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Monday
30 November, 2009
9 Agrahayana, 1931 (Saka)

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RAJYA SABHA
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RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 30th November, 2009/9 Agrahayana, 1931 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MEMBER SWORN

1. Dr. Ashok Shekhar Ganguli (Nominated)

RE. SUSPENSION OF QUESTION HOUR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 141.(Interruptions)....

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I have given a notice(Interruptions)....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please(Interruptions)... All right(Interruptions)....

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: If you permit me for a minute, Sir(Interruptions)....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Yechury.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Thank you, Sir. Sir, I have given a notice for suspension of Question Hour on a matter of very grave importance as far as, I think, in the Council of States we should be concerned with. It is with both anger and anguish that I am raising this because it is not in our character to do such a thing of wanting to disrupt the Question Hour. But we are today helpless because of what the Central Government has done. They have sent a team, a Central Team, on the issue of law and order to West Bengal which is violative of the Constitution, violative of the judgements of the Apex Court and violative of the Federal structure of the entire Indian nation. We, as the Council of States, Sir, take an oath under this Constitution to protect this Constitution, and this Constitution is being violated. We cannot be a party to it.(Interruptions)....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute.(Interruptions)... Just one minute, please.(Interruptions).... Please allow the hon. Minister to speak.(Interruptions).... Please resume your places.(Interruptions)....

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, colleagues from the Left Parties have raised an issue. I will apprise the Home Minister about the feelings in the House and he will come back to the House if he wants to(Interruptions)....

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, let them come back(Interruptions)....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute.(Interruptions)....

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, the impression is gaining ground since we have coalition Governments at the Centre that any partner of the Government can start pressurising the Government to do something which is strictly not in compliance with the Constitution. This is exactly what seems to be happening. We have serious differences with them on various issues. But this issue is not UPA versus NDA or Left versus UPA or NDA. It is an issue of the Federal structure and this should be discussed and the Home Minister should come here and make a statement as to whether this kind of interference in the functioning of the States is taking place.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think, the Minister has already stated the position.(Interruptions).... Let us get on with the Question Hour.(Interruptions)....

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, the Minister has(Interruptions)....

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, withdraw the team.(Interruptions).... We want you to withdraw the team.(Interruptions)....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please(Interruptions).... Please resume your places.(Interruptions)....

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, the point is, the Home Minister may come and explain. But sending the team itself is violative of the Constitution.(Interruptions).... That has to be withdrawn right now.(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Withdraw the team.(Interruptions).... withdraw the team.(Interruptions)....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please(Interruptions)... Please resume your places(Interruptions).... Please, Mr. Sarkar, this is not correct.(Interruptions).... This is not correct.(Interruptions).... Please sit down.(Interruptions).... Please go back to your seats.(Interruptions).... The House is adjourned for fifteen minutes.

The House then adjourned at four minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House re-assembled at nineteen minutes past eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 121, please.(Interruptions)....

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir,(Interruptions)....

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think you made your point.(Interruptions)....

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir,(Interruptions)....

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think you have made your point.(Interruptions).... Please don't come into the well.(Interruptions)... Please don't come into the well.(Interruptions).... Your speaking here has no validity.(Interruptions).... Please go back to your places.(Interruptions)....

Please go back to your places.....(Interruptions).... Please go back to your places. The House is adjourned till 12 o'clock.

The House then adjourned at twenty minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock,
MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Rural electrification in Andhra Pradesh

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

(a) the details of the physical performance of the projects of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) in various districts of Andhra Pradesh till date, indicating the village electrification infrastructure created thereunder and the number of households of SCs and Below Poverty Line (BPL) families electrified under the scheme; and

(b) the number of BPL/SC households proposed to be electrified under RGGVY during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) All the villages are electrified in Andhra Pradesh; hence under the intensive electrification of villages only the village infrastructure required for providing universal access of electricity to rural households and release of fresh connections to BPL households has been created. RGGVY presently aims at free electricity connections to all BPL households including SCs in rural areas. The District-wise achievement of intensive electrification of electrified villages and release of BPL connections for the sanctioned projects in Andhra Pradesh under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) as on 15.11.2009, is at the given Statement (*See below*).

(b) It is proposed to release 5,92,200 BPL connections in Andhra Pradesh under RGGVY during the current year.

Statement

District-wise achievement of intensive electrification of electrified villages and release of BPL connections for the sanctioned projects in Andhra Pradesh under RGGVY

As on 15.11.2009

Sl. No.	Name of District	Electrified villages	BPL connections
1	2	3	4
Sanctioned during Tenth plan			
1.	Ananthpur	791	82592
2.	Mahboob-nagar	1117	108899

1	2	3	4
3.	Kurnool	325	109227
4.	Nalgonda	1124	55672
5.	Srikakulam	1671	134845
6.	Vishakapatnam	1002	118263
7.	Vizianangaram	980	109744
8.	West Godavari	769	72644
9.	Nizamabad	538	74724
10.	Adilabad	1314	91108
11.	Khammam	955	83582
12.	Guntur	416	178465
13.	Chittoor	1025	142322
14.	Krishna	725	121530
15.	Kadapa	890	109675
16.	Prakasham	688	141109
17.	Nellore	997	125931
SUB-TOTAL :		15,327	1,860,332.
Sanctioned during Eleventh plan			
1.	Medak	435	39648
2.	Ranga Reddy	476	24620
3.	East Godavari	304	70842
4	Karimnagar	723	64987
5.	Warangal	858	60325
6.	Anakapalle (Vishakhapatnam)	0	4823
7.	Cheepurupalli (Vizianagaram.)	0	697
8.	Kuppam (Chittor)	0	500
9.	Sircilla (Karimnagar)	0	2997
SUB-TOTAL :		2796	269439
GRAND TOTAL :		18,123	2,129,771

Programmes of private channels

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

- (a) whether Government has no control on the private channels to stop the obscenity in programmes, especially in those telecast during the day time;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefore; and
- (c) the code to be implemented for private channels in future?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) The Government exercises control over private channels with respect to the telecast of content as per the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. This Ministry has also constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee to look into specific complaints or to take suo-motu cognizance against the violation of the Programme and Advertising Codes. Action is taken as per the provisions of the Cable Act whenever any specific violation is found.

The Government had also constituted a Committee for reviewing the existing Programme and Advertising Codes. The Committee has submitted its report which is available for wider public consultation on the website of this Ministry www.mib.gov.in under the heading 'Code and Guidelines' subheading 'Self-Regulation Guidelines 2008'. Structured discussion in this regard is in progress.

Completion of Barh and Sipat thermal power projects

*143. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that thermal power projects at Barh in Bihar and Sipat in Chhattisgarh have been facing cost and time overrun;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, NTPC's Thermal Power Projects at Barh Stage-I (3 × 660 MW) and Sipat Stage-I (3 × 660 MW) has been facing time overrun. However, cost over run will be known only after completion of the projects.

Sipat STPP Stage-I (3 × 660 MW):

Delay in ordering of Critical Bought-out items by M/s Power Machine, Russia, main agency for Turbine package and extra claims raised by the agency. These issues are now resolved.

Barh STPP Stage-I (3 × 660 MW):

- (i) **Steam Generator (SG) package (M/s TPE, Russia):** According to NTPC M/S TPE, supplier of SG and Auxiliary package has not started the erection work and not placing the order for critical components. TPE is insisting for removal of price escalation ceiling, revision of work schedule and declining to start site erection work unless commercial issues are settled.
- (ii) **Turbine Generator (TG) package (M/s Power Machine, Russia):** The discussion with Power machine is being initiated by NTPC for completing the work for TG package.
- (c) Schedule date of commissioning/likely date of completion are given below:—

Project	Schedule date of Commissioning	Likely completion date
Sipat STPP Stage-I (3 × 660 MW)	December, 2009	October, 2011
Barh STPP Stage-I (3 × 660 MW)	November, 2010	Twelfth Plan

Obscene visuals in reality show

*144. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether her Ministry has issued a show cause notice against a channel over obscene visuals during a reality show 'Big Boss 3';
- (b) whether it is a fact that earlier three more notices were also served on this channel on the same cause;
- (c) if so, the status of those notices; and
- (d) the steps Government proposes to take against those channels which violate code of conduct of the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Yes, Sir. A Show Cause Notice has been issued to Colors channel for telecasting obscene visuals in the show 'Big Boss 3'.

(b) and (c) One Show Cause Notice was earlier issued to Colors channel for telecasting obscene content during telecast of Big Boss Season-2. An advisory dated 03.06.2009 in this context was issued to the channel advising them to strictly follow the provisions of Programme Code as prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder.

(d) All Private TV Channels are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. This Ministry has constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee to look into specific complaints or to take sou-motu cognizance against the violation of the Programme and Advertising Codes. Action is taken whenever any specific violation is found as per the provisions of the Cable Act.

Energy generation

*145. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the average daily energy generation in the country during 2007-08 and 2008-09;
- (b) the average daily consumption during the above period;
- (c) the potential of energy generation as surveyed in the country, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps Government is going to take to harness this potential?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) The total electricity generation from Utilities/IPPs' Power Plants in the country (including import of power from Bhutan) was 704,469 Million kWh (MU) and 723,794 MU during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively. The daily average electricity generation during 2007-08 and 2008-09 works out to 1,924.8 MU and 1,983 MU respectively.

(b) The total electricity consumed by the ultimate consumers in the country (Utilities) during the year 2007-08 (latest available) was 501,977 MU. The daily average electricity consumption by the ultimate consumers for the year 2007-08 works out to 1371.5 MU.

(c) The energy reserves in the country, in respect of hydrocarbons, nuclear energy and renewable energy sources, according to the Report of the Expert Committee on Integrated Energy Policy, constituted by the Planning Commission, brought out in August, 2006, are as under:—

Hydro Carbons:

• Proved coal from proved reserves	:	38,114 Mtoe
• Proved Lignite	:	1,220 Mtoe
• Oil (balance recoverable reserves)	:	786 Mtoe
• Gas (balance recoverable reserves)	:	1,101 Mtoe
• Coal Bed Methane	:	765 Mtoe

Nuclear:

• Uranium — metal	:	61,000 t
• Thorium — metal	:	2,25,000 t

Renewable Energy Sources:

Wood	:	620 Mtoe per year
Bio-gas	:	15 Mtoe per year (Community based plants)
Bio-fuels	:	30 Mtoe per year
Solar	:	2,400 Mtoe per year
Wind	:	10 Mtoe per year
Small Hydro	:	5 Mtoe per year
Mtoe = Million tonne of oils equivalent		t = Tonne

The status of hydro power potential in the country in terms of installed capacity as per assessment made by the Central Electricity Authority is given below:—

Identified Hydro Power Potential as per reassessment Study	Capacity (MW)	Percentage (%)
A. Total Potential for Projects above 25 MW capacity *	1,45,320	100
B. Capacity Developed	32,099.8	22.09
C. Capacity under construction	13,675.0	9.41
D. Capacity yet to be developed	99,545.2	68.50

*Hydro Projects upto 25 MW capacity come under the purview of Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).

The status of hydro potential development, State-wise, is given in the Statement (See below).

(d) The target for total capacity addition from the conventional energy sources including thermal, hydro and nuclear has been set by the Planning Commission for the Eleventh Five Year Plan as 78,700 MW. Further, about 1,00,000 MW capacity requires to be added for meeting the growing requirement of power during the Twelfth Plan.

The major policy initiatives taken by the Government to harness the energy potential available in the country are as under:—

- (i) Delicensing of thermal generation as per Electricity Act, 2003. Further, captive generation being freely permitted.
- (ii) Development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4,000 MW each to reap benefits of economies of scale.
- (iii) Development of Captive coal blocks.
- (iv) Arranging import of coal to meet the shortfall in coal supplies to thermal power stations from indigenous sources.
- (v) New Hydro Policy.
- (vi) 50,000 MW Hydro initiative.
- (vii) Hydro Power Development Plan for twelfth Plan prepared.
- (viii) Allocation of gas from KG Basin (D6) has been made for gas based power stations in the country.
- (ix) Procurement of power through Tariff based competitive bidding.

Statement

Status of Hydro Electric Potential Development

(In terms of Installed Capacity – Above 25 MW)

As on 31.10.2009

Region/State	Identified capacity as per reassessment study above 25 MW	Capacity developed		Capacity under construction		Capacity developed + under construction		Capacity yet to be developed	
	(MW)	(MW)	%	(MW)	(%)	(MW)	(%)	(MW)	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Northern									
Jammu and Kashmir	13543	2220.0	16.39	779.0	5.75	2999.0	22.14	10544.0	77.86
Himachal Pradesh	18540	6001.0	32.37	4600.0	24.81	10601.0	57.18	7939.0	42.82
Punjab	971	1206.3	100.00	0.0	0.00	1206.3	100.00	0.00	0.00
Haryana	64	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00	64.0	100.00
Rajasthan	483	411.0	85.09	0.0	0.00	411.0	85.09	72.0	14.91
Uttaranchal	17998	3026.4	16.81	1926.0	10.70	4952.4	27.52	13045.7	72.48
Uttar Pradesh	664	501.6	75.54	0.0	0.00	501.6	75.54	162.4	24.46
SUB TOTAL (NR):	52263	13366.3	25.57	7305.0	13.98	20671.3	39.55	31591.8	60.45

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Western									
Madhya Pradesh	1970	2395.0	100.00	400.0	20.30	2795.0	100.00	0.0	0.00
Chhattisgarh	2202	120.0	5.45	0.0	0.00	120.0	5.45	2082.0	94.55
Gujarat	590	550.0	93.22	0.0	0.00	550.0	93.22	40.0	6.78
Maharashtra	3314	2487.0	75.05	0.0	0.00	2487.0	75.05	827.0	24.95
Goa	55	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00	55.0	100.00
SUB TOTAL (WR):	8131	5552.0	68.28	400.0	4.92	5952.0	73.20	2179.0	26.80
Southern									
Andhra Pradesh	4360	2060.8	47.26	527.0	12.09	2587.8	59.35	1772.3	40.65
Karnataka	6459	3585.4	55.51	0.0	0.00	3585.4	55.51	2873.6	44.49
Kerala	3378	1781.5	52.74	200.0	5.92	1981.5	58.66	1396.5	41.34
Tamil Nadu	1693	1708.2	100.00	60.0	3.54	1768.2	100.00	0.0	0.00
SUB TOTAL (SR):	15890	9135.9	57.49	787.0	4.95	9922.9	62.45	5067.2	37.55
Eastern									
Jharkhand	582	233.2	40.07	0.0	0.00	233.2	40.07	348.8	59.93
Bihar	40	0.0		0.0	0.00	0.0		40.0	100.00
Orissa	2981	2049.5	68.75	0.0	0.00	2049.5	68.75	931.5	31.25

West Bengal	2829	77.0	2.72	292.0	10.32	369.0	13.04	2460.0	86.96
Sikkim	4248	570.0	13.42	2015.0	47.43	2585.0	60.85	1663.0	39.15
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0.0						0.0	
SUB TOTAL (ER):	10680	2929.7	27.43	2307.0	21.60	5236.7	49.03	5443.3	50.97
North Eastern									
Meghalaya	2298	156.0	6.79	166.0	7.22	322.0	14.01	1976.0	85.99
Tripura	0	0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0	
Manipur	1761	105.0	5.96	0.0	0.00	105.0	5.96	1656.0	94.04
Assam	650	375.0	57.69	0.0	0.00	375.0	57.69	275.0	42.31
Nagaland	1452	75.0	5.17	0.0	0.00	75.0	5.17	1377.0	94.83
Arunachal Pradesh	50064	405.0	0.81	2710.0	5.41	3115.0	6.22	46949.0	93.78
Mizoram	2131	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00	2131.0	100.00
SUB TOTAL (NER):	58356	1116.0	1.91	2876.0	4.93	3992.0	6.84	54364.0	93.16
ALL INDIA:	145320	32099.8	22.09	13675.0	9.41	45774.8	31.50	99545.2	68.50

Note: In addition to above 4785.6 MW PSS are under operation.

Energy conservation policy

†*146. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any policy for conservation of energy;
- (b) the target set by Government for energy conservation during the next five years, sector-wise; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to promote energy conservation?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) The Energy Conservation Act 2001 was enacted in 2001 with the goal of reducing energy intensity of the Indian economy. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency was set up as a nodal statutory body at the central level on 01.03.2002 to facilitate the implementation of the Act. The Ministry of Power/ Bureau of Energy Efficiency have formulated an Action Plan for energy conservation/efficiency during the Eleventh Five Year Plan particularly through demand side measures. Eight national schemes have been included under this Action Plan. The overall target set by the Government for the Eleventh Five Year Plan is 10,000 MW of avoided capacity generation.

A brief over view of the various schemes along with the targeted avoided capacity is indicated below:—

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Target (avoided capacity)
1	2	3
01.	Bachat Lamp Yojana to promote energy efficient and high quality CFLs in the household sector	4,000 MW
02.	Standards and Labeling Programme to develop standards for energy efficiency of end-use equipments and provide informative labels	3,000 MW
03.	Energy Conservation Building Code sets minimum energy performance standards for new commercial buildings with a connected load of 500 KW. Energy Efficiency is also promoted in existing buildings through retrofitting.	500 MW
04.	Agriculture DSM and Municipal DSM targets replacement of inefficient pump-sets, street lighting etc. in the agricultural and municipal areas.	2,000 MW
05.	Energy Efficiency in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to enhance energy efficiency in 25 energy intensive clusters	500 MW

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3
06.	Capacity Building of State Designated Agencies (SDAs) seeks to enhance their institutional capacities to facilitate them in the implementation of Energy Conservation Act in the respective States.	—
07.	State Energy Conservation Fund to ensure sustainability of energy efficiency implementation at the State level.	—
08.	Awareness Campaign on Energy Conservation to create awareness amongst general public on the efficacy and virtues of adopting a habit for energy conservation.	—
TOTAL		10,000 MW

The schemes are implemented within the framework of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001. The initiatives taken have resulted in an avoided capacity generation of 2127 MW during the last two years. The fuel savings are nearly 1% of the total fuel use in the country.

Recently the PM's Council on Climate Change has approved the framework document for the National Mission on Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE).

Declaring FTII and SRFTI as Centres of Excellence

*147. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to declare Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune and Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata as Centres of excellence; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to implement the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Film and Television Institute of India, Pune (FTII) and Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Kolkata (SRFTI) are premier National Institutes in the field of Film and Television training in the country. The Government has envisaged upgradation of FTII, Pune in the Eleventh Plan to develop it to international standards. There is also a scheme in the Eleventh Plan for opening two new branches of study in SRFTI, Kolkata, viz., Department of Animation and Electronic Imaging and Department of Production Management.

Dumping of imported coal in Goa

*148. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge dump of coal near the berthing jetties at Mormugao Port Trust has been causing large scale dust pollution in Goa;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the quantity of imported coal dumped in Goa as on 31 October, 2009;
- (d) the reasons for the delay in clearance of unloading sites by the importers; and
- (e) the details of the measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):

(a) No, Sir.

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

(c) The quantity of imported coal stacked in Goa as on 31 October, 2009 was about 1.2 lakh tonnes.

(d) 85% of imported coal/coke is evacuated by road and balance 15% is by rail. In the absence of the by-pass road the movement of trucks is through the city and the restrictions imposed by the Road Transport Organization on the movement of trucks through city during the day time is affecting the timely evacuation of cargo. During night time, movement of coal trucks is being objected to by the local residents. Further, financial constraints of the importers is also adding to delay in evacuation of coal stacks from the port.

(e) The coal stacks are being covered with Tarpaulins and continuous water spraying is being done to contain the dust generation. The Goa State Pollution Control Board as well as Mormugao Port Users Association have setup stations to monitor ambient air quality and the readings are within the permissible limits. To avoid the overstay of cargo at the port, steep demurrage charges have been introduced since June, 2009. The Port Trust is also pursuing with National Highway Authority of India and State Government to complete the by-pass road expeditiously to restrict the movement of trucks through the city.

Forest cover in Uttar Pradesh

*149. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the forest cover area of Uttar Pradesh is decreasing due to various construction projects in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise; and

(c) the efforts the Central Government has made so far or proposes to make to increase the forest cover area in the State to save the life of common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As per the last State of Forest Report (2005), the forest cover of Uttar Pradesh showed no change between 2003 and 2005 assessments and remained constant at 14,127 km².

(c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) for regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining areas in the country including the State of Uttar Pradesh. 69 Forest Development Agency (FDA) projects involving 2134 Joint Forest Managements Committees (JFMCs) have been approved in Uttar Pradesh upto 31.03.2009. In addition, a new plan scheme titled 'Additional Central Assistance for Accelerated Programme for Restoration and Regeneration of Forest Cover' has been introduced in 2009-10 with an outlay of Rs. 500 crores for the whole country besides the convergence between National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) of Ministry of Rural Development and NAP at State level to increase the forest cover.

State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights

*150. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) Act provides for constitution of State Commission for Protection of Child Rights in each State;

(b) if so, the States which have set up such commissions; and

(c) the composition of the NCPCR, the criteria for selection of its members and when the National Commission was set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir; Section 17 of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 provides for setting up of the State Commissions. In pursuance of this, Delhi, Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Sikkim have each set up a State Commission for Protection of Child Rights.

(c) The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) was set up on 5th March, 2007. As provided under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005, the NCPCR shall consist of the Chairperson and six Members. Currently, NCPCR has a Chairperson and two Members in position.

Under the Act, six Members, of which at least two shall be women, would be appointed by the Central Government from amongst persons of eminence, ability, integrity, standing and having experience in:—

- Education;
- Child Health, care, welfare or child development;
- Juvenile Justice or care of neglected or marginalized children or children with disabilities;
- Elimination of child labour or children in distress;
- Child psychology or sociology; and
- Laws relating to children.

Implementation of RGGVY in Bihar

†*151. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the allocation made to various districts of Bihar under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY);
- (b) whether the progress of this scheme has been satisfactory in different districts of the State;
- (c) if not, the efforts being made to complete the same within the stipulated time by making available the required funds;
- (d) whether many villages/panchayats in Buxar district are still deprived Of electrification; and
- (e) by when this scheme will be implemented in all villages of Buxar district?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) There is no state-wise/district-wise upfront allocation of funds under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY). However, district-wise details of sanctioned cost for the projects under RGGVY in Bihar, is at the given Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) The progress of RGGVY has been affected due to the following reasons:—

- (i) Delay in receipt of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs).
- (ii) Delays in land acquisition for 33/11 KV sub-stations by the State.
- (iii) Limited number of good agencies available for execution of turnkey contracts.
- (iv) Delays in issuance of road permit and way bills.
- (v) Lack of awareness among villagers for taking new connections.
- (vi) Very poor upstream rural electricity infrastructure.
- (vii) Delay in finalization of BPL lists.
- (viii) Delay in taking decision regarding waiver/re-imbursement of State and Local Taxes on RGGVY materials.
- (ix) Theft of conductors.
- (x) Law and order problem including Maoist Violence.

For effective implementation of RGGVY, the following steps have been taken:—

- (i) Government of India has set up an inter-Ministerial Monitoring Committee which periodically meets to sanction projects and review progress of implementation.
- (ii) States have been advised to set up district committees to monitor the progress

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of rural electrification works. All the States Have notified formation of district committees.

- (iii) The States have also been requested by Hon'ble Minister of Power to hold monthly meeting under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary to resolve the bottlenecks in implementation of RGGVY.
- (iv) The Government of India as also Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), the nodal agency for RGGVY, conducts frequent review meetings with all the stakeholders; the concerned State Governments, State power utilities and implementing agencies for expeditious implementation of the scheme as per the agreed schedules.
- (v) For speedier and effective implementation of projects, their execution has been taken up on turnkey basis.
- (vi) To ensure qualitative execution of rural electrification works, a three tier quality control mechanism has been enforced under RGGVY for Eleventh Plan projects.
- (vii) Grant amount of BPL connection has been enhanced to Rs. 2200/- in Eleventh Plan from Rs. 1500/- in Tenth Plan.
- (viii) To take care of the cost escalation, cost norms for village electrification has been revised upward for the Eleventh Plan projects, as given below:—

Cost norms for village electrification

Electrification of un-electrified village		Cost (Rs. in lakhs)
a.	In normal terrain	13
b.	In hilly, tribal, desert areas	18

(d) and (e) In district Buxar 516 inhabited un/de-electrified villages have been covered for electrification under RGGVY and the sanctioned works are likely to be completed by the end of December, 2009.

Statement

District-wise details of sanctioned cost for projects under RGGVY in Bihar

Sl. No.	Name of Districts	Total Cost of Project (Rs. in lakh)
1	2	3
Sanctioned during Tenth Plan		
1.	Araria	6253.60
2.	Aurangabad	10932.67
3.	Banka	10629.38

1	2	3
4.	Bhagalpur	6066.24
5.	Buxar	4384.42
6.	Darbanga	3230.87
7.	East Champaran	5882.60
8.	Gopalganj	6700.35
9.	Jamui	8538.11
10.	Kaimur	4411.33
11.	Kishanganj	5280.52
12.	Lakhisarai	1688.28
13.	Madhubani	2963.80
14.	Munger	2030.02
15.	Patna	5121.59
16.	Purnia	5235.25
17.	Rohtas	7996.70
18.	Saran	8284.48
19.	Sheohar	1083.85
20.	Sitamarhi	2701.58
21.	Siwan	7131.06
22.	Bhojpur	5206.99
23.	Nawada	5579.78
24.	Gaya (North)	8730.08
25.	Gaya (South)	7864.02
26.	Nalanda	5652.92
Sanctioned during Eleventh plan		
1.	Jahanabad and Arwal (2 districts)	4839.13
2.	Supaul	8163.40
3.	Samastipur	9952.15
4.	Sheikhpura	2932.77
5.	Madhepura	5202.61
6.	Khagaria	2870.33

1	2	3
7.	Saharsa	5690.26
8.	Katihar	18720.95
9.	Begusarai	8119.53
10.	Muzzaffarpur	17880.62
11.	Vaishali	13539.33
12.	Dharbangha (sup)	8429.48
13.	Sitamarhi(sup)	7552.63
14.	East Champaran (sup)	7229.74
15.	Seohar(sup)	1647.15
16.	Madhubani (sup)	8702.30
17.	West Champaran	16536.81
GRAND TOTAL :		297589.67

‘Green India’ Mission

†*152. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the States alongwith the number of reserved forests, degraded forests, panchayat and community forests wherein green areas has increased during the last five years under the ‘Green India’ Mission;

(b) the number of forests where forest cover has diminished due to tree felling contract and illegal logging during the above period;

(c) whether forest cover is reducing instead of increasing due to environmental imbalance;

(d) whether indigenous species of plants are also becoming extinct due to unscientific use of foreign plants; and

(e) whether Government will formulate a programme for development of local indigenous plants after review of this Mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) National Mission for a ‘Green India’ announced under National Action Plan on Climate Change has not been formulated. Therefore, increase in green areas under the Mission does not arise.

(b) No separate assessment has been undertaken to ascertain the decrease in forest cover due to tree felling contract and illegal logging.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) No separate study has been carried out by the Ministry to ascertain impact of environmental imbalance on forest cover.

(d) No such evidence has come to the notice of the Ministry.

(e) The on-going afforestation schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests have inbuilt mechanism for development of indigenous species.

Power generation target for eleventh Plan

*153. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether policy initiatives such as Ultra Mega Power Projects, Indo-US nuclear power deal, setting up of new power equipment companies and restructuring of Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) for strengthening Transmission and Distribution (T&D) are a number of steps that have been taken by Government to achieve power generation targets;

(b) whether the power generation target during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period will be achievable after taking the above steps; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has taken policy initiatives such as Ultra Mega Power Projects, Indo-US Nuclear Power deal, setting up of new power equipment companies and restructuring of APDRP for strengthening T&D to achieve power targets. Out of 9 Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs), four UMPPs namely Sasan in Madhya Pradesh, Mundra in Gujarat, Krishnapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, Talaiya in Jharkhand have been awarded and transferred to developers selected through tariff based competitive bidding and projects are at different stages of implementation. An agreement for Cooperation between the Government of India and the Government of United States of America concerning Peaceful Usages of Nuclear Energy was signed on 10th October, 2008. The finalization of Arrangement and Procedures is essential before we enter into commercial arrangement with US commercial entities. So far, four rounds of negotiations have been held for this purpose. The latest round of negotiations was held in Washington on 22nd November, 2009.

(b) and (c) In view of the above, the major benefits from initiatives of Ultra Mega Power Projects and Indo-US Nuclear Power deal will accrue beyond Eleventh Plan. However, the benefits from setting up of new power equipment companies and restructuring of APDRP for strengthening T&D will accrue during Eleventh Plan.

The Planning Commission had fixed a capacity addition target of 78,700 MW during the Eleventh Plan comprising 15,627 MW Hydro, 59,693 MW Thermal and 3,380 MW Nuclear.

Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has recently reviewed the likely capacity addition after meeting with project developers. Based on the inputs provided by the project developers and suppliers, CEA has assessed that a total capacity addition of 62,374 MW is likely to be commissioned with a high level of certainty during Eleventh Plan. In addition projects totaling to 12,590 MW have been identified for commissioning on best efforts basis.

The major reasons for the delay in power project commissioning during the Eleventh Five Year Plan are as follows:—

- Delay in placement of orders
- Delay and non-sequential supply of material for Main Plant and Balance of Plants (BoP).
- Shortage of skilled manpower for erection and commissioning.
- Contractual disputes
- Inadequate deployment of construction machinery.
- Shortage of fuel.
- Land Acquisition.
- Inadequate infrastructure facilities

Power trading

†*154. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that commercial trading of power has been continuously increasing over the years;

(b) if so, the quantum of trading through power exchanges during the years 2004-05 and 2008-09;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the sale price of electricity during the peak hour time in July-August, 2009 had gone up from Rs. 14 to Rs. 19 per unit; and

(d) if not, the facts in this regard and the maximum and minimum rates of electricity during the peak hour time during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Inter-state trading licensees have been undertaking trading since the year 2004-05 and the power exchanges [Indian Energy Exchange Ltd. (IEX) and Power Exchange India Ltd. (PXIL)] have been in operation since the year 2008-09. The short-term transactions through trading licensees and power exchanges for the period from 2004-05 to 2008-09 are at the given Statement-I (See below).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) The sale price of electricity transacted in the power exchange in the month of August, 2009 was above Rs. 14 per unit. Minimum, Maximum and Weighted Average price of electricity transacted through trading licensees and power exchanges for the period July and August, 2009 are at the given Statement-II.

Statement-I

Volume of electricity transacted through trading licensees and power exchanges

Year	Electricity Transacted through trading Licensees (BUs)	Electricity Transacted through IEX (BUs)	Electricity Transacted through PXI (BUs)	Total (BUs)
	1	2	3	4 (1+2+3)
2004-05	11.85			
2005-06	14.19			
2006-07	15.02			
2007-08	20.96			
2008-09	21.92	2.62	0.15	24.69

Statement-II

Price of electricity transacted through traders and power exchanges

Sl. No.	Price of electricity transacted through traders (Rs./KWh)	Price of electricity transacted through IEX (Rs./KWh)	Price of electricity transacted through PXIL (Rs./KWh)
July, 2009			
1. Minimum	1.04	0.23	0.78
2. Maximum	7.71	9.00	8.00
3. Weighted Average	4.75	4.81	4.85
August, 2009			
1. Minimum	1.84	0.80	1.39
2. Maximum	10.44	17.00	15.00
3. Weighted Average	4.64	7.40	6.15

Exploitation of children in reality shows

*155. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any complaints regarding exploitation of children in the reality shows telecast by a number of TV channels;
- (b) if so, the nature of complaints received by Government, so far;
- (c) whether Government has examined this aspect;
- (d) if so, Government's view in the matters; and
- (e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) There are a total of 4 complaints received by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) directly as well as through the Ministry of Women and Child Development. These complaints are alleging emotional trauma, separation, anxiety, stress, lack of rest, leisure, sleep disorder etc. to children, in 3 Reality Shows/TV programmes.

