफिसर्स थे, उन्होंने कैसे यह encroachment होने दी? क्या उन ऑफिसर्स को इसके लिए responsible बनाया जाएगा और उनके खिलाफ कोई ऐक्शन लिया जाएगा क्योंकि एक दिन मैं तो encroachment होती नहीं है, उसमें समय लगता है। मैं जानना चाहती हूँ कि वे ऑफिसर्स उस समय क्या कर रहे थे, उन्होंने क्यों नहीं उसी समय इस पर ध्यान दिया? क्या इस बात पर मंत्री महोदय प्रकाश डालेंगे और उन ऑफिसर्स को responsible बनाकर उनके खिलाफ ऐक्शन लेंगे?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 was passed by Parliament and Rules came in 1959. And it was notified in 1992. Between the period from 1958 to 1992, as far as the jurisdiction of the Act is concerned, whoever have occupied them or even the people who are occupying it even as private owners and some of the people who are using it for prior purposes, it has been protected under the Act itself prior to 1992 before the notification. After 1992, whoever made encroachment there, action has been taken, and in 10 cases, eviction has been ordered and they have been evicted. In about 11 cases, it is pending in the court.

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: No, no. I am talking about the officers, not about the people. I am talking about those officers who were posted there at that time.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: About the officers, we will be able to consider after the court judgment comes.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Is there any provision in the Act to make Delhi a heritage city? I would like to know about that.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act 1958, there is no provision called heritage city, and only heritage sites, historical ancient monuments and archaeological sites have been mentioned in the Act. Now, Sir, they are bringing another Bill which is pending in the Rajya Sabha. The Standing Committee is also considering it. Now, the monuments which have not been coming under the purview of the Government of India and also the State Governments, to codify those monuments and for protecting them, there is a Bill which is pending in the Rajya Sabha because the existing Act covers the historical ancient monuments and the archaeological sites and remains which are more than 100 years old. For monuments which are less than 100 years old, the new Bill is coming, and as soon as the Bill comes, all this will be taken care of. There is no provision called the heritage city in the present Act.

*102. [The questioner (Miss Anusuiya Uikey) was absent. For answer *vide* page 21 *infra*]

*103. [The questioner(s) (Ms. Mabel Rebello, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy) were absent. For answer *vide* page 23 *infra*]

*104. [The questioner (Shri Ramchandra Khuntia) was absent. For answer *vide* page 23 *infra*]

*105. [The questioner(s) (Shri Santosh Bagrodia, Shri Gireesh Kumar Sanghi) were absent. For answer *vide* page 26 *infra*]

Meeting of telecom service providers

*106. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:††
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had called a meeting of heads of all telecom service providers recently;

(b) if so, the details of the issues discussed in the meeting and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the telecom service providers are not following the directives/guidelines of Government issued from time to time; and

††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Mohsina Kidwai.

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Meetings were held with Access Service Licensees, National Long Distance Service Licensees, International Long Distance Service Licensees, Internet Service Providers in the first week of November, 2009. Suggestions of the service providers were invited for the various measures which *inter-alia* include:—

- (i) Steps to increase tele-density, specifically rural tele-density.
- (ii) Measures for more effective utilization of Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund.
- (iii) Measures to be taken for faster Internet and Broadband coverage especially in rural areas.
- (iv) Incentives for lower tariff for expansion of telecom services.

(c) and (d) While various service providers, generally, follow the directives/guidelines/terms and conditions of the licence, however necessary action is taken as per the provisions of the licences granted to various service providers under section 4 of the Indian Telegraph Act in case of any non-compliance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q.No. 106.

श्रीमती मोहसिना किदवाई: माननीय सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने जवाब में कहा है कि उन्होंने मीटिंग में चर्चा की है कि रूरल एरियाज में किस तरह से टेली डेंसिटी बढ़ाई जाए और किस तरह से उसको और आगे गति दी जाए। मैं समझती हूँ कि हमारी टेलीफोन इण्डस्ट्री का जो फैलाव है, बढ़ाव है, वह सब राजीव जी जो आज हमारे बीच में नहीं हैं, उनकी ही देन है और उनका विजन था। मुझे खुशी है कि बहुत सी हमारी कम्पनीज जैसे एम0टी0एन0एल0 है, न सिर्फ अपने मुल्क में, बल्कि दुनिया में भी उसका नाम है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने मीटिंग में यह तय किया कि रूरल एरियाज में ज्यादा से ज्यादा काम किया जाएगा और वहां पर और फेसिलिटीज बढ़ाई जाएंगी। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहती हूँ कि इस वक्त आपके पास कोई भी प्रोपर इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर नहीं है, कनेक्टिविटी नहीं है। लेकिन यह खुशी की बात है कि आज हमारे रूरल एरियाज के लोग भी एक दूसरे से कम्युनिकेट कर सकते हैं, दूसरे मुल्कों से बात कर सकते हैं। लेकिन इस वक्त इतना पुअर इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर है, जिसके बारे में मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि उन्होंने इस बारे में क्या कदम उठाए हैं, जिससे रूरल एरियाज में इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर मजबूत हो सके? माननीय मंत्री जी से मैं एक और बात जानना चाहती हूँ कि उनकी मिनिस्ट्री ने टारगेट फिक्स किया है कि वे अगले दो साल के अंदर रूरल एरियाज में 10 मिलियन ब्रॉडबैंड सब्सक्राइबर्स बनाएंगे। तो बगैर किसी प्रोपर व मजबूत इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर के यह कैसे मुमकिन होगा? मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि जो उन्होंने दो साल का टारगेट फिक्स किया है तो वह बगैर किसी मजबूत इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर के कैसे पूरा किया जा सकता है?

Trasnslation in Urdu Script.

श्री सचिन पायलट: आदरणीय सभापति जी, माननीय सदस्या जी ने जो सवाल पूछा है, वह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है और मैं आपके माध्यम से उनको विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि भारत सरकार और दूर संचार मंत्रालय इस बात को बहुत गंभीरता से ले रहा है कि जो दूर संचार की क्रांति है, वह सिर्फ बड़े-बड़े शहरों तक सीमित न रहे और दूर-दराज के इलाकों में, खासकर के जो देहात का इलाका है, गांव का इलाका है, सीमा का क्षेत्र है, पहाड़ी इलाका है, वहां पर संचार की क्रांति करने का बीड़ा हम लोगों ने उठाया है।

सभापति जी, जब लगभग 15 वर्ष पहले दूर संचार क्रांति शुरू हुई, तो teledensity, The number of phone connections per 100 people, उस समय 15 साल पहले, हालांकि 2005 में सिर्फ 9 प्रतिशत थी, आज हम लगभग 44 प्रतिशत तक पहुंच गए हैं। जो बड़े-बड़े शहर हैं, दिल्ली है, मुंबई है, कोलकाता है, चेन्नई है, यहां पर हमारा प्रतिशत सौ से ज्यादा है। लेकिन गंभीर समस्या इस बात की है कि जो ग्रामीण परिप्रेक्ष्य में लोग रहते हैं, वहां पर हमारी teledensity 18.97 प्रतिशत है। हम लोगों ने कदम उठाए हैं, प्रभावी कदम उठाए हैं, हमारे मंत्रालय का एक बड़ा USO Fund है और आने वाले कुछ समय में सिर्फ बीएसएनएल के माध्यम से हम मार्च, 2010 तक 10 हजार नये टावर ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में लगाने वाले हैं तथा मार्च, 2011 तक 15 हजार टावर हम बीएसएनएल के माध्यम से उन क्षेत्रों में लागायेंगे, जहां पर फोन या मोबाइल की सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं है।

सभापति महोदय, महामहिम राष्ट्रपति महोदय ने अपने उद्बोधन में कहा था कि इस देश की सारी ग्राम पंचायतों को अगले तीन साल में हम ब्रॉडबैंड से जोड़ेंगे। इसके लिए पैसा, योजना, कार्यक्रम सब हमारा चालू है और बहुत जल्दी हम लोग अपने टारगेट को पूरा करेंगे। मैं आपके माध्यम से पुनः विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि हमारा जो संकल्प है, उसको मैं एकबार दोबारा से रेखांकित करना चाहता हूँ कि शहरों के अलावा ग्रामीण क्षेत्र पर सरकार का पूरा ध्यान रहेगा और जो दूर-दराज के इलाके हैं, उनको निश्चित रूप से हम संचार से जोड़ेंगे।

श्रीमती मोहसिना किदवई: सभापति महोदय, अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने तसकरा Universal Service Obligation Fund का किया। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को बताना चाहती हूँ कि जो सरकारी आंकड़े मुझे मालूम हैं — 16 हजार करोड़ रुपये उस फंड में पैसा अभी है। यह पैसा रूरल एरिया में सबसिडी देने के लिए खासतौर पर है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि यह पैसा 16 हजार करोड़ रुपये आपकी kitty में है, यह सबसिडी देने के लिए है, तो क्या वजह है कि 16 हजार करोड़ रुपये खर्च नहीं हुए और अगर ये खर्च नहीं हुए, तो क्यों नहीं हुए हैं?

محترمہ محسنہ قدوائی : سبھا پتی مہودے، ابھی مائنے منتری جی نے Universal Service Obligation Fund کا تذکرہ کیا۔ میں مائنے منتری جی کو بتانا چاہتی ہوں کہ جو سرکاری آنکڑے مجھے معلوم ہیں - 16 ہزار کروڑ اس فنڈ میں پیسہ ابھی ہے۔ یہ پیسہ رورل ایریا میں سبسڈی دینے کے لئے خاص طور پر ہے۔ میں مائنے منتری جی سے جاننا چاہتی ہوں کہ یہ پیسہ 16 ہزار کروڑ آپ کی kitty میں ہے، یہ سبسڈی دینے کے لئے ہے، تو کیا وجہ ہے کہ 16 ہزار کروڑ روپے خرچ نہیں ہوئے اور اگر یہ خرچ نہیں ہوئے، تو کیوں نہیں ہوئے ہیں؟

श्री सचिन पायलट: सभापति महोदय, सम्मानित सदस्या ने यह बिल्कुल सही बात कही है कि बहुत सारा पैसा हमारे पास उपलब्ध है। जब हम लोगों ने उस समय Licences mobile operators को दिए थे तब हमें यह आशंका थी कि हो सकता है कि जो private operators हैं, वे मुनाफा कमाने के लिए बड़े-बड़े शहरों में जायें, इसलिए हमने प्रावधान रखा था कि अपने पूरे आमदनी का कि ये सब कम्पनियां पांच प्रतिशत एक ऐसे फंड में जमा कराएं और उस फंड का सदुपयोग हम ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में संचार सुविधाओं का विस्तार करने के लिए उपयोग करेंगे। पहले यह लैंड लाइन के लिए था, फिर मोबाइल के लिए था और अब इसमें Broad band को भी जोड़ा गया है। हम लोगों ने एक प्रक्रिया चालू की है कि इस के डिप्लायमेंट के जो नियम, कानून हैं, उनको और सरल बनाया जाए और हम लोग सबसिडी देते हैं ताकि टॉवर लगाये जाएं, मोबाइल की सुविधा हो, लैंड लाइन की सुविधा हो और अब Broad band की भी। सभापति जी, मुझे लगता है कि इस पूरे देश में जिस तरह से संचार क्रांति मोबाइल के माध्यम से आई है, उसी तरह इंटरनेट और आई0टी0 की क्रांति आएगी ब्रॉडबैंड की जब वह वॉयरलैस होगा। हम लोग USO Fund का पैसा वॉयरलैस ब्रॉडबैंड में इस्तेमाल करें, इसके लिए हम प्रभावी कदम उठा रहे हैं और कहीं पर अगर कोई कठिनाई थी या उसके नियमों में कोई संशोधन करने की जरूरत थी, उसको हमारी सरकार करने वाली है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Very good.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Mr. Vijayaraghavan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, Mr. N.K. Singh is there. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sorry, Mr. Vijayaraghavan. Shri N.K. Singh.

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Sir, you have called me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is there with the question. Mr. N.K. Singh.

SHRI N. K. SINGH: Well, Sir, considering that the media is awashed with only two types of stories on telecom, namely, high profitability of the telecom companies every month and the scam of the telecom sector, as an average consumer experiencing high drop rates of phones, growing irritation and very poor quality of telecom service, I would like to know from the Minister of Communications whether he has any credible plan for an independent telecom ombudsman who can redress this growing consumer irritation.

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I would like to take this opportunity to share with the House that our mobile services are growing at a very healthy rate and, I think, in a day or so, we will touch 50 crore mobile subscribers in the country. Having said that, I would like to inform the House that the increased competition and a number of players have made our call rates one of the cheapest in the world. Along with that comes the problem of congestion and call drops which is experienced by all operators, whether they are PSUs or private operators.

As regards the question put by the hon. Member, I can only speak for the regulatory mechanism that we have created in this country. In the case of the PSUs, whether it is the BSNL or the MTNL, we have asked these companies to take effective steps to curb the situation that arises out of call drops and congestion of the network. We are putting up more towers; we are updating our technology; we are investing more money to make sure that the frequencies are

aligned in such a way that the calls are much better in terms of quality. Sir, I think, the direct answer to this question is “No”. But the role of the Government is to provide a level-playing field where competitors and many operators come, and the consumers get the cheapest and the best call rates that are available anywhere in the world; and I hope in the times to come even the private operators will be urged to invest more money to improve the quality of service. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri A. Vijayaraghavan. Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I just want to add one thing. During the discussion that we had in the last session, I think hon. Members, Shri Venkaiah Naidu and Shrimati Brinda Karat, spoke about the call drops. Of course, we have our own system to maintain the records of call drops and the quality of the service is being maintained by the TRAI. In spite of that, considering the anguish shown by the hon. Members in this House, I made a statement through the ITU, when I attended it in Geneva, that a person who is getting a call, even if he says ‘hello’, there would be a droppage and immediately the consumer will be charged for one minute. I am with you. I have not at all compromised the views that have been expressed in this House. So, I made a statement as to why the consumer is going to be fined for the call drop that has been inculcated in the system of the service provider. We made an appeal that the call must be counted per second. Now it has been accepted. Of course, most of the companies are telling us that there will be a huge loss or moderate loss to the companies. I don’t bother about it. Ultimately, the consumer should not be fined. This is the decision taken by the Government and, I think, you will all accept it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. Shri. A. Vijayaraghavan.

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Sir, this is a very serious issue. In a country like ours we have to expand the access to the telecom service where the Central Government and the BSNL have an important role to play. Unfortunately, as far as the reports are concerned, the BSNL, which made a profit of Rs. 4,231 crores in 2005-06, had suffered a loss of Rs. 1,277 crores in 2007-08 and it is expected that the loss will be more than Rs. 4,000 crores in the present year. In such a situation, there is an important role to be played by the BSNL. Unfortunately, it is under the scanner of the CBI. In such a situation, what steps are you going to take, at least, to protect the service providers, namely, MTNL and BSNL, which are making losses? There is a failure on the part of the Government. How are you going to play your — the Government, the BSNL and the MTNL — roles? The BSNL and the MTNL are already in the red. How are you going to save them? Please give a proper reply to this.

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this question does not relate directly to BSNL and MTNL. However, I will try my level best to answer his question. Sir, BSNL and MTNL, I think, are doing a commendable job. One must not forget the kind of responsibility being thrust upon our PSUs to discharge some of the social obligations also. Just to make a point, BSNL pays 33 per

cent of all its income to its employees. There are about three lakh employees in BSNL. If you compare that to the largest mobile service provider in India, they are hiring only 20,000 people. The average salary that they pay from their income is between five and eight per cent. The PSUs have a large historical manpower which we have to sustain, which we have to keep. However, so far as the question about the steps taken by BSNL is concerned, I would like to point out on the floor of the House that the market share of BSNL in landline is 77 per cent; in broadband, it is 60 per cent, for mobile service, it is 13.3 per cent. This is for BSNL. So far as MTNL is concerned...

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Every year, it is coming down.

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: Sir, the market share is coming down because earlier BSNL and MTNL had a monopoly. We have allowed private operators to come and operate. Because there is increased competition, the market share is bound to come down. But I am happy to report that in last 12 months, in the last four quarters, the rate of decline of these PSUs is now being mitigated. We are taking effective steps to make sure that BSNL and MTNL maintain their effective position in the market. . Sir, I would like to illustrate two-three points. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be patient. Listen to the Minister.

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to illustrate two-three points. We have taken initiative on behalf of the Government of India through BSNL to make sure that these companies remain robust and dynamic and perform their functions. There are 13 lakh points of sale all over India where these mobile SIM cards and other items are sold. As of now, BSNL's footprint is only 2.5 lakhs. We are having increased marketing efforts to make sure that we reach about 3.5 lakh outlets so that our market share of footprint, our presence all over India, increases everyday. We have got in touch with BCG which is one of the top firms. BSNL is consulting with them. We are having franchise modes. We are pushing ourselves and making efforts. We are having very, very attractive packages for our customers. I can assure the hon. Members on the floor of this House that we will spare no effort to make sure that BSNL and MTNL remain in that paramount position. We will give them all the support from the Government side to make sure that they give better and better service.

श्री विजय कुमार रूपाणी: सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से जानना चाहता हूँ कि BSNL के बारे में बहुत सारे लोग हास्यास्पद बातें बताते हैं कि इसका पुअर नेटवर्क है, आउट ऑफ कवरेज एरिया है। उसका कारण है कि हमारे वेस्टर्न साइड में आई.टी.आई. कंपनी के उपकरण, जो BSNL खरीदती है, उनके द्वारा सब नेटवर्क किया जा रहा है। इस आई.टी.आई. कंपनी ने कभी भी टाइम लिमिट के अंदर सप्लाय नहीं किया है। उनकी सप्लाय और इन्स्ट्रूमेंट भी बहुत पुअर हैं। बाकी रीजन में, जहां सभी इम्पोर्ट मशीनरी लगाई हैं, वहां ठीक चल रहा है। मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आपने इस संबंध में आई.टी.आई. कंपनी पर क्या कार्यवाही की है? मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि BSNL का जो heighest नेटवर्क है, उस नेटवर्क का इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर भी आपने प्राइवेट कंपनी को यूज करने के लिए दिया है, इसमें कितना मुनाफा BSNL को मिल रहा है? हमारी जानकारी है कि इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर का 25% ...*(व्यवधान)*... 75% उनको दे रहे हैं। इसके बारे में आपका क्या कहना है?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please answer one question.

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: Sir, the supplementary question does not relate to this question. If he wants any specific details, I would request him to meet me and give me in writing. I will submit those details to him.

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी: सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि BSNL के नेटवर्क की जो हालत है, क्या ये खुद BSNL का यूज करते हैं या किसी और कंपनी का कनेक्शन ले रखा है? हम मंत्री जी से हाउस में यह एश्योरेंस चाहते हैं कि BSNL के नेटवर्क की जो व्यवस्था है, वह बहुत पुअर है। आपने यह तो कर दिया गया है कि कॉल चार्ज एक मिनट की बजाय एक सैकिण्ड पर आ जाएंगे...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: सवाल पूछ लीजिए।

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी: क्या इस व्यवस्था को सुधारने के लिए भी कोई एप्टर्स जुटाए जाएंगे? क्या इस व्यवस्था को सुधारा जाएगा? धन्यवाद।

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: Sir, again this supplementary does not relate to the main question directly. But I can assure the hon. Member, through you, Sir, that the problems we face सभापति जी, ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में हमें ज्यादा दिक्कत आती है। जो मोबाइल के टावर होते हैं, वहां पर कभी-कभी बिजली की सप्लाई नहीं होती है। बिजली की सप्लाई नहीं होने से वे टावर्स काम में नहीं आ सकते हैं। हमने वहां व्यवस्था की है। हम लोग जनरेटर देते हैं, डीजल भी उपलब्ध करवाते हैं, लेकिन अगर पावर सप्लाई बेहतर होगी..

श्री साबिर अली: सभापति जी, बिहार में...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: बैठ जाइए। आप जवाब सुन लें।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री साबिर अली: सभापति जी...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: साबिर अली जी, आप बैठ जाइए प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठ जाइए, आप जवाब सुन लीजिए ...(व्यवधान)... आप जवाब सुन लीजिए, आपकी बारी नहीं आई है।

श्री सचिन पायलट: मैं माननीय सदस्य से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ ...(व्यवधान)... मेरा निवेदन है कि अगर मोबाइल टावर्स को सही बिजली उपलब्ध होगी, तो निश्चित रूप से वे काम करेंगे। मैं आपके माध्यम से सभी माननीय सदस्यों से आग्रह करना चाहता हूँ कि अपनी-अपनी राज्य सरकारों से भी निवेदन करें कि वे बिजली का उत्पादन बढ़ाएँ, ताकि हमारे मोबाइल टावर्स काम कर सकें।

पिछड़े राज्यों का विकास

*107. **श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद:**

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी:††

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अपनी प्रति व्यक्ति आय और वार्षिक वृद्धि दर के आधार पर बिहार, मध्य प्रदेश, असम, राजस्थान, उत्तर प्रदेश इत्यादि राज्य पिछड़े हुए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्ष 2003 से 2008 तक की अवधि में इन राज्यों में अनुमानित प्रति व्यक्ति औसत आय और वार्षिक वृद्धि-दर कितनी-कितनी रही है;

††सभा में यह प्रश्न श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी द्वारा पूछा गया।

(ग) क्या राष्ट्र के सन्तुलित विकास के लिए प्राथमिकता के आधार पर इन राज्यों का विकास करना अनिवार्य है; और

(घ) इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है?

योजना मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री वी. नारायणसामी): (क) से (घ) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा गया है।

विवरण

(क) वर्ष 2003 से 2008 की अवधि के लिए प्रति व्यक्ति आय की दृष्टि में, बिहार, मध्य प्रदेश, असम राजस्थान और उत्तर प्रदेश राज्यों की प्रति व्यक्ति आय राष्ट्रीय प्रति व्यक्ति औसत आय से कम हुई है। वर्ष 2003 से वर्ष 2008 की अवधि के लिए कारक लागत (1999-2000 के मूल्यों पर) सकल राज्य घरेलू उत्पाद (जीएसडीपी) की वार्षिक विकास दर के आधार पर राजस्थान को छोड़कर सभी राज्यों की सकल घरेलू उत्पाद (जीडीपी) विकास दर राष्ट्रीय सकल घरेलू उत्पाद विकास दर के औसत से कम है।

(ख) वर्ष 2003-08 के दौरान इन राज्यों में औसत प्रति व्यक्ति आय और वार्षिक विकास दर का ब्यौरा विवरण -I में दिया गया है **(नीचे देखिए)**

(ग) और (घ) सरकार देश भर में संतुलित तरीके से विकास दर में सुधार करने के लिए अनेक उपाय करती रही है। इससे संबंधित नीतिगत उपायों के अंतर्गत कम विकसित राज्यों का समर्थन करते हुए केन्द्र से योजना और गैर-योजना संसाधनों का अंतरण, पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में निजी उद्योगों की स्थापना के लिए कर प्रोत्साहन आदि शामिल हैं। राज्यों के बीच आय असमानता कम करने के लिए अनेक कार्यक्रम शुरू कर किए गए हैं। इन कार्यक्रमों के अंतर्गत पिछड़ा क्षेत्र अनुदान निधि (बीआरजीएफ), पर्वतीय क्षेत्र विकास कार्यक्रम और सीमा क्षेत्र विकास कार्यक्रम आदि शामिल हैं।

विवरण-I

तालिका: प्रति व्यक्ति आय और वार्षिक विकास दर

प्रति व्यक्ति आय (रुपए)

राज्य	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	औसत (2003-08)
बिहार	6117	6772	6719	8167	8703	7296
मध्य प्रदेश	11870	12032	12567	12881	13299	12530
असम	13675	13946	14419	15152	15857	14610
राजस्थान	15579	14908	15577	17143	18095	16260
उत्तर प्रदेश	10120	10421	10758	11334	11939	10914
अखिल भारत	18301	19331	20868	22580	24295	21075

वार्षिक विकास दर (प्रतिशत)

राज्य	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	औसत (2003-08)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
बिहार	-5.15	12.17	1.49	22.00	8.04	7.7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
मध्य प्रदेश	11.42	3.08	6.48	4.75	5.25	6.2
असम	6.02	3.74	4.94	6.97	6.06	5.5
राजस्थान	28.67	-1.85	6.89	11.81	7.33	10.6
उत्तर प्रदेश	5.27	5.4	5.25	7.18	7.16	6.1
अखिल भारत	8.52	7.47	9.52	9.75	9.01	8.9

स्रोत: सीएसओ (केन्द्रीय सांख्यिकी संगठन) आंकड़े दिनांक 27.10.2009 के अनुसार

Development of backward States

†107. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:††

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, etc. are backward on the basis of their per capita income and annual growth rate;

(b) if so, the average per capita income and annual growth rate estimated in these States during the period from 2003 to 2008;

(c) whether the development of these States on a priority basis is necessary for the balanced growth of the nation; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) In terms of per capita income for the period 2003 to 2008, the States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh fell below the national average per capita income. On the basis of annual growth rate of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) at factor cost (at 1999-00 prices) for the period 2003 to 2008, all the States except Rajasthan fell below the national average of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate.

(b) A statement of the average *per capita* income and annual growth rate estimated in these States during the year 2003-2008 is given in the Statement-I (See below).

(c) and (d) The Government has been taking several measures to improve the growth rate across the country in a balanced manner. The policy instruments in this regard include plan and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Shivanand Tiwari.

non-plan transfer of resources from the Centre to States favouring less developed States, tax incentives for setting up of private industries in the backward regions, etc. A number of programmes have been initiated to reduce income disparity between States. These include Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF), Hill Area Development Programme and Border Area Development Programme, etc.

Statement-I

Table: Per capita Income and Annual Growth Rates

<i>Per Capita Income (Rs.)</i>						
States	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Average (2003-08)
Bihar	6117	6772	6719	8167	8703	7296
Madhya Pradesh	11870	12032	12567	12881	13299	12530
Assam	13675	13946	14419	15152	15857	14610
Rajasthan	15579	14908	15577	17143	18095	16260
Uttar Pradesh	10120	10421	10758	11334	11939	10914
ALL INDIA	18301	19331	20868	22580	24295	21075
<i>Annual Growth Rates (%)</i>						
States	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	Average (2003-08)
Bihar	-5.15	12.17	1.49	22.00	8.04	7.7
Madhya Pradesh	11.42	3.08	6.48	4.75	5.25	6.2
Assam	6.02	3.74	4.94	6.97	6.06	5.5
Rajasthan	28.67	-1.85	6.89	11.81	7.33	10.6
Uttar Pradesh	5.27	5.4	5.25	7.18	7.16	6.1
ALL INDIA	8.52	7.47	9.52	9.75	9.01	8.9

Source: CSO (Central Statistical Organization): Data as on 27.10.2009

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सभापति महोदय, हमारे देश के संविधान में यह दिशा निर्देश दिया गया था कि जो क्षेत्रीय गैर-बराबरी है, उसको सरकारें मिटाने की कोशिश करेंगी। जो लक्ष्य संविधान ने तय किया था, आजादी के 62 वर्षों के बाद उसकी क्या हालत है, वह मंत्री जी के जवाब से जाहिर है। अगर हमारे यहाँ देखा जाए, तो जो प्रति व्यक्ति आय है, वह देश में 2003 से 2008 के बीच 21,075 रुपए है, दूसरी तरफ बिहार में 7,296 रुपए है और उत्तर प्रदेश, जो हिन्दुस्तान का सबसे बड़ा राज्य है, उसकी प्रति व्यक्ति आय 10,914 रुपए है। इतनी बड़ी आबादी की प्रति व्यक्ति आय राष्ट्रीय औसत से इतना नीचे है, तीन गुना नीचे है, आधे से अधिक नीचे है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि संविधान ने क्षेत्रीय गैर-बराबरी को दूर करने का जो लक्ष्य

निर्धारित किया था, वह क्षेत्रीय गैर-बराबरी दूर नहीं हो रही है, इसका ऐतिहासिक कारण क्या है? क्या सरकार ने इसका कोई अध्ययन करवाया है और क्या सरकार कोई योजना बना कर उन कारणों को दूर करने का प्रयास करने जा रही है?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, to consider and, then, to take remedial measures for bridging the gap between the developing States and the underdeveloped States, as the hon. Member has mentioned, to remove regional imbalances, during the Tenth Plan Mid-term Appraisal, a discussion was held, and thereafter, a Task Group was formed by the Planning Commission in August, 2004. Then, the Task Group submitted a Report to the Government, and on that basis, the Backward Regions Grant Fund was created. About 250 districts have been identified as backward districts in the country. If I can tell you State-wise the number of districts which has been selected, Bihar, 36 districts; Assam, 10 districts; Madhya Pradesh, 24 districts; Rajasthan, 12 districts and Uttar Pradesh, 34 districts. An amount of Rs. 4,670 crores was allocated in the Eleventh Plan. And, the districts were given money for the purpose of developing road infrastructure, water supply facility, sanitation and other basic amenities required for the rural people in the backward region. Then, Sir, apart from that, as far as Bihar is concerned, looking into the backwardness of the region, a Special Package, amounting to Rs. 1,000 crores, has been given by the Government of India, and that money has to be utilized for irrigation, watershed management, power, road connectivity and forestry. Every year this money is being given. So, for the last three years, it has been continuously given to the Government of Bihar. Sir, the Plan and Non-Plan Budget provision is one thing, and the Centrally-sponsored Schemes is another thing. Apart from that, special funds have been created by the Government.

The hon. Members from the State of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh mentioned about the Bundelkhand region. The Government of India has provided Rs. 7,600 and odd crores as the Bundelkhand package. Therefore, the Government is committed to the development of the backward regions in the country. Look at the figures pertaining to the GDP. Bihar had 1.9 per cent earlier and now it is 7.7 per cent. Next year, it was 22 per cent; it was much less in the previous year. As far as Madhya Pradesh is concerned, it was 4.75 per cent in 2006-07; now it is 6.2 per cent. As far as Assam is concerned, it is 5.5 per cent. As far as Rajasthan is concerned, it was 7.33 per cent earlier and it has now gone up to 10.6 per cent. In the case of Uttar Pradesh, it was 7.16 per cent, which has now come down to 6.1 per cent. Sir, the Government of India is alive to these regional imbalances and it has been addressing these issues from time to time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Shri Tariq Anwar.

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सर, मेरा एक सवाल और बनता है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: नहीं-नहीं, आपका हक एक सवाल का है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सर, मेरा एक सवाल तो बनता ही है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया: सर, पहला मैम्बर अगर नहीं आया तब दूसरा मैम्बर दो सवाल पूछ सकता है ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The ballot is in the first person; he is only associating. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am very clear about it.

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: नहीं सर, मेरा एक सवाल तो बनता है। मैं इस देश के सबसे पिछले प्रदेश से आता हूँ ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह एक महत्वपूर्ण सवाल है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: देखिए, इसमें कोई कन्फ्यूजन नहीं है, यह हाउस की प्रैक्टिस का सवाल है।

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया: शिवानन्द जी, एक मिनट ...*(व्यवधान)*...।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सभापति महोदय, कम से कम हमको यह अधिकार मिले कि हम दो सवाल पूछ सकें। एक पूछ लिया है और एक हमको पूछ लेने दीजिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...।

श्री सभापति: नहीं-नहीं, तिवारी जी, सवाल वह नहीं है ...*(व्यवधान)*... इसमें कोई कन्फ्यूजन नहीं है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: मैं ऐसे क्षेत्र से आता हूँ जहाँ इतनी भयानक हालत है, इसलिए सभापति महोदय, हमको एक सवाल पूछने दिया जाए ...*(व्यवधान)*...।

श्री सभापति: तिवारी जी, सवाल वह नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सवाल वह नहीं है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सभापति महोदय, हमको इससे वंचित नहीं किया जाए ...*(व्यवधान)*...।

श्री सभापति: देखिए, जहाँ तक हाउस की प्रैक्टिस का सवाल है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: यह सरकार तो पिछड़े इलाके का शोषण कर ही रही है, सभापति महोदय, यदि आप भी ऐसा कीजिएगा, तो हम लोग कहाँ जाएंगे।

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, if he doesn't turn up...*(Interruption)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry, the ballot is in the first person.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: No, Sir. If he doesn't turn up, the second man becomes the first.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: That is the convention of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will allow this question but this is against the rule, clearly. Please, go ahead. And I would request both the hon. Minister and...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सभापति जी, अभी-अभी माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने आंकड़ों का जो जाल यहाँ पर पेश किया कि पिछड़े क्षेत्रों के विकास के लिए सरकार अमुक-अमुक काम करने जा रही है। यह एक भ्रम जाल है। देश के अर्थशास्त्रियों ने देश के क्षेत्र को दो भागों में बांटा है — एक बीमारू और एक स्वस्थ। पता नहीं स्वस्थ भी वे कितने हैं। जब स्वस्थ राज्यों के किसानों की आत्महत्या के बारे में खबर मिलती है, तो हम लोगों को उनके स्वास्थ्य के बारे में भी संदेह होता है। लेकिन ये जो बीमारू राज्य हैं, एक तरफ 21,075 रुपये प्रति व्यक्ति राष्ट्रीय आय है और दूसरी तरफ 7,296 रुपये हैं। आप जो उपाय बता रहे हैं, क्या उससे यह गैर-बराबरी दूर होगी?

श्री सभापति: आप सवाल पूछिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सभापति महोदय, जो पिछड़े राज्य हैं, उनके साथ ट्रेजेडी यह है कि वहाँ इन्वेस्टमेंट भी नहीं हो रहा है। वहाँ कोई प्राइवेट इन्वेस्टर नहीं जा रहा है। सरकार ने पहली पंचवर्षीय योजना

से लेकर आज तक सबसे कम निवेश इन राज्यों में किया है, जो बीमारू माने जाते हैं। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार बड़े पैमाने पर...। आप जो बता रहे हैं, उसमें गलत बात यह है कि हमारी बिहार की सरकार ने नेशनल हाईवे पर 500 करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा खर्च किया है, लेकिन आपने आज तक नहीं दिया ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: आप सवाल पूछिए, ताकि वे जवाब दे सकें।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: कोई भी केन्द्रीय निवेश इन राज्यों में बड़े पैमाने पर नहीं हो रहा है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please.

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसके बगैर यह गैर-बराबरी कैसे दूर हो सकती है?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would request the hon. Minister to give a short, pointed answer. This is not debate. This is Question Hour.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Hon. Chairman Sir, I understand the anguish of the hon. Member. But as far as the development of the backward regions is concerned, and the implementation of various schemes by the State Governments in rural areas is concerned, for supplementing the Budget proposals that have been given, the Centrally-sponsored schemes which have been implemented by the State Governments and for which funds have been provided by the Central Government, various schemes like the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, National Rural Health Mission...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: यह तो पूरे देश के लिए है, लेकिन इन क्षेत्रों के बारे में स्पैसिफिक ढंग से आप क्या करने जा रहे हैं? क्या आप वहाँ किसी तरह का निवेश करने जा रहे हैं या नहीं, हम लोग यह जानना चाहते हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I have specifically mentioned, Sir, the Special Plan for...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: नहीं तो सारे BIMARU राज्य एक साथ खड़े होंगे और केन्द्र से लड़ेंगे ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: आपने उनको उपनिवेश बनाकर रखा है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: पाणि जी, आप बैठ जाइए...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: कॉलोनीज़ हैं, ये पिछड़े राज्य! ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Members, there is an occasion for agitation, but Question Hour is not the occasion for agitation. Let us stick to the established practices of this House - ask questions and receive answers. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Brief answers from the Ministers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Fair enough. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, as far as poverty ratio is concerned, I would like to bring it to the notice of the hon. Member that the all-India average is 27.5 per cent. In Bihar, in 1993-94,

it was 55 per cent, which has come down to 41 per cent. In Assam, from 40.9 per cent, it has come down to 19.7 per cent. In Madhya Pradesh, from 42.5 per cent, it has come down to 38.3 per cent.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: What per cent is this?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: It is poverty ratio. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am referring to the poverty ratio.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: That is because of...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: That is because of the development taking place in the rural areas on the basis of the schemes implemented by the State Governments with the help of the Central Government. That is the point I am trying to drive home. ...*(Interruptions)*... Kindly have patience. I understand your anguish. But, it is not only the Central Government's responsibility but the States also have a major role to play in developing the States. Therefore, Sir, it is cumulatively, both for developing the backward region and the development of the State. Sir, there are other programmes like the Hill Area Development Scheme and Border Area Development Scheme. So, through all these schemes, funds are being provided to the backward regions.

श्री तारिक अनवर: सभापति महोदय, मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में राज्यों के बीच आय-असमानता कम करने के लिए अनेक कार्यक्रम शुरू करने के बारे में कहा है। इसके साथ-ही-साथ पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में अनुदान की बात भी कही गई है। मैं मंत्री जी को कहना चाहूंगा कि बिहार में, खास तौर पर जब वर्ष 2000 में बिहार का बँटवारा होने के बाद जो शेष बिहार बचा, वहाँ उद्योग के नाम पर, कल-कारखाने के नाम पर या infrastructure के नाम पर, कुछ भी नहीं रहा। वहाँ जो कुछ भी था, वह झारखंड में जा चुका है। जब बिहार का बँटवारा हुआ था, तब उसे विशेष पैकेज देने की बात कही गई थी। उस समय केन्द्र में एन0डी0ए0 की सरकार थी और आडवाणी जी गृह मंत्री थे।

श्री सभापति: आप सवाल पूछिए।

श्री तारिक अनवर: उन्होंने आश्वासन दिया था कि बिहार को विशेष पैकेज दिया जाएगा, लेकिन वह विशेष पैकेज आज तक नहीं दिया गया। मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि यह जो असमानता है, इसको दूर करने के लिए, खासतौर पर बिहार को, जहाँ आज बाढ़, सूखा आदि हर तरह के जो प्राकृतिक प्रकोप हैं, उन्हें बिहार झेल रहा है, वहाँ के लिए विशेष पैकेज देने की जो बात उस समय एन0डी0ए0 की सरकार ने किया था और 4 साल तक उनकी सरकार केन्द्र में रही, लेकिन उसने उसे कोई विशेष पैकेज नहीं दिया, तो क्या वर्तमान सरकार इस पर सोचेगी, विचार करेगी और उसे एक विशेष पैकेज देगी, ताकि यह असमानता दूर हो सके?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, the hon. Member has mentioned about the Special Package for Bihar. Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that the hon. Chief Minister also wrote a letter to the hon. Prime Minister about the disaster and the havoc that has been caused by the Kosi river and the Government also sanctioned money for that. Though they demanded about Rs. 14,000 crores, the Government of India has given the money for the purpose of immediately ameliorating the problems faced by the region. Sir, as far as Bihar is concerned, no other State, when compared with other northern States, is getting a special plan. The Bihar

Special Plan was given by the Government of India, especially for rural electrification and also for irrigation facilities, which I have already mentioned, Rs. 1,000 crores every year.

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: But it is not sufficient. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a different matter.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: The hon. Member is making a claim. Sir, as far as the Government of India is concerned, within the available resources, looking at the backward regions of various States, funds are being allocated. There are certain formulas given by the Planning Commission which have been accepted by the National Development Council. On that basis, the funds are being provided.

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: श्रीमान्, बुंदेलखंड क्षेत्र के लिए सरकार ने विशेष पैकेज की जो घोषणा की है, माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी उसका जिक्र किया था। इस बात के लिए मैं सबसे पहले सरकार को, माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी को और राहुल गांधी जी को बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि देश के सबसे पिछड़े और गरीब इलाके की तरफ, देर से ही सही, सरकार की नजर गयी। श्रीमान्, बुंदेलखंड क्षेत्र सबसे पिछड़ा इसलिए है कि दुर्भाग्य से यह मध्य प्रदेश और उत्तर प्रदेश, दो राज्यों में बंट गया और दोनों राज्यों की सरकारों ने उसकी तरफ ध्यान नहीं दिया, अब दिया है। मैं आपसे यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: यह बिल्कुल गलत बात है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री अमर सिंह: यह बिल्कुल गलत बात है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: पाणि जी, प्लीज आप बैठ जाइये। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: पिछली सरकार की नीतियों के चलते ही यह पिछड़ापन है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइये प्लीज। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: माननीय सभापति महोदय, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: आप सवाल कर लीजिए, बस।

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: मैंने तो सवाल करने के लिए ही यह बात उठाई थी और सच यही है। यह मैं नहीं कह रहा, आपके योजना आयोग के पिछले अनेक वर्षों के आंकड़े इस बात को कहते हैं कि बुंदेलखंड इस देश में सबसे गरीब और सबसे पिछड़े इलाकों में से एक है। अगर आज तक यह पिछड़ा है तो निश्चित रूप से यह उपेक्षा के कारण ही हुआ होगा और क्या हो सकता है? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: किसकी उपेक्षा से...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री अमर सिंह: आप यहाँ से पैसा नहीं देते हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: यह दिल्ली की सरकार ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री अमर सिंह: आप 50 सालों से पावर में हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: आप सवाल पूछिये। ...*(व्यवधान)*... You have to ask supplementary questions; please ask them. ...*(Interruptions)*... प्लीज, अब आप सवाल पूछ लीजिए, बस। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: अरे, तुम लोगों ने बुंदेलखंड का * किया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... तुम लोगों ने बुंदेलखंड का * किया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

*Expunged, as ordered by the Chair.

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: यह दिल्ली की सरकार जिसकी हुकूमत रही है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अमर सिंह: तुम लोगों ने क्या किया है? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: आप कैसी भाषा का प्रयोग कर रहे हैं?... (व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती जया बच्चन: सर, ... (व्यवधान)...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि: सर, ... (व्यवधान)...

श्री अमर सिंह: आप किस तरह की भाषा का प्रयोग कर रहे हैं? ... (व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आप लोग बैठ जाइये। ... (व्यवधान) ... आप लोग वेल में मत आइये। ... (व्यवधान)...

The House is adjourned till 12 o' clock.

The House then adjourned at forty-eight minutes past
eleven of the clock till twelve noon.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Millennium Development Goals

†*102. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has set a target to eradicate starvation by the year 2015 under Millennium Development Goals (MDG);

(b) if so, whether according to the experts of the United Nations Development Programme, it is not possible to achieve this target in the scheduled time-frame in the wake of global economic crisis; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps being taken to achieve this target in the scheduled time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA):

(a) The Millennium Declaration signed in 2000 at United Nations, of which Government of India is also a signatory, lists 8 Millennium Development Goals (MDG). The first MDG is "Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger" by 2015. Specific targets for poverty and hunger are: (a) to halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1 a day and (b) to halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

(b) In a Report of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), India, published in April, 2009, titled "Global Financial Crisis: Impact on India's Poor Some Initial Perspectives", Chapter 5 deals with the 'Impact of Financial Crisis on India's March Towards MDGs'. It mentions India's human development and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and says that if the national poverty line is used as the definition, the country is generally considered to be well on track to reduce the headcount ratio of poverty. However, due to global economic crisis, there

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

is possibility that poverty levels may be higher than expected in the next couple of years till the economy resumes a higher growth path.

(c) National programmes and related initiatives by Government of India tackle the issues of poverty in rural and urban areas by addressing the needs of employment, income generation, shelter, nutrition, and food security, thereby facilitating the march towards the achievement of MDG No. 1 relating to eradication of extreme poverty and hunger by 2015.

The major schemes include the following:—

In Urban Areas: the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) launched on 3rd December, 2005 with a strong focus on provision of basic services and shelter to the urban poor, especially slum-dwellers;

The Revised Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) with effect from 1st April 2009 focusing on employability, employment generation, loans for micro-enterprises and self-employment, community mobilization and empowerment of the urban poor;

The Government has recently announced a new programme called Rajiv Awas Yojana aimed at making India Slum-free through assistance to States that are willing to assign property rights to slum-dwellers living in cities and towns;

In Rural Areas: Implementation of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme based on enactment of National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) aimed at providing for the enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household;

Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) focusing on skill development and self-employment of the rural poor;

Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) with focus on development of infrastructure of link roads to villages while creating employment for the rural poor; and Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) aimed at assisting the rural poor in construction of houses;

In both urban and rural areas, implementation of Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) as a major programme of intervention for the nutrition and overall development of children below 6 years of age and expectant and nursing mothers;

Strengthening of Public Distribution System to ensure food security to the rural and urban poor;

Under all schemes aimed at redressing poverty and its deleterious effects, Government is placing emphasis on reaching the benefits of schemes to the SC/ST/OBC, minorities and women.

Eleventh Plan expenditure target

*103. MS. MABEL REBELLO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has observed that to meet the Eleventh Plan expenditure target, Government will have to follow a much 'bolder' disinvestment plan;

(b) whether this decision emerged after the full meeting of the Planning Commission chaired by the Prime Minister;

(c) whether the Commission has also called for taking steps to reduce subsidies, especially those for fertilizer and petroleum products; and

(d) if so, the other main decisions taken and by what time these decisions will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) to (d) Full Planning Commission in the meeting held on September 1, 2009 deliberated on the Discussion Paper on the "State of the Economy". The paper presented an assessment of the current economic situation and a tentative projection of prospects for the last two years of the Plan. Full Planning Commission endorsed the assessment of the current economic situation. The concluding observations in the meeting amongst others mentioned that there was a need to revive investment, particularly in the infrastructure sector, and to contain fiscal deficit within the limits of prudence, by raising resources and using the resources efficiently. The challenge of resource mobilization over the last two years of the Eleventh Five Year Plan needed to be met to sustain the momentum of planned development and to meet adequate funding for the flagship programmes.

BSNL/MTNL share in mobile market

*104. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) are losing share in mobile market and the performance of these Government owned companies has been deteriorating despite having a one year lead of 3G services;

(b) whether in landline the market share of Government operators has gone down from 89.4 per cent in 2008 to 85.8 per cent in 2009 and in mobile from 17 per cent in 2008 to 13.6 per cent in 2009;

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

(d) the strategy of BSNL and MTNL to protect the market share and to control the decline?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Sir, BSNL and MTNL are losing share in mobile market due to the intense competition and entry of new operators with aggressive tariff plans. BSNL and MTNL are the only 3G operators in the country and the growth of their 3G subscriber base has not been able to offset fall in the overall share in mobile market. The number of 3G connections issued by BSNL and MTNL are 73,133 and 1,29,024 respectively. The reasons for the low growth of 3G subscriber base are given in the Statement-I (See below).

As per the performance monitoring report of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for the quarter ended June 2009, the overall quality of mobile service provided by BSNL and MTNL is comparable to the quality of service provided by the private mobile companies.

(b) and (c) The details of landline, mobile connections and market share of the Government operators is given below:—

Name of the Company	Landline Status				Mobile Status			
	As on 31.03.2008		As on 31.03.2009		As on 31.03.2008		As on 31.03.2009	
	Connections (in lakhs)	% share	Connections (in lakhs)	% share	Connections (in lakhs)	% share	Connections (in lakhs)	% share
BSNL	315.52	80.05	293.46	77.30	407.86	15.62	521.44	13.31
MTNL	36.76	9.33	35.73	9.41	35.34	1.35	44.82	1.14
Total for Government operators	352.28	89.38	329.19	86.71	443.20	16.98	566.26	14.45
TOTAL for private operators	41.85	10.62	50.44	13.29	2167.58	83.02	3351.33	85.55

(d) BSNL and MTNL are augmenting their capacity to enhance the network coverage and to remove the congestion. They are also strengthening their sales and marketing channels. The strategy of BSNL and MTNL to protect the market share and to control the decline are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Reasons for Low Growth Rate of 3G Subscriber Base

For any service/technology, the initial graph is always gradual and picks up gradients after a minimum percentage of population has adopted, experienced and accepted the technology. This was seen in other technologies as well, such as broadband on copper:—

- It is a worldwide phenomenon that initially 3G subscriber base increases slowly, which picks up as 3G network grows to acquire decent coverage and gets stabilized.
- The services have been launched in the select few cities and even in those cities the complete area coverage is yet to be attained.
- Low viewership of mobile TV and presence of less/negligible number of popular IT applications with high bandwidth requirement (cannot be supported by 2G) that can increase demand of 3G services.
- Tariff barrier and high cost of 3G compatible handset is also a deterrent in increasing 3G penetrations.
- Awareness/exposure/experience on the advantages of 3G over 2G services which will increase over time.

Statement-II

Strategy of BSNL and MTNL to protect the market share and to control the decline

Landline:

- Replacement of old telephony switches by State of the art Next Generation Network Switches providing various value added services in landline.
- Providing Broad Band connections along with landline.
- Retention of non payment disconnected numbers by giving installment payment options and pursuing the case on individual basis.
- Five pair cable is being used in place of drop wires to reduce the fault rate.
- Underground paper core cables are being replaced either by Jelley filled cables or by other systems in a phased manner.
- Activity of making the outdoor plant as Pole less is continuously being carried out.
- More and more Remote Switch Units (RSUs) / Digital Line Concentrators (DLCs) are being opened to reduce the loop length of cables.

Mobile:

- Matching and innovative tariff plans and other subscriber friendly schemes are being launched by BSNL.
- Constant monitoring of network to improve the quality of service.
- Launching of new services and bundling schemes in the network for retention of the subscribers.
- Network outage is being very closely monitored.
- Radio Capacity is being augmented to reduce congestion, enhance capacity and improve QoS.

- Network is being optimized.
- Sales teams are being formed to have regular interaction with Points of Sales.
- Monthly meetings are being held with franchisees to get feedback on customer issues.

Agreement on trans—border insurgency

*105. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there exists a regional agreement among SAARC countries on trans-border insurgency;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is aware of the reported statement by a member of the Standing Committee of Nepali Maoist Organization UCPN-M claiming to support the Indian naxal groups;
- (d) if so, whether Government has taken up the issue with the Nepalese Government; and
- (e) if so, the response of that Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (e) 1. There are two SAARC Regional Agreements to address the issue of trans border insurgency. The **SAARC Regional Convention on Suppression of Terrorism** signed in 1987 and its Additional Protocol signed in 2004. The **Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters** was signed during the 15th SAARC Summit in Colombo (2-3 August 2008).

2. The provisions of the above mentioned SAARC Agreements will enable evidence sharing among Member States and enable seizure and confiscation of funds meant for criminal and terrorist activities.

3. A senior member of UCPN-M had reportedly made a statement that they are extending support and cooperation to Indian Maoists, which was subsequently refuted by the leader of the UCPN-M. The Nepalese Government has assured that it would not allow its territory to be used for any activity against India.

Discussions during the Ninth Trilateral Meet

*108. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the issues discussed in the recently held Ninth Trilateral Meet among India, China and Russia; and
- (b) the salient features of the decisions taken/agreements signed in the meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) The Foreign Ministers of India, China and Russia met in Bengaluru on 27 October, 2009. The three Foreign Ministers discussed strengthening trilateral cooperation and global and regional issues during their 9th Trilateral Meeting. There was an exchange of views among the three Ministers on global issues such as UN reform, climate change and global economic governance architecture. There was also an exchange of views on developments in the region, including on Afghanistan, Iran and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

(b) It was agreed to strengthen trilateral cooperation including trilateral business interaction. The Ministers condemned terrorism and discussed measures to counter terrorism. A Joint Communiqué was issued at the end of the meeting reflecting the decisions arrived at during the meeting. No agreements were signed.

Proposal for irrigation projects

*109. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal pending before Government to take up irrigation projects as national projects;

(b) if so, the details of such projects, with particular reference to Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the action that has so far been contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) After issue of guidelines for the implementation of scheme of national projects, 10 project proposals from different States for inclusion of their projects in the scheme of national projects have been received. The status of these proposals is given in the Statement (*See below*).

The State of Andhra Pradesh has so far submitted proposals of two projects for inclusion in the scheme of national projects. These projects are Indirasagar (Polavaram) project and J. Chokkarao Lift Irrigation scheme. Status of these proposals is also given in Statement.

Statement

Status of proposals of national projects

1. Kanher Irrigation Project (Uttar Pradesh)

The ultimate irrigation potential of the project is 27898 ha which is less than 200000 ha and therefore project is not eligible for inclusion in the scheme of national projects.

2. Bansagar Project (Uttar Pradesh)

The estimated cost of the project to which investment clearance has been accorded by the Planning Commission is Rs. 2053.60 crore. The latest estimated cost of the project is Rs. 3164.40 crore. The State Government is required to obtain revised investment clearance.

3. Saryu Canal Project (Uttar Pradesh)

The estimated cost of the project which is approved by the TAC is Rs. 2765.16 crore. The latest estimated cost of the project is Rs. 7330.68 crore. The State Government is required to obtain revised investment clearance.

4. Baghen Project (Uttar Pradesh)

As per guidelines of the national projects, the *intra-state* project with irrigation potential of more than 2 lakh ha could be considered for inclusion in the scheme of national project. The Baghen project is having irrigation potential of the order of 15000 ha and therefore project is not eligible for inclusion in the scheme of national projects.

5. Rajghat Canal Project (Uttar Pradesh)

During AIBP Review meeting taken by the Secretary (WR) on 22nd May, 2009, this project has been reported as completed.

6. Restoration of capacity of Sharda Sahayak Canal (Uttar Pradesh)

The project has been recommended by the CWC (FU) to CWC (HQ) for inclusion in the scheme of National Project. The latest estimated cost of the project for which investment clearance has been accorded by the Planning Commission is Rs. 319.23 crore. However, the State Government is being asked to communicate its decision regarding one of the 6 projects which it would like to be considered for inclusion in the scheme of national project. This is necessary as the inclusion of large numbers of intra-state projects of a State in the scheme of national projects will result in thin spreading of resources and thereby result in delay in completion of national projects.

7. Rengali Project (Orissa)

The field unit of CWC has raised some observations on the proposal of the State Government. Important observation is regarding revision of cost of the project and revised investment clearance from the planning commission. The State Government is to comply with observations of the CWC.

8. Polavaram (Indira Sagar) Project

The project has been cleared by the Steering Committee for inclusion in the scheme of national project. For seeking approval of the Union Cabinet, Cabinet note has been prepared and has been sent for inter-ministerial consultation.

9. J. Chokkarao Lift Irrigation Scheme

The estimated cost of the project to which, investment clearance has been accorded by the planning commission is Rs. 6016 crore. The latest estimated cost of the project is Rs. 9300 crore for which, the State Government is required to obtain revised investment clearance. Further, in order to avoid thin spreading of the resources, only one project of a State is at present being considered for inclusion in the scheme of national projects.

10. Bargi Diversion Project

The proposal submitted by the Narmada Valley Development Authority, Government of Madhya Pradesh in September, 2009 is not in accordance with the guidelines of the scheme of national projects as issued by the Ministry of Water Resources in February, 2009. The State Government has been advised to frame proposal as per guidelines.

Clearance for Kochi Metro Rail Project

*110. SHRI P. RAJEEVE:

SHRI P.R. RAJAN:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any decision has been taken by Government on the Kochi Metro Rail Project;
- (b) if not, the reason for not giving approval to the project;
- (c) whether his Ministry has formulated any specific guidelines and criteria for sanctioning of the Metro project; and
- (d) whether the Planning Commission has given clearance for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) The proposal is under consideration of the Government.
- (c) Normally projects having high traffic demand of 20,000 peak hour peak direction traffic (PHPDT) or more and which will have sufficient operational sustainability are considered, if duly supported by Comprehensive Mobility Plan and an Alternatives analysis.
- (d) Yes, Sir.

Development of sports in rural areas

*111. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any programme for the promotion and development of games and sports in rural areas of the country; and
- (b) if so, the details of policies and programmes framed by Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has, for the first time, introduced a centrally sponsored scheme with national coverage for promotion of basic sports infrastructure and sports competitions in all village and block panchayats of the country under Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA). The Eleventh Five Year Plan outlay for this scheme, launched in the Financial Year 2008-09 is Rs. 1500 crore. The scheme envisages to cover around 2.50 lakh village panchayats and 6,400 block panchayats (including their equivalent units) in a phased manner over a period of ten years at an annual coverage of 10%.

The following pattern of assistance has been provided under the scheme:—

Sl. No.	Component	Village Panchayat	Block Panchayat
1.	One-time Capital Grant (75:25) basis between Centre and State Government; (90:10) basis in the case of special category States/North Eastern States	Rs. 1 lakh	Rs. 5 lakh
100% central grant			
2.	Annual Acquisition Grant	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 20,000/-
3.	Annual Operational Grant	Rs. 12,000/-	Rs. 24,000/-
4.	Annual Competition Grant		
	a. Block Level Competition	Rs. 50,000/-	
	b. District Level Competition	Rs. 3 lakh (it includes Rs. 1 lakh for inter-school competition at District level)	
	c. State Level Competition	Rs. 10 lakh for each State Rs. 5 lakh for each Union Territory	
	d. National Level Competition	Rs. 70 lakh @ Rs. 3.5 lakh per discipline for 20 disciplines.	
5.	Prize money for winners in the block and district level competitions		
	a. Block level competition	Rs. 25,000/- , Rs. 15,000/- and Rs. 5,000/- prize money for village panchayats securing first three positions.	
	b. District level competition	Rs. 50,000/- Rs. 30,000/- and Rs. 10,000/- for block panchayat's securing first three positions	
6.	North East Sports Festival/games	As per admissible grant	

During 2008-09, financial assistance amounting to Rs. 250.77 crore was sanctioned to 24 States for creation of sports infrastructure in 22,854 Village and 601 Block Panchayats. During 2009-10 (upto 31-10-2009) financial assistance amounting to Rs. 14.64 crore has been sanctioned to 5 States for creation of sports infrastructure in 1,261 Village Panchayats and 53 Block Panchayats. The details of funds released during 2008-09 and 2009-2010 are given below:—

(Rupees in crore)

Year	Funds released
2008-09	92.00
2009-10	99.78 (upto 31-10-2009)

Under this scheme, annual competitions are organized in PYKKA sports disciplines throughout the country at block, district, state and national levels. Apart from broad basing sports, the scheme is expected to expand the talent base for the promotion of excellence in sports in the long-run.