(c) to (e) The NCPCR has taken cognizance of these complaints and has initiated action to satisfy whether the allegations made are violating child rights. At the same time, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee to look into specific complaints and satisfy if they are violative of the Programme Code prescribed under Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the rules framed thereunder. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has also constituted the Review Committee for reviewing the existing Programmes and Advertising Codes prescribed under the above Act and Rules.

In the case of the Reality Show, *Pati Patni Aur Who* aired on NDTV Imagine Channel, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has issued a Show Cause Notice on 6.10.2009 as it appeared that the Reality Show denigrated the children and that there was indecent exploitation of them.

Rural electrification in Orissa

*156. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has promised to provide every village with power supply/ electrification under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana;
- (b) if so, whether Government has arranged to provide power supply to villages in Orissa also;
- (c) if so, the number of villages which have been covered so far under this scheme and what is the present plan for the State; and
- (d) the amount released to the State as compared to other States?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) envisages providing access to electricity to the rural households and providing free electricity connections to the eligible BPL households in the country including Orissa.

(b) The responsibility of providing power supply to rural area rests with the respective State Government/State Power Utility.

(c) The coverage and achievement of RGGVY scheme in Orissa are as under:—

	Un/De-electrified Villages	BPL households
Coverage	17895	31,85,863
Achievement (as on 15.11.2009)	2681	4,20,235

(d) Cumulatively State-wise funds released including Orissa under RGGVY as on 31.10.2009, is presented at the given Statement.

Statement

Fund released under RGGVY as on 31.10.2009

Sl. No.	Name of State	Rs. in crores
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	499.53
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	285.88
3.	Assam	700.37
4.	Bihar	2378.22
5.	Chhattisgarh	265.14
6.	Gujarat	106.574
7.	Haryana	96.9
8.	Himachal Pradesh	121.88
9.	Jharkhand	2228.46
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	374.809
11.	Karnataka	587.48
12.	Kerala	11.36
13.	Madhya Pradesh	502.2
14.	Maharashtra	269.24
15.	Manipur	114.7
16.	Meghalaya	39.18
17.	Mizoram	156.62

1	2	3
18.	Nagaland	68.83
19.	Orissa	1322.94
20.	Punjab	56.9
21.	Rajasthan	630.46
22.	Sikkim	44.91
23.	Tripura	35.87
24.	Tamil Nadu	117.53
25.	Uttar Pradesh	3115.01
26.	Uttarakhand	651.36
27.	West Bengal	1131.93
TOTAL :		15914.28

Regulation of news content on television

*157. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to regulate the content of television news channels or to create an independent autonomous body to look into all aspects of the broadcasting sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) The Government had constituted a committee for reviewing the Programme and Advertising Code (Content Code) prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder, which has submitted its report and made recommendations in the form of draft 'Self-regulation Guidelines for the Broadcasting Sector (2008)' which is available on the Ministry's website <http://mib.gov.in> under the heading "Code and Guidelines". The Government is in the process of holding consultations with all concerned stakeholders to arrive at broad consensus on the recommendations of the Committee. The process of consultation is going on.

So far as, creation of independent autonomous body to look into all aspect of Broadcasting Sector is concerned, it is mentioned that the Ministry in the year 2007 had put up a proposal to set up a Broadcasting Regulatory Authority of India by enactment of a Legislation for ensuring orderly growth of broadcasting services. The Draft of the Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill, 2007, which is available on this Ministry's website *interalia* provides terms of reference, objectives and composition of the proposed Authority. However, concerns have been

expressed by various sections in the media with respect to the need, scope, functional and financial autonomy and independent functioning of the proposed Regulator.

The Ministry has initiated wide ranging consultations with stakeholders for arriving at a consensus on this issue. The Ministry has already held consultations with Indian Broadcasting Foundation, Multi System Operator (MSO) Alliance, News Broadcasters Association (NBA), Broadcast Editors Association (BEA) and the Cable Operators Federation of India (COFI).

Alienation of tribal lands

*158. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a 15 member Committee was constituted to examine the issues relating to alienation of tribal lands, including traditional rights of the forest dependent tribals, in Chhattisgarh and to suggest realistic measures;

(b) if so, whether the said Committee has submitted its report to Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) No Committee has been constituted by this Ministry to examine the issues relating to alienation of tribal lands, including traditional rights of the forest dependent tribals in Chhattisgarh and to suggest realistic measures.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Control on news affecting criminal investigation

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

(a) whether there is any law to control the telecast or publication of any news which would affect the criminal investigation or trial of criminal cases;

(b) if so, the existing guidelines to control the media in this context; and

(c) whether Government has any statistics with regard to the number of cases in which action has been taken?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) There is no provision for pre-censorship of the programmes telecast by Private TV channels. However, all the Private TV Channels are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder. This Ministry has constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee to look into

specific complaints or to take sou-motu cognizance against the violation of the Programme and Advertising Codes. Action is taken whenever any specific violation is found as per the provisions of the Cable Act. Also, this Ministry had constituted a Review Committee for reviewing the existing Programme and Advertising Codes. The Committee has submitted its report which is available on this Ministry's website <http://mib.gov.in> for wider public consultation.

So far as the Print Media is concerned, the Press in India is free from Government control. In pursuance of its policy to uphold the freedom of the press, the Government does not interfere in its functioning. The Press Council of India (PCI) is a statutory autonomous body set up under the Press Council Act, 1978 for the purpose of preserving the freedom of the Press and maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and news agencies in India and to inculcate principles of self-regulation among the press. The Government follows a policy of non-interference in the functioning of the Council and it enjoys complete autonomy in its functioning. The Council which is in the nature of a self regulatory body of the Press has built norms of Journalistic Conduct which cover principles and ethics with regard to journalism as also guidelines on reporting the specific issues of public and national importance.

- (c) No separate statistics is maintained in this regard.

Ship-breaking at Alang

*160. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that yet another ship was recently brought to Alang;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the State Pollution Control Board did not find anything hazardous on the ship;
- (c) whether the Central Government has instituted a separate probe to look into the hazardous substances on the ship;
- (d) if so, the findings thereof and how these were different from those of the State Pollution Control Board; and
- (e) what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) A passenger ship "Platinum-II" was anchored at Bhavnagar anchoring point on 6.10.09 with the permission of the Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB).

(b) A team of officers of the Gujarat State Pollution Control Board (GSPCB) inspected the ship on 10.10.2009. As per their report, there are no hazardous substances on board the ship in loose form or as cargo. However, hazardous materials like asbestos and Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) are present in the ship as part of its in-built structure. The GSPCB estimated that about 20 MT of PCBs are present as in-built structure of the ship.

(c) and (d) This Ministry constituted a Central Technical Team to inspect and examine the ship, particularly with regard to hazardous substances. The Central Team inspected the ship and submitted a report on 26th October, 2009. In addition to what has been reported by the GSPCB, the team reported that there are 653 smoke detectors and exit points in the ship containing radioactive materials as in-built structure of the ship. As per GSPCB, the estimated quantity of Asbestos Containing Material in the structure of the ship is more than 200 MT while the Central Team estimated it as approx. 238 MT.

(e) In exercising the 'Precautionary Principle', this Ministry has communicated to the Gujarat Maritime Board that granting permission for beaching and breaking purposes of the ship will not be advisable.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Production of Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.

†1057. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the annual production of 'Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.' (MCL);
- (b) whether the accounts of production during each quarter is maintained properly; if so, the details thereof during the last five years;
- (c) whether MCL is taking any measures to enhance production and the scheme available with the company for distribution;
- (d) the steps taken by MCL so far to deal with the problems of environmental safety and displacement; and
- (e) the special programmes launched by the company for the benefits of its employees and especially the contractual labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):

(a) and (b) The quarter-wise Annual Production for last five years is given as under:—

(Fig. in '000' Te)

Year	1st Qtr. (Apr.-Jun.)	2nd Qtr. (Jul.-Sept.)	3rd Qtr. (Oct.-Dec.)	4th Qtr. (Jan.-Mar.)	Annual (Apr.-Mar.)
2004-05	15566.887	14974.767	17332.803	18205.749	66080.206
2005-06	16270.876	15911.474	18527.135	18894.535	69604.020
2006-07	18904.181	18839.100	19582.667	22675.055	80001.003
2007-08	18478.810	17466.957	24579.860	27485.943	88011.570
2008-09	19523.026	17606.440	26298.584	32908.249	96336.299

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) In accordance with the Annual Plans/Annual Action Plans of the company, the coal production is enhanced by opening new mines and expanding the present ones to the extent possible. As far as distribution of coal is concerned, it is done as per the New Coal Distribution Policy, 2007.

(d) (1) The steps taken by MCL to deal with the problems of environmental safety are as follows:—

- (i) MCL is conducting regular routine monitoring of Air, Water (Drinking and effluent) and Noise pollution every fortnight in and around mining areas.
- (ii) Massive tree plantation has been done in MCL.
- (iii) Water sprinkling is done through water tankers and fixed sprinklers on haul road, CHPs loading points and Railways sidings.
- (iv) There is emphasis on increasing Coal production by Surface Miner Technology which eliminates Drilling, Blasting and Crushing of Coal.
- (v) For control of water pollution sedimentation tank/ponds for settlement of suspended solids in mine discharge water, Oil and grease traps (OGT) for workshop effluent and Sewage treatment plant(STP) for domestic effluent are provided in the projects of MCL.

(2) The steps taken by MCL to deal with the problems of displacement are as follows:—

- (i) MCL has provided a total of 8,892 employments to displaced persons till October, 2009 according to R&R Policy, Government of Orissa.
- (ii) In addition to employment to the displaced persons, MCL has developed 11 resettlement sites where 2,695 plots are available for resettlement of project affected families.

(e) (1) MCL has launched the following special programme for the benefits of its Employees:—

- (i) Planned township with all civic amenities like Electricity, piped drinking water, sanitary services, schools, dispensary and markets have been provided to its employees. Housing satisfaction is 80%.
- (ii) Two Central Hospitals, one at Talchar with 250 indoor beds and one at Ib Valley with 150 indoor beds equipped with modern medical equipments have been provided.
- (iii) Maximum limit of Gratuity payable to retiring employees has been increased from Rs. 3.5 lakh to Rs. 10.00 lakh *w.e.f.* 01.07.2009.
- (iv) From Academic session 2009-10 onwards the dependents of wage board employees (NEE) who secure admission in Engineering in such colleges *viz.* IITs/NITs/ISM etc. and in Government Medical Colleges, the cost of education shall be met to the extent of tuition fee and hostel charges of the Colleges/Institutions.

- (v) Performance Linked Reward (PLR) of Rs. 10,000/- is given to Non-executive employees on pro rata attendance every year.
 - (vi) Under LIC Group Insurance Scheme taken by MCL an employee dying before retirement shall be entitled for full Gratuity till retirement.
- (2) MCL has launched following special programmes for the benefits of contractual Workers:—
- (i) All contractors have been persuaded to make payment of their workers through Bank to ensure more transparency.
 - (ii) All Contractual workers who are mostly from neighbouring peripheral villages have been extended Out-door medical facility at Company's hospitals/Dispensaries free of charge.
 - (iii) For workers of transport contractors, special provisions has been made for payment of additional 36% (for Drivers) 25.7% (for Supervisors) and 25.2% (for Helpers) over and above the minimum wages fixed by the Government.

Coal reserves

†1058. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that coal reserves of 270 billion tonnes have been explored so far;
- (b) if not, the facts in this regard;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that this coal is deposited in the barren forest land where nothing can be grown; and
- (d) if so, the facts in this regard and the area of such forest land identified in the States having coal reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):
(a) and (b) As per the latest inventory of geological resources of coal in India, prepared by the Geological Survey of India (GSI), a cumulative total of 267.21 billion tonnes of coal resources have been estimated in the country as on 1.4.2009.

(c) and (d) No specific data is available in respect of coal deposits under barren forest land, but occurrence of coal deposits in the country are largely in the forest areas.

Allocation of coal blocks

1059. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether broad consensus evolved at Centre-State meeting on August 10, 2009 on the issue of introducing an auction system for allocating coal blocks has helped in amending the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulations) (MMDR) Act, 1957, which is needed for bringing forth this system;

(b) whether Coal India Ltd. has short listed 10 global companies to develop 18 abandoned mines; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):
(a) Yes, Sir. The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2008 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 17.10.2008.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. As informed by Coal India Limited, since the global expression of interest is first of its kind and quite complex involving 18 separate tenders, there is no specific time frame set for finalization of the tenders.

Expert Committee for coal sector

1060. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Expert Committee for suggesting a road map for the Coal Sector has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of the findings and recommendations of the Committee;

(c) the findings of the Committee about mining in Jharkhand; and

(d) the action Government has taken so far on the recommendations of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):
(a), (b) and (d) Yes, sir. The Expert Committee constituted by Ministry of Coal on Road Map for Coal Sector Reforms under the Chairmanship of Shri T.L. Shanker submitted Part-I of the Report in December, 2005 and Part-II in September, 2007.

The Major recommendations and action taken thereon are as under:—

Sl. No.	Major Recommendations	Action Taken/proposed to be taken
1	2	3
1.	Augmenting domestic coal production to bridge the gap between demand and supply with emphasis on captive coal mining.	Government has allotted a number of new captive coal blocks, besides taking up a number of new coal projects under coal PSUs to augment coal production to bridge the gap between demand and supply.

1	2	3
2.	As coal shall remain India's primary source of commercial energy supply, a time-bound plan to cover the entire country by regional mapping in 15 years should be prepared by Geological Survey of India, Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDIL) and Ministry of Coal (MOC).	An action Plan has been prepared to cover the balance coal bearing area of 5438 sq. km under regional exploration. It is envisaged that an area of 2791 sq. km will be covered during the Eleventh Plan and the balance there after. Exploratory drilling capacity of CMPDIL is being doubled.
3.	Coal India Limited (CIL) may be granted the status of Navratna company and the subsidiaries of CIL may be granted the status of Mini Ratna companies in which case only those proposals of such a subsidiary would need Government approval wherein the capital expenditure exceeds Rs. 500 crore.	CIL has been granted Navaratna status. Besides this, 6 of its subsidiary companies (South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.; Western Coalfields Ltd.; Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.; Northern Coalfields Ltd.; Central Coalfields Ltd., Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited) and Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. have been accorded Miniratna Category-I status. In July, 2009 the Government has approved enhancing the financial powers of SCCL Board to approve projects, and to incur capital expenditure from 100 crore to Rs. 500 crores.
4.	The issue of major restructuring of CIL should be considered during the Twelfth Plan Period.	This is agreed to.
5.	The environmental issue in respect of coal projects should be taken up on priority consideration by the Government.	The Government has issued new Environment notification on 14.9.2006 as per which the proposals of coal mining projects are being processed for environmental clearance.
6.	Planned imports of coal need to be encouraged.	Imports are planned by Power Sector every year in advance keeping in view the requirement. CIL is also contemplating to import coal.
7.	Increasing proportion of all domestic coal that is not earmarked for Power Sector be brought into the E-auction market over the next 2 to 3 years.	E-auction of coal has already been started.

1	2	3
8.	The current system of linkages feeding the power sector may be replaced with formal long term Fuel Supply and Transport Agreements that include the Railways.	The new coal distribution policy of Government provides for long term fuel supply and transport agreements that include railways.
9.	All possible legal measures should be evolved to cancel the licenses issued earlier if the allottee has not taken adequate steps to bring the allotted mines to production or in setting up the end use units.	On the basis of regular review of the progress of captive blocks, de-allocation of some coal blocks has been done. Regular monitoring is being done to review the progress periodically.
10.	Coal price would need to be regulated in light of the market realities. The regulation of coal price has to be differentiating the pricing of coal for power generation since it consumes 80% of the domestic production and the quality of coal it consumes is not easily saleable to the steel and cement sectors.	So far as Ministry of Coal is concerned, the pricing of coal has been fully deregulated after the Colliery Control Order, 2000 notified with effect from 1st January, 2000 in supersession of the Colliery Control Order, 1945. Under the Colliery Control Order, 2000 the Central Government has no power to fix the prices of coal. Coal Companies are empowered to fix the price of coal.
11.	Promotion of underground mining.	<p>Action has been initiated by CIL to enhance the level of production from underground mines from around 44 million tonnes achieved in 2006-07 to about 67 million tonnes by 2011-12 mainly by adopting mechanisation of operations, introduction of continuous miner technology and longwall technology.</p> <p>The additional investment has been estimated at Rs. 5185.59 crores for attaining this production level. CIL has also identified 7 blocks which can be developed into mega mine (more than 2 million tonnes production per annum) with state of the art consultancy and technology with foreign expertise.</p>
12.	Improve production and productivity of men and machinery with focus on technology up gradation.	Action has been initiated to improve productivity of heavy earth moving machinery (HEMM) in opencast mines mainly by

1	2	3
		<p>increasing the number of hours of operation and awarding maintenance and repair contracts, streamlining the replacement of old equipment, and deployment of large size equipment. In underground mines, improvement in productivity is being addressed through mechanized coal loading operations adopting side discharge loaders, load haul dumpers, conveyor belts etc. and introduction of continuous miner technology and longwall technology wherever it is feasible. Shortwall technology on experimental basis has also been introduced. Adoption of Highwall technology is also envisaged in some of the opencast mines.</p>
	<p>13. There is need to have permanent cell for technology evaluation and monitoring and improving the systematic operating procedures for modern new equipment procurement (in CIL).</p>	<p>A department has already been created at Coal India and also at CMPDIL for adoption of new technology. CMPDIL as the planning wing of Coal India provides the initial inputs for adoption of new technology.</p>
	<p>14. Switch over to Gross Calorific Value (GCV) based pricing and grading of coal.</p>	<p>For adopting the GCV system of grading of coal, it was agreed between Coal India Limited (CIL) and NTPC to try out the proposed bandwidth price structure with 300 k. cal/kg for coal supply at some NTPC power plants initially for 60 days. However, this has not come through due to the lapse of time agreed to between NTPC and Coal India Limited and also lack of installation of automatic mechanical samplers at the loading points.</p> <p>Accordingly, CIL has submitted a revised proposal mentioning the corresponding GCV values of sub-graded UHV bands and respective price ranges along with the time frame during which it proposes to install Auto Mechanical Samplers (AMSs) at the loading points on priority basis so as to notify the</p>

1	2	3
		<p>same through a Gazette Notification for switching over to GCV based grading.</p>
	15. Promote coal washing.	<p>Government has already taken a policy decision to encourage use of washed coal by permitting private entrepreneurs to set up washeries on coal company's land. CIL has also taken a decision to supply washed coal to power sector by setting up new washeries on Build Own Maintain (BOM) basis and funding will be made by CIL. Additional washing capacity of about 140 million tonnes per year is envisaged to be created in next five years time.</p>
	16. Promotion of cutting edge technologies like Underground Coal Gasification (UCG), Coal Bed Methane (CBM), Coal Mine Methane (CMM), Coal to Liquid (CTL) etc.	<p>Government has already permitted CBM operations on commercial lines and 26 blocks have been allotted to various entrepreneurs. Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) under Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG) regulates the CBM operations. For CMM, coal companies are taking action to extract methane gas from the existing mines and a demonstration project in association with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/Global Environmental Fund (GEF) is under implementation in one of the mines of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL). Government has recently recognized UCG, CTL as one of the permitted end uses under the captive mining policy.</p>
	17. Although India is not under any obligation under Kyoto Protocol to reduce emissions, it is recommended that India should assume their role of a responsible user of coal taking every effort to reduce the emission level of coal as well as its consumption.	<p>Action already initiated for adopting clean coal technologies. CIL has committed to sell processed coal to all its consumers.</p> <p>Government has given lot of stress for the extraction of coal bed methane which would eventually reduce emission from burning coal.</p>

1	2	3
18.	Outsourcing should be differentiated from contract labour employment. It is not a method to extract more work and pay less to unskilled and semi skilled labour. In fact, it becomes relevant and inevitable in tasks, which call for specialized skills.	CIL and its subsidiaries have initiated action and have included clauses in the tenders/contracts to remove exploitation of labour and also have generated training programmes for uplifting skills of its own workmen.
19.	Setting up of a Coal Governance and Regulation authority (CGRA) to co-ordinate and attend to all issues relevant for development of coal resources, regulation of coal price (wherever necessary), and nurturing level playing field between the entrenched large public sector coal companies and the emerging small coal companies in the State public sector and the captive mining sector.	Action initiated for creating a Coal Regulatory Authority. As suggested by Ministry of Law some major modifications in the Draft Bill has been examined and modified Draft Bill is under concurrence of Ministry of Law.
20.	Ensure proper mine closure and restoration of mined out areas. The Coal Regulatory Authority should be given the responsibility to monitor the restoration work. A fee of Rs. 10 per tonne of coal mined as Mine-restoration levy should be collected annually and release as grants on for such work.	Draft guidelines for mine closure have been issued by the Ministry of Coal which would be implemented by the Coal Controller till the Coal Regulatory Authority is put in place.
21.	Coal R&D fund should be created whereby half of one percent of the turnover of all coal companies in the public and private sectors is deposited. CGRA could manage the funds.	The creation of R&D fund is agreed to. It is preferable that the proposed fund should be kept available with the industry instead of the Coal Regulatory Authority. In the present system the R&D activities are identified, monitored and funded through a Standing Scientific Research Committee (SSRC), which is chaired by Secretary (Coal).

(c) Findings of the Committee are broadly concerned with the coal sector development in India but not specific for any particular state.

Coal supply to power plants in Gujarat

1061. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 622 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th July, 2009 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coal is supplied to power plants in Gujarat from eastern belt;

(b) whether the Government of Gujarat has represented to the Ministry of Railways for rationalization of coal linkage from coal belts located nearer to the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):

(a) Presently, 95% of coal supplies to the Power Utilities of Gujarat are from the coalfields of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) located in the State of Chhattisgarh in Central/East Central India. A small quantity of coal to Ukai Power Station of Gujarat is also being supplied from Western Coalfields Limited (WCL).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) is the nearest coalfields wherein coal is available on long-term basis. All the power stations of Gujarat come under the purview of Ministry of Environment and Forest stipulations and are required to use coal of below 34% ash, which is available from SECL coalfields. Further, keeping in view the existing coal commitments of Western Coalfields Limited and with no perceptible growth prospect in coal production in coming years at WCL, it may not be possible to consider any further rationalization of source from WCL for power plants of Gujarat at this stage.

Capital raising by Coal India Ltd.

1062. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Ltd. is planning to increase the capital through issue of shares; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):

(a) and (b) Coal India Ltd. (CIL) has been conferred 'Navratna' status on 20.10.2008, with the express condition that CIL would be listed within 3 years. Accordingly, steps are being taken to convert CIL first into a public limited company and thereafter for its listing through disinvestment of some percentage of Government of India's holding in Equity shares of CIL. Allowing some portion of the shares to be held by the public is expected to increase liquidity and also would enhance the valuation for the shareholders of CIL. Besides, corporate governance is expected to

be strengthened, which would also ensure greater accountability as well as enhanced efficiency and improved productivity.

Compensation for employees having accidents in coal companies

1063. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees of Government coal companies, and their contractors who lost their lives in coal mine fires and other accidents related to their employment during 2008 and 2009, so far, year-wise;

(b) the number of the employees out of above whose dependents have been given employment and monetary compensation alongwith the number of cases for employment on compassionate grounds and for the payment of monetary compensation pending for over six months after the date of accidents alongwith reasons for the delay; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to expedite the disposal of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):
(a) The number of departmental employees and contractor's workers of Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), who lost their lives in coal mine fires and other accidents related to their employment during 2008 and 2009 are as under:—

Name of Company	Year	Fatalities due to fire	Fatalities due to other accidents	
			Departmental	Contractor Workers
Coal India Limited (CIL)	2008	0	50	14
	2009 (up to 24.11.2009)	0	41	9
Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL)	2008	0	9	4
	2009 (till 26.11.09)	0	11	3

(b) In CIL, there are no cases pending over six months for payment of compensation to eligible dependants of the deceased employees (both Departmental and Contractual). However, there are some cases pending for employment on compassionate ground over six months after the death of deceased. Company-wise, Year-wise details of such cases and reasons thereof are as under:—

Company	Year	Number of pending cases of employment on compassionate ground for over six months after date of accident	Reasons
ECL	2008	1	Claim not received from the legal dependent
	2009	Nil	—
BCCL	2008	1	Claim not received from the legal dependent
	2009	Nil	—
WCL	2008	1	Not provided due to over age of the legal dependent
	2009	4	In 3 cases claim not received from legal dependants and one case due to family dispute over employment
SECL	2008	1	Not applied for employment due to family dispute over employment
	2009	2	Claim application not received from legal dependent
NEC	2008	1	Dependent's wife died and both the children are minor
	2009	Nil	—

In SCCL, all the dependants of fatal accidents which occurred in 2008 have been provided with employment except in one case where Monthly Monetary Compensation (MMC) was sanctioned as opted by the dependent and in 2009, out of 11 cases, dependent employment has been provided in 2 cases and MMC has been sanctioned in 2 cases. In the remaining 7 cases the dependants have not opted for dependent employment. The monetary compensation has been paid to all the dependants of the deceased including contractor labour in SCCL.

(c) As reported by CIL, letters have been written to the legal dependent of departmental deceased workers for submission of nomination for employment or cash compensation in lieu of employment. The pending cases are reviewed at appropriate level from time to time and action is being taken accordingly.

In SCCL, there is no pending case for payment of compensation.

Special purpose vehicle

1064. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Ltd. (CIL) is a part of special purpose vehicle (SPV) being set up with other PSUs for the purpose of investing in coal resources abroad to meet coal demand in the country;

(b) if so, the details of SPV formed and approved by Government;

(c) whether some top-level officers of CIL have visited some foreign countries during the last six months to float an expression of interest (EoI) to select strategic partners for acquiring coal mines abroad; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India has approved formation of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) through Joint Venture between CIL/SAIL/RINL/NMDC and NTPC, which has been registered as “International Coal Ventures Private Ltd., (ICVL) on 20th May, 2009. The purpose of ICVL is to invest in coal resources abroad to meet the coal demand of partner companies. The SPV has been approved to have an authorized capital of Rs. 10,000 crores and an initial paid up capital of Rs. 3,500 crores.

(c) and (d) CIL had floated a global expression of interest (EoI) on 16.07.2009 to select “Strategic Partner” in Australia, USA, South Africa and Indonesia. No foreign visit has been made specifically for floating EoI.

Issuing licenses for coal mining

1065. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether over the last decade coal output has grown at a compounded rate of 5.8 per cent, well short of average nominal 11.8 per cent GDP growth over the same period;

(b) whether India has nearly 250 billion tonnes of coal in pits, much of it high in ash content;

(c) whether transporting this coal to thermal plants far-away entails high transportation cost; and

(d) if so, whether Government proposes issuing licenses for coal mining on captive consumption basis to pass on transport cost on mining companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):

(a) The Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) during the last decade *i.e.* 1999-00 to 2008-09 was 4.95%.

(b) As per the latest Inventory of Geological Resources of Coal in India (compiled by Geological Survey of India), a cumulative total of 267.21 billion tonnes of Geological Resources

of In-situ coal have been estimated in the country, as on 1.4.2009. Out of this, about 57% are expected to be high-ash non-coking coal (Grade E, F, G having Ash + Moisture = >34%).

(c) Coal from Coal India Ltd., sources to far away thermal power plants is supplied on “Free on Rail (FOR)” basis in general and the transportation cost incurred is related to the rail freight paid by the power plants.

It is also seen that in general, for long distances, rail freight charges are more than the pit-head price of “F” Grade coal, which is the single largest grade of coal supplied from CIL sources for power utilities.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government at present.

Starting of Western Coalfields Ltd., Parasia

†1066. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether approval has been given to start Western Coalfields Limited, Parasia in Chhindwara district and Dhankasa, Harradol, Urdhan, Bhakhra, Jamunia, Tedi Imli, Sharda coal mines in Kanhan region;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating approval number and date, mine-wise;

(c) the project cost of the above mines, the coal reserve available in these mines and their age; and

(d) the arrangement of manpower for operation of the said mines and whether unemployed youths of the concerned district would be appointed therein or they would be transferred from other regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):
(a) to (c) The Project Report of Dhankasa, Harradol, Bhakara, Urdhan, Jamunia and Sharda underground (UG) Projects have been approved by Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) Board subject to Coal Supply Agreement with prospective consumers on cost plus basis. The details of these projects are furnished below:

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Meeting and Item No.	Date of WCL Board Mtg.	Project cost	Extractable reserve	Life span
1.	Dhankasa UG	212nd/C-28	17/18-06-2008	152.86	17.71	24
2.	Harradol UG	211th/C-2	03.04.2008	16.36	0.57	6
3.	Bhakara UG	214th/C-I	23.10.2008	55.27	3.30	16
4.	Urdhan OC (RCE)	215th/C-40	23.12.2008	54.42	8.46	19
5.	Jamunia UG	216th/C-19	04.02.2009	127.52	22.76	30
6.	Sharda UG	211th/C-I	03.04.2008	50.95	7.54	33

The Project Report of Tedi-Imli is yet to be formulated.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) The Manpower provision for above projects will be done as per approved Project Report. However employment to eligible land oustees as per R&R policy of Coal India Ltd. 2008, will be provided. The manpower of the mines which are on the verge of closure in Pench and Kanhan Areas will also be utilised gainfully in these new mines for the purpose of rationalization of manpower.

Centre-State coordination for mining

†1067. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state whether a separate forum should be formed for better coordination between Centre and State Governments for resolving the problems pertaining to coal and other minerals so that the local problems could be solved as soon as possible otherwise they remain pending for years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Periodical meetings of State Minister of Mining and close liaison by CIL and its subsidiaries with local State Governments are mechanism used for coordination between Centre State Governments. For resolving local problems on expeditious basis various forums like zonal council at coal company level and local forums to deal with various land and rehabilitation and resettlement issues at Panchayat and District level are functioning. As such another a separate forum for the purpose may not be necessary at present.

Prevention of serious fraud

1068. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether giving more teeth to the Serious Fraud Investigation Office and strengthening corporate governance would be the main priority areas for Government;
- (b) if so, the details worked out so far;
- (c) the existing number of cases pending with his Ministry;
- (d) the punishment given so far in such fraud cases during the last three years, year-wise; and
- (e) the steps being taken to prevent serious frauds in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) and (b) With a view to strengthen the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO), an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Vepa Kamesam, former Deputy Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was constituted. The committee has submitted its report in April, 2009 making various recommendations to strengthen the SFIO. The report is under examination. As regards strengthening of corporate governance, the Government has introduced Companies Bill 2009 in the Lok Sabha on 03.08.2009 which includes various measures in this direction.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) At present, 22 cases are under investigation with SFIO.

(d) Based on the investigation reports submitted after carrying out the investigation, the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) has filed, till date, 767 cases in courts.

(e) An elaborate regulatory framework is in place to prevent, to the extent possible, the occurrence of serious frauds. This framework provides for statutory disclosures about the affairs of companies intended to inform the stakeholders the truth about the State of affairs of companies. To facilitate making of such disclosures by companies, and for stakeholders and regulatory agencies, to easily access and view them, Government has set up an electronic registry with round the clock access through internet. The Government has powers of inspection of the books of accounts of companies and also, to investigate into their State of affairs, if need be, under the Companies Act, 1956. The Act also provides for appointment of independent, statutory auditors to audit the accounts and report to the shareholders. Such audited accounts are also displayed on the electronic registry for general viewing. While the reporting requirements are regulated under the Companies Act, 1956, the conduct of auditors is regulated under the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949. In addition, for listed companies, compliance with these statutory requirements is required to be certified by a company secretary in practice, who in turn is regulated under the Company Secretaries Act, 1980. Government has amended the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 and the Company Secretaries Act, 1980 in 2006 to provide for a more effective disciplinary mechanism to deal with cases of misconduct by Chartered Accountants and Company Secretaries respectively. In 2006, the Government has notified Accounting Standards to enable accounts of companies to be drawn up and disclosed on the basis of fair, transparent and internationally accepted principles. The Government has also introduced Companies Bill, 2009 in Lok Sabha on 3rd August, 2009 which seeks to make more stringent provisions in case of frauds by companies, their directors and auditors etc.

Findings of ICAI in Satyam scam case

1069. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has found the auditors—Price-Waterhouse Coopers—of Satyam Computers guilty in the Rs. 7,800 crores fraud;

(b) the reasons for ICAI taking such a long time in arriving at this decision;

(c) whether it is also a fact that now only the ICAI would issue notices to those found guilty; and

(d) how much time would Government take in completing the probe and punishing the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) No, Sir. Price Waterhouse Coopers is not a firm of Chartered Accountants registered with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). The ICAI has, however, initiated disciplinary action against M/s. Price Waterhouse, Bangalore, M/s. Price Waterhouse with head office at Kolkata and M/s. Price Waterhouse with head office at New Delhi, which are firms of chartered accountants registered with the ICAI.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 and the Chartered Accountants (Procedure of Investigations of Professional and Other Misconduct and Conduct of Cases) Rules, 2007 framed there under, it is the ICAI, which is empowered to take disciplinary action in relation to misconduct of any of its members.

(d) As ICAI is regulatory authority for taking action against chartered accountants of these firms, the Government does not come into picture.

Projects under NLCPR scheme in Assam

1070. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects sanctioned by Government under NLCPR scheme between the years 2005-09 in Assam, district-wise;

(b) the status of these projects; and

(c) whether Government would consider to offer some special schemes for the infrastructure development of sports and culture in various districts of the State in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) The details of the projects sanctioned by Government under NLCPR scheme between the years 2005-09 in Assam, district-wise and the status of these projects is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The projects under NLCPR scheme of the Ministry are retained on merit from the annual Priority list submitted by State Government which includes the projects related to Sports and Culture. However, in the current year following projects from Sports and Culture sector have been retained for funding under NLCPR:—

(i) Construction of D.N. Singh Stadium/Sports Complex at Goalpara, and

(ii) Development of Karbi Anglong Sports Association (KASA) Stadium at Diphu, Karbi Anglong, Assam.

Statement

Project sanctioned during 2005-06 to 2008-09 under NLCPR by Government

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Date of Sanction	Approved cost	Amount released	Status	District
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for Assam	28-03-2006	2770.00	2770.00	Completed	All Districts
2.	Infrastructure Development of North Eastern Judicial Officers' Training Institute, Guwahati	27-12-2005	354.28	249.59	Ongoing	Kamrup
3.	Borjan Composite Irrigation Scheme in Assam	28-10-2005	2228.64	2005.78	Ongoing	Karbi Anglong
4.	Champamati Irrigation Project	31-10-2005	4385.00	4385.00	Ongoing	Kokrajhar
5.	Sukla Irrigation Project	31-10-2005	812.72	812.72	Ongoing	Baska
6.	Renovation/Re-construction of RNB Civil Hospital at Kokrajhar	31-10-2005	758.09	758.09	Ongoing	Kokrajhar
7.	Construction of Cold Storage at Udalguri district	27-12-2005	413.66	413.65	Completed	Udalguri
8.	Construction of Cold storage at Kokrajhar district	27-12-2005	413.66	413.65	Completed	Kokrajhar
9.	Construction of North East Gate Way Bus Terminus at Srinwai Gossaigaon	27-12-2005	144.42	144.42	Ongoing	Kokrajhar
10.	ST&D — Construction of 22 km long 33 kV line from Bordubi to Tengakhat with construction of 1x2.5 MVA transformer	30-06-2005	122.00	122.00	Ongoing	Dibrugarh

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11.	ST&D — Augmentation of Dibrugarh 33 kV S/S from (3x5 + 1x2.5) MVA to 2x10 MVA	30-06-2005	76.00	76.00	Completed	Dibrugarh
12.	ST&D — Construction of 16 km long 33 kV line from Jorhat to Kakajan alongwith installation of 2x2.5 MVA S/S at Kakajan	30-06-2005	90.00	90.00	Completed	Jorhat
13.	ST&D — Construction of 38 km, 33 kV line from Balipara to Bhalukpong	30-06-2005	133.00	133.00	Ongoing	Sonitpur
14.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 1/1, 3/1 and 5/1 on Bahirjonai Berachapari Road in Dhemaji District (Assam) with approaches	21-02-2006	552.17	173.93	Ongoing	Dhemaji
15.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 1/1, 4/1 and 5/1 on Sripani Jengrai Road in Dhemaji District (Assam) with approaches	21-02-2006	301.78	95.06	Ongoing	Dhemaji
16.	Goreswar to Khoirabari Road	31-10-2005	657.28	657.28	Ongoing	Baska
17.	Bhergaon-Chouni-Khagrabari-Dimakuchi Road	31-10-2005	131.61	131.61	Ongoing	Udalguri
18.	Lailongpara-Kopati Road (Via Boro Bazar)	31-10-2005	131.05	131.04	Ongoing	Udalguri
19.	Khowrang Mahanpur Road	31-10-2005	250.00	250.00	Ongoing	Udalguri
20.	Chapaguri-Khagrabari Road	31-10-2005	630.00	630.00	Ongoing	Chirang
21.	Tulsijhyora-Kailamaila Road via Amguri	31-10-2005	900.00	900.00	Ongoing	Chirang
22.	Bijni-Panbari Road	31-10-2005	1558.58	1558.58	Ongoing	Chirang

23.	Gossaigaon to Kazigaon via Bhukka, Tipkai Road	31-10-2005	1100.00	1100.00	Ongoing	Kokrajhar
24.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 2/1 on Kokrajhar Monakocha Road over River Gaurang in Kokrajhar District with approaches	28-10-2005	990.63	577.74	Ongoing	Kokrajhar
25.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 9/2 on Borbhogia Mikirbhata Road in Morigaon District with approaches	28-10-2005	238.96	212.93	Ongoing	Marigaon
26.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 17/4, 19/4, 20/2 and 26/1 on Mt. Sepon Sunpura Road in Sivasagar District (Assam) with approaches	28-10-2005	377.86	336.72	Ongoing	Sivasagar
27.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 3/2 over River Mansiri on Charduar Road with approaches in Sonitpur District	28-10-2005	165.75	147.70	Completed	Sonitpur
28.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 4/1, 6/1 and 14/1 on North Lakhimpur Kamalabari Road	28-10-2005	455.27	405.69	Ongoing	Lakhimpur
29.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 2/3, 5/1, 9/1, 11/1, 15/3, 16/1, 18/1 and 19/4 on Itakhola Pavoi Road in Sonitpur District (Assam) with approaches	28-10-2005	875.42	456.41	Ongoing	Sonitpur
30.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 1/1, 4/1, 8/1 and 9/2 on Fakiragram Sapatgram Road in Dhubri District with approaches	28-10-2005	514.51	458.48	Ongoing	Dhubri
31.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 6/1 on Chariali Pavoi Road in Sonitpur District with approaches, protection work and sub-way	25-10-2005	88.53	78.90	Ongoing	Sonitpur

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
32.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 16/1, 19/1 and 19/3 on Bagals Road in Nalbari District with approaches	31-10-2005	404.73	238.93	Ongoing	Nalbari
33.	Construction of Road from Beltola Chariali to Sarusajai (Bishnu Rabha Path), Guwahati (Assam)	27-12-2005	777.31	692.66	Completed	Kamrup
34.	Improvement of Tihu Doomni Road leading to Indo-Bhutan foot hills from 7th to 25 km in Baska district	27-12-2005	995.00	995.00	Ongoing	Baska
35.	Improvement of Khoirabari MPK road (Andherighat) to Harisinga via Bhergaon, Tangla and Purandia 42.25 km length with conversion of 11 SPT bridges to RCC	27-12-2005	2650.26	2650.26	Ongoing	Udalguri
36.	Construction of Kashikotra Bamungaon Bengtol Road	27-12-2005	1169.00	1169.00	Ongoing	Chirang
37.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 1/1, 3/1, 3/2 and 4/1 on Bhairabpur to Kulibazar Road in Dhemaji District (Assam) with approaches	27-12-2005	466.44	415.63	Ongoing	Dhemaji
38.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 6/1, 7/1, 8/1, 8/2, 9/1, 11/1 and 11/2 on Sepon Suffry Road in Sivasagar District (Assam) with approaches	27-12-2005	411.17	129.52	Ongoing	Sivasagar
39.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 10/1 and approaches on Khawang Bhamun Road in Dibrugarh District of Assam	27-12-2005	103.25	92.03	Ongoing	Dibrugarh
40.	Construction of Additional Two Lane Rail-Over-Bridge (ROB) on AT. Road at Maligaon, Guwahati (Assam)	27-12-2005	1355.92	1202.29	Completed	Kamrup

41.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 5/1 on Burhagohain Tinthengia Road in Dibrugarh District of Assam	21-12-2005	98.81	88.06	Ongoing	Dibrugarh
42.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 2/1 on Bamunbari to Jariguri Road in Dibrugarh District of Assam with approaches	21-12-2005	108.05	34.04	Ongoing	Dibrugarh
43.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 5/1 on Sonakhira Bubrihat Road in Karimganj District (Assam) with approaches and protection work	03-01-2006	97.26	86.67	Ongoing	Karimganj
44.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 11/1 on Teok Boloma Nakachari Road in Jorhat District (Assam) with approaches	03-01-2006	109.17	34.39	Ongoing	Jorhat
45.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 24/2 and 32/2 on Mt. Golaghat Merapani Road in Golaghat District (Assam) with approaches and protection work	03-01-2006	185.67	133.46	Ongoing	Golaghat
46.	Construction of approach road leading to Industrial Growth Centre at Balipara in Sonitpur District (Assam)	27-12-2005	268.65	241.79	Ongoing	Sonitpur
47.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 10/1 on Gogamukh Ghilamara Road in Dhemaji District (Assam) with approaches	25-01-2006	108.41	74.45	Ongoing	Dhemaji
48.	Subbankhata Water Supply Scheme	31-10-2005	327.63	327.63	Ongoing	Baska
TOTAL :			32257.60	29281.78		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Projects sanctioned during 2006-07						
1.	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan for Assam (2006-07)	29-06-2006	10293.41	10292.94	Ongoing	All Districts
2.	Modernisation and Augmentation of Infrastructure Development of Assam Textile Institute at Guwahati	12-09-2006	741.49	233.57	Ongoing	Kamrup
3.	Construction of 220/132 Kv, 1 x 50 MVA, 132/33 Kv and 1 x 16 MVA Agia S/S	28-03-2007	738.68	649.80	Ongoing	Goalpara
4.	Construction of RCC Bridge No.27/2, 28/1, 29/1, 30/2, 32/2, 35/1 and 45/1 including approaches on Dhubri-Kachugaon Road in Kokrajhar	16-05-2006	516.4	368.13	Ongoing	Kokrajhar
5.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 1/1 and 4/1 with approaches on Nilbagan-Hojai Road in Nagaon District (Assam)	02-06-2006	191.67	170.79	Ongoing	Nagaon
6.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 3/1 including approaches on Pukia Silapathar Road in Dhemaji District.	16-05-2006	136.78	121.89	Ongoing	Dhemaji
7.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 4/1 and 15/1 including approaches on Nagaon -Bhuragaon Road in Nagaon District	16-05-2006	434.40	387.08	Ongoing	Nagaon
8.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 38/1, 43/1, 43/3 and 44/2 including approaches and subway on Silchar — Hailakandi Road in Hailakandi District	16-05-2006	353.13	111.24	Ongoing	Hailakandi

9.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 2/2 and 4/2 including approaches on Gurnagar Tikrikilla Road in Goalpara District	16-05-2006	355.19	111.28	Ongoing	Goalpara
10.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 5/1 on river Bharalkunda, 7/1 on Sister-par Beel, 8/1 on Dulani Beel, 9/9 on Distributary of river Champamati and 11/1 on Hill Canal including approaches on Jogighopa Chapar Road in Bongaigaon District in Assam.	27-06-2006	709.41	632.16	Ongoing	Bongaigaon
11.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 2/3 on river Bhulla, 3/2 on river Lakhi and 7/2 on river Lakhimorasuti on Bengbari Ambagaon Road in Udalguri District, Assam	27-06-2006	632.85	563.93	Ongoing	Udalguri
12.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 2/4, 6/1 and 8/1 on river Kaldia including approaches on Dr. Jina Ram Das Road in Barpeta District	27-06-2006	535.85	169.70	Ongoing	Barpeta
13.	Project for Road Network of Jorhat Master Plan Area in Jorhat District	12-09-2006	461.00	402.84	Ongoing	Jorhat
14.	Improvement of Barpeta Bashibari Road leading to Manas Sanctuary from km. 1st to Km. 21st in Barpeta District in Assam	31-12-2006	1235.65	745.54	Ongoing	Barpeta
15.	Improvement of Roads and Natural Drainage System within Greater Tezpur Town	28-03-2007	2551.78	348.13	Ongoing	Sonitpur
16.	Dhubri Town Water Supply Scheme	12-09-2006	1026.53	627.63	Ongoing	Dhubri
17.	Greater Mahur Town Water Supply Scheme in Assam	31-12-2006	512.26	161.36	Ongoing	NC Hills

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18.	Udalguri Piped Water Supply Scheme	11-12-2006	534.00	254.20	Ongoing	Udalguri
19.	Bheragaon Piped Water Supply Scheme	11-12-2006	246.00	120.66	Ongoing	Udalguri
20.	Uttarpar Piped Water Supply Scheme	11-12-2006	864.00	411.4	Ongoing	Baska
TOTAL:			23070.48	16884.27		

Projects sanctioned during 2007-08

1.	Construction of academic — cum — Administrative building of K.K Handique Government Sanskrit College	21-06-2007	238.09	93.37	Ongoing	Kamrup (M)
2.	Development of infrastructure facilities of Kahrupetia college, <i>i.e.</i> construction of class rooms, computer laboratory with Ac, hostel for tennis, electricity facilities, water supply and sanitary installation in Darrang District	24-10-2007	175.68	55.33	Ongoing	Darrang
3.	Construction of dakhindol Lift Irrigation Scheme at Sonitpur and Joisidhi, Assam	28-09-2007	211.21	66.53	Ongoing	Sonitpur
4.	Belsiri Lift Irrigation Scheme	28-09-2007	217.42	68.48	Ongoing	Sonitpur
5.	LIS over river Buriduhing in Tengakhat Kheremia Mouza in Dibrugarh District	26-12-2007	291.63	92.32	Ongoing	Dibrugarh
6.	LIS over river Buriduhing in Sassoni Mouza in Dibrugarh District	26-12-2007	239.79	77.82	Ongoing	Dibrugarh

7.	Construction of Sankar Madhab Cultural Complex at Letekupukhuri at Bhogpur Chariali Lakhimpur District	25-10-2007	401.45	126.45	Ongoing	Lakhimpur
8.	Cashew processing Plant at Mankachar in Dhubri District in Assam	22-11-2007	210.85	104.15	Ongoing	Dhubri
9.	Development and Upgradation of Jyoti Chitran Film and Television Institute	20-12-2007	1346.77	424.23	Ongoing	Kamrup
10.	Bodoland Indigenous Tribal Art and Cultural Complex-cum Film Studio at Kathalguri, Kokrajhar	24-12-2007	495.14	160.66	Ongoing	Kokrajhar
11.	Construction of Cultural Centre/Complex at Dotma in Kokrajhar	26-12-2007	221.06	99.05	Ongoing	Kokrajhar
12.	Construction of 220/132 KV, 2 x 50 MVA and 220/33 KV, 2 x 40 MVA Azara Sub — Station with 220 Kv LILO line from one circuit of 220 KV DC Agia — Sarusajia line along with construction of 132 KV SC line to Boko with terminal bay at 132/33 Boko Sub-station	26-09-2007	3622.07	1140.95	Ongoing	Kamrup (M)
13.	Augmentation of Transformer Capacity of 132/33 KV Panchgram Sub Station from 2 x 16 MVA to 2 x 25 MVA in Cachar District	05-03-2008	440.00	138.60	Ongoing	Cachar
14.	Improvement of Nagaon Morikolong Nanoi dakhinpath Road under Nagaon District	26-11-2007	199.03	177.35	Ongoing	Nagaon
15.	Construction of RCC Br. No. 4/1 and 6/1 with approaches on J.B. road in Jorhat District	21-06-2007	324.40	101.18	Ongoing	Jorhat
16.	Construction of road and minor bridge from Motinagar to Buban hill Temple — Phase I	24-10-2007	326.07	102.17	Ongoing	Cachar

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17.	Improvement of Dalgaon Kopti Road (Orang — Dalgaon Road)	26-10-2007	235.71	106.26	Ongoing	Darrang
18.	Upgradation of Dalgaon Town to Sialmari <i>via</i> Dekerigaon	24-10-2007	251.73	113.82	Ongoing	Darrang
19.	Improvement of Nagaon-Barapujia Road under Nagaon District	22-11-2007	298.00	179.50	Ongoing	Nagaon
20.	Construction/improvement of Batabari Kopati road	26-10-2007	213.72	95.40	Ongoing	Darrang
21.	Construction of Road from Bhangarpar to Chandranathppur <i>via</i> babur bazar (Length 5.5 km)	20-12-2007	249.05	79.73	Ongoing	Cachar
22.	Improvement of roads in Jorhat Town	20-12-2007	250.00	95.95	Ongoing	Jorhat
23.	Improvement of Roads in Sivasagar Town	20-12-2007	242.46	108.05	Ongoing	Sivasagar
24.	Widening and Raising of Nazirakhat Sonapur Road (Length 6.00 km)	20-12-2007	265.08	238.57	Ongoing	Kamrup (S)
25.	Construction of Dibrugarh Sapekhati road from km 12 to km 18 along with 2 RCC bridges No. 18/1 and 19/1 with approaches (Bridge over river Buridihing at Saraighat)	19-12-2007	2116.45	666.54	Ongoing	Dibrugarh
26.	Improvement of road from Kahilipara to Don Bosco School at Guwahati in Assam	31-12-2007	252.16	113.10	Ongoing	Kamrup (M)
27.	Improvement of Rampur Model Road starting from NH-37 in Kamrup District	05-03-2008	224.58	200.13	Ongoing	Kamrup

28.	Construction of RCC Br. No. 1/1 over River Pota on Hazuwa Nalbari Road in Baska District in Assam	27-03-2008	264.01	83.16	Ongoing	Baska
29.	Construction of RCC Br. No. 1/1 over regular Channel Gadadhar on Silerpar — Borshijhora Road in Dhubri District	28-03-2008	450.73	324.53	Ongoing	Dhubri
30.	Construction of RCC Br. No. 1/1 over Santijan on Srimanta Sankardev Govesona Kendra Road in Nagaon Road	28-03-2008	280.55	138.37	Ongoing	Nagaon
31.	Construction of RCC Br. No. 4/1 on Belguri Satrasal Road in Dhrubri District	27-03-2008	273.31	86.09	Ongoing	Dhubri
32.	Metalling and Black Topping of Swapanpur to Ramchandi Road of Hailakandi District	27-03-2008	379.75	119.62	Ongoing	Hailakandi
33.	Construction of 4 lane Tripura road including electrical works from NH-37 to GS Road	28-03-2008	1136.50	1022.85	Ongoing	Kamrup (M)
34.	Construction of RCC bridge at 7th Km of Kathal Road over river Ghagra including approaches and protection work in Cachar District	28-03-2008	250.00	78.75	Ongoing	Cachar
35.	Construction of Indoor stadium at Silchar	20-06-2007	494.33	139.89	Ongoing	Silchar
36.	Development of Jorhat stadium at Jorhat	30-07-2007	268.83	84.70	Ongoing	Jorhat
37.	Golaghat Town Water Supply Scheme	28-05-2007	504.61	355.93	Ongoing	Golaghat
38.	Sibsagar Town Water Supply Scheme	28-05-2007	1639.34	499.73	Ongoing	Sibsagar

TOTAL:			19501.56	7959.31		
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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Projects sanctioned during 2008-09

1.	Construction of two storeyed building of SJN Government Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital at Panjabari, Guwahati	12-11-2008	265.71	82.06	Ongoing	Kamrup (M)
2.	Multi Level Parking in different parts of Guwahati	14-08-2008	2024.00	638.00	Ongoing	Kamrup (M)
3.	Construction of Roadside drain cum footpath and provision of roadside streetlight illumination in Naharkatia town in Dibrugarh Rural Road Division	30-09-2008	644.73	199.10	Ongoing	Dibrugarh
4.	Strengthening of 11 kV HT and LT Line with 12 Meter Steel Tubular Pole including Illumination of Kokrajhar Town	28-11-2008	520.29	289.13	Ongoing	Kokrajhar
5.	Construction of RCC bridge No. 10/1 and 18/1 on Bagals Road in Nalbari District with approaches	30-09-2008	308.11	96.10	Ongoing	Nalbari
6.	Construction of RCC bridge No. 18/2 over stream Bahanigaon and bridge No. 19/1 over river Kachikata on Laluk-Narayanpur via Bihpuria Road in Lakhimpur District	30-09-2008	208.70	65.68	Ongoing	Lakhimpur
7.	Construction of RCC bridge No. 4/1, 7/1, 8/1 and 11/1 over field canal/River Sakati on Abhyapuri Tilungia Road	07-11-2008	338.09	105.42	Ongoing	Bongaigaon

	with approaches and protection works in Bongaigaon District					
8.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 5/3 on Bhorbhogia Mikirbhetta Dhing Road with approaches in Morigaon District	25-11-2008	241.17	75.22	Ongoing	Marigaon
9.	Construction of RCC bridge No. 57/1 on Gaurisagar Moran Road and construction of RCC bridge No. 15/2 over River Disam on Naharkatia — Tinkhong Road under Dibrugarh Rural Road Division	10-12-2008	406.12	126.65	Ongoing	Dibrugarh
10.	Improvement of Jalah Rupohi Saudorvitha Gobardhan Road in Baska District	28-11-2008	2121.20	1060.60	Ongoing	Baska
11.	Conversion of SPT Bridge 20/1 over River Gangia into RCC Bridge on Gosaigaon Sapatgram Road in Kokrajhar District	28-11-2008	1082.68	541.34	Ongoing	Kokrajhar
12.	Construction of RCC Br. No. 32/1 on AT road (old) including approaches with protection works in Goalpara	30-03-2009	739.12	230.51	Ongoing	Goalpara
13.	Construction of Br. No. 28/1 on Dehangi Dayangmukh Road over thajuwari Nala and Langlodisa Nala (PWD Roads Haflong Division)	30-03-2009	355.00	111.76	Ongoing	N.C. Hills
14.	Construction of RCC Br. No. 7/1 on Dharamtul Dandua Road with approaches	30-03-2009	248.42	77.48	Ongoing	Nagaon

15.	Improvement of Badlapara to Dharamjuli Road under Udalguri Rural Road division	31-03-2009	403.35	124.58	Ongoing	Udalguri
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
16.	Construction of RCC Br. No. 22/1 over river Diffoloo on Chowkiholder Panjan Deithor Malasi Diring Kohora (CPDMDK) Road with approaches and protection works	30-03-2009	303.82	94.87	Ongoing	Karbi Anglong
17.	Construction of District Sports Complex at Jhagrapar in Dhubri District	10-12-2008	377.77	116.66	Ongoing	Dhubri
18.	Construction of chandi barua stadium at Barpeta	10-02-2009	290.36	89.67	Ongoing	Barpeta
19.	Augmentation of Greater Diphu Water Supply Scheme in Karbi Anglong District	19-08-2008	2767.44	854.64	Ongoing	Karbi Anglong
20.	Stabilisation of Dispur Water Supply Scheme	19-08-2008	729.52	225.29	Ongoing	Kamrup(M)
21.	Greater Bokajan Water Supply Scheme	17-12-2008	1003.87	310.02	Ongoing	Karbi Anglong
TOTAL:			15379.47	5514.78		

Furtherance of climate resilience

1071. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country can further its climate resilience through a combination of measures and right incentives aimed at multiple levels of Government—local, State and national;

(b) if so, the details worked out, so far, in this direction; and

(c) the present status of Andhra Pradesh in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) released on 30th June, 2008 outlines a strategy to meet the challenge of Climate Change through a combination of sectoral measures taken by Government in consultation with various stakeholders including State Governments. Each of the eight national missions envisaged in the NAPCC is formulated by the nodal ministry in the Government of India and organized through inter-sectoral groups which include in addition to related Ministries, experts from industry, academia and civil society.

The Government has requested the State Governments including the Government of Andhra Pradesh to prepare State level Action Plan on Climate Change consistent with the strategy in the National Action Plan on Climate Change.

Tiger project in Andhra Pradesh

1072. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to announce four new Project Tiger areas very soon; and

(b) if so, the complete details thereof, State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) In principle approval has been accorded for creation of four new tiger reserves namely Pilibhit (Uttar Pradesh), Sunabeda (Orissa), Ratapani (Madhya Pradesh) and Sahyadri (Maharashtra).

Smokeless chullah

1073. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the design of 'smokeless chullah' distributed to nearly two crore families in rural areas in the nineties has proved faulty and is being described as one of the reason for rising emission;

(b) if so, whether Government is working on any other design to improve the chullah in

view of the firewood and cow dung still being widely used as main fuel for cooking in rural areas and is there any plan to distribute improved chullah among the rural poor; and

(c) whether Government has discarded its campaign for popularizing 'Gobar gas' which once was a key component of rural development plan?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has implemented Demonstration project and National Programme on Improved Chullah (NPIC) during 1983-84 to 2002-03. During this period 35.2 million improved chullahs were installed. Various models and designs of improved chullahs approved for installation under the programme were having higher thermal efficiency and reduced emissions. As the improved chullahs installed during the period might have lived their life and as such may not be linked with rising emission.

(b) Design and development of newer models of improved chulhas have been taken up by some of the organizations, institutions and industries. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has constituted a Core Group and sanctioned a project to assess present status of various types of improved chulhas currently available, their suitability and delivery mechanisms. The implementation of improved chulha was transferred to State Governments in the year 2003-04. It forms a component of Indira Awas Yojana houses, being implemented by various State Governments in the country.

(c) No, Sir. Installation of 'Gobar gas'/biogas plants continue to be implemented under National Biogas and Manure Management Programme of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. It also forms part of the Twenty Point Programme of the Government. The programme has been revitalized by the Government through enhanced Central Financial Assistance and inclusion of innovative models of financing and implementation mechanisms. Installation of 6.47 lakh numbers of family type biogas plants are envisaged to be taken up during the Eleventh Plan period which is higher than the number of plants installed during the Tenth Plan.

Water quality of Ganga

1074. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

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

(a) whether the Ganga Action Plan has fulfilled its objective; if not, when would it be achieved;

(b) the expenditure incurred, so far;

(c) whether Bio-chemical oxygen demand indicators show that Ganga Water at Prayag and Varanasi is not fit for bathing;

(d) whether levels of Fecal Coliforms are reported to be exceeding maximum permissible limit, even at Haridwar;

(e) if so, whether it would not endanger health of pilgrims who come for a holy dip; and

(f) the Ganga has been declared 'National River' how would this honorific help in Saving Ganga-Mata from decay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase-I was launched as a centrally funded scheme in 1985 with the objective of improving the water quality of the Ganga to acceptable standards. Various pollution abatement works like Interception and Diversion of sewage, setting up of sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation works, crematoria works, etc. were taken up. GAP Phase-II which covered the tributaries of Ganga namely, Yamuna, Gomti, Damodar and Mahananda, besides Ganga, was approved in stages from 1993-1996. GAP Phase-II was merged with the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) in December, 1996. An expenditure of Rs. 837.40 crore has been incurred for river Ganga, and a sewage treatment capacity of 1025 million liters per day (mld) has been created so far under both the phases of the Plan.

(c) to (f) As per the designated-best-use criteria of Central Pollution Control Board for bathing quality, Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) values should be 3 mg/litre or less. Based on the independent monitoring undertaken by reputed institutions, the BOD values of river water quality at Allahabad (Prayag) and Varanasi has shown discernible improvement during the year 2008 (summer average) over the pre-GAP period (1986) as given below:—

Location	BOD (mg/litre)	
	(1986)	(2008)
Allahabad Downstream	15.5	3.2
Varanasi Downstream	10.6	3.0

The levels of Fecal Coliforms are reported to be exceeding the maximum permissible limit of 2500 MPN (Most Probable Number) per 100 milliliter at a number of monitoring stations along the river Ganga, other than Haridwar.

The Central Government has constituted the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 on 20th February, 2009 as an empowered planning, financing, monitoring and coordinating authority for conservation of the Ganga River. The Authority has both regulatory and developmental functions. Action has been initiated for preparation of a comprehensive Ganga river basin management plan which will form the basis for formulation of projects. The Central Government has allocated Rs. 250 crore in the budget of the year 2009-10 for NGRBA. States have been requested to prepare priority projects for critical pollution hotspots and major towns on Ganga and fast track the implementation of ongoing projects.

Conservation of rivers is an ongoing and collective effort of the Central and State Governments. River conservation activities such as creation of civic infrastructure for sewage management and disposal are also being implemented under other Central schemes, such as Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns, as well as under State schemes.

Danger to existence of Lakshadweep islands

1075. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coral of Lakshadweep islands are dying causing danger to the existence of the islands as reported under a study; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the efforts made to arrest the problem to ensure sustainability of the islands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) According to a modeling study by Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi; the reef building corals may not be dominant in Lakshadweep Seas after 2030-2040. The study has indicated that there is no evidence to state that the corals will totally die off and there is also no evidence that there is any danger to the existence of the islands. The study analysis was not based on field observations but on model and projection only.

The Ministry has identified four National Coral Reef Areas viz: (i) Gulf of Mannar, (ii) Gulf of Kutch, (iii) Lakshadweep and (iv) Andman and Nicobar Islands for their conservation and management. It provides financial assistance to the State/UT Forest Departments of all the four identified Coral Reef areas for implementation of approved Management Action Plans for conservation and management of corals and coral reefs. The Coastal Regulation Zone Notification (1991), as amended subsequently, recognizes the Corals and Coral Reef areas as ecologically sensitive and categorizes them as CRZ-I (i) and some species of corals are also included in the Schedules of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby according them high degree of protection.

Upgrading of Panna National Park in Madhya Pradesh

†1076. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

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

(a) whether the Panna National Park in Madhya Pradesh is going to be upgraded to international standards;

(b) if so, whether several new animals would be brought in this park under this project;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether several other changes are being made in this park to make it of international level; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) After the local extinction of tigers from the Panna Tiger Reserve of Madhya Pradesh, tiger reintroduction has been taken up to rebuild the population, besides supporting initiatives in the said reserve under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger to strengthen tiger conservation.

Control of illegal trade in wildlife

1077. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Wildlife Crime Control Bureau is a multi-disciplinary agency;
- (b) the steps proposed for control of illegal trade in wildlife and to protect the wildlife from poachers;
- (c) the details of the cases dealt by the Bureau in Assam and the results thereof; and
- (d) the details of cases of illegal trading of wildlife and poaching in various National Parks in Assam with redressal measures taken by the authorities concerned?