Reading time in the National Library at Kolkata

*112. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the reading time in the National Library at Kolkata has been reduced;
- (b) if so, whether the readers, both domestic and foreign, are facing a problem; and
- (c) if so, the action Government has taken to resolve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Library, Kolkata has four buildings namely, (I), Main Building, (II) Bhasha Bhavan, (III) Annexe Building and (IV) New Annexe Building within the library campus at Belvedere, within walking distance of each other. The Esplande Reading Room is located 10 kms. away from the Belvedere Campus. The main Building has been declared as a “Heritage Building” and needs immediate restoration and conservation. For this purpose, the building has been vacated for handing over to the ASI for restoration. All books, documents and reading materials have been shifted to the Bhasha Bhavan and other buildings. The Annexe building has several reading rooms, including the Asutosh Collection and Rare Books. The Indian Official Document Divisions Reading Room and the English Periodical Reading Room were housed in this building. Presently the English Periodical Reading Room has been shifted to the second floor of the Bhasha Bhavan and remains open from 9.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. The Indian Official Document Division’s Reading Room remains open from 9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. in the Annexe Building and from 6.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m., the services to it are provided from the Bhasha Bhavan Reading Room. As soon as the work of shifting is over, the earlier arrangement will be restored.

Handling of letters by India Post

†*113. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that handling of letters by India Post has been reduced to a half in the last five years while the country's courier business is growing at 25 per cent annually;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No, Sir. There has been a decline to the extent of 26% in the total mail traffic (Unregistered and Registered Mail) from the year 2003-04 to 2007-08. The tentative figures of 2008-09, however, reveal a reversal in the trend. No authentic information regarding the courier business growing at 25% annually is available with the Department.

(b) The details of the total mail traffic handled for the last five years from 2003-04 to 2007-08 and for 2008-09 is as under:—

Year	Total Mail Traffic Number of articles (in crore)	Decline in total mail traffic over previous year No. of articles (in crore)	Percentage of decline
2003-04	863.53	45.88	5.04%
2004-05	736.03	127.50	14.76%
2005-06	670.06	65.97	8.96%
2006-07	667.71	2.35	0.35%
2007-08	639.11	28.60	4.28%
2008-09	654.09*	+14.98*	+2.34%

*Tentative

(c) The decline in the mail traffic has been caused by the changing nature of mail from personal to business mail and the effect of new technologies like mobile telephones and e-mail and to a certain extent by mushrooming of courier companies.

Illegal immigrants in the US

*114. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indians have the dubious distinction of being the fastest growing group of illegal immigrants in the US;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) whether Government has made any study to find out the growth rate of Indian population in the US;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to protect the image of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) No, Sir. The Indian origin community in USA stands at nearly 2.7 million and is the second largest ethnic community in USA. They have distinguished themselves in several fields and are the best educated and highest-earning ethnic group in USA. Almost one lakh Indian students in India travel to USA every year to pursue higher studies. Government is not aware of Indians being the fastest-growing group of illegal immigrants since the bulk of Indian immigration has been legal.

(b) The Government of India has been working with the US Government to deport illegal Indian immigrants in USA, after due verification of their Indian nationality by (government of India (GOI) as per established GOI procedures.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise

Projects under UIDSSMT in Andhra Pradesh

*115. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the projects submitted by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to his Ministry during the last two years and till date under the Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT);
- (b) the latest status of each of these projects;
- (c) by when these are likely to be implemented; and
- (d) the reasons for delay, if any, in implementing these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) Under Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT), State Level Sanctioning Committee of Andhra Pradesh has approved 40 projects in 35 towns at an estimated cost of Rs. 1257.25 crore and 5 projects in 5 towns at an estimated cost of Rs. 206.64 crore in its meetings held on 2.8.2007 and 22.2.2009 respectively. The details of these projects are given in the Statement-I (See below).

(b) and (c) Of these 45 projects, funds amounting to Rs. 391.51 crore for 31 projects in 28 towns were released during 2008-2009. The details of the projects are given in the Statement-II (See below).

Out of the remaining 14 projects, funds could not be released for 7 projects as they were not technically cleared. 2 projects of Tirupati could not be taken up as it was subsequently declared a Mission City under UIG component of JNNURM. 5 projects did not qualify for release as per Planning Commission O.M. dated 24.12.2008 wherein it has been prescribed that one project per town out of the projects sanctioned prior to issue of O.M. could be considered against the additional allocation made during 2008-09. State of Andhra Pradesh has already exhausted its 7 year allocation under UIDSSMT and these projects can not be considered for release funds.

(d) As per Quarterly Progress Reports furnished by the State work has commenced on all projects and are at different stages of implementation.

Statement-I

*UIDSSMT: List of projects submitted by Andhra Pradesh and ACA
released till 31st October, 2009*

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Town Name	Scheme	Approved cost	Date SLSC	Central Share State	Date Released Ist_Inst	ACA Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Adoni	WS	573.00	2-Aug.-07	458.40	18-Mar.-09	229.00
2.	Anakapalli	WS	366.00	2-Aug.-07	292.80	17-Feb.-09	146.00
3.	Bapatla	WS	1466.00	2-Aug.-07	1172.80		0.000
4.	Bellampally	WS	1887.00	2-Aug.-07	1509.60	18-Mar.-09	755.00
5.	Bhongir	WS	2037.00	2-Aug.-07	1629.60	18-Mar.-09	815.00
6.	Dharmavaram	WS	5945.00	2-Aug.-07	4756.00	18-Mar.-09	2378.00
7.	Dhone	WS	4476.00	2-Aug.-07	3580.80	18-Mar.-09	1790.00
8.	Eluru Corp	WS	5959.00	2-Aug.-07	4767.20	18-Mar.-09	2439.61
9.	Gadwal	WS	3281.00	2-Aug.-07	2624.80		0.000
10.	Gudur	WS	6487.00	2-Aug.-07	5189.60	18-Mar.-09	2595.00
11.	Guntakal	WS	1685.00	2-Aug.-07	1348.00	18-Mar.-09	674.00
12.	Hindupur	WS	1630.00	2-Aug.-07	1304.00	18-Mar.-09	652.00
13.	Kamareddy	D	1508.00	2-Aug.-07	1206.40		0.000
	Kamareddy	WS	2235.00	2-Aug.-07	1788.00	18-Mar.-09	927.53
14.	Kavali	WS	1869.00	2-Aug.-07	1495.20	18-Mar.-09	747.00
15	Mandapeta	D	2178.00	2-Aug.-07	1742.40		0.000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16.	Miryalguda	D	3435.00	2-Aug.-07	2748.00	17-Feb.-09	1408.35
	Miryalguda	R	3146.00	2-Aug.-07	2516.80	17-Feb.-09	1289.46
17.	Nalgonda	D	3586.00	2-Aug.-07	2868.80	17-Feb.-09	1467.17
	Nalgonda	R	3970.00	2-Aug.-07	3176.00	17-Feb.-09	1624.72
18	Nandyal	S	6683.00	2-Aug.-07	5346.40		0.000
19	Nuzvid	WS	4119.00	2-Aug.-07	3295.20	18-Mar.-09	1648.00
20	Palamaneru	WS	4340.00	2-Aug.-07	3472.00	18-Mar.-09	1736.00
21	Piduguralla	WS	3454.00	2-Aug.-07	2763.20	17-Feb.-09	1409.98
22	Pithapuram	WS	1966.00	2-Aug.-07	1572.80	18-Mar.-09	786.00
23	Punganur	WS	3036.00	2-Aug.-07	2428.80	17-Feb.-09	1255.59
24	Rajampet	WS	3413.00	2-Aug.-07	2730.40	17-Feb.-09	1365.00
25	Ramagundam	WS	404.00	2-Aug.-07	323.20	17-Feb.-09	162.00
26	Sadasivpet	WS	3203.00	2-Aug.-07	2562.40		0.000
27	Siddipet	D	984.00	2-Aug.-07	787.20	17-Feb.-09	403.84
28	Srikalahasthi	WS	1881.00	2-Aug.-07	1504.80	18-Mar.-09	780.22
29	Suryapet	D	2464.00	2-Aug.-07	1971.20	17-Feb.-09	1010.64
	Suryapet (Phase-2)	WS	960.00	2-Aug.-07	768.00	17-Feb.-09	393.60
30	Tadepalligudem	S	4960.00	2-Aug.-07	3968.00		0.000
31	Tenali	WS	8085.00	2-Aug.-07	6468.00	18-Mar.-09	3299.49
32	Tirupati	D	4286.00	2-Aug.-07	3428.80		0.000
	Tirupati	S	1414.00	2-Aug.-07	1131.20		0.000
33	Venkatakagiri	WS	6962.00	2-Aug.-07	5569.60	18-Mar.-09	2785.00
34	Yemingaur	S	3983.00	2-Aug.-07	3584.70	18-Mar.-09	1593.00
35	Zaheerabad	WS	1409.00	2-Aug.-07	1268.10	18-Mar.-09	585.14
36	Khammam	WS	3220.00	22-Feb.-09	2576.00		0.000
37	Nizamabad Phase-2	S	7520.00	22-Feb.-09	6016.00		0.000
38	Tandur	WS	4690.00	22-Feb.-09	3752.00		0.000
39	Vikarabad	D	2000.00	22-Feb.-09	1600.00		0.000
40.	Vizianagaram	WS	3234.00	22-Feb.-09	2587.20		0.000
	TOTAL	45	146389.00	1771170.00	117650.40	1236242.00	39151.34

Statement-II

UIDSSMT: List of projects sent by Government Andhra Pradesh and ACA released as on 31.10.2009

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No. Towns	Town Name	Scheme	Approved cost	Date SLSC	Central Share State	Date Released Ist_Inst	ACA Released	Total Released I and II
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Adoni	WS	573.00	2-Aug.-07	458.40	18-Mar.-09	229.00	229.00
2.	Anakapalli	WS	366.00	2-Aug.-07	292.80	17-Feb.-09	146.00	146.00
3.	Bellampally	WS	1887.00	2-Aug.-07	1509.60	18-Mar.-09	755.00	755.00
4.	Bhongir	WS	2037.00	2-Aug.-07	1629.60	18-Mar.-09	815.00	815.00
5.	Dharmavaram	WS	5945.00	2-Aug.-07	4756.00	18-Mar.-09	2378.00	2378.00
6.	Dhone	WS	4476.00	2-Aug.-07	3580.80	18-Mar.-09	1790.00	1790.00
7.	Eluru Corp	WS	5959.00	2-Aug.-07	4767.20	18-Mar.-09	2439.61	2439.61
8.	Gudur	WS	6487.00	2-Aug.-07	5189.60	18-Mar.-09	2595.00	2595.00
9.	Guntakal	WS	1685.00	2-Aug.-07	1348.00	18-Mar.-09	674.00	674.00
10.	Hindupur	WS	1630.00	2-Aug.-07	1304.00	18-Mar.-09	652.00	652.00
11.	Kamareddy	WS	2235.00	2-Aug.-07	1788.00	18-Mar.-09	927.53	927.53
12.	Kavali	WS	1869.00	2-Aug.-07	1495.20	18-Mar.-09	747.00	747.00

13.	Miryalguda	D	3435.00	2-Aug.-07	2748.00	17-Feb.-09	1408.35	1408.35
	Miryalguda	R	3146.00	2-Aug.-07	2516.80	17-Feb.-09	1289.46	1289.46
14.	Nalgonda	D	3586.00	2-Aug.-07	2868.80	17-Feb.-09	1467.17	1467.17
	Nalgonda	R	3970.00	2-Aug.-07	3176.00	17-Feb.-09	1624.72	1624.72
15.	Nuzvid	WS	4119.00	2-Aug.-07	3295.20	18-Mar.-09	1648.00	1648.00
16.	Palamaneru	WS	4340.00	2-Aug.-07	3472.00	18-Mar.-09	1736.00	1736.00
17.	Piduguralla	WS	3454.00	2-Aug.-07	2763.20	17-Feb.-09	1409.98	1409.98
18.	Pithapuram	WS	1966.00	2-Aug.-07	1572.80	18-Mar.-09	786.00	786.00
19.	Punganur	WS	3036.00	2-Aug.-07	2428.80	17-Feb.-09	1255.59	1255.59
20.	Rajampet	WS	3413.00	2-Aug.-07	2730.40	17-Feb.-09	1365.00	1365.00
21.	Ramagundam	WS	404.00	2-Aug.-07	323.20	17-Feb.-09	162.00	162.00
22.	Siddipet	D	984.00	2-Aug.-07	787.20	17-Feb.-09	403.84	403.84
23.	Srikalahasthi	WS	1881.00	2-Aug.-07	1504.80	18-Mar.-09	780.22	780.22
24.	Suryapet	D	2464.00	2-Aug.-07	1971.20	17-Feb.-09	1010.64	1010.64
	Suryapet (Phase-2)	WS	960.00	2-Aug.-07	768.00	17-Feb.-09	393.60	393.60
25.	Tenali	WS	8085.00	2-Aug.-07	6468.00	18-Mar.-09	3299.49	3299.49
26.	Venkatakagiri	WS	6962.00	2-Aug.-07	5569.60	18-Mar.-09	2785.00	2785.00
27.	Yemingaur	S	3983.00	2-Aug.-07	3584.70	18-Mar.-09	1593.00	1593.00
28.	Zaheerabad	WS	1409.00	2-Aug.-07	1268.10	18-Mar.-09	585.14	585.14
TOTAL		31	96746.00		77936.00		39151.34	39151.34

Wages of casual labourers in BSNL

*116. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the wages paid to the casual labourers employed in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL);
- (b) whether any all India wages have been determined and are being paid as per Government orders; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Casual Labourers with Temporary Status are entitled to daily wages with reference to minimum of the pay scale of a regular Group 'D' official including DA, HRA, CCA and are also entitled for annual increments of the Pay Scale.

Casual Labourers without Temporary Status are entitled for daily wages at the rate of 1/30th of pay at the minimum of the relevant pay scale plus Dearness Allowance for work of 8 hours wherever engaged for work of regular nature. In case of casual labour engaged in intermittent or seasonal work, the casual labourers are entitled for wages as per the rates prescribed under the Minimum Wages Act.

- (b) In view of (a) above, orders for all India Wages already exist.
- (c) In view of (a) and (b) above, not applicable.

Depletion of ground water level

*117. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the data provided by NASA satellite recorder showing depletion of groundwater level in northern India by as much as a foot per year;
- (b) whether 70 per cent of India's irrigation needs and 80 per cent of domestic water supplies are now fully dependent on groundwater resources;
- (c) whether Government would consider establishment of an agency like the Tennessee Valley Authority in US in the Brahmaputra basin to tap the abundant water resource in the North-East; and
- (d) if so, by when a decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (d) In the article titled 'Satellite-based estimates of groundwater depletion in India' published in August, 2009 issue of scientific journal 'Nature' it has been indicated that groundwater is being depleted at a mean rate of $4.0 \pm 1.0 \text{ cm yr}^{-1}$ equivalent height of water ($17.7 \pm 4.5 \text{ km}^3 \text{ yr}^{-1}$) over the Indian States of Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana (including Delhi).

As per the information provided by the States, 45% of the irrigation potential created is through ground water resources and about 47% of the irrigation potential utilized is through ground water. About 85% of the rural drinking water requirement has been assessed to be met from ground water resources.

The Government has constituted the Brahmaputra Board under the Brahmaputra Board Act, 1980 (No. 46 of 1980) for the planning and implementation of measures for the control of flood and bank erosion and matters connected therewith in Brahmaputra Valley.

Subsidized coverage of PDS

*118. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission intends to reduce the burden of subsidized coverage of Public Distribution System (PDS) by extrapolating the 2004 Planning Commission figures on the 2009 population size;

(b) if so, whether it will not dilute the concept of “inclusive growth” which the present UPA Government formed after a decisive mandate wants to achieve;

(c) the total amount allocated and spent on PDS, during 2006-07 and 2008-09, year-wise; and

(d) the projections for PDS allocation and expenditure during 2009-10?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):
(a) and (b) For allocation of food grains to States and UTs under Targetted PDS (TPDS), Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of BPL families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and population estimates of the Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000. This number of BPL families is 6.52 crore, which include 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. However, as reported by end of October, 2009, the State and UT Governments have issued 10.96 crore BPL ration cards, which includes 2.43 crore AAY cards. No steps have been taken by the Planning Commission to reduce the burden of subsidized coverage of PDS.

(c) Total food subsidy released during 2006-07 to 2008-09 is as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Subsidy released
2006-07	23,827.59
2007-08	31,259.68
2008-09	43,668.08

(d) Total requirement of food subsidy estimated for 2009-10 (Revised Estimates) is Rs. 67,609 crore. This includes subsidy for TPDS, Other Welfare Schemes, Buffer Subsidy, Subsidy on open market sale scheme and arrears of previous years.

Allocation of 3G spectrum

*119. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether allocation of 3-G Spectrum has been decided to be made through an auction process;

(b) if so, salient details of the process decided to be pursued for the same *vis-à-vis* recommendations and advice, if any, given by TRAI, Finance Ministry and other agencies;

(c) the details of advantages, if any, envisaged for cellular phone consumers owing to 3-G spectrum availability;

(d) the details of the period when the final decision regarding the process taken by Government, indicating the period when the process is finally expected to be completed; and

(e) the reasons for prolonging the process?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) **Auction Process:** TRAI has recommended in 2006 that 3G spectrum should be auctioned so as to ensure efficient utilization of this scarce resource. As per the guidelines issued in August/September, 2008, Department of Telecommunications (DoT) announced that 3G spectrum shall be auctioned through a controlled, simultaneous, ascending e-auction.

(ii) **Reserve Price:** Department of Telecommunication (DoT) has suggested Pan India reserve price of Rs. 2020 crores per one block of 2 × 5 MHz of 3G spectrum in 2.1 GHz band which was agreed to by TRAI. Finance Ministry has suggested further doubling the reserve price from Rs. 2020 crores to Rs. 4040 crores for the same spectrum block. Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) in the meeting held on August 27, 2009 has decided to keep a pan India reserve price of Rs. 3500 crores for the same spectrum block.

(c) 3G systems support increased data communication, hence they allow high speed data transfer of at least 144 kbps, mobile Internet access, entertainment, and triple-play converged communications services on the Cellular Mobile Phone of the consumer.

(d) Revised Information Memorandum indicating the various aspects associated with the 3G auction has been issued on 23/10/2009 and published on Department of Telecommunications (DoT) website. The time line for 3G auction, mentioned in the Revised Information Memorandum, is given in the Statement (*See below*).

- (e) Not applicable in view of (d) above.

Statement

Auction of 3G and BWA Spectrum — Revised Information Memorandum

1.11 Timetable

The Auctions shall be carried in 4 stages as below:—

Figure 1. Stages in the Auction process

Invitation Stage	Pre-qualification Stage	Auction Stage	Grant Stage
Applications	Evaluation	Bidding	Final Approvals

There is no pre-set timetable and the Government reserves the right to determine the overall timetable of the Auctions or to amend it from time to time. However, the table below sets out an indicative timetable.

Table 7. Indicative Timetable

Deadline for submission of questions for per-bid conference	13th November, 2009
Pre-bid conference	16th November, 2009
Issue of clarifications, if any	27th November, 2009
Notice Inviting Applications	8th December, 2009
Final date for Applications	21st December, 2009
Publication of ownership details of Applicants	24th December, 2009
Bidder Ownership compliance Certificate	4th January, 2010
Pre-qualification of Bidders	7th January, 2010
Mock Auction	11th-12th January, 2010
Start of the 3G Auction	14th January, 2010
Start of the 800 MHz and BWA Auction	2 days from the day of close of the 3G auction
Payment of Bid Deposit by Successful Bidders	Within 5 calendar days of the close of the relevant Auction
Payment of the balance amount (Successful Bid the relevant Auction	Within 15 calendar days of the Amount less Bid Deposit)close of

Note: Any change in the Auction Timelines will be communicated to bidders through the auctions website. Participants are requested to monitor the Auctions website actively.

Central assistance to tourism projects in Uttar Pradesh

†*120. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals for Central assistance received from the Uttar Pradesh Government for projects on tourism; and

(b) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Development and Promotion of Tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends Central Financial Assistance to project proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations which are complete in all respects as per the scheme guidelines, subject to *inter-se* priority and availability of funds. Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned tourism projects of Rs. 68.34 crore to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh in the eleventh Plan.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Planting of atomic energy projects

747. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new atomic energy generation projects that have been planted for the States of Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu;

(b) the schedule of starting the works and their finishing; and

(c) the total cost of all these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Administrative approval and financial sanction for RAPP-7 and 8 (2 x 700 MWe) at Rawatbhata, Rajasthan has been accorded in October, 2009. Government has also accorded "in-principle" approval for the Kudankulam Atomic Power Project (KK) Unit-3 to 6 (4 x 1000 MWe) at Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu.

(b) Work on Rajasthan Atomic Power Project (RAPP) Unit-7 and 8 has commenced. Completion of the project is planned for 2016-2017. The Nuclear Power Project at Kudankulam is planned to be executed in two stages on twin unit basis. The planning is to start work on KK-3 and 4 in the year 2010-11 followed by KK-5 and 6, 3 to 4 years later as the work on KK-3 and 4 tapers off. The completion period is about 6 years.

(c) The approved completion cost of RAPP-7 and 8 is Rs. 12,320 crore. Details of cost of KK-3 to 6 will be known only after proposals in this regard are approved.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Revelation regarding Pokhran-II test

748. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:
SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the reaction of Government to a scientist's harsh revelations with regard to Pokhran-II test;
- (b) whether it is a fact that 45 KT yield could not be achieved in the test;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that not a single member of Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) has the necessary experience or expertise to be able to calculate the energy yield from fission or fusion reactions or blasts; and
- (d) if so, the details of (b) and (c) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) has issued a statement confirming achievement of designed yield of tests carried out in 1998 at Pokhran including the thermonuclear test.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Controversy over nuclear test

749. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in view of a disclosure made by a scientist there was a controversy relating to yield of the Thermo nuclear test conducted by the country in 1998;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the counter arguments available with Government to deny the assertion made by the scientist?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) There have been some reports in the Press raising doubt on the yield of the Thermo Nuclear Test conducted in 1998. In this connection the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) has issued a statement confirming achievement of the designed yield during the Thermo Nuclear Test.

(c) Yield of nuclear tests has been confirmed through several diverse methods by different groups.

Uranium mining

750. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware of the strong public resentment in regard to mining of Uranium in Meghalaya that it has been carried out without following the norms of radioactive extraction; and

(b) if so, details of program of the Government and steps taken to control, protect life and property and create awareness among the people against radiation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL), the Public Sector Undertaking under the Department of Atomic Energy has not started mining of Uranium from its proposed project in Meghalaya.

(b) Not Applicable. However, it is intimated that the operations of UCIL are under strict surveillance of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board, State Pollution Control Board and Directorate General of Mines Safety. To generate awareness among the people and address their concerns, awareness programmes have been organized in the region.

Inspection of sites of nuclear plants

751. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has granted permission for inspection of the proposed sites of nuclear plants to super nuclear powers;

(b) if so, the number of sites so far inspected; and

(c) the details of such sites inspected and approved or disapproved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) The proposed sites for setting up nuclear power plants based on foreign co-operation do not need international inspection and approval.

Nuclear energy from sea-sand

†752. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any possibility of the generation of atomic energy from the material found in the sea-sand of 6,000 acre of coastal land near Shree Jagannathpuri which is being allocated by the State Government of Orissa to 'Shree Viswavidayala' managed by a trading company named 'Vedanta'; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In Orissa, Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD) has identified 1.82 million tonnes of Thorium bearing monazite resources. Thorium is a fertile element and can be converted to fissile element to produce Atomic Energy in the 3rd stage of Nuclear Power Programme of India.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Nuclear power stations in States

†753. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the process of building nuclear power stations in different States of the country has been initiated;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the names of States where the nuclear power stations have been built up or acceptance has been granted till date;
- (d) whether the places for building nuclear power station have also been identified in Madhya Pradesh; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and by when the nuclear power stations would be built up at the said places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Nuclear power stations have been built/are under construction in Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. Approval has been accorded for setting up additional reactors in Gujarat and Rajasthan, in October, 2009. In addition, "in-principle" approval has been accorded for sites for future nuclear power reactors in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Site at Bargi in Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh has been accorded in principle approval for setting up of 2 x 700 MWe nuclear power station. The work on the project is planned to be taken up after completion of land acquisition and pre-project activities, estimated to take about two years.

Ban on technology to India

754. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the ban of Enrichment and Reprocessing (ENR) items/ technologies to India by G8 countries and backed by US is contrary to the spirit of the India's bilateral agreement with US;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission, in a seminar on Global Nuclear Challenges, on January 10 itself has warned that the Consultative Group of Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) was moving close to take a decision that ENR would be given only if NPT is signed; and
- (c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) At the L'Aquila Summit, the G-8 countries

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

adopted a statement on non-proliferation. The Statement details the G-8 countries positions in several areas such as obligations of NPT states, IAEA safeguards, multilateral approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle and the proliferation risks associated with enrichment and reprocessing items and technology. India's agreements for cooperation with international partners including USA in peaceful uses of atomic energy provide for full international cooperation in the area of civil nuclear energy.

Spectrum allocation

755. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some existing dominant operators like Bharti Air Tel and Vodafone have started using the spectrum allocated to the new licensees knowing that their infrastructure is not yet ready and that they were not in a position to make use of the allocated spectrum;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by Government against these operators who have seriously violated clause 43.6 of the terms and conditions of the license agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) The new licencees, who have been allotted initial spectrum as per the conditions of Universal Access Service License (UASL) and while planning their network, have reported that existing operators are using their spectrum. An independent monitoring exercise was conducted by this Ministry and the results do not reveal such usage.

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

Mobile phone towers

756. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the towers put up by mobile phone operators affect the health of the people in nearby areas;

(b) if so, preventive measures Government has taken;

(c) the plan Government has to inform the public about this hazard which is not known to the innocent public along such mobile towers used by mobile operators; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Guidelines by International

Commission on Non-ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) has been adopted by Telecommunications Engineering Centre (TEC) of DOT regarding basic restriction and response levels for limiting Electro Magnetic Field exposures. Epidemiological studies on exposed workers and the general public have shown no major health effects associated with typical exposure environments (very near to Towers).

Government has also inserted a clause in the Service Licence Agreement stating "Licensee shall conduct audit and provide self certificates annually as per procedure prescribed by Telecommunications engineering Centre (TEC)/or any other agency authorized by Licensor from time to time for conforming to limits/levels for antennae (Base Station emissions) or general public exposure as prescribed by International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) from time to time".

(c) Not applicable in view of (a) and (b) above.

(d) Not applicable.

SIM card racket

†757. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BALAPTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'SIM Card' racket of Jammu and Kashmir has been investigated;

(b) the number of mobile subscribers in the State in comparison to other States and its rank among other States;

(c) the number of people enquired after SIM racket investigation and the number of persons arrested out of them;

(d) whether terrorist link have also been found in it; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The number of mobile subscribers in the State of Jammu and Kashmir is 45.84 lakhs as on 30.09.2009. A statement giving the Licensed Service Area (Circle) wise number of mobile subscribers as on 30.09.2009 is as under:—

Sl. No.	Circle/State	Total mobile phones
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37126048
2.	Assam	7015733

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3
3.	Bihar	27434896
4.	Gujarat	27475585
5.	Haryana	11419646
6.	Himachal Pradesh	4007420
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	4584133
8.	Karnataka	28867734
9.	Kerala	20116267
10.	Madhya Pradesh	24923739
11.	Maharashtra-Mumbai	36326491
12.	North East	4155402
13.	Orissa	11478109
14.	Punjab	16724369
15.	Rajasthan	27742395
16.	Tamil Nadu — Chennai	34775984
17.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	33381914
18.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	23651599
19.	West Bengal — Kolkata	19215048
20.	Kolkata	13325001
21.	Chennai	10673476
22.	Delhi	24841758
23.	Mumbai	22463458
TOTAL		471726205

Rank of Jammu and Kashmir among service areas is 21st.

(c) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

MTNL and BSNL share

758. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Government owned MTNL and BSNL are losing market share to private operators in the mobile technology;

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

(c) whether Government has recently decided to disinvest part of its stake in BSNL and MTNL;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take to strengthen the financial health of the BSNL and MTNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, BSNL and MTNL are losing market share in mobile technology segment due to the intense competition and entry of new operators with aggressive tariff plans.

Market share of BSNL and MTNL in mobile technology segment during the last three years and current year upto 30.9.2009 in their respective license service area is given below:—

(in percentage)

As on	BSNL	MTNL
31.3.2007	21.50	13.39
31.3.2008	17.67	11.80
31.3.2009	14.89	10.75
30.9.2009	13.86	09.82

(c) and (d) The Government is considering to offer part of its equity shareholding in BSNL by an offer for sale to the public due to following reasons:—

- It will facilitate BSNL to get Navratna status.
- It will promote growth of BSNL.
- It will provide an access to the capital market for raising fresh equity capital, if required.

The timing of the issue depends on the condition of the capital market.

MTNL is already listed in the Indian stock market. Government of India currently holds 56.25% stake in the company.

(e) To strengthen the financial health of BSNL and MTNL, the following initiatives have been taken:—

- Augmentation of capacity to enhance the network coverage and to remove the congestion.
- Expanding distribution channels and improving system of follow up of franchisees and retailers.

- Developing a system of providing special premium Service Level Agreements (SLAs) for large enterprise customers and focusing on corporate accounts.
- Improving customer care, better feedback and after sales service.
- Development new lines of revenue through infrastructure sharing.
- Improving management information systems for better management and collection of revenue.

Scam in allocation of spectrum

759. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:
SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a big scam has come to light in allocation of spectrum to telecom companies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of loss to public exchequer due to this scam; and
- (d) the details of the present price of spectrum and the price on which it was allocated to private companies along with the details of those companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (c) Initial/start-up spectrum is allotted as per the conditions of the UAS License and additional spectrum as per the criteria existing in force from time to time, subject to availability.

The allocation and issuance of spectrum licences are made continuously as per the existing policy in force and also as per the recommendations of TRAI.

However, on allegation of irregularities in the award of UAS Licenses to private companies, CBI registered a case on 21.10.2009 against unknown officials of DOT, unknown private persons/companies and others under section 120-B IPC r/w section 13 (2) r/w 13(1) d of PC Act. CBI conducted a search on 22.10.2009 in some offices of DOT and has taken custody of certain files relating to policy, issuance of UAS licenses and spectrum.

(d) The UAS Licence is granted at a pan India price of Rs 1658 crores. The UAS Licence mandates grant of spectrum, subject to availability. Annual spectrum charges are being levied as a percentage of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) from telecom operators. Current Spectrum charging rates for the allotment of 2G spectrum is given in the Statement-I (See below). Details of allotted spectrum to UAS Licensees as on date along with applicable spectrum charging rates on their spectrum holding is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I*2G (GSM) Spectrum charges*

Sl. No.	Amount of 2G (GSM) Spectrum	Spectrum charging as %age of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR)
1.	Upto 4.4 + 4.4 MHz	2
2.	Upto 6.2 + 6.2 MHz	3
3.	Upto 10 + 10 MHz	4
4.	Upto 12.5 + 12.5 MHz	5
5.	Upto 15 + 15 MHz	6

Statement-II

*Details of allotted spectrum to all the GSM operators (UAS Licensees)
as on 31.10.2009*

Sl. No.	Service Area	Operators	Allotment in 900MHz band in MHz	Allotment in 1800MHz band in MHz	Total Allotment in MHz	Spectrum charging as %age of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Delhi	Bharti	8.0	2.0	10.0	4
		Vodafone	8.0	2.0	10.0	4
		MTNL	6.2	6.2	12.4	5
		IDEA		8.0	8.0	4
		Aircel Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Reliance		4.4	4.4	2
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	22.2	31.4	53.6	
2.	Mumbai	Vodafone	8.0	2.0	10.0	4
		Bharti		9.2	9.2	4
		MTNL	6.2	6.2	12.4	5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Idea		4.4	4.4	2
		Reliance		4.4	4.4	2
		BPL	8.0	2.0	10.0	4
		Aircel Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	22.2	50.2	72.4	
3.	Kolkata	Bharti	6.2	1.8	8.0	4
		BSNL	6.2	3.8	10.0	4
		Reliance		6.2	6.2	3
		Aircel		4.4	4.4	2
		Vodafone	7.8	2.0	9.8	4
		Idea		4.4	4.4	2
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	20.2	40.2	60.4	
4.	Maharashtra	Bharti	0.0	8.2	8.2	4
		Idea	7.8	2.0	9.8	4
		Reliance	0.0	4.4	4.4	2
		BSNL	6.2	3.8	10.0	4
		Vodafone	6.2	0.0	6.2	3
		Aircel Ltd.	0.0	4.4	4.4	2
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		Spice		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	20.2	49.2	69.4	
5.	Gujarat	Vodafone	7.8	2.0	9.8	4
		Reliance		4.4	4.4	2
		BSNL	6.2	1.2	7.4	4
		Idea	6.2	0.0	6.2	3
		Bharti		6.2	6.2	3
		Aircel Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	20.2	40.2	60.4	
6.	Andhra Pradesh	Vodafone		6.2	6.2	3
		Aircel Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Reliance		4.4	4.4	2
		Bharti	7.8	2.2	10.0	4
		BSNL	6.2	3.8	10.0	4
		IDEA	6.2	1.8	8.0	4
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		Spice		4.4	4.4	2
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	20.2	49.2	69.4	
7.	Karnataka	Bharti	7.8	2.2	10.0	4
		Spice	6.2	0.0	6.2	3
		Vodafone		8.0	8.0	4
		Aircel Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Reliance		4.4	4.4	2
		BSNL	6.2	3.8	10.0	4
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Idea		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop	4.4	4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL			4.4	2
		TOTAL	20.2	49.2	69.4	
8.	Tamil Nadu (incl. of Chennai)	Bharti		9.2	9.2	4
		Vodafone	6.2	1.8	8.0	4
		Reliance		4.4	4.4	2
		Aircel Ltd.	7.8	2.0	9.8	4
		BSNL	6.2	3.8	10.0	4
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Idea		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		Total	20.2	47.6	67.8	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Kerala	BSNL	6.2	3.8	10.0	4
		Vodafone	6.2	0.0	6.2	3
		Bharti		6.2	6.2	3
		Idea	6.2	1.8	8.0	4
		Reliance		4.4	4.4	2
		Dishnet		4.4	4.4	2
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	18.6	42.6	61.2	
10.	Punjab	Vodafone		6.2	6.2	3
		Bharti	7.8	0.0	7.8	4
		Spice	7.8	0.0	7.8	4
		BSNL	6.2	0.0	6.2	3
		Reliance		4.4	4.4	2
		Aircel Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		HFCL		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		Idea		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	21.8	41.4	63.2	
11	Haryana	Bharti		6.2	6.2	3
		BSNL	6.2	3.8	10.0	4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Reliance		4.4	4.4	2
		Idea	6.2	0.0	6.2	3
		Vodafone	6.2	0.0	6.2	3
		Dishnet		4.4	4.4	2
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		Spice		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	18.6	45.2	63.8	
12.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	Bharti		6.2	6.2	3
		Vodafone	6.2	0.0	6.2	3
		Idea	6.2	1.8	8.0	4
		BSNL	6.2	3.8	10.0	4
		Reliance		4.4	4.4	2
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Aircel Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	18.6	42.6	61.2	
13.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	Bharti	6.2	1.0	7.2	4
		Vodafone	6.2	2.0	8.2	4
		Reliance		4.4	4.4	2
		Idea		6.2	6.2	3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		BSNL	6.2	3.8	10.0	4
		Dishnet		4.4	4.4	2
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	18.6	43.8	62.4	
14.	Rajasthan	Vodafone	6.2	0.0	6.2	3
		Idea		6.2	6.2	3
		Reliance		4.4	4.4	2
		BSNL	6.2	1.8	8.0	4
		Bharti	6.2	2.0	8.2	4
		Aircel Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		Shyam Telelink		4.4	4.4	2
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	18.6	45.2	63.8	
15.	Madhya Pradesh	Bharti		8.0	8.0	4
		Vodafone		4.4	4.4	2
		BSNL	6.2	3.8	10.0	4
		Reliance	6.2	0.0	6.2	3
		IDEA	6.2	1.8	8.0	4
		Dishnet		4.4	4.4	2
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		Allianz		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	18.6	44.4	63.0	
16.	West Bengal	Bharti	4.4	1.8	6.2	3
		Dishnet		4.4	4.4	2
		Vodafone	4.4	1.8	6.2	3
		Reliance	4.4	1.8	6.2	3
		BSNL	6.2	1.8	8.0	4
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		IDEA		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	19.4	33.6	53.0	
17.	Himachal Pradesh	Vodafone		4.4	4.4	2
		Dishnet		4.4	4.4	2
		Bharti	6.2	0.0	6.2	3
		Reliance	6.2	0.0	6.2	3
		Idea		4.4	4.4	2
		BSNL	6.2	3.8	10.0	4
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		S. Tel		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		TTSL		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	18.6	39.0	57.6	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18. Bihar	Bharti	6.2	3.0	9.2	4	
	Vodafone		4.4	4.4	2.	
	Reliance	6.2	1.8	8.0	4	
	BSNL	6.2	3.8	10.0	4	
	Dishnet		4.4	4.4	2	
	ABTL		4.4	4.4	2	
	Datacom		4.4	4.4	2	
	Unitech		4.4	4.4	2	
	S. Tel		4.4	4.4	2	
	Loop		4.4	4.4	2	
	TTSL		4.4	4.4	2	
	Allianz		4.4	4.4	2	
	TOTAL		18.6	48.2	66.8	
19. Orissa	Vodafone		4.4	4.4	2	
	Reliance	6.2	0.0	6.2	3	
	BSNL	6.2	3.8	10.0	4	
	Dishnet		4.4	4.4	2	
	Bharti	6.2	1.8	8.0	4	
	Datacom		4.4	4.4	2	
	Idea		4.4	4.4	2	
	Unitech		4.4	4.4	2	
	S. Tel		4.4	4.4	2	
	Loop		4.4	4.4	2	
	TTSL		4.4	4.4	2	
	TOTAL		18.6	40.8	59.4	
	20. Assam	Vodafone		4.4	4.4	2
Bharti		1.8	4.4	6.2	3	
BSNL		6.2	3.8	10.0	4	
Reliance		6.2	0.0	6.2	3	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Dishnet	4.4	1.8	6.2	3
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Idea		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		S. Tel		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	18.6	36.4	55.0	
21.	N.E.	Bharti	4.4	1.8	6.2	3
		BSNL	6.2	3.8	10.0	4
		Reliance	4.4	1.8	6.2	3
		Dishnet	4.4	0.0	4.4	2
		Vodafone		4.4	4.4	2
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Idea		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		S. Tel		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	19.4	33.8	53.2	
22.	Jammu and Kashmir	Vodafone		4.4	4.4	2
		Reliance		4.4	4.4	2
		BSNL	8.0	0.0	8.0	4
		Dishnet	4.4	0.0	4.4	2
		Bharti	6.2	0.0	6.2	3
		Datacom		4.4	4.4	2
		Idea		4.4	4.4	2
		Unitech		4.4	4.4	2
		Loop		4.4	4.4	2
		S. Tel		4.4	4.4	2
		TOTAL	18.6	30.8	49.4	

Allotment of 2G spectrum

760. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:
SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has changed the cut-off date for allotment of 2G spectrum;
- (b) the reasons behind modifying the cut-off date;
- (c) the details of companies which are going to be benefited with the change in the cut-off date;
- (d) whether it is true that the High Court of Delhi has ruled that advancing the cut-off date is illegal and directed his Ministry to allot spectrum to some applicants; and
- (e) the criteria adopted in allocation of spectrum and the revenue accrued to Government Exchequer through allocation of spectrum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Government has not prescribed any cut-off date for allotment of 2G spectrum and the spectrum is allotted continuously on first-come-first-serve basis based on guidelines/ orders/ criteria in force from time to time, subject to availability.

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

(d) Single Judge of High Court of Delhi, in its judgement dated 01.07.2009 in Writ Petition (C) No. 363 of 2008 in the matter of S Tel. Ltd. Vs Union of India has quashed the Press Release dated 10.01.2008 wherein it was, *inter-alia*, intimated that Department of Telecom (DOT) has decided to issue Letter of Intent (LOI) to all the eligible applicants on the date of application who applied upto 25-9-2007 and directed to consider the 16 applications dated 28.09.2007 of the petitioner.

(e) Initial start-up spectrum of 4.4 MHz for Global System of Mobile Communications (GSM)/2.5 MHz for Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) is allotted as per the provisions of Unified Access Services (UAS) Licence Agreement, subject to availability of spectrum on first-come-first-served basis. Additional spectrum beyond initial start-up spectrum is allotted as per the prescribed criteria subject to availability of spectrum. The current prescribed criteria dated 17.01.2008 in force for GSM and CDMA technology are given in Statement-I and II respectively.

The annual spectrum charge revenue accrued to Government Exchequer as revenue share from the access services licensees for year 2008-09 is Rs. 3248.57 Crore. This is in addition to the upfront entry fee for grant of UAS licences and annual licence fee as revenue share payable by the licensees separately.

Statement-I

Order

Government of India
Ministry of Communications and IT
Department of Telecommunication
WPC Wing, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi-11001

No. J-14025/200(17)/2004-NT

Dated the 17th January, 2008

O R D E R

In continuation of the orders dated 09-01-2008 relating to subscriber base criteria for allotment of **GSM** spectrum, the following subscriber based criteria, in line with TRAI recommendations shall be followed, as an interim measure.

Service Area	Subscriber base* (In Lakh) supported by GSM spectrum in MHz. (eligibility for allotment of next step)										
	2 x 4.4	2 x 6.2	2 x 7.2	2 x 8.2	2 x 9.2	2 x 10.2	2 x 11.2	2 x 12.2	2 x 13.2	2 x 14.2	2 x 15@
Metro Service Areas	5	15	18	21	26	32	40	48	57	65	
Telecom Circles as Service Area Category 'A' and 'B'	8	30	41	53	68	82	90	98	107	116	
Category 'C' Circles	6	20	31	42	52	62	70	78	87	96	

@ Present upper limit for spectrum allotment.

* These are the figures of active subscribers (VLR) averaged over a month. In addition, peak traffic, averaged over a month should be 40 milli-Erlangs per active subscriber in the criteria.

- The spectrum allotment is subject to availability of spectrum.
- The active subscribers and peak traffic averaged over a month (for a minimum of 40mErlangs per subscriber) in the Visitor Locator. Register (VLR) would be taken into account for this purpose.
- The revenue share for spectrum charges, as per orders in this regard, would apply on the AGR for the complete service area.
- This comes into force with immediate effect.

-Sd-
(D. JHA)
Assistant Wireless Adviser
Ph: 2303 6681

To:

- All concerned.
- Unified Access Service Providers/Cellular Mobile Telephone Service providers.
- COAI.

Statement-II

Order

Government of India
Ministry of Communications and IT
Department of Telecommunication
WPC Wing, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi-11001

No. J-14025/200(17)/2004-NT

Dated the 17th January, 2008

ORDER

In continuation of the orders dated 09-01-2008 relating to subscriber base criteria for allotment of **CDMA** spectrum, the following subscriber based criteria, in line with TRAI recommendations shall be followed, as an interim measure.

Service Area	Subscriber base* (In Lakh) supported by CDMA spectrum in MHz. (eligibility for allotment of next step)				
	2 × 2.5 MHz (2 carriers)	2 × 3.75 MHz (3 carriers)	2 × 5 MHz (4 carriers)	2 × 6.25 MHz (5 carriers)	2 × 7.5 MHz (6 carriers)@
Metro Service Areas	5	20	30	50	
Telecom Circles as Service Area					
Category 'A' and 'B' circles	8	50	80	100	
Category 'C' circles	6	40	60	80	

@ Present upper limit for spectrum allotment.

* These are the figures of active subscribers (VLR) averaged over a month. In addition, peak traffic, averaged over a month should be 40 milli-Erlangs per active subscriber in the criteria.

- The spectrum allotment is subject to availability of spectrum.
- The active subscribers and peak traffic averaged over a month (for a minimum of 40mErlangs per subscriber) in the Visitor Locator Register (VLR) would be taken into account for this purpose.
- The revenue share for spectrum charges, as per orders in this regard, would apply on the AGR for the complete service area.
- This comes into force with immediate effect.

-Sd-

(D. JHA)

Assistant Wireless Adviser

Ph: 2303 6681

To:

- All concerned.
- Unified Access Service Providers/Basic Service providers.
- AUSPI.

2G Licence

†761. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Telecom Regulator TRAI has advised Government not to issue any new 2G licence till it gives its recommendations with regard to spectrum allocation and cost;
- (b) the response of Government on the advice of TRAI;
- (c) the number of companies who have applied for 2G licence till date and how many of them have been issued licence; and
- (d) the possibility of impact of delay in issuing licence on the mobile trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) On 4th August 2009, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has informed Department of Telecommunications (DoT) that since it is undertaking comprehensive exercise on overall spectrum management and review of licence terms and conditions, the DoT may keep in abeyance the grant of any new access service license till finalization of these recommendations and decisions thereupon by Government. Government has not issued any new access service license thereafter.

(c) 53 companies had applied for grant of new Unified Access Service (UAS) Licence(s) from 11.11.2003 (*i.e.* introduction of UAS licensing regime) till date the 24 companies had been issued UAS licence(s) in various service areas of the country.

(d) There are 12 to 14 telecom access service licensees in each service area and sufficient competition is already in place. Therefore, no immediate adverse impact is envisaged.

Cable and tower maintenance

762. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. is planning to outsource cable and tower maintenance operations in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the impact of this on BSNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has no plan to outsource cable maintenance operations. However, it has planned to outsource tower maintenance operations in the country.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) As per prevailing practices in BSNL, Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) is in place for second line maintenance of equipment with the network supply vendors. Moreover, it has been decided to outsource the work of diesel filling in remote areas, wherever internal resources are inadequate.

(c) Enhanced efficiency in maintenance of Base Transceiver Station (BTS) sites.

Saving accounts in post offices

763. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of post offices so far as coverage of population and villages is concerned in Jharkhand;

(b) the number of postal saving accounts at present in Jharkhand;

(c) the number of these that belong to women; and

(d) the target set for opening of new saving accounts in post offices during 2009-10?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) At the present 3093 Post Offices consisting of 13 HOs, 435 SOs and 2645 BOs are covering the population and villages in Jharkhand.

(b) Number of Savings Accounts in Jharkhand circle is 49, 93, 224 at the end of 31.10.2009.

(c) No separate information regarding accounts belonging to women is maintained.

(d) The target for opening of new Savings Accounts in Post Office in Jharkhand during 2009-10 is 25.26 Lakh.

Availability of 3G spectrum

764. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is disparity between availability of 3G spectrum across different circles;

(b) if so, in what manner Government propose to address the issue of disparity between availability of 3G spectrum across different circles;

(c) the number of operators that are planned to be awarded 3G spectrum in each of the service areas; and

(d) the manner in which Government proposes to make available more spectrum in these areas and the time-frame for making available such spectrum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir.

As per the decisions of Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM), the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has decided to auction upto 20 MHz of paired 3G spectrum in the 2.1 GHz band in the telecom service areas where 25 MHz or more paired spectrum is available. One block has been allotted to BSNL/MTNL. In telecom service areas where less than 25 MHz paired spectrum is available in the 2.1 GHz band, the actual amount of available spectrum in blocks of 2 × 5 MHz per operator will be allotted.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and Ministry of Defence on 22nd May 2009, regarding the vacation of 3G spectrum. The Armed Forces will release the spectrum out of Defence usage, in a time bound manner as per the triggers of MoU.. Ministry of Defence has already vacated 10 MHz 3G spectrum, as per the MoU. The spectrum thus vacated by Defence also would be auctioned subject to a maximum of 4 blocks in each service area.

Transfer delay in S.B. and R.D. cases

765. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Post Master General, Delhi has received complaints about the serious delays being caused by the Post Master, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi-110015 in transferring S.B., R.D. cases from his area to outside the U.T. to U.P. and other States;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted to fix responsibility of the staff and the supervisors for causing delay of months for the transfer of such cases from one circle to another;

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken against the delinquent staff and officers; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not taking action on such delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) No complaints have been received in the office of Chief Postmaster General, Delhi Circle in 2009 regarding serious delay in transfer of SB/RD cases pertaining to Ramesh Nagar HO to other Postal Circles.

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

Post offices in Punjab

766. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sub-post offices in Punjab where all the services have been computerized and where the services have been computerized partially; and

(b) by when all such post offices are expected to be fully computerised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) The services which have been computerized include Counter Service, Savings Bank, Electronic Money Order (eMO), Instant Money Order (iMO), International Money Transfer Services (IMTS), ePost, ePayment and Speednet services. In so far as Punjab Circle is concerned, 229 Sub Post Offices Offer all the computerized services while in 15 Sub Post Offices, only partial services have been computerized till 31.10.2009.

(b) There are a total of 787 Sub Post Offices in Punjab Circle. 244 Sub Post Offices were computerized till 2008-09. 174 Double handed Sub Post Offices have been supplied with hardware in the current year. In addition, 22 Head Post Offices in the Circle are computerized. For the rest, computerization of Post Office is an ongoing programme subject to availability of funds and technical feasibility.

Pulse war among phone service providers

767. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a pulse war among phone service providers;

(b) whether Government has made any assessment on this front for the years to come;

(c) the steps MTNL has taken to compete in this war of rates;

(d) whether it proposes to reduce the fixed line tariff, increase the number of free calls and reduce the rate of calls to promote the ever increasing desertation of fixed line phones; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Regulation of Tariff has been mandated to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) *vide* TRAI Act of 1997. The TRAI, in exercise of its powers, has issued Telecommunication Tariff Order (TTO), 1999 (as amended from time to time), which lays down the framework for Tariff for telecom services in the country. As per the existing provisions of TTO, tariff for telecom services are under forbearance except with regard to Fixed Line Service in Rural Areas, National Roaming service and Leased Line Service. Thus, the Service Providers have the flexibility to offer any tariff or combination of tariff including Pulse Rates to their subscribers in a competitive manner.

(c) MTNL is offering competitive and affordable tariff plans to compete with other service providers. It also revises its tariff plans from time to time per prevailing market conditions.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present, since MTNL is already offering a variety of plans to cater to different segments.

Special audit checks

768. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is conducting special audit checks on the accounts of telecom operators;

(b) if so, the details of the terms of reference given to the special auditors; and

(c) whether DoT has made any check list for the special auditors which would enable them to carry out the audit in line with the requirements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Yes, Sir. Government is conducting special audit of accounts of major telecom operators.

(b) The terms of reference have been framed to ensure that there is no possibility of any kind of leakage of Government revenue. The auditors have been asked to ensure that the accounts prepared by the operators are in accordance with the Norms for Preparation of Accounts as annexed to the licence agreement and are in consonance with the various terms and conditions provided therein. It has to be ensured that the operators observe the principles laid down in Accounting Standard 9 for revenue recognition. Various other issues including sale of handsets, transfer pricing, cross booking of revenue between the subsidiaries, sharing of infrastructure, tower business, commissions paid to the franchisees, possible benefits from arbitrage, the deductions claimed by the operators and netting of expenditure if any, shall be examined by the auditors. The auditors shall verify that various TRAI directives as given from time to time, are observed by the operators. The auditors have been given discretion to examine relevant areas suo moto in order to ensure that the Government's share of revenue has been calculated correctly and have been directed to point out shortfalls therein, if any.

(c) Yes, Sir. The auditors are required to carry out the audit as per Terms of Reference (Check list).

Public sector telecom majors

769. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the public sector telecom majors BSNL and MTNL together have cash in hand of over Rs. 42,000 crores;

(b) if so, whether both the enterprises are seriously considering to be part of a consortium to bid for a minority stake in a Kuwaiti telecom company;

(c) whether the proposal has been subjected to the process of due diligence as is required for massive investment in an overseas telecom company; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Sir, as per the provisional and unaudited accounts, cash and bank balance of BSNL is Rs. 36,392.42 crores and MTNL is Rs. 5078.59 crores totaling to Rs. 41,471.01 crores as on 30.9.2009.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. The proposal is in preliminary stage only and has not reached the stage for initiating the process of due diligence.

Indian telephone industry

770. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. has decided to award the work for building a 25 million wireless lines to Indian Telephone Industries (ITI);

(b) whether presently the ITI has capacity to produce only about 10 million lines; and

(c) if so, whether Government would step in to help ITI to enhance its production capacity under a technical tie-up with overseas telecom hardware companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) ITI has the installed capacity to produce 12 million lines in a year instead of 10 million lines.

(c) No, Sir. Government is not considering any such proposal.

Telecom services

771. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mobile services rendered by BSNL/MTNL to its subscribers are not satisfactory in comparison to private telecom players;

(b) if so, the facts and reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has chalked out plans to improve the mobile services of BSNL/MTNL; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Sir, as per the performance monitoring reports of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for the quarter ended June 2009, the Quality of Service of the mobile services provided by BSNL and MTNL is comparable to the quality of service provided by the private cellular mobile companies.

In respect of mobile services, BSNL is meeting the benchmark of all the identified key parameters except for Point of Interconnection (POI) congestion in a very few places. However, in a number of service areas, from the analysis of quarterly performance report regarding percentage of cells having more than 3% Call drop, it is observed that BSNL has certain pockets/localities where call drops are more than prescribed benchmarks.

Similarly, MTNL is meeting the benchmark of all the identified key parameters. However, MTNL has certain pockets/localities where call drop is more than the prescribed benchmark of 3%.

(c) and (d) Quality of Service (QoS) improvement is a continuous process. BSNL and MTNL are taking the following steps to improve mobile services:—

- (i) Augmentation of mobile network progressively so as to enhance coverage, capacity and to further improve the QoS.
- (ii) Optimization of mobile network for better performance like tilting of antenna and drive tests are taken on a continuous basis.
- (iii) Monitoring of network has been strengthened to ensure performance as per the parameters prescribed by TRAI.

Centralised system to monitor communications

772. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up a centralized system to monitor communications on mobile phones, landlines and the internet in the country;
- (b) if so, whether a telecom research and development organisation has finalized any telecom security project for the said purpose;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the salient features thereof; and
- (d) the time by which Government proposes to start such system in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Centralized Monitoring System (CMS) is envisaged to be implemented by DOT to strengthen the security environment in the country. With the implementation of CMS following problems which are inherent in the present system will be overcome:—

- In the existing system secrecy can be easily compromised due to manual intervention at many stages while in CMS these functions will be performed on secured electronic link and there will be minimum manual intervention.
- Interception through CMS will be instant as compared to the existing system which takes a very long time.

The envisaged salient features of CMS are as follows:

- Central and regional database which will help Central and State level Law Enforcement Agencies in Interception and Monitoring.
- Direct Electronic Provisioning of target numbers by Government agencies without any manual intervention from Telecom Service Providers (TSPs).
- Filters and Alert creation on the target numbers.
- Call Data Records (CDR) analysis and data mining on CDRs to identify call details, location details etc. of the target numbers.
- R&D in related fields for continuous upgradation of the CMS.

(d) Pilot project of CMS is likely to be started by June, 2010 subject to clearance by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA).

Guidelines on meeting with industrialists

773. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times Chairman of Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group (ADAG) have met Communications and Power Ministers and officers besides Cabinet Secretary during the last six months with dates, purpose of the meetings; and

(b) the guidelines of Government on giving frequent appointments by Ministers/ Secretaries/Cabinet Secretaries to industrialists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) The information being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

Techniques for calculating outgo

774. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that different operators use different techniques for calculating their outgo to Government levies;

(b) whether the DoT had made any comprehensive check list for calculating Government revenue;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Some instances of such exceptions are observed from time to time. However, the Department assesses the revenues as per the terms and conditions for the license agreements and raises demands for the levies accordingly.

(b) and (c) The Government's revenue is calculated not as per any checklists but rather as per the terms and conditions detailed in relevant License Agreements. Norms for preparation of the accounts by the operators are also prescribed in relevant license agreement.

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

Appointment of experts in cultural field

†775. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to adopt the policy to appoint experts in cultural field as administrators in the cultural institutions instead of civil servants;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the names of institutions where civil servants have been appointed as administrators in the country at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) and (b) In order to induct professionals at the helm of affairs, the Recruitment Rules in respect of the posts of heads of 8 attached and subordinate offices of the Ministry of Culture have been revised, to provide for a Search-cum-Selection procedure (in place of selection procedure earlier); appointment on contract basis in addition to the existing modes of promotion and / or deputation basis; and, increase in the age of appointment on contract basis. Recruitment Rules in respect of posts of Director General, Archaeological Survey of India; Director General, National Museum; Director General, National Archives of India and Director, National Library have already been revised and that of Director, Anthropological Survey of India are under revision.

(c) At present, the post of Director General, Archaeological Survey of India is held by an officer of Additional Secretary level on regular appointment basis and the post of Director General, National Museum is held by a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, on additional charge basis.

Monuments of national importance in Himachal Pradesh

776. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of monuments/sites declared as of national importance in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the amount spent on conservation and maintenance of these monuments during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the amount earned by the Government as entrance fee from these monuments/sites during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09;

(d) whether Government proposes to declare any other monuments/sites as monuments of national importance in the State; and

(e) if so, the name and location of such monument/site?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) There are 40 monuments/sites declared as of national importance in Himachal Pradesh.

(b) The amount spent on conservation and maintenance of these monuments during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 was Rs. 125 lakhs and Rs. 118 lakhs, respectively.

(c) The amount earned as entrance fee from these monuments/sites during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 was Rs. 4.87 lakhs and Rs. 5.06 lakhs, respectively.

(d) There is no such proposal under consideration.

(e) Does not arise.

Constructions near Centrally protected monuments

777. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Archaeological Survey of India had in the recent past allowed constructions close to Centrally protected monuments and sites in various parts of the country;

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

(c) the reasons behind ASI allowing these constructions which have harmed the monuments and sites; and

(d) the remedial measures Government proposes to take in this regard to save these monuments and sites in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) to (d) The Government, exercising its powers under Rule 31 of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Rules 1959 *vide* No. SO 1764 dated 16.6.1992 has notified certain regulations to regulate constructions near the protected monuments. The notification has also defined the protected areas (comprising of prohibited and regulated areas) of the monuments. However, certain protected areas of the monuments were having a residential houses/constructions even prior to the issue of the said Notification. The regulations caused a lot of problems to such genuine inhabitants as they could not even undertake repairs, alterations, restoration and reconstruction of their properties. To look into the problems being faced by such inhabitants, an Expert Advisory Committee was constituted by the Government in the year 2006 with eminent Town Planners, Conservation Architects, Archaeologists, Historians,

Landscape Architects as its members. The Delhi High Court *vide* its order dated 30.10.2009 in LPA No. 417/2009 has declared constitution of Expert Advisory Committee illegal and violative of the notification dated 16.6.1992. The High Court order is under the examination of the Government.

A State-wise list of permissions granted by the Archaeological Survey of India as per the recommendations of the Expert Advisory Committee is at the given Statement.