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

(b) The steps taken by the Central Government to protect wildlife and control illegal trade, *inter alia*, include the following:—

1. The Central Government has enacted the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to deal with the issues of wildlife crime. Stringent penalties are imposed on the offenders for the contravention of the provisions of the Act.
2. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau, with a network of five Regional and three Sub Regional Offices, has been set up to control wildlife crime.
3. Training courses are conducted for various enforcement agencies like Customs, Central Police Forces etc. for better appreciation of illegal wildlife trade.
4. Wildlife offences involving a total value of Rs. 30.00 lakhs or more have been brought under the purview of the Prevention of Money-Laundering Act, 2002.
5. Financial support is provided under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes — *Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, Project Tiger and Project Elephant*, to State/UT

Governments for various activities aimed at wildlife conservation including control of poaching.

6. India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) that regulates international trade in wildlife and its derivatives.

(c) Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has not dealt with any case in Assam independently. There have been joint operations with the Assam Forest Department. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau is involved in collection of intelligence which is shared with the Forest Department. The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau also provides technical and legal assistance to the Assam Forest Department. Joint operation of Wildlife Crime Control Bureau and Assam Forest Department on 20.03.2009 has resulted in seizure of two leopard skins, one leopard cub skin, three pangolin skins, one pigmy hog cub skin, one clawless otter, three clouded leopards skins, eight otter skins, one bear cub skin, one sambhar skin, four kg leopard bones and 300 gms elephant tusk at Barpetta.

(d) Important cases of poaching and seizure of wildlife in National Parks of Assam as per the information provided by the State Government in the current year are as follows:—

- (a) **Kaziranga National Park:** 12 Rhino were poached and 22 poachers were arrested till October, 2009.
- (b) **Manas National Park:** Seizure of following has been made- Leopard skin-2 nos seized, Pangolia Skin-1 no, Pigmy Hog Skin-1 no, Clawless otter-1 no, Clouded Leopard skin-3 nos, Rhino skin-1 piece, Tiger teeth-4 nos, Tiger milk-150 gms., Sloth bear bone-5 kg, sloth bear skin-1 no, Elephant tusk-1 piece, Sambhar tusk-1 no, Hog deer skin- 1 no.
- (c) Nameri National Park where meat of one Sambhar deer was seized.

Redressal measures taken to control wildlife crimes in National Parks in Assam are as follows:—

- (a) Intelligence network has been strengthened further.
- (b) Infrastructure and logistics support are being strengthened.
- (c) District level Wildlife Coordination Committees have been constituted for effective coordination and control of poaching.
- (d) Vacancies of the front line staff are being filled up.
- (e) Additional armed personnels have been engaged in all the National Parks.

Pollution in Ganga

†1078. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount Government has spent during last ten years for making the river

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Ganga pollution free alongwith the details of improvement in pollution level during the said period; and

(b) the details of the additional measures being taken by Government for making the Ganga water pollution free?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase-I was launched as a centrally funded scheme in 1985 with the objective of improving the water quality of the Ganga to acceptable standards. Various pollution abatement works like Interception and Diversion of sewage, setting up of sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation works, crematoria works, etc., were taken up. GAP Phase-II which covered the tributaries of Ganga namely, Yamuna, Gomti, Damodar and Mahananda, besides Ganga, was approved in stages from 1993-1996. GAP Phase-II was merged with the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) in December, 1996. An expenditure of Rs. 837.40 crore has been incurred for river Ganga, and a sewage treatment capacity of 1025 million liters per day (mld) has been created so far under both the phases of the Plan. During the period 1999-2000 to 2008-2009, an expenditure of Rs. 364.75 crore has been incurred.

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

Conservation of rivers is an ongoing and collective effort of the Central and State Governments. River conservation activities such as creation of civic infrastructure for sewage management and disposal are also being implemented under other Central schemes, such as Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns, as well as under State schemes.

The Central Government has constituted the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 on 20th February, 2009 as an empowered planning, financing, monitoring and coordinating authority for conservation of the Ganga River. The Authority has both regulatory and developmental functions. Action has been initiated for preparation of a comprehensive Ganga river basin management plan which will form the basis for formulation of projects. The Central Government has allocated Rs. 250 crore in the budget of the year 2009-10 for NGRBA. States have been requested to prepare priority projects for critical pollution hotspots and major towns on Ganga and fast track the implementation of ongoing projects.

Himalayan glaciers

1079. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:

SHRI GANGA CHARAN:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that most Himalayan glaciers are retreating;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (d) As per the studies conducted by the Geological Survey of India the glaciers of Himalayas are receding at varying rates in different regions. As per these findings, recession of glaciers could be the result, *inter-alia* of a natural cyclic process because of which the majority of Himalayan Glaciers may be passing through a phase of recession.

(c) A National Action Plan on Climate Change was launched in June, 2008 which envisages the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system amongst its 8 national missions. This Mission includes understanding phenomena relating, *inter-alia*, to the recession of Himalayan glaciers and the ways of addressing the problem.

A new research centre on Himalayan Glaciology has been established at Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun. Guidelines and best practices for the governance for sustaining Himalayan Eco-system have been developed and shared with all State Governments in the Himalayan Region.

Solid waste management

1080. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that solid waste management in small towns and most of the cities is in a mess and one can find heaps of garbage in the middle and side of the roads;
- (b) if so, what kind of management and waste disposal help is being rendered by his Ministry to the civic bodies of those towns; and
- (c) what kind of coordination is in place with the States and their civic bodies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 (MSW Rules, 2000) laying down detailed compliance criteria for collection, storage, segregation, transportation, processing and disposal of municipal solid wastes. As per these rules, the municipal authority is

responsible for the implementation of the provisions of the rules and for any infrastructure development for management of municipal wastes. The municipal authorities are required to seek authorization for setting up of waste processing and disposal facilities including landfills from the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs).

The SPCBs and the Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) of the Union Territories are required to prepare and submit an annual report on the implementation status of the rules to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB). CPCB reviews annual consolidated report from SPCBs/PCCs for the status of implementation of MSW Rules. Regular interactions with SPCBs/PCCs through meetings and workshops are undertaken to facilitate implementation of Rules.

Financial assistance on cost sharing basis is provided by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for demonstration projects for solid waste management in accordance with MSW Rules, 2000. Ministry of Urban Development is implementing the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) scheme for providing assistance to the Urban Local Bodies for various schemes including for solid waste management.

World Bank Report on global warming

1081. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

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

(a) whether Government is aware about the World Bank Report, released in Dubai in October, 2009 that this planet will be faced with devastating effects when temperature rises 5 degree Celsius above pre-industrial warming period;

(b) if so, whether Government would try to arrive at a consensus among the nations, when Kyoto Protocol is to be discussed in Copenhagen in December, 2009 so that developing nations like China, India and Brazil etc. are able to achieve the objective that they are not forced to agree to the same targets as are imposed on developed countries as 65 per cent of emission in stock of carbon already in the air came from industrialized nations; and

(c) the details of the steps currently being taken to meet the global warming menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Government is aware of the discussion on World Bank's 'Development Report 2010: Development and Climate Change' that took place in Dubai in October, 2009. The Report outlines the World Bank's vision of dealing with challenge of development in a changing climate.

(b) and (c) In the International Negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), India, China and Brazil have actively participated and coordinated their position as members of the Group of 77 and China. They have argued that Parties must take actions in accordance with the principle of 'common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities' of the Convention. Annex-1 Parties who bear the

historic responsibility for Climate Change must commit themselves to deeper emission reduction commitments while developing countries will take voluntary mitigation action to the extent that the developed countries provide support in terms of finance and technology.

Parties are currently engaged in negotiations under the UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol in order to reach agreed outcomes at the fifteenth Conference of Parties scheduled in Copenhagen in December, 2009.

‘Forest and Tree Cover’ report

†1082. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that “Forest and Tree Cover” report has recently been published by Government;

(b) if so, the highlights of the report; and

(c) the future plans formulated by Government on the basis of this report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir. The “Forest and Tree Cover” report has not been published so far.

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

Asiatic Lions in Gir Sanctuary

1083. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

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

(a) whether the number of Asiatic Lions in Gir Sanctuary has decreased over the years, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has taken steps to rehabilitate Asiatic Lions from Gir Sanctuary; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir. There are no such reports. On the contrary the number of Asiatic Lions in Gir Sanctuary has increased over the years.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Government of Gujarat has launched several steps including establishing and conserving appropriate habitats including Barda Wildlife Sanctuary located in Porbandar and Jamnagar Districts for supporting lion population.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Impact of global warming

1084. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the findings of the scientists at Columbia University and NASA's space flight center that potency of methane gas emitted by different industries and its impact on global warming, had been largely under estimated while signing the Kyoto Protocol; and

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to take up any modification of the Kyoto Protocol to precisely the adverse effect of the industrialized nation thereto and to refix their responsibility towards global warming; if so, the steps taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Government is aware of the recent NASA study which states that climate scientists have under estimated the extent of warming caused by methane.

(b) The discussion on common metrics to calculate the carbon dioxide equivalence of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removal by sinks is underway in the *Ad hoc* working group on Kyoto Protocol. The Parties have requested the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advise to assess, based *inter alia* on the work of, the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change, the implications of the choice of metrics used to calculate the carbon dioxide equivalence of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of the greenhouse gases listed in Annex A to the Kyoto Protocol for the third or subsequent commitment periods. Parties are also engaged in negotiations to reach an agreed outcome at the fifteenth Conference of Parties in Copenhagen in December, 2009.

Green bonus to Himalayan States

1085. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN:

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

(a) whether Government has decided to provide 'green bonus' to Himalayan States for conserving forests;

(b) if so, the States to which 'green bonus' would be given and whether Government has formulated plans to conserve forests in view of increase in green house gas emissions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The Government has not developed a scheme to provide

‘green bonus’ to Himalayan States for conserving forests. However, National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), includes a National Mission on a ‘green India’ that would enhance ecosystem services and focus on increasing forest cover and density and conserving biodiversity.

Impact of global warming on glaciers

1086. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

(a) whether India and China have jointly agreed to conduct research on the impact of global warming on glaciers in the Himalayan and Tibetan regions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken up the matter of melting of Himalayan Glaciers with other affected neighbouring countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) India and China have signed an Agreement on cooperation on addressing climate change that covers, *inter-alia*, cooperation in observation and monitoring of climate change and undertaking mutually cooperative activities and programmes as appropriate. One of the cooperative activities under this agreement is to undertake joint research and developmental activities.

(c) and (d) The Government has not taken up the matter of melting of Himalayan Glaciers with other affected neighbouring countries.

Conviction under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972

1087. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

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

(a) the conditions under which the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 is applicable;

(b) what has been the conviction rate under this Act in view of dwindling numbers of protected animals in national parks and reserves;

(c) how many cases under this Act are pending in the various High Courts; and

(d) whether Government proposes to make the penalty clauses under this Act more stringent to secure prompt and better conviction rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 provides for protection of wild animals, birds and plants and for matters connected therewith or ancillary or incidental thereto with a view to ensuring the ecological and environmental security of the country. Any offence related to the wildlife and its habitat attracts the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(b) and (c) The information pertaining conviction rate and cases pending in various High Courts are not collated at the level of Central Government.

(d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has initiated action for amendment of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, which also includes provisions for stringent penalties for any contravention of the provisions of the Act.

Discharge of untreated waste into Yamuna

†1088. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

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

(a) whether desired success is being achieved in checking the discharge of untreated waste matter into Yamuna;

(b) the efforts being made jointly by the Central and State Governments for required cleaning of Yamuna before the commencement of Commonwealth Games; and

(c) the amount spent by the Central and State Governments so far on this separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The first phase of the Yamuna Action Plan (YAP), covering 21 towns of Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Haryana commenced in April, 1993. This phase was completed in 2003 with a total expenditure of Rs. 682 crore, out of which Rs. 596 crore was borne by the Centre and the balance by the States. The second Phase of YAP commenced in December, 2004. Till September, 2009, an expenditure of Rs. 226.89 crore has been incurred under this phase on a cost sharing ratio of 85:15 between the Centre and State Governments. The projects taken up under YAP include interception and diversion of raw sewage, setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants, creation of low cost sanitation facilities, setting up of electric/ improved wood crematoria etc. Sewage treatment capacity of 753.25 mld has been created so far under the Plan.

As per the water quality monitoring undertaken through independent institutions, the water quality in the stretch of the river Yamuna from Tajewala to Palla in Haryana is found to be within the prescribed limits. However, the stretch of the river in the vicinity of Delhi (downstream of Wazirabad barrage to upstream of Okhla barrage) and in parts of Uttar Pradesh does not meet the standards in terms of Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand. The water quality of Yamuna has not shown the desired improvement owing to large gap between the demand and availability of sewage treatment capacity and lack of fresh water in the river.

Besides YAP, the Government of Delhi has taken up sewerage and sewage treatment works under other schemes to fully address the pollution load being discharged into Yamuna. The Delhi Jal Board has prepared schemes for laying of interceptor sewers

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

along three major drains namely Najafgarh, Shahdara and Supplementary, construction of sewage treatment plants, interception of drains and rehabilitation of trunk sewers, laying of sewerage system in unsewered colonies and rural areas and desilting of peripheral and internal sewers.

No-objection certificate for power projects

†1089. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

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

(a) the power projects received from various States including Chhattisgarh which are pending with his Ministry for no-objection certificates;

(b) whether these power projects are to be set up in dense forest area; and

(c) whether the concerned State Governments had sought a comprehensive report about dense forests of these areas before finalizing the proposal for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) A total of 36 power projects are pending for environmental clearance. State-wise break-up of pending power projects is as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of pending power projects	
		Thermal Power	Hydro-Electric
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	2
3.	Bihar	1	—
4.	Chhattisgarh	4	—
5.	Gujarat	3	—
6.	Himachal Pradesh	—	2
7.	Jharkhand	1	—
8.	Karnataka	4	1
9.	Madhya Pradesh	4	—
10.	Maharashtra	4	—
11.	Orissa	3	—
12.	Rajasthan	2	—
TOTAL:		31	5

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Allocation of funds under CAMPA

1090. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:
SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

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

- (a) whether Government has asked the States to submit action plans for a period of five years for allocation of funds under the Compensatory Afforestation Funds Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA);
- (b) if so, the details of proposals received from various States, particularly with reference to Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) the action taken or proposed to be taken in releasing funds under CAMPA, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Union Government requested the State/Union Territory Governments to submit Annual Plan of Operations (APOs) duly approved by the State Level Steering Committee (SLSC) to the *Ad-hoc* Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) for release of funds. Accordingly, 29 States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh had submitted APOs for utilization of funds both towards site specific schemes such as Compensatory Afforestation (CA), Additional Compensatory Afforestation (ACA), Penal Compensatory Afforestation (PCA), Catchment Area Treatment Plan (CAT), etc., and the works under Net Present Value (NPV) and wildlife management in Protected Areas.

(c) The Central Government with the concurrence of the Supreme Court of India formulated the guidelines in consultation with the States/Union Territories to utilize the money deposited in *Ad-hoc* CAMPA by establishing State CAMPAs. As per these guidelines and the Supreme Court order dated 10.7.2009, a sum of Rs. 1000 crores per year, for the next 5 years, shall be released to the State CAMPAs in proportion of 10% of the principal amount deposited by the States/Union Territories in *Ad-hoc* CAMPA subject to fulfilment of following conditions:—

- (i) the details of the bank account opened by the State Executive Committee (in Nationalized Bank) are intimated to the *Ad-hoc* CAMPA;
- (ii) the amount towards the NPV and the protected area may be released after the schemes have been reviewed by the State Level Executive Committee and the Annual Plan of Operation is approved by the Steering Committee; and
- (iii) the amount towards CA, Additional CA, PCA and the Catchment Area Treatment Plan may be released in the respective bank accounts of the States/UTs immediately for taking up site specific works already approved by the MoEF while granting prior approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

So far, about Rs. 646 crores have been released to 15 States/UTs, who have fulfilled the requisite conditions for establishment of State CAMPAs. The State-wise details are enclosed at the given Statement.

Statement

Funds released by Ad-hoc CAMPA to States/UTs as on 31.10.2009

Sl. No	States/UTs	Fund received from States/UTs as on 30.06.2009 (in Rs.)	10% of fund received as on 30.06.2009 (in Rs.)	Fund released to States/UTs (about 10%)* (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	109,906,133.00	10,990,613.30	10,990,000.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	8,978,325,571.48	897,832,557.15	897,832,000.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,636,763,088.74	163,676,308.87	—
4.	Assam	671,749,049.00	67,174,904.90	67,174,000.00
5.	Bihar	773,448,981.00	77,344,898.10	—
6.	Chandigarh	17,652,067.00	1,765,206.70	1,765,000.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	12,321,350,743.39	1,232,135,074.34	1,232,135,000.00
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	16,829,000.00	1,682,900.00	1,682,000.00
9.	Daman and Diu	—	—	—
10.	Delhi	1,224,523,363.00	122,452,336.30	—
11.	Goa	1,211,970,919.58	121,197,091.96	121,197,000.00
12.	Gujarat	2,496,471,445.00	249,647,144.50	249,647,000.00
13.	Haryana	1,911,413,386.79	191,141,338.68	191,141,000.00
14.	Himachal Pradesh	3,667,719,848.60	366,771,984.86	366,771,000.00
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	—	—	—
16.	Jharkhand	9,500,280,928.03	950,028,092.80	—
17.	Karnataka	5,855,732,170.00	585,573,217.00	585,573,000.00
18.	Kerala	175,090,762.58	17,509,076.26	—
19.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—
20.	Madhya Pradesh	5,304,823,886.00	530,482,388.60	530,482,000.00
21.	Maharashtra	8,935,493,798.50	893,549,379.85	—
22.	Manipur	74,568,219.00	7,456,821.90	—

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Meghalaya	9,675,979.00	967,597.90	—
24.	Mizoram	—	—	—
25.	Nagaland	—	—	—
26.	Orissa	13,106,182,423.00	1,310,618,242.30	1,310,618,000.00
27.	Pondicherry	—	—	—
28.	Punjab	3,305,472,163.50	330,547,216.35	—
29.	Rajasthan	3,259,088,410.85	325,908,841.09	—
30.	Sikkim	800,924,612.00	80,092,461.20	80,092,000.00
31.	Tamil Nadu	197,130,414.00	19,713,041.40	—
32.	Tripura	354,181,754.00	35,418,175.40	—
33.	Uttar Pradesh	4,709,629,585.46	470,962,958.55	—
34.	Uttarakhand	8,165,322,154.65	816,532,215.47	816,532,000.00
35.	West Bengal	529,577,838.00	52,957,783.80	—
TOTAL:		99,321,298,695.15	9,932,129,869.52	6,461,949,000.00

*Amount rounded of Rs. '000.00

Tiger deaths

1091. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of tiger deaths since January, 2009 Tiger Reserve/National Park-wise;
- (b) what have been major causes of such deaths; and
- (c) what further steps are being taken to stop un-natural deaths of animals in tiger reserves/national parks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The tiger reserve-wise mortality of tigers, as reported by tiger range States, since January, 2009 is at the given Statement-I (See below).

(b) The major causes of tiger mortality are poaching, revenge killing, old age and internecine fights.

(c) The milestone initiatives taken by the Government of India for protection of tigers and other wild animals are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Tiger Reserve-wise tiger mortality in 2009 (as on 24.11.2009)

Sl. No.	Name of Tiger Reserve	No. of tiger mortality
1.	Bandhavgarh	4
2.	Bandipur	4
3.	Bhadra	1
4.	Corbett	4
5.	Kanha	7
6.	Kaziranga	9
7.	Nagarahole	4
8.	Pench (MP)	1
9.	Ranthambhore	3
10.	Sunderbans	1
11.	Tadoba-Andhari	2
TOTAL :		40

Statement-II

Steps taken for protection of tigers and wild animals

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

Legal steps

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

Administrative steps

3. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to Tiger Reserve States, as proposed by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army personnel/home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication/wireless facilities.
4. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority with effect from 4.09.2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, *inter alia*, ensuring normative standards in tiger

reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.

5. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from 6.6.2007 to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.
6. Declaration of eight new Tiger Reserves and in-principle approval accorded for creation of four new Reserves, namely Sahyadri in Maharashtra, Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh, Ratapani in Madhya Pradesh and Sunabeda in Orissa.
7. The revised Project Tiger guidelines have been issued to States for strengthening tiger conservation, which apart from ongoing activities, *inter alia*, include funding support to States for enhanced village relocation/rehabilitation package for people living in core or critical tiger habitats (from Rs. 1 lakh/family to Rs. 10 lakhs/family), rehabilitation/resettlement of communities involved in traditional hunting, mainstreaming livelihood and wildlife concerns in forests outside tiger reserves and fostering corridor conservation through restorative strategy to arrest habitat fragmentation.
8. A scientific methodology for estimating tiger (including co-predators, prey animals and assessment of habitat status) has been evolved and mainstreamed. The findings of this estimation/assessment are bench marks for future tiger conservation strategy.
9. An area of 29284.76 sq. km. has been notified by 15 Tiger States (out of 17) as core or critical tiger habitat under section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006 (Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal). Two tiger States (Bihar and Uttar Pradesh) have taken a decision for notifying the core or critical tiger habitats (2765.04 sq. km.). The State of Madhya Pradesh has not identified/notified the core/critical tiger habitat in its newly constituted tiger reserve (Sanjay National Park and Sanjay Dubri Wildlife Sanctuary).

Financial steps

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

International Cooperation

11. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.

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

Reintroduction of Tigers

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

Creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF)

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

Recent initiatives

19. Implemented a tripartite MOU with tiger States, linked to fund flows for effective implementation of tiger conservation initiatives.
20. Revised the Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) guidelines to involve local people like Van Gujjars and others in field protection.
21. Rapid assessment of tiger reserves done (12 good, 9 satisfactory and 16 poor).
22. Special crack teams sent to tiger reserves affected by left wing extremism and low population status of tiger and its prey.
23. All India meeting of Field Directors convened on 25 and 26 July, 2009 under the Chairmanship of the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests for reviewing the status of field protection and related issues in tiger reserves.
24. Chief Ministers of tiger States addressed at the level of the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests on urgent issues, viz. implementation of the tripartite MOU, creation of the Tiger Conservation Foundation, stepping up protection etc.
25. Chief Ministers of States having tiger reserves affected by left wing extremism and low population status of tiger and its prey addressed for taking special initiatives.
26. Field visits to Bhadra, Corbett, Sariska and Ranthambhore made by the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests to review the initiatives and problems relating to tiger conservation.
27. Steps taken for modernizing the infrastructure and field protection.
28. Advisory issued for involvement of Non-Governmental Experts in the forthcoming all India tiger estimation.
29. Core Committee involving outside experts constituted for overseeing the forthcoming all India tiger estimation.
30. Report of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) constituted for looking into the local extinction of tiger in the Panna Tiger Reserve sent to the State (Madhya Pradesh) for the needful action.
31. Issue of tiger farming and trafficking of tiger body parts discussed at the level of Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests with the Chinese Authorities.
32. Action taken for amending the Wildlife (Protection) Act to ensure effective conservation.
33. Initiatives taken for improving the field delivery through capacity building of field officials, apart from providing incentives.
34. Decision taken to host the World Tiger Summit in October-November, 2010.

Report on endangered species

1092. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that as per the latest report of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) around 96 mammals, 67 birds, 25 reptiles, 64 varieties of fish, 213 invertebrates and 217 species of plants are in serious threat in India;

(b) what steps have been taken by Government to protect the bio-diversity of the country and save the species from extinction;

(c) whether Government is also aware that the latest analysis of the IUCN Red List shows that the 2010 target to reduce bio-diversity loss would not be met; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The important steps taken to protect the biodiversity of the country are as follows:—

(i) A network of Protected Areas has been established in the country for conservation of wildlife and its habitats.

(ii) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 as amended from time to time has been enacted for better protection of wildlife.

(iii) Biosphere Reserves for conservation of representative ecosystems have been designated.

(iv) The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 has been enacted under which a National Biodiversity Authority and State Biodiversity Boards are set up for implementing the provisions of the Act.

(v) Financial and technical assistance is provided for conservation and protection of Protected Areas, ecologically fragile areas such as mangroves, wetlands and coral reefs.

(vi) Species oriented conservation programmes like Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Project Snow Leopard, etc. are implemented. In addition, 14 species including marine species have been identified for their recovery.

(vii) National Tiger Conservation Authority for better conservation and protection of tiger and their habitat has been established.

(viii) The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and its parts and products has been established.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The studies conducted world over suggest that the changes in biodiversity due to human activities have been occurring more rapidly in the past 50 years than at any other time in human history. The main reason of biodiversity loss are habitat degradation, over exploitation of natural resources, proliferation of invasive alien species and climate change.

Spread of silicosis

1093. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the spread of silicosis caused by the quarries and stone crushing factories and toll of human life as a result thereof year after year especially among the workers in quarries;

(b) if so, the effective steps taken by Government to prevent air pollution by such factories; and

(c) the toll of human lives caused by silicosis during the last three years and the current year, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Prolonged exposure to silica dust may cause silicosis and silico-tuberculosis in stone quarries and stone crushing factories. The steps taken by the Government to prevent air pollution include the following:—

1. Model Rules have been framed in manipulation of stone or any other material containing free silica under Section 87, of the Factories Act, 1948. The said Schedule contains provisions relating to precautions in manipulation such as damping the stone, providing water spray, enclosing the process, isolating the process, providing localized exhaust ventilation and maintenance of the floors etc. for prevention and control of particulates.
2. Stringent National Ambient Air Quality Standards have been notified recently under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
3. The Coal Mines Regulations, 1957 and Metalliferous Mines Regulations, 1961 provide for wet drilling and use of dust extractors in metal mines, wet cutting and use of dust extractors in coal mines with periodic monitoring of work environment for measures to keep respirable dust within permissible limits, monitoring of airborne dust through regular sampling and analysis, taking control measures where permissible limits exceed and use of personal protective equipments like dust respirators.
4. Emission standards have also been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 in respect of Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) to reduce/contain dust from stone crushers. In addition, the units are also required to adopt following control measures:—
 - Dust containment cum suppression system for the process equipment.

- Construction of wind breaking walls.
- Construction of the metalled roads within the premises.
- Regular cleaning and wetting of the ground within the premises.
- Growing of a green belt along the periphery of units.

(c) No death caused by silicosis has been reported to the Directorate-General of Mines Safety by mine management during the last three years and the current year. In case of stone crushing units, no case of silicosis has been reported from the States except two cases of silicosis from the State of Gujarat.

Control of emission

1094. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any outside pressure to announce measures for control of emission;
- (b) if so, what steps Government has taken to resist the pressure;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government is working together with G5 and G77 countries; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) In the International Negotiations on Climate Change, developed country Parties have advocated that large developing economies should also commit themselves to emission reduction targets. However, India's stand is that, as per the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), developing countries, including India have no obligation to reduce their emissions. India's per capita emissions are meagre 1.2 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent and the total GHG emissions from the country is only 3 to 4% of the global emissions. India has argued that social and economic development and poverty eradication are our overriding priority and emission reduction commitment will adversely affect our economic growth. India has expressed its willingness to take mitigation actions as supported and enabled by transfer of technology and finance by developed countries.

(c) and (d) The Government is fully engaged with our partners in G5 and G77 countries and have coordinated its approach in all international meetings together with partner countries. However, differences still persist in the approach of developed and developing countries towards mitigation actions, long-term goal for emission reduction and provision of financial resources for addressing climate change impact and vulnerabilities. Parties are expected to reach an agreed outcome in the climate change negotiations at Copenhagen in December, 2009.

Scheme on social forestry

1095. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is implementing a scheme on social forestry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the scheme is being implemented in Goa;
- (d) whether any financial assistance is given to Goa Government in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is not implementing any scheme on social forestry.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Report on missing tigers

1096. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that according to a report of Wildlife Institute of India, 164 tigers are missing in Uttar Pradesh in the past four years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) As per the findings of the recent All India estimation in 2008, jointly done by the Wildlife Institute of India and the National Tiger Conservation Authority, using the refined methodology, the estimated population of tigers in Uttar Pradesh is 109 (mid value); the lower and upper limits being 91 and 127 respectively. The new findings are based on spatial occupancy of tigers and sampling such forests using camera traps in a statistical framework, which is not comparable to the earlier total count using pugmarks.

(d) The milestone initiatives taken by the Government of India for protection of tigers and other wild animals are given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to Unstarred Question No. 1091 Part (c).]

Carbon capture and storage facility

1097. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the State run power utilities and independent power producers have objected to the installation of Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) facility since it would increase the cost of capital nearly by 150 per cent;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that such cost would cause burden on the consumers; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed by Government to minimize the cost of installation of CCS in the Central and State run power utilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Government after discussing with power utilities have concluded that installation of Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) facilities in the power stations is economically not viable due to capital additional cost involved with CO₂ capture, transportation and storage. This would also increase the cost of electricity generation by more than 100% and the residential and industrial consumers may find it unaffordable.

(c) The Government has taken a considered stand that there will be no installation of CCS in the Central and State run power utilities in the short term. However, the Government of India would be ready to depute engineers and scientists of CCS locations abroad for training and capacity building.

Illegal mining in Orissa

†1098. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware of the fact that a lot of illegal mining work is undergoing in Orissa without forest clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry is also aware about the adverse impact of these illegal mining activities on environment; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to prevent it, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The information is being collected from the State Government of Orissa and will be laid on the table of the House after compilation of the same.

Melting of Mt. Kanchanzanga glacier

1099. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mt. Kanchanzanga glacier in Sikkim is receding very fast;

(b) if so, the details of any study conducted in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that fast melting of Mt. Kanchanzanga glacier can cause scarcity of water in the region; and

(d) if so, the efforts made by Government for the conservation of the glacier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The studies conducted by the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Geological Survey of India indicate that the Mt. Kanchanzanga glacier in Sikkim is receding for last few decades. However, the rate of recession has been slower in recent times. The study also estimated an annual retreat of 4.15 meters during 1986-2005.

(c) Melting of glacier may increase the run-off the Himalayan Rivers initially but it may ultimately lead to some reduction of water availability in future.

(d) A National Action Plan on Climate Change was launched in June, 2008 which envisages the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system amongst its 8 national missions. This Mission would understand *inter-alia*, the phenomena relating to the recession of the Himalayan glaciers and the ways of addressing the problem.

A new research centre on Himalayan Glaciology has been established at Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun. Guidelines and best practices for the governance for sustaining Himalayan Eco-system has been developed and shared with all State Governments in the Himalayan Region.

Replacement of Mullaperiyar Dam

1100. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the backgrounds and consideration that have over weighed the Ministry to give clearance for Kerala Government for undertaking a fresh survey for constructing a new dam in the place of existing Mullaperiyar Dam when the issues of dispute are pending before the Supreme Court of India;

(b) the bigwigs and other Ministries consulted before giving the clearance; and

(c) whether the Minister formally or informally consulted Tamil Nadu Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife, which is chaired by the Hon'ble Minister, In-charge of Ministry of Environment and Forests, considers the proposals involving diversion of forest area in the Protection Areas (National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries etc.) received from the State/UT Governments in the prescribed format. The proposal of Mullaperiyar dam was submitted by the State Government of Kerala in prescribed format seeking permission for carrying out survey and investigation. After detailed discussion and considering the fact that the old dam was 113 years old, weak and could cause serious disaster in future, the Standing Committee unanimously recommended the proposal for survey and investigation subject to compliance of conditions envisaged by the Chief Wildlife Warden and without, in any way, affecting any other legal and administrative clearances required.

No information about the dispute with State of Tamil Nadu or any case in the matter pending before Hon'ble Supreme Court was mentioned in the proposal.

(b) The Committee followed the established procedure for taking decision on the matter.

(c) The proposals are processed on merits of the case and if any additional information is required to take a decision, the concerned State/UT Government is requested to provide the same.