Statement

*Number of proposals received and approved (State-wise)
for grant of permissions for construction*

Sl. No.	State	Number of proposals placed before the Committee	Proposals approved
1.	Assam	3	2
2.	Punjab	7	1
3.	Chhattisgarh	1	—
4.	Delhi	176	119
5.	Goa	2	—
6.	Gujarat	46	24
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1	1
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	1
9.	Karnataka	8	2
10.	Kerala	23	17
11.	Madhya Pradesh	7	—
12.	Maharashtra	63	16
13.	Orissa	28	10
14.	Rajasthan	10	3
15.	Tamil Nadu	10	6
16.	Uttarakhand	1	1
17.	Uttar Pradesh	31	9
18.	West Bengal	8	2
TOTAL		426	214

Action plan for enrichment of Indian folk culture

†778. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any action plan for enrichment of script, folk culture, folk dances and folk art of tribes living in different areas of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Maintenance of monuments by ASI

779. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the condition of several monuments and historical sites being maintained by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) are becoming bad to worst day by day;

(b) if so, whether the ASI has formulated any plans to protect the monuments and historical sites from further damage; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) to (c) The centrally protected monuments under Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) are in good state of preservation. Every year conservation programme is drawn for conservation and maintenance of the protected monuments and implemented as per conservation principles in vogue. For selected monuments major repair works are taken up under the special repairs programme depending upon the urgency of the repairs and availability of resources. The routine maintenance of all the monuments is done under the annual repairs programme.

Setting up of public libraries in the country

780. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up public libraries at different locations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) to (c) Government is in the process of working out an Implementation Plan for the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission, which envisage, *inter-alia*, development of modern Libraries across the Country.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Study on South-West Monsoon

781. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology has made any study in the recent past on the South-West Monsoon in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said Institute has issued any remedial measures to deal with the situation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The research studies carried out at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune indicate that the south-west monsoon rainfall over the country has decreased by nearly 4.7% during the period 1965-2006 as compared to the earlier period (1931-1964). Further, a significant increasing trend in the frequency and magnitude of high rainfall events (greater than 10cm/day) and a significant decreasing trend in the frequency of moderate events (1-5cm/day) are noticed.

(c) to (e) Continuous R&D efforts are underway to comprehensively understand the causes for the aforementioned changes in the southwest monsoon rainfall and to improve the rainfall predictions in all time scales.

Change of sea water into potable water

†782. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sea water can be changed into potable water by desalination;

(b) if so, the cost of the process of changing one litre sea water into potable water and the details thereof;

(c) whether sea water is being changed into potable water at any place in India;

(d) if so, the name of that place;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) an autonomous body of the Ministry of Earth Sciences has indigenously designed developed and demonstrated

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

desalination technology for conversion of sea water into potable water based on Low Temperature Thermal Desalination System (LTTD). The LTTD is a process under which the warm surface sea water is flash evaporated at low pressure and the vapour is condensed with cold deep sea water. This technology is efficient and suitable for island territories of India.

(b) The initial estimated cost of production of Kavaratti Plant was 10 paise per litre depending on the charges of power/electricity. The estimated cost of production of demonstration plant is inclusive of capital and other fixed costs. The operational cost of production is about 6-7 paise per liter.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Currently, two plants are in operation. The first LTTD plant with a capacity of 1 lakh liter per day production of fresh water was developed and commissioned in May 2005, at Kavaratti, Lakshadweep Island. Since then the plant has been effectively working and catering significantly to the needs of the local population. The plant has so far produced over 155 million liters of fresh water. The Lakshadweep Islands have the advantage of ocean depth (~500 m) available within few hundred meters from the coast and hence, island-based plants are possible. NIOT is in the process of setting of 3 more plants in the islands of Lakshadweep of 1-lakh liter per day capacity, one each in Agatti, Androth and Minicoy. The target for completion of one of the plants at Agatti is March, 2010 and for the other two plants is March, 2011. Another LTTD Plant of 1-lakh litre per day capacity was also established at Northern Chennai Thermal Power Station, Chennai in March, 2009, which uses waste heat discharge from the power plant. A scheme is also being formulated for large scale desalination plants at the coastal power plants and the remaining 3 more islands of Lakshadweep islands which envisages Public-Private Partnership.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

Hydroelectric project in POK

783. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Pakistan has decided to construct the Bunji hydro-electric project in Pakistan occupied Kashmir with the help of China;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Pakistan has also promulgated the Gilgit Baltistan Empowerment and Self Governance Order, 2009 as part of a reforms package for northern area; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) Yes.

(b) Pakistan's Ministry of Water and Power and China's Three Gorges Project Corporation signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on August 23, 2009 for construction of the 7100 MW Bunji hydroelectric project on river Indus near Gilgit in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK) during the visit of President of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari to China in August, 2009.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Government of India protested on September 11, 2009 to the Government of Pakistan regarding the so-called "Gilgit-Baltistan Empowerment and Self Governance Order-2009". Pakistan has for the past six decades denied the basic rights to the people in those parts of the state of Jammu and Kashmir under its illegal occupation. The entire state of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. The so-called "Gilgit-Baltistan Empowerment and Self Governance Order-2009" is yet another cosmetic exercise intended to camouflage Pakistan's illegal occupation.

Dam on Brahmaputra by China

784. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Remote Sensing Agency has tracked construction of a dam by China at Brahmaputra river in the Eastern Tibet Region;

(b) whether it is also a fact that previously Government had raised this issue with China;

(c) if so, whether it is also a fact that the Chinese Government has previously denied such construction; and

(d) whether Government has recently raised the issue with China under existing bilateral agreements and multilateral treaties on river water sharing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (d) Government has seen media reports to such effect. These reports have been taken up with the Chinese side, who have said that such reports are inconsistent with the facts. Government is not aware of any existing dam on the Brahmaputra River. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's interests and takes all necessary measures to protect them. Government takes up all relevant issues relating to trans-border rivers with the Chinese side through the Expert Level Mechanism established in 2006.

Resolution passed by OIC

785. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is cognizant of the recent resolution passed by the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC);

(b) whether it is a fact that the resolution reflects an organisations's stand on Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has taken up the issue with the OIC and its members bilaterally; and

(e) if so, the details of the responses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The Hon'ble member is probably referring to the recent resolution passed by OIC in their Final Communique of the Annual Coordination Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the OIC Member States held in New York on September 25, 2009 on the sidelines of 64th session of UN General Assembly. It reflects their overtly one sided and India-adverse position on the issue of Jammu and Kashmir.

(d) and (e) Yes. The matter is invariably raised at bilateral level and in meetings with group of OIC member States.

The Government of India has issued a strong rebuttal in response to the OIC resolution stating that "It is regrettable that the OIC has commented on India's internal affairs. We condemn and reject this. Inherent in OIC's statements and actions on the issue of Jammu and Kashmir is a complete inability to understand India's position. Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and it is our firm position that the OIC has no locus standi in matters concerning India's internal affairs."

Indians attacked in Australia

†786. PROF. P.J. KURIEN:

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians attacked in Australia during the last year and the number of persons who died or injured in such incidents;

(b) the number of people arrested in this regard and the number of people against whom action has been taken;

(c) whether despite the assurance from Government of Australia attacks are still going on; and

(d) the substantial arrangement made for the security of the migrants and students studying in Australia?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) The number of Indians attacked in Australia during 2008 and 2009 are given below:—

- (i) 2008 : 17
- (ii) 2009 : 94
(upto 20th November 2009)

No Indian died in any of these attacks. Majority suffered minor injuries.

(b) Figures of the exact number of people arrested in this regard are not available. However, it is reported that 7 people received convictions, after being held guilty and responsible for some of these attacks.

(c) Reports of some stray incidents of attacks continue to be received from Melbourne.

(d) As a result of a series of discussions with visiting high level Australian delegations and demarches made by Indian Mission/Posts in Australia, the Australian Government has taken various steps. They have announced a series of measures, including stricter policing in Victoria and NSW, aimed at ensuring the safety and security of Indian students in Australia. The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Ms. Julia Gillard introduced in the Parliament an Amendment Bill to the ESOS Act, 2000, under which all educational institutions will be required to re-register under new and tighter criteria by 31 December, 2010. Similarly rapid audit of service providers is being undertaken by the Australian authorities, as a result of which some colleges have already been de-registered and shut down. These steps have been useful and the incidence of attacks has decreased.

Haj quota to private tour operators

787. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:
SHRI SABIR ALI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the basis of distribution and release of Government Haj quota and additional Haj quota this year to private tour operators; and

(b) the steps that are being taken to make it more rational and transparent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) The distribution of PTOs quota for Haj-2009 was done as per the following policy:—

- (i) All the old PTOs who got quota in 2008 and had been found eligible for allocation of quota this year also, have been allocated quota of minimum 50 seats provided their quota allocation during 2008 was 50 seats or more.
- (ii) Those PTOs who are applying since last three Haj seasons but no quota was allocated to them last year, have been allocated a quota of minimum 50 seats provided they were otherwise eligible.

- (iii) Those PTOs who are applying since last two Haj seasons but no quota was allocated to them last year have also been allocated a quota of minimum 50 seats provided they were otherwise eligible
- (iv) The PTOs who had applied since last one year only *i.e.* in Haj-2008 and those fresh applicants who have applied this year could not be considered for allocation of quota for Haj-2009.

(b) Efforts are being made to make the distribution and release of private tour operators quota in a more rational and transparent manner by applying the policy decided by the Government uniformly among the old and new Private Tour Operators (PTOs) in order to ensure that there is a healthy competition among the old and new PTOs and the haj pilgrims travelling through PTOs have the choice for comfortable and economical services for their pilgrimage. All information in this regard was made public through the websites of the Haj Committee of India and Ministry of External Affairs.

Chinese claim on Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim

788. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:
 SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:
 SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
 SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and details of Chinese intrusion in Indian territory during last two years, till date;
- (b) whether it is a fact that China has claimed over Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the details of steps taken by Government to redress the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (c) China disputes the international boundary between India and China in the Eastern Sector and claims approximately 90,000 square kilometres of Indian territory in the State of Arunachal Pradesh. China does not have claims over the Indian State of Sikkim. The two countries have appointed Special Representatives to explore from the political perspective of the overall bilateral relationship the framework for a boundary settlement. There have been thirteen meetings of the Special Representatives till date. Since 1993, the two Governments have agreed to maintain peace and tranquility along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas, without prejudice to their respective positions on the alignment of the line of actual control as well as on the boundary question. Government regularly takes up any violation along the LAC with the Chinese side through established mechanisms including the Joint Working Group, the Expert Group, border personnel meetings, flag meetings and diplomatic channels. There has been no increase in the number of incidents of Chinese intrusions.

Terror activities from Pakistan

†789. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been increase into terrorist activities in the country from Pakistan during the past years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereon;

(c) whether Government proposes to declare Pakistan as a terrorist State and to prompt other countries also to do so;

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

(e) whether the representation have been received from social organizations/people in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) India has been a victim of terrorist acts emanating from the territory of Pakistan. The Government of India has taken up this issue several times with the Government of Pakistan, including at the highest level and urged it to implement its commitment not to allow territory under its control to be used for terrorism against India in any manner.

(c) to (f) Representations from social organisations and individuals are received by the Government from time to time suggesting action against Pakistan for fomenting terrorism against India, including declaring Pakistan a terrorist State. The Government has consistently highlighted to the international community Pakistan's role in sponsoring terrorism directed against India. In the aftermath of the terrorist attack on Mumbai in November 2008, the External Affairs Minister wrote to his counterparts in all countries forwarding a detailed dossier on the terrorist attack on Mumbai with evidence incriminating elements in Pakistan. Detailed briefings for all resident Heads of Missions based in India were organised in the Ministry of External Affairs. Our Heads of Missions abroad similarly briefed their Governments of accreditation. As a consequence of major diplomatic steps taken bilaterally and internationally, the United Nations Al Qaeda and Taliban Sanctions Committee listed under Security Council Resolution 1267, individuals and entities based in Pakistan, including leaders of Lashkar-e-Tayyiba. The Jamat ud Dawa was also listed as an alias of the LeT. This entails restrictions such as freezing of funds, arms embargo and travel restrictions on the listed organisations/individuals.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Extradition pact with Nepal

†790. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of the Indo-Nepal extradition pact;
- (b) whether Pakistani nationals are operating anti-India activities in Nepal on a large scale; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to check them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) India and Nepal signed an Extradition Treaty on 02/10/1953, which remains in force. With a view to strengthen the institutional legal arrangements for effectively combating crime and terrorism in tune with contemporary realities, India and Nepal have initialled the updated Extradition Treaty in January, 2005. The Government has regularly taken up the matter of signature of the updated Extradition Treaty with the Government of Nepal.

(b) The Nepali authorities, from time to time, have apprehended Pakistani nationals involved in racketeering in fake Indian currency.

(c) During the visit of Prime Minister of Nepal to India from 18-22 August, 2009, it was agreed to enhance bilateral co-operation to effectively address all issues concerning security, including cross border crime, through existing bilateral mechanisms. The Nepalese side assured that it would not allow its territory to be used for any activity against India.

Chinese claim on Arunachal Pradesh

791. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether during the Prime Minister's visit to Arunachal Pradesh recently, China has once again raked up its claim over the State;
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (c) whether China has strongly dissatisfied with visit of Indian Prime Minister to the disputed region; and
- (d) if so, the further reaction of Government on such statements made by China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (d) In October 2009, after the visit of the Prime Minister to Arunachal Pradesh, the Official Spokesperson of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs said

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

“China expresses its strong dissatisfaction at the activities of the Indian leaders in the disputed areas”. The fact that Arunachal Pradesh is an integral and inalienable part of India and that it is well established practice in our democratic system that our leaders visit States where elections to Parliament and to the State Assemblies are taking place has been clearly conveyed to the Chinese side.

Visit of Nepalese Foreign Minister

792. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether border management, encroachments and political mechanism to promote trust and understanding among parties in Nepal has come up for high level discussions during visit of Nepal Foreign Minister to India;

(b) whether two countries have also sought to talks on reviewing India-Nepal friendship treaty and explore ways to bring about early conclusion to joint hydel projects including Pancheswar, Sapta Kosi and Naumure;

(c) if so, outcome of the discussions held;

(d) whether any agreement was reached; and

(e) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (e) Yes. The Nepalese Foreign Minister Ms. Sujata Koirala visited India from August 10-14, 2009, during which issues of mutual interest, including border management, encroachments and hydel power were discussed. Both sides agreed to resolve border related issues through existing bilateral mechanisms and not allow the open border to be misused. Nepal assured that it will not allow its territory to be used against India. India expressed full support for the successful completion of the peace process and for Nepal's efforts for its economic development. The visit was a preparatory one preceding the visit of the Prime Minister of Nepal, Mr. Madhav Kumar Nepal, to India from August 18-22, 2009. During Prime Minister of Nepal's visit, the Foreign Secretaries of India and Nepal signed an MoU regarding continuation of Indian grant assistance for the Goitre control programme in Nepal. A Joint Press Statement was also issued during the visit.

Security of high commissions abroad

793. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of attacks on Indian High Commissions in foreign countries, Government proposes to increase security measure at all the Indian missions abroad;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the officials working in Indian missions abroad are not feeling secure; and
- (d) if so, the facts thereof and further steps taken by Government to enhance security network at Indian missions abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) Review of security of each Indian mission abroad is an ongoing process. Necessary security review and augmentation have been undertaken, with discussions as appropriate with the host Governments in tune with established diplomatic practice and conventions.

(c) and (d) Officials working in Indian Missions abroad are safe. Based on changes in the prevalent security environment, necessary requisite steps have been and are being taken to enhance security at Indian Missions/Posts abroad.

Assistance to Sri Lanka

794. SHRI N. R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any relief/assistance has been extended by Government to Government of Sri Lanka for the rehabilitation of displaced Tamil Civilians in their country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to send all party members to Sri Lanka in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to achieve a political solution of the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) Yes.

(b) Government of India attaches high priority to the welfare and rehabilitation of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Northern Sri Lanka. An amount of Rs. 500 Crores has been announced by Government for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Northern Sri Lanka. Several steps have been taken in this connection. Since October 2008, 2.5 lakh family packs were sent to the IDPs as part of the relief and humanitarian assistance. A 60-member emergency field hospital operated in Sri Lanka for six months till September 2009 and treated more than 50,000 patients. India has sent four demining teams and 2600 tons of shelter material for resettling the IDPs in their original areas of habitation. We are extending assistance to revive agriculture in Northern Sri Lanka. About 20,000 agricultural starter packs have been donated by India for IDP families resettling in the North.

(c) There is no proposal to send all party delegation to Sri Lanka in this regard.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) India has reiterated at the highest level its position in favour of a negotiated political settlement acceptable to all communities, including the Tamil community, within the framework of a united Sri Lanka. We have urged the Government of Sri Lanka to take steps in this direction.

RTI of NRIs

795. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in many countries NRIs are asking information to Indian embassies under RTI act, if so, the details of applications, country-wise;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Indian embassies are not in a position to reply the application;

(c) if so, whether the Government has any proposal to amend RTI act so that any NRI can seek information through the Indian missions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) Yes. NRIs are seeking information from Indian Missions/Posts abroad under the RTI Act, 2005. As regards details of the RTI applications received and replied country-wise, relevant information is being compiled and will be provided at an early date.

(b) Indian Missions/Posts abroad are responding to the RTI applications as stipulated under the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.

(c) to (e) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training), New Delhi is the appropriate authority to provide information on any proposed amendment of the RTI Act.

Review of bilateral treaties

796. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to review bilateral treaties with any Asian countries;

(b) if so, the details of any such proposals;

(c) the circumstances under which Government reviews bilateral treaties with foreign countries; and

(d) the full details of conditions and circumstances under which Government reviews foreign treaties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) Yes.

(b) Details of existing bilateral treaties under review/consideration for review:—

- I. Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement/Convention with China, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Syria, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan;
- II. Visa Agreement and Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines of 1974 with Pakistan;
- III. Indo-Nepalese Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1950;
- IV. Bilateral Air Services Agreement with Singapore;
- V. Periodic review of the comprehensive economic cooperation agreement with Singapore.

(c) and (d) A review of bilateral treaties is undertaken, where possible, to address new situations and realities so that the basic purposes of a treaty are safeguarded and our national interest is protected and promoted.

Discussion on visit of Nepalese PM

797. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Nepal has recently visited India and held discussions with various leaders;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held and outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Nepal have agreed to extend help to fight terrorism and Naxal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) Yes.

(b) Mr. Madhav Kumar Nepal, Prime Minister of Nepal, paid an official visit to India from 18-22 August, 2009. The Prime Minister of Nepal called on the President of India and the Vice-President of India. He had meetings with Prime Minister, Minister of External Affairs, Minister of Finance and Minister of Home Affairs. Discussion were held on issues of mutual interest and concern and both sides expressed their satisfaction at the state of bilateral relations between the two countries and resolved to work together to further strengthen and enhance cooperation consistent with the wishes and aspirations of the people of both the countries. They also reaffirmed their determination to consolidate and expand the areas of cooperation with a view to taking the relationship to a new height on the basis of mutual respect, understanding and mutual benefit. During the visit, the Foreign Secretaries of India and Nepal signed an MoU regarding

continuation of Indian grant assistance for the Goitre control programme in Nepal. A Joint Press Statement was also issued during the visit.

(c) and (d) The Government of Nepal has assured that it would not allow its territory to be used for any activity against India. It has also been agreed to enhance bilateral cooperation to effectively address all issues concerning security, including cross border crime, through existing bilateral mechanisms.

Privatization of passport offices

798. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the passport offices were deprived of the software which were provided to TATA;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the whole work related to Passport Issuance System is proposed to be done by the private contractor and the passport employees would be given the job of verifying the work done by private workers; and

(d) if so, the reason for Government going in for privatization of passport offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) No.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) No. All non-sovereign and non-sensitive functions involving issuance of tokens, initial scrutiny of application, capture of photo and finger prints, scanning of documents and acceptance of fee will be performed by the employees of the Service Provider while sovereign and sensitive functions such as actual verification of documents with originals and the granting, printing and dispatch of passports will be performed by Central Passport Organisation (CPO) employees.

Indo-Pak meeting

799. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-Pak talks was held in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details of various issues discussed in the said meeting;

(c) the reactions of Pakistan on the points raised by India;

(d) the details of the decision taken on the occasion; and

(e) the mutual benefits likely to accrue as a result of these talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) Yes. The External Affairs Minister (EAM) met Pakistan Foreign Minister (FM) Shah Mahmood Qureshi on September 27, 2009 in New York on the sidelines of UNGA. This

meeting was preceded by a detailed meeting between the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan.

(b) to (e) Both the Ministers had a useful, constructive and candid exchange of views on the situation in our bilateral relations. They agreed that the future direction in our bilateral relations has to be one of deeper, sustained and meaningful relations. EAM conveyed to Pakistan FM our view that for a sustained and meaningful dialogue process to succeed, it is essential to ensure an environment free of violence, terrorism and the threat to use violence. EAM underlined and reiterated that concrete and effective steps by Pakistan against individuals and entities who pose a threat to us can instill in us the confidence that commitments given by Pakistan for not allowing its soil to be used for terrorist attacks against India would be adhered to. Pakistan FM conveyed the seriousness of his Government in bringing to book through their legal process those responsible for the terrorist outrage in Mumbai. Pakistan FM conveyed that the trial against those accused for the Mumbai attack would begin shortly and that the Pakistan Government would take steps to see that justice is done.

Position of Arunachal Pradesh in Google map

800. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Google map depicts Arunachal Pradesh as part of China;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps that has been taken by Government in this concern; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (d) Government is aware of reports to such effect. The matter was taken up with Google. Google issued a statement in August, 2009 admitting that it was the result of an error in processing of data. The error has since been corrected in the Google Maps for India < <http://maps.google.co.in> >.

Passport application sent by speed post

801. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the Regional Passport Office (RPO), Shimla, has been sending back passport applications sent to the office by speed post;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has issued any order to the various regional passport offices instructing them not to accept such applications which are being sent by speed post;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if not, the action Government has taken against those responsible for not accepting such applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) Yes.

(b) Submission of passport applications by post/courier is not authorized. Passport applications need to be submitted in person or through authority letter at the Passport Offices, or in person at the District Passport Cells (DPCs) or at authorized Speed Post Centres (SPCs).

(c) Yes. The Ministry issued orders in September, 2009 discontinuing the acceptance of passport applications through post.

(d) The following, *inter alia*, were the reasons:—

(i) The Ministry have set up DPCs at the district headquarters, which are manned by the police personnel, where passport applications can be submitted in person. At present, there are 463 district Passport Centres. In Himachal Pradesh, DPCs are functioning in all the 13 district headquarters.

(ii) Similarly, 1095 SPCs, which are manned by the personnel of the Department of Posts, have been set up, where passport applications can be submitted in person.

(iii) Only less than 10 percent of applications were being received through post by various Passport Offices. Most postal applications received were found to be filled improperly and submitted without proper/prescribed documents.

(iv) At the Passport Office, DPC and SPC, scrutiny of applications for completeness is done at the counter before an application is accepted and applicants can rectify omissions and errors, if any. Original documents are also verified, which cannot be done in the case of postal applications.

(v) Most of the applications received by post were found to be incomplete or wrongly filled up. In all such cases, additional/correct information needed to be called for from the applicants, with consequential delay in issue of passport.

(e) Not applicable.

Special envoy on Kashmir

802. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Organisations of Islamic Conference (OIC) has appointed special envoy on Kashmir;

(b) the number of nations that join together to constitute OIC;

(c) would this move on the part of Pakistan not amount to internationalise the issue of Kashmir;

- (d) when was an announcement made in U.N. recently; and
- (e) the effective steps taken by India to counter this move of Pakistan and what has been the extent of effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) Yes.

- (b) OIC has 57 member States and 5 observer States.
- (c) Pakistan plays a proactive role in the OIC to take advantage of its presence at OIC to do so.
- (d) The Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir met on September 28, 2009 on the sidelines of 64th UN General Assembly session in New York and announced the appointment of OIC's Special Envoy on Kashmir.
- (e) Yes. The matter is invariably raised at bilateral level and in meetings with group of OIC member States.

The Government of India has issued a strong rebuttal in response to the OIC resolution stating that "It is regrettable that the OIC has commented on India's internal affairs. We condemn and reject this. Inherent in OIC's statements and actions on the issue of Jammu and Kashmir is a complete inability to understand India's position. Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and it is our firm position that the OIC has no locus standi in matters concerning India's internal affairs."

Assistance to Sri Lanka

803. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has expressed its readiness to provide further assistance to Government of Sri Lanka for the war displaced persons housed in the refugee camps of northern province of Sri Lanka;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Sri Lankan Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) Government of India attaches high priority to the welfare and rehabilitation of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Northern Sri Lanka. An amount of Rs. 500 Crores has been announced by Government for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Northern Sri Lanka. Several steps have been taken in this connection. Since October, 2008, 2.5 lakh family packs were sent to the IDPs as part of the relief and humanitarian assistance. A 60-member emergency field hospital operated in Sri Lanka for six months till September, 2009 and treated more than 50,000 patients. India has sent four demining teams and 2600 tons of shelter material for resettling the IDPs in their original areas of habitation. We are extending

assistance to revive agriculture in Northern Sri Lanka. About 20,000 agricultural starter packs have been donated by India for IDP families resettling in the North.

(c) Sri Lankan Government have welcomed India's assistance towards the rehabilitation of IDPs. Further, Sri Lankan Government agreed to resettle the bulk of the IDPs to their original places of habitation in 180 days.

Hyderabad as a hub for Haj Pilgrims

804. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware that Hyderabad is becoming a hub for Haj Pilgrims from South India;

(b) if so, whether there are any plans before his Ministry for constructing a separate and permanent Haj Terminal, in coordination with the Ministry of Civil Aviation, with all facilities existing at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport for Hajis;

(c) whether any request from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received in his Ministry in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereon and action that has been contemplated or proposed to contemplate in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SHASHI THAROOR): (a) No. As per information available with the Government only three Airports viz. Delhi, Kolkata and Kozhikode are functioning as hubs for Haj pilgrims.

(b) and (c) The Ministry had received a request from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for grant of Rs. 10 crores for construction of a separate Haj terminal in the existing Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad.

(d) As the Ministry of External Affairs does not have any provision for the grants for construction of airports and the subject matter does not fall within its purview, no further action on the request is contemplated by this Ministry.

Education and employment to slum dwelling children

†805. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) Government's plan to provide education and employment to slum-dwelling children, if not, reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government is not of the opinion that slum dwellers lead a life of hell with no education, health services and their houses looking like pile of rubbish;

(c) if so, the efforts being made to improve it by Government;

(d) if so, detailed reasons thereof; and

(e) whether Government have any plan to build houses for slum dwellers?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA):

(a) The Government of India is implementing Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) to provide useful and relevant elementary education for all children (including the slum dwelling children) in the 6 to 14 age group by 2010. Further, employment needs of the urban poor, including slum dwellers, are addressed through the urban poverty alleviation scheme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY). The scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) strives to, provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed and under employed poor, through encouraging the setting up of self employment ventures by the urban poor living below the poverty line, and also through providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets.

(b) to (e) Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) was launched with the basic objective to strive for holistic slum development with a healthy and enabling urban environment by providing houses and basic infrastructure facilities to the slum dwellers of the identified urban areas. Additional Central Assistance is provided to States/UTs for taking up housing and infrastructural facilities for the urban poor in 65 select cities under the Sub-Mission on Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP). For other cities/towns, the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) has been introduced. Objectives of the Mission are provision of Basic Services to Urban Poor including security of tenure at affordable prices, improved housing, water supply, sanitation, education, health and social security. Further, the Government has announced a new scheme called Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) for the slum dwellers and the urban poor, aimed at extending support to States that are willing to assign property rights to people living in slum areas.

Population living in slum areas

806. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has estimated the population living in slum areas;
- (b) whether Government has prepared a comprehensive poverty alleviation plans for them;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA):

(a) As per the estimation made by Town and Country Planning Organisation (TCPO) the population living in slum areas during 2001 was 61.8 million. For 1743 towns, for which Census 2001 conducted enumeration, the reported slum population was 52.4 million.

(b) to (d) With a view to ameliorate the living condition of the urban poor including slum dwellers, Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation has revamped the scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) with effect from 1.4.2009. The revamped SJSRY has now following five components:—

- (i) Urban Self Employment Programme.
- (ii) Urban Women Self-help Programme.
- (iii) Skill Training for Employment Promotion amongst Urban Poor.
- (iv) Urban Wage Employment Programme
- (v) Urban Community Development Network.

The guidelines of the revamped scheme have been circulated to the States/Union Territories with request to prepare action plans and implement the scheme effectively.

Further, the shelter and basic amenities requirements of the urban poor are addressed through the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), launched in December, 2005. The Sub-Mission of Basic Services for Urban Poor (BSUP) under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) caters to 65 identified Cities and Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) applies to cities/ towns other than 65 identified cities. The BSUP and IHSDP stipulate the provision of security of tenure at affordable prices, improved housing, water supply, sanitation, education, health and social security benefits to the urban poor.

National Policy on Urban Street Vendors

807. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Governments National Policy on Urban Street Vendors, 2009 has been adopted by all the States by way of executive order or legislation;
- (b) if so, the States that have started to implement the same and reasons for non-implementation by certain States; and
- (c) the details of beneficiaries thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA):
(a) to (c) The National Policy on Urban Street Vendors 2009 was circulated to all States/Union Territories on 17th June 2009 for suitable adoption. The States were requested to take all necessary action to ensure that the legislative framework and institutional and other necessary arrangements are put in place in conformity with the National Policy on Urban Street Vendors 2009 and further that the Policy is implemented effectively to give a new deal to the urban street vendors. No State has reported adoption of the policy by way of executive order or legislation so far. As policy has been circulated to States only recently, it is too early to ascertain reasons for non-adoption.

Lack of employment opportunity abroad

808. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that even the H1B Visa quota given by India could not be filled up because of enough employment opportunity is not available in that country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that many NRIs in USA already employed who have lost their jobs are facing financial difficulties; and
- (c) whether Government has any plan to help such people in different countries including USA?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) As per information available a total number of 46,700 petitions for H1B visas have been filed against 65,000 H1B visa cap for 2010.

(b) Indians working in the US, like others have been affected by the recession which has resulted in unemployment rate of 10.2% in October 2009. However no representation from Indian workers in the US has been received by the Mission.

(c) The Mission in Washington has requested the US authorities that H1B visa holders who lost their jobs be allowed sufficient time for winding up his or her affairs or locating another job.

Attack on Indian students in Australia

†809. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attacks on Indian students in Australia have not stopped yet;
- (b) the number of students attacked so far;
- (c) the number of persons admitted in hospitals and who is taking care of them;
- (d) whether any sustainable mechanism is available with the Embassy to tackle this problem;
- (e) whether Government proposes to send a parliamentary group there; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) The number of attacks has decreased in the recent past as a result of various intervention measures taken by the Australian authorities at the instance of the Government of India.

(b) The exact number of attacks is not known as the information is not made available to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Indian Mission/Posts in Australia by Australian authorities citing privacy laws. However, there are reports of attacks on 33 Indian students since 23rd May, 2009.

(c) As on date, no Indian student attacked is in the hospital.

(d) An officer has been designated as the 'Students' Welfare Officer' in the High Commission of India, Canberra as well as our Consulates General in Sydney and Melbourne. As soon as a case of attack comes to the notice, the matter is taken up immediately with local Government authorities. Besides, the High Commission and Consulates also maintain regular liaison with the students in universities and other educational institutions as well as through participating in the meetings and seminars organised by the local Government and law enforcement authorities as well as the Indian community.

In order that all Indian students know that there is an open door for them to come and discuss their problems, the High Commission, the Consulates and the Honorary Consuls have designated every Friday, from 11 am till 5 pm, an 'Open Day' for students, when any Indian student can walk in, without prior appointment, to meet the High Commissioner, Consuls General, the designated Student Welfare Officers and Honorary Consuls and discuss their problems and grievances.

(e) and (f) No, Sir.

Setting up of ICWF

810. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently decided to set up Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) in Indian missions abroad to help overseas Indian in time of distress;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian workers working abroad are duped by middlemen in host countries; and

(d) if so, the manner in which such Indian workers would be protected?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Ministry has set up the 'Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF)' in the Indian Missions in 17 Emigration Clearance Required (ECR) Countries and Maldives to provide on-site welfare for the Overseas Indian Citizens who are in distress. The Fund (ICWF) is aimed at providing the following services on a means tested basis in the most deserving cases:—

(i) Boarding and lodging for distressed overseas Indian workers in Household/ domestic sectors and unskilled labourers;

(ii) Extending emergency medical care to the overseas Indians in need;

- (iii) Providing air passage to stranded overseas Indians in need;
- (iv) Providing initial legal assistance to the overseas Indians in deserving cases;
- (v) Expenditure on incidentals and for airlifting the mortal remains to India or local cremation/burial of the deceased overseas Indian in such cases where a sponsor is unable or unwilling to do so as per the contract and the family is unable to meet the cost.

The ICWF would be funded through budgetary support from the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, funds raised by the Indian Missions by levying a service charge on consular services and through Voluntary contributions from the Indian community. The Fund will be administered by the respective Heads of Missions.

(c) and (d) Complaints regarding fraudulent offers of overseas employment and cheating of job seekers against unauthorized intermediaries in the host countries are received by the Ministry from time to time. The complaints are referred to Indian Missions abroad for investigation and redressing the grievances of the overseas workers. The Heads of Missions in the Gulf Region have also been requested to identify the sponsors and intermediaries operating in the Gulf who are bringing migrant workers illegally, so that suitable action can be taken against the culprits.

University for NRIs

811. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any decision to set up any NRI Universities;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of NRI Universities proposed to be set up by Government and the time by which they are proposed to be established;
- (d) whether Government has advertised for setting up the NRI Universities; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The task of setting up the first PIOs/NRI university has been entrusted to the Manipal Academy of Higher Education Trust (MAHET). Expressions of Interest for setting up four more universities at places other than Bengaluru have been received.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. In response to advertisements published in February and June 2009 calling for Expressions of Interest (EOIs), 60 proposals have been received.

Rules to stop exploitation of labourers abroad

†812. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rules and regulations made to check the exploitation of labourers in the Gulf countries have been proved ineffective;
- (b) whether Government has noticed the big scam of making fake documents which are required under these rules and regulation;
- (c) whether vested interests have been found involved actively in this scam; and
- (d) the action being taken by Government to check it?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (d) The Emigration Act, 1983, regulates the emigration of workers for overseas employment. There has been a rapid growth in the volumes of workers migrating to the Gulf. The present day migration process is complex with several ground-level problems that need a real-time response. A need has been felt for modernizing the legislative framework governing mobility of workers.

Following the recent CBI raid of some offices of Protector of Emigrants (PoE), the agency has reported forging of documents by some unscrupulous recruiting agents (RAs) to seek emigration clearance in collusion with some of the officials of the POE offices.

The Ministry has already initiated action to revamp the system by proposing a new legislation to make the immigration process simple, transparent and efficient.

National Youth Parliament Competitions

813. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to restructure the existing pattern of funding to provide financial assistance to the States for organizing National Youth Parliament Competition for school children;
- (b) whether there is any provision for reimbursing the TA/DA to teachers and officials who are attending this programme; and
- (c) if not, whether Government has any plan to introduce it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir;

- (b) No Sir;
- (c) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

IAS officers in Jharkhand

814. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a considerable decline in IAS cadre officers posted in Jharkhand;
- (b) whether Government has received any representation regarding increasing the number of IAS cadre officers in Jharkhand; and
- (c) if so, the details of actions taken in this regard with results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The Government of India in consultation with State Governments determines the strength and composition of each of the cadres of IAS and also makes such alterations ordinarily at the interval of every five years. The total authorized strength of IAS cadre of Jharkhand has been increased from 129 in 2001 to 143 in 2005. As per IAS Civil List as on 1.1.2009 in Jharkhand 108 IAS officers were in position.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) It is for the Government of Jharkhand to ensure that at any given point of time adequate number of IAS officers against the authorized sanctioned strength are posted in the State Government. In so far as Government of India is concerned it has been decided to give 04 direct recruit IAS officers to Jharkhand on the basis of CSE 2008. In addition, 24 vacancies in promotion quota of IAS cadre of Jharkhand have already been determined in consultation with the State Government.

Harassment of people seeking information under RTI

815. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of cases have come to notice from different States, especially the State Government of Bihar about harassment and even jail to persons seeking information under Right to Information Act;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases from each state since the Act was passed; and
- (c) the steps that have been taken by Government against abuse of powers by Government officials concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Some news items have appeared in the press about harassment of persons seeking information under the Right to Information Act.

(b) Information is not centrally maintained.

(c) The Act has an inbuilt system whereby a complaint may be filed with the concerned Information Commission and the Commission may impose penalty on the public information officer.

Cases withdrawn by CBI

816. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:
SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:
SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the cases withdrawn by CBI during last three years;
- (b) the reasons for withdrawal of cases by CBI during the said period, case-wise;
- (c) whether Government has decided to withdraw case against Quattrocchi, the main accused in Bofors scam; and
- (d) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) 16 cases have been withdrawn by the CBI during the last three years. The case-wise details including the reasons of withdrawal are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) On the basis of CBI report and advice of Ld. Attorney General of India and Solicitor General of India, the Government has given its consent to withdraw the Court Case No. 2/2002 against Ottavio Quattrocchi, accused in the Bofors case under section 321 of Cr.P.C. CBI has filed an application before the trial Court of Ld. CMM, Delhi for the purpose.

Statement

*Details of cases withdrawn by CBI during last 3 years i.e. 2006,
2007, 2008 and 2009 (upto 31.10.2009)*

Sl. No.	Case No. and Date of Registration and Name of Accused	Allegation in brief	Date on which Court allowed withdrawal of case	Reasons for withdrawal
1	2	3	4	5
2006				
1.	RC. 12(A)/1978 dt. 31.8.1978 ACB, Visakhapatnam	CC.6/80: The accused abusing his position as public servant obtained for himself pecuniary advantage to the extent of Rs. 2,250/- by accepting a new refrigerator 140 ltrs. costing Rs. 3250/- for Rs. 1,000/- only from M/s. Euhlar Engineers, VSKP.	24.4.2006	Accused not traceable despite all efforts. Case almost 30 years old.

1	2	3	4	5
	P.V. Krishna, the then Dy. Regional Manager, NMDC, Visakhapatnam	CC.7/80: The accused misappropriated an amount of Rs. 3,500/- obtained by him on 16.1.78 from M/s. Pathigalli Suryanarayana & Bros., VZM. as an advance towards the purchase of copper, brass and Aluminium scrap from NDMC Ltd. VSKP.		
2.	RC. 1/02-ACU (VII/V) dt. 14.4.02 AC.II Michel Philip Pinto-IAS (Retd) (MH:66) the then Chairman, JNPT and former Secretary, M/o Shipping and Transport, New Delhi (Pvt.) and others	The accused persons in collusion with each other caused wrongful loss to the extent of Rs. 5.16 crores to Jawahar Lal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT), Nhava Sheva (Maharashtra) and corresponding wrongful gain to M/s Ornate Multi Modal Carriers Ltd., Mumbai in the matter of award of contract of transportation of containers by Tractor Trolleys (TTs) for the period 2000 to 2003.	3.4.2006	On the representation of the petitioner, the Central Government has decided to withdraw the case.
2008				
3.	RC. 22(S)/1981 dt. 3.10.1981 ACB Visakhapatnam Bhagat Ram(A4) Manager, Anoop Singh Sundarlal, Commercial Agencies, Guntur	A1 to A4 of charge sheet are private persons and are partners of M/s. Anup Singh Sunder Lal, Commission Agents and M/s. K.V.S. Enterprises. All the accused entered into a criminal conspiracy to cheat SBI, Guntur causing loss to the tune of Rs. 49.50 lakhs.	31.12.2008	Three other co-accused were tried separately and acquitted on 29.10.2004. A4 is not traceable since date of registration of the case.
4.	RC. 7(A)/1968 dt. 1.4.1968 ACB Bangalore Shri Govardhanagiri	The accused misappropriated Rs. 2,380/- from the cash collections of the Post Office.	23.4.2008	The accused last seen in the year 1968 and his whereabouts not known.

1	2	3	4	5
5.	RC. 7(A)/1968 dt. 1.4.1968 ACB Bangalore Shri Gangadhara Mahadevappa Gotagi	The accused prepared 40-forged postal money orders purported to have been issued by Anekal Sub Post Office, Bangalore to his address and had fraudulently received Rs. 7,500/-.	23.4.2008	The accused not traceable and the case more than 40 years old.
6.	RC. 1(S)/94-SIG dt 3.8.1994. CC No. 248/98 Cletus Goma	Accused Cletus Goma, a Nigerian National opened an account in the SBI, Anna Salai Branch, Madras on the basis of forged passport and cheated the bank by withdrawing Rs. 1,58,500/- after depositing two forged Demand Drafts purportedly of M/s. Thomos Cook Al Rostamani Exchange Company, Dubai amounting to Rs. 82,500/- and Rs. 80,000/-.	25.09.2008	The accused not traceable. India does not have extradition treaty with Nigeria.
2009				
7.	RCCHG1994A00 19 dt. 9.5.1994 ACB Chandigarh 1. Shri Navpreet Virk 2. Shri Ranjit Oberoi 3. Shri Ranjit Singh	Shri N. Guru, RPO, Regional Passport Office, Chandigarh and Shri Balbir Singh Gupta, Supdt., O/o RPO, Chandigarh during the period 1992 to 1994 entered into criminal conspiracy with private persons with the object to cheat the Government and in pursuance of the said conspiracy the accused by abusing their official positions as servants passed and approved granting orders of the passport applications.	11.4.2009	Co-accused discharged by trial Court. The three persons not traceable. They, even if apprehended, would have been discharged in accordance with earlier decision of the Court.
8.	RC. 17(S)/86- SCB Chennai dt. 2.11.1986 SCB Chennai CC No. 2218/01 Prem Kumar Ojha	The accused persons entered into a criminal conspiracy and stealthily removed a cheque for Rs. 10,000/- issued to M/s Singh Brothers, Bombay, by Indian Oil Corporation, during transit. The cheque was altered for the amount of Rs. 5,68,000/- and	24.06.09	The accused not traceable for the last 20 years.

1	2	3	4	5
	A1-V.C. Kedar, Prop. of V.C.K. Travels (Expired), A2-K. Mohamed Faizal, A3-E. Razak, A4-B. Ramachandran (Expired), A5-V. Moidu, A6- Sivasankaran Chandrababu and A7-Hasan Kattilpuram	from RPO Madras using false and forged school certificates, No amount involved.		prosecution un- able to produce them before the court in this long pending case.
	CC No. 6472/95 A1-V.C. Kedar, Prop. of V.C.K. Travels (Expired), A2-K. Mohamed Faizal, A3-E. Razak, A4-B. Ramachandran (Expired), A5-P. Raju, A6-V. Moidu and A7- Ambazhahan	The accused persons entered into a criminal conspiracy and in pursuance of the above conspiracy applied for passports with false and fabricated school certificates and attempted for obtaining passport from RPO, Madras.	30.06.09	
12.	RC. 3(S)/92- SCB Chennai dt. 05.02.1992 CC No. 8906/98 P. Rathnagiri @ Giri (Pvt.) (A1), Nandakumar @ Vinod @ Radha (Pvt.) (A2), Rajasekaran (Pvt.) (A3), Pushparathinam (Pvt.) (A4)	The Accused A1 had got possession of an American Credit Card of Richard E. Meshberger of USA, conspired with A2 to A4 and fabricated a passport of Republic of Malta in the name of the holder of the American Express Card Richard E. Meshberger A2 impersonating as the holder of the Card. They conspired with A5, and purchased a number of domestic air tickets of Indian Airlines to several destinations by forging	01.07.09	The accused per-sons A1 to A4 not traceable and A5 reported dead. The accused are Srilankan Nationals and efforts made could not locate them even through Interpol, Colombo as the addresses given

1	2	3	4	5
		the signatures of the holder of the card and thereby cheated the Indian Airlines. Amount involved is US\$770 during 1992.		by the accused were found false.
13.	RC. 6/67-ACU (VII/V) dt. 13.6.67 AC.II M/s. New Swadeshi Mills of Ahmedabad Ltd and others	During the period from 1964 to about August, 1967 accused were parties to a criminal conspiracy to commit or cause to be committed offences punishable u/s 7 of the EC Act 1955 and Section 9 of Central Excise and Salt Act 1944 and that in pursuance of this conspiracy M/s New Swadesh Mills and Manjushri Textiles manufactured different varieties of cloth in contravention of various, textile control orders, falsely claimed higher price for controlled cloth and evaded huge amount of excise duty.	30.3.09	Case almost 40 years old. Most of the witnesses are either dead or untraceable.
14.	RC. 10/66-ACU (VI) dt. 25.5.66 Shri Jit Paul, Partner M/s. Aminchand Pyare Lai, Calcutta-1 and others	The employee of M/s Aminchand Pyare Lal Calcutta entered into a criminal conspiracy and by misrepresenting facts procured false certificate from M/s. Divakaran Nanjee Banking Co. Ltd. (Now Dena Bank) and cheated the Port Commissioner of Calcutta to the tune of Rs. 1,02,220.	28.5.09	Case almost 40 years old. 6 accused out of 8 are dead. Most of the witnesses are either dead or untraceable.
15.	RC 1(S)/94-SIG dated 3.8.2004 CC No. 214 2002 Ziad Ahmed Iqbal Qusaymah	Accused, a Jordanian national in conspiracy with accused Khalid Walid cheated Vijaya Bank/ D. K. Mehra by posing Khalid Walid as a big businessman wanted to import 10,000 goats through D.K. Mehra and fraudulently getting forged demand drafts purportedly of Thomas	8.06.2009	The accused not traceable. India does not have extradition treaty with Jordan.

1	2	3	4	5
		Cook Al Rustamani Exchange Company, Dubai encashed from Vijaya Bank, Barakhamba Road through Sh. D.K. Mehra.		
16. RC 1 and 2 (S)/94-SIG (DD Fraud Case) dated 3.8.1994 and 29.9.1994. CC No. 148/02	The accused persons cheated Bank of Baroda, and Vijaya Bank by fraudulent encashment of forged demand drafts of M/s. Thomas Cook Al Rustamani Exchange Company, Dubai and M/s Habib and Al Mansoor Exchange Company, Dubai.	8.06.2009	The accused persons not traceable India does not have extradition treaty with Jordan, Palestine and Syria. Accused Kamal Yousef and Ahmed Nazzal were arrested in Jordan. However, request of Government of India for their extradition was turned down by the Government of Jordan.	
1. Kamal Yousef Khader Sulaiman- Jordanian national				
2. Ahmed Nazzal (Jordanian national)				
3. Ghassan Gheis Abbas (Palestinian national)				
4. Mohd. Al Alowneh (Jordanian national)				
5. Walid Machhour (Syrian national)				

War against corruption

817. SHRI JABIR HUSAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister announced the war against the corruption in Indian public life which has affected the economic growth and wastes precious national resources besides scaring away the foreign investors who expect fair treatment and transparent dealings;

(b) if so, whether the Prime Minister promised to launch a multi-pronged attack on corruption and decided on the Second Administrative Reforms Commission's recommendations on Ethics in Governance; and

(c) the main steps he has now considered to take to wipe out the corruption in the country and to what extent these measures have helped in reducing and checking the corruption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Prime Minister in his address at the XVII Biennial Conference of CBI and State Anti-Corruption Bureaux on August 26, 2009 stressed on the need to combat corruption which distorts the rule of law and weakens institutions of governance and at the same time hurts economic growth etc. He also mentioned that pervasive corruption discourages investors who expect fair treatment and transparent dealing when dealing with public authorities. The Hon'ble Prime Minister in his address has emphasized that the battle against corruption has to be fought at many levels. The design of development programmes should provide for more transparency and accountability. Systems and procedures should be made more transparent, simpler, decentralized and less discretionary. The 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission gave wide range of recommendations in this regard in its report on "Ethics in Governance" which was examined in great detail. Government remains committed to transparent and accountable governance with zero tolerance to corruption.

Need of experts in Administration

†818. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that country's current administration required involvement of several experts;

(b) if so, whether Government has entrusted the responsibility to certain people in the administration over last few months;

(c) if so, the names of these experts; and

(d) Government's future plan in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (d) Government engages experts from different fields as and when required. Such engagement brings specialized knowledge which may not always be available with career civil servants. No centralized data base of these experts is maintained.

Complaints against DG of Hydrocarbons

819. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the CVC had asked for an enquiry into the complaints received by it against the Director General of Hydrocarbons;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the issues on which the enquiry is being done by the CBI; and
- (d) the time-frame by which the enquiry would be completed by the CBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The CVC has requested the CBI for discreet field verification into the alleged misuse/abuse of official position by the then Director General of Hydrocarbon in collusion with private parties.

(d) Since the matter is at the initial stage of examination, no time frame can be given for completion of enquiry.

Implementation of RTI Act

820. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the findings of a survey conducted by Public Cause Research Foundation as per which only in 34,980 cases out of total 51,128 cases, orders for giving required information were complied and thus only 27 out of 100 applicants were getting reply under RTI Act;

(b) whether it is also a fact that despite several reminders the State Governments of Sikkim and Uttar Pradesh have not given copies of RTI orders and copies of only 900 orders have been provided by Tamil Nadu Government against its claim of having passed about 40 thousand orders; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to ensure effective implementation of RTI Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The Government, through a media report, has come to know about a study conducted by the Public Cause Research Foundation about functioning of the Information Commissions. The Study, according to the media report, concludes that a person filing an appeal with an Information Commission has 27% chance of getting information. However, as per the Annual Report of the Central Information Commission for the year 2006-07, on an average authorities under different Ministries disposed off 66% of the requests received under the RTI Act, A person under the Act has an opportunity of filing two appeals — one within the Public Authority and another with the Information Commission. The Central Information Commission disposed off 68.45% of the appeals according to the CIC Annual Report.

(b) The Central Information Commission and some other State Information Commissions are posting their orders on the website. However, the information is not centrally maintained.

(c) The Government in order to ensure effective implementation of the RTI Act, has been giving training to public information officers/first appellate authorities; has issued various instructions to Ministries/Departments/establishments, published Guides for the Information Seekers, the Central Public information Officers, the First Appellate Authorities, the Public Authorities; giving financial help to the State Information Commissions under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme etc. The Government also launched publicity campaigns to create awareness about the Act.

Incidents of disproportionate assets cases

†821. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of disproportionate assets through abuse of Governmental and constitutional position by public servants in country, and those occupying constitutional posts in country and States, have increased in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details for the last five years;

(c) whether Government is incapable of curbing such incidents of economic offences;

(d) if not, the reason for Central Vigilance Commission being incapable of curbing such incidents or take concrete action;

(e) whether there should be an autonomous mechanism to monitor corruption in States which can prevent incidents like the recent one involving a former Chief Minister; and

(f) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The CBI has registered 517 disproportionate assets cases since 1.1.2004 to 31.10.2009. The year-wise figures are as given below:—

Year					
2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 (Upto 31.10.09)
75	147	78	79	86	52

(c) and (d) Government is fully committed to implement its policy of “Zero Tolerance against Corruption” and is moving progressively to eradicate corruption from all spheres of life by improving transparency and accountability. Several steps have been taken to combat corruption and to improve the functioning of Government. These include:—

(i) Issue of Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004;

(ii) Enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (iii) The pro-active involvement of Ministry/Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance as a preventive measure;
 - (iv) Issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting process by the CVC;
 - (v) Issue of instructions by the CVC asking the organizations to adopt Integrity Pact in major Government procurement activities, similar instructions have been issued by the Central Government on 16th June, 2009 advising the State Governments to adopt Integrity Pact in major procurements;
 - (vi) India is amongst the countries who have signed the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
 - (vii) Introduction of e-Governance and simplification of procedures and systems;
 - (viii) Issue of Citizen Charters.
- (e) and (f) This is a state subject and should be handled as such.

Legislation for corruption cases

822. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to bring forward any legislation for the seizures of illegal properties and assets of Government officials convicted in corruption cases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when it is likely to bring forward?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) The Government has not proposed any new legislation for the seizure of illegal properties and assets of Government officials convicted in corruption cases. A provision for attachment and confiscation of the property and money procured by means of the scheduled offence by the accused persons is already available in the Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, 1944.

Corruption cases against officers

823. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of cases against top Government officers are pending for sanction for their prosecution in corruption cases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and since when these cases are pending;
- (c) whether Government proposes to amend Article 31 of the Constitution of India which grants certain rights and protection to Government employees which are often used to delay prosecution of corrupt officials; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be brought forward?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per information received

from the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), prosecution for sanction is pending against eleven Joint Secretary and above level officers. One of these officers has 15 cases registered against him. Details of these cases are as given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) There is no proposal with the Government to amend Article 311 of the Constitution of India, which provides for certain protection to Government employees.

Statement

*List of cases pending sanction for prosecution against
Joint Secretary and above*

Sl. No.	Cases ID No. and date of Resignation	Name and Designation of Government officers	Pending since/with
1	2	3	4
1.	RC-22(S) 05-HYD 3.3.2005	L.V. Subramanyam, IAS, the then Principal Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh	21.10.2008/DoP & T and State Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2.	RC-5(A)/2005- ACU-IX 18.11.2005	Shri Rajendra Mishra, the then Director (SSM), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi. Presently working as Joint Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, New Delhi.	15.10.2009/DoP & T and Ministry of Commerce.
3.		Shri V.L. Sharma, (Indian Supply Service), the then Joint Director Supply, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi.	
4.	RC-6(A)/2005- ACU(IV) 29.9.2005	Shri A.K. Gautam (IRS: 1977), Commission of Income Tax (Appeals Behrampur, Orissa).	8.7.2009/Department of Revenue.
5.	RC-8(S)/2003- SIC-IV 26.6.2003	Shri Mandeep Singh, IAS	3.3.2009/Government of Punjab and DoP & T.
6.	RC-8(S)/2003- SIC-IV 26.6.2003	Shri J.S. Kesar, IAS	3.3.2009/Government of Punjab.
7.	RC.9/A/2007-LKO 11/4/2007	Shri R.G. Singh, the then Chief Engineer (construction), NER, Gorakhpur.	15/10/2009/Ministry of Railways.
8.	RC.13/A/2006- CHG 7/4/2006	Shri Karan Bir Singh Sidhu, IAS, Punjab.	21/1/2008/DoP & T

1	2	3	4
9.	RC-2(A)/2008- ACU-II 10.5.2008	Shri Homi Rajvash (IRS:85), Commission of Income Tax, Kolkata.	30.10.2009/ Department of Revenue.
10.	RC-3/A/20-SIU.I 12/4/2005	Baldev Singh Sandhu, (IRS:81) Commission of Income Tax, Ahmedabad.	13.7.2009/Department of Revenue.
11.	RC-7(S)/2006 SCR-III 21.9.2006	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS(UT:84)	31.12.2007/DoP & T.
12.	RC-7(S)/2006- SCR-III 21.9.2006	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS(UT:84)	22.1.2008/DoP & T.
13.	RC-7(S)/2006- SCB-I 14.9.2006	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS(UT:84)	27.12.2007/DoP & T.
14.	RC-6(S)/2006/ SCB-II/ND 13.7.2006	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS(UT:84)	20.12.2007/DoPAT.
15.	RC-11(S)/2006/ SCB-II 14.9.2006	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS(UT:84)	4.1.2008/DoP & T.
16.	RC-12(S)/2006/ SCB-II 14.9.2006	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS(UT:84)	18.12.2007/DoP & T.
17.	RC-13(S)/2006/ SCB-II 14.6.2006	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS(UT:84)	20.12.2007/DoP & T.
18.	RC-4(E)/2006-BS&F Delhi 9.9.2006	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS(UT:84)	12.8.2008/DoP & T.
19.	RC-7/S/2006-SIU-I 7/8/2006	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS(AGMUT:84)	26.3.2008/DoP & T.
20.	RC-15/S/2006-SIU 26/10/2006	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS(AGMUT:84)	27.3.2008/DoP & T.
21.	RC-16/S/2006- SIU-I 26/10/2005	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS (AGMUT:84)	31/10/2008/DoP & T.
22.	RC-7/A/06-SCU-V 26/9/2009	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS (AGMUT:84)	31/1/2009/DoP & T.
23.	RC-7/A/2006- SCU-V 30/9/2006	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS (AGMUT:84)	31/12/2007/DoP & T.
24.	RC-17/A/2006- SCU-V 4/10/2006	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS (AGMUT:84)	28/4/2008/DoP & T.

1	2	3	4
25	RC18/A/2006- SCU-V 5/10/2006	Shri Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, IAS (AGMUT:84)	22.4.2008/DoP & T.

Special Delivery Monitoring Unit

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

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister has kicked off a Special Delivery Monitoring Unit to ensure time-bound implementation of Government's programme;

(b) if so, whether this Unit has received its first update on schemes and agenda identified for monitoring by September 15, 2009;

(c) if so, whether implementing Ministries were asked to file quarterly reports;

(d) whether this monitoring unit will keep tabs on 18 key programmes across Ministries ranging from social sector and infrastructure to security; and

(e) if so, the latest position and the steps that have been taken to implement those schemes which have not so far been fully implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Delivery Monitoring Unit (DMU) has been set up in the Prime Minister's Office to review a select number of flagship programmes/initiatives/iconic projects. The first set of DMU reports in respect of the following 12 out of a total of 18 identified programmes/initiatives/projects have been furnished by the respective Ministries and placed on their websites in October, 2009:—

- (1) National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
- (2) National Rural Health Mission
- (3) Sarva Siksha Abhiyan
- (4) Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission
- (5) Multi-sectorial District Plans for Minority Concentration Districts
- (6) Reconstruction Plan for Jammu and Kashmir
- (7) Infrastructure Development in the North East Region
- (8) Development of Land Ports
- (9) Assam Gas Cracker Project
- (10) Bharat Nirman
- (11) Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor
- (12) National Mission of Female Literacy

The nodal Ministries for these 12 programmes/initiatives/projects have been requested to publish DMU reports on the website on a quarterly basis; while reporting in respect of the remaining six programmes/initiatives/projects will be commenced once the contours of these are concretized.

(d) and (e) The function of the DMU is to act as a mechanism for oversight to improve monitoring, delivery of output and transparency for ensuring effective delivery of select programmes. However, the primary responsibility for implementation, appropriate monitoring and follow up action remains that of the Ministry/States concerned. Accordingly, the latest position on identified programmes and the steps taken for the implementation would be available with the Ministries concerned.

Population under poverty

825. SHRI N.K. SINGH:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had information of exact percentage of population under poverty at present;

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

(c) whether the various committee's constituted by Government has submitted their various figures on population under poverty; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and further steps taken by Government to bring population under poverty above the poverty line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) and (b) The Planning Commission estimates the number and proportion of persons living below the poverty line at the National and State level from a large sample survey on household consumer expenditure carried out by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. The latest poverty estimates have been released for the 2004-05, according to which, 30.17 crore persons *i.e.* 27.5 per cent of the total population were living below the poverty line. The national Poverty line at 2004-05 prices is Rs. 356.60 per capita per month in the rural areas and Rs. 538.60 per capita per month in urban areas.

(c) The Planning Commission is the only Nodal agency in the Government of India which estimates the poverty in the country. The methodology for estimation of poverty is reviewed from time to time. Planning Commission has constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar to look at the methodology related issues including alternative conceptualization of poverty and to recommend any changes in the existing procedures of official estimates of poverty.

(d) The poverty alleviation has been one of the guiding principles of Planned Development. Besides aiming at accelerated economic growth rate, the government has also

followed the strategy of direct intervention. A number of anti-poverty programmes are being implemented. Some of the major schemes and programmes in this regard are: National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) of the Ministry of Rural Development, which guarantees at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every rural household, Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) provides self employment to the rural poor who are organized into Self Help Groups (SGHs) and are provided income generating assets through a mix of bank credit and subsidy. Under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) the shelterless rural BPL households are provided financial assistance for construction of houses. National Social Assurance programme (NSAP) provides social security in the form of IGNOAPS (Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme), pension scheme for widows and disabled etc., Aam Admi Bima Yojana and a Health Insurance Scheme for the unorganized sector workers are the other measures taken by the government to alleviate poverty. Similarly the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation is implementing Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) which aims to encourage urban self-employment through subsidy and loan with a component of skill development training, Rajiv Awas Yojana aims to make the country slum-free. The Ministry of Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution is implementing Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), which provides foodgrains at subsidized rates to the poor, the Antodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) provides foodgrains to the poorest of the poor families at a highly subsidized rates.

Method adopted for poverty assessment

†826. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many of the State Governments have disagreed to the method adopted by the Centre to assess the level of poverty;
- (b) whether the Planning Commission has itself set the parameters to assess the level of poverty;
- (c) whether the existing parameters have become outdated;
- (d) whether State Governments would be taken into confidence while setting new parameters; and
- (e) whether the global scenario would also be kept into consideration while setting these new parameters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission has been estimating the level of poverty in the country using the methodology suggested by the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor, since 1997. On an average, consumer expenditure of Rs. 49.9 per capita per month is associated with a calorie intake of 2400 per day in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 per capita per month with a calorie intake

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of 2100 per day in urban areas at 1973-74 prices. The poverty line has been updated for the subsequent years using the Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labourers (CPIAL) for rural areas and Consumer Price Index for Urban Poverty line. The latest poverty estimates using the above methodology have been released for the year 2004-05. The State Governments have not disagreed with the methodology of estimation of poverty as such, however, some State Governments have been requesting to allow them to have more number of households in the BPL list.

(c) to (e) The methodology for estimation of poverty is reviewed from time to time. Planning Commission has constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar to look at the methodology related issues including alternative conceptualization of poverty and to recommend any changes in the existing procedures of official estimates of poverty.

Saxena Committee Report

†827. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Saxena Committee appointed by the Ministers of Rural Development has suggested that a comprehensive reform is necessary in the procedure adopted by the Planning Commission for assessing the number of the poor in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is always a difference found between the assessment made by the Planning Commission and the assessment of the survey conducted by the Ministry of Rural Development; and

(d) if so, the details of this difference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) and (b) Ministry of Rural Development appointed an Expert Group (headed by Dr. N.C. Saxena) to advise the Ministry on the methodology for conducting the BPL Census for the Eleventh Five Year Plan in order to identify the BPL households living in the rural areas who could be assisted under its various poverty alleviation programmes. The matter of fixing percentage and number of people below poverty line is beyond the terms of reference of this Expert Group, which is handled by a separate Expert Group (headed by Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar) constituted by Planning Commission. The Expert Group (headed by Dr. N.C. Saxena) have, however, expressed their views in Para 2.3 of the Report that the percentage of people entitled to BPL status should be drastically revised upwards to at least 50%.

(c) and (d) Estimation of poverty is done by the Planning Commission at the national and state level from the large sample survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. The number of person living below the poverty line at the national level and state level is thus determined by the Planning Commission. The identification of the poor is, however, done by the Ministry of Rural Development through door-to-door survey with hundred per cent coverage. While the estimation of poverty helps in assessing the magnitude of poverty, identification of the specific households living Below Poverty Line is necessary for targeting them under various poverty alleviation programmes. The guidelines issued by the Ministry of Rural Development for conducting the BPL Census 2002 stipulated that the States/UTs may identify the number of BPL households in the rural areas which should be equal to the poverty estimates of 1999-2000 or the adjusted share worked out by the Planning Commission, whichever is higher. In addition to above, another 10% flexibility was given to the States and UTs to account for the transient poor.

Prime Minister Reconstruction Package

†828. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Jammu Kashmir has been a failure in utilizing Prime Minister Reconstruction Package worth Rs. 24000 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) reaction of Government to this indifference of the Jammu and Kashmir Government; and

(d) whether Government is contemplating a new scheme for implementation of such schemes in Jammu and Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Financial assistance for infrastructure projects

829. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has requested for financial assistance for infrastructure projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the assistance released, so far, and;

(c) if not, by when such assistance would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) There is no request from Government of Maharashtra for financial assistance for infrastructure projects in the State

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Funds demanded by Uttar Pradesh

†830. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is working with Uttar Pradesh with a feeling of retaliation;

(b) if not, the reasons for not providing funds demanded by Uttar Pradesh for its developmental projects; and

(c) the amount demanded so far by Government of Uttar Pradesh for developmental schemes alongwith the project-wise amount given by Government, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The size of Annual Plan 2009-10 of the Uttar Pradesh was approved at Rs. 39,000 crore as proposed by the State Government. This plan size is 11.42% higher than the approved outlay of Annual Plan 2008-09 of Rs. 35,000 crore. The Sector wise break up of outlay for Annual Plan 2009-10 of Uttar Pradesh is as under:—

Sl. No.	Heads of Development	Annual Plan 2009-10
1.	Agriculture and Allied Activities	2671.72
2.	Rural Development	2591.33
3.	Special Area Programmes	1007.93
4.	Irrigation and Flood Control	3214.57
5.	Energy	5628.91
6.	Industry and Minerals	3414.29
7.	Transport	4435.33
8.	Science and Technology	28.39
9.	General Economic Services	840.46
10.	Social Services	14930.05
11.	General Services	237.02
GRAND TOTAL		39000.00

Centrally sponsored schemes

831. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether it is a fact that only 60 per cent of money in centrally sponsored schemes reached the target groups;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is a fact that there is no proper monitoring agency for the works either in the Central or the State Governments; and
- (d) if so, the comments of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):
 (a) to (d) No, Sir. State-wise release of funds under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), as well as monitoring of their utilization by each State, is undertaken by the respective Central Government Ministry/Departments implementing the CSS. The modalities for implementation of such schemes are clearly outlined by the Ministries/Departments of the Central Government in the guidelines of each Scheme. The Administrative Ministry/Department concerned of Central Government and the State Governments have to ensure proper use of funds given to States. The States also provide Utilization Certificates from time to time and other reports, as may be prescribed based on which further release of funds is made. The Comptroller and Auditor General has the constitutional responsibility to audit the utilization of funds and report any misuse/diversion to the Parliament/State Legislatures.

Academic institutions in Uttarakhand

832. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) how many academic institutions in Uttarakhand have been supported through the programmes of Fund for Improvement of Science and Technology Infrastructure, during 2007-08 and 2008-09, so far; and
- (b) the amount released to these institutions during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Two academic institutions (Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee and Kumaun University, Nainital) during 2007-08 and three academic Institutions (Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee; H.N.B. Garhwal University, Srinagar (Garhwal); and Shri Guru Ram Rai PG College, Dehradun) during 2008-09 were supported in Uttarakhand through the programmes of Fund for Improvement of Science and Technology Infrastructure.

- (b) An amount of Rs. 723.6 Lakhs and Rs. 481.1 Lakhs were supported during 2007-08 and in 2008-09 respectively, to the above institutions.

Removal of sand from river in Tamil Nadu

833. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the indiscriminate removal of sand in abundance from rivers in Tamil Nadu with the consent and connivance of authorities by the ruling party men

and earning lot of ill-gotten money besides leading to hampering the sub-soil water table and permanent damage to underground water potential; and

(b) if so, the measures that are taken to protect the natural resource and the interest of public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Indiscriminate removal of sand from rivers is not being done in Tamil Nadu. The Government of Tamil Nadu is providing sand to the people for the purpose of construction activities through a single point department that is Public Works Department (PWD), with effect from 02.10.2003 to control indiscriminate sand quarrying by private agencies. The sand quarrying operations are done by the PWD, with the prior approval of the District Collectors after considering all the related issues to protect natural resources and to protect the interest of public. Sand quarrying is done from rivers at very shallow depths (less than 1m) without affecting the river flow and regime and ensuring environmental protection carefully. In effect, sand movement through littoral drift is only quarried and subsoil water table and the ground water potential are in no way affected.

Implementation of Senior Citizen Act, 2007

834. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the latest status of implementation of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizen Act, 2007;

(b) whether the Act has been implemented by all the States/UTs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (c) The Act has so far been brought into force by 21 states and all the 7 UTs. A statement giving details of steps taken by the states for its effective implementation is enclosed.

Statement

Steps taken by States for Implementation of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act-2007

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Date of Notification of Act	Appointed date of enforcement of act in State/UT	Date of Notification of Rules	Date of Notification of Maintenance Officer	Date of Notification of Maintenance Tribunal	Date of Notification of Appellate Tribunal
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22.04.08	28.04.08				

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2. Arunachal Pradesh	08.08.08	06.08.08					
3. Assam	04.10.08	04.10.08				02.08.08	
4. Bihar			Not yet notified				
5. Chhattisgarh	26.09.08	26.09.08			24.01.09	24.01.09	24.01.09
6. Goa	23.09.08	01.10.08					
7. Gujarat	07.10.08	07.10.08	19.05.09	19.05.09	19.05.09	19.05.09	
8. Haryana	22.10.08	22.10.08	19.06.09				
9. Himachal Pradesh		The State has its own Act					
10. Jammu and Kashmir		<i>The Act does not extend to the State of Jammu and Kashmir</i>					
11. Jharkhand	12.04.08	01.04.08			14.02.09	14.02.09	14.02.09
12. Karnataka	27.03.08	01.04.08				19.02.09	19.02.09
13. Kerala	24.09.08	24.09.08	28.08.09	17.08.09	17.08.09	17.08.09	
14. Madhya Pradesh	23.08.08	23.08.08	02.07.09	02.07.09	02.07.09	02.07.09	
15. Maharashtra	27.02.09	01.03.09					
16. Manipur			Not yet notified				
17. Meghalaya			Not yet notified				
18. Mizoram	29.12.08	01.01.09					
19. Nagaland	22.04.08	22.04.08					
20. Orissa	20.09.08	01.10.08	24.09.09	01.10.09			01.10.09
21. Punjab	15.07.08	15.07.08			27.08.08	27.08.08	27.08.08
22. Rajasthan	31.07.08	01.08.08			19.09.08	19.09.08	19.09.08
23. Sikkim			Not yet notified				
24. Tamil Nadu	29.09.08	29.09.08					
25. Tripura	14.08.08	15.08.08	22.08.08	15.12.08	15.08.08	15.08.08	
26. Uttar Pradesh			Not yet notified				
27. Uttarakhand	11.11.08	01.11.08					
28. West Bengal	05.12.08	05.12.08	12.01.09	20.01.09	20.01.09	20.01.09	
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	21.05.08	21.05.08					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
30.	Chandigarh	21.10.08	22.10.08			22.12.08	22.12.08
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	17.09.08	17.09.08				
32.	Daman and Diu	17.09.08	17.09.08				
33.	Delhi	08.09.08	01.09.08	30.06.09	01.10.09	01.10.09	
34.	Lakshadweep	25.10.08	22.09.08				
35.	Puducherry	31.10.08	01.11.08				

Misuse of law for protection of SCs and STs

†835. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of misuse of law related to punishment on use of abusive language against the people of SC and ST community by some people for their self-interest or with malafide intention have come to the notice of Government;

(b) whether Government will consider to make this law more practical and justified so that nobody could misuse such laws made with an intention to provide social justice;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) Incidence of false cases under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 was indicated by some agencies.

(b) to (c) The objective of the said Act is to prevent the commission of offences of atrocities against members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. However, for dealing with specific false cases, relevant Sections of the IPC can be invoked by the concerned agencies.

Survey on population of backward classes

†836. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per a recent Government's survey, the population of backward classes in the country has been estimated 38.5 per cent at national level;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this population is lesser than the population estimated by the Mandal Commission; and
- (d) if so, the reasons for decrease in the population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

District Disability Rehabilitation Centres in Andhra Pradesh

837. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of District Disability Rehabilitation Centres in the State of Andhra Pradesh (A.P.);
- (b) the details of schemes that are being implemented in Andhra Pradesh under Persons with Disabilities Act, Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme, Assistance for Disabled Persons for purchase of Aids and Appliances, etc. during the last five years, year-wise and scheme-wise; and
- (c) the number of beneficiaries of the above schemes in the last five years, year-wise and scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) There are four District Disability Rehabilitation Centres in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) During the last five years, the following Central Schemes of the Ministry for the welfare of persons with disabilities are being implemented in different States including the States of Andhra Pradesh:—

- (i) Under the Scheme for implementation of Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, funds are released for providing rehabilitation services, creation of barrier-free environment in public buildings etc.
- (ii) Under the Assistance to persons with disabilities for purchase/fitting of Aids and Appliances Scheme, assistance is provided to the needy disabled persons in procuring and fitment of aids and appliances for their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation. During the year 2007-08 and 2008-09, when State specific notional allocation had been made under the scheme, Rs. 15.29 crores and Rs. 13.37 crores had been released for the State of Andhra Pradesh.

- (iii) Under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), funds for the welfare of persons with disabilities are provided to the non-governmental organizations for projects like Special Schools, Vocational Training Centres, Half Way Homes, Community Based Rehabilitation Centre, Early intervention Centres, Rehabilitation of Leprosy Cured Persons etc. Under this scheme, in 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09, Rs. 7.00 cores, 15.11 crores, 15.00 crores, 18.08 crores and Rs. 13.18 crores respectively had been released for the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (iv) Under the new scheme of Incentive to the Employers in Private Sector for providing employment to persons with disabilities, effective from 01.04.2008, the employers contribution for Employee's Provident Fund (EPF) and the Employee's State Insurance (ESI) for providing employment to the physically challenged persons in the private sector with a monthly salary upto Rs. 25,000/- is provided for 3 years, by the Government.
- (c) During the year 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09, the number of beneficiaries covered in the State were 21411, 13305, 12303, 34103 and 37484 respectively.

**Artificial Limbs Equipment Supply Scheme in
Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh**

†838. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the allocation fixed for the year 2008-09 for Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh under the Artificial Limbs Equipment Supply Scheme;
- (b) amount of proposal received from respective States against the fixed allocation;
and
- (c) the number of voluntary organizations of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh alongwith quantum of amount sanctioned to them under this scheme by Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (c) No Scheme with the nomenclature of Artificial Limbs Equipment Supply Scheme is being implemented. However, under the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP Scheme), proposals for Rs. 187.88 lakhs were received and Rs. 22.25 lakhs were sanctioned in Madhya Pradesh to three NGOs. In respect of Chhattisgarh, proposals for Rs. 178.25 lakhs were received and Rs. 16.50 lakhs were sanctioned to three DDRCs.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs

839. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the recent Supreme Court ruling that the migrated SCs, STs, and OBCs cannot claim benefits of reservation unless their State of domicile recognize their status as reserved community;

(b) if so, whether this would result in denial of large sections of reserved communities the benefits of reservation;

(c) if so, whether the Government contemplate bringing in legislation to recognized the migrant reserved communities in their state of domicile too; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (d) The Supreme Court, in Civil Appeal No. 5092 of 2009 (Subhash Chandra and Anr. Vs. Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board and Ors.) and W.P. (C) No. 507 of 2006 (Sarv Rural and Urban Welfare Society Vs. Union of India), has given their judgment, dated 04.08.2009. The Apex Court has held that in accordance with provisions of Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution of India, specification of community as a Scheduled Caste and a Scheduled Tribe, respectively, is in regard to a State/Union Territory.

As such, for such communities, which are included in the various Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Orders and Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Orders, as amended from time to time, in relation to a specific State/Union Territory, there would be no denial of benefits as admissible to them in the State/Union Territory of their origin.

Scheme for giving incentive to physically challenged persons

840. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for giving incentive for providing employment to physically challenged persons has not taken off;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken to attract the employers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) and (b) The Scheme of Incentives to the Private Sector for Employment of Physically Challenged Persons has already been launched, *w.e.f.* 01.04.2008. Under this Scheme, the Government of India provides the employer's contribution for Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees State Insurance (ESI) for 3 years, for physically challenged employees employed in the private sector on or after 01.04.2008, with a monthly salary upto Rs. 25,000/-. Under the scheme 144 persons have been covered by Employees Provident Fund Organisation and 261 persons have been covered by Employees State Insurance Corporation till 30.09.2009.

(c) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment circulated the Scheme on 26th February, 2008, to the Ministries/ Departments of Government of India, all States/ UTs, Chambers of Commerce and Industry and NGOs working in the Disability Sector:—

- Ministry of Labour and Employment issued necessary notification under the EPFO and ESI Act on 31.3.2008. EPFO and ESIC issued detailed guidelines about the scheme to their respective offices in May, 2008.
- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has sanctioned advance amount of Rs. 1 crore and 50 lakh to EPFO and ESIC, respectively to enable them to pay employers' contribution as soon as valid claims are received.
- Advertisements about the scheme have been published in newspapers at regular intervals.

Ministries of Social Justice and Empowerment and Labour and Employment, the Employees Provident Fund Organization and the Employees State Insurance Corporation have prominently publicized the scheme on their websites:—

- All State Governments have been requested to publicise the scheme and to have its progress monitored regularly.
- Chairmen and Chief Executives of FICCI, CII, NASSCOM, ASSOCHAM and PHDCCI have been requested to give wide publicity of the Scheme, and to encourage their members to avail of the Scheme by appointing persons with disabilities.
- FICCI organized a National Conference on engaging industry in employment of persons with disabilities on the 17th October, 2008.
- Twenty past recipients of National Award for Best Employers of persons with disabilities were individually requested in September 2008 to employ more persons with disabilities and publicize the Scheme.
- State Welfare Secretaries in the annual Conference held were requested to ensure intensive implementation of the scheme in their respective States/UTs.
- The High Level Monitoring Committee constituted for implementation of the scheme has held four meetings so far, to, *inter-alia*, chalk out steps necessary to intensify implementation of the scheme.

District Level Telephone Advisory Committee

841. SHRI P. RAJEEV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the District Level Telephone Advisory Committee has been reconstituted in Kerala; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Yes, Sir. All the District Level Telephone

Advisory Committees (TACs) in Kerala have been constituted for a period of two years (from 01.10.2009 to 30.09.2011).

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

Reservation for OBCs in the respective State Government Services

842. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the States where there is no reservation for OBC in the respective State Government Services;
- (b) the reasons for not having OBC reservation in those States;
- (c) whether the States have sought for any assistance from the Central Government to overcome the problems blocking the scope of introducing reservation for OBC in the State level services; and
- (d) the role of the Central Government in respect of the above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (d) State Governments have the authority to decide the extent of reservation for OBCs in respective State Government services. Central Government has no role to play in this regard.

Grants-in-Aid to NGO's and VO's in Andhra Pradesh

843. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount of grants-in-aid released to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Voluntary Organisations (VOs) in Andhra Pradesh under various programmes/schemes for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Physically challenged persons during the last three years;
- (b) whether any study has since been conducted by the Government to check the proper utilization of grants by these NGOs/VOs for the schemes meant for SCs/STs/OBCs and Physically challenged in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) The total amount of grants-in-aid released by this Ministry and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, to the Non-Governmental Organisations in Andhra Pradesh under various programmes for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Physically challenged persons during the last three years is given at Annexure.

(b) and (c) No such study has been conducted in Andhra Pradesh. The Ministry monitors the performance of Non-Governmental Organisations through utilization certificates received from them and periodical inspections by senior officers of this Ministry.

Statement

“Grants-in-Aid to NGOs and VOs in Andhra Pradesh”

Total amount of grants-in-aid released to the Non-Governmental Organisations in Andhra Pradesh under various programmes for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Physically challenged person during the last three years (2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09).

(Rs. in lakhs)

Schemes implemented by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Sl. No.	Name of the Schemes	Amount released
1.	Free Coaching for SCs and OBCs	91.33
2.	Assistance of Voluntary Organisation for the welfare of Scheduled Castes	898.00
3.	Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP)	286.67
4.	Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme	4626.00

Schemes implemented by Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Sl. No.	Name of the Schemes	Amount released
1.	Strengthening Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts	3471.00
2.	Grants-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the Welfare of STs	61.00
3.	Coaching for Scheduled Tribes	62.00
4.	Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups	2219.00

Educational facilities for SC students

844. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of SC boys and girls studying in middle, higher secondary, colleges and universities, State-wise and category-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that sufficient hostel facilities for SC boys and girls are not available in the country studying in middle, higher secondary, colleges and universities;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Government of India provides financial assistance of only 50 per cent and the States have been demanding to change this ratio to 90:10 so as to construct more and more hostels for SC boys and girls; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to construct more hostels by Government and increase the matching grant to 90 per cent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) A Statement containing the details is enclosed (*See below*).

(b) to (d) State Governments send proposals for hostels keeping in view the local requirement of the area. The Government of India provides 100 % financial assistance for construction of hostels for SC girls and 50% financial assistance for SC boys in all States/Union Territories under the scheme of Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana. Hostels for SC students are sanctioned as and when proposals are received from State/Union Territories.

Statement

State-wise details of SC Boys and Girls studying in Middle, Higher Secondary, Colleges and Universities

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total-Class-VIII-XII			Higher Education		
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	389163	378891	768054	134395	67399	201794
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	138	82	220	10	3	13
3.	Assam	91722	74228	165950	8160	4083	12243
4.	Bihar	171448	83162	254610	54593	6079	60672
5.	Chhattisgarh	115016	81555	196571	18692	13102	31794
6.	Goa	623	598	1221	219	210	429
7.	Gujarat	136883	87134	224017	25836	15870	41706
8.	Haryana	148112	116894	265006	25181	11804	36985
9.	Himachal pradesh	66082	58548	124630	8047	6653	14700
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	25654	21357	47011	3931	3232	7163
11.	Jharkhand	55707	32621	88328	6471	2968	9439
12.	Karnataka	306279	253263	559542	80625	45893	126518
13.	Kerala	100285	105285	205570	16990	21249	38239
14.	Madhya Pradesh	439479	268004	707483	119689	89033	208722
15.	Maharashtra	524614	423075	947689	106152	72753	178905
16.	Manipur	2989	2569	5558	603	571	1174
17.	Meghalaya	1381	1237	2618	246	237	483

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18. Mizoram		177	164	341	1	1	2
19. Nagaland		0	0	0	153	116	269
20. Orissa		141457	107795	249252	23782	5329	29111
21. Punjab		185253	156542	341795	30861	18352	49213
22. Rajasthan		311660	145297	456957	48297	16560	64857
23. Sikkim		620	637	1257	217	174	391
24. Tamil Nadu		458594	453963	912557	117364	66130	183494
25. Tripura		19308	15979	35287	2579	1788	4367
26. Uttar Pradesh		949623	264976	1214599	246788	126367	373155
27. Uttarakhand		64480	44679	109159	11873	7502	19375
28. West Bengal		439831	333347	773178	72166	31174	103340
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		0	0	0	44	5	49
30. Chandigarh		2670	2402	5072	2030	1803	3833
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		205	152	357	0	0	0
32. Daman and Diu		315	281	596	20	26	46
33. Delhi		45719	47983	93702	16855	10911	27766
34. Lakshadweep		0	0	0	0	0	0
35. Puducherry		7713	7674	15387	2808	1959	4767
INDIA		5203200	3570374	8773574	1185678	649336	1835014

Evaluation studies on various projects/ schemes for social justice

845. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of evaluation studies on various schemes/projects aimed at providing social justice and empowerment to various sections of the society that have been implemented by Government during 2008-09 and 2009-10;

(b) to what extent such schemes are being proved effective for the disadvantaged section; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) and (c) Twelve evaluation studies on various schemes have been completed during the year 2008-09 and 2009-10. The name of the institution conducted the studies, schemes evaluated, states covered in the study and the summary of main findings of these Studies are given in the Statement.

Statement

Evaluation studies on various projects/schemes for social justice

Sl. No.	Name of Institution which conducted the Study	Name of the Scheme evaluated	States where evaluation done	Summary of main findings
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Noble Social and Educational Society, Tirupati.	Pre-matric Scholarships for those engaged in unclean occupations.	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The scheme had made much positive impact on enrolment, retention and drop out rates of children of the target groups. The attitude of the parents has changed towards the education of their children due to introduction of pre-matric scholarship scheme.
2.	Himalayan Region Study and Research Institute, Delhi		Bihar and Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority of the beneficiary students—were intended to join higher level of studies. The drop out rate is low among boys student beneficiaries than among girl student beneficiaries.
3.	Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow.	Pre-matric Scholarships for OBC students.	Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scholarships given at the pre-matric stage attracted the students and improved their enrollment and retention.
4.	Centre for Research, Planning and Action, New Delhi.		Gujarat, Bihar, Rajasthan and Tripura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority is given to Government schools in allocation grants depending on availability of fund Parents suggested for enhancement of amount of scholarship at least once in three years.

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati.		Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delay in obtaining the OBC certificates and non-submission of income proof by the students are the major problems being faced in implementing the scheme.
6	Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati.	Hostels for OBC Boys and Girls	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The boarders of BC hostels are being provided free boarding and lodging to pursue their education. The hostels sanctioned for construction have modern facilities for which a new type of design was sanctioned in Tamil Nadu. Financial assistance may be notified well in advance every year <i>i.e.</i> in the beginning of the financial year so that the State Government can implement the schemes as desired by the Government of India.
7.	Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development, Guwahati.	Voluntary Organisations Working for the Welfare of Other Backward Classes	Assam Manipur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students from formal educational system are getting attracted for skilled development training. Skill acquisition, employability and better job options, generating livelihood through self-initiative were some of the main reasons for taking up skill development programmes by the beneficiaries.
8.	Department of Social Work, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.		Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A good number of students and house wives got themselves absorbed in tailoring and embroidery related jobs.

1	2	3	4	5
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were positive impacts from the skill development trainees. • The rate of stipend is big attraction which is given most of times annually.
9. Midstream Marketing Research Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.	Integrated Programme for Older Persons	Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main criteria for selection of inmates (<i>i.e.</i> aged) is based on social isolation and poor economic status of aged persons. • On an average, 25 aged persons are enrolled in the old age homes and 50 aged persons are enrolled in the day care centers as per norms of the Scheme. • Main reasons for joining old age homes are poverty, carelessness of children, abandoned by the family members. • Most of the inmates in the old age homes and day care centers have expressed satisfaction over the services provided. • The beneficiaries have received consultancy and medicines from the mobile medicare units.
10. Department of Criminology University of Madras Chennai	Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Subsistence (Drugs) Abuse	Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majority of the de-addiction centers were located in rental buildings. • Majority of the centers have adequate facility to treat alcohol and opium addicted patients.

1	2	3	4	5
11.	The Organisation for Applied Socio-Economic Systems (OASES), New Delhi.		Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority of the drug addicts came into contact with addiction through friends in a group. Most of the addicts face problems like stress, anxiety, poor appetite, mal nutrition, impaired memory, poor concentration, financial hardships, etc.
12.	Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development, Guwahati.	Deen Dayal Upadhyay Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme	North Eastern States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skill acquisition, job opportunities, livelihood and security were some of the reasons for enrolling in various programmes for rehabilitation. Most of the parents of MR/CP found special skill set up under DDRS very helpful for their children in need of special education. Most of the trainees in north-eastern India found it difficult to start their own self-employment as there were hardly any market linkages for the types of vocational skills developed. The Scheme has been valuable to bring ultimate disabled stake holders in touch with main stream to enhance their confidence.

Survey on Untouchability by National Law School, Bangaluru

846. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the harsh reality that untouchability still persists in villages and it seems to be rampant in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and West Bengal as per a survey conducted by the National Law School, Bangaluru;

(b) whether it is a fact that Dalits are not allowed to enter temples and fetch water from the public water wells and tanks; and

(c) if so, the steps that are being taken to attain zero-untouchability situation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (c) The National Law School, in their sample study report, 2008, on 'Evaluation of the Protection of Civil Rights Acts, 1955 and its impact on the eradication of untouchability; conducted in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and West Bengal, had studied various facets of untouchability.

Article 17 of the Constitution of India has abolished practice of untouchability; its practice in any form is forbidden and is an offence punishable in accordance with law. An Act of Parliament, namely, the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, prescribes punishment for the enforcement of any disability arising from preaching and practice of untouchability.

The said Act is implemented by the concerned State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. With a view to ensure effective implementation of provisions of the Act central assistance is provided to States/Union Territories, which includes strengthening of the enforcement machinery, incentive for inter caste marriages and awareness generation. They are requested to implement provisions of the Act in letter and spirit. Reviews meetings are also held with State Governments from time to time.

Thorium Oxide from Monazite

847. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY:
SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of Thorium Oxide that can be obtained from Monazite; and

(b) the time schedule for generating nuclear power from the Thorium Oxide (ThO₂)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Monazite available in India contains about 9% Thorium Oxide.

(b) While in technological terms we are ready with the design of Advanced Heavy Water Reactor which would produce around two third of its energy from Thorium, large scale deployment of Thorium for power generation will be mainly in the third stage. This can start once large generation capacity based on fast reactors has been set up in the second stage of our nuclear power programme.

Contracts signed by ISRO

848. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of contracts that ISRO signed during the last five years, including the recent contract with Aerion Space;

(b) whether it is a fact that in 2010 ISRO is going to launch satellites of France, Algeria, Germany, Canada, Indonesia, etc.;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) what would be the income that ISRO is going to generate through the above agreements and in what manner it is planning to generate revenue through such commercial dealings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The details of contracts that ISRO signed during the last five years, including the recent contract with Ariane Space:—

Date of Contract	Agencies	Purpose	Status
22nd August, 2007	Arianespace	Launch of INSAT-4G	Launch Scheduled for 2010

The details of contracts signed by ISRO through its commercial arm ANTRIX, for launch of foreign satellites are furnished in the given Statement (See below).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In 2010, ISRO is going to launch the following satellites of foreign, countries with Piggyback along with our satellites using Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle:—

(i) ALSAT from Algeria weighing about 150 Kgs.

(ii) NLS-6 Nano satellite from Canada weighing about 25 Kgs.

(iii) AISAT from German Space Agency, Germany weighing about 10 Kgs.

(iv) X-Sat from Nanyang Technological University of Singapore weighing about 110 Kgs

(v) PORTIERES Nano satellite from Japan weighing about 10 Kgs.

(d) The income that ISRO is going to generate through the above agreements made by its commercial arm, Antrix Corporation Limited is about 6 MILLION US Dollars. In future, it is

planned to generate revenues through such commercial dealings including dedicated launches that can be spared from PSLV or GSLV after meeting the national needs.

Statement

Satellites of other space agencies launched by ISRO/ANTRIX, India on PSLV

Date of Contract Signed	Agency with which contract Signed	Country of Satellite ownership	Name of the Satellite	Status
1	2	3	4	5
January, 2004	Cosmos International Satellitenstart GmbH	Italy	AGILE	Successfully Launched
September, 2004	Aerospace Electric Tech	Indonesia	LAPAN-TUBSAT	Successfully Launched
August, 2005	Israel Aircraft Industry	ISRAEL	TECSAR	Successfully Launched
February, 2006	Argentina association for space Tech	Argentina	PEHUENSAT-1	Successfully Launched
August, 2006	University of Toronto	Canada	NLS-4 (Cluster of 6 Nano Satellites)	Successfully Launched
August, 2007	ISIS Innovative	Netherland	CUBSATS (Cluster of 4 Satellites)	Successfully Launched
September, 2007	University of Toronto	Canada	NLS-5	Successfully Launched
September, 2007	COSMOS International	Germany	Rubin-8	Successfully Launched
April, 2008	CARLO-GAUZZI Space (IMSAT)	ITALY	IMSAT	To be launched
September, 2008	Algerian Space Agency	Algeria	Alsat-2A	To be launched
October, 2008	OHB System AG	Germany	Rubin-9.1	Successfully Launched

1	2	3	4	5
December, 2008	Kalnin Space System Engineering	Germany	Rubin-9.2	Successfully Launched
December, 2008	University of Toronto	Canada	NLS-6	To be launched
March, 2009	Osaka Institute of Technology Japan	Japan	PROITERES	To be launched
April, 2009	Cosmos International Satellitenstart GmbH	Germany	EnMAP Satellite	To be launched
May, 2009	MDA	Canada	Sapphire	To be launched
June, 2009	University of Toronto	Canada	NLS-7	To be launched
August, 2009	National Inst. of Aeronautics and Space — Lapan	Indonesia	LAPAN-A2 and Lapan Orari	To be launched

Satellite launched by ISRO

849. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ISRO launched seven satellites, one Indian and six of foreign countries on 23rd September, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Indian satellites that are in the orbit and capable of transmitting movement of even tiny creatures on earth and underneath across borders; and

(d) if so, whether their services are available to security and intelligence agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India has successfully launched the Oceansat-2 satellite and six other small satellites of foreign countries by its PSLV-C14 flight on 23rd September, 2009.

(c) Generally the resolutions of the imaging cameras onboard the remote sensing satellites are not designed to detect tiny creatures on and underneath earth. As of now, the fine resolution of the Indian remote sensing satellites is 0.8 meters, which is at par with that of advanced remote sensing satellites of other nations.

(d) Services of Indian remote sensing satellites are enabled for all user agencies in India depending upon the requirements of their applications.

Tourism spots in Andhra Pradesh

850. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 42 projects have been sanctioned since 2004-05 in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the projects;

(c) the amount that has been sanctioned and released, project-wise and the progress of these projects;

(d) whether the Ministry has identified alternative tourism spots in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps Ministry is taking to promote the alternative tourism spots as tourist destinations?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (f) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations themselves. However, Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance for tourism projects, identified in consultation and interaction with them, subject to availability of funds and *inter-se* priority under various schemes of the Ministry.

A list of projects sanctioned to the Government of Andhra Pradesh from the, year 2004-05 till 2009-10 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Execution and maintenance of projects sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism, is the responsibility of the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration. However, the Ministry of Tourism monitors physical and financial progress of the sanctioned projects through site visits and review meetings from time to time.

Statement

*List of projects sanctioned for the development of tourism in Andhra Pradesh
from 2004-05 to 2009-10 (Till 31.10.2009)*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3
2004-05		
1.	Development of Bhadrachalam as Tourist Destination, Khammam	434.50

1	2	3
2.	Celebration of Kuchipudi Festival	3.92
3.	Celebration of Lumbini Festival	5.00
4.	Introduction of Southern India Tourist Train in Andhra Pradesh, LRG Project, Feasibility Report	15.00
5.	Sea Cruise between Visakhapatnam Port Blair-Chennai under large Revenue Generating—Preparation of Feasibility Report	15.00
6.	Taramati Baradari Cultural Complex in Andhra Pradesh under LRG preparation of Feasibility Report	5.00
7.	Development of Village Shrikalahasti, District Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh under Rural Tourism	69.80
8.	Integrated Development of Kurnool Tourism Circuit	800.00
9.	Integrated Development of Tourism Circuit, Hyderabad-Nalgonda-Khammam	797.47
10.	Destination Development of Bhavani Island, Krishna District, Vijayawada	500.00
11.	Setting of Taramati Baradari Cultural Complex	62.50
12.	Development of Puttaparthi, Ananthpur District as a Rural Tourism destination	49.50
13.	Development of Chinchinada, East Godavari District as a Rural Tourism destination	50.00
2005-06		
14.	Destination Development of Singur Dam, Andhra Pradesh	433.96
15.	Destination Development of Night Bazaar, Shilparamam, Hyderabad	500.00
16.	Integrated Development of Lower Krishna Valley Buddhist Circuit	800.00
17.	Integrated Development of Araku-Vizag Tourism Circuit	771.86
18.	Development of Eco-Commerce Portal for IT Scheme	75.00
19.	Celebration of Hyderabad Carnival and Kalinga festival	20.00
20.	Celebration of Konaseema Festival in East Godavari	15.00
2006-07		
21.	CFA for development of Laknavaram Lake as Eco Tourism destination in Warangal District	468.63
22.	Integrated development of Beach Circuit	571.93

1	2	3
23.	Development of Golconda-Qutub Shahi Tomb-Hakimpet-Shaikpet Sarai-K.B. Museum-Premavathi Mosque	500.00
	2007-08	
24	Development of Kolleru Lake in West Godavari District	447.61
25	Development of Horsley Hills in Chittoor District	253.91
26	Destination development of Anantharam village, Mahabubabad Mandal, Warangal District	64.53
27	Development of Circuit on Rivers Godavari and Krishna	425.95
28	Development of Eco Tourism Centre at Pulicat Lake in B.V., Palem at Nellore District	167.37
29	Development of Charminar Area of Hyderabad	994.75
30	Development of Puligundu as a Adventure and Destination tourism in Chittoor District	216.68
31	Tourism Development at Padmakshi Temple, Hanumakonda, Warangal District	43.68
32	Celebration of Kadaposthavalu (Cultural Festival) 2007 in Kadapa District	15.00
	2008-09	
33	Development of Heritage Circuit at Tirupati as a Mega circuit in Andhra Pradesh	4652.49
34	Development of Heritage Tourist Circuit in Kadapa District as a Mega Circuit in Andhra Pradesh	3692.89
35	Development of Integrated Circuit in Chittoor District in Andhra Pradesh	284.41
36	Development of tourism infrastructure facilities at Kaligiri Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple, Kaligiri Hills Village, Puthalapattu Mandal in Chittoor District as a major destination in Andhra Pradesh	137.45
37	Destination Development of Chilaka Hill Tribal Retreat - Phakal Eco Tourism Zone and Landscape Park Kummarikunta Narsampet, Warangal District	312.22
38	Integrated Development of Vizianagaram Srikakulam Tourism Circuit, Andhra Pradesh	735.50
39	Destination Development of Eco Park at Nellore Tank, Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh	165.62
40.	Establishment of a State Institute of Hotel Management at Tirupati	1000.00

1	2	3
2009-10		
41.	Development of Jammulamma Reservoir at Jammiched Cheruvu, Mahabubnagar District as tourist destination	232.00
42.	Development of Village Etikoppaka District Vishakhapatnam	70.00
43.	Development of Village Dharmavaram, District Anantapur	70.00
44.	Setting up of IITM Centre at Nellore	1693.85

Proposals of Maharashtra pending with Government

851. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI:: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of proposals of Maharashtra Government pending with Ministry as on date; and

(b) the details of each such proposal indicating the latest status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations themselves. However, Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance for tourism projects, identified in consultation and interaction with them. Only one project proposal for development of Archaeological Theme Lighting at Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (VT Station) Mumbai for Rs. 7.95 crore has been received during 2009-10 from the Government of Maharashtra.

The project proposals which are, complete in all respects, are appraised as per scheme guidelines on the basis of inter-se-priority and funds are released, subject to availability under the respective head.

Ministry of Tourism during the 1st two years *i.e.* 2007-08 and 2008-09 of the 11th Five Year Plan have sanctioned projects worth Rs. 63.89 crore for integrated development of tourism in the State of Maharashtra.

New spots of tourist attraction in the country

852. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether new spots of tourist attraction in the country are under consideration; and

(b) if so, whether some areas in Kashmir would also be included for development?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Identification and development of tourist spots are primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance for tourism projects on the basis of proposals received from them subject to availability of funds and *inter-se* priority. During the current financial year 106 tourism projects for Rs. 398.33 crore have been sanctioned in the

country upto September, 2009. This includes 17 projects for Rs. 34.92 crore in Jammu and Kashmir.

Mega tourist centres in the country

†853. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to open seven mega tourist centres throughout the country to promote tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of States selected and the amount allocated so far for the purpose;

(d) whether such other schemes are also being run; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism has identified 29 destinations/circuits on the basis of footfalls and future potential in consultation with the concerned State Governments so far for development through mega projects. The details are at the given Statement (*See below*).

(d) and (e) The Ministry provides financial assistance to States/Union Territories for tourism projects on the basis of proposals received from them subject to availability of funds and *inter-se* priority. During the current financial year 106 projects including mega projects have been sanctioned in various States/Union Territories for Rs. 398.33 crore upto September, 2009.

Statement

Destinations/Circuits Identified for Mega projects so far

Sl. No.	State/UT	Destination/Circuit	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Tirupati Heritage Circuit	4652.49
		2. Kadapa Heritage Tourist Circuit	3692.89
		3. Charminar area	994.75
2.	Bihar	4. Bodhgaya-Rajgir-Nalanda	1922.42
3.	Chhattisgarh	5. Jagdalpur-Tirathgarh-Chitrakote-Barsur-Dantewada-Tirathgarh	1133.82
4.	Delhi	6. Illumination of Monuments	2375.09

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4
5.	Goa	7. Churches of Goa (Integrated Development of Infrastructure for heritage and Hinterland Tourism)	4309.91
6.	Gujarat	8. Dwarka-Nageshwar-Bet Dwarka	798.90
7.	Haryana	9. Panipat-Kurukshetra-Pinjore (Haryana)	3175.25
		10. Panchkula-Yamunanagar (Haryana) – Paonta Sahib (Himachal Pradesh)	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11. Eco and Adventure Circuit (Kullu-Katrain-Manali)	
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	12. Spiritual Destination of Leh-Ladakh	
10.	Karnataka	13. Hampi	3283.58
11.	Kerala	14. Muzuris Heritage and Culture Circuit (Trissur and Ernakulam Districts)	
12.	Madhya Pradesh	15. Spiritual and Wellness Destination of Chitrakoot	2401.98
13.	Maharashtra	16. Vidarbha Heritage Circuit	3738.19
		17. Aurangabad	
14.	Orissa	18. Bhubaneshwar- Puri -Chilka	3022.80
15.	Puducherry	19. Puducherry	
16.	Punjab	20. Amritsar	1585.53
17.	Rajasthan	21. Ajmer	1069.68
		22. Desert Circuit (Jodhpur-Bikaner-Jaisalmer)	
18.	Sikkim	23. Gangtok	2390.70
19.	Tamil Nadu	24. Mahabalipuram	1312.69
		25. Pilgrimage Circuit (Madurai-Rameshwaram-Kanyakumari) in Tamil Nadu	
20.	Uttarakhand	26. Haridwar-Rishikesh	4452.22
21.	Uttar Pradesh	27. Agra-Revitalization of Taj (Uttar Pradesh)	1525.00
		28. Varanasi	2202.30
22.	West Bengal	29. Ganga Heritage River Cruise Circuit	2042.35

Tragedy in Thekkadi in Kerala

854. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether an unprecedented tragedy occurred and hundreds of tourists lost their lives in Thekkadi, Kerala State in the recent past; and

(b) pending enquiry, the studies made and the advance measures conceived and the consequential action ensured to avert this kind of major mishaps in future in all the tourist spots?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The unfortunate boat accident happened at Thekkadi on 30.09.2009 in which 45 numbers of tourist lost their lives.

(b) State Government constituted a committee consisting of representatives of various Departments to conduct an emergency audit of the motorized boats operating in the public canals and other water bodies in Kerala. Moreover, Government of Kerala have strengthened security of tourists in all tourism centers.

Travel advisories issued by countries

855. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any country or countries have issued travel advisories to their citizens not to visit India or any specific part of the country;

(b) the names of the countries which have issued such advisories in the last three years;

(c) whether Government has responded to such advisories;

(d) whether the issue of such advisories which affects India's tourism have been taken up with any Heads of the Governments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (e) Travel advisories have been issued by various countries from time to time, advising their citizens to avoid travel or to take precautions while traveling to areas in the country which are temporarily disturbed. The Ministry of Tourism through its overseas offices and in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs and Indian missions abroad takes up the matter regarding lifting of travel advisories as and when issued by different countries to avoid any adverse impact on tourism to the country.

Sexual harassment of foreign tourists

†856. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn towards increasing incidents of sexual harassment of foreign tourists;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the number of foreign women tourists has steeply decline after such incidents; and

(d) if so, appropriate steps being taken by Government to attract more foreign tourists and to tackle with such serious problem?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) There have been reports in the media highlighting case of harassment and misbehavior with tourists in India. However, 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and as such, registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Government including sexual harassment of foreign tourists. However, in order to ensure safety and security of the tourists, Ministry of Tourism has advised all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to deploy Tourist Police in one form or the other.

(c) The foreign tourist arrivals to India witnessed an increase of 5.6 % in 2008 and 14.3% in the year 2007.

(d) To increase the number of FTAs Ministry of Tourism through its India Tourism offices overseas is undertaking a series of promotional activities like advertising, participation in travel fairs, exhibitions, road shows, India evenings, seminars and workshops, Indian food and cultural festivals, publication of brochures, inviting media personalities, tour operators and opinion makers to visit the country under the Hospitality Programme of the Ministry.

Cities covered under JNNURM

857. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY:
SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cities covered under JNNURM, State-wise;

(b) whether there is a constant demand for other big cities to be included under JNNURM; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) 65 cities have been covered under Urban Infrastructure and Governance (UIG) component of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Infrastructure Renewal Mission (JNNURM). Details are given in the Statement (*See below*). All other cities and towns are covered under Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) of JNNURM.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Request have been received for inclusion of various cities under UIG of JNNURM. The hundred days agenda of the Ministry refers to concerted effort to include cities

with population of 5 lakh and above under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM).

Statement

List of Cities included in JNNURM

Sl. No.	City/Urban Agglomeration	Name of the State
1	2	3
(a) Mega Cities		
1.	Delhi	Delhi
2.	Greater Mumbai	Maharashtra
3.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat
4.	Bangalore	Karnataka
5.	Chennai	Tamil Nadu
6.	Kolkata	West Bengal
7.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
(b) Million Plus Cities		
1.	Patna	Bihar
2.	Faridabad	Haryana
3.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
4.	Ludhiana	Punjab
5.	Jaipur	Rajasthan
6.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
7.	Madurai	Tamil Nadu
8.	Nashik	Maharashtra
9.	Pune	Maharashtra
10.	Cochin	Kerala
11.	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh
12.	Agra	Uttar Pradesh
13.	Amritsar	Punjab
14.	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
15.	Vadodara	Gujarat

1	2	3
16.	Surat	Gujarat
17.	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh
18.	Nagpur	Maharashtra
19.	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
20.	Meerut	Uttar Pradesh
21.	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh
22.	Jamshedpur	Jharkhand
23.	Asansol	West Bengal
24.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh
25.	Vijayawada	Andhra Pradesh
26.	Rajkot	Gujarat
27.	Dhanbad	Jharkhand
28.	Indore	Madhya Pradesh
(c) Identified cities/UAs with less than one million population		
1.	Guwahati	Assam
2.	Itanagar	Arunachal Pradesh
3.	Jammu	Jammu and Kashmir
4.	Raipur	Chhattisgarh
5.	Panaji	Goa
6.	Shimla	Himachal Pradesh
7.	Ranchi	Jharkhand
8.	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala
9.	Imphal	Manipur
10.	Shillong	Meghalaya
11.	Aizawal	Mizoram
12.	Kohima	Nagaland
13.	Bhubaneswar	Orissa
14.	Gangtok	Sikkim
15.	Agartala	Tripura
16.	Dehradun	Uttaranchal

1	2	3
17.	Bodh Gaya	Bihar
18.	Ujjain	Madhya Pradesh
19.	Puri	Orissa
20.	Ajmer-Pushkar	Rajasthan
21.	Nainital	Uttaranchal
22.	Mysore	Karnataka
23.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry
24.	Chandigarh	Punjab and Haryana
25.	Srinagar	Jammu and Kashmir
26.	Mathura	Uttar Pradesh
27.	Hardwar	Uttaranchal
28.	Nanded	Maharashtra
29.	Porbunder	Gujarat
30.	Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh

Diversion of road without affecting Khasra No. 874

858. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2597, Starred Question 305 and Starred Question 289 given in the Rajya Sabha on 6 September, 2009, 6 December, 2007 and 23 July, 2009 respectively and state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the actual ownership of Khasra No. 874 in Dindarpur village has been transferred through Registered Power of Attorney to several other persons;

(b) whether in view of the dispute over ownership of Khasra No. 874 Government proposes to divert the road in a manner that Khasra No. 874 is not affected subsequent to notification No. F.9(88)/2004/L&B/LA/176 dated 7.4.2006;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) to (d) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) has informed that the registration of Power of Attorney is governed by the Registration Act, 1908 which *inter alia*, provides that the registration of General Power of Attorney can be done in the office of Sub-Registrar in whose jurisdiction the property is situated or in the jurisdiction of Sub-Registrar where in the executors desire to register. The GNCTD has also informed that as per the record of

the Sub-Registrar on whose local jurisdiction the J-Khasra No. 874 is situated, the General Power of Attorney in respect of the said Khasra has not been found registered during the period 2005-09.

The GNCTD has further informed that as per the revenue records, Khasra No. 874 is Shamlat Deh and Shri Raje Ram, son of Shri Nyadar, resident of Dindarpur is the recorded Cultivator in "Jamabandi year 1990-91". GNCTD has further informed that no objection in respect of ownership of land over Khasra No. 874 is recorded in the revenue records and that a total of 2 bigha 7 biswa of this Khasra No. 874 of Village Dindarpur is proposed to be acquired on the 100 m road.

Mass Rapid Transport System for million plus cities

859. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to support Mass Rapid Transport Systems for all million plus cities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the assistance Government proposes to provide under the said scheme;
- (c) whether Government has received any proposals from various States in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (e) the status of the proposals received by the Union Government during 2009-10, so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The State-wise details in respect of Mass Rapid Transport Systems *i.e* Metro Rail Projects; and Bus Rapid Transport Projects and their present status are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II.

Statement-I

Status of Metro Rail Projects for million plus cities.

Sl. No.	State	Name of Project, Length in km, Cost in Rs. crore	Action taken by the Government/Present Status.
1	2	3	4
1.	Delhi	Delhi MRTS Phase II	Project have been sanctioned by Government of India and

1	2	3	4
		Length: 54.675 km Cost: Rs. 8605.36 crore (without central taxes)	work started. Shahdara — Dilshad Garden and Vishva Vidyalaya — Jahangir Puri sections have been commissioned on 30.6.2008 and 3.2.2009 respectively. Remaining portion is targeted for completion by 30.6.2010.
2.	Delhi/Haryana	Extension of Delhi Metro from Ambedkar Nagar in Delhi to Sushantlok (Gurgaon) Length: 14.47 km Cost: Rs. 1589 crore	The projects have been sanctioned by Government of India and is targeted for completion by 31.3.2010.
3.	Delhi/Uttar Pradesh	Extension of Delhi Metro from New Ashok Nagar in Delhi to NOIDA Sector-32 Length: 7.0 km Cost: Rs. 827 crore	The project have been sanctioned by Government of India and is commissioned on 12.11.2009.
4.	Delhi	High Speed Express Link from New Delhi Railway Station to IGI Airport Length: 19.2 km Cost: Rs. 3076 crore	The project has been sanctioned by Government of India and is targeted for completion by 30.10.2010.
5.	Delhi	Express link from IGI Airport to Dwarka Sector-21 Length: 3.50 km Cost: Rs. 793 crore.	The Project has been sanctioned by Government of India and is targeted for completion by 30.9.2010.
6.	Delhi	Metro Link from Dwarka Sector-9 to Dwarka Sector-21 Length: 2.76 km Cost: Rs. 356.11 crore	The Project has been sanctioned by Government of India and is targeted for completion by 30.9.2010.
7.	Haryana	Extension of Delhi Metro to Faridabad Length: 13.875 km Cost: Rs. 2028 crore	The proposal is presently premature for approval by Government of India. As such no commitment can be given regarding approval and implementation of project.

1	2	3	4
8.	Haryana	Extension of Delhi Metro to Bahadurgarh Length: 11.781 km Cost: Rs. 1432 crore	No firm proposal has been submitted by Government of Haryana so far. The proposal is presently premature for sanction by Government of India.
9.	Karnataka	Bangalore Metro Rail Project Length: 42.3 km Cost: Rs. 8158 crore	The Project has been sanctioned by the Government of India and is now targeted for completion by 30.9.2012.
10.	West Bengal	East-West Metro corridor, Kolkata Length: 14.67 km Cost: Rs. 4874.58 crore	The Project has been sanctioned by the Government of India and is targeted for completion by 31.01.2015.
11.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai Metro Rail Project Length: 46.5 km Cost: Rs. 14600 crore.	The Project has been sanctioned by the Government of India and is targeted for completion in 2014-15.
12.	Maharashtra	Versova-Andheri-Ghatkopar Line-I, Mumbai Length: 11.07 km Cost: Rs. 2356 crore	The project is being implemented by Government of Maharashtra on Public Private Partnership basis. Ministry of Finance, Government of India has released Viability Gap Funding support of Rs. 235.50 crore for the project as Additional Central Assistance (ACA) on 7.10.09. Project is targeted for completion in 2011-2012.
13.	Maharashtra	Charcop-Bandra-Mankhurd Line-2, Mumbai Length: 31.87 km Cost: Rs. 7660 crore	The project is to be implemented on Public Private Partnership mode. Government of India has approved in principle for giving 20% VGF as per project cost of Rs. 7660 crore under the Viability Gap Funding scheme of Ministry of Finance. As per bids received recently by State Government, Viability Gap Funding of Rs. 2298 crore has been asked.
14.	Kerala	Kochi Metro Rail project Length: 25.3 km	Proposal received from Government of Kerala on 12.09.2005. The final

1	2	3	4
		Cost: Rs. 2991.5 crore	Note for Cabinet has been sent to Cabinet Secretariat for consideration on 5.11.2009.
15.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad Metro Rail Project. Length: 71.16 km Cost: Rs. 9696 crore	Proposal received from State Government on 28.06.2005 for taking up project with Viability Gap Funding support from Government of India. The concession agreement for the project was awarded by Government of Andhra Pradesh in 2008 to a consortium led by M/s Nav Bharat where no Viability Gap Funding was envisaged. The State Government is reported to have cancelled this concession agreement and invited fresh bids.

Statement-II

Status of MRTS Project for States

Sl. No	State	City	Total length (in km.)	Total cost (Rs. in crore)	Admissible Central Assistance (ACA) (Rs. in crore)
1.	Maharashtra	Pune	101.77	1051.00	525.50
		Pimpri-Chinchwad	42.22	738.16	326.48
2.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore	11.45	98.45	49.22
		Bhopal	21.71	237.76	118.88
3.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	88.50	981.35	343.71
		Rajkot	29.00	110.00	55.00
		Surat	29.90	469.00	234.51
4.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	39.35	479.59	239.77
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijaywada	15.50	152.64	76.32
		Vizag	42.80	452.93	226.47
		TOTAL	422.20	4770.88	2195.86

Progress of Delhi Metro

860. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:
SHRI SABIR ALI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Metro lines presently operating in Delhi;
- (b) the details of the works in progress; and
- (c) the proposals for the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) Ltd. has reported the following details of Metro lines presently operating in Delhi:—

Corridor	Length (km.)	No. of Stations
Dilshad Garden-Shahdara-Rithala	25.09	21
Jahangirpuri-Vishwavidyalaya-Central Secretariat	17.36	14
Dwarka Sub-City — Indraprastha — New Ashok Nagar	40.17	35

(b) The details of the works in progress are as under:—

Corridor	Total length (km.)	No. of Stations	Physical progress as on 31.10.2009
Central Secretariat — Qutab Minar	12.53	10	71%
Yamuna Bank-Anand Vihar ISBT	6.17	05	92%
Inderlok/Kirtinagar-Mundka	18.46	16	82%
Dwarka Sector-9 to 21	2.76	1	70%
Qutab Minar-Delhi Border	7.42	4	81%
Central Secretariat-Badarpur	20.01	16	58%
New Delhi Railway Station-IGI Airport-Dwarka Sector-21	22.70	6	68%

(c) DMRC has reported the following proposals for the future. However, these may get changed during detailed studies by DMRC and consultations with stake holders:—

Corridor	Total length (km.)
1	2
Gazipur-Mayur Vihar Phase 1 Extension-Sarai Kale Khan — Nizamuddin Station — Moolchand — AIIMS-Bhikaji Cama Place — Dhaula Kuan	25

1	2
Mukundpur-Adarsh Nagar-Netaji Subhas Place-Shivaji Park	9
Sector 18, NOIDA-Kalkaji-Seikh Sarai-Malviya Nagar-Vasant Kunj-NH8	23
Ashok Park-Karol Bagh-Pahar Ganj-New Delhi Railway	7
Central Secretariat-Barakhamba Road-Delhi Gate-Kashmere Gate	7
Shiv Vihar-Yamuna Vihar-Seelampur-Yamuna Bank	11
Jahangirpuri-Badli	3

Detailed project report has not been completed so far for these proposals.

Clearances required for DMRC

861. SHRI SABIR ALI:
SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DMRC has been doing some of the works without obtaining necessary clearance from other concerned agencies such as NDMC, Heritage Conservation or Delhi Urban Arts Commission;

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

(c) the action being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Installation of statue of Mahatma Gandhi at India Gate

862. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the year 1994, Union Cabinet had decided to install a statue of Mahatma Gandhi in India Gate lawns, New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) and (b) The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 29.07.1992 decided to install a statue of Mahatma Gandhi at India Gate leaving the exact location to be decided by the Minister of Urban Development in consultation with others. In the year 1995, a group of Ministers, on the directions of Union Cabinet, considered the matter and recommended that the statue of Mahatma Gandhi be installed at the present site of the canopy of India Gate. However, in response to a Writ Petition, the Delhi High Court passed an interim order on 26.07.1995 restraining the Government from altering/removing/demolishing the canopy at India Gate Complex. The High Court finally disposed off the matter on 09.03.2005 in terms of its above interim order.