Commercial cultivation of Bt. Brinjal

1101. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee has decided to permit commercial cultivation of Bt. Brinjal in the country;

(b) whether pro-farmer lobbies and activists argue that GM food will destroy all traditional crops and make farmers and consumers bonded slaves to giant agri-business combines;

(c) whether Government has considered, while clearing Bt brinjal cultivation in the country, the rational consequences and risks that GM crops/ foods present viz: allergic reactions, gene transfer and outcrossing; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) in its meeting held on 14.10.2009 has recommended to the Government that Bt brinjal is safe for environmental release taking into consideration the findings of the review by three high level technical Committees. The decision of the GEAC on the safety of Bt brinjal for environmental release is based on scientific facts/data generated during 2002-2009 and international experience with genetically modified (GM) crops. The Ministry has received strong views both in favour and against commercialization of Bt brinjal in India from the various stakeholders including the State Governments, farmers, civil societies, NGOs and scientists. The involvement of public institutions such as Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Coimbatore, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad and Indian Institute of Vegetable Research, Varanasi in the development of Bt brinjal would ensure that cultivation of Bt brinjal is a viable proposition to the farmers. Further, the data generated on the safety, efficacy and performance of Bt brinjal concludes that Bt brinjal is expected to provide enhanced economic benefits to farmers accrued from higher marketable yield and lower usage of pesticide sprays. These findings are in conformity with the Bt cotton experience in India and international experience with GM crops.

(c) and (d) The Government of India is following a policy of case by case approval of GM crops. In view of various concerns related to the safety, efficacy and agronomic performance of transgenic seeds, extensive evaluation and regulatory approval process takes place before any GM plant is approved for commercial cultivation. This includes generation of relevant biosafety information and its elaborate analysis to ensure food, feed and environmental safety. The

environmental safety assessment includes studies on pollen escape out-crossing, aggressiveness and weediness, effect of the gene on non-target organisms, presence of protein in soil and its effect on soil micro-flora, confirmation of the absence of terminator gene and baseline susceptibility studies. The food and feed safety studies include assessment on composition analysis, allergenicity and toxicological studies and feeding studies on fish, chicken, cows and buffaloes. In case, the transgenic crop is not found suitable for release in the environment or human consumption, the product is rejected during the trial stage itself. A final view on the commercialization of GM plants is taken only when there is a clear economic and technical justification for release of the product.

Impact of foreign plants and trees

†1102. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

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

- (a) the impact and results of the plans that were formulated to promote the plantation of eucalyptus and other similar species;
- (b) whether there has been any impact of the plants and trees of foreign species on the soil, water or environment of the country; and
- (c) whether any assessment has been made to ascertain the consequential benefits and disadvantages and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) National Forest Policy, 1988 envisage a massive need base and time bound programme of afforestation and tree planting, with particular emphasis on fuel-wood and fodder development, on all denuded lands in the country, whether forest or non forest land. Government of India promote plantations of trees under different plantations schemes. As per report of National Forest Commission (1986), Forest plantations area in India is 32.57 million ha. and major species are teak, rosewood, eucalyptus and acacias which accounts for 17% of global plantations.

(b) and (c) No such specific studies have been carried out by Indian Council of Forest Research and Education and its institutes. However, as per literature available eucalyptus plantations do not lower down the water table.

River pollution

1103. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the rivers which have been declared dead due to industrial and man made activities resulting in extreme pollution as in the case of Yamuna in Delhi;
- (b) what are the reasons that Government has not so far learnt any lesson to revive Yamuna and other such rivers, from the rivers abroad like Hudson in New York,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Thames in London, Seine in Paris, Tiber in Rome, Nile in Cairo and Cheonggyecheon stream in Seoul; and

(c) whether any such plans are likely to start in near future for these rivers including Yamuna?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) This Ministry is implementing various pollution abatement schemes under National River Conservation Plan for improving water quality of rivers including river Yamuna. Programmes for tackling point and non-point sources of pollution include Interception and Diversion of sewage, setting up of sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation works, crematoria works etc. The pollution from industries is addressed through the existing legal provisions. The Plan presently covers 38 rivers in 167 towns spread over 20 States.

Three major drains along river Yamuna namely, Najafgarh drain, Supplementary drain and Shahdara drain, are proposed to be covered under the project on 'Interceptor Sewer Concept' by the Government of NCT of Delhi. Lessons learnt from the best practices followed in different countries including river Thames in London, have been taken into consideration for promoting a holistic and integrated river basin approach. Recently, Government has set up 'National Ganga River Basin Authority' as an empowered authority to ensure effective abatement of pollution and conservation of river Ganga.

Per capita carbon dioxide emissions

†1104. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the share of India's per capita carbon dioxide emission in climate change;
- (b) India's rank in the per capita carbon dioxide emission among G-77 countries of the world;
- (c) whether any time frame has been set for developing countries in United Nations' Agreement regarding carbon emissions; and
- (d) whether any time-frame has been fixed by the countries emitting higher amount of carbon dioxide to reduce the emission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) India's per capita CO₂ emissions in 2005 are 1.2 tonnes per year and India's share in global emissions is 3-4%.

(b) According to UN Millennium Development Goal Report (2007-08), India ranks 80th among the G-77 countries of the world in terms of per capita CO₂ emissions.

(c) and (d) As per Kyoto Protocol, only developed countries are supposed to take deeper emission reduction targets in the second commitment period beginning 2013.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Further, it was decided that developed countries should announce their targets latest by 15th Meeting of Parties of the Kyoto Protocol (December, 2009) so that there is no gap between the commitment periods. Developing countries have no obligations of reducing emissions.

Killing of elephants by Nepal Police

1105. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Nepal Police has been firing at elephants in Indian territory near border of West Bengal and Nepal;
- (b) if so, the number of elephants killed and injured during the last three years;
- (c) the steps taken to ensure that elephants do not reach within firing range of Nepal Police;
- (d) whether the matter has been taken up with the Nepal Government; and
- (e) if so, the response of Nepal Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Government of West Bengal has reported occasional firing/attacks on wild elephants near border of West Bengal and Nepal by Nepal police and villagers.

(b) As per information furnished by the State, four elephants have been killed and fourteen injured because of firing/attacks in Nepal territory in last three years.

(c) to (e) Although the State Forest Department is taking actions to contain them in Indian territory, the same is difficult since the adjoining forests of the Nepal constitute natural migratory route for the wild elephant of the West Bengal. However, Government of India has taken up the matter with the Government of Nepal to prevent such attacks. The Government of Nepal has responded positively.

Illegal mining in Orissa

1106. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state whether illegal mining in Orissa is being done without forest and environment clearance specially in Barbil, Keonjhar and Sakinda area and many State Government Officers are also involved in this illegal mining; and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): The information is being collected from the State Government of Orissa and will be laid on the table of the House after compilation of the same.

Climate forecasting system

1107. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Climate Conference has recently approved creation of a new climate forecasting system;
- (b) if so, whether India has participated in the said conference;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the salient features of the said system;
- (e) whether Government proposes to set up the new Global Framework for Climate Services to improve climate forecasts and share that information around the world also; and
- (f) if so, the countries which have so far set up such new system and the extent to which the same is authentic as compared to the existing system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Third World Climate Conference (WCC-3) held at Geneva, Switzerland during 31 August-4 September, 2009 organized by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has only decided to establish a Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) to strengthen production, availability, delivery and application of science-based climate prediction and services.

(b) and (c) India participated in the said Conference. Several Heads of State and Government, Ministers and Heads of Delegation were present at the High-level segment of the WCC-3. The Conference requested the Secretary General of the WMO to convene an intergovernmental meeting (IGM) of member States of set up a task force of high-level, independent advisors to prepare a report, and recommend on proposed elements of the GFCS.

(d) to (f) The Task Force of WMO on Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) will finalize the framework of GFCS for its consideration and adoption by the next WMO Congress in 2011. The Government has no proposal to set its own Global Framework for Climate Services.

Impact of fire in IOC depot at Jaipur

1108. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any study to assess the environmental impact caused due to recent fire in IOC depot at Jaipur;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether IOC has obtained clearance from his Ministry before setting up of such a huge depot;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Government of Rajasthan has constituted a

Committee for assessment of the environmental impact of the fire at the Indian Oil Corporation Limited Oil Depot at Jaipur. The Central Pollution Control Board and the Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board have assessed the impact of the fire on ambient air quality by monitoring air quality in the radius of 5 km at 8 locations. Subsequently 6 more monitoring locations were added. The maximum values for pollutants like Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM-376) and Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM-268), exceeded the National Ambient Air Quality Standards during the monitoring period. However, the Committee appointed by Principal SMS Medical College and Controller of Attached Hospitals, Jaipur, did not indicate any significant health hazards due to this fire. Further, a Committee appointed by the Commissioner (Agriculture), Rajasthan did not find any clear-cut evidence of adverse impact on agriculture.

(c) to (e) As per the Environment Impact Assessment Notification S.O. (E) dated 27.01.1994, new projects covered under Schedule-I and having investment of less than Rs. 100 crores will not attract the provisions of the notification. Hence the setting up of oil depot at Jaipur, having an investment of Rs. 40 crore, did not require environment clearance.

Damage to green cover of the Sutlej Valley

1109. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that 1,000 MW Karcham-Wangtoo project has destroyed the ecology and green cover of the Sutlej Valley in Kinnaur in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereon;

(c) whether it is a fact that release of green house gases into the atmosphere are increasing as Government is setting up more and more cement plants, thermal plants, dams and other projects in the region; and

(d) if so, whether these plants/projects have obtained approval of his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The 1000 MW Karcham-Wangtoo hydroelectric project in the State of Himachal Pradesh was accorded environmental clearance on 9.11.2005 based on the environmental impact assessment report and environmental management plans after due consideration by the Expert Appraisal Committee. For disposal of the excavated material, forty seven sites had been identified for dumping. Adequate protection measures were provided in advance before dumping the excavated material.

(c) As our economy grows and more industrial units are set up, including cement plant and thermal plant, the emissions of the green house gases would grow. This has also been duly

recognised by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in the case of the developing countries like India.

(d) Various development projects such as cement plants, thermal plants and dams require prior environmental clearance and are appraised therefore, as per the provisions of Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006.

Safety of wild animals

†1110. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that wild animals especially elephants continuously get killed by colliding with train on railway lines from Siliguri Junction of North Bengal to Alipur and Dooars;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has cautioned railway department in this regard and advised some concrete steps for safety of wild animals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The year-wise number of elephant death reported by State Government in train accident in North Bengal are as follows:—

Year	Number of Elephant Deaths
2006	05
2007	03
2008	03
2009	01

(c) and (d) Ministry convened a meeting of the affected States, including West Bengal and the Railway Board officials on September 04, 2009 to discuss the issue. After detailed discussions, Railways have been requested to take actions for the safety of wildlife animals. Important actions suggested to the Railway Board are as follows:—

1. Need to keep atleast 30 m on both sides of the track clear of all the vegetative growth-specially in curves/bends for better visibility.
2. Wherever there are deep trenches on the sides of the track, same must be levelled to allow the elephant to escape.
3. To organize sensitizing programmes for locomotive drivers, cabin crew, guards, etc.
4. To engage elephant trackers equipped with cell phones/walkie-talkies to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

receive information regarding presence of elephant herds around the track length. On receipt of such information, the same to be passed to the Station Master who will communicate the same to the driver/guard.

5. To impose speed limit in highly vulnerable identified sections.
6. Construction of retaining walls and under passes at identified places.

Right over forest land

†1111. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether tribals have got the right over land in all the forest villages after passing of the Forest Rights Act;

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

(c) whether Government is going to give lease of land to other communities also who have been living with tribals in forest villages for generations; and

(d) if so, the criteria of giving lease of land of the other communities living in forest villages by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 seeks to recognise and vest the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded. The term "forest land" is defined in section 2(d) of the Act and includes the land in forest villages also.

(b) Till 31.10.2009 as per the records maintained by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, which is the Nodal Ministry for the implementation of the Act, more than 24.90 lakhs claims have been received and more than 5.88 lakhs titles have been distributed.

(c) and (d) Sir, does not arise, because communities get covered under "Other Traditional Forest Dwellers" as pointed out in reply to part (a) and (b) of the question and given in the Statement (See below).

Statement

Status of State-wise implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006

(As on 31.10.2009)

Sl. No.	State	Total number of claims received	Total number of titles deeds distributed/ready
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3,26,303 (3,19,703 individual and 6,600 community)	1,73,091 distributed

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		
3.	Assam	66,546 (63,448 individual and 3098 community)	
4.	Bihar	788	
5.	Chhattisgarh	4,57,857	1,92,088 distributed
6.	Goa		
7.	Gujarat	1,84,329 (1,76,242 individual and 8,087 community)	5,668 distributed
8.	Himachal Pradesh		
9.	Jharkhand	4,539	72 distributed including 2 community rights
10.	Karnataka	45,801	
11.	Kerala	35,620 (34,886 individual and 734 community).	23 distributed
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3,71,993 (3,69,437 individual and 2,556 community)	47,460 distributed and 39,799 ready
13.	Maharashtra	2,66,572	2,453 distributed
14.	Manipur	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	—	—
16.	Mizoram	—	—
17.	Orissa	3,06,034 (3,04,336 individual and 1,698 community)	50,190 distributed
18.	Rajasthan	58,721 (58,708 individual and 13 community)	5,412 distributed
19.	Sikkim		
20.	Tamil Nadu	8,352	
21.	Tripura	1,62,819	82,741 distributed
22.	Uttar Pradesh	52,736	
23.	Uttaranchal		
24.	West Bengal	1,41,783	9,602 distributed and 3,396 ready
25.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands		

1	2	3	4
26. Daman and Diu			
27. Dadar and Nagar Haveli			
TOTAL :	24,90,793	5,68,800 distributed and 43,195 ready.	

Notes:

1. **Arunachal Pradesh:** The State Government has informed that though they have constituted the SDLC, DLC and SLMC under the Act but unlike the other States of Indian Union where the Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers are in minority and socio economically marginalized by other dominant non-tribal population, the State of Arunachal Pradesh is wholly domiciled by various ethnic tribal groups whose land and forests are specifically identified with natural boundaries of hillocks, ranges, rivers and tributaries. Barring few pockets of land under wildlife sanctuaries, reserved forests, most of the land in entire State is community land. Territorial boundaries of land and forest belonging to one community or tribes from the others are also identified in the same line leaving no scopes for any dispute over the possession of land forest or water bodies among the tribes. Therefore, the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 in true sense does not have much relevance to the State of Arunachal Pradesh.
2. **Haryana:** The State Government has informed that there are no Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers living in the forests of Haryana.
3. **Manipur:** Information not available.
4. **Mizoram:** The State Government has informed that the Act is to be approved by the State Legislative Assembly as per the Article 371(G) of the Constitution. This is awaited.
5. **Nagaland:** The Government of Nagaland has informed that the land holding system and the village system of the Naga people is peculiar in that the people are the land owners. Hence, the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 per se may not be applicable to the State of Nagaland.
6. **Sikkim:** The Government of Sikkim has issued a notification dated 28.1.2008 regarding constitution of an Expert Committee for identification of Critical Wildlife habitats in Protected Areas (PAs) and have also constituted the various Committees under the Act but has not sent any report regarding the progress of implementation of the Act in the State so far.
7. **Andaman and Nicobar Islands:** The Andaman and Nicobar Administration has informed that in Andaman and Nicobar Islands there are no non-tribal forest dwellers as defined in the

Act. The area inhabited by the Scheduled Tribes of Andaman and Nicobar Islands has been declared as reserved area under the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Protection of Aboriginal Tribes (Regulation), 1956. The interest of the tribals in the land situated in the reserved areas are fully protected under the provision of the regulation. The tribal reserves have been notified as reserved or protected forest reserve.

8. **Daman and Diu:** No progress.
9. **Lakshadweep:** The UT Administration has intimated that there are no terrestrial forests and no forest tribes or traditional forest dwellers in Lakshadweep.
10. **Puducherry:** The Government of Puducherry has informed that there are no recognized Scheduled Tribes in the Union Territory of Puducherry and also no land in Puducherry is classified as "Forest Land" coming within the definition of Clause 2(d) of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

Sariska and Ranthambhore tiger reserves

†1112. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the plans related to the constructive and reproductive development being implemented to increasing the number of tigers in the Sariska tiger reserve of Rajasthan and the schemes under consideration;
- (b) the similar projects being implemented for Ranthambhore National Park;
- (c) whether the relocation work of the displaced villages has been completed;
- (d) if not, by when it would be completed;
- (e) the amount sanctioned for the special schemes for Sariska and Ranthambhore forwarded by the State Government; and
- (f) the status of its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, funding support is provided to the State for in-situ conservation of tigers in Sariska and Ranthambhore Tiger Reserves, based on the proposals received. This, *interalia*, include recovery of Sariska as suggested by the Wildlife Institute of India and village relocation from the said reserves with an habitats of Sariska and Ranthambhore, alongwith the Central Assistance provided for the same are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(e) and (f) The funds released to the State for Sariska and Ranthambhore Tiger Reserves during the plan period in the alongwith utilization are given in the Statement-II.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I

*Funds released for village relocation to the State Government of
Rajasthan during the current Plan period*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Tiger Reserve	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	Villages relocated (as reported by the State)
1.	Sariska	50.00	1879.50		Bhagani, Kankvadi and Umri
2.	Ranthambhore	50.00	464.00	10400.00	Anatpura, Lakarda, Berda, Guda, Lahpur, Nagdi-Rehmanpur, Hanotia, Phuleri, Chhindali, Chiroti, Prempur, Ranthambhore, Indala and Padra (Part)
TOTAL		100.00	2343.50	10400.00	

Statement-II

*Funds released to the State Government of Rajasthan during the
current Plan period*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Tiger Reserve	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
		Release	Utilisation	Release	Utilisation	Release	Utilisation
1.	Sariska	187.23 *	129.92	1900.09 *	523.10	132.890	—
2.	Ranthambhore	223.45 *	226.50	808.86 *	551.962	10560.00 *	—

*Including village relocation.

Food parks in Goa

1113. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Goa has approached the Central Government for establishing food processing units/parks etc. in the State;
- (b) the locations where the proposed units/parks would be set up;
- (c) the assistance, if any, proposed to be given;
- (d) the status of each of the proposal; and
- (e) the details of the Central scheme in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) Under the Scheme for Infrastructure Development, Government had approved to set up

Food Parks in various locations of the country with a view to make available common infrastructure facilities for food processing industries, especially, SMEs. The Scheme provided for a grant up to 25% of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 4 crore in general areas. Higher scale of assistance @ 33.33% was admissible for difficult areas of North-Eastern States, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. The Ministry has so far approved 56 Food parks for assistance during Eighth to Tenth Five Year Plan Periods. However, Government of Goa has not approached the Central Government for establishing food parks in the State. The Scheme of Food Parks has since been discontinued after Tenth Plan Period.

Regarding Setting up/Modernization/Expansion of food processing units, Government provides financial assistance in the form of grants-in-aid @25% of the cost of Plant and Machinery and Technical Civil Works subject to maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs in general areas or 33.33% subject to maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakhs in difficult areas. The scheme is not State specific and State-wise centralized data regarding receipt of proposals for assistance is not maintained as these cases are received through Banks, which appraises the proposals for extending term loan.

(e) In the Eleventh Plan, the Ministry has approved a new scheme to establish 30 Mega Food Parks with a view to provide state-of-the-art infrastructure for food processing sector in the country on a pre-identified cluster basis with a strong backward and forward linkage and to provide value addition of agricultural commodities including poultry, meat, dairy, fisheries etc. in a demand driven manner. Financial assistance up to 50% of project cost excluding land component in general areas and 75% in difficult areas, subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 crore is provided for setting up of Mega Food Parks.

Legislation on food processing sector

1114. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to draft a consolidated legislation on food processing sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) The Government has notified Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006 to integrate the laws relating to food and to establish the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is the Nodal Ministry for implementation of the said Act.

Development of food processing sector

1115. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that food processing sector is still starved of development of international standards;

(b) whether Government is considering any measures such as relief and simplification in tax rates to ensure its faster development; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) The food processing sector in India is geared to meet the international standards and the Food Safety And Standards Act, 2006 has been enacted which consolidates the laws relating to food and to establish the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import, to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption and for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India is having the mandate to develop standards and also to harmonise the same with International Standards consistent with food hygiene and food safety requirement and to the conditions of India's food industry. Besides, Ministry of Food Processing Industries has the scheme for total quality management involving implementation of HACCP/ISO 22000/GHP (Good Hygienic Practices) and GMP (Good Manufacturing Practices) which is aimed at motivating the food processing industries for adoption of food safety and quality assurance mechanisms such as TOM including ISO 14000, ISO 22000, HACCP, GMP, GHP, and preparing them to face global competition in post WTO Regime.

(b) The Government has already taken necessary measures for providing relief and achieving simplification in tax rates to ensure its faster development. 100 percent tax exemption for first five assessment years beginning with the initial assessment year is available under section 80-1B (11 A) of Income Tax Act, 1961 to undertakings deriving profit from the business of processing, preserving and packaging of fruits or vegetables and new units in the business of processing, preservation and packaging of meat or meat products or poultry or marine or dairy products. Under sub-section (11 A) of section 80-1B of the Income Tax Act, 1961 a deduction from profits upto specified amounts is allowed in the case of an undertaking deriving profit from the business of handling, storage and transportation of food grains subject to specified conditions, if such undertaking begins to operate such business on or after the 1st day of April, 2001. With a view to preserve perishable food items like milk, poultry and meat, the Finance (No. 2) Act 2009 has amended sub-section (11A) of section 80-1B with effect from 01.04.2010 to also provide tax holiday in respect of the business of processing, preserving and packaging of meat and meat products and poultry, marine and dairy products for units which begin to operate such business on or after 1st April, 2009. The amount of deduction in case of an undertaking

deriving profit from the business of processing, preservation and packaging of fruits or vegetables or meat and meat products or poultry or marine or dairy products or from the integrated business of handling, storage and transportation of food grains, is hundred per cent of the profits and gains derived from such undertaking for five assessment years beginning with the initial assessment year and thereafter, twenty- five per cent (or thirty per cent where the assessee is a company) of the profits and gains derived from the total period of deduction does not exceed ten consecutive assessment years and subject to fulfillment of the condition that it begins to operate such business on or after the 1st day of April, 2001. The Finance (No. 2) Bill 2009 proposes to also extend investment linked tax incentive by way of insertion of a new section — 35AD in the Income Tax Act 1961 to the business of setting up and operating cold chain facilities for specified products and to the business of setting up and operating warehousing facilities for storage of agricultural produce.

(c) In view of above, the question does not arise.

Channels broadcasting obscene contents

1116. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

SHRI SABIR ALI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that some TV Channels have been broadcasting obscene contents and they are ignoring repeated show-cause notice issued to them;

(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 INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) There are instances where some TV Channels have repeated, violations of Programmes and Advertising Codes in spite of issue of Show Cause Notices for earlier violations, however Show cause Notices have not been ignored.

(b) and (c) A statement showing the list of the TV channels and action taken for showing obscene contents more than once during last five year is enclosed.

Statement

The details of ORDERS/WARNINGS/ADVISORIES issued to various private TV channels for showing obscene or vulgar programmes and advertisements, repeatedly as on 25.11.2009

Sl. No.	Name of the Channel	Date of SCN/letter	Reason for SCNs/Warnings/Advisories/Orders	Details of Order/Warning
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Channel [V]	18.10.2004	Telecast of obscene and vulgar Re-mix songs such	Order dated 27.02.2006 to run a scroll of Warning.

1	2	3	4	5
			as 'Kabhi Aar Kabhi Par', Bin Tere Sanam, Chadhti Jawani, etc.	The channel complied with the direction.
		27.07.2006	Obscene Song titled 'Say Say Say'	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel.
		08.10.2008	Telecast of obscene reality beauty show titled 'Get Gorgeous 5'	A Warning dated 03.07.2009 issued to the Channel.
2. ETC		18.10.2004	Telecast of obscene and vulgar Re-mix songs such as 'Kabhi Aar Kabhi Par', Bin Tere Sanam, Chadhti Jawani, etc.	Order dated 27.02.2006 to run a scroll of Warning. The channel complied with the direction.
		05.01.2006	Obscene trailers of Hindi Films titled 'Fun', 'Sheesha', 'Chahat', 'Shabd' etc	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel.
3. Fashion TV		13.12.2005	Obscene Programme featuring Model Eva Herzigova.	Advisory dated 13.04.2006
		09.08.2006	Obscene Programme titled "Mid Night Hot".	Order dated 29.03.2007 banning the channel for 2 months w.e.f. 01.04.2007 to 30.05.2007.
4. IBN7		28.03.2007	Telecast of obscene and indecent programme titled 'Kiss Par Rok Nahi'.	Order dated 14.11.2007 directing the Channel to run an apology scroll for three days. The channel complied with the direction.
		06.07.2007	Telecast of obscene and indecent programme titled 'Kissa Kiss Ka'.	Warning dated 06.12.2007 issued to the Channel.
5. India TV		31.10.2007	Telecast of programme titled 'India Bole' was not found suitable for unrestricted public exhibition	Advisory dated 19.12.2007 issued to the Channel.
		—	Telecast of news item based on the show "Sach Ka Saamna" being aired on Star Plus Channel	An Advisory dated 24.08.2009 issued to the channel.

1	2	3	4	5
		02.07.2007	Telecast of a news programme on Ms. Jhanvi Kapur	A Warning dated 03.07.2009 issued to the Channel for running apology scroll for three days. The channel complied with the direction.
6. MTV		02.02.05	Telecast of obscene and` vulgar Re-mix songs such as "Kabhi Aar Kabhi Par", Bin Tere Sanam, Chadhti Jawani, etc.	Order dated 27.02.2006 to run a scroll of Warning, The channel complied with the direction.
		10.04.06	Obscene Song 'Ashiq Banaya Aapne'.	Order dated 28.06.2006 to run a scroll of Warning. The channel complied with the direction.
		22.02.2008	A vulgar advertisement of product 'New Axe Deodorant'.	Order dated 02.05.2008 directing the Channel to run an apology scroll for three days. The channel complied with the direction.
		31.03.2009	Telecast of obscene, indecent and vulgar programme titled 'MTV Rodies'.	An Order dated 01.07.2009 issued to the Channel directing them to run an apology scroll for three days. The channel complied with the direction.
7. NDTV		12.08.2005	Vulgar Advertisement of product 'Lux Gen-X' undergarments.	Warning dated 21.09.05/ 10.01.2006
		19.12.2007	News item regarding mob violence in Guwahati.	Warning dated 05.09.2008 issued to the Channel.
8. Zoom		11.08.2005	Content of the programme 'Dangerous' was found obscene, thus violated the Programme Code.	Warning dated 23.03.2007
		05.01.2006	Obscene trailers of Hindi Films titled 'Fun', 'Sheesha', 'Chahat', 'Shabd', etc.	Advisory dated 22.10.2008 issued to the Channel.

Fixed time for advertisements and programmes

†1117. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

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

(a) whether there is any provision to fix time for 'programme category' and 'advertisement category' of TV channels in "code and guidelines" sub titled self regulating guidelines 2008;

(b) if not, whether advertising category take more time than programme category in telecast of programmes;

(c) who receives the revenue from telecast of advertisements—Broadcasting Service Provider (BSP) or Government; and

(d) whether Government would consider to fix a separate time for the advertisements so that all the advertisements are shown concurrently and they do not create interruption in the serials?

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

(b) It was brought to the notice of this Ministry that some of the Private TV channels are telecasting advertisements more than the prescribed time limit.

(c) In so far as Government is concerned, it does not receive any fees earned from broadcasting of advertisements on private Television Channels.

(d) No, Sir. At present there is no such proposal.

Legal bill of the Doordarshan

1118. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Doordarshan (DD) had paid Rs. 4.25 crore to Government lawyers for appearing in court during the years 2007-09;

(b) if so, whether this amount is considered to be exorbitant compared to the earlier legal bills and the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has been asked to probe into the matter; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) Prasar Bharati has intimated that a sum of Rs. 6,16,70,426/- has been paid as legal payment during the years 2007-09 by DG: Doordarshan, DDK, CPC and DCS.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) The CVC is looking into the matter and the enquiry is in progress.

Entry bar for television industry

1119. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to raise the entry bar for the television industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has received any complaints that several new channels funded by mafia groups are threatening Government bodies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) to what extent the entry bar on television industry is going to curb illegal channels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) No, Sir, however a reference has been made by this ministry to TRAI in October, 2009. Among other things, TRAI has been requested to examine the maximum number of channels which can be permitted in the country keeping in view the available spectrum and transponder capacities as well as technological developments and general practice internationally.

(c) No, Sir. No specific complaint has been received.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Channels which are permitted by the Ministry under Uplinking and Downlinking Guidelines alone can be permitted to be distributed. Unauthorized Channels would attract the provisions of Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder.

Notice to Colors Channel

1120. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his Ministry has issued a notice to the Colors Channel for negative portrayal of District magistrate in its programme;
- (b) whether it is against public interest that the deliberate characterization of a DM in a derogatory manner appeared to demean the public institution and bring it to disrepute unnecessarily; and
- (c) the steps Government proposes to take against this type of derogatory portrayal of civil servants by the channels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Show Cause Notice was issued to Colors Channels on 29.10.2009 for the tele-serial “Na Aana iss Desh Lado”. It was noticed that in the serial the characterization of the District Magistrate was an unbalanced caricature of the District Administration. The character was deliberately portrayed in a derogatory way to demean the public institution and likely to bring it to disrepute. The characterization, appeared to violate Programme Code prescribed under Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder.

(c) All the Private TV Channels are required to adhere to the Programme Code and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed there under. This Ministry has constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee to look into specific complaints or to take *sou-motu* cognizance against the violation of the Programme and Advertising Codes. Action is taken as per the provisions of the Cable Act whenever any specific violation is found.

Financial assistance to newspapers and private channels

†1121. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has rendered financial assistance to newspapers and private channels to bail them out from recession;

(b) whether Government are giving financial assistance to other news agencies to bail them out from recession;

(c) if so, the amount thereof; and

(d) whether Government proposes to change its years old policy to help small newspapers by taking services of different news agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) The Government has announced a fiscal stimulus package for the print media which includes the following:—

(i) Waiver of 15% Agency Commission on DAVP advertisements.

(ii) 10% increase in the current DAVP advertisement rates (to be paid as a separate element and designated as ‘special relief’) subject to documentary proof of loss of revenue in non-governmental advertisements as compared to the same period last year.

The above package was initially given for the period from 27/2/0009 to 30/6/2009 and has been extended upto 31/12/2009.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) There is no such policy.

Assessment of advertising industry

1122. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the increase in the advertising industry has been assessed during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the turnover of the industry during 2007-08 and 2008-09;
- (c) the share of electronic and print media in this industry, separately;
- (d) whether Government have any plan for development of this industry in future; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) As per the report on Media and Entertainment, 2009 by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) — KPMG, the Indian Advertising Industry has recorded 17.1% Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR), during the period 2006-2008. The report is available on the website @http://www.in.kpmg.com/TL_Files/Pictures/FICCI-KPMG_Media_Entertainment_Industry_Report.pdf.

- (b) As per the report, the turnover of the industry is as follows:—

In 2006	Rs. 165.0 billion
In 2007	Rs. 196.6 billion
In 2008 *	Rs. 221.6 billion

*Estimated.

- (c) As per the FICCI-KPMG Report, for the period 2006-2008, the shares of the electronic and print media advertisements are as follows:—

(Rs. in billion)

Media	2006	2007	2008* *estimated
Television	60.5	71.1	82.5
Print	84.9	100.2	108.4
Radio	6.0	7.4	8.4
Internet Advertising	2.0	3.9	6.2
Outdoor	11.7	14.0	16.1
TOTAL	165.0	196.6	221.6

- (d) and (e) Government's efforts to help development of this industry is an ongoing process. Recently, the Government has announced a fiscal stimulus package for the print media, which includes the following:—

- (i) Waiver of 15% Agency Commission on DAVP advertisements.
- (ii) 10% increase in the current DAVP advertisement rates (to be paid as a separate element and designated as 'special relief') subject to documentary proof of loss of revenue in non-governmental advertisements as compared to the same period last year.