Regularization of unauthorized colonies in Delhi

†863. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether thousands of people live in various unauthorized colonies in Delhi;
- (b) the details of the unauthorized colonies in Delhi which have been regularized by Government till date;
- (c) the total number of other such unauthorized colonies for which Government has formulated plan for regularization; and
- (d) if so, the details of plan and the names of colonies alongwith the time schedule of this regularization for which Government has prepared a plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Pursuant to the Revised Guidelines 2007 and the Regulations for Regularization of Unauthorized Colonies in Delhi notified by Delhi Development Authority (DDA) on 24th March, 2008 and 16th June, 2008, no unauthorized colony has been formally regularized. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) has received 1639 applications for regularization and has issued 1218 provisional certificates.

(d) The Revised Guidelines and Regulations contain the general principles, procedure, steps to be taken, parameters etc. for regularization of Unauthorized Colonies. The time schedule for regularization of Unauthorized Colonies has been given in para 5 of Notification dated 24th March, 2008 and Notification dated 16th June, 2008. A time period of two months has been prescribed for scrutiny of layout plan. For finalizing the boundary of each identified colony, a time period of three months has been provided from the last date of submission of layout plan. Layout plan is to be approved by the Competent Authority within one month of receipt of layout plan after fixation of boundary by GNCTD. The process of regularization, except change of land use, is to be completed within six months and formal regularization after effecting change of land use is to be done within nine months of submission of layout plan. A time period of twelve months has been provided for formal regularization from the date of issue of provisional certificate. Lt. Governor, Delhi has been empowered to relax the time limit. The work relating to regularization would be coordinated, monitored and supervised by the GNCTD. Only those colonies fulfilling the provisions of Revised Guidelines and Regulations will be eligible for regularization.

USHA Scheme

†864. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has implemented a scheme named 'USHA' to assess the activities related to slums housing and building construction;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, comprehensive details of the scheme;
- (c) whether any programme has been started by Government for development of slums under the said scheme; and
- (d) if so, the State-wise details thereof and the details of amount allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA):
 (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Central Sector scheme 'Urban Statistics for HR (Human Resources) and Assessments' (USHA) is under implementation by National Building Organisation (NBO) under the aegis of Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation. The scheme aims at the development and maintenance of national database, (Management Information System (MIS) and knowledge repository relating to urban poverty, slums, housing, construction and other urbanization-related statistics. The components of the Scheme are Database including MIS and Sample Surveys, Action Research, Impact Assessment and Capacity Building/Training. No programme has been started by the Government for development of slums under the said scheme and as such no State-wise allocation was made under the scheme.

Scientific disposal of garbage by local bodies

865. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has advised the local bodies like Municipalities and Corporations to follow the example of Greater Mumbai Municipal Corporation, who have earned Rs. 26 crores for the scientific closure of a garbage dumping ground; and

(b) if so, whether the Government has customized guidelines for Municipalities/Corporations, that apart from this cash-from-trash bargain in transformation, such exercises will also result in creating beautiful landscaped hills from the existing stinking mountains of garbage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) and (b) Municipal Solid Waste Management/Sanitation is a State subject and it is the responsibility of the State Governments/Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to plan, design and execute projects for Municipal Solid Waste Management and operate and maintain them.

The urban local bodies are required to follow the guidelines of Municipal Solid Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 notified by Ministry of Environment and Forests for setting up, managing and closure of landfills.

Ministry of Urban Development has drawn attention of Municipalities and State Governments towards improving sustainability of Municipal Solid Waste Management and the need for scientific closure of landfill sites. It has also been promoting sharing of best practices in the sector through advisories, workshops and training programmes.

MMTS in Andhra Pradesh

866. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of Multi Model Transport System (MMTS) project in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the amount incurred so far on each project;
- (c) the project which are in pipeline;
- (d) the pending projects whose survey is to be done for the current year;
- (e) the share of the State and the Ministry funding, so far; and
- (f) the requests pending with the Ministry for sanction of financial assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) Multi Model Transport System (MMTS) in Andhra Pradesh is dealt by Ministry of Railways. They have informed that MMTS has been introduced in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad in February, 2004. Under the 1st phase of work, MMTS was made operational in two legs—Hyderabad-Secunderabad-Lingampalli (33 Km) and Hyderabad-Secunderabad-Kacheguda-Falaknuma (24.54 Km). The projects under 2nd phase of MMTS have not been submitted by Government of Andhra Pradesh after approvals of State Government level.

- (b) The details of expenditure incurred for Phase-I works so far is as follows:—

Expenditure incurred so far	(Rs. in crore)
Railways	83.63
Government of Andhra Pradesh	83.63
Total	167.26

- (c) The MMTS Phase-II project proposal in Andhra Pradesh in twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad concerns the following six works:—

Sl.No.	Route	Route Km.
(i)	Secunderabad-Medchel-Manoharabad	43
(ii)	Secunderabad-Ghatkesar-Bhongir	46
(iii)	Maula Ali-Sanatnagar	21.85
(iv)	Lingampally-Patancheru	8.75
(v)	Maula Ali-Kacheguda	10
(vi)	Falaknuma-Shamshabad	20

- (d) There are no pending MMTS Projects in Hyderabad area where survey is to be done in the current year. However, a survey for doubling has been taken up between Secunderabad-Mehboobnagar (113 kms).

- (e) Government of Andhra Pradesh has been approached to bear two-thirds of the cost of the project.

- (f) Nil.

Role of NISG

867. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY:
SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the role played by the National Institute of Smart Government (NISG) in enhancing capacity at the JNNURM units; and

(b) the reasons for not involving Ministry's own agencies like National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and Town and Country Planning Organisation (TCPO)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) National Institute of Smart Governance (NISG) is enhancing capacity for implementation of National Mission Mode Project on e-Governance in Municipalities under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) in Ministry of Urban Development. It provides specialized support in project appraisal, implementation and capacity building, monitoring and evaluation of approved projects for e-Governance.

(b) The Government of India (GOI) through a Cabinet decision approved the setting up of the NISG, Hyderabad, a not-for-profit private company incorporated in 2002 with government nominees from Department of Information Technology (DIT) and Department of Personnel and Training (DoP&T) on the Board of NISG. NISG has been appointed to assist the Mission Directorate in consultation with DIT. NIUA and TCPO are not specialist organizations for implementing e-Governance projects though they are expert in urban sector.

Progress of JNNURM in Andhra Pradesh

868. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that between 2005 and 2009, 116 Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) have been received from the State of Andhra Pradesh for taking up various projects under JNNURM;

(b) whether it is also a fact that only 48 projects have been approved by the Government;

(c) if so, the details of the projects approved, district-wise;

(d) if not, the reasons for not approving the remaining projects under JNNURM; and

(e) the progress of 48 projects approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) 50 Projects have been approved for the State of Andhra Pradesh under Urban Infrastructure and Governance (UIG) of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), details of which are given in the Statement (*See below*). DPRs submitted by the State and found in conformity with the guidelines of UIG of JNNURM are considered by the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC) for approval subject to their technical appraisal and availability of funds. The projects for which funds have been released are at different stages of implementation.

Statement

Details of 50 approved projects for Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Name of the city	Name of the project	Date of approval by CSMC	Total approved cost	Total ACA committed	Total ACA released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Flyover at Rajiv Gandhi Circle-Volume II	27-Mar.-06	3300.00	1155.00	1023.75
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Remodelling of Storm Water Drainage — MURKINALA Secondary Drains	21-Mar.-06	4231.00	1480.85	740.00
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Remodelling of Storm Water Drainage — MURKINALA P-11, P-12	21-Mar.-06	3299.00	1154.65	288.00
4.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Remodelling of Storm Water Drainage — KUKATPALLY (Begumpet) Nalla P7	21-Mar.-06	3136.00	1097.60	548.00
5.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Balkapur Channel	21-Mar.-06	3579.00	1252.65	313.00
6.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Flyover at Green Lands Junction	27-Mar.-06	1727.00	604.45	485.55
7.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Flyover at Chandrayangagutta	27-Mar.-06	1101.00	385.35	362.09
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	DPR for laying pipeline from Saheb Nagar TBR to Prashasan Nagar	27-Mar.-06	9493.00	3322.55	2493.00
9.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Diversion of Krishna Water to Secunderabad	27-Mar.-06	8120.00	2842.00	2132.00

10.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Road Widening on Outer Ring Road and Inner Ring Road under Charminar Pedestrianisation Project	28-Jun.-06	3510.00	1228.50	614.26
11.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Grid improvement works building additional storage facilities on North of Musi	19-Sep.-06	2981.00	1043.35	521.66
12.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Grid improvement works building additional storage facilities on South of Musi	19-Sep.-06	3355.00	1174.25	587.12
13	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Musi campaign Musi Revitalisation project	22-Jan.-07	4426.51	1549.28	774.64
14	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Providing Flow, Level and Chlorine measurements and supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA) for All Reservoirs and bulk supply pipe lines in the entire system of HMWSSB	9-Mar.-07	990.00	346.50	259.86
15	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Rehabilitation and Strengthening of Sewerage system in Old City area on South of Musi (in Zone 1 in catchments S1 to S6, S12 and S14)	19-Mar.-07	14881.00	5208.35	1302.08
16	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Rehabilitation and Strengthening of Sewerage system in Old City Area on South of Musi (in Zone 2 in catchments S7 to S11, S13 and S15)	17-Aug.-07	25125.00	8793.75	2198.44

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Implementation of Sewerage Master Plan in Serilingampally Municipality	6-Dec.-07	20038.00	7013.30	490.93
18.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Krishna Drinking Water Supply Project (Phase-II)	26-Nov.-07	60650.00	21227.50	21227.50
19.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Refurbishment of existing feeder system including distribution network for 10 zones in-Old Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad	28-Jan.-08	23222.00	8127.70	2031.92
20.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Commuter Amenity Centres (CAC)	8-Feb.-08	16213.00	5674.55	1418.64
21.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Improvement of Storm Water Drainage in Zone-I and II of erstwhile MCH Area	14-Oct.-08	12410.00	4344.00	1086.00
22.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	Providing Water Supply facilities in unserved areas	27-Mar.-06	3548.00	1774.00	1332.00
23.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	Providing under-ground drainage facilities to the unserved areas	27-Mar.-06	5656.00	2828.00	2121.00
24.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	Providing sewerage system in Krishnalanka area of Vijayawada	19-Sep.-06	743.00	371.50	185.74
25.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	Providing sewerage treatment plan at Singhnagar (UASBR) (Sector-8)	25-Oct.-06	949.00	474.50	118.63
26.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	Storm Water Drainage System for uncovered areas in Circle I, II, III and MG road of VMC	10-Nov.-06	4912.00	2456.00	1228.00

27.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	Augmentation of water supply utility in Vijayawada Municipal Corporation	2-Feb.-07	7231.00	3615.50	1807.76
28.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	Providing sewage facilities in unserved areas of VMC covering Housing Board Colony, Gundala, Devinagar, Kedareswarapet etc.	2-Feb.-07	1985.00	992.50	494.26
29.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	Bus Rapid Transport System for Vijayawada (i) MG Road (ii) Nujiveedu Road (iii) Eluru Road (iv) Route No. 5 (v) S.N.Puram Road (vi) Loop Road	26-Mar.-07	15264.00	7632.00	1908.00
30.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	Formation of IRR connecting NH 9 and NH 5 in between the Flyovers at Milk Project 6 Ramvarappadu in Vijayawada City	6-Dec.-07	7424.00	3712.00	928.00
31.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	Solid Waste Management Improvement Scheme	14-Oct.-08	5805.00	2902.00	725.00
32.	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	Providing Storm Water Drains at Mangalagiri town in Vijayawada	30-Oct.-08	3016.00	1508.00	377.00
33.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	Providing Water supply pipe line from TSR to Yendada and to Kommadi junction for augmenting water supply	10-May-06	2340.00	1170.00	877.50
34.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	DPR for replacement of existing Thatipudi pipeline from Thatipudi reservoir to town service reservoir and pumping units	10-May-06	6228.00	3114.00	2336.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
35.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	Regularisation of S.L Canal	10-May-06	339.00	169.50	126.90
36.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	Improvement of Yerri Gedda Storm Water drain including bench drains	10-May-06	921.00	460.50	460.00
37.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	Providing sewerage system in Old city area of Vishakhapatnam	10-Nov.-06	3708.00	1854.00	1390.50.
38.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	Augmentation of Water Supply to Gajuvaka Area	5-Mar.-07	3976.00	1988.00	994.0\$
39.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	Providing sewerage system to Central part of Visakhapatnam city	22-Feb.-07	24444.00	12222.00	9166.00
40.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	Bus Rapid Transport System for Vishakhapatnam (i) Simhachalam Transit Corridor including tunnel (ii) Pendurthi Transit Corridor	18-May-07	45293.00	22646.50	11323.26
41.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	Providing water supply distribution system to Gajuwaka area of GVMC (Phase II)	7-Sep.-07	4600.00	2300.00	1150.00
42.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	Augmentation of Drinking water supply to peripheral areas	28-Dec.-07	24074.00	12037.00	6018.50
43.	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	Improvement of Storm Water Drains for Zone VIII of Greater Visakhapatnam city (Gagulhedda and Yerrigada branch canals)	29-Dec.-08	7227.00	3613.50	903.37

44	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	Restoration of roads damaged due to sewerage in Vijayawada	14-Jan.-09	3625.02	1812.51	453.12
45	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	Refurbishment of comprehensive Water Supply in North Eastern Zone in Central Area of Greater Vishakapatnam Municipal Corporation	22-Jan.-09	19018.00	9509.00	2377.25
46	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam	Comprehensive Water Supply proposed in Old city of Greater Vishakapatnam	22-Jan.-09	4793.48	2396.74	599.18
47	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	Implementation of Sewerage Master Plan in Rajendra Nagar Municipality in Hyderabad UA	30-Jan.-09	33507.00	10000.00	2500.00
48	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada	Providing sewerage facilities for Northern part of Vijaywada City	13-Feb.-09	17815.00	8908.00	2227.00
49	Andhra Pradesh	Tirupati	Underground Drainage scheme for Tirupati on eastern side of Tirumala bye pass road	30-Oct.-09	1613.00	1290.00	0.00
50.	Andhra Pradesh	Tirupati	Storm Water Drainage System for Tirupati	30-Oct.-09 Municipal	4556.00	3645.00	0.00 Corporation

Progress made under JNNURM

869. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress made so far under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) in development of the 400 cities as planned under JNNURM;
- (b) how far the planned development of these cities is lagging behind schedule; and
- (c) the steps being taken to complete the contemplated target and by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) to (c) Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) incorporating Urban Infrastructure and Governance (UIG) has been launched on 3rd December, 2005 to implement reforms driven planned development of identified 65 cities in a Mission Mode with focus on efficiency in urban infrastructure/service delivery mechanism and basic services to the urban poor with community participation and accountability of Urban Local Bodies/Parastatals towards the citizens. So far 481 projects have been approved with Additional Central Assistance (ACA) commitment of Rs. 24546.77 crore and Rs. 9726.77 crore has been released. The projects for which funds have been released are in various stages of implementation. The projects are monitored by the Ministry through the Quarterly Progress Reports and in review meetings with the State Governments. The second and subsequent installments of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for projects are released only upon receipt of proper utilization certificate from State Governments. The Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC) before releasing the second and subsequent installments of ACA satisfies itself as regards the physical and financial progress of the projects under implementation and achievement of milestones as agreed upon by the States and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) for implementation of reforms.

Composite National Capital Region

870. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress made so far in the creation of a composite National Capital Region;
- (b) the details of the contemplated plan; and
- (c) how far it still remains to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) The National Capital Region (NCR) covering National Capital Territory of Delhi, nine districts of Haryana, five districts of Uttar Pradesh and one district of Rajasthan has been specified as provided in the NCR Planning Board Act, 1985.

(b) Section 7 of the NCR Planning Board Act provides for (i) preparation of Regional Plan and Functional Plans; (ii) to arrange for preparation of Sub-Regional Plans and Project Plans; (iii) to coordinate the enforcement and implementation of Regional Plan, Functional Plans, Sub-Regional Plans and Project Plans, and (iv) to arrange for and oversee funding of selected projects. The Board has prepared Regional Plan-2001 and Regional Plan-2021. The Board has also prepared Functional Plans on Transport, Power, Telecommunications and Industry. The states of Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan have also prepared their Sub-Regional Plans. In addition, 25 Master Plans/Development Plans for various towns in the NCR have been prepared. Besides, the Board has provided financial assistance for 239 projects with total estimated cost of Rs. 15,805 crore so far in the NCR and its Counter-Magnet Areas.

(c) Planning and development of the NCR is a continuous and long drawn process. The policies and proposals of the Regional Plan are to be implemented by the NCR constituent UT/States and the concerned Central Ministries.

Displacement consequent to land acquisition

871. SHRI MANGALA KISAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2597 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 6th September, 2007, Starred Question 305 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 6th December, 2007 and Starred Question 289 given in Rajya Sabha on the 23rd July, 2009 and state:

(a) the names alongwith the respective Khasra No. of the land holding of the people who are going to be displaced consequent to the acquisition of land *vide* notification No. F.9(88)/2004/L&B/LA/176 dated 7th April, 2006;

(b) the details of the actual land owners who are going to get the compensation for Khasra No. 874 in village Dindarpur;

(c) the likely rate of compensation; and

(d) if so, by when the compensation is likely to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

JNNURM in Bangalore city

872. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 759 given in the Rajya Sabha on 3rd October, 2008 and state:

(a) the extent to which the Planning Commission and the Central Government have been able to increase the funds for the development of infrastructure of Bangalore city under JNNURM; and

(b) by when the additional funds are likely to be made available to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) and (b) The indicative allocation made by Planning Commission for the State of Karnataka for the period 2005-2012 is Rs. 1374.59 crore. In 2008-09, an additional amount of Rs. 100 crore for the city of Bangalore and Rs. 50 crore for the city of Mysore has been allocated under Urban Infrastructure and Governance (UIG) component of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). An amount of Rs. 443.14 crore has been allocated to the State of Karnataka under Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) of JNNURM for period 2005-2012. Additional allocation of Rs. 5000 crore has been provided under UIDSSMT by the Planning Commission which has not been allocated State-wise.

Defects in construction of DMRC lines

873. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an inquiry was ordered into the defects in the construction of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) lines that resulted in serious accidents leading to loss of lives and also caused serious injuries to workers and others;

(b) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the total number of labourers who have so far lost their lives while engaged in construction work whether by DMRC or its contractors and the compensation given to their next of kin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) Ltd. constituted a High Level Enquiry Committee comprising of experts in the field to investigate the causes of the pier collapse incident at Zamrudpur on 12.7.2009.

(b) The main findings of the Committee are as under:—

- Serious deficiency in the design of the cantilever arm.
- The concrete not having adequate strength probably due to lack of adequate curing of the concrete.

The action taken thereon by DMRC is as under:—

- M/s Arch Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd. has been black listed for 5 years.
- M/s Tandon Consultants have been debarred from DMRC work for a period of 2 years.
- M/s Gammon India Ltd. has been served a memorandum for black listing them for a period of 2 years.
- One Director has been repatriated to Indian Railways.
- Two Dy. Chief Engineers have been repatriated to parent units and memorandum for action served on two HOD (Head of Department) level officers.

- One expatriate Quality Expert of General Consultants has been demobilized.

The following preventive measures have been taken:—

- DMRC has undertaken a special drive to check all the cantilever piers so far constructed and their designs rechecked by M/s Shirish Patel and Associates, a well known Design Consultant. Based on their advice, necessary action has been taken by DMRC to ensure that all the cantilever piers are safe.
- DMRC has also decided to get all the designs checked in future by the General Consultants or by an outside Consultant. The Design Wing of DMRC has been substantially strengthened.
- A special drive was undertaken by DMRC in late July, 2009 for special training of the workers and supervisors of all the contractors working at DMRC sites. All the construction companies were directed to arrange a Crash training programme of minimum three days duration or equivalent 18 hours of training exposure to all their employees working at site including sub-contractor workers. More than 25,000 workers have been trained under this special drive.
- The Government has informed all the Metro authorities and concerned Chief Secretaries on 11.9.2009, where Metro rail projects are under construction, about the accident at DMRC's site on 12.7.2009 and has reiterated its advice to ensure that adequate preventive measures are put in place.

(c) The total number of labourers who have so far lost their lives while engaged in construction work by DMRC or its contractors is 101. The total compensation given to their next of kin as per available records is estimated at Rs. 4,32,15,219/- approximately.

Irrigation through surface and ground water

†874. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that irrigation through canals has been reduced continuously during last five years and the use of underground water has increased;
- if so, the reasons therefor;
- the percentage area of land being irrigated through surface water and underground water in the country; and
- the details of efforts being made to augment irrigation area in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (d) No, Sir. There has been continuous increase in the irrigation potential

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

canal and water distribution system created under major and medium irrigation projects and minor irrigation schemes utilizing surface water.

The created irrigation potential through major and medium projects and minor irrigation schemes utilizing surface water has increased from about 50.65 million hectares (Mha.) at end of Ninth Plan to about 56.66 Mha. at the end of Tenth Plan and the irrigation potential utilized has increased from about 42.45 Mha. at the end of Ninth Plan to about 46.42 Mha. at the end of Tenth Plan. Similarly, the created irrigation potential through ground water has also increased from 43.30 Mha. at the end of Ninth Plan to about 46.11 Mha. at the end of Tenth Plan and the irrigation potential utilized through ground water schemes during the same period has increased from 38.55 Mha. to 40.81 Mha. As per the Land Use Statistics for 2006-07 compiled by Ministry of Agriculture, the net irrigated area by wells and tubewells is 59% and through canals, tanks and other sources is 41%.

Water being a State subject, planning and implementation of water resources projects are undertaken by respective State Governments. Several schemes have been planned for implementation by the respective State Governments. Government of India provides central grants to State Governments under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme for early completion of the schemes. Ministry of Water Resources has also prepared National Perspective Plan for optimal utilization of the water resources particularly through diversion of surplus flood water to water deficient areas, National Perspective Plan envisages various links to divert surplus flood water to water deficient areas. Ministry of Water Resources has also launched a scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies under which assistance is provided to States.

Rules for allotting quarters in CSIR

875. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Competent Authority of CSIR has specific allotment rules for allotting quarters to its employees;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if so, whether the above rules are followed during the allotment of Directors Bungalow, CRRRI colony, Maharani Bagh and CSIR Scientists Apartment, Maharani Bagh;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) CSIR has its own residence allotment rules namely "CSIR (Residence Allotment) Rules, 1997" for allotting residential accommodation to its employees, as modified from time to time in keeping with instructions issued by the Government of India and approval of the Competent Authority. Details of these rules are available on the CSIR website www.csir.res.in.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Allotment of Director's Bungalow, CRR Colony, Maharani Bagh and CSIR Scientist Apartments, Maharani Bagh is done by CSIR Hqrs. or the respective Directors of the Lab./Instt., as per the above rules and established procedures.

(e) Does not arise.

Inter State rivers water disputes

†876. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of such Indian rivers regarding which treaties have been entered into with the neighbouring countries;

(b) the names of rivers where water is the root cause of dispute;

(c) the name of projects which are being affected due to these disputes;

(d) whether treaties have been made through the medium/base of International standards/institutions;

(e) whether these can be reviewed; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) As per available information, the names of Indian rivers regarding which treaties have been signed with neighbouring countries are Sharda, Kosi, Gandak, Ganga and the Indus system of rivers comprising rivers Indus, Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas and Sutlej and their tributaries.

(b) and (c) In respect of the Indus system of rivers, water sharing issue raised by Pakistan after, Partition culminated in the signing of the Indus Water Treaty 1960. After the Treaty came into existence, issues raised by Pakistan are settled in accordance with the provision of the Treaty. India is free to construct projects which comply with the provisions of the Indus Waters Treaty 1960, although Pakistan may be raising objections.

(d) The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development lent its good offices during the negotiations and signing of the Indus Water Treaty 1960.

(e) and (f) There is a provision of Indo-Bangladesh Treaty of 1996, relating to sharing of Ganga waters, after five years. The Indus Waters Treaty 1960 provides for its provisions from time to time to be modified by a duly ratified treaty concluded for that purpose between the Governments of India and Pakistan. It also provides for the provisions of the Treaty, or its provisions as modified, to continue in force until terminated by a duly ratified treaty concluded for that purpose between the two Governments.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Interlinking of rivers project

†877. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has declared rivers linking project as devastating;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and details thereof;
- (c) whether this project has been cancelled; and
- (d) if so, the details of expenditure of Rs. 20 to 30 crores annually by Government on National Water Development Agency engaged in this project and whether this expenditure is necessary, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Dose not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Dose not arise.

Digging up shallow tube wells in areas of drought

878. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to launch an ambitious scheme to dig over a million shallow tube wells in areas reeling under drought where ground water has not been over-exploited;
- (b) if so, whether Government is planning to dig around 13.34 lakh tube wells, bore wells, dug wells in scanty and deficient rainfall areas this year;
- (c) whether under this scheme contours and exact details are still being worked; and
- (d) if so, by when official decision in this regard is likely to be taken and projects are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (d) The scheme for “promoting installation of tube wells/bore wells and construction of dug wells in order to augment availability of water for agriculture and drinking water supply” has not been finalized.

Water in Rajasthan

“879. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:
DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Rajasthan is having only one per cent of total quantum of water available in India and the same remains dependent upon rain;

(b) whether the quantum of water has been collected less than 50 per cent of the holding capacity of Bhakra and Pong reservoirs and of the dam constructed over the river Chambal;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a continuous decline of groundwater level due to mismanagement of groundwater in Rajasthan has put 60 per cent area of the State under the dark and grey zone;

(d) whether disputes have started arising as of now over the demand of irrigation and drinking water due to the drought this year; and

(e) the details of the future water policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) As informed by Government of Rajasthan, the State has 21.7 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) of surface water annually which is 1.16 per cent of the total surface water available in the country.

(b) Government of Rajasthan has further informed that during the year 2009-10, major interstate dams namely Bhakra, Pong, Ranjit Sagar, Gandhi Sagar and Rana Pratap Sagar received water upto 58.77%, 45.74%, 50.58%, 25.92% and 71.91% of their gross storage capacities.

(c) The State Government has further stated that there is a continuous decline of ground water level as per draft report on ground water resources assessment of the State for the year 2008. Out of 236 blocks assessed, 164 blocks fall in over exploited category, 34 blocks in critical category and 8 blocks in semi critical category which is 87% of the State.

(d) According to the State Government, there is no dispute over demand for irrigation and drinking water requirements. However, due to lesser inflow in the major feeding dams, full demand for drinking and irrigation requirements cannot be met.

(e) As per National Water Policy 2002, water allocation priorities should be broadly as follows — drinking water, irrigation, hydropower, ecology, agro-industries and non-agricultural industries and navigation and other uses. It also provides for State Water Policy backed with an operational action plan to be formulated in a time bound manner, in order to achieve the desired objectives. Water being a State subject, the future water policy depends on the State Governments. Government of Rajasthan has informed of the preparation of a Draft State Water Policy which is focused on integrated water resources management with enactment of legal framework.

Irrigation potential

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

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether ultimate irrigation potential for the country has been assessed to

be about 139.9 million hectare, but only 105.8 Mha. of irrigation potential has been created;

(b) whether 34.1 Mha. has yet to be created and total irrigation potential created during 2005-09 is 6.71 Mha. and at this slow speed what would be the roadmap for achieving target of ultimate irrigation potential;

(c) total number of Blocks in the country/States, and how many of them are Dark (Over-exploited) and how many are safe; and

(d) whether decline in groundwater table is of grave concern, steps taken to check it, how effective they have proved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) Ultimate irrigation potential of the country has been assessed to be about 140 million hectare (Mha). As per the report provided by the State Governments, irrigation potential of about 106 Mha. has been created up to March, 2009. The State Governments have reported creation of irrigation potential of about 7.31 Mha. during the period 2005-09. Water being a State subject, planning and implementation of water resources projects are undertaken by respective State Governments. Several schemes have been planned for implementation by the respective State Governments. Government of India provides central grants to State Governments under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) for early completion of the schemes.

Ministry of Water Resources has also prepared National Perspective Plan for optimal utilization of the water resources particularly through diversion of surplus flood water to water deficient areas. National Perspective Plan envisages various links to divert surplus flood water to water deficient areas. Ministry of Water Resources has also launched a scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies under which assistance is provided to the States.

(c) and (d) Out of 5723 Blocks/Mandals/Talukas in the country, 839 units have been categorized as Dark (over-exploited). Number of critical and semi critical blocks has been assessed as 226 and 550 respectively. The remaining blocks are considered safe. State-wise details of Dark (over-exploited), Critical and Semi-critical blocks are given in the Statement (See below). With a view to ensure proper management of ground water resources, Ministry of Water Resources has circulated to the States/Union Territories a Model Bill to regulate and control the development and management of groundwater in the country to enable them to enact suitable groundwater legislation. So far 11 States/Union Territories namely, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have enacted ground water legislation. Government of India also promotes rainwater harvesting and ground water recharge. A scheme on "Artificial Recharge to ground water through Dug wells" for augmenting ground water resources in over-exploited/critical/semi critical areas in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu to provide sustainability to the dug wells has also been launched.

Statement

*State-wise details of dark (Over-exploited), Critical and
SEMI Critical Blocks*

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories	Total No. of Blocks	Dark (Over- exploited) Blocks Nos.	Critical Blocks Nos.	Semi-critical Blocks Nos.
1	2	3	4	5	6
States					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1231	219	77	175
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	0	0	0
3.	Assam	23	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	515	0	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	146	0	0	8
6.	Delhi	9	7	0	0
7.	Goa	11	0	0	0
8.	Gujarat	223	31	12	69
9.	Haryana	113	55	11	5
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5	0	0	0
11..	Jammu and Kashmir	8	0	0	0
12.	Jharkhand	208	0	0	0
13.	Karnataka	175	65	3	14
14.	Kerala	151	5	15	30
15.	Madhya Pradesh	312	24	5	19
16.	Maharashtra	318	7	1	23
17.	Manipur	7	0	0	0
18.	Meghalaya	7	0	0	0
19.	Mizoram	22	0	0	0
20.	Nagaland	7	0	0	0
21.	Orissa	314	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Punjab	137	103	5	4
23.	Rajasthan	237	140	50	14
24.	Sikkim	1	0	0	0
25.	Tamil Nadu	385	142	33	57
26.	Tripura	38	0	0	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	803	37	13	88
28.	Uttarakhand	17	2	0	3
29.	West Bengal	269	0	1	37
TOTAL STATES		5705	837	226	546
Union Territories					
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	1	0	0	0
2.	Chandigarh	1	0	0	0
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	0	0	0
4.	Daman and Diu	2	1	0	1
5.	Lakshadweep	9	0	0	3
6.	Pondicherry	4	1	0	0
TOTAL UTS		18	2	0	4
GRAND TOTAL		5723	839	226	550

Ground water availability

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

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the scenario of Ground Water availability and pollution in Rajasthan, particularly Jaipur;
- (b) whether Central Ground Water Board submitted any report on this context;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken on the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) As per ground water resource assessment carried out by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) jointly with Rajasthan State Ground Water Organization in 2004, the annual replenishable ground water resources of the State have been assessed as 11.56 Billion Cubic

Metres (BCM) and the net annual ground water availability has been estimated as 10.38 BCM. Annual ground water draft in the State is estimated as 12.99 BCM with stage of ground water development at 125%. Out of 237 blocks (assessment units) in the State, 190 have been categorized as Over-exploited/Critical including 13 blocks in Jaipur district.

The net annual ground water availability in Jaipur district has been assessed as 609.25 Million Cubic Metres (MCM), against which the annual ground water draft is 1136.85 MCM with stage of ground water development at 186%.

Problems of ground water contamination due to salinity, fluoride, nitrate, iron etc. have been reported from isolated pockets in different parts of the State. Concentration of lead above permissible limit (0.05 mg/l) has been reported from Khetri Copper belt in Jhunjhunu district, Pali industrial belt in Pali district and around Sambhar lake and Sanganer in Jaipur District.

(b) to (d) CGWB has prepared ground water year books for the State of Rajasthan including reports on ground water situation and quality problems in the State. These reports have been disseminated to the user agencies in the State. The steps taken by the State Government to provide safe drinking water include:—

- Taking up of Rajasthan Integrated Fluorosis Mitigation Programme (RIFMP) in 23297 fluoride affected habitations of the State in phased manner with collaborative efforts of United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and Public Health Engineering Department (PHED).
- Distribution of domestic de-fluoridation units and sanctioning of major water supply projects for safe and sustainable sources in fluoride affected areas.
- Formulation of project proposals by the State Government for major water supply which also covers a large number of fluoride affected habitations.

Solution of floods

†882. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is negotiating with Government of Nepal to explore a permanent solution of floods;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (c) Construction of big dams/reservoirs on rivers at suitable locations are considered as permanent solution to floods, especially if dedicated flood cushion is provided in the storage reservoirs. Big dams moderate the floods in downstream by way of releasing controlled discharge through spillway. Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project on river Sharda

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(Mahakali in Nepal), Saptakosi High Dam Project on river Kosi and West Rapti (Naumure) Multipurpose Project on river West Rapti are under discussion with the Government of Nepal. These high dam projects, on implementation, would provide benefits to people of India and Nepal, both, in the form of hydro-power, irrigation and flood moderation.

Government of India is in constant dialogue with the Government of Nepal for which a three tier mechanism consisting of Joint Ministerial level Commission on water Resources (JMCWR) co-chaired by Ministers of Water Resources of India and Nepal, Joint Committee on Water Resources (JCWR) at the level of Secretaries of Water Resources of India and Department of Energy of Nepal and Joint Standing Technical Committee (JSTC) exists.

During the 5th meeting of JCWR held recently from 20-22 November, 2009 at Pokhara (Nepal), the terms of reference for establishment of Pancheshwar Development Authority (PDA) for development, execution and operation of Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project have been jointly finalized.

Large scale erosion

883. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has submitted a report to Government regarding large scale erosion on sea shore of Gujarat during last monsoon in June and also during the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Inter-linking of rivers

884. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any State Government is opposed to the project of the inter-linking of rivers;
- (b) whether any budgetary provision will be made for the project this year; and
- (c) the funds allocated by the Centre this year, for the flood protection measures in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) Most of the States are supportive of the concept of the interlinking of rivers project; provided the project can some how ensure a “win-win” situation for all States. However, the

State of Kerala, has passed a resolution in the Kerala Assembly to drop the proposal of Pamba-Achankovil-Vaippar link. The Central Government has taken note of it and has decided not to treat it as a priority link for consensus building purpose at present.

(b) An outlay of Rs. 32.44 crore has been approved for the preparation of Prefeasibility/Feasibility/Detailed Project Reports of river link proposals under National Perspective Plan, preparation of Prefeasibility/Feasibility Reports of Intra-State links and other studies in this regard by NWDA during current year.

(c) 69 Schemes with a total cost of Rs. 163.63 crore from Orissa have been included under Flood Management Programme (FMP) for providing central assistance amounting to Rs. 122.72 crore. First installment of central assistance amounting to Rs. 45.90 crore for these 69 schemes was released during financial year 2008-09.

Further, there is a provision of Rs. 900 crore during financial year 2009-10 for the whole scheme "Flood Management Programme" for providing central assistance to all the States after approval of the proposals by the Empowered Committee on FMP under the Secretary (Expenditure), Ministry of Finance. As such, there is no provision for allocating funds on yearly basis to specific State under FMP.

Scientific survey of groundwater

885. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the scientific survey about the current stock of groundwater in this country;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government is aware that water insecurity has come about because of poor hydrological management — water storage, distribution, usage and conservation — as well as failure of water authorities to periodically survey and record accurately the State of the country's water-table, the extent of its usage and wastage; and

(d) if so, the steps Government has taken to overcome its shortcomings in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (c) As per the assessment of ground water resources carried out by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) jointly with States in 2004, out of 5723 assessment units (Blocks/Mandals/Talukas) in the country, 839 units have been categorized as 'Over-exploited', 226 units as 'Critical' and 550 as 'Semi-critical'. CGWB regularly monitors ground water levels in the country through a network of 15640 observation wells. Further, the States also monitor the ground water levels in their respective States. The data generated through the monitoring is disseminated to the user agencies in the States for necessary action.

Time series data generated by CGWB and the States is used in assessment of replenishable ground water resources in the country and categorization of assessment units-based on decline in ground water levels and stage of ground water development. These form the basis for planning ground water development and management by the Central Government/States.

(d) The measures taken by the Government for ensuring sustained development of ground water resources in the country include:—

- Implementation of demonstrative artificial recharge projects by CGWB.
- Implementation of scheme for “Artificial Recharge of Ground Water through Dugwells” in 7 States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.
- Implementation of scheme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies to help water conservation and ground water recharge.
- Implementation of Farmers Participatory Action Research Programme (FPARP) aimed at creating awareness about water conservation practices.
- Circulation of ‘Model Bill’ to enable States/Union Territories to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.
- Setting up of Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) for the purpose of regulation of ground water management and development in the country.
- Organization of mass awareness programmes on Water Management, Rain Water Harvesting and Artificial Recharge of Ground Water.
- 18 States and 4 UTs have made rain water harvesting mandatory under building bye-laws.

Hydro projects

†886. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Tista river is changing its course after construction of several hydro projects over it;

(b) whether Government is also aware that several villages like Laltung, Chamakdangi, Dashmile, Forest Basti, Lagayat, 31 Highway and Karate are facing danger because of Tista river changing its course; and

(c) whether Government has any plan to check this type of danger?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Due to severe floods in Teesta river experienced in flood seasons of 2007 and 2008, the villages, namely, Laltung, Chamakdangi, Dashmile, Forest Basti,

“Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Lagayat, 31, Highway and Karate lying on the right bank of the river Teesta in West Bengal faced danger due to severe bank erosion. Flood Management being the State subject, the State Government of West Bengal has prepared requisite flood protection schemes for protection of the affected villages/areas amounting to Rs. 1720.33 lakh and submitted to Brahmaputra Board.

Declining in flow of river water

†887. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the flow of water is declining in Indian rivers due to climate change; and
- (b) whether Government is taking any measure to augment this important source of water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) The analysis of the average annual flow data of major rivers in the country does not indicate any significant decreasing trend.

(b) With a view to augment the water resources for utilization for various purposes, several measures are undertaken by respective State Governments which, *inter-alia*, include conservation of water resources through reservoir, traditional water bodies, rain water harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water.

Protection of sea erosion

888. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposal of State Government of Gujarat for protection of sea erosion pending with Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (c) The Government of Gujarat had initially submitted a proposal indicating the requirement of funds for Anti-Sea Erosion works amounting to Rs. 530.20 cr to Central Water Commission (CWC) in July' 2008 for external assistance under the 'National Coastal Protection Project'. The proposal was examined and comments were offered by CWC to the Government of Gujarat suggesting necessary modifications. In the meantime, anti-sea erosion schemes amounting to Rs. 50.45 crore were submitted by the State Government to Central Water Commission for techno-economic examination and for consideration under Flood Management Programme — a State sector scheme approved during Eleventh Plan by the Cabinet. Out of the 10 schemes, one scheme has been cleared by CWC and sent to the Planning Commission

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

for investment clearance. The observations of CWC on other 8 schemes have been sent to the State Government suggesting certain modifications, which are awaited. One scheme (costing less than Rs. 1.0 crore) has been returned as it can be funded by the State Government from own resources. After obtaining all mandatory clearances including investment clearance from Planning Commission, the eligible proposals/schemes would be considered for central assistance by an Empowered Committee on FMP headed by Secretary (Expenditure), Ministry of Finance. The list of 10 schemes sent by the State Government of Gujarat is given in the Statement.

Statement

Schemes for protection of sea erosion

Name of Scheme	Cost Estimate (Rs. in lakh)	Remarks
1	2	3
1. Proposal on providing coastal protection/sea wall from Sangam Narayan Temple to Gayatri Mandir at Dwarka Tal. Dwarka District Jamnagar	794.31	The scheme has been cleared by CWC and sent to the Planning Commission for investment clearance.
2. Constructing Anti-Sea Coastal Erosion Earthen Bund at Village Dandi Taluka Olpad District Surat	559.00	Observations of CWC have been sent to the State Government of Gujarat for compliance; which is still awaited.
3. Constructing Anti-Sea Coastal Erosion Earthen Bund at Village Dabhari Taluka Olpad District Surat from 0 to 4275m	306.00	-do-
4. Constructing Anti-Sea Coastal Erosion Earthen Bund at Village Nesh-Karanj Taluka Olpad District Surat	340.61	-do-
5. Protection against erosion of Sea Coast at Village Dumas, Taluka Choryasi District Surat	700.66	-do-
6. Anti Sea Erosion work at Village Danti, Taluka Jalalpore, District Jalalpore, district Navasari Protection length 1260	484.95	-do-

1	2	3
7. Anti Sea erosion work at Village Samapore (Dandi), Taluka Jalalpore,	484.33	-do-
8. Anti-sea erosion work at Village Fansa, Taluka Umargam, District Valsad	608.11	-do-
9. Anti-sea erosion work at Village Maroli, Taluka Umargam, District Valsad	691.87	-do-
10. Protecting Right side bank of Kanani Khadi at Village Sultanpore, Taluka Jalalp District Navasari	75.49	The scheme has been returned as it can be funded by the State Government from own resources
TOTAL	5045.33	

Delegation of Commonwealth Games Federation

889. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the delegates of Commonwealth Games Federation visited various venues and assess the progress of various works;
- (b) if so, the details of the various venues visited by the said delegation;
- (c) whether the said delegation has submitted their assessment report;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken by the Government to expedite the works related to various venues and the details of targets for completion fixed by the Government for various venues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of venues visited by the Delegation are indicated in the Statement (See below).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) The steps taken by Government to expedite the works include increase in the number of supervisory staff and labour, increase in working hours, deployment of additional machineries, close monitoring and procurement of critical and special items to complete the work within the revised target date. The expected dates of the completion of the venues are indicated in the given Statement.

Statement

*Details of venues under construction for Commonwealth Games
by various agencies*

Sl. No.	Agency	Venue	Events	Date of completion
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Central Public Works Department	J.N. Stadium	Athletics	30-June-10
			Weightlifting	15-Feb.-10
			Lawn Bowls	15-Feb.-10
2.		I.G. Stadium	Gymnastics	31-Mar.-10
			Cycling	31-Mar.-10
			Wrestling	28-Feb.-10
3.		MDC National Stadium	Hockey	15-Dec.-09
4.		SPM Swimming Pool Complex	Swimming	31-Mar.-10
5.		Kami Singh Shooting Ranges	Shooting	15-Dec.-09
6.		CRPF Campus, Kaderpur, Gurgaon	Big-Bore Shooting	31-Mar.-10
7.	All India Tennis Association	R.K. Khanna Tennis Complex	Lawn Tennis	15-Mar.-10
8.	Delhi University	Delhi University Main Ground	Rugby	15-Mar.-10
9.	Government of NCT of Delhi	Thyagraja Sports Complex	Netball	31-Dec.-09
10.	Delhi Development Authority	Sir Fort Sports Complex	Badminton	31-Mar.-10
11.			Squash	
12.			Table Tennis	31-Mar.-10
13.			Archery	28-Feb.-10
14.	New Delhi Municipal Council	Talkatora Indoor Stadium	Boxing	31-Dec.-09

Present status of preparation of Commonwealth Games 2010

890. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:
SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the preparation of Commonwealth Games 2010;
- (b) whether it is fact that preparation of these games are lagging behind the schedule and there is no hope for its timely completion; and
- (c) the details of the amount sanctioned to CG-2010 till date and the details of money spent, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) After obtaining the necessary regulatory clearances from the concerned agencies, the sports infrastructure work on the different venues of the Commonwealth Games was commenced. There have been instances of delays in a few projects for which 'Recovery Schedules' have been prepared. It is expected that all the sports infrastructure projects will be completed in time before the Commonwealth Games, 2010.

- (c) The required details have been indicated in the given Statement.

Statement

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Implementing Agency	Name of Stadium/Project	Amount allocated	Amount actually spent
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Sports Authority of India/Central Public Works Department (CPWD)	Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium	961.00	458.14
2.	-do-	Maj. Dhayan Chand National Stadium	262.00	130.56
3.	-do-	Indira Gandhi Stadium	669.00	312.10
4.	-do-	Dr. SPM Swimming Pool Complex	377.00	145.99
5.	-do-	Dr. Kami Singh Shooting Range	149.00	67.42
6.	University of Delhi	Competition/Training venues	306.41	159.00

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Jamia Millia Islamia University	Construction/ Upgradation of training venues	33.41	16.00
8.	All India Tennis Association	R.K. Khanna Stadium	65.65	
9.	Central Reserve Police Force/CPWD	Kadarpur Shooting Range, Gurgaon	28.50	15.00
10.	Delhi Public School/ CWPD	Training venue for Lawn Bowl, R.K. Puram, New Delhi	1.73	0.50
11.	Delhi Development Authority and Training venues	Games Village/Competition	827.85	385.20
12.	Government of NCT of Delhi	Competition and Training venues	412.45	228.91
13.	New Delhi Municipal Committee	Competition and Training venues	330.00	100.00

Training and Competition Sites for Commonwealth Games

891. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) by when will all Training and Competition Sites be handed over to the contractors so that these are ready by 13 January, 2010, when the Test Events will take off;

(b) has the work at Yamuna Sports Complex and Siri Fort Complex picked up the requisite speed so that the scheduled date for taking off Test Events is not delayed;

(c) has any cost run or time-run occurred over the estimated cost and time-schedule; and

(d) if so, have additional financial resources been mobilized so as to maintain the scheduled date of 13th January, 2010?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) The Training and Competition sites of the Commonwealth Games, 2010 have already been handed over to the construction agencies. The work on all the Competition venues is progressing at a rapid pace and these venues will be ready before the various Test Events, to be held during 17th January to 3rd July, 2010.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The required financial resources have been mobilized to ensure completion of projects in time.

Upliftment of standards in games other than cricket

892. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the game of cricket has become a lucrative business and pushed national game hockey to the background;

(b) if so, has Government considered ways and means to ensure that State and national players in other games get remuneration at par with cricket players of comparative standing and wrestlers, boxers, etc. get even more for their diet needs; and

(c) if not, how Government propose to uplift the standards of players in other games to acquire improved position in international meets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (c) Primary responsibility for promotion and development of each individual sports discipline lies with the National Sports Federation (NSF) concerned. The Government does not have any scheme for providing remuneration to the sportspersons. However, for promotion of sports, the Government provides assistance to NSFs by way of organizing national coaching camps and giving assistance for conducting national championships and international tournaments in India, participation in international tournaments abroad, procurement of sports equipments, engagement of foreign coaches, etc.

Package sanctioned by Government to Goa for sports activities

893. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Goa has been sanctioned any package by the Government for utilization of sports activities;

(b) the amount of package;

(c) the conditions for the utilization of package;

(d) the amount, if any, already disbursed to the State Government; and

(e) the date by which balance amount will be disbursed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (e) No, Sir. The Government has not sanctioned any separate package for the State of Goa for sports activities. However, like in the case of all other States, Government has sanctioned financial assistance to Goa under the scheme of Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), which aims at creation of basic sports facilities at village panchayat level. The details of assistance sanctioned/released in respect of Goa are as under:—

A sum of Rs. 35 lakh was sanctioned in 2008-09 to set up 19 Village and 4 Block Panchayat PYKKA centres, against which Rs. 18 lakh has been released towards first instalment. The

balance amount will be released on receipt of Progress Report for the 1st instalment from the State of Goa.

Training to participants of Commonwealth Games

894. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is giving any training to the participants in the Commonwealth Games;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the amount spent, so far; and
- (c) the present status thereof and the funds allocated for Commonwealth Games purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. To improve the performance of the Indian contingent in the Commonwealth Games, 2010, a Scheme with allocation of Rs. 678.00 crore (2008-09 to 2010-11) is being implemented for providing training to the elite sportspersons in all the disciplines of the Commonwealth Games, 2010. These disciplines will be Archery, Athletics, Aquatics, Badminton, Boxing (M), Cycling, Gymnastics, Hockey, Lawn Bowls, Netball (W), Rugby 7s (M) Shooting, Squash, Table Tennis, Tennis, Weightlifting, Wrestling, Elite Athletes with Disability (Athletics, Power lifting, Table Tennis and Swimming). Against allocation of Rs. 678.00 crore, expenditure of Rs. 232.19 crores has been incurred so far (as on 23.11.2009).

Action plan for preparing Indian teams for success in Commonwealth Games

895. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the programme/action plan formulated by the Government for preparing the Indian teams for success in the Commonwealth Games 2010;
- (b) whether Government had consultations with various sporting institutes/organizations regarding preparation of the games;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the name/title of the sporting events for which special attention has been given;
- (e) the number of sports person identified so far for providing intensive training/coaching for each event; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government for improving the level of performance of the sportspersons of the country in the Commonwealth Games 2010?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) To improve the performance of the Indian

Contingent in the Commonwealth Games, 2010, a Scheme with allocation of Rs. 678.00 crore (2008-09 to 2010-11) is being implemented for providing training to elite sportspersons in all the disciplines of the Commonwealth Games, 2010.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Scheme was finalized in consultation with Indian Olympic Association and the concerned National Sports Federations.

(d) The Scheme will cover all the competition sports disciplines included in the Commonwealth Games to be held at Delhi during 3rd to 14th October, 2010. These disciplines will be Archery, Athletics, Aquatics, Badminton, Boxing (M), Cycling, Gymnastics, Hockey, Lawn Bowls, Netball (W), Rugby 7s (M) Shooting, Squash, Table Tennis Tennis, Weightlifting, Wrestling, Elite Athletes with Disability (Athletics, Power lifting, Table Tennis and Swimming).

(e) A statement indicating the number of sportspersons identified for training in each disciplines of Commonwealth Games, 2010 enclosed Statement (*See below*).

(f) Support as per the provisions of the Scheme for Preparation of Indian Teams for Commonwealth Games, 2010 is being provided to the sportspersons for improving their performance in the Commonwealth Games.

Statement

Details of sportspersons identified for training in each discipline for Commonwealth Games

Sl. No.	Discipline	No. of athletes identified for training	
		Men	Women
1	2	3	4
1.	Archery	32	32
2.	Athletics	104	71
3.	Aquatics	55	50
4.	Badminton	22	18
5.	Boxing (M)	42	00
6.	Cycling	28	16
7.	Gymnastics	23	36
8.	Hockey	44	39
9.	Lawn Bowls	15	15
10.	Net Ball (W)	0	30
11.	Rugby 7s (M)	32	00
12.	Shooting	88	58

1	2	3	4
13.	Squash	15	12
14.	Table Tennis	19	17
15.	Tennis	20	20
16.	Weightlifting	32	28
17.	Wrestling	56	28
18.	EAD*	28	15
TOTAL		655	485

*EAD : Elite Athletes with Disability

Fund for adequate infrastructure of sports activities

896. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has any data or information about the total requirements of fund to develop adequate infrastructure in the country to make our sport activities of world standard;

(b) if Government is not to able to provide, whether there is any survey or estimate in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (c) As per the projection made under the Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), an outlay of around Rs. 4,500 crore is required to provide basic sports facilities in all village and block panchayats and their equivalent units in the country. Against this requirement, an outlay of Rs. 1,500 crore has been earmarked for the Eleventh five year plan period. However, no such estimation has been done for the purpose of setting up State — of the art sports infrastructure throughout country.

Central assistance for sports infrastructure

†897. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central assistance provided for construction of sports infrastructure by Central Government has been discontinued; and

(b) whether it will be restarted or in its place separate amount will be provided to the States?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Centrally Sponsored Sports Infrastructure Scheme transferred to State Sector *w.e.f.* 1.4.2005.

Government has introduced a centrally sponsored scheme namely Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA) with national coverage for the promotion of basic sports infrastructure and sports competitions in all village and block panchayats of the country. The Eleventh Five Year Plan outlay for this scheme, which was launched in the financial year 2008-09 is Rs. 1500 crore. The scheme envisages to cover around 2.50 lakh village panchayats and 6,400 block panchayats (including their equivalent units) in a phased manner over a period of 10 years at an annual coverage of 10%. The scheme is implemented through the State Governments/ UTs. Administrations.

Sports infrastructure for school going children in the country

898. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state whether Government could made a plan where every village has a playground and every Grampanchayat could have a mini stadium and indoor games outdoor games, gymnasium and yoga could be included in curriculum upto 12th standard to make all students fit and healthy in this country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): The Panchyat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan provides for assisting states to set up basic sports facilities at village and block panchyat level. The scheme has an out lay of Rs. 1,500/- crore for the eleventh five year plan period. It is envisaged to cover all village and block panchyats under the scheme over a 10 years period @ 10% per annum. As regards inclusion of sports and physical education in school curriculum, it is already recognized in the National Policy for Education, 1986 and National Curriculum Framework 2005.

Sports infrastructure for North Eastern Region

899. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) details of sports infrastructure being created and institutions being established in the North East Region for promotion of sports under the 10 per cent budgetary provision; and

(b) specific plan, if any, taken up for execution during Eleventh plan period under 10 per cent budgetary provision for the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) Rs. 26 crore has been allotted under 10% North Eastern Region (NER) Budget to Sports Authority of India (SAI) for 2009-10. Details of ongoing SAI Infrastructure Projects in the North Eastern Region are at the given Statement (See below).

In addition, under Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), the following

assistance has been sanctioned/released to North Eastern States for the creation of basic Sports Infrastructure at village and Block Panchayat level:—

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of States	No. of village Panchayats approved	No. of block Panchayats approved	Total Amount sanctioned	Funds released during 2008-09	Funds released during 2009-10
1.	Assam	333	22	4.81		3.85*
2.	Manipur	79	4	1.08	0.87*	—
3.	Mizoram	246***	8***	3.15***	0.85*	—
4.	Nagaland	110	5	1.48	1.18*	—
5.	Sikkim	16	10	0.67	0.54*	0.14**
6.	Tripura	104	4	1.36	1.09*	—
TOTAL		724	48	10.47	4.53	3.99

*First Installment

**Second Installment

***Consolidated for 2008-09 and 2009-10

Statement

Infrastructure works of Sports Authority of India (SAI) in NER which are in progress and for which funds have been partially released

(Rs. in crores)

Station	Name of work	Approved cost	Fund released
1	2	3	4
Guwahati	Laying of synthetic athletic track at SAI Sub-Centre	3.08	3.00
Tinsukia	Boundary wall at Sarbananda Stadium at SAI Special Area Games (SAG) Centre	0.68	0.46
North East Hill	Construction of Sports Projects University	40.33	13.74
Imphal	At North Eastern Regional Centre at Takial		
	Laying of Synthetic Hockey Surface	2.47	2.00
	3 Nos. Tennis Courts with Synthetic Surface and Floodlights	1.06	0.46
	Multi purpose Hall	5.9	2.43

1	2	3	4
	100 Bedded Hostel	8.97	1.63
Khuman, Lampak	Multi Purpose Hall-cum-Hostel at SAI SAG Centre	5.41	1.58
Utlou, District Bishanpur, Imphal	Construction of Multi Purpose Hall at SAG Centre	5.90	1.68
	100 bedded hostel at SAG Centre	4.74	1.45
Thenzual	Synthetic Hockey Surface at SAI SAG Extension Centre	3.00	2.60
Aizwal, Mizoram	100 Bedded Hostel at SAG Centre	6.59	1.32
Agarthala, Tripura	At SAG Centre at Dasrath Dev State Sports Complex		
	100 Bedded Hostel (boys)	5.53	0.50
	100 Bedded Hostel (girls)	5.53	0.50

Status of tribal sportspersons in the country

900. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of tribal sportspersons in the country, gender-wise;
- (b) the details especially in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) the funds earmarked and spent during the last five years, State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh for the training and other hostel expenses, year-wise, especially in Andhra Pradesh areas like East and West Godavari areas where tribals are facing lot of difficulties due to lack of awareness of their rights in getting the training and other facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (c) The Schemes operated by the Government as well as the Sports Authority of India (SAI) for identification and nurturing of talented sportspersons are inclusive schemes, which are open to both genders and all sportspersons across the country. In addition to these, SAI operates the Special Area Games Scheme (SAG) for scouting natural talent from remote areas, including those from tribal and hilly areas of the country. There are 21 SAG Centres in the country, out of which 4 are in Southern India, 2 each in Kerala and Tamil Nadu, respectively. There are 5 SAI training Centres in Andhra Pradesh, including one in Eluru. The enrolment of SAI trainees is based on performance at district level and state level sports competitions as well as a battery of tests to assess stamina, strength, skill and endurance. The trainees hail from different communities including tribals. SAI does not earmarked funds state-wise.

Projects undertaken for Commonwealth Games

†901. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the projects undertaken by the Government for the Commonwealth Games being held next year;
- (b) by when these projects are expected to be completed; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to complete all the projects in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) The Commonwealth Games, 2010 will be held in the sports stadia of the Sports Authority of India; Delhi Development Authority; Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi; University of Delhi and All India Tennis Association. The work at all the Competition venues is progressing at a rapid pace and the completion schedules of various stadia has been indicated in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Recovery Plans have been worked out, wherever required, which *inter-alia*, includes increase in the number of Supervisory Staff and Labour, Increase in working hours, deployment of additional machineries, close monitoring and procurement of critical and special items to complete the work within the recovery schedule. Various matters related to successful organization of the Commonwealth Games including progress of work for each Venue is being monitored/reviewed every week, by the Committee of Secretaries and the Group of Ministers

Statement

Projects undertaken for Commonwealth Games

Sl. No.	Venue	Events	Date of completion
1	2	3	4
1.	Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium	Athletics	30-Jun.-2010
		Weightlifting	15-Feb.-2010
		Lawn Bowls	15-Feb.-2010
2.	Indira Gandhi Stadium	Gymnastics	31-Mar.-2010
		Cycling	31-Mar.-2010
		Wrestling	28-Feb.-2010
3.	MDC National Stadium	Hockey	15-Dec.-2009
4.	SPM Swimming Pool Complex	Swimming	31-Mar.-2010

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4
5.	(i) Karni Singh Shooting Ranges (ii) Big Bore Shooting Range, Kadarpur, Gurgaon	Shooting	(i) 15-Dec.-2009 (ii) 30-Dec.-2009
6.	R.K. Khanna Tennis Complex	Lawn Tennis	15-Mar.-2010
7.	Delhi University	Rugby	15-Mar.-2010
8.	Thyagraja Sports Complex	Netball	31-Dec.-2009
9.	Siri Fort Sports Complex	(i) Badminton (ii) Squash	31-Mar.-2010
10.	Yamuna Sports Complex	Table Tennis	31-Mar.-2010
11.	Talkatora Indoor Stadium	Archery	28-Feb.-2010
12.	Talkatora Indoor Stadium	Boxing	31-Dec.-2009

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

श्री अमर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, * शब्द expunge होना चाहिए रिकार्ड से।

श्री उपसभापति: जी।

श्री सीताराम येचुरी (पश्चिमी बंगाल): लेकिन, सर, टेलीविजन ने तो दिखा दिया, इसलिए इसके बारे में भी आप सोचिए। मैं सदन में ऑन रिकार्ड कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप एक deferred telecast system लाइए, जहाँ पर आप की ruling का भी कुछ कायदा होगा, respect होगा और आप जो-जो rule करते हैं not on record, उसको काटकर दिखाइए।

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी (बिहार): आप यह सेंसरशिप कैसे कर सकते हैं।

श्री सीताराम येचुरी: यह सेंसरशिप नहीं है। फिर रूलिंग का मतलब क्या है?

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी: आप यह कैसे ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सीताराम येचुरी: सेंसरशिप कैसे हुआ यह? ...(व्यवधान)... यह सेंसरशिप कैसे हुआ? ...(व्यवधान)... आप बात को समझे ही नहीं हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... बड़ा शुक है कि आप मंत्री नहीं हैं, आप बात को समझे ही नहीं हैं। बात यह है कि चेयर की तरफ से जब एक रूलिंग होती है कि फलां चीज रिकार्ड से expunged है, उसे आप दिखा देते हैं। फिर रूलिंग का मतलब क्या है? फिर आप रूल बुक बदलो। ...(व्यवधान)... इसलिए आप इसके बारे में गंभीरता से सोचिए। कोई mechanism होना चाहिए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It will be taken up.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Report and Accounts (2007-08) of the R.S.C. and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rajghat Samadhi Committee (RSC), New Delhi, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Committee.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 957/15/09]

I. Notifications of the Ministry Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

II. Report and Accounts (2008-09) of INCOIS, Hyderabad and related papers.

III. Report and Accounts (2008-09) of IITM Pune and NIOT Chennai and related papers.

IV. Report (2008) of CVC, New Delhi.

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, I lay on the Table:—

- I. (i) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training), Notification G.S.R. 545 (E), dated the 23rd July, 2009, publishing the Central Administrative Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of Service of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members) Amendment Rules, 2009, under sub-section (1) of Section 37 of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 809/15/09]
- (ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training), under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951:—
 - (1) G.S.R. 616 (E), dated the 31st August, 2009, publishing the Indian Police Service (Uniform) Amendment Rules, 2009.
 - (2) G.S.R. 714 (E), dated the 30th September, 2009, publishing the All India Services (Discipline and Appeal) Amendment Rules, 2009. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 808/15/09]

- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—
- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad, 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. 806/15/09]
- III. (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, 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. 804/15/09]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai, 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. 803/15/09]
- IV. Annual Report of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), New Delhi, for the year 2008, sub-section (3) of Section 14 of the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 807/15/09]

MOU (2009-10) between Government of India and the TCIL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Department of Telecommunications) and the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL), for the year 2009-10. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 763/15/09]

Reports and Accounts (2007-08) of various groups of Ashok Hotel Corporation Ltd. and related papers.

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SULTAN AHMED): 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-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of M/s. M.P. Ashok Hotel Corporation Limited, Bhopal, 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. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 753/15/09]

- (b) Twenty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of M/s. Utkal Ashok Hotel Corporation Limited, Puri, 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.
- (c) Reviews by Government on the working of the above Corporations.
- (d) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 754/15/09]

Reports and Accounts (2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07) of various Corporations 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 each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956: —
 - (a) Thirty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Kerala Land Development Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2004-05, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 838/15/09]
 - (b) Annual Report and Accounts of the Uttar Pradesh Projects Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 2005-06, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 836/15/09]
 - (c) Thirty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Andhra Pradesh State Irrigation Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, 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.
 - (d) Reviews by Government on the working of the above Corporations. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 837/15/09]
 - (e) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 838/15/09]

MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA

The Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill, 2009

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:—

“In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Workmen’s Compensation (Amendment) Bill, 2009, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 25th November, 2009.”

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

SHRI N.K. SINGH (Bihar): Sir, I present the following Reports (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development:—

- (i) Two Hundred and Fourteenth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendation/observations contained in the Two Hundred and Seventh Report on Demands for Grant 2008-09 (Demand no. 58) of the Department of Higher Education;
- (ii) Two Hundred and Fifteenth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendation/observations contained in the Two Hundred and Eighth Report on Demands for Grants 2008-09 (Demand no. 105) of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports;
- (iii) Two Hundred and Sixteenth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendation/observations contained in the Two Hundred and Ninth Report on Demands for Grants 2008-09 (Demand no. 104) of the Ministry of Women and Child Development; and
- (iv) Two Hundred and Seventeenth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendation/observations contained in the Two Hundred and Sixth Report on Demands for Grants 2008-09 (Demand no. 57) of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

REPORTS OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR (Punjab): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Public Accounts Committee (2009-10):—

- (i) First Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Sixtieth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Irregular Award of Construction Work relating to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education) and the University Grants Commission;

- (ii) Second Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Seventy-third Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Management of Foodgrains relating to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution); and
- (iii) Third Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations of the Committee contained in their Seventy-seventh Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme (APDRP) relating to the Ministry of Power.

STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): Sir, with your permission, I beg to announce that the Government Business in this House for the week commencing 30th November, 2009, will consist of:—

1. Consideration and passing of the Legal Metrology Bill, 2008.
2. Consideration and passing of the following Bill, after they have been passed by Lok Sabha:—
 - (a) The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2009, to replace the Ordinance.
 - (b) The Essential Commodities (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2009, to replace Ordinance.
3. Consideration and passing of the National Commission for Heritage Sites Bill, 2009.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Sixtieth Anniversary of adoption of the Constitution

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया (झारखंड): उपसभापति महोदय, आज सुबह प्रश्न काल शुरू होने से पहले हमने पिछले साल 26 नवंबर को मुंबई में जो ताज होटल और दूसरी जगहों पर हमला हुआ था, उसमें जो लोग शहीद हुए, उनको श्रद्धांजलि दी और उनकी आत्मा की शांति के लिए प्रार्थना भी की। महोदय, आज लोग मुंबई पर हमले के सिलसिले में 26 नवंबर को याद कर रहे हैं, लेकिन 26 नवंबर हमारे लिए इसलिए भी महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि आज से 60 वर्ष पहले, 26 नवंबर, 1949 को हमारे देश का संविधान adopt हुआ था। आज 60 वर्ष बीत चुके हैं, इस संविधान में करीब 109 अमेंडमेंट्स हो चुके हैं और संविधान का जो Preamble है, उसके पहले पेज पर इसका उल्लेख है कि यह संविधान 26 नवंबर, 1949 को adopt हुआ। आज हम उस दिन को भूल गए हैं। मुझे यह देखकर बड़ा दुःख हुआ कि आज किसी अखबार में इसका उल्लेख नहीं है, किसी टेलीविजन चैनल पर इसका उल्लेख नहीं है, और तो और, जिस सेंट्रल हॉल में यह adopt किया गया, उस स्थान पर कम

से कम फूलों का एक गुलदस्ता तो होता, तब भी अच्छा लगता। यह सिर्फ हमारी जानकारी के लिए नहीं, लेकिन आज की जो वर्तमान जनरेशन है, उनकी जानकारी के लिए, हमारे नौजवान और नवयुवतियों की जानकारी के लिए और भविष्य में उनको बताने के लिए कि राष्ट्रीय चरित्र का निर्माण केवल भगवद्गीता, कुरान शरीफ, बाइबिल और गुरु ग्रन्थ साहिब पढ़कर ही नहीं मिलेगा, इनसे तो अगले जहां के लिए रास्ता बनता है, लेकिन इस दुनिया में रहने के लिए हमारा जो गणतांत्रिक अधिकारों का संविधान है, जो सबसे बड़ा ग्रंथ है और इस Temple of Democracy के नीचे बैठकर, जिस संविधान को मानकर हम आगे चलते हैं, हम सिर्फ उसके संरक्षक ही नहीं हैं, बल्कि हमें उसकी उपासना भी करनी चाहिए, उसको याद भी रखना चाहिए।

हमारे पूर्व पुरुषों ने, जिन्होंने एक सशक्त संविधान भारत को दिया, कितनी कुर्बानियां देने के बाद Transfer of Power इसी सेंट्रल हॉल में हुआ और इसी सेंट्रल हॉल में उसको adopt किया गया और अंततः 24 जनवरी, 1950 को इस पर दस्तखत हुए और फिर यह 26 जनवरी, 1950 से enforce किया गया। हम 26 जनवरी को गणतंत्र दिवस तो मनाते हैं, लेकिन आज जो Law Day है, जिसके तहत हम कानून बनाते हैं, जिसके तहत हमारी यह पार्लियामेंट चलती है, जिसके तहत हमारे यहां एक्जीक्यूटिव काम करती है, जिसके तहत हमारे यहां जूडिशियरी चलती है या पत्रकार अपना काम कर सकते हैं, उसका सम्मान करना हमें नहीं भूलना चाहिए। आज 60वां साल है, मैं समझता हूं कि हमसे चूक हुई है, भूल हुई है, इसको मानते हुए हम इस बात का निर्णय लें कि अगले साल से हम इस दिन को भी मनाया करेंगे। धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The entire House associates with it.

Cultural and Heritage Committee of Railways and safety

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of this House that the Railways, recently, constituted Cultural and Heritage Committee. The Chairman and the Members are full-time. For the first time, the Committee has been formed and will get salary of Rs. 50,000 p.m., apart from daily allowance of Rs. 520, First Class A.C. fair, medical facilities and so on and so forth.

Sir, on the one hand the Government of India is talking about austerity measures and on the other the Indian Railways have decided to act contrary to that. The posts with higher salary, etc., have been created in the senior administrative cadres in spite of the fact that the Sixth Pay Commission's recommendation that except functional consideration no new post of senior administration grade will be created. This decision has been flouted by the Railways purely on political considerations. Railways are naming stations without consulting the State Administration. However, it had previously been a practice. It is not caring to properly invite the State Ministers and others, obviously, with political motives. And, Sir, what is the main duty of the Railways? In the Citizens' Charter, the Railways are committed to provide a safe and dependable train service. While dealing with disaster management, including man-made incidents in Railways, the audit, in 2008, observed that preparedness was not geared, the relief equipments were not strategically located and maintained, could not provide an organized relief in many cases, and there was less than 25 per cent of the frontline staff, required to respond in disaster management. The Railways, instead of properly addressing such crucial issues, are now engaged in cultural activities and functions, in a big way, in moving trains for a person,

associated with one designated party, and that too at a time when the Government is talking about financial austerity measures in the administration. I would like the Government to look into this matter.

Children falling sick due to inferior quality of mid-day Meals

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार): सर, मुझे बहुत दुख के साथ यह कहना पड़ता है कि “मिड-डे मील” बहुत ही अच्छे उद्देश्य से इस देश में लागू किया गया है, ताकि इससे बच्चे स्कूल जाएंगे और उनको दोपहर का भोजन मिलेगा। यह बहुत अच्छी बात है और सरकार ने भी “सर्व शिक्षा अभियान” के तहत इसको बढ़ाने का काम किया है। लेकिन यह “मिड-डे मील” ऐसा हो गया है कि आए दिन हमेशा अखबार में छपते हैं कि फलों स्कूल के बच्चे “मिड-डे मील” खाने के बाद बीमार पड़ गए। आज ऐसी घटनाएं बहुत सारे स्कूलों में हो रही हैं और इसके कारण कहीं-कहीं तो “मिड-डे मील” बंद कर दिया गया है या देते ही नहीं हैं।

सर, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इतने अच्छे काम के लिए क्या कोई administration नहीं है, क्या कोई infrastructure नहीं है कि इसको ठीक ढंग से चला सके? मैं यह आपसे जानना चाहूंगा और सरकार से जानना चाहूंगा कि वह इसके बारे में क्या करना चाहती है? मेरा यह कहना है कि “मिड-डे मील” के लिए सरकार से जो अनाज आता है और जो अनाज स्कूल में जाता है, जो समान स्कूल में जाता है, उसमें diversion होता है। स्कूल में खराब माल जाता है, घटिया माल जाता है और जो अच्छा माल सरकार से मिलता है, जो FCI के गोदाम से मिलता है, वह माल divert होकर बाजार में चला जाता है। बिहार में भी यही स्थिति है। इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि “मिड-डे मील” एक white elephant है और जो लोग स्कूल में इस काम का संचालन करते हैं, उनके संचालन में बहुत गड़बड़ी है, इसलिए मैं सरकार से यह मांग करूंगा कि “मिड-डे मील” के बारे में जरूर कुछ विचार करें। अगर आप विचार नहीं करेंगे, तो इतना pious जो आपका अभियान है, वह बिल्कुल फेल हो जाएगा और बच्चे डर से स्कूल नहीं जाएंगे, क्योंकि अगर वे स्कूल जाएंगे, तो उनको “मिड-डे मील” दिया जाएगा और उसको खाने के बाद वे बीमार पड़ जाएंगे, इसलिए मैं सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि वह इसके बारे में जरूर कोई विचार करें।

श्री प्रशांत चटर्जी (पश्चिमी बंगाल): महोदय, मैं इस विषय से अपने को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

Withholding of additional Central Assistance by the Central Government to Uttarakhand

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी (उत्तराखंड): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, जनवरी, 2010 में हरिद्वार में महाकुंभ होने वाला है। इस कुंभ मेले के लिए केन्द्र सरकार प्रति वर्ष सहायता देती है। जब भी कुंभ मेला होता है, उसके लिए राशन में भी, जो चावल, गेहूं है, सरकार विशेष सहायता देती है। इस बार बड़ा दुर्भाग्य है कि “कुंभ मेला”, जो देश का एक राष्ट्रीय event है, जिसमें देश भर से और विदेशों से भी लोग आते हैं, उसके लिए हमारी प्रदेश सरकार ने योजना आयोग के पास 400 करोड़ का स्पेशल पैकेज मांगा। इसके साथ-साथ प्रति वर्ष जो Additional Central Assistance (ACA) मिलती है और हर साल दस परसेंट बढ़कर मिलती है, उसके लिए 330 करोड़ रुपये के बजट का प्रावधान रखा, उसमें पैसा मांगा गया और 31.08.2009 को हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी की मुख्य मंत्री और योजना आयोग के उपाध्यक्ष के साथ जो बैठक हुई, उसमें 730 करोड़ रुपये की बात तय हुई, लेकिन केंद्र सरकार ने उसमें जो 330 करोड़ रुपया है, ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Kerala): Sir, where is the Minister?

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी: जो हर साल ACA में मिलता है, वह ACA का पैसा काट देने से ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: What is this, Sir? ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...**(Interruptions)**... Where are the Ministers?

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Why is Zero Hour going on here? Who is going to respond?
...(Interruptions)... Sir, please adjourn the House. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, please adjourn the House.
...(Interruptions)... Let the Minister come. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): During Zero Hour, no Minister has to respond. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. I cannot run the House without the Ministers.
...(Interruptions)... I cannot run the House without the Ministers. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, this is a contempt of the House.
...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned for five minutes.

The House then adjourned at seventeen minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House re-assembled at twenty-two minutes past twelve of the clock.

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.]

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Sir, they created unnecessary(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister give the explanation. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: The Minister was in the House. They don't want to run the House. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; no; please. ...(Interruptions)... No; No;
...(Interruptions)... One minute; let us not waste our time. ...(Interruptions)... आप बैठ जाइए
प्लीज़।

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): Sir, I was sitting in the House and just for two minutes, I went to discuss some important matter with Mr. Arun Shourie. I was sitting. But, in the pandemonium, I could not hear what was going on. That has happened. That is why the whole thing happened. ...(Interruptions)... I came to know what happened after the House was adjourned.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I regret the inconvenience caused to you and the House.
...(Interruptions)...

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Kerala): Sir, kindly see(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. She can walk anywhere but not ...
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, Mr. Ravi had come to discuss about the Business of the House. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी। कोश्यारी जी, जहां तक आप बोल चुके थे, वहीं से आप शुरू कर दीजिए।

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी: माननीय उपसभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री इधर तो बोलते हैं कि सब आए, लेकिन हमारे उत्तराखंड के बजट में 330 करोड़ रुपया ACA के अंदर, Additional Central Assistance के अंदर मिलना चाहिए था, जो हर साल मिलता है, हर साल दस परसेंट बढ़कर मिलता है। योजना आयोग के साथ जब हमारे माननीय मुख्य मंत्री और योजना मंत्री की बैठक हुई, उसमें यह तय था कि 400 करोड़ रुपया कुम्भ के लिए इस साल के लिए, one-time ACA के रूप में मिलेगा और उसके अलावा 330 करोड़ रुपया extra, जो हर साल दस परसेंट बढ़ाकर मिलता है, वह मिलेगा। उसकी स्वीकृति हो गयी लेकिन उसके बाद दुर्भाग्य से हमारे यहां योजना आयोग से जो रिपोर्ट आयी, उसमें इसका पूरा जिक्र नहीं आया और केवल one-time ACA के रूप में 400 करोड़ रुपया दे दिया। इस तरह से 330 करोड़ का नुकसान होने से जो हमारी बिजली की, पानी की, सड़क की या एजुकेशन की योजनाएं थीं, वे योजनाएं ठप्प होने के कगार पर हैं। इस प्रकार से या तो हम सारा रुपया कुम्भ में लगा दें या फिर उन योजनाओं को चलाएं। इस प्रकार से कुम्भ भी उससे प्रभावित हो रहा है और हमारी अन्य योजनाएं भी प्रभावित हो रही हैं। महोदय, हम पिछले तीन महीने से सरकार से कह रहे हैं कि सरकार को हमारे मेले के लिए जो राशन है — कम से कम 6000 मीट्रिक टन गेहूं, इतना ही चावल और इसी प्रकार से चीनी...(व्यवधान)...

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, if going to that side is objectionable, going to this side is also objectionable. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please.

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी: जो हमारा राशन है, इसको...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think, it is better if some Ministers sit on the front Benches and not on the back Benches.

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी: महोदय, अगर हमारी बात को नहीं सुना जाएगा तो कैसे काम चलेगा? यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विषय है, वहां पर लोगों में असंतोष फैला हुआ है। महोदय, 2001 के कुम्भ के मेले में, चाहे प्रयाग का हो या 1998 का हरिद्वार का मेला हो, एपीएल के अंदर राशन राज्य सरकारों को दिया गया, लेकिन आज हमारे यहां की केन्द्र सरकार एपीएल का जो राशन है, वह देने के स्थान पर यह कहती है कि तुम खुले बाजार से गेहूं और चावल लो। महोदय, आप जानते हैं कि उत्तराखंड एक पिछड़ा हुआ इलाका है। अगर वहां पर तुरंत सरकार ने एपीएल में राशन नहीं दिया तो हमारे लिए कुम्भ को चलाना मुश्किल हो जाएगा। अगर उन्होंने इसी प्रकार से 303 करोड़ रुपया कट कर दिया तथा नहीं दिया, तो आप जानते हैं कि हमारा स्टेट बॉर्डर का इलाका है, इधर से चायना और उधर से नेपाल है, मैं सोचता हूं कि इससे हमारी स्थिति बहुत खराब हो जाएगी। इस कारण हमारे साथ भेदभाव करना और कुम्भ को खतरे में डालना, सही नहीं है। महोदय, मेरा आपके माध्यम से निवेदन है कि सरकार तत्काल पुनर्विचार करके वह राशि हमको दे और आवश्यक राशन भी हमको दे। धन्यवाद।

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Rajasthan): Sir, we associate ourselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा): महोदय, मैं भी इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

Non payment of promised assistance to victims of 26/11 terrorist attacks in Mumbai

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभापति महोदय, आज 26/11 है, एक साल हुआ है मुम्बई पर हुए हमले को। इसमें 164 लोग मरे थे और 239 लोग जख्मी हुए थे। लेकिन एक साल के बाद हमने तो श्रद्धांजलि दे दी, जो लोग वीरगति को प्राप्त हुए तथा हताहत हुए थे। लेकिन इस बारे में क्या केवल श्रद्धांजलि से ही काम चलेगा? सरकार ने इन लोगों के लिए जो पैकेज घोषित किया था, क्या एक साल के बाद वह उनको मिला है?

उपसभापति महोदय, आपको ताज्जुब होगा कि सरकार कैसे चलती है, इसका यह बहुत ही बुरा नमूना है। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने घोषित किया था कि दो लाख रुपए हरएक 403 जख्मी तथा हताहत हुए लोगों को मिलेंगे। लेकिन एक साल के बाद आज के दिन तक कुल 403 लोगों में से केवल 118 लोगों को ही चैक मिले हैं। इसके अलावा 403 लोगों को दो लाख का धनादेश भी नहीं मिला है। यह कैसी सरकार है? होम मिनिस्टर ने घोषित किया था कि तीन लाख का कंपेंसेशन देंगे। उसमें तो कमाल हो गया कि कुछ लोगों को चैक तो मिले, इसमें से अभी एक चैक मेरे पास है जो मैं आपको दे रहा हूँ, यह तीन लाख का चैक आया था और वह बैंक से डिस-ऑनर हो गया, बाउंस हो गया। अगर यह गवर्नमेंट का चैक इस तरह से होता है और इस बारे में बैंक ने स्टेट बैंक से कंप्लेंट की थी। फिर भी चार महीने के बाद भी इस चूक का सुधार नहीं होता है तो इसका मतलब है कि बहुत लापरवाही है।

इसके अलावा रेलवे मिनिस्ट्री से कहा गया था कि जो 52 लोग छत्रपति शिवाजी टर्मिनस पर मरे थे, उनके परिवार के किसी एक सदस्य को नौकरी देंगे। लेकिन आज हालत यह है कि इनमें से केवल 20 परिवार के सदस्यों को ही नौकरी मिली है, बाकी 32 लोगों के परिवार वाले घूम रहे हैं और उनको अभी तक नौकरी नहीं मिली है। जो 52 लोग मुम्बई में सी0एस0टी0 पर मरे थे, उनको डैथ इंश्योरेंस क्लेम मिलना था। सर, आपको ताज्जुब होगा कि इसमें से सिर्फ 12 लोगों के ही इंश्योरेंस क्लेम तय हुए हैं तथा बाकी लोगों के क्लेम भी तय नहीं हुए हैं, जबकि इसको एक साल बीत गया है।

पेट्रोलियम मिनिस्टर ने भी कहा था कि इस हादसे में जो पुलिस अधिकारी और सुरक्षाकर्मी वीरगति को प्राप्त हुए थे, उनके परिवार को एक-एक रिटेल आउटलेट व पेट्रोल पम्प दिया जाएगा। इसकी क्या वास्तविकता है कि पेट्रोल पम्प तो किसी को दिया नहीं और इसमें बाद में खुलासा किया गया कि they will be entitled for the commission of Rs. 25,000 per month. इसका क्या मतलब हुआ? आप अपनी ही बातों से मुकर जाते हो और अगर एक साल होने के बाद भी इस तरह से काम होता रहेगा तो जो हताहत हुए तथा जो गंभीर रूप से जख्मी हैं, जिनको एक बार डिस्चार्ज मिला और फिर उनको नई तकलीफ शुरू हो गई तथा फिर से अस्पताल में एडमिट हुआ, उसका कोई खर्चा उनको नहीं मिल रहा है, तो इस तरह की जो लापरवाही है वह बिल्कुल गैरवाजिब है। अतः इस पर तुरन्त कार्रवाही होनी चाहिए तथा सदन के पटल पर भी रखना चाहिए कि इस संबंध में इस महीने क्या किया, यह बतलाना चाहिए।

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल (राजस्थान): महोदय, मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा): महोदय, मैं भी इससे एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Rajasthan): Sir, we associate ourselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्री उपसभापति: श्री आपटे, आपने नोटिस दिया था इस विषय पर, तो आप एसोसिएट कर दीजिए।

श्री बलवंत उर्फ बाल आपटे (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं एसोसिएट करूंगा, लेकिन इसमें दो विषय हैं, जिस पर मैं बताना चाहूंगा।

यह रेलवेज है, पेट्रोलियम है और प्राइम मिनिस्टर का आफिस है, इन सबसे जो रिलीफ आना चाहिए था, वह नहीं आ रहा है। अगर यहां सेंटर में इस काम के लिए कोई एक नोडल ऑफिसर नियुक्त किया जाए, तो यह हो सकेगा। इससे अर्जेंट यह है कि करीबन 12 लोग ऐसे हैं जिनके अंदर गोलियां घुसी थीं और इनको निकालने के लिए ऑपरेशन करना पड़ेगा। इसके लिए वे घूम रहे हैं तथा ऑपरेशन के लिए भी उनको कुछ नहीं मिल रहा है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Siva, please, let the Minister listen to the discussion. Please, this is not the time. Please allow the Minister to listen; you can talk to him later. There is an objection from the other side; this is an important matter.

SHRI BALAVANT *alias* BAL APTE: There are, at least, twelve people who are having bullets in their bodies. They need extraction; they need operation and that needs money. The money is also not being given. इसलिए यह जो दो-तीन बातें हैं, इनमें urgently कुछ होने की जरूरत है, इसलिए मैं ऐड कर रहा हूँ।

Concern over the crisis arising out of the lack of fertilizers and seeds in Uttar Pradesh

श्री नन्द किशोर यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार का ध्यान उत्तर प्रदेश में गंभीर खाद और बीज के संकट की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ। सर, उत्तर प्रदेश में खरीफ की फसल बर्बाद हो गई, उत्तर प्रदेश के कुछ हिस्से में बाढ़ आ गई और कुछ हिस्से में सूखा पड़ गया, जिससे उत्तर प्रदेश का किसान, जो धान उत्पाद करने का काम करता है, उसकी धान की फसल आधी रह गई है। इस समय रबी की फसल की बुआई उत्तर प्रदेश में और देश के अन्य भागों में चल रही है। पिछले दो वर्षों से उत्तर प्रदेश में गेहूँ की बुवाई के समय खाद का गंभीर संकट उत्पन्न हो रहा है। स्थिति यह हो गई है कि साधन सहकारी समिति और जो सरकार की खाद एजेंसियां हैं, उन पर किसानों की लम्बी-लम्बी लाइनें लग रही हैं, फिर भी, किसानों को खाद उपलब्ध नहीं हो पा रहा है। वहां पर भयंकर रूप से खाद की कालाबाजारी हो रही है। डीएपी उत्तर प्रदेश में सात सौ रुपये से लेकर एक हजार रुपये प्रति बोरी मिल रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश): यह तो केन्द्र सरकार की तरफ से ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं, नहीं। आप बैठ जाइए।...**(व्यवधान)**... आप बीच में बात मत करिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह जीरो ऑवर है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप रूल्स को फॉलो कीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. अखिलेश दास गुप्ता: *

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी: *

श्री वीर सिंह: *

श्री उपसभापति: मैं आपको और वक्त नहीं दे सकता हूँ। आप बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप पढ़ते जाइए, आप बोलते जाइए।...**(व्यवधान)**... आप बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उनको कुछ भी कहने दीजिए। यादव जी, आप बोलते जाइए। आपका रिकार्ड में जाएगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... देखिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड नहीं होगी। सिर्फ यादव साहब की बात रिकार्ड होगी, दूसरे सदस्यों की बात रिकार्ड नहीं होगी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यादव जी, आप बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... I have not permitted you. ...**(Interruptions)**... I have not permitted you. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री नन्द किशोर यादव: सर, खाद की कालाबाजारी हो रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I cannot help. ...**(Interruptions)**... If time is over, I cannot help. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री वीर सिंह: *

श्री वीरेन्द्र भाटिया: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी: *

श्री नन्द किशोर यादव: सर, कालाबाजारी हो रही है। डीएपी एक हजार रुपये बोरी बेची जा रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

* Not recorded.

श्री उपसभापति: श्री डी. राजा।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नन्द किशोर यादव: सर, हमारी पूरी बात नहीं हो पाई है।.. (व्यवधान).. सर, हमारी पूरी बात नहीं हो पाई है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: देखिए, आप मेरी बात सुनिए। हम मेम्बर्स से रिक्वेस्ट कर रहे हैं कि Please don't disturb. In spite of that if they disturb, the House will go on. The proceeding will go on. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप जो कहेंगे, वह रिकार्ड में जाएगा।...(व्यवधान)... उनकी बात रिकार्ड में नहीं जाएगी, उनकी बात रिकार्ड में नहीं जाएगी।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नन्द किशोर यादव: सर, गन्ने का उत्पादन कम हो गया है और पूरे किसान इस समय गेहूं की फसल पर आश्रित हैं। लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश में आज डीएपी की खाद नहीं मिल पा रही है। जो कृषि दपत्तर है, जो साधन सहकारी समितियां हैं, वे पूरी तरह से फेल हो गई हैं। जो बड़े काश्तकार हैं, उनको किसी तरह से केवल चार बोरी खाद मिल पा रही है। मैं आपके माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं, मुझे यह तो पता नहीं कि उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने कितने खाद की आवश्यकता है, उसकी कोई योजना या उसका कोई प्रारूप केन्द्र सरकार को भेजा है या नहीं भेजा है, लेकिन वर्तमान में उत्तर प्रदेश में खाद का गंभीर संकट है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप बोलिए।

श्री नन्द किशोर यादव: मैं आपके माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि वह इस समस्या की तरफ ध्यान देने का काम करें। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप बैठ जाइए।...(व्यवधान)... श्री वीरेन्द्र भाटिया जी, आप बैठ जाइए।...(व्यवधान)... Mr. Bhatia, don't disturb the House. Please, sit down. Now, Shri D. Raja.

Agitation of fishermen in the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I am raising an issue which is not partisan political issue. It is an issue which concerns our fishermen which needs united focussed national attention and also urgent action by the Government. Indian fishermen, particularly lakhs of Tamil Nadu fishermen, are deeply agitated at the restrictions on their fishing. As it is, Tamil Nadu fishermen face violence from the Sri Lankan Navy, from which our Government has offered no credible protection. Now, it is all the more shocking that the Government wants fishermen not to cross invisible lines in the Ocean. It is strange that the Government wants to levy lakhs of rupees as fines on fishing boats and even desist them if they cross 12 miles limit. How will Indian fishermen know where that 12-mile limit is when the huge Indian Coast Guard, with a huge fleet, is unable to stop seizure of Indian fishermen by the Pakistani Navy and by the Sri Lankan Navy? How will they enforce the draconian rules in our waters? I urge upon the Government to review all the foreign treaties touching on our marine resources. Fishermen already face severe problems. When the State Government issues licences for fishing boats, there is no need for the Central Government to set up a parallel licensing system. Before the Government finalises the draft Marine Fisheries (Regulation and Management) Bill, 2009, all the coastal States must be consulted and it is imperative on the part of the Union Government to consult all the coastal State Governments. Very recently, it has been reported that the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has

raised these issues with the Union Government. All sections of fishermen are agitating in Tamil Nadu. I urge upon the Government to intervene and give a concrete assurance in the interest of fishermen. This issue cannot be ignored or undermined by the Government. I appeal to all political parties to come forward. It is not an issue of one party. It is an issue concerning our fishermen. All parties should unitedly raise their voice in the interest of our fishermen.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri D. Raja.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, it is like adding fuel to the fire. Sir, we have been repeatedly raising the same issue, and on these lines only, Mr. Raja has raised this matter. Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by him.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri D. Raja.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri D. Raja.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri M.P. Achuthan....(*Interruptions*)...

DR. K. MALAISAMY (Tamil Nadu): Sir, please allow me.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This matter is over. You can associate yourself with this matter...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Achuthan, please go on...(*Interruptions*)...

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): Sir, regarding Sri Lankan Government, I can make one response. This matter has been taken up with the...(*Interruptions*)... Sri Lankan Government, and I believe, this is a matter concerning different coastal States...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir,...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Malaisamy, please...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, I hail from that State.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You may be hailing, but, notice has not been given. Please understand that it is Zero Hour.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, I may be permitted to raise it later on.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have to give notice for that.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: So, Sir, I will convey to the hon. External Affairs Minister and hon. Prime Minister that this matter has been raised here with all seriousness. And, I hope that it will be looked into.

Special Financial Assistance to Kerala

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala): Sir, the heavy rainfall in Kerala during the month of June this year caused widespread damage. The calamity affected more than one million people. About 127 persons lost their lives. The damage to agriculture was so severe that standing crops

in 26,000 hectares of land were lost. The total loss due to this calamity is estimated to be Rs. 741 crores. To assess the damage, a Central Team visited the State. Though the Central Team recommended Rs. 116 crore as special aid, the Cabinet sub-Committee proposed only Rs. 61 crores. Even this amount has not been released.

Now, the Government is saying that the State Government must arrange the money from its own funds and from the allocation under different heads in the next year. By denying any special assistance to Kerala, the Union Government is discriminating against the State. This is a breach of promise. The Government must sanction the assistance as recommended, at least, by the Central Team. Thank you.

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Kerala): Sir, it is a serious issue and the...
...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ... (Interruptions)... Please associate only.
...(Interruptions)... Next is Shri Mysura Reddy. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Sir, let the Minister say something. ... (Interruptions)... He is from Tamil Nadu. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, let the Minister speak on this Kerala issue.
...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It does not mean that I am opening a debate.
...(Interruptions)... I have asked him to associate. ... (Interruptions)... No, no.
...(Interruptions)...

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Kerala): I associate partly. ... (Interruptions)... I do not associate with the discrimination part but for the rest of it. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Associate, and, keep quiet. ... (Interruptions)... Mr. Mysura Reddy, please go ahead. ... (Interruptions)... Please do not wait. Please go ahead. No, no.

Illegal mining by M/s Obulapuram Mining Company

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I wish to raise a matter regarding illegal mining by M/s Obulapuram Mining Company. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Kerala): Sir, the Minister should respond.
...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your Member has spoken. It has gone on record. That is all.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Sir, never in the history of Independent India, such a daylight robbery. ... (Interruptions)....

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Rajasthan): Sir, the Minister is from Kerala. Let him associate. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. I am not allowing. Please. I am not allowing.
...(Interruptions)... Mr. Mysura Reddy, please go on. ... (Interruptions)... You only associate.

...(Interruptions)... Mr. Reddy, please speak. Nothing other than this will go on record.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Sir, this matter is regarding illegal mining by Obulapuram Mining Company. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: *

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: *

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: *

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(Interruptions)... No, no. I cannot create new rules.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Sir, never in the history of Independent India, such a daylight robbery... ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kurien, please. ...(Interruptions)... Another hon. Member is speaking. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Rajasthan): Sir, I am endorsing your ruling that he should associate. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Najma ji, hon. Member is speaking. Please. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Sir, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has granted a lease of 180 acres out of 827 acres to M/s Obulapuram Mining Company-I, M/s Obulapuram Mining Company-II and M/s Anantapuram Mining Corporation. But these companies have illegally grabbed the entire Obulapuram (Survey No.1). They are doing illegal mining in Obulapuram village. They are doing the mining work illegally without any mining lease, without any environmental clearance, or, without any forest clearances. Material worth thousand crores has been transported to China. There was a huge hillock that has vanished and has entirely been transported to China.

Secondly, Sir, in the adjoining area, M/s Mahabaleswarappa and Sons and M/s Ballari Iron Ore Private Limited are having mining leases. In between these five mines, there is a 'no-man land' of ten acres, where Sunkulama *Gudi* is situated. There are rastas to go to the Sunkulama *Gudi*. This was also illegally mined. This is also worth of few hundred crores.

I want to bring to the notice of the august House and also the Government that there are lot of iron ore stocks lying in the stockyards. My demand is that it should be seized, and, under the Revenue Recovery Act, the entire money should be recovered from the illegal mining companies.

Sir, I also demand that a Joint Parliamentary Committee should be constituted to probe into (i) the irregular sanctioning of mining leases, (ii) the irregular mining in Obulapuram, the entire

* Not recorded.

Ballari Reserve Forest Area in Andhra Pradesh, and, Thumati and Vittalapuram villages in Karnataka. Thank you.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with this issue.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with this issue.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate with the issue raised by Mr. Mysura Reddy.

Demands of Public Sector Employees

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा): धन्यवाद उपसभापति महोदय। Central Public Sector units के जो employees हैं, मैं आज उनकी मांगों के बारे में शून्य काल में आपकी अनुमति से मामला उठा रहा हूँ। देश भर में Central Public Sector के जितने सारे कारखाने हैं, यूनिट्स हैं, वहाँ के कर्मचारियों का एक फेडरेशन है, Public Sector Employees National Confederation (PSENC). PSENC BMS के बैनर के नीचे काम करता है। कल देश के कोने-कोने से उनके employees आए थे। जंतर मंतर पर उनका धरना-प्रदर्शन हुआ और खास कर विनिवेश के खिलाफ उनकी आवाज थी। उनकी यह भी मांग थी कि Central Public Sector employees का wage revision 5 साल में हो। 10 साल में wage revision करके उनको गुमराह किया जाता है और सरकार उनकी मांग ठीक ढंग से पूरा नहीं करती है। इसलिए wage revision 5 साल में हो, यह उनकी पहली मांग थी। जो Central Public Sector units में काम करते हैं, उनका विशेष concern है कि विनिवेश न किया जाए। उन्होंने प्रधान मंत्री के नाम से जो मांग-पत्र दी है, वह इस प्रकार है। “The Government should not make disinvestment in Central public sector undertakings. Sick PSUs like Hindustan Cables, HMT, NEPA, Scooters India, ITI, Tungbhadra Steel, etc., should be given revival packages. For some PSUs like Hindustan Cables, HMT, ITI, etc., recommendations are pending for the revival which should be implemented. Wage revision for the employees of these PSUs should be effected. Contract employment in PSUs should immediately be done away and all the employees working on contract basis should immediately be absorbed in permanent cadre. Kelkar Committee recommendations for disinvestment and also FDI should not be implemented in Defence PSUs like HAL, BEL, BEML, BDL, Midhani, etc. Ordnance factories should not be corporatised as recommended by the Kelkar Committee.” प्रधान मंत्री जी के नाम से उनका ज्ञापन रहा है। गवर्नमेंट, मैनेजमेंट और ट्रेड यूनियन representatives की एक tripartite committee को उन्हें profit making industry बनाने के लिए review करना चाहिए। इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से यह मांग करता हूँ कि Central Public Sector units का कतई विनिवेश न किया जाए। यहाँ श्रम मंत्री जी भी मौजूद हैं, तो इन employees के हितों का ख्याल किया जाए...।

श्री उपसभापति: पाणि जी, आपका समय समाप्त हो गया है, माइक भी बन्द हो गया है और वह रेकार्ड में नहीं जा रहा है।

श्री आर.सी. सिंह (पश्चिमी बंगाल): महोदय, मैं अपने आपको माननीय सदस्य के इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री समन पाठक (पश्चिमी बंगाल): महोदय, मैं अपने आपको माननीय सदस्य के इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I associate with Mr. Pany.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with him.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Special Mentions.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Concern over health hazard due to unsafe water and lack of hygiene

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA (Rajasthan): Thank you, Sir. According to WHO report 'Safer Water for Better Health', one in every 10 diseases and 6 per cent of all deaths globally are caused by unsafe water and improper hygiene. In India, 1.03 crore people die annually of which nearly 7.5 per cent, that is, 7.8 lakh deaths are related to water, sanitation and hygiene. Diarrhoeal diseases make up a chunk of this number causing 4.02 lakh deaths, followed by malnutrition, which accounts for 2.17 lakh lives. In the 32 worst affected countries like India, 15 per cent of the disease burden could be prevented by improving water, sanitation and hygiene. 9.1 per cent of the global burden of disease could be prevented by promoting clean safety and sanitation. In developed countries, water causes less than 1 per cent of deaths; and in India, it is a horrendous scenario.

The World Health Organisation Report says investing in drinking water and sanitation will allow healthcare agencies save \$7 billion and individuals \$340 million a year on healthcare costs. Values of deaths averted, based on future earnings, would amount to \$3.6 billion a year. "In summary, there would be a total payback of \$84 billion a year from the \$11.73 billion annual investment needed to meet the drinking water and sanitation target of Millennium Development Goal – 7".

In view of above horrendous scenario of health hazard, I would request the hon. Minister for Health and Family Welfare to take immediate corrective steps on war footing. Thank you, Sir.

Need to declare Cow as the national animal and impose ban on killing of bovines

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास (छत्तीसगढ़): उपसभापति महोदय, संविधान के अनुच्छेद 48 में गायों, बछड़ों तथा अन्य दुधारू पशुओं के वध का प्रतिषेध करने के लिए राज्य को कदम उठाने के लिए कहा गया है। वर्तमान प्रयोगों, शोधों एवं सफल उद्योगों ने सिद्ध कर दिया है कि गो के मल-मूत्र से बने उत्पाद उसे दूध न देने के बाद भी लाभकारी बना रहे हैं। देश के सभी समुदायों के विद्वान व संत गौ-वध का निषेध करते हैं। कुछ राज्यों में प्रतिबंध है, पर उन राज्यों से लाखों गौएं अन्य राज्यों में ले जाई जा रही हैं, जहां प्रतिबंध नहीं है और वहां बड़े क्रल्लखाने खुले हैं। तस्करी के माध्यम से गाय विदेशों में भी जा रही है। सरकार ने माना है कि गौ-मांस निर्यात नहीं होता।

बैल आज भी ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में मनुष्यों और माल ढोने के लिए सबसे अधिक उपयोगी हैं। गोबर ऊर्जा का स्रोत है। उपरोक्त को ध्यान में रख कर सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने गुजरात के संपूर्ण गौ-वंश की हत्या पर प्रतिबंध को वैध ठहराया है।

इस समय देश में 'विश्व मंगल गौ ग्राम यात्रा' लोक जागरण व शिक्षण के लिए चल रही है। मेरा सरकार से निवेदन है कि देश की परम्परा, संविधान की मंशा, कृषि में आत्मनिर्भरता और पर्यावरण की रक्षा एवं पवित्रता के लिए गाय को राष्ट्रीय प्राणी घोषित करें एवं सम्पूर्ण देश में गौ-वंश सहित उसके वध पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के लिए कानून बनाएं।

श्री सूर्यकान्तभाई आचार्य (गुजरात): सर, मैं इनके विशेष उल्लेख का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं भी इनके इस विशेष उल्लेख का समर्थन करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, those who want to read their Special Mention can read it and those who want to lay it, they can lay it.

Demand to implement three language formula

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE (Maharashtra): Sir, does India have a national language? The answer is not affirmative. Does India need a national language? The answer may not be definitive. If India needs a national language, can it be a foreign language? The answer is 'No.' We should not forget that like national flag and national anthem, a nation must have a national language. Like the national flag and the national anthem, the national language is a symbol of national identity and pride.

Even though we believe that Hindi is the national language of India, we have been ambivalent towards it. We feel elated in speaking English, but we are not proud of Hindi.

English is the international language no doubt, but we should not forget that Hindi is the national language.

All other Indian languages are provincial. If we develop Hindi as a national language, it will be approved as one of the official languages of the United Nations. India is likely to get permanent membership of the Security Council.

Hindi is the link language on record, but we are not particular in using it. There is a difference between a link language and a national language. The link language links whereas the national language cements.

In view of national unity, we should implement the three-language formula. Linguistically, we should be a three-dimensional people. I, therefore, demand that the Government should consider implementing the three-language formula. Thank you.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, India on linguistic basis has got many nationalities. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, he cannot ...*(Interruptions)*... on the one language.

श्री धर्म पाल सभ्रवाल (पंजाब): सर, मैं इस पर ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: इसमें इंटरफेयर मत कीजिए, रिकॉर्ड पर कुछ नहीं जाएगा ...**(व्यवधान)**...।

श्री धर्म पाल सभ्रवाल: नहीं सर, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: रिकॉर्ड पर कुछ नहीं जाएगा ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह स्पेशल मैन्शन में नहीं है, भई ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप रूल्स क्यों नहीं पढ़ते, स्पेशल मैन्शन में कोई और बात नहीं जाएगी।

श्री धर्म पाल सभ्रवाल: सर, मैं समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री उपसभापति: आप समर्थन कीजिए, लेकिन इसमें वह भी नहीं है।

श्री धर्म पाल सन्नवाल: लेकिन, सर ...(व्यवधान)...।

श्री उपसभापति: जो लिखित में देगा, वही जाएगा ...(व्यवधान)...

एक माननीय सदस्य: समर्थन तो दे सकते हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: समर्थन के लिए उठ कर बोल सकते हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री धर्म पाल सन्नवाल: सर, आप थोड़ा इस साइड भी देख लीजिए ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us not waste the time of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... हो गया। आपकी बात ले ली गई। ...(व्यवधान)... अच्छी बात है। ...(व्यवधान)...

डा० राम प्रकाश (हरियाणा): सर, मैं इस स्पेशल मेशन से अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**Demand to set up a memorial of Chaudhary Devi Lal, the former
Deputy Prime Minister of the country**

SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH (Haryana): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I seek the support of this august House for the justified demand of the Chaudhary Devi Lal Trust to make a suitable memorial in honour of the departed leader. The hon. Members of the House are aware that Chaudhary Devi Lal joined the freedom movement at the age of 16 years and courted arrest. He remained in jail at different times till India attained freedom. Chaudhary Devi Lal was the first person in Punjab who distributed chunk of his agriculture land free of cost to the poor landless farmers and dalits in his village. He belonged to a very rich agriculturist family. His brother was elected an MLA in Punjab Assembly, Lahore in the United India. Chaudhary Devi Lal was elected an MLA during the first election in free India in 1952 and remained a Minister with S. Partap Singh Kairon, Chief Minister of Punjab. He was thrice Chief Minister of Haryana. Chaudhary Devi Lal got a rare honour of being elected to be the Prime Minister of India in 1990, but he himself declined the honour and put up Shri V.P. Singh in his place as the Prime Minister. He served the nation as Deputy Prime Minister of India. Later on, he was a Member of this House also.

He lived in House No. 100, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi, where he breathed his last. Chaudhary Devi Lal Trust is helping a large number of poor people, specially the students in projecting the ideals of Chaudhary Devi Lal and is serving the people in right earnest. The Government of India should accede the request to allot bungalow at 100, Lodhi Estate, for the Trust. There are instances where the Ministry of Urban Development has allotted houses in the name of some National Leaders. Thank you.

**Concern over converting all seats of a medical college in
Ahmedabad into self-financed seats**

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL (Gujarat): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, there are two medical colleges in Ahmedabad city. One is attached to the Civil Hospital and the other to NHL Municipal Medical College. There were 100 seats in each college. The fees to be charged was only Rs. 6,000/- per term per student. Both colleges were giving admission on merit. No doubt,

1.00 P.M.

there was reservation for the S.C./S.T. and local students. There was also all India Quota too.

Recently, the ruling party in Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation has converted all 100, 150 seats of NHL Municipal Medical College into self-finance seats and the fees to be charged is running into lakhs of rupees. All the S.C./S.T. and poor students with merit will be deprived of the facility of medical education.

I, therefore, request the Minister of Human Resource Development of the Government of India and also the Health and Family Welfare Minister of the Government of India to examine the issue and take pro-poor decision at an early date.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Rajeev Shukla—not present. Shri R.C. Singh.

Concern over death of workers in BALCO construction site accident

श्री आर.सी. सिंह (पश्चिमी बंगाल): महोदय, 23 सितम्बर को बाल्को में एक चिमनी के गिरने से सीरियस एक्सिडेंट हुआ, जिसमें, उस समय यह रिपोर्ट थी कि सैंकड़ों लोग मारे गये हैं, लेकिन बाद में यह खबर आयी कि 40 डेड बॉडीज मिली हैं। यह एक सीरियस एक्सिडेंट था। जो 40 डेड बॉडीज मिली थीं, उनमें से 9 का identification नहीं हो सका था, क्योंकि वहाँ पर किसी तरह का कोई रिकॉर्ड मेंटेन नहीं होता है। बाल्को ने सेपको को contract दिया था और सेपको ने Gannon Dunkerley & Co. को sub contract दिया था, जिनके पास कोई रिकार्ड नहीं था और सेपटी की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं थी। एक बड़ी चिमनी गिरने से 40 लोगों की मौत हो गयी, जिनमें से 9 identified नहीं थे। यह सीरियस मैटर था। वहाँ rescue की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं थी। हफ्तों तक rescue नहीं हो सका। जब निकाली गयी 9 डेड बॉडीज हफ्तों बाद तक आइडेन्टिफाई नहीं हुई तो हमने यह डिमांड की कि जो प्रिंसिपल एम्प्लायर, सेपको है और उनके जो सब-कॉन्ट्रैक्टर Gannon Dunkerley & Co. हैं, इनको immediately arrest किया जाए और कंपनी के सारे records seize किये जाएं। जो चीजें वर्कर्स के हित में हैं, जैसे उनका Attendance Register, उनका identification आदि, उन्हें immediately seize किया जाए। हमने कहा था कि सारे वर्कर्स को कॉन्ट्रैक्टर immediately 10 लाख रुपये पेमेंट करे और उनके dependent को बाल्को में employment दिया जाए। इसके साथ ही बाल्को द्वारा प्राइवेट इन्वेस्टर्स को जो शेयर्स बिक्री किये गये हैं, उनको कैसल कर बाल्को को fully nationalize किया जाए। हमने यह डिमांड रखी थी।

श्री समन पाठक (पश्चिमी बंगाल): सर, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY (Orissa): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri R.C. Singh.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Kalraj Mishra. He is not here.

Concern over increasing number of diabetic patients in the country

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, World Health Organisation और International Diabetes Federation द्वारा दी गई जानकारी के मुताबिक भारत Diabetes मरीजों की संख्या में विश्व में सबसे आगे है। 2007 में हमारे देश में Diabetes के मरीजों की संख्या 4 करोड़ थी जो कि 2025 तक बढ़ कर 7 करोड़ हो जाने की उम्मीद की जाती है, जिसके कारण भारत को दुर्भाग्य से Diabetes Capital of the World का दर्जा दिया जाने लगा है।

पारंपरिक दृष्टि से Diabetes को अमीरों और वृद्ध लोगों की बीमारी समझा जाता था, परन्तु अब यह सोच सही नहीं है। आज Diabetes निम्न आय वर्ग में भी बढ़ती जा रही है। अत्यंत चिंता का विषय यह है कि जहाँ

Diabetes अमीर और गरीब को बराबर नुकसान पहुँचा रही है, वहाँ यह शहरों और गाँवों की दूरी को भी मिटा रही है, जिसके कारण गाँवों में Diabetes तेजी से फैल रही है। यह हमारे देश के लिए कतई अच्छा नहीं है, क्योंकि हमारी 72 प्रतिशत जनता गाँवों में रहती है। Diabetes को देश में विशालकाय रूप से फैलते देख यह आवश्यक है कि देश के नागरिकों के स्वास्थ्य की रक्षा के लिए इस दिशा में ठोस कदम उठाये जाएं।

अतः मेरी सरकार से यह मांग है कि सर्वप्रथम लोगों को इस विषय में जागरूक किया जाये तथा इसके कारण होने वाली अन्य बीमारियों के बारे में बताया जाये। लोगों को शारीरिक व्यायाम के साधन और सुविधाएँ उपलब्ध करायी जाएँ और जिन लोगों को Diabetes हो गयी है, उनको कम कीमत वाले Glucose meter, सस्ती दवाइयाँ, Insulin और insurance cover जैसी सुविधाएँ दी जाएँ जिससे वे इस बीमारी से लड़ सकें। इस विषय में राष्ट्रीय नीति बनायी जाए और इस पर तुरन्त अमल किया जाए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Gireesh Kumar Sanghi. He is not here. Shrimati Jaya Bachchan. She is also not here. Shri N.R. Govindarajar. He is also not here.

**Demands for making process of educational loan applications
online in all banks of India**

SHRI A. ELAVARASAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would like to raise my request regarding implementation of online application with downloadable facility for educational loans. The courses which have employment opportunities either in Government and private organisation should be considered for grant of educational loans. All nationalised banks are being reluctant to provide educational loans and even to issue loan application to the students. Further, the loan application is given only after ensuring the fiscal background and third party surety. For other students who do not have financial backup, the issue of applications are refused. The actual number of student beneficiaries released by the Government by now and then are only who have shown fiscal background and third party surety. It is also insisted by the nationalised banks that the third party surety should be drawn from any State or Central Government employee. Resultantly, a huge number of students seeking educational loan for their higher studies in engineering and other courses with employment potentiality are affected because of the fact that they do not have any financial backing and third party surety of employees from Government and other public sector undertakings, and the exact number of students who need education loan is obviously obscured. Therefore, I request the Government to issue directives to all nationalised and commercial banks to accept loan application online. Also downloadable application and the application status of education loan should be available on their respective bank websites transparently so that all students who are going for higher studies will be benefited. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Rajkumar Dhoot. He is not there. Shri Ali Anwar Ansari. He is not there. Shri P. Rajeeve.

**Need to reduce arbitrary hike in application fee for post of
Junior Accounts Officer in B.S.N.L.**

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (KERALA): Sir, I would like to draw the Government's attention to the arbitrary approach of BSNL towards the unemployed youth in this country. The fee prescribed

for applying for the post of Junior Accounts Officer in BSNL is Rs. 1,000. India is a country where 78 per cent of the families live with less than Rs. 20/- income per day. The entire means of livelihood of families are not sufficient enough to educate their children. They are compelled to secure loans for educating their children and pursuing their higher education. But the dismal fact is that no financial institution provides facility for financial assistance to the unemployed youth to apply for getting jobs.

By charging such an exorbitant fee for applying such posts, the BSNL earns millions of rupees. But for the unemployed youth, it is a grave injustice. Most of the public undertakings and nationalised banks in this country have followed the same approach in recruitment process. Actually, this higher application fee is an instrument for excluding youth from poor families.

This is an urgent matter which needs an immediate consideration since the last date prescribed for applying for the post is 15th December, 2009. Thank you.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri P. Rajeeve.

SHRI P.R. RAJAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri P. Rajeeve.

SHRI R.C. SINGH (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri P. Rajeeve.

**Need for formulating an anti-discriminatory law to address the violation
of rights of people living with HIV/AIDS in the country**

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I may be permitted to draw the attention of the House to the rampant discrimination faced by people living with, and affected by, HIV. They have suffered discrimination in employment, education and medical treatment. Children have also not been spared and there have been instances of expulsion from school due to the HIV status of the parents. Discrimination in hospital settings takes the form of public identification, isolation and denial or delay of treatment or untimely discharge.

These practices are an affront to the Constitutional guarantees of equality and non-discrimination and if unchecked, they will drive the epidemic underground. People will be less willing to test for HIV or access healthcare services owing to legitimate fears about the stigma and discrimination that will follow. Consequently, efforts aimed at ameliorating public health and preventing the spread of HIV will suffer.

The Indian legal framework must address incidents of discrimination and breach of confidence in both public and private settings. Further, the law must also guarantee free, complete and accessible medical treatment to the people living with HIV. Presently, second-line anti-retroviral treatment for those who develop resistance to first-line drugs is not freely available in the country, nor are nutritional supplements.

To this end, an HIV/AIDS law is required in India which should protect and promote the rights of people living with HIV.

I hereby request the hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare to take the initiative to introduce a Bill to address the above concerns at the earliest. Thank you.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Dr. Sudarsana Natchiappan. It is a very important issue. I request the hon. Minister to respond.

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Dr. Sudarsana Natchiappan.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Dr. Sudarsana Natchiappan.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All are associating.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: This is a very important issue. Vayalar Raviji, why don't you respond?
...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. He will respond through a written reply.
...(Interruptions)... It will be responded through a written reply. You will get it.
Shri T.K. Rangarajan. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI RAVI SANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): Sir, I also associate with the Special Mention made by Dr. Sudarsana Natchiappan. A legislation is better. ...(Interruptions)...

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: It is very important and urgent. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, the Government will respond. ...(Interruptions)... The Government will respond. Shri T.K. Rangarajan.

**Concern over appalling condition of the workers engaged in
manufacturing of fire works in Sivakasi**

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to bring to your kind attention the appalling conditions in which the unorganised workers in the Sivakasi are engaged in manufacturing fireworks.

In the recent past, several accidents in Sivakasi have taken place in firework manufacturing units killing and injuring many people. I sadly point out that neither the provisions of the Indian Explosives Act nor the rules framed thereunder are being implemented. Particularly, when the manufacturing season starts for Deepavali, manufacturers in their anxiety to catch the markets violate all rules and norms specified in the said Act. In India, as the demand is seasonal, huge quantity of manufactured fire crackers is stored in a single place against the rules and whenever any accident happens, it results in huge loss of lives. It is also reported that in addition to the licensed units, a number of unlicensed units also engage in manufacturing crackers. Sections 96 (B) (1) — the maximum quantity of explosives that may be kept in a building; 96 (B) (2) — the maximum number of persons who may be in the building; 98 — provision of lightning conductors

and 102 (2) — balance of material not used should be immediately removed, etc., of the Indian Explosives Act are not being followed.

Steps to remove static electricity are not followed. For example, in Western countries, workers entering the factory are required to touch a copper plate to remove static electricity. I would like to quote from Dr. Arjun Sengupta's report which says, "In match making industry in Sivakasi, deaths are reported due to fire. Deaths are also reported in the homes of home-based workers in the industry."

In view of the above, I request the Government to take immediate steps to check all malpractices that are happening in Sivakasi and to strictly enforce precautionary measures envisaged in the Indian Explosives Act to avoid such frequent fire accidents. Thank you.

Need for proper implementation of the labour laws in the country

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Indian Trade Union Act, which was enacted long back, is not at all being implemented properly and effectively. It has become very difficult to even register a trade union. The Ramanujam Committee has recommended that if all the formalities required for the registration of a trade union are completed and if the Registrar of Trade Unions do not give the registration number within three months, the trade union should be treated as automatically registered. Today, around 1,000 applications of unions for registration under the Trade Union Act are pending. But no action is being taken by the Labour Ministry to ensure their registration. The Labour Ministry must give notice to the concerned officer seeking explanation as to why the registration number has not been given despite completing all the formalities. Only then the situation would improve.