The above package was initially given for the period from 27/2/2009 to 30/6/2009 and it has been extended upto 31/12/2009.

Abusive and filthy language in reality shows

1123. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether incidents of using abusive and filthy language in many reality shows on different channels of television have been brought to the notice of Government; and
- (b) if so, the action Government proposes to initiate against these channels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Some instances of using abusive and filthy language in reality shows telecast on TV channels have been brought to the notice of the Government. As all the private channels are required to adhere to the Programmes and Advertising Codes prescribes under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder, action is taken against channels found violating the codes as per the provision of the Cable Act.

Telecast of adult contents on television

†1124. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to amend laws relating to telecast of adult contents on television;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has assessed its impact on the society before amending this law;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, whether Government is going to constitute a Committee to assess its impact before making amendment in this law?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) There is no law permitting telecast of adult contents on television. As such the Question of amending it does not arise.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Appointments and transfer of judges in higher judiciary

1125. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

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

(a) whether Government has felt the need for revisiting the procedure for appointment, transfer and posting of judges of Supreme Court and High Courts in view of the recent controversy in appointment of Supreme Court judges;

(b) whether Government is aware of the fact that the collegium is under heavy criticism and divergent views are expressed on it; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and by when a suitable mechanism would be put in place to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) The existing procedure for appointment, transfer and posting of judges of Supreme Court and High Court is based on the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6, 1993 in the case of Supreme Court Advocates on Record and Anr. Vs. Union of India, and the Advisory Opinion of the Supreme Court dated October 28, 1998. The procedure has been criticized in various fora. There is no proposal at present before the Government to reconsider this procedure.

Appointment of judges on contract basis

1126. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

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

(a) whether Government has decided to cut down the huge backlog of court cases by appointing trial court judges and High Court judges on contract basis to clear arrears within the next three years;

(b) if so, the details of the modalities being worked out in this regard;

(c) whether the implementation of the scheme to clear pending court cases has since commenced; and

(d) if so, the likely target to clear pending court cases during the next three years?

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

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Setting up of Gram Nyayalayas

1127. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government has decided to set up 5000 Gram Nyayalayas to deal with the pending cases in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) The Central Government has enacted the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 on 07.01.2009 which enables the State Governments to establish one or more Gram Nyayalayas for every Panchayat at intermediate level to cater to specified Civil and Criminal cases in the rural areas. The Gram Nyayalayas Act was brought into force with effect from October 2, 2009. Under the scheme, over 5000 Gram Nyayalayas are likely to be set up across the country.

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

Banning criminals and corrupt persons from elections

1128. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Election Commission has made a proposal which was backed by the second Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) to ban persons facing serious criminal and corruption charges from contesting polls;

(b) if so, the present status thereof;

(c) whether the Prime Minister has also assured that the recommendations made by ARC would be considered;

(d) if so, the details of proposals of Election Commission and ARC ignored by Government; and

(e) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (e) The Election Commission of India had forwarded a set of 22 proposals on Electoral Reforms in July, 2004 which *inter alia* included the proposal on criminalization in politics which was backed by the Second Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) to ban persons facing serious criminal and corruption charges from contesting poll.

While the said proposals of the Election Commission of India on electoral reforms were under consideration of the Department Related Parliamentary Stranding Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice, the Chief Election Commissioner wrote to the

Hon'ble Minister of Law and Justice on the 27th October, 2006 about the danger of certain persons becoming Members of Parliament or of State Legislatures, suggesting amendments in the Representation of the People Act, 1951 to disqualify any persons accused of an offence punishable by imprisonment for five years or more, from contesting elections even when trial is pending, provided charges have been framed against them by a competent court. The Committee in its Eighteenth Report on the subject inter alia disagreed with the aforesaid proposal as it is a major departure from the law of the land that a person is not guilty until he is convicted by the highest court of the land. The Committee, however, recommended that proclaimed absconders under section 82 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 be disqualified from contesting polls. The recommendation of the Committee has been examined in Legislative Department. Thereafter, the matter was further examined in consultation with the concerned Ministries and it has been decided not to pursue the matter at this juncture.

Awareness of Gram Nyayalayas

1129. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

(a) whether Government has decided to make the Gram Nyayalayas functional from 2 October, 2009 to provide citizens access to justice at their door steps;

(b) if so, whether the citizens residing in rural areas and villages would be benefited from Gram Nyayalayas;

(c) whether the citizens in rural areas have been given proper awareness of Gram Nyayalayas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) The Central Government notified the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 to come into force *w.e.f.* 2.10.2009. This was also widely advertised in the print media including the vernacular press. A few States have begun the operation with Gram Nyayalayas functioning in some districts at the intermediate Panchayat level serving the rural areas and villages.

Grant of LTC to judges

1130. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that judges of Supreme Court and High Courts are availing of the Leave Travel Concession twice a year, instead of usual prevalent practice of once in two years;

- (b) if so, the rationale therefor; and
- (c) whether such a situation would continue?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) Leave Travel Concession for judges is regulated by the rules framed under the acts namely, “The Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958” and “The High Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act 1954.” As per provision under Rule 6-A of the Supreme Court Judges (Travelling Allowance) Rules, 1959, Judges of the Supreme Court are entitled to leave travel concession thrice a year and in terms of provision under Rule 7-A of the High Court Judges (Travelling Allowance) Rules, 1956 Judges of High Courts are entitled to leave travel concession twice a year. Both the High Court and the Supreme Court Judges were availing the Leave Travel Concession twice a year after 1986 but in 1990 the rules were changed after which Supreme Court Judges are entitled to three LTCs a year.

Bill to resurrect image of judiciary

1131. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is proposing to introduce a Bill to resurrect image of judiciary;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when the legislation would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) The Government is considering to bring in a fresh legislation on the subject of judicial standards and accountability of Judges. The details of the proposed legislation are being worked out.

Setting up of additional High Court Benches

1132. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is a huge pendency of cases in High Courts;
- (b) whether Government is thinking to establish High Court Benches in addition to the existing ones in view of the fact that the writs are on the increase;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (d) Setting up of a Bench of a High Court, is considered only if a complete proposal in terms of section 51(2) of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956 is received from the State

Government concerned and it includes the consent of the Chief Justice of the High Court and the Governor of the State and that it satisfies the broad guidelines and criteria recommended by the Jaswant Singh Commission. No such proposal has been received by the Government as on date.

Relationship between judiciary and media

1133. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the observation made by the Supreme Court upon the press and media to restrain from reporting observations that tend to embarrass the judges; and

(b) if so, whether Government has taken or proposes to take any steps to harmonise the freedom of the press *vis-à-vis* judiciary and if so, the details thereof?

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

Vacancies of judges in High Courts

1134. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the High Courts where the vacancies of judges exceed 25 per cent of the sanctioned strength of judges indicating the sanctioned and actual strength of judges as on 1 November, 2009;

(b) the specific reasons for delay in filling up of the vacancies; and

(c) whether in view of delay in the filling up of vacancies Government proposes to re-look into the procedure for selection of judges, so as to enable Government to fill up the vacancies as and when they arise without undue delay, if so, by when the new procedure is likely to be in place and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) A statement showing the sanctioned and working strength of the High Courts where the vacancies of Judges exceed 25 per cent of the approved strength of Judges as on 1st November, 2009, is enclosed (*See below*).

(b) The process for appointment of Judges of the High Courts is to be initiated by the Chief Justices of the concerned High Courts. The Government has not received sufficient proposals to fill up the vacant posts. The Government is periodically reminding the Chief Justices of the High Courts to initiate proposals in time for filling up the existing vacancies as well as the vacancies anticipated in the next six months.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

Statement

Sanctioned and working strength alongwith the vacancies of judges in various High Court

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	Approved strength as on 1.11.2009	Working strength as on 1.11.2009	Vacancies of judges
1.	Allahabad	160	83	77
2.	Andhra Pradesh	49	31	18
3.	Calcutta	58	40	18
4.	Chhattisgarh	18	9	9
5.	Gujarat	42	27	15
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	14	9	5
7.	Jharkhand	20	14	6
8.	Patna	43	22	21
9.	Punjab and Haryana	68	48	20
10.	Rajasthan	40	30	10

Elevation of High Court judges to Supreme Court

1135. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has examined the entire case of Karnataka High Court Chief Justice whose elevation to the Supreme Court was put on hold on account of media reports about his assets; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons for injustice to such High Judicial Officer?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) As per existing procedure for appointment, a proposal for appointment of judges of the Supreme Court is initiated by the Chief Justice of India in consultation with the Collegium of the Supreme Court. Hence, a view on the matter has to be taken by the Chief Justice of India in consultation with the Collegium of the Supreme Court.

Overhauling of justice delivery system

1136. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to overhaul the justice delivery system including the appointment of 15,700 new judges to both trial as well as High Courts, and operate courts in three shifts to bring down pendency of cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) by when this overhauling is likely to be completed;
- (d) whether Government proposes to fix a yearly target for each judge to dispose of the cases;
- (e) if so, whether Government has formulated any strategy to ensure the quality of justice; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) The Government has taken up the work of preparing a roadmap for judicial reforms in the country which aims, *inter-alia*, at reducing pendency in the courts. In this context, the Government organized a “National Consultation for strengthening the judiciary towards reducing pendency and delays” on 24th-25th October, 2009 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. In the National Consultation, it was, *inter-alia*, resolved that efforts will be made by all concerned to reduce the time taken for disposal of cases from 15 years to 3 years and to work together to implement various steps required to ensure provision of expeditious, quality and inclusive justice. These are under consideration of the Government.

- (d) No, Sir. This is a matter on which a decision is taken by the judiciary.
- (e) Does not arise.
- (f) Does not arise.

Property rights of wives

†1137. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in few States of India, wives have equal legal rights in movable and immovable property titled in the names of their husbands;
- (b) if so, the names of such States and nature of such laws; and
- (c) the details thereof?

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

Delegation of power to State Governments to approve mining

†1138. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is going to delegate the power of giving approval for the mining of minerals included in part (a) and (c) of the first schedule to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 to States;
- (b) whether some members of Hoda Committee were not in agreement with it and if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether the Central Government and State Governments are unanimous on the opinion of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) State Governments are the owners of the minerals and mineral rights vest in the State Government.

(b) and (c) The representatives from State Government of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa and Karnataka raised concerns on dilution of powers of the State Governments. These concerns were discussed with the Governments of chief mineral producing States and based on the resolution achieved with them, a National Mineral Policy, 2008, was enunciated by the Government on 13.3.2008.

National fund for development of mining sector

1139. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has proposed creation of a national fund by levying a cess of 10 per cent on royalties on all mine lessees and the proceeds would be utilized to detect and prevent illegal mining besides developing awareness on mining in mining zones;

(b) whether Government would be able to mobilize nearly 2000 crores as a result thereof and the money would be pooled into the National Minerals Fund that would be utilized to assist the Indian Bureau of Mines in enforcement of the provisions of the MMDR Act; and

(c) if so, by when a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) The Central Government has initiated a process to introduce legislative changes in terms of the National Mineral Policy, 2008, which enunciates setting up of fund for mineral development through levy of separate cess. The amount of revenue likely to be generated cannot be estimated at present since it is dependent on the finalisation of rate of cess by Government.

Illegal mining

1140. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the reports of rampant illegal mining of minerals being carried out in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the companies engaged in such illegal activities; and

(d) the action being taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Some instances of illegal mining of minerals have come to the notice of the Government in

various parts of the country. As per available information, cases of illegal mining of major/minor minerals detected by the State Governments in the period the year 2006 to June, 2009 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) As per information given by the State Government of Orissa, one case of M/s. Ram Bahadur Thakur Limited (RBTL) has come to the notice, which is engaged in illegal activities. State Government of Orissa has initiated vigilance investigation and administrative enquiry against the guilty.

Statement

State-wise and year-wise statement of cases of illegal mining reported by the State Government

Sl. No.	State	Nos. of cases detected by State Governments				Action Taken by State Governments				
		2006	2007	2008	2009 upto June 2009	Vehicle seized	FIRs Lodged	Court cases filed	Fine realized (Rs. in lakhs)	Others
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5385	9216	13478	7332	844	—	—	2112.95	—
2.	Chhattisgarh	2259	2352	1713	599	—	—	2181	309.16	—
3.	Goa	313	13	159	2	322	—	—	15.68	—
4.	Gujarat	7435	6593	5492	3720	106	114	8	7085.67	—
5.	Haryana	504	812	1209	416	103	138	2	133.33	—
6.	Himachal Pradesh	478	—	503	375	—	—	464	21.04	—
7.	Jharkhand	631	82	225		5592	202	39	108.41	—
8.	Karnataka	3027	5180	2997	692	43585	931	771	3630.13	—
9.	Kerala	1595	2593	2695	802	—	—	—	532.7	—
10.	Madhya Pradesh	5050	4581	3895	2542	—	05	14831	1057.98	—
11.	Maharashtra	4919	3868	5828	3285	15212	13	„	1129.01	—
12.	Orissa	284	655	1059	365	1242+75 cycles	57	86	2309.36	—
13.	Punjab	218	26	50	48	—	—	—	2.96	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
14.	Rajasthan	2359	2265	2178	1130	368	441	59	413.49	—
15.	Tamil Nadu	2140	1263	1573	98	18722	133	155	6369.96	—
16.	Uttarakhand	—	—	191	—	683	—	—	38.50	—
17.	West Bengal	80	426	315	51	3680	897	167	—	—

Mining by PSUs

†1141. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Central Public Sector Undertakings which are engaged in mining of iron-ore and other minerals in Orissa and Chhattisgarh and the details of the minerals, PSU-wise; and

(b) the amount of the royalty provided to the State Governments during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) As per available information, the following Central Public Sector Undertakings are engaged in mining of iron-ore and other minerals in Orissa and Chhattisgarh:—

Sl. No.	Lessee Name	Mineral
1.	Steel Authority of India Limited	Bauxite, Dolomite, Iron ore
2.	National Mineral Development Corporation	Iron ore
3.	National Aluminium Company Limited	Bauxite
4.	Indian Rare Earths Limited	Sillimanite
5.	Orissa Mineral Development Corporation Limited *	Iron ore, Manganese ore
6.	Birsa Stone and Lime Co. Limited *	Limestone

*Bird Group of Companies(BGC)

(b) The State Governments collect royalty as the owners of minerals. The information is not centrally maintained.

Development of minerals underlying oceans

1142. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) the details of the development of minerals underlying the ocean within the territorial waters or the continental shelf, or other maritime zones of India;
- (b) whether Government has developed its own indigenous infrastructure in this regard or advantage of the expertise or infrastructure of established organizations like ONGC is also being taken;
- (c) the details of the funds allocated for the research and development activities during the last three years;
- (d) whether these were fully utilized; and
- (e) the details of funds allocated for research and development, if any, which have lapsed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Geological Survey of India (GSI) has been carrying out systematic seabed survey within the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of India since 1983 with the help of one ocean-going research vessel and two coastal launches. During the survey, GSI have delineated Economic Mineral Bearing Zones within the territorial waters, continental shelf and beyond within the EEZ of India. The off-shore investigations of GSI include (i) preparation of geological, geophysical and geochemical maps of the seabed, and (ii) identification of potential areas of non-living resources of the sea bed.

(b) Identification of the non-living mineral resources could be achieved by seabed survey undertaken using the existing infrastructure and expertise onboard the ocean going research vessel and the two coastal launches of GSI. In addition, for map compilation purposes deep seismic data from ONGC is also incorporated.

(c) to (e) The details of funds allocated and the expenditure made by GSI during the last three years are given below:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
Budget Allotted	Fund utilized	Budget Allotted	Fund utilized	Budget Allotted	Fund utilized
20.00	18.92	20.00	17.56	27.45	25.57

Manganese Mines

1143. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether manganese deposit sites are abundant in the country;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh;
 - (c) the revenue being generated from them State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh;
- and
- (d) the criteria for giving the contracts of manganese sites in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) State-wise information on reserves/resources of manganese ore is given in the Indian Minerals Year Book, published by the Indian Bureau of Mines, a copy of which is supplied to the Parliament Library on regular basis.

(c) The State Governments collect royalty as the owners of minerals. For this reason, the information on total revenue generated from manganese ore is not centrally maintained.

(d) The State Government as the owner of minerals grant mining leases for mineral manganese ore in terms of the criteria given in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and Mineral Concession Rules, 1960. Since, mineral manganese is included in the First Schedule of the MMDR Act, prior permission of Central Government is required.

Closure of mines in Orissa

1144. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of mines have been closed down in Orissa;

(b) whether it is also a fact that hundreds of workers of these mines have been rendered jobless; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) As per available information, mining operation have been suspended in 128 mines by the State Government of Orissa. As per the returns filed by these mines, 4809 workers were employed in these mines.

Reservation for minority communities

1145. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh Government has provided reservation of 4 per cent for minorities who are socially and economically backward;

(b) if so, the steps his Ministry is taking to provide reservation for minorities at the national level;

(c) whether it is a fact that many demands have been made for placing Ranganath Mishra Commission Report on the Table of both the Houses;

(d) if so, the reasons for not making public the above report so far; and

(e) the efforts his Ministry is making to include Muslims in the OBC quota?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) Andhra Pradesh Government has provided 4 per cent reservation to the socially and educationally Backward Classes of Muslims.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(b), (d) and (e) The Government is still examining the various aspects of the National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities (NCRLM) report, including from constitutional and legal angles. Decisions on making the report public and on the action to be taken on it have not yet been taken.

Complaints of harassment and discrimination

1146. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:
SHRI SABIR ALI:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the complaints received by the National Commission for Minorities during the last two years and this year in respect of harassment and discrimination;
- (b) the action taken thereon; and
- (c) the steps to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) The details of the complaints received by the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) during the last two years and this year are as under:—

2007-2008	1508
2008-2009	2250
2009-2010 (20.11.2009)	1803

(b) and (c) The NCM takes action on all such complaints in accordance with the procedure laid down for appropriate redressal.

Grants to non-Muslim minority organisations

1147. SHRI SABIR ALI:
SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the grants sanctioned by Maulana Azad Education Foundation to NGOs which are not Muslim minority institutions/organisations during the last four years and this year, so far;
- (b) the types of organisations to which grants are sanctioned under the law/scheme;
- (c) whether grants to non-Muslim institutions are permissible;
- (d) if so, the provisions thereof; and
- (e) the percentage of total grants sanctioned to such organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) to (d) Maulana Azad Education Foundation sanctions grants-in-aid to Non Government Organisations (NGOs) managing institutions where, *inter alia*, number of beneficiaries from educationally backward minorities is more than 50% subject to other eligibility

criteria, which are available on the Foundation's website www.maef.nic.in. The grants-in-aid are sanctioned on fulfillment of the prescribed conditions and the laid down eligibility criteria and not on the basis of religious affiliation of the institution and/or of the persons managing it. The list of NGOs which have been sanctioned grants-in-aid by the Foundation is available on its website www.maef.nic.in.

- (e) Does not arise.

Multi-sectoral Development Programme for minorities

1148. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that not even a single district has been identified for Multi-sectoral Development Programme for minorities in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the criteria adopted in selecting the above districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) to (c) 90 minority concentration districts where a multi-sectoral development programme is implemented have been identified on the basis of both criteria of having a substantial of minority population and backwardness parameters viz. basic amenities and socio-economic indicators falling below the national averages based on Census 2001 data. Districts in Andhra Pradesh having a substantial minority population have such backwardness parameters above the national averages and hence do not fall under the category of backward minority concentration districts.

15 Point Programme in Bihar

1149. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the 15 point Programme implemented, so far in Bihar;
- (b) the details of the funds allocated and used so far;
- (c) the criteria set for allocation of funds; and
- (d) whether the State Government is using these funds properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) and (b) The details of implementation of schemes included in the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities and funds earmarked for minorities in States/UTs, including Bihar for the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 may be seen on the Ministry's website at www.minorityaffairs.gov.in

(c) and (d) The programme provides that, wherever possible, 15% of targets and outlays under various schemes, included in the programme, should be earmarked for minorities. The programme also provides for location of a certain proportion of development projects in minority

concentration areas. A close monitoring mechanism has been envisaged for implementation of the programme and the progress of implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme is reviewed at the Centre and also by the State/UT and District level Committees.

Report of NCRLM

1150. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to table the report of National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities with regard to Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims during ensuing session of Parliament;

(b) by when the said report was submitted by the commission to Government; and

(c) the reasons for delay in tabling the said report in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) and (c) The Government is still examining the various aspects of the National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities (NCRLM) report, including from constitutional and legal angles. Decisions on making the report public and on the action to be taken on it have not yet been taken.

(b) The National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities (NCRLM), headed by Justice Ranganath Misra submitted its report to the Government in May, 2007.

Scholarship to minority students

†1151. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the scholarship schemes available to students belonging to minorities;

(b) the number of applications received for these schemes during last three years, the details thereof, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the details of minority students benefited from these scholarship schemes, State-wise; and

(d) the details of minorities benefited from Madhya Pradesh, district-wise and category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) The details of Pre-matric Scholarship, Post-matric Scholarship and Merit-cum-means based Scholarship Schemes for minority community students are available on the website — *www.minorityaffairs.gov.in* — of Ministry of Minority Affairs.

(b) and (c) The State-wise and community-wise details of scholarships released during the last three years are available on the website of Ministry of Minority Affairs.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) District-wise details of students are not furnished by the State. Proposals are received from the States in a consolidated manner. Community-wise details of scholarships released to Madhya Pradesh are also available on the website of Ministry of Minority Affairs.

Encroachment on wakf properties

1152. SHRI AHMAD SAEED MALIHABADI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that wakf properties under the possession of Central Government have been allegedly encroached;
- (b) if so, the details of the area of the encroached property and the value thereof;
- (c) whether the properties have been restored to the concerned wakf boards; if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to remove the alleged encroachment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) to (d) Under Section 32 of the Wakf Act, 1995 (43 of 1995), general superintendence of wakf is vested with the State Wakf Boards, constituted by the respective State Governments. Under the Act, States have to conduct the survey of the wakf properties. Government of India have been impressing upon the States to complete the survey expeditiously and take appropriate action as per rules.

Electricity generation by mixing hot and cold air

1153. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that a Canadian engineer, Mr. Lewis Mishand has succeeded producing electricity from artificially created storm in 200 meter wide and 100 meter high tunnel, by mixing hot and cold air;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the cost of production of energy/electricity by this method would be less than from other non-conventional sources;
- (d) if so, whether our scientists/engineers studying the issue with a view to replicating it in our country; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of such concept developed by the Canadian Engineer namely Mr. Louis Michaud through the information available in the Internet.

(b) Mr. Louis Michaud has patented the process namely "Atmospheric Vortex Engine" which captures the energy produced, when heat is carried upward by convection in the atmosphere. This results formation of a tornado, which pulls more air. This movement of air is passed through a turbine to generate electricity.

(c) The inventor estimates that the cost of electricity generation is less than other non-conventional sources. However, the inventor has not been able to find a sponsor for commercialization.

(d) and (e) Government is not aware of any effort in this direction in the country. The concept has been attempted only at a very small prototype level.

New and renewable energy production

1154. SHRI SABIR ALI:

SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

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

(a) to what extent the new and renewable energy is supplementing the energy generation;

(b) the potential of new and renewable energy;

(c) the areas where generation of new and renewable energy is significant; and

(d) the plans for the future?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) A cumulative grid-interactive power generation installed capacity of around 15,539 MW from various renewable energy sources mainly wind, small hydro, biomass and solar energy has been setup as on 31.10.2009, which corresponds to over 9 per cent of the total power generation installed capacity from all sources in the country. In addition, a large number of decentralized renewable energy systems/devices, such as, biogas plants, solar photovoltaic systems, solar cookers, solar water heating systems, aero-generators, biomass gasifiers, etc. have also been deployed in the country and supplementing conventional energy. Even though the contribution of renewable energy systems to energy-mix is low, their decentralized and distributed nature offers many socio-economic benefits.

(b) A potential of around 90,000 MWeq for energy/power generation from different renewable energy sources (excluding solar) in the country has been estimated which includes 48,561 MW from wind, 14,294 MW from small hydro and 26,367 MW from bio-power. The potential for solar energy is estimated for most parts of the country at around 20 MW per square kilometer of open, shadow free area covered with solar collectors.

(c) Significant achievements in grid-interactive renewable power generation capacity have come mainly from wind power (10,891 MW), small hydro power (2,520 MW) and biomass power/cogeneration (2,057 MW).

(d) A capacity addition of 12,300 MW grid-interactive renewable power is targeted during the Eleventh Plan. Further capacity addition of around 57,500 MW is envisaged during the Twelfth and Thirteenth Plans, leading to a total capacity of around 80,000 MW by the end of the Thirteenth plan period (comprising 43,500 wind power, 8,900 MW small hydro power, 7,400 MW

bio power and 20,000 MW solar power as envisaged by 2020 under the National Solar Mission approved recently), which would correspond to a share of about 9% in the then likely electricity-mix from all sources.

Conversion of cities into solar townships

1155. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is planning to convert 60 cities into solar townships;

(b) if so, the details of cities that are proposed to be converted into solar cities in West Bengal;

(c) whether any criteria has been adopted for declaring a particular city into a solar township; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) to (d) The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is implementing a programme on 'Development of Solar Cities'. The programme aims to reduce a minimum of 10% of the projected demand of conventional energy of the City through energy efficiency measures and renewable energy installations. Sixty cities are proposed to be developed as solar cities during the Eleventh Plan period including two model solar cities. So far, no proposal has been received from West-Bengal.

Expenditure on R&D on renewable energy

1156. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

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

(a) the level of R&D spending in Government sector on renewable energy during the last three years; and

(b) the major R&D projects in this area and their planned outlays, outcome timelines?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) During the last three years an expenditure of Rs. 367.87 crore has been incurred on R&D for carrying out research, development and demonstration in different areas of new and renewable energy by various Government Departments/organizations. The major projects/areas include development of high efficiency solar cells, hydrogen and fuel cells, solar photovoltaic and thermal power, high rate bio-methanation, medium and large capacity biogas plants for energy and power generation, bio-fuels and biomass energy including development of standards, specifications and testing of various renewable energy systems, devices and others. For the Eleventh Five year Plan Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has made a provision of Rs. 500

crore for taking up research, design, development and technology demonstration in the area of renewable energy.

Projection of alternative energy sources

1157. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the projections of power generation through alternative energy sources for the next five years;
- (b) the amount of investment envisaged to achieve these targets;
- (c) whether Government plans to incentives the Private Sector to participate in setting up alternate energy power plants in the country; and
- (d) if so, incentives being planned?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) A capacity addition of 12,300 MW grid-interactive renewable power is targeted during the Eleventh Plan that would lead to a total capacity of around 22,500 MW by March, 2012, from 15,539 MW at present (as on 31.10.2009). Further capacity addition of around 25,500 MW is envisaged during the Twelfth Plan, leading to a total capacity of around 48,000 MW by March 2017 (comprising 33,400 wind power, 5,900 MW small hydro power, 5,200 MW bio power and 3,500 MW solar power aimed under the National Solar Mission approved recently). The same would correspond to a share of about 9% in the then likely electricity-mix from all sources.

(b) The total investment needed for achieving the targeted capacity addition of 12,300 MW during Eleventh plan period is estimated at Rs. 67,000 crore, with budgetary support of around Rs. 4,000 crore. The balance is envisaged as private investment driven mainly by fiscal incentives. The capacity addition of 25,500 MW during Twelfth plan will need total investment to the tune of Rs. 1,63,000 crore, which is also envisaged mainly as private investment.

(c) and (d) The Government is already encouraging private sector participation in setting up of various renewable energy projects through a mix of fiscal and financial incentives and other policy/regulatory measures. These include capital/interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation and nil/concessional excise and customs duties. Under the Electricity Act 2003, it has been made obligatory upon State Electricity Regulatory Authorities to fix a minimum percentage for purchase of electricity from renewable sources taking into account local factors. Preferential tariff for grid interactive renewable power is being given in most potential States following the provisions made under the National Electricity Policy 2005 and National Tariff Policy 2006. Uniform guidelines by CERC for fixation of such preferential tariffs have been issued recently. The National Solar Mission approved recently is also expected to enable large-scale capital investment in solar energy applications.

Cost escalation in Barh and Sipat Thermal Power Plants

1158. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Russian entity supplying equipments to the Barh and Sipat Thermal Power Plants has been escalating the price of the equipment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether such a demand has escalated the cost of project, if so, the details of cost escalation;
- (d) whether Government has taken up the issue with Russian Government, if so, their response thereto; and
- (e) the action Government proposes to take to discount such mid-term price escalation by the suppliers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) and (b) **Barh Super Thermal Power Project (STPP), Stage-I (3 × 660 MW): Steam Generator Package — Contract Awarded on M/s Technopromexport (TPE), Russia**

TPE has raised issue of Time Extension and cost compensation due to delay which could not be settled amicably despite discussions at various forums and levels, The claim amounts to 87% of the Contract Price.

Barh Super Thermal Power Project (STPP), Stage-I (3 × 660 MW): Turbine Generator Package — Contract Awarded on M/s Power Machine (PM)/PMIL

M/s Power Machines have raised claims in Turbine Generator Package for Barh STPP, Stage-I (3 × 660 MW) amounting to 50% of contract price on account of abnormal rise in input costs, etc. In these claims, Power Machines requested for removal of price escalation ceiling limit and revision of project schedule. These issues are under discussion between NTPC and Power Machines.

Sipat STPP, Stage-I (3 × 660 MW) : Turbine Generator Package - Contract Awarded on PM/PMIL)

M/s Power Machines had raised claims on Turbine Generator Package for Sipat-I (3 × 660 MW) on account of abnormal rise in input costs, etc. In their claims, Power Machines requested for removal of price escalation ceiling limit and revision of project schedule.

(c) Barh STPP Stage-I (3 × 660 MW) and Sipat STPP Stage-I (3 × 660 MW) are on-going projects and under construction. So far as Barh STPP Stage-I project is concerned, the issues are under examination and for Sipat STPP Stage-I project, it has been agreed by NTPC for payment of additional escalation on account of foreign supplies due to steep increase in input cost based on Russian Index as per formulae given in the Contract with M/s Power

Machines. However, the actual amount of additional escalation will be known only after completion of Sipat Stage-I project.

(d) Though the Contract between NTPC and TPE is a commercial Contract, TPE has been raising the various issues arising under the Contract in the bilateral forum like Indo-Russian Working Group on Cooperation on Energy and other such forums.

(e) The Contract(s) awarded by NTPC are on base price basis with provision of price variation. The price variation is determined based on the formulae provided in the Contract(s).

Marketing margin charged on sale of natural gas

1159. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NTPC has raised objection to his Ministry regarding charging of marketing margin by Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) on sale of natural gas to its plants;

(b) if so, the action taken by his Ministry to stop RIL from charging such marketing margin; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not taking action on RIL for violating Production Sharing Contract?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Increase in sale price of gas supplied to NTPC by RIL

1160. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU:

SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the gas price bid of Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) to NTPC was at delivered price, including transportation charges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that RIL has increased the pipeline charges for NTPC from USD 0.81 to USD 1.71;

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

(e) whether this increase has been approved by the oil regulator Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the action being taken by Government on RIL for unilaterally increasing the pipeline cost resulting in increase in input cost to NTPC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Power generation and consumption

†1161. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the increase in the percentage of consumption of power during the current financial year;
- (b) the percentage increase in its generation;
- (c) the expected power generation (in MW) in 2010-11 and 2011-12 to achieve the target set in the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to improve the power generation capability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) The electricity consumption figures are computed on annual basis after the closure of each year. The electricity consumption (total sales to ultimate consumers) during the year 2007-08 (latest available) was 577,956 Million Unit representing a growth of about 9.95% over the consumption of 525.671 Billion Unit during the 2006-07.