No labour laws are being implemented in the Special Economic Zones. In many States, the units in the SEZs are exempted from implementation of labour laws. Similarly in the IT sector, no trade union is allowed to be formed. The V.V. Giri National Labour Institute of the Labour Ministry has studied the conditions of the workers in the IT sector and has prepared a report, which says that the conditions of the workers in the IT sector are 'comparable with those in the 19th Century prisons and with the condition of the Roman slave ships.' But the Labour Ministry has not acted on the basis of the NLI report to improve the conditions of the IT workers.

Hence I request the Government for proper implementation of the labour laws besides implementation of the NLI report at the earliest. Thank you.

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा): उपसभापति जी, मैं अपने को इस विशेष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ। क्या लेबर मिनिस्टर रिस्पांड करेंगे?

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं, वे बाद में रिप्लाई भेजेंगे।

Demand for enquiry into the decision taken by the DGS&D, which is contrary to the decision taken by the Union Cabinet on Jute Bags

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, on 7th September, 2009, the Union Cabinet decided to use jute bags only for food grains and sugar. On

6th October, 2009, the DGS&D Department under the Ministry of Food directed the Food Corporation of India to purchase 50,000 bales of artificial fibre bags for use in Chhattisgarh, Haryana and other States on the plea that jute manufacturers may not be able to supply nine lakh bales of jute bags in the ensuing rabi season. It is reported that this decision was taken in a meeting which was attended by the Joint Secretary, Ministry of Food, two officers of the rank of General Manager of the Food Corporation of India, officers from Haryana and Punjab, high level officials of two artificial fibre manufacturing business houses from Ahmedabad and Dhanbad and officials from All India Flat Tape Manufacturers' Associations. I want to know from the Government as to how some officials of the DGS&D dared to flout the decision of the Union Cabinet. According to the Indian Jute Manufacturers' Association, jute manufacturers are quite able to supply nine lakh bales of jute bags in the rabi crop season. I also demand an enquiry into the decision taken by the DGS&D which is contrary to the one taken by the Union Cabinet. Thank you.

Need to strengthen the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA (Maharashtra): Sir, the week, from November 14th to 21st is being observed as the U.N. Child Rights Convention Week. This year is significant because it is 20 years since the Child Rights Convention was signed. India is one of the signatories of this Convention. The Convention recognises the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that interferes with a child's education or which is harmful to child's health, or, physical, mental or social development. The Child Labour and Prohibition Act, which does not ban child labour, applies only to those categories of work that is deemed hazardous. Many other categories of work are left out. Though the Central Government has undertaken various schemes for the welfare of the children, yet, a lot has to be done. There is, therefore, an urgent need to amend the Act to make it broad-based and effectively enforced. Children working in hazardous occupations are to be withdrawn and rehabilitated, and the working conditions of children in non-hazardous occupations are to be regulated and improved. Only then we can truly celebrate a day dedicated to children.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Najmaji, you wanted to say something.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Rajasthan): Sir, now that you have properly codified the Special Mentions, and they are made in a proper form, it becomes a part of the business. I am sure the other Members also would agree with me. Just like we have the Order Paper listing out the business of the House, and we also have the Supplementary List of Business, I would suggest that the list of the Special Mentions, which are going to be made in the House, should be made available to the Members so that they would know what subjects are being raised through Special Mentions, and the Members, who would like to associate themselves, can do so. This will properly codify the effort which you have taken.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The problem is that though it is codified, we are not able to take

up Special Mentions every day. Depending upon the business of the House, we may or may not take them up every day. But the list is being circulated...

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: The list is not circulated to everybody. It is only circulated to those Members who have given their names for Special Mentions.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your suggestion will be examined.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: What I am suggesting is that you can circulate it to all the Members. In any case, we do not have many Special Mentions every day. It is only the photocopy of the list that needs to be made available. Then, it becomes easy for Members, who would want to be present in the House when Special Mentions are made, and, perhaps, I may not repeat the same Mentions. It will help the House. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 2.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at nineteen minutes
past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-seven minutes
past two of the clock.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN, (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) in the Chair.]

PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS

Need to take effective steps to avoid confrontation between Legislature and Judiciary

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, we take up further discussion on the Private Members' Resolution moved by Shri Ramdas Agarwal.

SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL (Rajasthan): Sir, I am not aware if anybody has given his name to speak on this Resolution.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): It is over, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Over! Any more names on this Resolution? No more names. Okay. ...*(Interruptions)*... Do you want to speak on this?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): Yes, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Yes, you speak on this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, Ramdasji has brought about a very good resolution, and I was going through it. In view of the seriousness of the issues involved, I thought, I must share my views today because the hon. Law Minister is also present here.

Sir, our Constitution stipulated a very fine blend of understanding and coordination between the Executive, the Judiciary and the Legislature. This is what is based upon the principle of separation of power, and separation of power means that each body is sovereign in its own field, and all the three are collectively accountable to the Parliament. The job of the Legislature is to make laws, the job of the Legislature is to ensure Executive accountability; the role of the Executive is to ensure governance, lay down policies, implement it and the job of the Judiciary is obviously the power of judicial review, with a clear mandate that it can also declare any action of the Government and the Legislature as unconstitutional, if it is found to be so. Sir, I hope, you are aware that we have got a chapter, part-III, in the Constitution of India, which clearly says, “If any law framed is contrary to the fundamental rights, the court can declare it to be ultra vires.” Sir, this whole issue arose in a very fine coordinated way. Occasional differences were there, but the inner strength of the Parliament, the extraordinary understanding of the Judiciary and the Executive ultimately sought to ensure that any differences should not spill beyond the limits of the Constitution. Sir, Keshav Singh’s case is very well known. You know it very well. When there was a confrontation between the Judiciary and the Legislature, there was a reference by the President of India under article 143. But, Sir, why I said Ramdas Agarwalji deserved to be congratulated? Of late, this very fine lakshman rekha is getting breached. The job of the Executive is to govern; the job of the Judiciary is to undertake rule of law; the job of the Executive is to ensure that the laws passed and policies made are properly implemented. And, all these three are collectively accountable to the Parliament. Now, Sir, how this problem has arisen? We will have to find that. The reason as to why today I wanted to speak on this is, I want to lift this whole debate to some higher level.

First came the instrument of public interest litigation in the Judiciary. We need to welcome that.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): With the permission of the Chair, I would like to bring to the notice of the veteran Member that today is the Law Day, the day on which our Constitution was signed.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: But, it is very unfortunate that though today is the Law Day, the 26th November; everybody is remembering about 26th November, 2008 but nobody is remembering this day, even the Government! In the Central Hall, not a single flower is put on the table where this law was passed, where the Constitution of India was adopted! Now, you want to remind me this! During Zero Hour, I raised this issue, but nobody came forward from the Treasury Benches, to support me on this.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Mr. Law Minister, we deeply appreciate you for reminding us. The Law Day is celebrated in the courts very well.

Now, Sir, this public interest litigation came about. The reason why today I speak wearing many hats. Obviously, the first and foremost is the Member of Parliament’s, the second is that of

a lawyer and also an active lawyer who has done a lot of PIL matters, and also a man having experience of governance as a former Minister in the Vajpayee Government. Therefore, I shall try to very briefly coordinate the teething problems as to how we have come to this situation.

Sir, public interest litigation is a good instrument. It has enhanced the image of our Judiciary world over, for the poor, for the downtrodden. If there are cases of corruption, Judiciary has intervened and ensured that many people are accountable. But, what happened was, of late, public interest litigation started degenerating. It became a kind of instrument where some people thought that they shall use it to have Executive accountability on a repeated basis. Kindly appreciate this aspect, Sir. I had occasion to raise this issue on some forum, and today I wish to share that in the Parliament.

Suppose, a particular agency is not functioning well. The court can give directions. If it is a municipal body, the court can give directions saying you are not functioning well. If the court decides to have a committee to oversee the functioning of MCD, sorry, it is not the functioning of the court. There are differences. We had a problem in the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences where the Director and the then Health Minister had a problem. Now, would the court appoint a committee to oversee the functioning of the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences? One of the problems which I say with profoundest respect to the Judiciary is that issues of governance are too complicated and the Judiciary should not intervene in the issues of governance under the plea of special committees and monitoring committees and the whole range of things. That is one of the biggest teething problems which is happening today. I had occasion to appear in my professional capacity in different High Courts of the country.

Sir, now let me raise a further larger issue. The Government undertakes certain work. A big road is required to be built, a big dam is required to be built; other infrastructure activities are required to be built. NGOs have grievance, they are entitled to have their grievance. They go to the court, they get a stay. The court is also under legal right to give a stay. But a question needs to be asked today. If a stay is vacated after two years, what happens to the delay which was caused? The reason as to why I am flagging these issues today is, as to how these teething problems have come about. Legislation is the job of the House. Let us be very clear about it. Judiciary repeatedly says that legislation should be left to the wisdom of legislature. But, at times what happens, Sir, certain areas are areas of problem. This may be because of our inefficiency or Governmental inefficiency. I will leave it there. But if judiciary says that because this is a pressing area, we will give directions, then, they have got to give directions. But, we should not forget that we have the highest regard for judiciary, we are proud of Indian judiciary, their independence, their stature, world over it is being talked about, but, judiciary is not the alternative for good governance. This fundamental issue is required to be appreciated. And if this rule is not understood, then, the Lakshman Rekha is breached. That is a very teething problem because where the boundary of governance ends and where the limits of judicial accountability

starts is a very complicated question and therefore, the wisdom is required to be trusted. Sir, today is also the occasion that we need to look inwards as to why this problem has arisen. The problem has arisen because people are generally having not a very constructive image of we who are in politics. We need to do introspection as well and this is very wrong. There is degeneration everywhere. People have a very good image about the Army. Fine. But you also had the occasion of a Former Chief of the Army, who was a Governor, was found to be involved in a scam. There are good politicians, there are bad politicians. But, today, as a class, we politicians don't enjoy a very good image. What is happening is, this kind of image deficit is also in some way provoking the people, inspiring the people, agitating the people to have a view that judiciary is the only answer. This disconnect is required to be plugged. That is very important and the reason as to why I am saying so is that we are proud of our democracy. As I always say, it is now 60 years that Indian democracy has been functioning and with the unfortunate experience of 70s when Emergency was imposed, no political party will dare to curb freedom, impose emergency. India shall be governed by democracy, by political process, by elections. Today they are in power, someday we will come to power, and the people of the country know that they can defeat any political leader howsoever popular; and they can unseat any political party howsoever powerful. If this is the strength of Indian democracy, then, why this image deficit? That is the question that we need to ask today. I think, this is a problem which has to be responded to by the collective will of all of us. We need to restore the pristine image of the Parliament and the image of politicians, which was the great tradition of our democracy and freedom movement with towering leaders of Congress and other political parties, who worked together regardless of political differences. This is also an occasion for us to look inwards. Thirdly, Sir, the Executive also would learn to be a little more active, responsible and accountable. Sir, there is a very famous quote. Some of my friends from Bihar will know it. If they find something in a jam they will say इसको कोर्ट से कराकर ले आइए, हम कर देंगे। You get it redressed from the court, then, we will do it accordingly. This is not a good sign. After all, courts are also overburdened. If people start going to courts and they have got so much of arrears — I hope the Law Minister is listening to me — if the people start going to courts for everything, ultimately what will happen to the democratic process? Sir, I won't take a long time but I am so grateful that you gave me time. But, let me conclude by this comment that we should be proud of our Constitution which has laid down the fine blend and coordination and the respective *Lakshman Rekha* of all the three State organs. Yes, there would be an occasional hiccup. Yes, there would be an occasional effort to encroach upon. But, we need to trust our inner strength. We need to trust the basic spirit of our Constitution and we also need to trust the abiding principle of democracy which, ultimately, ensures that we all work in co-ordination.

I am very grateful to you, Sir. Thank you.

SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI (Maharashtra): Sir, it is rather unfortunate, today, there is an apparent conflict which even a blind person can see between the judicial complex/hierarchy and the work of Parliament. The judicial activism was started with Justice Bhagawathi's intervention by way of Public Interest Litigation. It has, probably, now reached to a limit where certain guidelines and norms have to be issued and adhered to. This can be done only by lawyers and the people sitting on the Benches. It is unfortunate, today, the credibility of many institutions are falling. The credibility of politicians, as it was stated a little bit earlier, is also receding very fast. The judiciary, certainly, has a role to play. The people have a considerable faith in the judiciary. But, the judiciary should not stand itself and consider that it is standing and taking a contrary view to politicians or Parliament. Now, we have seen, very often, conflicts do arise between the interpretation given by courts and very often people try to find out as to what is the will of the Parliament on this. What did the Legislators want to do about this? This is something on which judiciary, very often, uses its own interpretation and on many occasions it is quite at variance with what Parliament intended to do. This conflict is not something new. It is an old conflict. It has been witnessed even in the USA. When a Judge of the Supreme Court asked, 'After all, there are limits to the powers of Judiciary. If the Parliament says that this is white and this is black, then the judiciary cannot intervene at all.' And, the Judge said, "No. We are the final authority, because even if you say this is black, we will decide what the shade of black is and we will determine a shade which will almost become white." So, this conflict between judiciary and legislature has been going on for a long-time. Now, the time has come that we must try to find out — as it was rightly stated — a *Lakshman Rekha*. The Judiciary has its own functions. The Legislature has its own function. And, to draw this *Lakshman Rekha*, it is the primary duty of the lawyers who are appearing, it is the primary duty of the Judges who are presiding over courts and also the Parliamentarians who should try to lay down their own limitations. If will arises, a certain requisite statute can also be passed in order to define the parameters within which the judiciary should function and the parameters in which the Parliament is supreme. I think, it is very necessary and it is high time that it is done. Thank you.

SHRI VEERAPPA MOILY: Mr. Vice-Chairman Sir, I am quite happy that this Resolution is now put before the House, particularly on an issue which is of this significance, for consideration. ... Particularly with regard to the Legislature, the Judiciary and the Executive on the day when the Constitution of India was inked, we celebrate it as a Law Day. This is a historical day because we adopted the Indian Constitution on 26th November, 1949. It is a comprehensive document. I would rather say a step further that it is a document of concrete resolution. It has addressed the problems of this country. And, I would also say that even though we say that it was debated in the Constituent Assembly, we should not forget the fact that this has the backing of wisdom of thousands and thousands of years. So, I would like to say that this is a spiritual Constitution that has been sanctified by the Constituent Assembly; a kind of

3.00 P.M.

document that has really bound the people together notwithstanding the religion, the race, the region, the caste or the language. That is how, today, we are proud to say that we are the largest parliamentary democracy. As I had already told yesterday, around eighty crores of electorate are, today, entitled to vote in such a big democracy as like this. It has provided a detailed structure of the Government with three pillars — the Legislature, the Judiciary and the Executive. It recognizes these three pillars of the Democratic Republic of India. The Constitution itself has clearly assigned specific roles to these three pillars. Ever since the adoption of the Constitution, the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary have, by and large, been functioning within the demarcated areas. This is the major achievement of our democracy. We live on this democratic system. The division of power between these three wings of the State has specifically been provided; and they need to operate in their respective spheres. The doctrine of separation of power has received judicial recognition at various stages. In the Delhi Law Case of AIR 1951, SC 332, the Supreme Court noted that though there are no specific provisions of the Constitution vesting legislative powers exclusively in the Legislature, the judicial powers in the Judiciary, the essence of the doctrine of separation of power was implicit in the constitution of scheme. Later on, in the Indira Gandhi versus Raj Narayan case also the Apex Court treated the separation of powers, as a part of the basic structure of the Constitution, comprising three organs of Republic. The court further observed that it is through each of these three organs that the sovereign will of the power has to operate and manifest itself, not only through one of them. We need to be conscious of this kind separation of power. That is the essence of the Constitution. We are going to stabilise this process, we are going to sustain this process for many, many hundred years to come. This could contain the aspirations of the people belonging to all the strata of the society. They have a solution there. That solution will have to be provided and those solutions will have to be nurtured by all the three pillars of democracy. Even in a case of 89, Ilyasi Versus State, the Apex Court observed that although the Doctrine of Separation of Power has not been recognised under the Constitution in its absolute rigidity but the Constitution makers have meticulously defined the functions of various organs of the States. It is a time-tested document. It is a document which remains and will continue to remain sacrosanct. That does not mean that we should not respond to the changes. Changes do take place. Changes should take place. A State is not a static organisation/society. We need to respond to the changes. Somewhere, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar did say that if you do not make a change and if the Constitution and various wings of the Government and the State do not respond to the aspirations of the people, it will become a volcano and explode itself. This is the caution which needs to be taken by the Legislature, by the Judiciary and also by the Executive. In S.S. Bola versus B.D. Sardana, the AIR 1997, there Supreme Court said and I quote: “It cannot be denied that the harmonious working of the Judiciary, the Legislature and the Executive would always

advance the cause of democracy. In any written Constitution, Sovereignty vests in the people, with the people as represented by the three wings and no wing can claim supremacy over any other wing.” This is what all the speakers including the hon. Members, Shri Ramdas Agarwal and Shri Ravi Shankar, many of you and many of us canvass for. The spheres are well defined with the balances and the counter balances. When we analyse the problem in true spirit and perspective, there is no occasion for conflict. On the other hand, it will develop mutual respect and harmony in otherwise gruelling giants. This is the beauty of our Constitution. This is how all the three wings will have to be synchronised. An independent Judiciary is the *sine qua non* of a vibrant democratic system. Independence does not mean that there should not be accountability. Independence will, definitely, be coupled with accountability. That is how we are now thinking. Maybe, a proposal is going to the Cabinet that we need to replace, with the permission of the Parliament, the Judges’ Inquiry Act with the Judges’ standard and accountability Bill. Whoever it may be, whether he is in Executive or in Legislature or in the Judiciary, we need to maintain certain standards. We need to be accountable to the people and the Governance, ultimately, will become the fulcrum of one of these bodies. This is what needs to be done and I hope to get support from all of you when I bring that Bill to you. That will definitely be a new path-finding Bill with an innovative approach to reassert and reassert ourselves to the constitutional aspirations. This is what we intend doing. Only an impartial and independent judiciary meted out, even handed justice without fear or favour. Judiciary is the protector of the Constitution. As such, it may have to some time strike down executive, administrative and legislative Acts of the Centre and States. For rule of law to prevail, judicial independence is of prime necessity. Ultimately, whether it is the Executive, Legislature or the Judiciary, their ultimate aim is to ensure the rule of law. Even the last man in the queue should be guaranteed with this kind of a sense of rule of law. Unless that is achieved, I don’t say that we are living in an atmosphere which is intended to be created by the Constitution of India and this needs to be revisited by all the three Wings of the State. The Members of the Constituent Assembly were very much concerned with the question of independence of Judiciary and made provisions to ensure this end. The Supreme Court itself — I have already quoted — never wanted that there should be any supremacy saying that this is supreme or that is supreme. This kind of a rivalry of supremacy to be established will have to be put an end and it has to be balanced, and, ultimately all the three wings will have to be equal and cannot override one another. This is the principle. The Supreme Court has itself laid emphasis on independence of Judiciary from time to time. The apex court recently in *A.C. Talwar vs. the High Court of Himachal Pradesh* 7 SCC has observed that the constitutional scheme aims at securing an independent Judiciary which is a bulwark of democracy. In *State of Bihar v. Bal Mukund Shah and others* (2000), the apex court has observed that ‘the concept of separation of powers

between Legislature, Executive and Judiciary, an independent Judiciary, as a fundamental concept, has now been elevated to the level of basic structure of the Constitution and are very heart of constitutional scheme.’

But, ultimately, with all these, the soul of the Constitution is the citizen of this country. None of these bodies can meddle with the soul of this country, *i.e.*, the citizen, its liberty, its rights and its getting access to justice everywhere. That is what we call in the world as ‘inclusive justice’; it cannot be an ‘exclusive justice’. No one can feel deprived or alienated from the mainstream of rule of law or the justice. That is why the essential doctrine, *i.e.*, the sovereign will of the power has to operate and manifest itself with the three organs of the State has been recognized. We cannot silence the sovereign will of the people. We cannot ignore the sovereign will of people. None of these three bodies should interfere with that kind of a sovereign will. That needs to be asserted and reasserted again and again in the democratic society of India.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): The Parliament represents the will of the people.

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: The sovereign will of the people; you represent and we represent; Yes, in Parliament. I don’t want to use the word ‘supremacy’. After all, you are the law-giver. But the law-enforcer also becomes important. But, ultimately, it is the people who are important and none of us can claim that we are superior to the people. The sovereign will of the people will have to manifest, reflect in the functioning of all the three bodies. That is what I would like to say. Hon. Members have raised a number of issues. I am not referring to individual issues that were raised, but I would like to sum up issues which have been raised on the floor of this august House, from the manner of appointment of Judges of High Courts to corruption in the judiciary and public utterances by some in the judiciary.

Shri Ramdas Aggarwal had referred to judicial activism becoming judicial adventurism. In this regard, I would like to invite attention to Dr. Kailashnath Katju Memorial lecture delivered by respected, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, former Speaker. I quote, “The obvious consideration before the Constituent Assembly was to preserve and protect the freedom and democratic rights of the people and the supremacy of the popular will in our system of governance”. Here, I would like to say that we just forget governance. Whether it is Judiciary, Legislature or the Executive, governance is the fulcrum of the entire activity. If governance fails, everything will collapse altogether. This is what we need to address. I quote again, “The centrality of will of the people finds its expression in the Preamble of the Constitution itself. The words, ‘we, the people of India’ and ‘do hereby adopt, enact and give to ourselves this Constitution’ recognises the sovereignty of the people and their primacy in our Constitutional system and convey its eternal message. And through the provisions of the Constitution we have enumerated the powers and responsibilities of the organs of the State before the facilitators of national will, leaving hardly any scope for doubt or confusion in the mutual relationship”. Shri Somnath Chatterjee further quoted

Chief Justice Verma, who was a former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. I quote, “The sovereign will of the people finds expression through their chosen representatives of the Parliament. The real political executive is the Council of Ministers which also controls the Lok Sabha wherein lies the real legislative power. Parliament exercises political and financial control over the Executive. And there are inherent checks and balances to keep every organ within the limits of Constitutional power. The grey areas are meant to be covered by a healthy consensus developed on the basis of mutual respect keeping in view the common purpose to be served by the exercise of that power”. Shri Somnath Chatterjee had on that occasion also referred to the words of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru when he had intervened in the debate of Constituent Assembly on the issue of Judiciary functioning as some kind of a super-Legislature or super-Executive. Even at that time, that perception had come in. I think he clarified that. Panditji, while speaking in the Constituent Assembly, had said, “No Supreme Court and no judiciary can stand in judgement over the sovereign will of Parliament”. This is what you had referred to. That is what was told by Panditji in the Constituent Assembly. “If we go wrong here and there, you may point it out, but in the ultimate analysis, where the future of the community is concerned, no judiciary can come in the way. Ultimately, the fact remains that the Legislature must be supreme and must not be interfered by a court of law in a measure of social reform”. So, you have the ultimate say in that and particularly, in social reforms.

I think the Parliament and the Legislature can better understand social reforms and the social fabric of the society than anyone else because we represent the people. I hold that view. We need to uphold those great principles which have been enunciated by our great leader, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. This is what many of our hon. Members spoke about. Our Ramdas Agarwalji has referred to the hon. Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, who mentioned about the enormous powers of our judiciary and enormous responsibility in the exercise of these powers in his Address to the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices in 2007. Our respected Prime Minister said, “Unless the three wings of the State understand each other better, they will not be able to function effectively in the interest of our nation and our people. The three wings have well-defined roles and functions under our Constitution. However, all the wings have a common goal which is the fulfilment of the hopes of our founding fathers as spelt out so clearly in our Constitution.” He further said, “I do sincerely believe that the Judiciary, the Executive and the Legislature have an obligation both to our Constitution and to our people to work in harmony. That is the mandate of the Constitution. I don’t think that any one of these three can violate the mandate of the Constitution which represents the sovereign will of the people.” Constitution represents the sovereign will of the people. This is what we need to focus. I quote again that “Each one of these organs of the State has an important and vital role to play in improving the welfare and well-being of the people. In each one of the organs has constitutionally-assigned roles and responsibilities and these must be discharged in all honesty.

Each organ must respect the roles and functions of the other. Powers accorded to each organ must be exercised cautiously. In the context of judiciary, the primary obligation is to enforce the rule of law, uphold the Constitution and enforce the discharge of obligation by any authority of the State. These are all delicate issues, which need to be addressed cautiously. All organs including the judiciary must ensure that the dividing lines between them are not breached. This makes for a harmonious functioning.” Hon. Members have mentioned about issues like method of appointment of judges on the recommendation of the collegium. Shri Rajeev Shuklaji mentioned about corruption in the judiciary; Shri Natchiappan mentioned about the role of the Executive and the method of appointment of judges through collegium; Shri Rajniti Prasad and other speakers mentioned about declaration of assets of judges. Dr. Gyan Prakash Pilania submitted that the purpose of all three wings of the Government must be to look after the *daridranarayan*, the common man or *aam aadmi*. Some important issues were raised by Prof. Ram Gopal Yadavji. Shri Sarkar, Shri Rama Jois, Shri Ganga Charan and Dr. Prabha Thakur raised issues regarding reservation in the judiciary, judgement on executive matters, contempt of court, supremacy of legislature and observations by the Supreme Court. These are all some of the essential things which have been raised. Today Shri Ravi Shankarji has also mentioned about some havoc played by PIL. How they are doing? It is a common knowledge that many a time people who file the PIL have made it a profession. I think we need to address this question. They take away a lot of time of the court at various stages because they are popular issues. Sometimes the populist hunger to get the publicity will definitely take away the precious time of court. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, the Supreme Court has said that PIL has now become *Paisa* Interest Litigation. And, it has become ‘publicity interest litigation’ for some. Therefore, I thought I must let you know that. Even the Supreme Court is talking about it. There is need to take concrete action.

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: I totally agree with Shri Ravi Shankarji because ultimately, the authority of the Court should not be abused. If any individual or association wants to abuse the process of the Court, I think, the Parliament has to look at it. I think we will address those questions.

SHRI D. RAJA: PILs have some relevance. You cannot totally ignore them.

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: No, I don’t mean that. Genuine PILs are being overtaken by these fake and fraud PILs. We are referring to them, not to genuine PILs. PILs have played their role. For a while, I should not be mistaken, or, Shri Ravi Shankarji should not be mistaken, that we are against the PILs. They are good if they really represent the citizens’ rights and liberty.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: I only quoted the Supreme Court.

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Now, the question is that we need to protect the concept of PIL. No one should take away that precious right of any citizen to go to the Court and file a Public Interest Litigation. They should not be seen as suspects. This is what we want. I think, Sir, the time has come to revisit some of these issues, and come out with some legislation. Maybe in that way, we can address those problems and we need to do it. Precious time of the Court, which is meant to provide inclusive justice, to re-assert many of these things, should not be wasted. Because, we have seen judicial system in many countries, and when we compare our Supreme Court with that of other countries, it is becoming fatter; the Supreme Courts of other countries are becoming thinner. On question of litigation, I think we need to look at it. We are separately addressing those issues.

As mentioned by some of our hon. Members, and particularly the point arising out of the resolution of Agarwalji, I may add that in so far as the declaration of assets is concerned, we had brought a Bill here, but there were some disputes even at the introduction stage. Normally, it does not happen. Even then, it has got its own effect on the Judiciary.

SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: You have achieved your target.

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Ultimately, we want to achieve this objective, whether through this Bill or otherwise, that does not matter. We must commend the Judiciary. They have responded well to the wishes of this Parliament. This is what has happened. We have been practising as advocates either in the Supreme Court, or the High Court, or the subordinate Courts. I had an impression, a hesitation, an apprehension that on many of the things which we need to take forward, there may be resistance from the Judiciary. But, after having had various interactions through the national consultation on the judicial reforms focussing on the disposal of cases which was held on 24th and 25th of October this year, with congregation of Chief Justices of all the High Courts, all the Judges of the Supreme Court and also with all the Chief Ministers, the kind of resolution which we have passed is far-reaching; and I get an impression now that the Judiciary is totally, actively responding to the changes, to public accountability, and to the need of taking the Judiciary forward to make it relevant to the lives of citizens of this country. I must tell you that all the Supreme Court Judges, including the Chief Justice, participated on both the days actively. They presided over the groups and workshops and came out with very positive resolutions. There was not even a single negative resolution that was passed on any day. This is a great thing that has happened, and the impression that the people have that Judiciary is not responding to changes, not responding to accountability, I must say, with my knowledge and experience, that it is not correct. We need to trust each other and all the three bodies will have to trust each other. And, if that is done, I think, the picture of the country will change. We need to destroy some of the prejudices, destroy some of the rituals and destroy

some of the systems, which have crowded the system in Parliament or Judiciary or Executive. We need to take it forward. We cannot be slow. We cannot afford to be slow.

While launching the First Five Year Plan, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said, “we have chosen to ride on the tiger, and, having chosen to ride on the tiger, we need to speed up; otherwise, the tiger will eat you.” That is the stage through which we are all going. Many people say, Moily, why are you in a hurry? Why do you hasten? It is because ultimately this is the picture. Now, the time has come when we need to walk fast, run fast. When running is possible, why should we walk? This is the principle, I think, we need to work on. We are working on many of those things. We need to develop that kind of confidence among all the three wings. Regarding confrontation, when there is no need of confrontation, and, when there is a possibility of convergence of views, why should we go in for confrontation? This is one message which I would like to share with all of you, and, I am confident that whatever the Constitution requires or expects, it can be done by mutual consultation and taken forward.

You have raised many issues like appointment of judges, the accountability etc. We are addressing them. We are actively working on them. So, I am thankful to all the Members who have actively participated and expressed their views. That is what is required. I think, many more days will come in the Parliament when we will come up, one by one, with measures to improve the judiciary and also develop proper bridges among the Executive, Legislative and the Judiciary.

With these words, I conclude and thank all the hon. Members who participated in the discussion and provided many, many valuable inputs which can be guidepost for me to proceed further in this matter. Mr. Vice-Chairman, I also thank you for the opportunity given to me to reply. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Thank you. Now, Shri Ramdas Agarwal.

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी,...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, the Minister has not requested him to withdraw ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Sir, I think, I forgot to mention it. If the hon. Member can kindly withdraw ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no. There is time. You can say it later. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैंने जब यह संकल्प...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): If he convinces the Minister, why do you worry? If he can convince the Minister, why do you worry? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: First of all, the Minister should convince the Mover. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not the point. The point is that while the Minister was responding to the queries or the questions raised by the Members participating...*(Interruptions)*..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Let us see if the... ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: मेरे बोलने के बाद कर लेंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, the normal practice is that while concluding, the Minister requests the Member. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल : मेरे बोलने के बाद कर लेंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): He can request after the reply. Let us see whether the Minister has convinced the Member. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Is the Chair participating in the debate?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I am only saying, let us see. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am absolutely neutral.

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, इस सदन में जब मैंने यह संकल्प प्रस्तुत किया था, उस समय मेरे मन में यह बात थी कि यह बहुत sensitive matter है, बहुत संवेदनशील विषय है, इस पर विचार करने से कहीं किसी हमारी judiciary को या अन्य किसी विंग को कोई आघात तो नहीं पहुंचेगा। लेकिन आज मैं यह बात बड़े गर्व से कह सकता हूँ कि इस विषय को इस सदन में जिस गंभीरता के साथ और जिस विचार विनिमयता के साथ डिसकस किया गया, वह आने वाले समय के लिए बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। इसीलिए मैं अपना आभार माननीय सभापति महोदय को भी व्यक्त करना चाहता हूँ, आपको भी देना चाहता हूँ और इस सदन के माननीय सदस्यों को भी देना चाहता हूँ कि जिस दिन यह विषय समाप्त हो रहा था, आपने इसकी तारीफ बढ़ाकर इस सत्र में भी इस विषय को लाने के लिए अनुमति प्रदान की, इसके लिए मैं आपका आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ। साथ ही आज जैसे माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि आज का दिन “लॉ डे” के नाम से बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण है, आज कानून का दिवस है, आज के ही दिन constitution की स्थापना हुई थी। मुझे इस बात का गर्व है कि आज के दिन एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय एक अंतिम परिणति में आ रहा है और इसलिए यह अपने आप में फिर से एक ऐतिहासिक दिन बन सकता है। यदि हमारे मंत्री महोदय, हमारी सरकार गंभीरता के साथ, जिन विषयों को उन्होंने भी आज स्वीकार किया है, इसके ऊपर कार्यान्वयन करने के लिए और इसके ऊपर तीव्र गति से आवश्यक सुधार कानून लाने के लिए प्रयास करेंगे तो जिस प्रकार से आज “लॉ डे” के दिन constitution के रूप में हम याद करते हैं, वैसे ही हमारे आदरणीय मंत्री महोदय का भी शायद वह दिन आ सकता है, जब हम लोग सदन में बैठ कर यह याद करेंगे कि 2009 में आज के ही दिन हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी ने इतने गंभीर विषय को जिस पर वे स्वयं भी चिंतित हैं, सारा देश भी चिंतित है, सारी जनता भी चिंतित है, इस प्रकार का महत्वपूर्ण विषय पूरा होकर उसमें हमने कोई निर्णय लिया।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं अपने मन से दूसरी बात और कहना चाहता हूँ। मैं यह इसलिए कहना चाहता हूँ, क्योंकि हम आपस में एक-दूसरे के संवेदनशील विषयों पर चर्चा के साथ-साथ अगर किसी ने कोई achievement किया है, तो उस पर भी कुछ बात कही जानी चाहिए। अभी मुझे जानकारी मिली थी कि ज्ञानपीठ ने हमारे कानून मंत्री साहब को एक बहुत शानदार अवार्ड, मूर्तिदेवी पुरस्कार, दिया है और वह भी इसलिए दिया है, क्योंकि उन्होंने रामायण पर इतना शानदार पुस्तक लिखी है कि जिसकी प्रशंसा सारे देश में और दक्षिण भारत में विशेष रूप से हो रही है। मैं उन्हें इस ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार प्राप्त करने के लिए अपनी ओर से सदन में बहुत-बहुत बधाई देता हूँ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरी दूसरी प्रसन्नता का विषय यह है कि जिस विषय पर आज यह सदन बैठ कर अंतिम रूप से डिसकस कर रहा है, उसमें कल ही हमारे माननीय मुख्य न्यायाधीश, सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने एक वार्ता प्रस्तुत की थी, उस वार्ता में उन्होंने भी इस बात को स्वीकार किया है कि कार्यपालिका और विधायिका में किसी भी प्रकार का टकराव, किसी भी प्रकार का मतभेद और किसी भी प्रकार से प्रतिस्पर्द्धा नहीं होनी चाहिए, यह उन्होंने स्वीकार किया है। आज मुझे इस बात की खुशी है कि मेरे इस विषय के ऊपर हमारे इस सदन में डा. ई.एम. सुदर्शन नाच्चीयप्पन जी ने, श्री राजनीति प्रसाद जी ने, डा. ज्ञान प्रकाश पिलानिया जी ने, प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी ने, श्री मतिलाल सरकार जी ने, श्री राजीव शुक्ल जी ने और श्री म. रामा जोयिस साहब ने, डा. प्रभा ठाकुर ने और अंत में सारे तारों को झांकृत करते हुए हमारे श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद जी ने, क्योंकि सारा विषय उन्होंने फिर से और एक तरीके से इतने दिनों के अंतराल में जो भूल गए थे, आज उन्होंने फिर से एक भाषण देकर इस विषय के ऊपर बड़ा विशिष्ट प्रकाश डाला। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं उन सब महानुभावों को, जिन्होंने इस संकल्प के ऊपर अपने विचार व्यक्त किए, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद देता हूँ और उन्होंने मेरे प्रति जो यह भावना प्रकट की है कि मैंने इस संवेदनशील विषय को सदन में लाकर एक अच्छा काम किया है, तो मुझे अपने सांसद होने पर गर्व है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जो चीज़ हम चाहते थे, वह कभी कानून से होती है, कभी चर्चा से होती है, कभी बहस से होती है और कभी-कभी एक इंडिकेशन से भी होती है, इशारे से भी होती है। मैं हमारे लॉ मिनिस्टर साहब से यह बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप judges के assets and property के मामले को लेकर जो प्राप्त करना चाहते थे, कई वर्ष पहले जिस कानून के द्वारा आपने इसे प्राप्त करने का प्रयास किया था, कई सालों से यह कानून बनने के लिए तत्पर था, सरकारें भी चाहती थीं, लेकिन यह कानून बन नहीं पाया। यह बार-बार अटका, बार-बार रोका गया, कई कारणों से रोका गया, उसमें कई विवाद खड़े किए गए। कई जगह तो ऐसी-ऐसी बातें भी सामने आ गईं, जो नहीं आनी चाहिए थीं, लेकिन अंत में इस संकल्प के आने के बाद जिस प्रकार की बहस सदन में हुई और जिस प्रकार से लोगों ने चर्चा की, मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारे सभी माननीय न्यायाधीश महोदय इस बात को जानते हैं कि आज सदन में या सदन के बाहर, इस देश के अंदर जनता में उनके बारे में किस प्रकार की चर्चा हो रही है और मुझे इस बात की खुशी है कि उन्होंने अपने कानों से इस सदन की आवाज़ को सुना, जनता की भावनाओं को सुना। महोदय, पिछली बार मैंने जब भाषण दिया था, तब मैंने हमारे माननीय judges से निवेदन किया था कि कानून बनाने की आवश्यकता न आए, आप स्वयं आगे बढ़कर अपनी सम्पत्ति की घोषणा के लिए आगे आ जाइए, तो ज्यादा अच्छा होगा और मुझे इस बात की खुशी है कि आज सारे देश के high courts और सुप्रीम कोर्ट के माननीय जजों ने इस बात को स्वीकार किया है कि कानून आए या न आए, पारदर्शिता के लिए वे अपने आप को जनता के सामने प्रस्तुत करने को तैयार हैं। मैं उन सब महानुभाव जजों को, courts को और हमारे इस पूरे सदन को भी इस बात की बधाई देता हूँ कि आपने कानून नहीं बनाया, लेकिन कानून न बनाकर भी आपने यह बात प्राप्त कर ली है, यह हमारे सदन के लिए भी गौरव की बात है और माननीय मंत्री महोदय के लिए भी यह प्रसन्नता का विषय है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके सामने दो-तीन बातें रखना चाहता हूँ। मैंने अपने संकल्प में जो बातें कही थीं, अगर आप इजाजत दें, तो मैं संकल्प को एक बार दोहराना चाहता हूँ।

“यह सभा विधायिका और न्यायपालिका के बीच यदा कदा होने वाले टकराव पर गहरी चिंता व्यक्त करती है,।”

जो आप सबने की है।

“और सरकार से आग्रह करती है कि वह यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सुस्पष्ट और कारगर उपाय करे कि सरकार का प्रत्येक अंग अर्थात् विधायिका, न्यायपालिका और कार्यपालिका संविधान में प्रतिष्ठापित

उपबंधों के अनुसार सुचारु, स्वतंत्र रूप से और एक-दूसरे के हस्तक्षेप के बिना कार्य करे और देश के लोकतांत्रिक और संघीय ढांचे को कोई खतरा न हो, क्योंकि उस जनता के सिवाए, जो हमारे देश में सर्वोपरि है,”

जैसा अभी हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि इस देश के अंदर केवल जनता सर्वोपरि है, केवल जनता हमारी मालिक है और हमारे ऊपर कोई मालिक नहीं है, इसलिए वही बात कही गई है कि देश की जनता जो सर्वोपरि है,

“कोई भी अंग दूसरे अंग से श्रेष्ठ नहीं है और राज्य के सभी तीनों अंग उसके प्रति जवाबदेह हैं।”

माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने इन शब्दों को स्वीकार किया है और इन शब्दों के साथ उन्होंने इस बात को मान लिया है कि ये सारी बातें, जो अब संकल्प में व्यक्त की गई हैं, उसमें उन्हें कोई एतराज नहीं है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं केवल एक बात और आपके सामने कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे माननीय सांसदों ने तीन चिंताएं व्यक्त की थीं, जिसे उन्होंने भी अपनी चिंता का विषय बनाया है, तो सबसे पहली चिंता थी कि क्या विधायिका और न्यायपालिका में यदा कदा किन्हीं विषयों पर होने वाले टकराव को टाला जाना चाहिए? महोदय, इस टकराव को टालने के लिए बहुत जल्दी कदम उठाने की आवश्यकता है क्योंकि मैं quote करना चाहता हूँ, अभी तीन दिन पहले ही राजस्थान विधान सभा के माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय ने किसी पार्टी के सदस्यों के कांग्रेस में शामिल होने के संबंध में कोई निर्णय लिया था। उसके विरुद्ध कुछ लोग हाई कोर्ट में गए थे। हाई कोर्ट ने सम्मन जारी किया। लेकिन विधान सभा के अध्यक्ष महोदय ने उस सम्मन को लेकर आने वाले व्यक्ति को विधान सभा में नहीं आने दिया और सम्मन तालीम नहीं हुआ। महोदय इस प्रकार का टकराव उचित नहीं है। अगर इस प्रकार का टकराव होगा तो उसके गंभीर परिणाम होंगे। I think, the hon. Minister might be understanding what I have told that in the Rajasthan Vidhan Sabha, the Speaker of the Vidhan Sabha has denied permission to those persons who came with the summons in the Vidhan Sabha to serve it, and I do not want to go into the merits of the issue. I am just telling that this kind of टकराव जो लेटेस्ट हमें दिखाई देता है, यह उचित नहीं है। इसके बारे में तत्काल कोई न कोई व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए क्योंकि विधान सभा का अध्यक्ष सुपीरियर है, लोक सभा का अध्यक्ष सुपीरियर है या हाई कोर्ट का जज सुपीरियर है, इन बातों के कारण अगर टकराव पैदा हो जाएंगे तो हमारे लिए ज्यादा घातक होंगे। इस ईशू का क्या बनेगा, मैं नहीं जानता, लेकिन अगर इस प्रकार के टकराव होंगे तो ये हमारे लिए ज्यादा घातक होंगे। यह चिंता हम लोगों ने यहां व्यक्त की थी जो माननीय मंत्री जी के नोटिस में है। दूसरी चिंता यह सामने आई है कि जो विशेषाधिकार हमारे जजेज को प्राप्त हैं, उनके जजमेंट के ऊपर जब कोई प्रतिक्रिया व्यक्त होती है तो वहां पर यह विषय आ जाता है कि यह कोर्ट के आदेशों के खिलाफ बोला जा रहा है। महोदय, मैं किसी भी प्रिविलेज के खिलाफ बात नहीं कर रहा हूँ, लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर हम हमारे राष्ट्रपति के अभिभाषण की आलोचना कर सकते हैं, अगर हम अपने देश के किसी भी बड़े नेता के भाषण का या किसी धार्मिक नेता के भाषण का विरोध कर सकते हैं, उस पर अपने विचार व्यक्त कर सकते हैं तो कोई भी हाई कोर्ट और सुप्रीम कोर्ट के जजमेंट के बारे में हम अपने विचारों की अभिव्यक्त क्यों नहीं कर सकते, इस पर भी इस देश में विचार करने की आवश्यकता है। महोदय, तीसरा विषय चिन्ताजनक है। जैसा आपने कहा है कि जजेज के अप्वाइंटमेंट्स के बारे में एक निर्णायक प्रक्रिया अडॉप्ट की जानी चाहिए ताकि इस बारे में संदेह और शंकाओं का दौर न हो। अगर जजेज के अप्वाइंटमेंट्स में शंकाएं आएंगी, अगर जजेज के अप्वाइंटमेंट्स में ही हमें संदेह होगा तो फिर निर्णय कहां से होगा, समाधान कहां से होगा? इसलिए महोदय, मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ इन सारे विषयों के ऊपर सदन ने जिस प्रकार से गंभीर चिंतन मनन किया, विश्लेषण किया। अंत में मंत्री महोदय, Just a minute please. I just want to request the hon. Minister. He is capable to do things, and I believe that on this auspicious day, he will take certain decisions and will convey

to the country, convey to all organs of the society and convey to all the organs of the Constitution that the public is supreme, and we will have to follow them, and we will have to change the rules, regulations and the law, if necessary, and if any one of them attacks each other, they have to be protected, but not by giving any special privilege to any section of these three wings. Thank you very much, Sir, for the opportunity which you have given to me.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Minister, do you want to say something?

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, for providing wide opportunity to me and all the hon. Members to reflect on an important issue like this. I think, in a situation like what we have discussed, ultimately, the sovereign will of the people will prevail.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no. Just a minute please.

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: You wanted me to say that. So, all three wings will have to reflect that.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Minister, there is one problem. He is a mover of the Resolution and he also has a right to reply. So, you only request for withdrawal.

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: I request the hon. Member to withdraw this Resolution as my reply has already reflected the full body of the Resolution which was presented before the hon. House. In view of all that, I make an appeal to the hon. Member to withdraw his Resolution.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): So, Mr. Ramdas Agarwal, are you withdrawing the Resolution?

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से एक प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि कानून बनाने की उनकी इच्छा है... He wants that the law should be made. But, Sir, in our country, in our administration, in our States, कोई भी गवर्नमेंट होगी, कानून बनाने में इतना समय, इतनी देरी होती है कि उसकी सारी भावना और उसकी सारी आवश्यकता समाप्त हो जाती है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि भावना और आवश्यकता समाप्त न हो, उससे पहले आप कोई अच्छा कानून बनाकर के इस देश के अंदर कोई अच्छी व्यवस्था लाने का प्रयास करें। अगर आपका यह एश्युरेंस है तो मैं अपना संकल्प वापिस लेता हूँ।

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, Shri O.T. Lepcha to move a Resolution regarding the development of the State of Sikkim.

Need to prepare an Action Plan for all-round development of Sikkim

SHRI O.T. LEPCHA (Sikkim): Sir, I move the following Resolution:

“Having regard to the fact that —

- (i) Sikkim was merged to the Union of India out of emotions in the year 1975;

- (ii) the Hindi speaking people of the State are proud to be Indian;
- (iii) Sikkim is the land locked State with no air and rail link to the State;
- (iv) the State shares its international borders with Nepal, Bhutan and China;
- (v) Sikkim is popularly called “mini Switzerland” of India with abundance of natural and scenic beauty including Mt. Kanchenjunga at its peak;
- (vi) even after 35 years of its merger, there is not much development in the State;
- (vii) there is no representation of the people of Sikkim in high Constitutional posts and other higher authorities;
- (viii) only life line of the State *i.e.*, the National Highway No 31-A remains disturbed throughout the year; and
- (ix) there is resentment in the peace loving people of Sikkim in view of its neglect, this House, therefore, in order to bring the people of Sikkim in the mainstream of the Country, urges upon the Government—
 - (a) to prepare an action plan for an all round development of the State of Sikkim;
 - (b) to connect the State with air and rail link at the earliest;
 - (c) to improve the road infrastructure in the State by acceding to the proposal received from the State Government;
 - (d) to consider appointment of the people of Sikkim to the Constitutional posts and in other higher authorities;
 - (e) to develop Sikkim as an international tourist destination in view of its vast potential; and
 - (f) to preserve the natural reserves of the State.”

Sir, I am thankful to the Vice-Chairman that I have been given the opportunity to move the Resolution in this House. I represent the State of Sikkim in the House and I am the sole representative of the State. In view of the lack of development in the otherwise a potentially strong State of Sikkim, I have to move a Resolution specifically pertaining to the State. Sikkim merged with the Union of India in 1975. The people of Sikkim are peace-loving and proud to be Indian. However, even after 35 years, not much progress has been made in the State. There is no person representing the State of Sikkim at the highest constitutional post and other highest place. It is a landlocked State and connectivity to the State is one of the major problems at present.

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, 35 साल बीत जाने के बाद सिक्किम राज्य के बारे में कुछ बातें इस सदन में रखने का जो अवसर मिला है, यह एक गर्व और फख्र की बात है। सर, 1975 में एक रिफ्रेंडम — जनमत से हम लोग इस देश के साथ इन्टीग्रेशनल इंटीग्रेट हुआ है। आज 35 साल बीत जाने के बाद सिक्किम के लोगों को भी यह महसूस हो रहा है कि केन्द्र सरकार की ओर से जो हक और अधिकार एक राज्य को मिलना चाहिए और देना चाहिए, यह सही में मिल रहा है या नहीं मिल रहा है, इसी बारे में हम लोग थोड़ा चर्चा करेंगे। सिक्किम कैसा स्टेट है, अपने देश का सिक्किम कैसे बन सकता है, यह एक सपना सिक्किम के लोगों का है, सिक्किम

की सरकार का है, सिक्किम के मुख्य मंत्री का है। इसलिए यह बात आज मैं इस सदन में रखना चाहता हूँ। सिक्किम देश का सबसे छोटा प्रदेश है, यहां शांति है, जो आप लोगों को मालूम है। सिक्किम का टोटल एरिया 96 स्क्वायर किलोमीटर है। वहां की जनसंख्या पांच लाख चालिस हजार है और पौपुलेशन डेंसिटी 76 पर्सस पर-स्क्वायर किलोमीटर है। वहां का पर-केपिटा इन्कम 39 हजार 632 है और लिट्रेसी रेट 82 परसेंट है। वहां की ऑफिसियल लैंग्वेज हिन्दी, अंग्रेजी और नेपाली है। ऐसा एक छोटा-सा प्रदेश जो तीन अंतर्राष्ट्रीय, श्री इंटरनेशनल बार्डर्स के साथ जुड़ा हुआ है, एक साइड में चीन है, एक साइड में भूटान है और एक साइड में नेपाल है। आपको पता है कि बहुत सेंसेटिव होने के बावजूद वहां पर आज तक शांति है, अच्छा है। सिक्किम के लोग देश के लिए अनपैड सोलजर्स की तरह काम कर रहे हैं, शांति के लिए, सुरक्षा के लिए, लेकिन आज 35 साल बीत जाने के बाद मैं ऐसा एक लैंड लॉक्ड स्टेट है, जिसकी जीवन रेखा 31 नेशनल हाईवे के अलावा कुछ नहीं है। सर, 35 साल बीत जाने के बाद मैं भी एक राज्य को देश के हवाई अड्डे से न जोड़ना, एयरपोर्ट से नहीं जोड़ना, एयर लिंक से नहीं जोड़ना और उसका अल्टरनेटिव विकल्प नेशनल हाईवे नहीं होना, यह बहुत बड़ी विडम्बना की बात है। आज सिक्किम के लोग गर्व करते हैं, फख्र करते हैं कि हम लोग भारतीय हैं, हम लोग इंडियन हैं और सारे लोग वहां पर हिन्दी बोलते हैं, लेकिन पता नहीं क्यों, वहां ज्यादा शांति होने के कारण से हो, या किस कारण से हो, मैं यह तो कह नहीं सकता हूँ कि सिक्किम की अनदेखी हुई है, यह बता नहीं सकता हूँ, फिर भी, कभी-कभी हम लोगों को महसूस होता है कि एक स्टेट को जो केन्द्र सरकार की ओर से मिलना था, जो हक, अधिकार और मदद मिलनी चाहिए थी, वह आज तक नहीं मिला है। इसीलिए मैं केन्द्र सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि एक बैकवर्ड स्टेट जो लैंड लॉक्ड है, उसका कोई विकल्प नहीं है, उसके लिए क्या कर सकते हैं ? केन्द्र सरकार की ओर से उस राज्य के लिए क्या-क्या किया जा सकता है ? मैं अपनी स्टेट के पोटेंशियल के बारे में यहां जानकारी देना चाहता हूँ और उस पोटेंशियल से पता चलता है कि सिक्किम देश के लिए कितना महत्वपूर्ण राज्य है और कैसे अपने देश में यह राज्य स्विटजरलैंड की तरह से बन सकता है। हिल स्टेट के कारण वहां टोटल 28 माउंटेन हैं और वहां लेक्स एंड वैट लैंड 227 हैं और हॉट स्प्रिंग 21 हैं। इसी तरह से मेमल्स की 150 वैराइटीज़ हैं, बर्ड्स 552 हैं, बटरफ्लाई की 690 एंड फिश की 48 वैराइटीज़ हैं । फ्लावरिंग प्लांट्स 4500 हैं और Rhododendron जो दूसरा दुनिया में इतना नहीं है, Rhododendron जिसको ग्रास भी बोलते हैं, इसकी 36 वैरायटीज़ सिक्किम में हैं। इससे बड़ी चीज़ है, सर, यह orchid की वैरायटी है, यह वर्ल्ड की सबसे रिचेस्ट orchid वैरायटी है; इसकी 515 वैरायटीज़ सिक्किम में मिलती हैं। इसके अलावा सिक्किम में टोटल 82.32 परसेंट फॉरेस्ट कवर स्टेट है। इतना ही नहीं, हाईडल पावर में टोटल 8000 मेगावाट विद्युत उत्पादन वहां होता है। सर, वहां पर सबसे बड़ी चीज़ माउंट कंचनजंगा, वर्ल्ड हाईएस्ट पीक है, जिसको देखने के लिए विदेशी पर्यटक रोज सिक्किम में कम से कम 50-60 हजार की संख्या में आते हैं।

सर, ये सब चीज़ें हमारे देश के अपने ही एक राज्य के अंदर हैं। इस राज्य को डेवलेप करने के लिए, इसको सुचारु रूप से एक वर्ल्ड क्लास टूरिज्म, पर्यटन स्थल बनाने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार की ओर से बहुत सारी मदद की जरूरत है। इन में से कुछ चीज़ें जो होनी थीं, वे आज तक भी नहीं हुई हैं। मैं आज इस सदन में बड़े दुख के साथ कहना चाहता हूँ कि 35 साल बीत जाने के बाद भी सिक्किम से आज तक केन्द्र में एक भी कांस्टिट्यूशनल पोस्ट पर कोई रिप्रजेंटेटिव नहीं है। आप मंत्री की बात तो छोड़ ही दीजिए, आज तक किसी कमीशन का कोई मैम्बर भी सिक्किम से नहीं बनाया गया है। जब इलेक्शन होता है और केन्द्र में सरकार का गठन होता है, सिक्किम की ही एक ऐसी पार्टी है, जो पार्टी सरकार में आती है, उसको अन-कंडिशनल समर्थन करती है, सपोर्ट करती है। हम लोगों की कोई मांग नहीं है, कोई डिमांड नहीं है। हम लोग देश के साथ पूरी तरह से जुड़े हुए हैं। यहां से जितने भी सिक्किम कैडर के IAS, IFS और IPS आफिसर लोग यहां के लोगों की मदद करने के लिए, सिक्किम डेवलेपमेंट के लिए जाते हैं, लेकिन केन्द्र सरकार से माननीय मंत्री लोग तथा बड़े लोग यह रेकमेंड कर देते हैं कि इन लोगों को वापस बुलाया जाए। 60 परसेंट IAS आफिसर, IPS आफिसर और IFS आफिसर सब दिल्ली में हैं। इस तरह से ये 60 परसेंट लोग दिल्ली में रहते हैं और जो बाकी 40 परसेंट लोग हैं, वे सिक्किम में रह रहे हैं। ऐसी हालत सिक्किम की है। मैं सिक्किम को लैंड लॉक्ड स्टेट

कह रहा हूँ। यह 31 National Highway सिक्किम के लिए एक ही लाइफ लाइन है। जब समर में बारिश होती है, तो लैंड स्लाइडिंग के कारण यह बंद हो जाता है। कभी-कभी गोरखालैंड वाले बंद कर देते हैं, वे पूरा National Highway जाम कर देते हैं। हम लोगों को दिल्ली के सब बड़े लोगों को हाथ जोड़कर कहना पड़ता है कि इस National Highway को खोल दो, क्योंकि बंगाल की अपनी दूसरी बात है। हम इस तरह से कितनी विनती करें? जब बंगाल में गोरखालैंड का एजिटेशन होता है, तो सिक्किम जाम हो जाता है। वहां जाने के लिए कोई दूसरा रास्ता नहीं है तथा और न ही कोई साधन है। हमने केन्द्र सरकार से 6 साल पहले एक हेलीकॉप्टर की मांग की थी, लेकिन आज तक वह हेलीकॉप्टर भी हम लोगों को नहीं मिला है। मैं यहां पर किसी माननीय मंत्री का नाम नहीं लूंगा, लेकिन यह बड़े दुख की बात है कि जब National Highway बंद हो जाता है, उस टाइम पर सिक्किम के लोग क्या खाते होंगे, क्या पीते होते होंगे तथा वहां के आफिसर क्या काम करते होंगे? वे सिक्किम की जनता को कैसे सुविधाएं पहुंचाते होंगे, यह किसी को पता नहीं है। जो सिक्किम के लोगों की व्यथा है, वेदना है और दर्द है, वह केवल सिक्किम के लोगों को ही पता है। मैं अभी हाउस के सामने एक रिक्वेस्ट करना चाहता हूँ कि इस 31 National Highway की स्थिति ऐसी है कि वहां पर गाड़ी चलाना तो दूर, यदि आप वहां पर घोड़ा भी चलाएंगे, तो वह भी नहीं चलेगा। वहां पर घोड़ा भी गिर जाएगा क्योंकि वहां के रास्ते ही ऐसे हैं। हम लोगों ने इस बारे में काफी लिखकर दिया है कि इस 31 National Highway की मरम्मत की जाए। कल ही लोक सभा में मेरे एक मित्र ने इस 31 National Highway के बारे में प्रश्न पूछा था। मंत्री जी ने यह रेप्लाई दिया कि I have no idea. यह काफी बड़ी बात है कि एक मंत्री जी को 31 National Highway के बारे में मालूम नहीं है। सर, यह 31 National Highway; Sivok से Nathula तक कम से कम चार वर्ष पहले डबल लेन करने के लिए सैंक्शन हुआ था, लेकिन अभी उसका दस किलोमीटर तक का काम भी कम्प्लीट नहीं हुआ है। सन् 2006 में Nathula ट्रेड रूट की ओपनिंग हुई थी। उस समय चाइना साइट में कोई रास्ता नहीं था। अब 2006 के बाद उन लोगों ने दो साल के अंदर टू लैंडिंग रूट ऐसा बना दिया है, जो बार्डर से उधर चला गया है। हम लोगों के Highways जैसे थे, वैसे ही हैं। हम लोगों ने बहुत बार क्वेश्चन किया है कि ऐसा क्यों हो रहा है, तो बताते हैं कि फॉरेस्ट इंवायरन्मेंट से क्लियरेंस नहीं मिली है।

अरे बाबा, यह Forest and environment Department कहां का है? यह फॉरेन कंट्री का है या अपने देश का है? एक विभाग रास्ते सैंक्शन कर रहा है और दूसरे विभाग को मालूम नहीं है उसको कैसे करे, क्या करे। यह सब क्या है? अपने देश में यह सब क्या है? यह भी एक विडंबना की चीज है। क्यों ऐसे ऑब्जेक्शन्स करते हैं? यह नेशनल हाई-वे की बात है, अपने प्राइवेट रोड की बात नहीं है। सर, यह बात नेशनल हाई-वे 31 के बारे में है। दूसरी एक सिम्पल चीज है, लेकिन हम लोगों को बहुत तकलीफ हो रही है। मैं आप लोगों को रिकॉर्ड कराना चाहता हूँ कि सिलिगुड़ी के सामने सेवोक टू सिलिगुड़ी के बीच में जस्ट हाफ किलोमीटर के अंदर आर्मी के लोगों ने पूरा बैरीकेड लगाया है। कैंटीन जाने के लिए एक बैरीकेड लगाया है, मेजर के दफ्तर में जाने के लिए बैरीकेड लगाया है, एक बैरीकेड मैस में जाने के लिए भी लगाया है। हर किलोमीटर में दस बैरीकेड लगाए हैं। सिक्किम की जितनी भी गाड़ियां वहां जाती हैं, उन्हें लाइन में खड़ा होना पड़ता है। हम लोगों को वहां खड़ा रहना पड़ता है। क्योंकि आर्मी ने वहां पर ऐसा बैरीकेड लगाया है। इन्होंने नेशनल हाई-वे 31 को भी ऐसा कर दिया है। यह कहां तक न्याय की बात है? यह रिकॉर्ड करने की बात है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने इसे रिकॉर्ड किया है, यह बहुत अच्छा विषय है। वहां के नेशनल हाई-वे की इस तरह की स्थिति है। अभी आप रैलिंग की बात तो छोड़ ही दीजिए...(व्यवधान)... डिफेंस मिनिस्टर हाउस में नहीं है। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, अगर आप यह सब नोट करें तो ये इम्पोर्टेंट चीजें हैं। अगर यह ऐक्शन में होगा तो बहुत अच्छा रहेगा। इस तरह

से यह सिक्किम स्टेट की दुखभरी कहानी ही नहीं है, यह यथार्थ है। केंद्र सरकार इसके ऊपर निगरानी रखेगी, ऐसा मैं सोचता हूँ। उससे बड़ी चीज है कि इतना सब होते हुए भी हम लोगों पर बहुत सारा प्रेशर है। इधर से माओइस्ट, उधर से माओइस्ट, उधर से उल्फा पता नहीं क्या-क्या है। अभी बहुत सारी समस्याएँ हैं, लेकिन फिर भी हम लोगों ने सिक्किम को अभी तक अक्षुण्ण रखा है, टच नहीं होने दिया है। यह देश के लिए सबसे बड़ी चीज है। मेरे चीफ मिनिस्टर कहा करते हैं कि हम लोग सिक्किम की जनता हैं। मैं एक नौकर हूँ। सारी सिक्किम की जनता एक अनपेड सोल्जर है। हम लोग बिना पैसे लिए देश की सुरक्षा का काम करते हैं। मेरे मुख्य मंत्री ऐसा कहते हैं, यह बात सही है। यह आप लोगों ने भी महसूस किया होगा। सिक्किम की डेवलपमेंट जिस तरह से होनी चाहिए, यह अभी एक ग्रोइंग स्टेट है, हम लोग अपने स्टेट का रेवेन्यू इकट्ठा करके फंड बना कर रहे हैं। इतना होने के बावजूद भी केंद्र सरकार की ओर से जो फंड हम लोगों को मिलता है, वह फंड एज पर दि पॉप्युलेशन कर देंगे तो क्या होगा? हम लोग 5.40 लाख हैं। यह इतना बड़ा राज्य है, इसमें क्या करेंगे। एज पर पॉप्युलेशन कितना मिलता है? ये सब चीजें हैं। हम लोग स्पेशल कैटेगिरी में हैं। स्पेशल प्रोविजन 371 (f) के अंतर्गत हम लोगों को रखा गया है। वहाँ के लिए संविधान में ऐसा प्रावधान है, लेकिन कभी-कभी हम लोग ऐसा महसूस करते हैं कि ये लोग संविधान का भी उल्लंघन कर रहे हैं। यह क्या है, पता नहीं है। प्रोविजन तो है, लेकिन एक बकरी के लिए ऐसा खोर बना दिया है कि तुम इधर बैठो। वहाँ घास भी नहीं है, पानी भी नहीं है। वह बकरी कितने दिन जिंदा रहेगी? एक प्रोविजन देकर रखा है। कुछ नहीं है। इस तरह से आज सिक्किम की जनता की एक दुर्दशा है। मैं केंद्र सरकार से request करना चाहता हूँ, विनती करना चाहता हूँ कि सिक्किम में बहुत सारा पोटेंशियल है। वह पोटेंशियल स्विटजरलैण्ड में नहीं है। बृज भूषण तिवारी जी और मैं स्विटजरलैण्ड विजिट करके आए हैं। हम लोगों ने स्विटजरलैण्ड को नजदीक से देखा है। जितना पोटेंशियल अपने राज्य सिक्किम में है, उतना पोटेंशियल उस देश में नहीं है। हम लोग स्विटजरलैण्ड से भी बेहतर अपने देश में एक मिनी स्विटजरलैण्ड तैयार कर सकते हैं।

यह अपने देश के लिए है, यह सिक्किम की जनता के लिए नहीं है या किसी और दूसरी प्रांत, दूसरी स्टेट के लिए नहीं है। यह देश के लिए एक फख्र की बात होगी, गर्व की बात होगी। वहाँ पर हम लोग एक world class tourist destination तैयार कर सकते हैं, ताकि संसार के लोग विश्व के 3rd highest peak माउंट कंचनजंगा को देखने के लिए और हिन्दुस्तान की सबसे सीधी-सादी जनता, जो एक disciplined soldier है, उन्हें देखने के लिए सारे देश के लोग वहाँ आएंगे। इससे देश की तरक्की होगी, नाम होगा। इसलिए हम लोगों की जो कमी या कमजोरी है, उसे ध्यान में रखते हुए एक पूरे एक्शन प्लान की तरह नेशनल प्रोजेक्ट के रूप में अगर केन्द्र सरकार सिक्किम को आगे बढ़ाने की योजना तैयार करे, तो शायद सिक्किम के लोगों के साथ न्यायपूर्वक काम होगा। मैं इसीलिए यह resolution लाया हूँ, ताकि सिक्किम को सचमुच हिन्दुस्तान की एक पहचान मिले और सिक्किम की जनता को अपना हक और अधिकार मिले। Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Thank you, Mr. Lepcha. Shri Silvius Condpan.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): Sir, can I just intervene to respond to hon. Members reference to the position of Highways in the State of Sikkim?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): It can be done at the time of the reply.

SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN (Assam): Thank you very much, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. I support the Resolution moved by my hon. colleague, Shri O. T Lepcha. The hon. Member has very clearly and elaborately put before the House the different areas in which Sikkim and its people have been suffering. There is no point in disagreeing with the grievances that the hon. Member has highlighted before the House.

Sir, Sikkim may be a small State but, at the same time, from the national security and also from the internal security point of view, Sikkim is very important. Sikkim needs all kinds of attention from the Central Government, and much more than what has been given so far. This is not a fact that ever since Sikkim was merged with India in 1975, nothing has been done. That is not true. Much has been done but, yes, much more has to be done for the people of Sikkim and for the development of Sikkim State. From my experience in Parliament, I can say that I have come across a good many legislations, a good many Acts for the welfare and benefits of the people of Sikkim; all those had been brought forward and passed at the initiative of the Central Government. The Central Government recently passed an Act giving a Central university to the people of Sikkim. That shows how much is the Central Government interested in giving higher educational facilities to the people of Sikkim.

Now, the one of the major points that my learned friend has highlighted is Sikkim's connectivity with the rest of the country by road and by air. Of course, there is some difficulty for the Government so far as the topographical situation of Sikkim is concerned. Similar is the case of Arunachal Pradesh. The topographical disadvantages are there in the construction of roads, in the construction of air strips and so on but there is also as much necessity of connectivity for the country as a whole as for the people of Sikkim.

The other side is also very important. But the difficulty for the Government is to pursue the schemes of development, so far as the questions of giving them better roads, more roads and more air connectivity are concerned. Yet, it is not a fact that the Government does not want to give. But, at the same time, the Government has to think and find out ways and means to give them air linkage, to give them rail linkage and to improve the road system for the people of Sikkim. He has mentioned, in his speech, that whenever there is agitation, followed by bandh, in the neighbouring State of West Bengal, Sikkim is the State which is the worst sufferer, and till the grievances in the neighbouring State are resolved, the people of Sikkim, without any reason, will continue to suffer from road blockade and from other transportation point of view. He has already mentioned that there has been a long cry that, at least, instead of air link, there should be helicopter linkage with the State, but that has also not materialised. I think, for a small State like Sikkim, on medical ground, on emergency ground, on border emergency, helicopter communication facility was a must by this time. But, that is yet to come. So, I request the Government to see that air linkage, road linkage and other communication facilities are to be given to the people of Sikkim, the border State. He has already mentioned that Sikkim is

surrounded by three international borders, *i.e.*, Nepal, Bhutan and China. It is a very sensitive area than other bigger States of our country. The bigger States of our country have no such problem in the border areas what Sikkim has. On the other hand, our learned friend has made us to understand that Sikkim is rich in its natural resources, and the Government of India should tap it; should exploit it in the interests of the country and, particularly in the interests of the people of Sikkim.

Now, the Government of India is talking about development of tourism. The potential of tourism is much more available in Sikkim, as has been transpired in the speech of our learned friend, who is the mover of this Resolution. Why should we worry about developing the international tourism? If we develop Sikkim, it will attract the international tourists to Sikkim. The tourists are now limiting up to Darjeeling. They cannot go beyond Darjeeling. If they go up to Sikkim, then Sikkim will earn a lot of foreign exchange for our national exchequer.

Sir, again, I would like to stress on the point that Sikkim immediately requires the steps taken by the Central Government for preserving the natural resources. We have passed the Act for giving rights to forest land. I think, that is also applicable to the State of Sikkim. And, this spoiling the forest resources at the cost of forest rights is not in the interest of Sikkim, which is a small State, which is very much rich, as on today, on natural resources. If it is allowed there, then, that will be spoiled. That will culminate in the destruction of the environment. So, this point has to be taken into consideration. Now, my friend has expressed his concern that even after 35 years of their being part of India, the people of Sikkim did not get any constitutional posts. He has elaborated as to what are those constitutional posts.

It is a very important point. I think, the hon. Ministers, who are taking note of all these points will take a note of this also. I think, getting back the IAS officers, IPS officers and IFS officers on deputation frequently, and leaving the people of Sikkim at the mercy of the State service officers is not going to do justice. That is delinking the people of Sikkim with the rest of the Central administration. That should not be there. It is happening not only in Sikkim, but in the north-eastern States also. It happens to Meghalaya, it happens to Arunachal Pradesh, it happens to Nagaland and Mizoram. They are suffering in that way. So much of deputation to Delhi leaving the State in the hands of the State civil officers. This is a serious point he has raised. This is also applicable for the rest of the north-eastern States and Sikkim is one of the north-eastern States.

I support this Resolution on these contexts. I hope, the Government would give a very, very positive response to what my learned friend has brought out in this forum of Parliament, for the knowledge of the Government to take action on them. With these few words, I support the Resolution. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Shri S.S. Ahluwalia; I think, he will come. Shri Saman Pathak; he is not here. Shri Brij Bhushan Tiwari now.

श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, प्रस्तावक महोदय ने सिक्किम के विकास के सिलसिले में जो प्रस्ताव रखा है, मैं उसका समर्थन करता हूँ और साथ-ही-साथ जो उनकी पीड़ा और उनका रोष है, उसे भी मैं जायज मानता हूँ।

महोदय, यह बात प्रस्तावक महोदय ने भी कही और उसके अनुमोदन में अभी एक वक्ता महोदय ने भी बताया कि जो सिक्किम प्रदेश है, वह किस प्रकार से सामरिक दृष्टि से और आंतरिक सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है। सिक्किम की जनता बहुत ही शान्तिप्रिय है और उसका दिली लगाव भारत की जनता से है, भारत के लोगों से है। हमारा और उसका सम्बन्ध सांस्कृतिक है और भाषाई भी है, लेकिन जिस तरीके से, उसका विकास होना चाहिए, वह विकास नहीं हो पाया। यह सही है कि जब से उसका भारत में विलय हुआ, केन्द्र सरकार की तरफ से उसे मदद जरूर मिली, परन्तु उसका जो विकास है, उसकी गति चींटी के समान है। वह एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण सूबा है, प्रदेश है। जैसा अभी प्रस्तावक महोदय ने स्वयं कहा कि उसकी जो सीमाएँ हैं, वे नेपाल से, चीन से और भूटान से मिलती हैं तथा इससे सटा आंतरिक प्रदेश पश्चिमी बंगाल है।

महोदय, मैं पिछले साल सिक्किम गया था। वहाँ मुझे नाथू ला जाने का भी मौका मिला। NH-31A, जो वहाँ की जीवन-रेखा है, वह सड़क भी हमने देखी। नाथू ला तक जाने के लिए जो सड़क है, उसे तेजी से बनना चाहिए था। वह बहुत खराब स्थिति में है। प्रस्तावक महोदय ने सही कहा कि मोटर कौन कहे, घोड़ा भी उस रास्ते पर नहीं चल सकता है, वह ऐसी खराब स्थिति में है। अब आप कल्पना कर सकते हैं कि जो प्रदेश हमारी सुरक्षा के लिए इतना महत्वपूर्ण हो और उस प्रदेश की एक मात्र सड़क की ऐसी दुर्दशा हो, तो हम विकास क्या करेंगे? केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय खुल जाने से ही तो सारा विकास नहीं हो जाता?

जब तक उसके चतुर्मुखी विकास की कोई कल्पना या कल्पनाशीलता हमारे अंदर नहीं है, तब तक हम उस प्रदेश का सही रूप में विकास नहीं कर सकते। यह केवल सिक्किम का ही दुर्भाग्य नहीं है, बल्कि हमारे जितने भी सीमावर्ती प्रदेश हैं, उनको मुख्य धारा में जोड़ने की हमारी तरफ से जो कोशिश होनी चाहिए, वह हम नहीं कर पाते। अभी प्रस्तावक महोदय ने अपने भाषण में बताया कि चाहे आई.ए.एस. अधिकारी हों या आई.पी.एस. अधिकारी, जिन अधिकारियों की भी इन प्रदेशों में नियुक्ति होती है, वे वहाँ काम नहीं करना चाहते, वे वहाँ जाना नहीं चाहते। अगर उनका वहाँ ट्रांसफर होता भी है या उनकी वहाँ नियुक्ति होती भी है तो वे जोर-शोर की सिफारिश लगाकर वहाँ से चले आते हैं। अगर हमारे अधिकारी वहाँ नहीं जाएंगे, अगर हमारे लोग वहाँ नहीं जाएंगे और अगर वहाँ के लोगों से हमारा संपर्क नहीं होगा, तो हम कैसे भावनात्मक एकता हासिल कर सकते हैं? हम देश की एकता को कैसे मजबूत कर सकते हैं? यह केवल भाषणों से नहीं होगा। इसलिए हमें दोनों स्तरों पर प्रयास करना होगा। एक तो विकास के स्तर पर, क्योंकि आप जानते हैं कि अगल-बगल के जो सूबे हैं, जहाँ उपद्रव है, अशांति है, उस उपद्रव और अशांति का कारण क्या है? जहाँ इस प्रकार के सशस्त्र संगठन काम करते हैं, आतंकवादी संगठन काम करते हैं और जो हमारे पड़ोसी देश हैं, जिनको हम सुहाते नहीं हैं, जो हमारे विकास को देख कर जलन रखते हैं, वह हमारे विकास के रास्ते में रोड़ा अटकाना चाहते हैं, वे इन प्रतिकूल परिस्थितियों का नाजायज फायदा उठा कर हमारे खिलाफ एक अजीब प्रकार का वातावरण बनाने की कोशिश करते हैं। इसलिए हमें इस बात को बहुत ही गंभीरता से सोचना होगा कि हमारे जो सीमावर्ती इलाके हैं, उनको भावना की दृष्टि से, विकास की दृष्टि से और संसाधनों की दृष्टि से कैसे जोड़ा जाए। यह ठीक ही कहा गया कि सिक्किम के लोग शान्तिप्रिय हैं। अभी वे उम्मीद लगाये हुए हैं कि केन्द्र की सरकार शायद हमारे साथ न्याय करे, परन्तु अन्य प्रदेशों के लोगों की तरह ही अगर वहाँ के लोगों का धीरज, वहाँ के लोगों की हिम्मत भी टूट जाएगी और वहाँ भी कुछ उपद्रवी तत्व इस प्रकार का वातावरण बना देंगे तो हमारे लिए यह कितनी खतरनाक स्थिति होगी, हम उसकी कल्पना कर सकते हैं।

अभी एक माननीय सदस्य जी ने कहा कि वहाँ भौगोलिक परेशानी है, वहाँ पर ट्रॉपिकल दिक्कत है, परन्तु यह बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आती कि जहाँ टेक्नोलॉजी इतनी डेवलप हो गयी हो और आप दुनिया का एक बड़ा पावर बनने का ख्वाब देखते हों, वहाँ ऐसी चुनौतियों को ध्यान में रख कर हमारी तैयारी होनी चाहिए। मैंने नाथूला के रास्ते में चीन के इलाके में देखा कि वहाँ किस प्रकार से चौड़ी सड़क बन गयी है और हमारी जो सबसे महत्वपूर्ण सामरिक सड़क है, वह आज तक पूरी नहीं हो पायी। इसमें कितना साल लग जाएगा? इस प्रकार की हमारे सामने जो चुनौतियाँ हैं, उन चुनौतियों को दृष्टिगत रखते हुए हमारी तैयारी होनी चाहिए। आखिर कारण क्या है? पैसे की कमी है या इंजीनियर्स की कमी है अथवा उसकी देखभाल करने वालों की कमी है? इसकी मॉनिटरिंग होती है कि नहीं होती है? क्या कारण है कि जिस सड़क को कब का पूरा हो जाना चाहिए था, वह सड़क अब तक पूरी नहीं हो पायी है? इसलिए मेरा यह कहना है कि सिक्किम के विकास को दृष्टि में रख कर हमें काम करना चाहिए।

प्रस्तावक महोदय के साथ मुझे स्विट्जरलैंड जाने का मौका मिला। मैंने देखा कि स्विट्जरलैंड के मुकाबले सिक्किम में जो प्राकृतिक सम्पदा है या वहाँ टूरिज्म की दृष्टि से विकास की जो संभावना है, वह कई गुना ज्यादा है। वहाँ पर एक “टॉप आफ दि यूरोप” है। “टॉप आफ दि यूरोप” 13 हजार फुट की ऊँचाई पर है। वहाँ लोगों ने सौ साल पहले ट्रेन बना दी। उन्होंने ग्लेशियर्स के अंदर केक्स बनाये। स्विट्जरलैंड के टूरिज्म की आमदनी का सबसे बड़ा स्रोत “टॉप आफ दि यूरोप” है। लोग वहाँ उसी को देखने जाते हैं, शहर को देखने नहीं जाते हैं, शहर तो वे हर जगह देख लेते हैं। वहाँ जो प्राकृतिक सौंदर्य है, उससे कई गुना अच्छा हमारे यहाँ है। यहाँ सिक्किम की पहाड़ियाँ हैं, कंचनजंघा की पहाड़ियाँ हैं, हरी-भरी और खूबसूरत और भी ऐसे कई स्पॉट्स हैं, जिनका हम विकास कर सकते हैं।

तो हमें कम से कम ये जो लिंक हैं, ये जो यात्रा के सूत्र हैं, उनके द्वारा सिक्किम को जोड़ने की, जहाज से जोड़ने की, ट्रेन से जोड़ने की, सड़क से जोड़ने की कोशिश करनी चाहिए और इससे हमें कितना फायदा होगा, हम इसकी कल्पना कर सकते हैं। इससे केवल सिक्किम की जनता का ही फायदा नहीं होगा, सिक्किम की जनता का यह फायदा जरूर होगा कि वहाँ रोजगार के साधन मिलेंगे, क्योंकि वहाँ रोजगार का कोई साधन नहीं है। कोई कारखाना वहाँ लग नहीं सकता, पर्यावरण की दृष्टि से तमाम प्रकार की आपत्तियाँ होंगी। वहाँ पर पुरानी जातियों के लोग हैं, पुराने कल्चर हैं — लेप्चा संस्कृति और दूसरे समूह भी हैं, वे केवल खेती करते हैं। खेती भी मुनाफे की नहीं है और विकास का कोई साधन वहाँ है नहीं, दुकानदारी, व्यापार की भी संभावना नहीं है, क्योंकि आबादी बहुत कम है। तो जब बाहर के लोगों का वहाँ पर्यटन होगा, यातायात की सुविधाएं बढ़ेंगी, देश के भी और बाहर के भी, जब दोनों तरह के पर्यटक वहाँ जाएंगे, तो वहाँ पर विकास अपने आप होने लगेगा। क्योंकि विकास के बारे में यह बात है कि अगर आप किसी क्षेत्र को सड़क से जोड़ दीजिए, ट्रेन से जोड़ दीजिए, वायु मार्ग से जोड़ दीजिए, इस प्रकार जब लोगों के आने-जाने की सुविधा हो जाएगी तो विकास अपने आप होने लगता है। आज लोगों के पास पैसा भी है और वे जाना भी चाहते हैं, लेकिन सुविधाओं के अभाव में वे नहीं जा पाते, इसलिए अगर हमने ये सुविधाएं प्रदान कर दीं, तो उनसे विकास होगा। इसलिए, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो हमारे मन की, दिमाग की बनावट है, उस बनावट को बदलना पड़ेगा। केवल राष्ट्रीय एकता की धुन लगाने से राष्ट्रीय एकता कायम नहीं होगी, राष्ट्रीय एकता कायम करने के दो तरीके हैं — समबोध और समलक्ष्य। अगर हम वहाँ के लोगों की आकांक्षाओं का, वहाँ के लोगों के दर्द का, वहाँ के लोगों की उम्मीदों का अहसास नहीं करेंगे और अगर हमारा दर्द उनका दर्द नहीं बनेगा तथा उनका दर्द हमारा दर्द नहीं बनेगा, तो हम कैसे कहेंगे कि वे भारत के नागरिक हैं या हमारा उनका दिली रिश्ता या भावनात्मक रिश्ता है। देश केवल पहाड़ या उसकी सीमाओं से नहीं बनता, देश इन पहाड़ों और सीमाओं के अंदर रहने वाले जो लोग हैं, उनसे बनता है और उनके रिश्ते कैसे हैं, यह भी देश की एकता के लिए बहुत आवश्यक तत्व या सूत्र है। तो हमें पहले यह रिश्ते जोड़ने की बात करनी होगी और फिर, दूसरे, हमें देखना होगा कि हमारा लक्ष्य क्या है। जैसा मैंने कहा कि वे अनट्रेंड सिपाही हैं, वे भी चाहते हैं कि भारत की सीमाओं की रक्षा हो। वे डरते भी हैं,

क्योंकि अगर चीनी आक्रमण हुआ तो तो सबसे पहले नाथुला की चौकी पर चीनी सैना पहुंचेगी और सबसे बड़ा तथा पहला मुकाबला तो सिक्किम के लोग ही करेंगे। अगर सिक्किम के लोगों के मन में यह भाव नहीं होगा कि यह देश हमारा है, देश की रक्षा करनी है, उसके लिए जान भी न्योछावर करनी पड़े तो हम करेंगे, तो फिर देश की रक्षा नहीं हो पाएगी और यह भाव हम तभी पैदा कर पाएंगे जब उनसे हमारा तादाम्य होगा, हमारा उनसे लगाव होगा और उनको यह लगेगा कि जो संसाधन हैं, उनका बंटवारा ठीक हो रहा है। अब एक तरफ दिल्ली में बारह मास सड़कें बनती रहती हैं। यहां पर जो संसाधन हैं, जनता का पैसा है, उस पैसे का कितना हिस्सा कहां पर खर्च होगा, इसका बंटवारा ठीक तरह से होना चाहिए, क्योंकि अगर किसी को यह लगेगा कि हमारे लिए वह सही तरह से नहीं खर्च हुआ, तो विषमताएं बढ़ेंगी। प्रस्तावक महोदय ने ठीक ही कहा है कि अगर हम योजना आयोग के उस पुराने फार्मूले को मानें कि आबादी के हिसाब से संसाधनों का बंटवारा होगा तो उसके अनुसार तो सिक्किम का कभी नम्बर ही नहीं आएगा, छोटे-छोटे प्रदेशों का कभी नम्बर ही नहीं आएगा। इसलिए आबादी और आबादी के साथ विकास की गति कैसी रही और उसके साथ ही साथ उनका भारत के विकास में, भारत की सुरक्षा में महत्व क्या है, इन तीनों का आधार होना चाहिए, तभी आप संसाधनों का ठीक तरीके से बंटवारा कर पाएंगे, वरना जो पहले से विकसित हैं या जिन्होंने अब तक संसाधनों का सर्वाधिक फायदा उठाया है, वे और आगे बढ़ जाएंगे और जिनको संसाधन कम मिले हैं, वे लगातार पिछड़ते जाएंगे। तो देश में जो सम्यक विकास है, जिसको आप balanced development कहते हैं, वह सम्यक विकास नहीं हो रहा है। अगर सम्यक विकास नहीं होगा तो उससे हमारी क्षेत्रीयता विषमता बढ़ेगी और क्षेत्रीय विषमता विद्रोह का या विघटन का बहुत बड़ा कारण बनती है। इसलिए क्षेत्रीय विषमता को खत्म करने के लिए सिक्किम को बहुत ही सुंदर और खूबसूरत बनाने के लिए और उसकी प्राकृतिक सुंदरता या सौंदर्य का सर्वाधिक फायदा उठाने के लिए, देसी तथा परदेसी, दोनों तरह के पर्यटकों को आकर्षित करने के लिए यह आवश्यक है कि सिक्किम का चतुर्मुखी विकास किया जाए.....।

इसके लिए अगर संसाधनों की आवश्यकता हो, तो विशेष उपाय करके संसाधन जुटाए जाएं। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं प्रस्तावक महोदय के प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूं। धन्यवाद।

श्री समन पाठक (पश्चिमी बंगाल): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य लेफ्टिनेंट जी ने जो संकल्प आज यहां सिक्किम राज्य के विकास के बारे में प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं उसका पुरजोर समर्थन करता हूं। मुझसे पूर्व माननीय सदस्यों ने अपनी बातें यहां कहीं और उन्होंने बड़े सटीक तरीके से बताया, मैं उनसे सहमत हूं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, 1975 में भारत में सिक्किम का विलय हुआ था, आज उसे बने हुए 35 साल हो गए हैं, लेकिन इन 35 सालों में सिक्किम का जिस हिसाब से विकास होना चाहिए था, वह आज तक नहीं हो पाया है, यह बड़े दुःख की बात है, यह बड़ी विडंबना है। प्रस्तावक महोदय ने अपना प्रस्ताव रखते हुए बताया कि यह दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि सिक्किम के पास जो अपनी प्राकृतिक संपदा है, यदि थोड़ा भी प्रयास किया जाता, तो बहुत कुछ किया जा सकता था, लेकिन इन 35 सालों में कुछ नहीं हो पाया। उसका infrastructure development, economic development नहीं हो पाया है और इस नाते यह पिछड़ा हुआ है। इसलिए प्रस्तावक महोदय ने जो संकल्प यहां पर रखा है, इसका मैं समर्थन करता हूं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सिक्किम अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सीमा से भी जुड़ा हुआ है। सिक्किम में चारों तरफ से पहाड़ियां हैं और यह अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सीमा में है तथा यह चीन, भूटान और नेपाल से जुड़ा हुआ है। सिक्किम का दुर्भाग्य यह है कि इस राज्य को देश के दूसरे राज्यों से सीधे जोड़ने के लिए कोई रेलवे लाइन या हवाई सेवाएं उपलब्ध नहीं हैं। वहां की lifeline केवल एक हाइवे है — 31A, यह नेशनल हाइवे है और सिक्किम की lifeline है, लेकिन विभिन्न कारणों से ज्यादातर यह बाधित रहता है — कभी बंद के कारण, कभी landslide के कारण, कभी किसी और कारण से यह बंद हो जाता है। इसलिए यह जो lifeline है — 31A, इसकी जो दुर्दशा है, अभी हमारे माननीय साथी ने बताया कि जब वे सिक्किम गए, तो उनका किस तरह का अनुभव रहा। कम से कम

जो नेशनल हाइवे है, उसको सही तरीके से रखना, उसको मँटेन करना, इसके लिए अतिरिक्त बजट की आवश्यकता हो, तो केन्द्र सरकार की ओर से बजट देना, यह मदद कभी सिक्किम को नहीं मिली है। वहां के लोग जितनी कठिनाइयों का सामना करते हैं, उस हिसाब से केन्द्र सरकार को सिक्किम की तरफ ज्यादा ध्यान देना चाहिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं सिक्किम के पड़ोसी राज्य से आता हूँ, मेरा क्षेत्र दार्जिलिंग, उससे बिल्कुल लगा हुआ है। मैंने सिक्किम की जनता को बहुत करीब से देखा है। वहां की जनता बहुत शांतिप्रिय है, वहां पर बहुत कठिनाइयां हैं, उनकी जीवन शैली बहुत कठिन है। वहां की आम जनता कृषि पर निर्भर करती है, लेकिन कृषि भी उतनी लाभदायक नहीं है, क्योंकि उसका उत्पादन इतना संतोषजनक नहीं है। दो-तीन छोटे-मोटे उद्योगों को छोड़कर, वहां पर रोजगार का दूसरा कोई साधन नहीं है। वहां के लोग आर्थिक संकट से ग्रस्त हैं, फिर भी वहां की जनता कभी भी कोई शिकायत, कोई agitation, कोई दंगा-फसाद या इस तरह की गतिविधि नहीं करती है और वे लोग शांतिप्रिय हैं। इतनी समस्या होने के बावजूद, विकास में इतनी कमी के बावजूद, वहां के लोग इस देश के गणतान्त्रिक परिवेश की रक्षा के लिए, देश की अखंडता और एकता की रक्षा के लिए हमेशा कटिबद्ध हैं। मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि आर्थिक रूप से सिक्किम को सबल बनाना बहुत जरूरी है, क्योंकि एक छोटा राज्य होने के कारण यहां आर्थिक विकास और संसाधनों की कमी रही है।

यहां के चौतरफा विकास हेतु केन्द्र सरकार गंभीरता से सोचे। शिक्षा, रोजगार और कृषि जैसे क्षेत्रों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सटीक योजना बनाए। महोदय, सिक्किम में हर धर्म के लोग, हर जाति के लोग और हर भाषा के लोग आपस में प्रेम और सद्भावना से रहते हैं और देश की अखण्डता की रक्षा के लिए उन लोगों की जो भावना है, उसकी सरकार कम से कम कद्र करे और ज्यादा से ज्यादा सिक्किम के विकास पर ध्यान दे। माननीय सदस्य यह जो संकल्प लाए हैं, मैं इनसे सहमत हूँ। सिक्किम के विकास के साथ-साथ यथाशीघ्र इसे रेल लाइन और हवाई सेवा द्वारा देश के अन्य क्षेत्रों के साथ भी जोड़ा जाए। राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग सं. 31 का बयान माननीय प्रस्तावक ने भी किया है और अन्य माननीय सदस्यों ने भी किया है कि इसकी जो स्थिति है, इसके लिए कोई वैकल्पिक व्यवस्था, कोई वैकल्पिक रास्ते के लिए केन्द्र सरकार विचार करे।

महोदय, सिक्किम एक हिमालयन क्षेत्र है और यह हिमालयन क्षेत्र से जुड़ा हुआ है। यहां विभिन्न भाषा, विभिन्न संस्कृति और विभिन्न जाति का जो अपना हेरिटेज और कल्चर है, यह प्राकृतिक संपदा से भरपूर है। सिक्किम से जुड़ा हुआ जो दार्जिलिंग का क्षेत्र है, इसमें प्राकृतिक सौंदर्य के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर का पर्यटक स्थल बनने की संभावना है। इसी संभावना को देखते हुए सरकार कम से कम सिक्किम को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पर्यटन क्षेत्र घोषित करे और ऐसा होने से यहां के लोगों को रोजगार मिलेगा और यहां के लोगों की आर्थिक स्थिति में सुधार आएगी। इसके साथ ही साथ, यहां के जनजाति लोगों की जो भाषा और संस्कृति है, इसका भरपूर खजाना है, इसके संरक्षण और अध्ययन हेतु केन्द्र सरकार को भरपूर सहायता देनी होगी। साथ ही साथ, उन लोगों के अधिकारों की रक्षा किस प्रकार होगी, इसके बारे में भी सरकार को ध्यान देना होगा। अभी हाल में जो सिक्किम केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय की स्थापना हुई है, उसको भी अधिक राशि प्रदान करें, ताकि शैक्षिक रूप से सिक्किम और मजबूत हो। इसके अलावा और जो दूसरे क्षेत्र हैं, जैसे तकनीकी क्षेत्र, उच्च शिक्षा का क्षेत्र, आदि पर विशेष ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है। उच्च शिक्षा के लिए सिक्किम की जनता को बाहर न जाना पड़े, इसके लिए भी कम से कम सिक्किम यूनिवर्सिटी के विभिन्न faculties, जैसे विभिन्न engineering faculties और अन्य तकनीकी faculties को और मजबूत करें तथा तकनीकी शिक्षा को और मजबूत करें। इसके साथ ही तकनीकी शिक्षा के लिए Engineering Centre for Excellence बनाया जाए और मेडिकल कॉलेज का भी विस्तार किया जाए। सिक्किम में जो स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं हैं, उसकी भी एक लिमिटेशन है। वहां पर अगर किसी को कोई गंभीर बीमारी होती है, तो उसे इलाज के लिए दिल्ली या भेल्लोर जाना पड़ता है या कहीं बाहर जाकर

इलाज कराना पड़ता है। इसलिए सिक्किम में भी “एम्स” टाइप के हॉस्पिटल का विस्तार किया जाए। माननीय सदस्य ने जो संकल्प प्रस्तुत किया है, उसके साथ मैं इसको जोड़ना चाहता हूँ।

महोदय, श्री ओ.टी. लेपचा जी द्वारा जो संकल्प लाया गया है, मैं उसका एक बार फिर से भरपूर समर्थन करता हूँ और आशा करता हूँ कि सरकार इस पर response करेगी और सिक्किम की जनता की जो integrity है, जो भावना है, उसकी कद्र करेगी। जिस प्रकार से वहां के लोगों ने देश की अखण्डता की रक्षा के लिए शांतिप्रिय ढंग से प्रयासरत है, जिस प्रकार से वे लोग एक भारतीय होने का गर्व करते हैं, उसी हिसाब से उन पर भी सरकार का ज्यादा ध्यान होना चाहिए, मैं ऐसा आशा करूंगा। कभी-कभी प्रेस मीडिया में आता है कि कभी अरुणाचल प्रदेश और कभी सिक्किम में सब चीन ने ले लिया, सब चीन के साथ जा रहा है। दो महीने पहले शायद किसी अखबार में ऐसा आया था, जिसके कारण पर्यटन क्षेत्र पर इतना असर हुआ कि वहां जो पर्यटक जाना चाहते थे, वे नहीं गए और जो लोग वहां गए थे, वे लोग भी डर कर वापस आने लगे। वहां इस तरह की भयावह स्थिति पैदा की जाती है।

इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से मीडिया से भी अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि यदि इस तरह की कोई भी अफवाह हो तो उस पर भी थोड़ा ध्यान दें, ताकि इसके कारण सिक्किम की जो आर्थिक समृद्धि है, वहां की जो शांति है, वह भंग न हो। इसी के साथ मैं इनके संकल्प का समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI R.P.N. SINGH: Sir, if your permit, I would like to intervene here.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Yes, you can intervene.

SHRI R.P.N. SINGH: I would just like to bring to the notice of the House that there has been a lot of discussion on the National Highway 31-A which links Sikkim to the rest of the country. I would just like to bring to the notice of the House that we have taken a lot of measures to improve that road. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, if you give me some time, I would just reply to that.

The total length of the road from Sevoke to Gangtok is about 80 kilometres. There are 77 identified critical locations on this road. The Ministry has approved estimates for improvement of 69 locations at an estimated cost of Rs. 46 crore. BRO has started the work. The estimates for the remaining 8 locations will also be approved by the Ministry as and when they are finalised by the BRO. For the 2-laning of the entire NH-31A, including the improvement of critical locations, the Cabinet has approved investment of Rs. 700 crore on 30.07.2009. The estimates are under preparation by BRO. These will be sanctioned as soon as they are finalized. There are difficulties in forest clearance and land acquisition in West Bengal portion which are being sorted out by the State Government.

Another road which my Ministry has taken up is the Gangtok-Nathula Road. This is about 90 km long State road connecting Ranipul to Nathula, the Chinese Border, the issue which the hon. Member had raised. The Ministry has approved estimates for improvement of entire road to 2-lane standards at an estimated cost of about Rs. 600 crore. In 67 km length, the BRO is executing the work and in about 23 km length, Sikkim PWD has invited tenders for Gangtok Bypass.

I would also like to bring to the notice of the House the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme of the North-East. Sikkim after Assam, is the State which has got the highest grant of Rs. 650 crore. We have taken in principle decision about another alternate high

way to provide connections to Gangtok being landlocked and because there being always demonstrations on NH 31-A. The road getting closed down frequently, a high level team, headed by the Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, visited National Highway 31-A on 19.11.2009. The team has recommended a number of engineering measures to be adopted to ensure efficient traffic movement on NH-31A. In fact, the Prime Minister himself has taken interest in this matter. The Government of West Bengal has been requested to take all the necessary actions to see that this road is never blocked and for all improvement work, forest clearances and land acquisition, etc, which are required, should be taken up immediately.

Another proposal which we have moved regarding Sikkim is this. There are 4 district headquarters in the whole of Sikkim. Gangtok would be connected by a 2-lane highway through NH-31A. The proposal for 2-lane connectivity of remaining three district headquarters (Namchi, Gayzing and Mangam) has been included under Phase B of SARDP-NE. The Ministry is now approaching the Cabinet for advancing the connectivity to Namchi and Gayzing from Phase B to Phase A. This would pave the way for construction and improvement of 112 km State roads. 2-lane connectivity of Mangam is proposed to be taken up during the 12th Plan.

I can assure you, Sir, that the Government of India is extremely keen and is taking all important measures to improve roads of Sikkim. In fact, there is another proposal to construct an alternate highway of about 242 km length from Chalsa on NH 31 to Ranipul which has been approved by the Government in-principle and the BRO is engaged in preparation of DPR and feasibility reports for this Highway is on.

So, I would like to tell the Members and assure them that my Ministry, as far as the roads are concerned, is trying to connect Sikkim. We are really taking all the necessary steps and we can assure them, as lot of Members have raised the issue of NH-31A, that they can be rest assured that the work is being carried out and Government has released money for that Highway.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Thank you very much. Now, Mr. Biswajit Daimary.

श्री विश्वजीत दैमारी (असम) : महोदय, मेरे मित्र श्री ओ.टी. लेपचा जी ने जो सिक्किम राज्य के लिए यहां पर resolution रेज किया है, उस पर बहस करने का आपने मुझे मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूं। मैं, लेपचा जी का जो संकल्प है, जो resolution है, उसका समर्थन करता हूं। यह बहुत ही genuine और महत्वपूर्ण संकल्प है। इस विषय पर हमारे कुछ मित्र उनके सपोर्ट में बोल चुके हैं। इसी तरह से मैं भी कुछ प्वाइंट्स इसी में जोड़ना चाहता हूं। जो भी हो, यह एक sentiments की बात है। हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब ने सुनने के लिए इतना धीरज नहीं रहा इसीलिए in advance रिप्लाय में, उनके मंत्रालय की तरफ से वे क्या करने जा रहे हैं, उसके बारे में उन्होंने बताया है। यही नहीं, अभी रास्ते का प्रस्ताव तो सुना है लेकिन ऐसा भी ऐवीडेंस है – सिक्किम नॉर्थ ईस्ट में पड़ता है – वहां तक 15 साल बीत गए हैं, भारत सरकार की ओर से जितनी भी परियोजनाएं वहां के लिए सिद्धांततः ली गयी थीं, जो भी प्रोजेक्ट्स लिए गए थे, वे आज तक नहीं हुए। ऐसा न हो कि आज जो हमारे मंत्री जी ने यहां पर बताया है और सिक्किम के नैशनल हाईवे – ए के लिए जो परियोजना की बात उन्होंने कही है, वह भी टाइमली न हो पाए। महोदय, इस प्रस्ताव को लेने में कोई

मुश्किल नहीं है क्योंकि यह देश की भलाई के लिए है। मंत्री महोदय स्वयं यहां हैं, जो रास्ते के साथ जुड़े हुए हैं। मैं अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि मंत्री महोदय खुद वहां एक बार जाएं और थोड़ा सा वहां पर देखें। जितने भी वहां पर हमारे ब्यूरोक्रेट्स हैं, जो ऑफिसर्स लोग गए हुए हैं, आप देखें कि प्रेक्टीकली फील्ड में क्या हो रहा है क्योंकि नैशनल हाईवे-31, जो डबल लेन बनने की बात थी, बंगाल को पार करने के बाद, उसमें कोई प्रोग्रेस नहीं है। वह गुवाहाटी तक जाता है और उसका असर नॉर्थ ईस्ट के बाकी स्टेट्स पर पड़ता है। इस तरह की हालत है। कृपया इस पर ध्यान दें। इसी तरह से टूरिज्म के डेवलपमेंट के बारे में बोल रहे हैं कि इसको इंटरनेशनल लैवल के टूरिज्म में लाया जा सकता है मैं चाहता हूं कि टूरिज्म मंत्रालय की तरफ से इस पर कुछ ध्यान दिया जाए। वहां खुद मंत्री जी जाएं ताकि उसको देखने के बाद वह स्वयं कुछ व्यवस्था ले सकें। इसी तरह से एयर कनेक्टिविटी की बात है। यह कोई समस्या की बात नहीं है। सिविल एविएशन की तरफ से वहां — बड़ी फ्लाइट नहीं होने से, बोइंग फ्लाइट नहीं होने से भी — कम से कम हेलीकॉप्टर की सर्विस तो कुछ साल के लिए की जा सकती है। इस तरह की व्यवस्था की जा सकती है। रेलवे को भी दुरुस्त किया जा सकता है। रेलवे के रास्ते के लिए काम करने के लिए टेक्नीकली कोई प्रॉब्लम नहीं है — भूटान में हमारा इंडिया ही सड़क का काम कर रहा है। भूटान और सिक्किम लगे हुए हैं। मैं बार-बार बोल रहा हूं कि भूटान हमारे बोडोलैंड के साथ लगा हुआ है। वहां पर more than 3000 km सड़क पर हमारा बीआरओ काम कर रहा है और मेंटेंनेंस का काम भी देख रहा है। अगर इस हिली एरिया में यह सारा काम कर सकता है तो सिक्किम में क्यों नहीं हो सकता? इंडिया का जो यह सेक्टर है, वह बहुत ही बैकवर्ड है, उसमें क्यों नहीं कर सकता है — जरूर कर सकता है। आज भारत के साथ मर्ज हुए 35 साल बीत गए हैं। आज धीरे-धीरे सिक्किम के लोग थोड़ा दुखी और चिंतित होने लगे हैं कि हमें इंडिया के साथ मर्ज होने के बाद क्या मिला, क्या नहीं मिला, फायदा हुआ या नुकसान हुआ। यह अच्छी बात नहीं है। आज लेपचा जी ने जो बात यहां पर बताई है, उसका इंगित अच्छा नहीं है क्योंकि हमारा एक्सपीरिंस है कि नॉर्थ ईस्ट में आज बहुत सारे लोग, बहुत सी ऑरगनाइजेशंस भारत से अलग होने के लिए संग्राम कर रही हैं। आज हम एनएससीएन की बात डिनाई नहीं कर सकते हैं। सब जानते हैं वे लोग क्या कर रहे हैं, आज हम उल्फा की बात डिनाई नहीं कर सकते हैं, एनडीएफबी की बात डिनाई नहीं कर सकते हैं जो सिक्किम तक पहुंचने वाले हैं। एनडीएफवी और नेपाल के साथ माओवादियों के आज आपस में अच्छे रिलेशंस हैं, उल्फा के साथ अच्छे रिलेशंस हैं और वे लोग सिक्किम होकर ही नेपाल तक जाते हैं। आज तक सिर्फ वे लोग सिक्किम में एक्टिविटीज इसलिए नहीं कर रहे हैं, क्योंकि उन लोगों को शेल्टर चाहिए नेपाल तक जाने के लिए, उस रास्ते को चाहिए। यह बहुत ही चिंताजनक विषय है। इस पर ध्यान देना चाहिए, ताकि सिक्किम के लोग ऐसा फील नहीं करें कि हम गलती से इंडिया के साथ मर्ज हो गए हैं। क्योंकि बराबर में चायना है, वह भी हमारे लिए भयानक स्थिति है। आज अरुणाचल के लिए भी कितना चिंताजनक विषय है। आज यहां पर एक्सटर्नल एफफेयर्स मिनिस्ट्री की तरफ से एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में जवाब दिया गया कि 27 अक्टूबर को बंगलौर में ट्रिपार्टाइट मीटिंग हुई थी। वहां पर जितनी भी बात की गई, उसमें अरुणाचल के मुद्दे को नहीं उठाया गया। वहां पर हालत इतनी खराब हो गई, इससे चायना को लेकर सारे देश के लोग चिंतित हैं। तो इसी तरह का हाल है। हमारे जो मिनिस्टर लोग होते हैं, अगर वे इस चीज को फील नहीं करते हैं, इसके ऊपर कोई चिंता नहीं करते हैं तो देश की सुरक्षा कैसे होगी तथा वहां का आदमी खुद को कैसे सिक्थोर्ड फील कर सकता है? अभी अरुणाचल की हालत बहुत खराब है। अरुणाचल के साथ असम है, बाकी अन्य स्टेट्स हैं, जो बहुत चिंतित हैं। तो इस विषय पर ध्यान देना चाहिए और शायद ऐसी ही समस्या आज सिक्किम में भी हो जाएगी। हमारे जो विषमतावादी लोग हैं, जो संग्रामी विषमतावादी लोग हैं, वे ही लोग धीरे-धीरे इस मौके का फायदा उठाएंगे तथा लोगों के सेंटीमेंट्स को एक्सप्लॉइट करेंगे। इसके साथ ही वे ही लोग चायना के साथ लिंक करेंगे तथा चायना उनको थोड़ा सा उठाएगा, उनको आर्म्स देगा, पैसा देगा तथा काम करने के लिए व्यवहार करेगा। इसी तरह अरुणाचल में भी होने जा रहा है। वहां के अखबारों में भी आया है कि अरुणाचल

का जो एरिया है, उसको बहुत इंप्लुएंस किया है और वे ही लोग चायना के साथ लिंक करेंगे, जिस तरह अल्फा, एन0डी0एफ0बी0 ने बंगला देश के साथ कर रहे हैं और सीमाओं पर समस्या हो रही है। तो अगर दिल्ली से कोई इसको इंपोर्टेंस नहीं मिलेगा, केन्द्रीय सरकार की तरफ से इसको कोई इंपोर्टेंस नहीं दिया जाएगा तो इस समस्या का समाधान कैसे हो सकेगा। तो इसको सही ढंग से देखना चाहिए। आज हमारा जो संविधान है वह इसको कम्प्लीटली कवर नहीं कर सका, इसमें कुछ न कुछ प्रॉब्लम है। इसमें इतना जल्दी-जल्दी अमेंडमेंट करके काम करना भी मुश्किल है। इसलिए आज लेपचा जी जो प्रस्ताव लाए हैं, इसी तरह के प्रस्ताव जो जोड़िए, भारतवर्ष के सारे स्टेट्स को, सारे कोने को, सारे सैक्टर्स को डेवलप करने के लिए इस पार्लियामेंट में कुछ व्यवस्था लेनी पड़ेगी। सिर्फ मंत्रालयों की जो पॉलिसी है, सरकार की जो पॉलिसी है, भारत के विकास करने की जो नीति है, इसके ऊपर निर्भर करने से हमारा देश कभी उन्नत नहीं होगा, क्योंकि आज हम लोग देख रहे हैं कि पं० जवाहर लाल नेहरू से लेकर आज तक जितने भी प्रधान मंत्री के कार्यकाल आए हैं सारे भारत को डेवलप करने के लिए, वे कामयाब नहीं हो पाए, सब नाकाम रहा, जिसके कारण आज तक अनपढ़ आदमी भारतवर्ष में हैं, जिनके पास रहने के लिए घर भी नहीं है, उनको खाने के लिए खाना भी नहीं है, ऐसे लोग आज भारतवर्ष में हैं। यह इसलिए है, क्योंकि हम यहां पर अच्छी पॉलिसी इस देश के लिए नहीं ला सके हैं। आज हम दिल्ली में शिक्षा के लिए जितना ऊपर लेवल में चिंता करते हैं, उसको ही हम सारे देश में लागू करते हैं, ऐसा हमको लगता है। हम जो यहां देख रहे हैं, वही इंडिया में हो रहा है। लेकिन दिल्ली तो अलग है, असम अलग है, बंगलौर अलग है, मुम्बई अलग है। नॉर्थ ईस्ट में सबसे दुखदायी बात यह है कि अगर इंडिया में हर मंत्रालय की तरफ से देश को उन्नत करने के लिए कुछ पॉलिसी लेंगे, तो नॉर्थ ईस्ट के लिए थोड़ा सा खोटा में रख लेता है, अगर उसमें हो गया तो हो गया। आज शिलांग में आई0आई0एम0 — इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ मैनेजमेंट दिया है। सारे नॉर्थ ईस्ट को बताते हैं कि आप लोगों को यह-यह दिया है। गोहाटी में आई0आई0टी0 बनाया है। नॉर्थ ईस्ट के सारे लोगों को बोलते हैं कि आप लोगों को तो आई0आई0टी0 दिया है। लेकिन क्या वह सम्भव है और यह सिक्किम के लिए कोई फायदाजनक होगा? क्या मिजोरम के लोगों के लिए कोई फायदाजनक होगा? बात की तो चिंता करनी चाहिए। इसलिए इंडिया के सब स्टेट्स में ऐसा Institute होना चाहिए। आज इतना प्रॉब्लम हो गया है, मैं मेडिकल के बारे में बात कर रहा हूं, आज गांवों में डॉक्टर नहीं हैं, डॉक्टर कैसे होगा, सारे स्टेट्स के लोग दो-तीन मेडिकल कॉलेज में जितनी सीटें हैं उनमें पढ़ाई कर रहे हैं और वहां पर धनी लोगों के जो बच्चे पढ़ रहे हैं, फिर वे बाद में दिल्ली आ जाते हैं तथा फिर फॉरेन में जाकर नौकरी करने लगते हैं। धनी लोगों के बच्चे वहां वापिस नहीं जाते हैं, क्योंकि धनी लोगों ने उनको वहां पैसा देकर पढ़ाया है, ट्यूशन दे देकर मेरिटोरियस बनाया है, इन्ही लोगों का नम्बर आता है तथा एंट्रेंस में यही लोग पास होते हैं। क्योंकि इन लोगों ने खर्चा किया है, पास होने के बाद इनको पढ़ने के लिए विदेश भेज देते हैं, तथा वे लोग वापिस नहीं आते हैं।

आज गांव में सेवा करने के लिए हमारे पास कोई एमबीबीएस डाक्टर नहीं है। हम लोग इतने डाक्टर प्रड्यूस कर रहे हैं, लेकिन देश की सेवा में हम उनको लगा नहीं सके, हम सब कुछ बाहर के लिए कर रहे हैं। गुवाहटी में जो आईआईटी पास करता है, वह गुवाहटी में नहीं होता है, उसे इधर आना पड़ता है। कभी-कभी तो उनके लिए इंडिया में नौकरी नहीं होती है, वे फॉरेन चले जाते हैं। इससे क्या फायदा होता है ? अगर छोटा-मोटी इंजीनियर की पढ़ाई करने का मौका होता, तो उसमें गांव के गरीब लोग पढ़कर कम से कम गांव में किसी न किसी प्रोजेक्ट में, किसी फैक्ट्री को चलाने में उनकी मदद करते। लेकिन सब बड़े आदमी के बड़े लड़के, बड़े इंस्टीट्यूशन्स में पढ़ गए, सब विदेश चले गए और आज देश में काम करने वाले आदमी नहीं हैं। हम ह्यूमैन रिसोर्स की बात करते हैं, ये कहां से आएंगे। हमारी इसी तरह की समस्या है और उस तरफ देखना जरूरी है। मैं ज्यादा टाइम नहीं लेना चाहता हूं इसलिए आपके माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूं कि सिक्किम के लिए स्पेशली एक Action Plan बनाकर, उसको दिल्ली जैसा डेवलप करने के लिए, मुम्बई

जैसा डेवलप करने के लिए कार्य किया जाना चाहिए। वहां की इकोनोमी को डेवलप करने के लिए सरकार को इस प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार करना चाहिए। हम लोगों ने असम में आंदोलन किया है, आज 42 साल हो गए हैं, 1967 से हमने आंदोलन किये हैं। सिक्किम 1975 से इंडिया के साथ जुड़ गया है। आज तक वहां की अवस्था 42 साल पहली जैसे ही है। कोई अच्छा आदमी, जानने वाला आदमी, यहां प्रस्ताव लाता है, तो यह easily pass हो जाता है। बुंदेलखंड बनाने की बात है। बुंदेलखंड बनाने का प्रस्ताव आ गया, वह तो पास नहीं हो पाया, लेकिन उसके लिए हजारों करोड़ रुपया स्पेशल पैकेज के नाम पर दे दिया गया है। हम लोगों को बोडोलैंड मिला, Bodoland Territorial Council इसके लिए 500 करोड़ रुपये, पांच साल के लिए हमको दे दिए और इसके लिए सरकार की तरफ से आफिसियली यूज़ करने में कोई हैल्प नहीं की क्योंकि हमारे पास न मैन पावर है, न इंजीनियर्स हैं, तो भी हम लोगों को पैसा मिला था, तो हमने जबरदस्त काम करा दिया। इसके बाद UCs चाहिए, यह चाहिए, वह चाहिए और आफिसियल प्रॉसिजर लेट हो गया, तो प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने सभी मुख्य मंत्रियों की बैठक में बोल दिया कि Bodoland Territorial Council को जो 500 करोड़ रुपया दिया था, उसके यूटिलाइजेशन से सेटिसफाईड नहीं हैं। हम को दोष दे दिया। इसमें दोष किसका था ? जिस तरह से बुंदेलखंड के लिए sympathy दिखाई, नार्थ-ईस्ट में N.C. Hills में जो घटनाएं हो रही हैं, उनके बारे में सब जानते हैं। वहां पर सिक्स शैड्यूल में ऑटोनामस काउन्सिल दे दी है, लेकिन उसको डेवलप करने के लिए कभी चिंता नहीं की। वहां पर रास्ता नहीं है, वहां पर कॉलेज नहीं है, यूनिवर्सिटी नहीं है, जिनको अच्छी शिक्षा नहीं मिली है, वे लोग इंडिया के सिस्टम के बारे में क्या जानते हैं, वे लोग संविधान के बारे में क्या जानते हैं ? वे लोग अपनी समस्या बता रहे हैं, उनकी समस्याओं को लेकर हमारे भारतवर्ष के एक्सपर्ट्स, जो कांस्टीट्यूशनल एक्सपर्ट्स हैं, जो लोग सिस्टम के एक्सपर्ट्स हैं, वे लोग बैठकर वहां के लोगों के लिए, जो जॉब ढूंढ़ रहे हैं, उनके लिए कौन-सी व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए, उसके लिए क्यों कदम नहीं उठाते हैं ? सिर्फ उन लोगों को ही बोलते रहते हैं कि आप लोग बोलिए कि आपके लिए क्या करना है ? हमको क्या पता है कि हमको क्या करना है। हमको सिखाया ही नहीं गया कि क्या करना है ? हमारे यहां पर एजुकेशन की व्यवस्था ही नहीं की गई है। आज तक असम में हजारों स्कूल पब्लिक चला रही है, फ्री में चला रही है, बिना पैसे में टीचर्स लोग पढ़ा रहे हैं, उनमें से बहुत से रिटायर्ड भी हो गए हैं और धीरे-धीरे ये स्कूल-कॉलेज बंद होने वाले हैं, लेकिन इस विषय पर हमारा देश गंभीर नहीं है। अगर कोई उनसे यह नहीं पूछेगा कि भाई आप लोग ऐसे क्यों हो, थोड़ा शांति से रहना सीखो, थोड़ा मिल-जुलकर रहना सीखो, इसको कोई कैसे सुनेगा जिसका कोई भविष्य नहीं है, वह कैसे शांति से रहेगा। अगर मुझे शांति पीस नहीं है, आपको पार्टी करते देखता हूं, नाच-गाना करते हुए देखता रहता हूं, तो मेरा पत्थर मारने का दिल जरूर होगा, आपका भी जरूर होगा..।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please, conclude your speech.

श्री विश्वजीत दैमारी: इसी तरह की हालत है, इसलिए मैं आपके जरिए से अनुरोध करता हूं कि जितने भी हमारे देश को नेतृत्व देने वाले मंत्री हैं, जो यहां पर मौजूद हैं, वे इसको देखें। वे अरुणाचल प्रदेश में भी जाएं, मैं अनुरोध करता हूं कि आप हमारे प्रदेश में भी आइए। जरूरत पड़ी तो आने जाने का पैसा हम लोग देंगे और आप वहां पर क्या मदद कर सकते हैं, इसको आकर आप देखिए। धन्यवाद।

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया (झारखंड): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे विद्वान सांसद साथी श्री ओ.टी. लेपचा जी ने सिक्किम के विकास के लिए सदन में एक resolution पेश किया है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, the time is over. It is 5.00 p.m. This discussion will continue on the next day of the Private Members' Resolution. The House is adjourned to meet at 11.00 a.m. on Monday, the 30th November, 2009.

The House then adjourned at one minute past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 30th November, 2009.