(b) The percentage increase in electricity generation in the country during the current year 2009-10 (April-October, 2009) has been 6.4% over the actual generation during the corresponding period of last year. The percentage increase in electricity generation during 2007-08 over the actual generation during 2006-07 was 6.3%.

(c) The target for power generation in the country for the years 2010-11 and 2011-12 have not yet been fixed, as the generation targets are decided on year to year basis and not for the entire Five Year Plan.

(d) The following measures have been taken/are being taken by the Government to improve the power generation capacity in the country:—

- (i) Rigorous monitoring of capacity addition of the on-going generation projects;
- (ii) Development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4,000 MW each;
- (iii) Harnessing surplus captive power into the grid and setting up of grid interactive renewable generation capacity of the Plan;
- (iv) Launch of 50,000 MW hydro initiative for accelerated development hydro power in the country;
- (v) Renovation, Modernization and Life Extension of old and inefficient generating units;
- (vi) Import of coal to bridge the gap between anticipated demand and domestic production of coal.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (vii) Allocation of gas from KG Basin (D6) to gas based power stations.
- (viii) Coordinated operation and maintenance of hydro, thermal, nuclear and gas based power stations to optimally utilize the existing generation capacity.

Power shortage in Gujarat

1162. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Gujarat is facing heavy power shortage in peak hours; and
- (b) if so, the action proposed by Government to meet the power shortage in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) :

(a) The details of peak time shortage in Gujarat and other States/UTs of Western Region during the period April — October, 2009 are given below:—

State/UT	April-October, 2009			
	Peak Demand (MW)	Peak Met (MW)	Peak Shortage (MW) (%)	
Chhattisgarh	2,819	2,703	116	4.1
Gujarat	10,406	9,515	891	8.6
Madhya Pradesh	6,766	5,970	796	11.8
Maharashtra	18,981	14,292	4,689	24.7
Daman and Diu	280	255	25	8.9
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	509	461	48	9.4
Goa	455	410	45	9.9
Western Region	37,190	31,178	6,012	16.2

MW = Mega Watt

(b) Electricity being a concurrent subject, supply and distribution of electricity in a State as per demand is the purview of the State Government/State Power Utility concerned. Government of India supplements the efforts of State Government(s) by establishing power projects through Central Public Sector Undertakings.

Following steps have been taken/are being taken by the Government to mitigate shortage of power in Gujarat:—

- (i) Gujarat has been provided about 2552 MW power from Central Generating Stations of Western Region.
- (ii) Gujarat will get firm share of 540 MW from Sipat STPS Stage-I (3 × 660 MW), identified for commissioning during Eleventh Plan and 47 MW from third unit of

Kahalgaon STPS Stage-II on its commercial operation and 2,475 MW from Mundra, Talaiya and Chhattisgarh Ultra Mega Power Projects.

- (iii) Allocation of additional gas from the KG basin D-6 to the gas based power plants of Gujarat.

Power shortage in Maharashtra

1163. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the shortage of electricity in Maharashtra;
- (b) the steps taken and the amount allocated for electricity generation by his Ministry to meet the shortage; and
- (c) the expected electricity generation for the next five years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) During the period April-October, 2009, the energy and peaking shortage in Maharashtra was 12461 Million Unit (17.5 %) and 4689 Mega Watt (24.7%) respectively.

(b) The following steps have been taken/being taken to augment power supply in Maharashtra:—

- (i) Maharashtra has been provided approximately 3384 MW power from Central Generating Stations of Western Region.
- (ii) Maharashtra will get firm share of 510 MW from Sipat STPS Stage-I (3 × 660 MW), identified for commissioning during the Eleventh Plan and about 49.3 MW from third unit of Kahalgaon STPS St.II on its commercial operation. The State will also get power from the Ultra Mega Power Projects including the one at Mundra, one unit of which is likely to be commissioned during Eleventh Plan.
- (iii) Allocation of additional gas from the KG basin D-6 to the gas based power plants of Gujarat.

However, no funds are provided by the Government to the States for electricity generation/overcome shortage of power. The States are required to take steps to meet enhanced demand for power through various measures and funds required, if any, are to be arranged by them.

(c) The target for electricity generation is fixed on year to year basis. For the current year (2009-10), the target fixed for electricity generation in the country is 789.51 Billion Unit, which includes 71.23 Billion Unit by the state and private power projects located in Maharashtra.

Indo-Iran power project

1164. MS. MABEL REBELLO:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is all set to build new strategic ties with gas-rich Iran;
- (b) if so, whether his Ministry, along with the State-owned NTPC and Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd., is working out the contours of another \$10 billion (Rs. 48,750 crore) deal with Iran;
- (c) whether his Ministry is preparing a plan to set up a 6000 MW gas-based power project in Iran and 1500 km transmission line to bring 5000 MW of power to India *via* Pakistan; and
- (d) if so, whether any final decision in this regard has been taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
 (a) to (c) Preliminary discussions to set-up a 6000 MW gas based power project by NTPC Ltd., in Iran and evacuation of power by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) subject to its viability were held in the Ministry of Power recently. The proposal is at the conceptual stage only.

- (d) No final decision has been taken in this regard.

Sale price of electricity

†1165. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:
 SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has fixed the maximum sale price of electricity in the market at Rs. 8 per unit;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard;
- (c) whether the above rate is higher than the power generation cost in the Dabhol power project some years ago;
- (d) if so, the facts in this regard and whether consumers were not available to purchase electricity due to higher electricity cost of Dabhol project; and
- (e) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
 (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission had issued an Order on 11th September, 2009 on a *Suo Motu* petition fixing minimum and maximum tariff for sale and purchase of electricity in day ahead transactions through bilateral agreement and on Power Exchanges. The minimum tariff for such transaction was fixed at Re. 0.10/Kwh and the maximum tariff was fixed at Rs. 8/Kwh, for a period of 45 days from the date of the Order, which is over now.

(c) and (d) Ratnagiri Gas and Power Private Limited (RGPPL) took over assets of erstwhile Dabhol Power Company (DPC) in October, 2005 and commenced commercial generation from September, 2007.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The RGPPL has informed that the average sale price of electricity from Ratnagiri Gas and Power Private Ltd. for FY 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 is as follows:—

Fin. Year	Fuel Type	Annual Average Rate (Rs/kWh)
2006-07	Naphtha	5.25
2007-08	Naphtha and R-LNG	3.58 *
2008-09	R-LNG	3.25 *

*Provisional

RGPPL has been able to dispatch available generation capacity on a sustained basis and there has been no generation loss on account of low scheduling.

(e) Electricity Regulatory Commissions including Central Electricity Regulatory Commission are mandated to determine tariff and issue guidelines/regulations under the Electricity Act, 2003, National Electricity Policy and the Tariff Policy in the discharge of their functions.

Implementation of open access policy

1166. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Electricity Regulatory Commission has advised Government to take up with States, the separation of management and controlling issues between entities operating SLDCs and entities engaged in distribution/trading activities to have a non-discriminatory open access;

(b) whether it has been pointed out that the Electricity Act is not being implemented in letter and spirit;

(c) whether in an internal review meeting of the Planning Commission this issue was also discussed; and

(d) whether Government is now planning to bring a comprehensive and time bound programme for introducing open access besides promoting competition enshrined in the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission advised the Central Government that it may take up with the State Governments, the matter of completely separating the management and controlling interests between the entities operating State Load Despatch Centres (SLDCs) and the entities engaged in distribution/trading activities.

(c) The Planning Commission has informed that the Advisor to the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission presented a paper representing his views on the open access in the Internal Planning Commission (IPC) meeting on November 20, 2009.

(d) Secretary (Power) *vide* his DO letter of September 14, 2009 to Chief Secretaries of all State Governments has taken up the matter with the States for completely separating the management and controlling interests between the entities operating SLDCs and the entities engaged in distribution/trading activities.

Amendment in mega power policy

1167. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently decided to amend the mega power policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the States which are facing severe power crunch, would be benefited by the change in the policy; and
- (d) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) Government has approved the following changes in the existing Mega Power Policy:—

- (i) The existing condition of privatization of distribution by power purchasing states would be replaced by the condition that power purchasing states shall undertake to carry out distribution reforms as laid down by Ministry of Power (MoP).
- (ii) The conditions requiring inter-state sale of power for getting mega power status would be removed.
- (iii) The present dispensation of 15% price preference available to the domestic bidders in case of cost plus projects of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) would continue. However, the price preference will not apply to tariff based competitively bid projects of PSUs.
- (iv) The requirement of undertaking ICB by the developers for procurement of equipment for mega power projects would not be mandatory, if the requisite quantum of power has been tied up through tariff based competitive bidding or the project has been awarded through tariff based competitive bidding.
- (v) A basic custom duty of 2.5% only would be applicable on brownfield expansion of existing mega projects. All other benefits under mega power policy available to greenfield projects would also be available to expansion unit(s) (brownfield projects) even if the total capacity of expansion unit(s) is less than the threshold qualifying capacity, provided the size of the unit(s) is not less than that provided in the earlier phase of the project granted mega power project certificate. All other conditions for grant of the mega power status shall remain the same.

- (vi) Mega Power Projects would be required to tie up power supply to the distribution companies/utilities through long term Power Purchase Agreements (PPA(s)) and may also sell power outside long term PPA(s) in accordance with the National Electricity Policy 2005 and Tariff Policy 2006, as amended from time to time, of Government of India.

(c) and (d) Mega power policy aims at deriving economies of scale by setting up large size power plants at pithead and transmitting power to distant regions, which were deficit in power. Mega Power Policy, in its present form, has played a vital role in the development of power sector. However, in the wake of several important statutory and policy level changes in the power sector, this Ministry revisited some of the provisions of the present Mega Power Policy and brought them in line with the changed scenario. The modified policy will simplify the procedure for grant of mega certificate and facilitate quicker capacity addition and its benefits are likely to be availed by all States.

Implementation of restructured APDRP

1168. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the projects which have been covered under Part-A and Part-B of Restructured Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) in Rajasthan;
- (b) the achievements made so far;
- (c) the reduction that has taken place in AT & C losses;
- (d) the percentage of distribution, transformer metering and consumer feeder metering in Rajasthan; and
- (e) how the State compare with the national average?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) DPRs for 87 nos. of towns have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 315.95 crores under Part-A of Restructured Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme (R-APDRP) up to 15th September, 2009 and loan of Rs. 94.58 crores has been disbursed to the State of Rajasthan. The scheme for Part-A is under implementation. State has not submitted DPRs for projects under Part-B of R-APDRP. Detail of projects sanctioned is given in the Statement (See below).

(b) Quadripartite agreement has been signed by the State. Loan Amount of Rs. 315.95 crores for schemes for all 87 towns eligible under R-APDRP has been sanctioned under R-APDRP Part-A. Rs. 94.58 crores has already been disbursed to Rajasthan State Utilities. State Utilities have deployed M/s Infosys as IT Consultant for preparation of DPRs for

Part-A and to oversee the scheme. State Utilities have awarded work for execution of the schemes approved under Part-A of R-APDRP to on 23-09-2009.

(c) to (e) The Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses for Rajasthan has reduced from 42.19% in 2005-06 to 32.87% in 2007-08. Rajasthan has achieved 100% metering of 11 kV feeders and 95% of consumer metering. The National average for metering of 11 kV feeders and consumer metering at the end of 2007 have been 98% and 88% respectively. The National average of AT&C losses during 2007-08 is 29.24% whereas AT&C losses for Rajasthan is 32.87%.

Statement

Details of schemes sanctioned under Part 'A' of RAPDRP

(Figures in Rs. crore)

Sl. No.	Projects	Project cost as per approved DPR
1	2	3
1.	Ajmer	10.44
2.	Udaipur (Rajasthan)	10.07
3.	Bhilwara (Rajasthan)	4.34
4.	Sikar (Rajasthan)	3.25
5.	Beawar	1.92
6.	Kishangarh	2.60
7.	Jhunjhunu	1.77
8.	Chittorgarh	1.42
9.	Nagaur	1.30
10.	Makrana	1.41
11.	Banswara	1.12
12.	Fatehpur (Rajasthan)	0.88
13.	Nawalgarh	0.51
14.	Rajsamand	1.48
15.	Nimbahera	1.23
16.	Kuchaman City	0.63
17.	Nasirabad Town	0.49
18.	Laxmangarh (Rajasthan)	0.59

1	2	3
19.	Deedwana	0.58
20.	Dungarpur	0.85
21.	Pilani	0.35
22.	Mertacity	0.72
23.	Khetri Town (Rajasthan)	0.53
24.	Chirawa	0.47
25.	Nathdwara	0.67
26.	Pratapgarh	0.55
27.	Rawatbhata	0.66
28.	Kekri	0.59
29.	Sagwara	0.63
TOTAL Ajmer Vidyut Vitran Nigam Ltd. (AVVNL)		52.05
30.	Alwar UA	5.89
31.	Baran (M)	1.56
32.	BARI	0.78
33.	Bayana (M)	0.64
34.	Bharatpur UA	1.94
35.	Bhawani Mandi (M)	0.89
36.	Bhiwadi (CT)	4.78
37.	Bundi (M)	1.51
38.	Chomu (M)	1.03
39.	Dausa (M)	2.52
40.	Deeg (M)	0.65
41.	Dhaulpur UA	2.01
42.	Gangapur City UA	1.39
43.	Hindaun (M)	2.00
44.	Jaipur (M Corp.)	112.30
45.	Jhalawar (M)	1.15
46.	Jhalrapatan (M)	0.75

1	2	3
47.	Kaman (M)	0.57
48.	Karauli (M)	0.88
49.	Khairthai (M)	0.81
50.	Kota UA	11.71
51.	Kotputli	0.85
52.	Lakheri	0.78
53.	NIWAI	1.17
54.	Ramganj Mandi	1.14
55.	Sawai Madhopur UA	1.51
56.	Tonk (MC)	2.31
TOTAL Jaipur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Ltd. (JVVNL)		163.52
57.	Jodhpur	47.14
58.	Bikaner	10.70
59.	Sri-Ganga Nagar	4.99
60.	Pali	3.21
61.	Hanuman Garh	2.92
62.	Churu	1.57
63.	Sujargarh	1.21
64.	Barmer	2.13
65.	Sardar Sahar	1.01
66.	Ratangarh	1.52
67.	Balotra	1.82
68.	Surat Garh	1.06
69.	Jaisalmer	1.56
70.	Ladnau	0.86
71.	Rajgarh	0.68
72.	Nokha	1.21
73.	Abu — Road	1.48
74.	Sri Dungargarh	0.74

1	2	3
75.	Phalodi	1.31
76.	Jalore	2.35
77.	Nohar	0.85
78.	Bhinmal	0.79
79.	Sojat City	0.86
80.	Bilara	3.11
81.	Sirohi	0.99
82.	Bhadra	0.59
83.	Sangariya	0.77
84.	Pili Banga	0.75
85.	Pipar City	0.74
86.	Sumerpur	0.99
87.	Bidasar	0.47
TOTAL Jodhpur Vidyut Vitran Nigam Ltd. (JVNL):		100.38
STATE TOTAL :		315.95

Achieving power targets

1169. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has prepared an action plan for next one year to ensure that 11,000 MW of power capacity targeted during 2008-09 is achieved;

(b) whether the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has played crucial role in this development and in order to expand its operations in power and allied sector, the company has restructured its organization; and

(c) if so, to what extent these measures would help in achieving this target and to what extent it would reduce power shortfall in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Against the original capacity addition target of 11061 MW for 2008-09, which was revised to 7530 MW on account of change in definition of commissioning, a capacity of 3454 MW was achieved during 2008-09. For the year 2009-10, against a target of 14507 MW, a capacity of

6142 MW has been added as on 9.11.2009. Following steps have been taken to achieve the capacity addition targets:—

- Rigorous monitoring of capacity addition of on-going generation projects.
- Enhancement of main plant equipment manufacturing capacity by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL).
- Widening of the vendor base by BHEL through outsourcing.
- Formation of Joint Venture company by NTPC Ltd. and BHEL, M/s L&T and MHI, Japan, M/s JSW and Toshiba, M/s Bharat Forge and Alstom and M/s BB Engineering and Ansaldo for manufacture of various power plants equipments.
- Development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4,000 MW each under competitive bidding.
- Import of coal to meet the deficit in supply of indigenous coal.
- Augmentation of gas supply to utilize the stranded capacity of gas based power projects.
- To overcome the shortage of skilled manpower, 'Adopt an ITI' initiative has been taken up.

(b) Being a financial institution, Power Finance Corporation (PFC) is not directly involved in capacity addition. However, PFC has so far extended financial assistance to generation projects of 42563 MW, which are already commissioned are likely to be commissioned during Eleventh Plan. The year-wise break up is given below:—

Year	Capacity Supported (MW)
2007-08	5883
2008-09	2474
2009-10	7940
2010-11	13426
2011-12	12840
TOTAL :	42563

Not only to accelerate the pace of existing business of funding generation, transmission and distribution projects, but also to exploit the new opportunities available in the power and allied sector, PFC has restructured its organization and has created strategic business units, focusing on different business segments — conventional lending to generation, transmission and distribution projects; consortium lending to generation, transmission and distribution projects; lending to power equipment manufacturers and fuel producers and suppliers; renewable energy and CDM; and equity funding. Thus, PFC is playing a crucial role in the development of power sector.

(c) As per latest assessment of the Central Electricity Authority, a total capacity addition of 62374 MW is likely to be commissioned with a high level of certainty and capacity of 12590 MW on best efforts basis during Eleventh Plan.

Availability of power

1170. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that installed capacity of power generation is 1,57,073 MW and only 96,000 MW is available for consumption due to power theft and transmission losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a study of the Indian power sector by the Universal Consultancy has pointed the opportunity cost of power shortages in the last financial year at Rs. 2,89,000 crores; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) As on 31.10.2009, the total installed power generating capacity in the country was 1,53,654 MW. The all India peak demand met during October, 2009 was 1,01,183 MW against a all India peak demand of 1,15,113 MW. Both peak demand met and energy availability represent the net consumption (including the transmission losses) in the various States. The details of electricity generated, purchased, sold and the losses in respect of Power Utilities are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) No specific information about a study having been conducted by the Universal Consultancy of the Indian Power Sector is available in the Ministry of Power.

Statement

All India Electrical Energy Generated, Purchased, Sold and Losses Utilities 2007-08

Sl. No.	Item	Energy (GWh)	Percentage (%)
1	2	3	4
1.	Gross Energy Generated (Utilities)	722625.50	100.00
2.	Energy used in Power Station Auxiliaries	45531.00	6.30
3.	Net Energy at Bus Bars (1-2)	677094.50	93.70
Percentage (%) of Sl. 4			
4.	Energy at Bus Bars (same as 3)	677094.50	100.00
5.	Energy purchased from Non-Utilities	7455.69	1.10

1	2	3	4
6.	Energy imported from other country	5230.03	0.77
7.	Energy available (4+5+6)	689780.22	101.87
8.	Energy sold to other countries	289.91	0.04
9.	Net Energy available (7-8)	689490.31	101.83
Percentage (%) of Sl. 10			
10.	Energy available for supply (same as 9)	689490.31	100.00
11.	*Energy sold to ultimate consumers	501977.11	72.80
12.	Energy loss in transformation, transmission and distribution and unaccounted for (10-11)	187513.20	27.20

Note: *Includes metered and assessed supply to agricultural consumers.

Supply of gas for power sector

1171. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to shortage of gas various gas-based power projects are not able to come up;
- (b) if so, the number of such projects and the details thereof;
- (c) the present quantum gas production from RIL's D6 block of KG Basin; and
- (d) the action proposed by Government to ensure that gas is provided to all the stakeholders in the power sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) With availability of gas from Reliance KG D-6 field, gas has been made available to all existing power projects having KG D-6 connectivity, as also to those projects under construction which are likely to be commissioned during 2009-10.

As regards power projects which are in the pipeline, Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) has decided that, subject to the availability of gas, necessary allocations from KG D-6 fields will be made to these projects as and when they are ready to commence production. Further, the requirement of natural gas for power plants to be completed beyond 2009-10 would be reviewed from time to time by the EGoM for making firm allotments to such new plants from the fallback quantity available.

(c) As informed by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG) the present production from KG D-6 is around 45 MMSCMD.

(d) Government of India has adopted a multi-pronged strategy to augment gas supplies

and bridge the gap between supply and demand for the domestic market including that for power sector. These include:—

- (i) MoP&NG informed that out of total allocations of 91.61 million metric standard cubic meter per day (mmscmd) from KG D-6, 43.165 mmscmd has been allocated to power sector, 31.165 mmscmd on firm basis and 12.00 mmscmd on fallback basis. Besides this, a provision of 10.00 mmscmd on fall back basis has been made for captive power plants from KG D-6.
- (ii) MoP&NG is taking necessary steps to increase availability of gas from domestic sources by awarding gas blocks for Exploration and Production (E&P) activities in various sedimentary basins of the country under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP).
- (iii) MoP&NG is encouraging import of gas in the form of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and also making efforts for import of gas through international pipelines projects.
- (iv) In order to explore and produce new sources of natural gas from coal bearing areas, Government has formulated a Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Policy providing attractive fiscal and contractual framework for exploration and production of CBM in the country.
- (v) Government is encouraging Under Ground Coal Gasification (UGCG) and coal liquification and investment by private entrepreneurs in development of these frontier technologies.
- (vi) While allocation of RIL gas from KG basin (D-6), the power sector has been given priority.

Electrification of villages

†1172. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of villages electrified so far under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana, State-wise;
- (b) the amount provided by Government therefor, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government has decided to make some amendment in this scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

- (a) State-wise cumulative achievement of electrification of un/de-electrified villages for the sanctioned projects under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) as on 15.11.2009, is given in the Statement-I (See below).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) State-wise details of sanctioned cost for the projects under RGGVY, is presented in the given Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Statement-I

State-wise cumulative achievement of electrification of un-electrified villages for the sanctioned projects under RGGVY

Sl. No.	States	Cumulative Achievement (As on 15.11.2009)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	120
3.	Assam	1127
4.	Bihar	17348
5.	Chhattisgarh	63
6.	Gujarat	0
7.	Haryana	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0
9.	Jharkhand	9211
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	53
11.	Karnataka	58
12.	Kerala	0
13.	Madhya Pradesh	86
14.	Maharashtra	0
15.	Manipur	103
16.	Meghalaya	120
17.	Mizoram	0
18.	Nagaland	0
19.	Orissa	2681
20.	Punjab	0
21.	Rajasthan	2126
22.	Sikkim	0
23.	Tripura	0

1	2	3
24.	Tamil Nadu	0
25.	Uttar Pradesh	27732
26.	Uttarakhand	1442
27.	West Bengal	3913
TOTAL :		66183

Statement-II

Details of sanctioned cost for projects under RGGVY

Rs. in crore

Sl. No.	State	Total Sanctioned Project Cost
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	840.09
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	537.69
3.	Assam	1660.00
4.	Bihar	2975.89
5.	Chhattisgarh	1105.21
6.	Gujarat	360.43
7.	Haryana	197.40
8.	Himachal Pradesh	205.25
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	635.93
10.	Jharkhand	2662.61
11.	Karnataka	600.10
12.	Kerala	19.75
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1533.34
14.	Maharashtra	713.44
15.	Manipur	357.79
16.	Meghalaya	290.41
17.	Mizoram	104.25
18.	Nagaland	111.17

1	2	3
19.	Orissa	3575.11
20.	Punjab	154.59
21.	Rajasthan	1254.49
22.	Sikkim	57.10
23.	Tamil Nadu	447.41
24.	Tripura	131.46
25.	Uttar Pradesh	2719.51
26.	Uttarakhand	643.89
27.	West Bengal	2344.63
TOTAL :		26238.94

Share of Rajasthan in hydro projects

†1173. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been signed between the Central Government and Governments of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan with regard to their share in hydro power projects of Punjab;

(b) if so, whether Rajasthan's share has been fixed in the projects mentioned in the agreement; and

(c) if so, the extent of share in the projects and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) to (c) An agreement was reached between the States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan and Government of India on 10.05.1984 wherein it was agreed that in view of the claims raised by Haryana and Rajasthan for sharing of power in Anandpur Sahib Hydel Project, Mukerian Hydel Project, Thein Dam project, UBDC Stage-II and Shahpur Kandi hydel Scheme, the Government of India shall refer the matter to the Supreme Court for its opinion. The opinion of the Supreme Court was to be sought on whether the States of Rajasthan and Haryana are entitled to a share in the power generated from these hydel schemes and in case they are, what would be the share of each State.

However, subsequently in the discussions held between the Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan on 29-30 July, 1992 and 6th August, 1992, a consensus was reached not to refer the matter to the Supreme Court. It was also decided that the States would come to a reasonable agreement through mutual consultations. In order

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

to resolve the issue amicably, a number of formal and informal discussions have taken place. However, no consensus has emerged so far due to the divergent views of the stakeholder States. Meanwhile, the State of Punjab has enacted the 'Punjab Termination of Agreements Act 2004', terminating and discharging the Government of Punjab from its obligations under the agreement dated 31.12.1981 between Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan on reallocation of waters and under all other agreements relating to waters of Ravi-Beas. Government of India has made a Presidential Reference to the Supreme Court on 22.07.2004 *inter alia* whether the Punjab Termination of Agreements Act, 2004 and the provisions thereof are in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of India.

Power supply to Uttar Pradesh

†1174. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts being made by Government to end the energy crisis prevailing in the country; and

(b) the reasons for not providing the electricity according to the demand in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Government has taken a number of steps to end the energy crisis. The National Electricity Policy, formulated in pursuance of Electricity Act, 2003, envisages demand to be fully met by 2012; energy and peaking-shortages to be overcome and adequate spinning reserve to be available. As per the recent assessment made by Central Electricity Authority, a generation capacity of 62,374 MW including 18,859 MW already commissioned, is likely to be added during Eleventh Plan. The other steps taken/being taken by the Government to mitigate shortage of power in the country include (i) development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4,000 MW each, (ii) harnessing surplus captive power into the grid, (iii) import of coal, (iv) enhanced availability of gas from KG basin, (v) augmentation of manufacturing capacity of equipment for electric power in the country, (vi) demand side management, energy efficiency and energy conservation measures, etc.

(b) Electricity being a concurrent subject, supply and distribution of electricity in a State as per demand comes under the purview of the State Government/State Power Utility concerned. Government of India supplement the efforts of State Government (s) by establishing power projects through Central Public Sector Undertakings.

At present, State of Uttar Pradesh has been provided 4884 MW to 4994 MW power from Central Generating which is highest in the country.

Hydro power potential

†1175. SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) the hydro power generation potential of the country;
- (b) the details of the hydro power potential exploited so far till 2007-08, State-wise;
- (c) by what proportion hydro power is cheaper and more useful in terms of environmental, costs and other means;
- (d) the proportion of investment being made by Government in hydro power sector;
- (e) the proportion of foreign assistance thereto; and
- (f) the proportion of thermal/atomic and hydro power in total power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) The total hydro electric potential of the country as assessed by Central Electricity Authority is 1,481,701 MW.

(b) The details of quantum of exploitation of hydro power potential State wise till 2007-08 is given at the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The quantitative comparison is not feasible, as most of the environmental costs are unquantifiable. However, there are certain environmental benefits associated with hydropower generation, which makes it cheaper and more useful in terms of environmental costs and other means.

The All-India average rate of sale of power-for hydro, thermal and nuclear generating stations for the last two years is given below:—

*Average rate of sale * (paise/unit)*

Sector	2006-07	2007-08
Hydro	127	154
Thermal	204	203
Nuclear	219	228

* Average rate of sale = (Total revenue earned)/Total energy sold).

(d) The working group on power for Eleventh Plan had worked out a total fund requirement for Eleventh Plan (including advance action funds for Twelfth Plan projects) amounting to Rs. 410896 crores. Out of the above, fund requirement for hydro projects is Rs. 131105 crores which is 31.91% of the total fund requirements.

(e) As on date, foreign assistance of Rs. 12,903 crores has been committed for construction of 12 hydro power projects and Renovation and Modernisation of 2 hydro power projects from World Bank, Asian Development Bank, JICA (Japan) and KfW (Germany). An exchange rate of 1 USD = Rs. 46/- and 1 Euro = Rs. 70/- has been assumed.

(f) The total installed potential of the country including Atomic is 153694.09 MW as on 31.10.2009. The ratio of thermal, atomic, hydro and Renewable Energy Sources (RES) is given below:—

(a)	Thermal	99378.48 MW	64.66%
(b)	Atomic	4120.00 MW	2.68%
(c)	Hydro	36885.40 MW	24.00%
(d)	Renewable Energy Sources@ (Ministry of Non-Renewable Energy)	13310.21 MW	8.66%
TOTAL:		153694.09 MW	

@ Based on data as on 30.09.2008.

Statement

*State-wise status of hydro electric potential development
(In terms of installed capacity)*

As on 31.03.2008

Region/State	Identified capacity as per re-assessment study (MW)	Capacity developed (MW) %		Capacity under construction (MW) %		Capacity developed + under construction (MW) %		Capacity yet to be (MW) %	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Northern									
Jammu and Kashmir	14146	1864.2	13.18	899.0	6.36	2763.2	19.53	11382.9	80.47
Himachal Pradesh	18820	6085.5	32.34	4435.0	23.57	10520.5	55.90	8299.6	44.10
Punjab	971	1297.7	100.00	0.0	0.00	1297.7	100.00	0.0	0.00
Haryana	64	62.4	97.50	0.0	0.00	62.4	97.50	1.6	2.50
Rajasthan	496	430.0	86.69	0.0	0.00	430.0	86.69	66.0	13.31
Uttaranchal	18175	3056.1	16.81	1850.0	10.18	4906.1	26.99	13269.0	73.01
Uttar Pradesh	723	510.2	70.57	0.0	0.00	510.2	70.57	212.8	29.43
SUB TOTAL (NR):	53395	13305.9	24.92	7184.0	13.45	20489.9	38.37	32905.1	61.63
Western									
Madhya Pradesh	2243	2438.5	108.72	400.0	17.83	2838.5	100.00	0.0	0.00
Chhattisgarh	2242	137.0	6.11	0.0	0.00	137.0	6.11	2105.0	93.89

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Gujarat	619	555.0	89.66	0.0	0.00	555.0	89.66	64.0	10.34
Maharashtra	3769	2653.3	70.40	0.0	0.00	2653.3	70.40	1115.7	29.60
Goa	55	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00	55.0	100.00
SUB TOTAL (WR):	8928	5783.8	64.78	400.0	4.48	6183.8	69.26	2744.2	30.74
Southern									
Andhra Pradesh	4424	2056.5	46.49	605.0	13.68	2661.5	60.16	1762.5	39.84
Karnataka	6602	3448.3	52.23	230.0	3.48	3678.3	55.71	2023.7	44.29
Kerala	3514	1838.5	52.32	160.0	4.55	1998.5	56.87	1515.5	43.13
Tamil Nadu	1918	1757.5	91.63	60.0	3.13	1817.5	94.76	100.6	5.24
SUB TOTAL (SR):	16458	9100.8	55.30	1055.0	6.41	10155.8	61.71	6302.3	38.29
Eastern									
Jharkhand	753	237.2	31.50	0.0	0.00	237.2	31.50	115.8	68.50
Bihar	70	44.9	64.14	0.0	0.00	44.9	64.14	25.1	35.86
Orissa	2999	2011.5	67.07	0.0	0.00	2011.5	67.07	987.5	32.93
West Bengal	2841	156.5	5.51	292.0	10.28	448.5	15.79	2392.5	84.21
Sikkim	4286	594.0	13.86	1919.0	44.77	2513.0	58.63	1773.0	41.37
SUB TOTAL (ER):	10949	3049.4	27.85	2211.0	20.19	5260.4	48.04	5688.7	51.96
Northern Eastern									
Meghalaya	2394	185.2	7.74	124.0	5.18	309.2	12.92	2084.8	87.08
Tripura	15	15.0	100.00	0.0	0.00	15.0	100.00	0.0	0.00
Manipur	1784	105.0	5.89	0.0	0.00	105.0	5.89	1679.0	94.11
Assam	680	375.0	55.15	0.0	0.00	375.0	55.15	305.0	44.85
Nagaland	1574	99.0	6.29	0.0	0.00	99.0	6.29	1475.0	93.71
Arunachal Pradesh	50328	423.5	0.84	2600.0	5.17	3023.5	6.01	47304.5	93.99
Mizoram	2196	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00	2196.0	100.00
SUB TOTAL (NER):	58971	1202.7	2.04	2724.0	4.62	3926.7	6.66	55044.3	93.34
ALL INDIA	148701	32442.5	21.82	13574.0	9.13	46016.5	30.95	102684.5	69.05

Note 1 In addition to above 4559.6 MW PSS is under operation and another 250 MW is under construction.

Note 2 The above Table does not include schemes below 3 MW upto March'2003 and thereafter upto 25MW under construction.

Development of power sector in Madhya Pradesh

†1176. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of proposals received from Madhya Pradesh Government during the last five years for the developmental work of power sector and the number of proposals pending at present;
- (b) the amount involved in the proposals pending and the action taken by his Ministry so far after receiving the proposals;
- (c) whether any time-frame has been fixed to dispose off the proposals; and
- (d) whether the likely cost-escalation of the proposed works increases as a result of long time taken in sanctioning of proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) to (d) Concurrence of Central Electricity Authority for techno-economic clearance of thermal power projects is not required under the provisions of Electricity Act, 2003. No proposal of Hydro Electric Project was received in CEA from Madhya Pradesh during the last five years for its concurrence.

Projects for 32 districts with project cost of Rs. 1533 crore have been sanctioned under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana. Further, 82 schemes at the cost of Rs. 228.09 crores have been sanctioned for Madhya Pradesh under Part A, which include the projects for establishment of baseline data and IT applications for energy accounting/auditing and IT based consumer service centres.

A request for external assistance of Rs. 1500 crore from Asian Development Bank (ADB) for the transmission projects for evacuation of power from (i) 2 × 600 MW Shri Singaji (Malwa) TPP (ii) 2 × 250 MW Satpura TPP Extn. and (iii) Associated System Strengthening Scheme in Madhya Pradesh was received from Government of Madhya Pradesh. The system strengthening scheme of Madhya Pradesh has been recommended by the Ministry of Power to Department of Economic Affairs, along with similar schemes of other States, for arranging World Bank assistance under their proposed additionality. Further, the possibility of assisting the evacuation schemes for Singaji (Malwa) and Satpura TPS was explored with ADB. They have conveyed that given the present level of exposure of ADB to the Madhya Pradesh State Power Sector is about USD 1.0 Billion and as such, it is difficult for them to consider any new power project in the State at this stage. To avoid construction delays, it has been suggested that all other financing resources may immediately be explored by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, including PFC.

Projects under RGGVY

1177. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) how many projects were sanctioned under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) this year;

(b) what is the outlay for this project;

(c) the number of projects submitted by Kerala under RGGVY; and

(d) how many projects have been sanctioned in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) and (b) 6 projects with an outlay of Rs. 24042.07 lakh have been sanctioned under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) this year. The details of projects sanctioned under RGGVY during 2009-10, is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) 14 projects were submitted by Kerala under RGGVY. Out of them, 1 project has been sanctioned under Tenth Plan.

Statement

Details of projects sanctioned under RGGVY during 2009-10

Sl. No.	Name of the State and District	Date of sanction	Total cost of Project (Rs. lakh)
Karnataka			
1.	Kodagu	04.08.09	3839.09
Manipur			
1.	Bishnupur	12.08.09	1415.40
2.	Churachandpur	12.08.09	10093.36
3.	Thoubal	12.08.09	2222.81
4.	Imphal West	12.08.09	3001.02
5.	Imphal East	12.08.09	3470.39
TOTAL:			24042.07

Supply of gas for power generation

†1178. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power generation is not taking place properly due to the paucity of gas;

(b) if so, whether Government intends to take effective measures to ensure the adequate supply of fuel for power generation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) It is a fact that in the past power generation was suffering in the gas based power plants due to the paucity of gas. However, since the start of gas production from RIL D-6 gas block in the month of April 2009 and the allocation of RIL gas to power sector on priority, the supply of gas to the gas based power plants has improved considerably.

(b) and (c) Government of India has adopted a multi-pronged strategy to augment gas supplies and bridge the gap between supply and demand for the domestic market including that for power sector. These include:—

- (i) MoP&NG is taking necessary steps to increase availability of gas from domestic sources by awarding gas blocks for Exploration and Production (E&P) activities in various sedimentary basins of the country under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP).
- (ii) MoP&NG is encouraging import of gas in the form of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and also making efforts for import of gas through international pipelines projects.
- (iii) In order to explore and produce new sources of natural gas from coal bearing areas, government has formulated a Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Policy providing attractive fiscal and contractual framework for exploration and production of CBM in the country.
- (iv) Government is encouraging Under Ground Coal Gasification (UGCG) and coal liquification and investment by private entrepreneurs in development of these frontier technologies.
- (v) While allocation of RIL gas from KG basin (D-6), the power sector has been given priority.

Rural electrification

1179. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of villages electrified in each State under the RGGVY during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the funds released for the purpose and utilized by each State during the period;
- (c) whether some State Governments have submitted Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) to Government under the Yojana; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) State-wise and Year-wise achievement of electrification of un/de-electrified villages

and funds disbursed during the last three years for the sanctioned projects under Rajiv Gandhi Gramme Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) is given in the Statement-I and II (*See below*).

(c) and (d) 611 Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) were received in Rural Electrification Corporation (REC). 567 Detailed Project Reports (235 projects under Tenth Plan and 332 projects under Eleventh Plan) submitted by the State Governments have been sanctioned under RGGVY by the Government. The State-wise details of projects sanctioned under RGGVY, are given in the Statement-III.

Statement-I

State-wise and Year-wise achievement of electrification of un-electrified villages for the sanctioned projects under RGGVY

Sl. No.	States	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	84	651
4.	Bihar	8415	3347	3098
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	50
6.	Gujarat	0	0	0
7.	Haryana	0	0	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0
9.	Jharkhand	0	1259	4933
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	46
11.	Karnataka	0	0	11
12.	Kerala	0	0	0
13.	Madhya Pradesh	0	15	69
14.	Maharashtra	0	0	0
15.	Manipur	0	36	57
16.	Meghalaya	0	0	90
17.	Mizoram	0	0	0
18.	Nagaland	0	0	0
19.	Orissa	0	0	1427

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Punjab	0	0	0
21.	Rajasthan	765	633	158
22.	Sikkim	0	0	0
23.	Tripura	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0
25.	Uttar Pradesh	16620	2862	695
26.	Uttarakhand	798	341	175
27.	West Bengal	2108	724	596
TOTAL :		28706	9301	12056

Statement-II

State-wise and Year-wise funds disbursed under RGGVY

Rs. in crore

Sl. No.	Name of State	During 2006-07	During 2007-08	During 2008-09
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	92.85	266.43	80.58
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	179.83	92.70
3.	Assam	38.74	65.47	510.05
4.	Bihar	469.04	746.73	695.90
5.	Chhattisgarh	36.18	50.92	100.08
6.	Gujarat	13.36	17.93	52.38
7.	Haryana	12.34	24.66	37.10
8.	Himachal Pradesh	7.34	0.14	79.28
9.	Jharkhand	281.33	595.86	1068.58
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	19.59	29.81	181.17
11.	Karnataka	86.84	325.43	68.10
12.	Kerala	5.03	0.10	0.84
13.	Madhya Pradesh	104.66	156.17	185.88
14.	Maharashtra	9.82	16.80	139.53

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Manipur	13.26	5.31	39.36
16.	Meghalaya	0.00	19.93	12.20
17.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	78.31
18.	Nagaland	4.15	5.39	54.40
19.	Orissa	62.41	176.80	994.65
20.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	56.90
21.	Rajasthan	86.54	181.18	290.50
22.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	43.74
23.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	24.28
24.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	100.77	16.76
25.	Uttar Pradesh	1542.96	565.26	86.84
26.	Uttarakhand	273.67	137.66	78.53
27.	West Bengal	204.71	81.17	623.35
TOTAL :		3364.82	3749.75	5691.99

Statement-III

State-wise details of projects sanctioned under RGGVY

As on 15.11.2009

Sl. No.	State	No. of projects sanctioned
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16
3.	Assam	23
4.	Bihar	43
5.	Chhattisgarh	14
6.	Gujarat	25
7.	Haryana	18
8.	Himachal Pradesh	12
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	14

1	2	3
10.	Jharkhand	22
11.	Karnataka	25
12.	Kerala	1
13.	Madhya Pradesh	32
14.	Maharashtra	34
15.	Manipur	9
16.	Meghalaya	7
17.	Mizoram	8
18.	Nagaland	11
19.	Orissa	31
20.	Punjab	17
21.	Rajasthan	40
22.	Sikkim	4
23.	Tamil Nadu	26
24.	Tripura	4
25.	Uttar Pradesh	64
26.	Uttarakhand	13
27.	West Bengal	28
TOTAL :		567

Manpower requirement of power sector

1180. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has estimated additional manpower requirement of 10 lakh persons, more than 30 per cent of them skilled workers in the Eleventh Five Year Plan and 16.6 lakh in the Twelfth Five Year Plan to meet the capacity additional targets by 2012 and 2017;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how Government proposes to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) :

(a) Yes, Sir. It is fact that Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has estimated additional manpower requirement of 10 lakh persons with more than 30% of them skilled and semi skilled workers in the Eleventh Five Year Plan. 16.6 lakh personnel is the cumulative manpower

requirement in the construction and operation and maintenance (O&M) of the plants and the associated transmission and distribution network for Eleventh and Twelfth Plan.

(b) The details of the 10 lakh additional manpower in construction and Q&M in the Eleventh Plan are as under:—

Category	Construction	Operation and Maintenance	To accelerate construction	Total
Engineers	20,000	40,000	6,500	66,500
Supervisors	33,000	75,000	12,000	1,20,000
Skilled Workers	67,000	60,000	23,000	1,50,000
Semi-skilled	73,000	65,000	22,000	1,60,000
Unskilled	1,48,000	75,000	49,000	2,72,000
Non-technical	84,000	1,20,000	27,500	2,31,500
TOTAL :	4,25,000	4,35,000	1,40,000	10,00,000

Additional manpower requirement during twelfth Plan is as under:—

Category	Construction	Operation and maintenance (including 7.5% recoupment)	Total
Engineers 3,000	56,000	59,000	
Supervisors	4,000	1,05,000	1,09,000
Skilled workers	8,000	85,000	93,000
Semi-Skilled Workers	9,000	91,000	1,00,000
Unskilled Workers	15,000	1,05,000	1,20,000
Non-technical	9,000	1,68,000	1,77,000
TOTAL :	49,000	6,12,000	6,61,000

(c) Action taken by the Government to meet the manpower requirements of the power sector as under:—

- (i) Ministry of Power and CEA have taken initiative under “Adopt an ITI” scheme since July, 2007. Under this scheme, the State Government ITIs are being adopted by power sector CPSUs and Private Project developers under Public Private Partnership scheme of the Directorate General of Employment and Training, Ministry of Labour and Employment to invest in augmentation and up-gradation of the training assets of ITIs around their project areas, especially in respect of trades that are relevant to the power industry.

- (ii) Subsequently, this issue of Manpower requirement and their skill development has been emphasized during the Chief Ministers conference (2007), and recently held Power Ministers Conference in June, 2009 and November, 2009. State Government's have also been requested to facilitate adoption of ITI's by their State Power utilities.

Shortage of coal for power generation

1181. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is loss of power generation due to shortage of Coal for the period April to September, 2009; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the details of requirement of gas and coal to achieve the Twelfth Five Year Plan target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The generation loss aggregating 6.13 Billion Unit has been reported by the power utilities during April to September, 2009 due to shortage of coal.

Central Electricity Authority has estimated capacity addition requirement for Twelfth Plan to be about 1,00,000 MW comprising 20,000 MW hydro, 75,200 MW thermal and 4,800 MW nuclear to meet the demand projections of Seventeenth Electric Power Survey. The capacity addition target for Twelfth Plan is yet to be finalized. Furnishing details of gas and coal requirement for the Twelfth Plan is not feasible at present as the fuel-wise break-up of thermal capacity addition for the Twelfth Plan is yet to be firmed up.

Power generation situation

1182. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of households still lacking access to electricity in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government is aware of the fact that the generation of each megawatt of power is accompanied by an annual loss of rupees one crore; and
- (c) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to implement mega power projects for generating 78,000 MW of power by 2012?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Under RGGVY it is targeted to provide access to Rural House holds in 1.18 lakh villages. As on 16.11.2009 access to electricity have been provided to rural house holds in 66183 villages.

(b) No such estimate has been made by Ministry of Power.

(c) The following steps are being taken to achieve capacity addition target for the Eleventh Plan:—

- (i) Rigorous monitoring of on-going generation projects at highest level by the Union

Power Minister, Minister of State for Power, Secretary (Power) and Chairperson, CEA.

- (ii) Power Minister's Conference was held twice during 2009-10 to review the capacity addition programme for Eleventh Plan and to sort out critical issues and bottlenecks faced in implementation of on-going projects.
- (iii) An Advisory Group has also been set up under the Chairmanship of Minister of Power with retired secretaries of Ministry of Power and Industry representatives to advise on expeditious implementation of on-going projects.
- (iv) CEA has a nodal officer associated with each on going project to continuously monitor the progress at site through frequent visits and continuous interaction with project developers.
- (v) The on-going projects are vigorously monitored by the Power Projects Monitoring Panel (PPMP) set up specially for the purpose.
- (vi) Enhancement of main plant equipment manufacturing capacity by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) and widening the vendor base by BHEL through outsourcing.
- (vii) Formation of Joint Venture company by NTPC Ltd. and BHEL, M/s L&T and MHI, Japan, M/s JSW and Toshiba, M/s Bharat Forge and Alstom and M/s BB Engineering and Ansaldo for manufacture of various power plants equipments.
- (viii) Sensitization of all stakeholders towards enlarging the vendor base so as to meet the Balance of Plants (BoP) requirements.
- (ix) Adopt an ITI initiative by project developers to meet the requirement of skilled manpower.

Proposal under feeder division plan

†1183. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a proposal from Madhya Pradesh Government for Rs. 631 crore for Bhopal, Gwalior, Indore and Badwani districts has been received under feeder division plan; and
- (b) if so, the action being taken by Government and by when it would be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) and (b) In the wake of global financial crisis, the World Bank Group has announced that it would make additional commitments over and above its average commitments for lending to developing countries. The Government of India has also expressed its desire to avail additional financing by posing quality projects in the critical infrastructure sectors.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Accordingly a meeting was convened in Ministry of Power on 27th May, 2009 to prepare a list of potential power projects for posing to the World Bank. Various power projects were prioritized as category A, B and C projects. The feeder separation programme of Madhya Pradesh for Rs. 3,000 crores was prioritized as a category C project. However, only category A and B projects were short listed for posing to the World Bank.

MPLAD scheme in SC/ST dominated areas

†1184. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:
SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether adequate amount has not been spent for development of scheduled castes and scheduled tribe dominated areas under MPLAD scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is considering to review the guidelines in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The provision for Members of Parliament to recommend works for the development of areas inhabited by SC/ST was introduced for the first time in the Guidelines in November, 2005. As per these guidelines, the MPs are to recommend every year such works costing at least 15% of MPLADS fund for areas inhabited by Scheduled Caste population and 7.5% for areas inhabited by Scheduled Tribe population. The district authorities are responsible for enforcing these provisions relating to the SC and ST areas. The Ministry has not received any information regarding adequate amount not being spent for the development of scheduled castes/scheduled tribe dominated areas.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has already issued instructions to the district authorities that in case any constituency does not have adequate SC/ST population, the concerned Nodal District Authority, may seek exemption from the Ministry. There is no proposal to review this guideline at present.

Projects running behind schedule

†1185. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that there are 925 projects of Rs. 20 crores or more being financed by the Central Government;

(b) if not, the exact number thereof and the number of the projects that are running behind their schedule; and

(c) the likely cost escalation for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As on 30th June, 2009 951 central sector projects costing Rs. 20 crores or more were on the monitor of this Ministry. Of these, 466 projects are running behind schedule with respect to the latest approved schedule.

(c) The likely cost escalation for these projects is Rs. 37693.70 crore *i.e.* 11.9% of the latest approved cost of Rs. 314736.75 crore.

Delay in central projects

†1186. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in March 2004, 37.2 per cent of the projects financed by the Central Government were running behind the schedule and now 48 per cent projects are running behind the schedule;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the amount spent on these projects by the end of March, 2009?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As in March, 2004 out of 568 central sector projects, 207 projects were running behind schedule *i.e.* 36.44%. As in June, 2009 out of 951 projects, 466 projects were running behind schedule with respect to the latest approved schedule, which comes to 49%.

(c) As in June, 2009 an amount of Rs. 243431 crore was incurred which is 40% of the anticipated completion cost.

Benefit of MPLADS fund to all communities

1187. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) while setting apart certain percentage out of MPLADS funds for SC/ST habitations exclusively is welcome, whether it is practical to implement this guideline in all places particularly when there are certain constituencies which do not have the requisite habitations at all; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether there would be a review of this guideline in such a way that the MPLADS funds may be allowed to be used in a place where the requisite percentage of SC or ST population are living with other communities in as much as the benefit of the scheme will be used by all irrespective of community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) There are some constituencies in the country where percentage of SC/ST communities is very small. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has issued instructions to the district authorities that in case any constituency does not have adequate SC/ST population, the concerned Nodal District Authority, may seek exemption from the Ministry in this regard. There is no proposal to review this guideline at present.

Schemes for STs in West Bengal

1188. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes being implemented in West Bengal for STs;
- (b) the details of the beneficiaries under the above schemes/programmes; and
- (c) how his Ministry ensures implementation of various projects meant for STs, particularly in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) The schemes of Ministry of Tribal Affairs under implementation are for States having tribal population, including West Bengal. The various schemes are mentioned in the given Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The details of beneficiaries are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) Implementation of the Schemes and particularly in West Bengal is ensured through proper monitoring on the basis of annual inspections, periodic field visits, regular interactions with the State Governments, furnishing of periodic progress reports and utilization certificates.

Statement-I

Schemes of Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Sl. No.	Name of the Schemes
1	2
A.	Special Area Programs (SAP)
1.	SCA to Tribal Sub-Plan
2.	Grants under Proviso to Article 275(1)
B.	Central Sector Schemes (CS)
3.	Grants-in-Aid to NGOs for STs including Coaching and Allied Scheme and Award for Exemplary Service

1	2
4.	Vocational Training Centres in Tribal Areas
5.	Educational Complex in Low Literacy pockets for development of women
6.	Support to TRIFED
7.	State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations for Minor Forest Produce
8.	Development of Primitive Tribal Groups
9.	Support of National/State Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporations
10.	Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST Students
11.	Scheme of Institute of Excellence/Top Class Institute
12.	National Overseas Scholarship Scheme
C.	Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)
13.	Scheme of PMS, Book Bank and Upgradation of Merit of ST students
14.	Scheme of Hostels for ST Girls and Boys
15.	Establishment of Ashram Schools
16.	Research and Mass Education, Tribal Festivals and Others

Statement-II

Details of beneficiaries

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	No. of beneficiaries		
		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1.	Grant-in-Aid to NGO for STs including Coaching and Allied Scheme and award for exemplary service	68554	73860	115845
2.	Vocational Training in Tribal Areas	400	0	0
3.	Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PTGs)	58518 families		
4.	Scheme of PMS, Book Bank and Upgradation of Merit of ST student	16092	17609	19835
5.	Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan	Not feasible to maintain details of beneficiaries as the programmes are community oriented.		
6.	Scheme Under Proviso to Art. 275 (1) of the Constitution			

Failure in implementation of Forest Rights Act

1189. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the States have failed to implement the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 in an effective manner;

(b) if so, how far it has been implemented in different States; and

(c) the measures being taken by the Central Government to ensure proper and speedy implementation of the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The responsibility for implementing the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 and vesting the rights lies with the State/UT Governments. The States have progressed in varying degrees in implementation of the Act. While the States like Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tripura and West Bengal have established the prescribed structures and procedures, have received a large number of claims and have started distributing the title deeds, other States, because of various reasons, are still to catch up. As per the information collected till 31st October, 2009, more than 24.90 lakh claims have been filed and more than 5.68 lakh titles have been distributed. More than 43 thousand titles were ready for distribution. Status of State-wise implementation of the Act is given in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(c) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been interacting with all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations urging them to expedite implementation of the Act. Review meetings with the concerned officers of the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are being held at regular intervals. The officers of the Ministry are also visiting the States to assess and guide the pace of implementation. The Ministry has advised and is pursuing all the State/UT Governments to ensure completion of the work relating to vesting of forest rights by end of December, 2009.

Statement

*Status of State-wise implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other
Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006*

(As on 31.10.2009)

Sl. No	State	Total number of claims received	Total number of titles deeds distributed/ready	Number of claims rejected
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3,26,303 (3,19,703 Individual and 6,600 community)	1,73,091 distributed	42,866

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh			
3.	Assam	66,546 (63,448 individual and 3098 community)		
4.	Bihar	788		
5.	Chhattisgarh	4,57,857	1,92,088 distributed	2,01,903
6.	Goa			
7.	Gujarat	1,84,329 (1,76,242 individual and 8,087 community)	5,668 distributed	528
8.	Himachal Pradesh			
9.	Jharkhand	4,539	72 distributed including 2 community rights	
10.	Karnataka	45,801		
11.	Kerala	35,620 (34,886 individual and 734 community).	23 distributed	9
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3,71,993 (3,69,437 individual and 2,556 community)	47,460 distributed 39,799 ready	2,27,964
13.	Maharashtra	2,66,572	2,453 distributed	170
14.	Manipur			
15.	Meghalaya			
16.	Mizoram			
17.	Orissa	3,06,034 (3,04,336 individual and 1,698 community)	50,190 distributed	—
18.	Rajasthan	58,721 (58,708 individual and 13 community)	5,412 distributed	7,608
19.	Sikkim			
20.	Tamil Nadu	8,352		
21.	Tripura	1,62,819	82,741 distributed	43,836

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Uttar Pradesh	52,736		26
23.	Uttaranchal			
24.	West Bengal	1,41,783	9,602 distributed and 3,396 ready	43,997
25.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands			
26.	Daman and Diu			
27.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli			
TOTAL :		24,90,793	5,68,800 distributed and 43,195 ready	5,68,907

Notes:

1. **Arunachal Pradesh:** The State Government has informed that though they have constituted the SDLC, DLC and SLMC under the Act but unlike the other States of Indian Union where the Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers are in minority and socio economically marginalized by other dominant non-tribal population, the State of Arunachal Pradesh is wholly domiciled by various ethnic tribal groups whose land and forests are specifically identified with natural boundaries of hillocks, ranges, rivers and tributaries. Barring few pockets of land under wildlife sanctuaries, reserved forests, most of the land in entire State is community land. Territorial boundaries of land and forest belonging to one community or tribes from the others are also identified in the same line leaving no scopes for any dispute over the possession of land forest or water bodies among the tribes. Therefore, the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 in true sense does not have much relevance to the State of Arunachal Pradesh.
2. **Haryana:** The State Government has informed that there are no Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers living in the forests of Haryana.
3. **Manipur:** Information not available.
4. **Mizoram:** The State Government has informed that the Act is to be approved by the State Legislative Assembly as per the Article 371(G) of the Constitution. This is awaited.
5. **Nagaland:** The Government of Nagaland has informed that the land holding system and the village system of the Naga people is peculiar in that the people are the land owners. Hence, the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 per se may not be applicable to the State of Nagaland.

6. **Sikkim:** The Government of Sikkim has issued a notification dated 28.1.2008 regarding constitution of an Expert Committee for identification of Critical Wildlife habitats in Protected Areas (PAs) and have also constituted the various Committees under the Act but has not sent any report regarding the progress of implementation of the Act in the State so far.
7. **Andaman and Nicobar Islands:** The Andaman and Nicobar Administration has informed that in Andaman and Nicobar Islands there are no non-tribal forest dwellers as defined in the Act. The area inhabited by the Scheduled Tribes of Andaman and Nicobar Islands has been declared as reserved area under the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Protection of Aboriginal Tribes (Regulation), 1956. The interest of the tribals in the land situated in the reserved areas are fully protected under the provision of the regulation. The tribal reserves have been notified as reserved or protected forest reserve.
8. **Daman and Diu:** No progress.
9. **Lakshadweep:** The UT Administration has intimated that there are no terrestrial forests and no forest tribes or traditional forest dwellers in Lakshadweep.
10. **Puducherry:** The Government of Puducherry has informed that there are no recognized Scheduled Tribes in the Union Territory of Puducherry and also no land in Puducherry is classified as "Forest Land" coming within the definition of Clause 2(d) of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

Development of aborigines

†1190. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched any scheme for development of aborigines in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the States where these tribals are residing; and
- (d) the amount allocated for development of tribals in those States during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has schemes for the development and welfare of the Tribes scheduled as per Article 342 of the Constitution only. No scheme has been launched by this Ministry for aborigines.

Distribution of land to tribal families

1191. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether land has been distributed to tribal families under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006;

(b) if so, the number of beneficiaries; and

(c) the States where distribution of land has been effected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 does not envisage distribution of land to tribals and people residing in the forests. This Act seeks to recognize and vest the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded.

(b) and (c) In view of reply to part (a) above, these questions do not arise.

Overall development of tribals

1192. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes any special scheme or plans for overall development of tribals in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the existing scheme for development of tribals or tribal areas suffer from lack of funds; and

(d) the allocation made during the year 2008-09 under different schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The details are given the Statement.

Statement

*Schemes of Ministry of Tribal Affairs Scheme-wise Budget Estimate
for the year 2008-09*

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of the Schemes	BE 2008-09
1	2	3
A	Special Area Programs (SAP)	
1.	SCA to Tribal Sub-Plan	900.00
2.	Grants under Proviso to Article 275(1)	416.00
	TOTAL (SAP):	1316.00

1	2	3
B	Central Sector Schemes (CS)	
1.	Grants-in-Aid to NGOs for STs including Coaching and Allied Scheme and Award for Exemplary Service	40.00
2.	Vocational Training Centres in Tribal Areas	10.00
3.	Educational Complex in Low Literacy pockets for development of women	60.00
4.	Support to TRIFED	19.00
5.	State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations for Minor Forest Produce	40.00
6.	Development of Primitive Tribal Groups	178.00
7.	Support to National/State Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporations	50.00
8.	Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST Students	32.00
9.	Scheme of Institute of Excellence/Top Class Institute	10.00
10.	National Overseas Scholarship Scheme	2.00
	TOTAL (Central Sector Plan):	441.00
C	Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)	
11.	Scheme of PMS, Book Bank and Upgradation of Merit of ST students	250.00
12.	Scheme of Hostels for ST Girls and Boys	66.00
13.	Establishment of Ashram Schools	30.00
14.	Research and Mass Education, Tribal Festivals and Others	18.00
	TOTAL (Centrally Sponsored Schemes):	364.00
	TOTAL (CS+CSS):	805.00
	GRAND TOTAL (CS+CSS+SAP):	2121.00

Selling of children and girls in foreign countries

†1193. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether children and girls are being sent abroad illegally through ships every year;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether after selling these innocent children and girls in foreign countries, they are subjected to utmost exploitation and harassment; and

(c) if so, the States where such incidents are taking place every year and the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) As per the information received from National Crime Records Bureau, they do not maintain information on children and girls being sent abroad illegally through ships.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Criteria for adoption

†1194. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed for adopting children in the country;

(b) whether there is any proposal from Government to encourage parents going for adoption and to lessen their social burden;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government propose to simplify the criterion regarding adoption of children; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (f) The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 was amended in 2006 amending some existing provisions under the Act and adding some new provisions including the following regarding adoption of children, to make it more child friendly and simpler:—

(i) adoption shall be resorted to for the rehabilitation of the children who are orphan, abandoned or surrendered.

(ii) in keeping with the provisions of the various guidelines for adoption issued from time to time, by the State Government or the Central Adoption Resource Agency and notified by the Central Government, children may be given in adoption by a court after satisfying itself regarding the investigations having been carried out, as are required for giving such children in adoption.

(iii) State, Government shall recognize one or more of its institutions or voluntary organizations in each district as specialized agencies to facilitate more number of adoption of orphan, abandoned and surrendered children in the country.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (iv) Court may allow a child to be given in adoption - (a) to a person irrespective of marital status; or (b) to parents to adopt a child of same sex irrespective of the number of living biological sons or daughters; or (c) to childless couples.

Ministry of Women and Child Development through Central Adoption Resource Agency [CARA] and its associated agencies encourages domestic adoption through publicity, advertisements, awareness campaign, etc.

Child death due to malnutrition

1195. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRI NARESH GUJRAL:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of recent malnutrition related child deaths in several parts of the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) is so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the role of NGOs engaged in providing help to undernourished children particularly in Madhya Pradesh have been assessed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) According to information received from Government of Madhya Pradesh, there are no reported deaths due to only malnutrition. The State Women and Child Department and Health Department are constantly monitoring the causes of death of various children in Anganwadi Centres (AWCs).

(c) No, Sir. However, the State Government is involving International Organizations working for the cause of children like UNICEF, CARE etc. in various activities of the department like Bal-Sanjeevni Abhiyan, Project Shaktiman etc. from time to time.

Stunted and underweight children

1196. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

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

- (a) whether Government are aware that the country has the largest number of stunted children and one of the highest number of underweight children below the age of five in the world, according to a latest UNICEF report;
- (b) if so, whether Government have evaluated its programmes and schemes launched for the benefit of children;
- (c) the reasons for poor progress in this regard as India lags far behind even developing countries in case of children's health and nutrition; and

(d) the steps Government are going to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) Yes, Sir, keeping in view India's large population base and level of undernutrition in the country.

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

(c) The problem of malnutrition is multi-dimensional and inter-generational in nature, the determinants of which include household food insecurity, illiteracy and lack of awareness especially in women, poor access to health services, non-availability of safe drinking water, sanitation and environment conditions and adequate purchasing power etc. Besides early age at marriage of girls, teenage pregnancies resulting in low birth weight of the newborns, poor breastfeeding practices, poor complementary feeding practices, ignorance about nutritional needs of infants and young children and repeated infections further aggravate the malnutrition amongst children. Tackling malnutrition amongst children requires an integrated approach. Prevention of early marriage, appropriate spacing in pregnancy, better Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices including exclusive breast feeding, age appropriate complementary feeding, better hygienic conditions, immunization, Vitamin A supplementation, deworming, Oral Rehydration, Zinc supplementation during diarrhea, timely and quality feeding of acute malnutrition condition, improved nutrition for adolescent girls, prevention of anemia, improved food and nutrient intake during pregnancy and lactation, better information and awareness about nutritional needs and behaviors and prevention and control of diseases would need to be promoted for mitigating the impact of malnutrition. All these need to be addressed on a holistic manner by effective intersectoral coordination, convergence and improved systems of delivery of services under different schemes and programmes of central and State Governments.

(d) The Ministry of Women and Child Development is addressing the problem of malnutrition among children below 6 years through the ICDS in all States/UTs. The scheme, *inter-alia*, provides a component of Supplementary Nutrition which is primarily designed to bridge the gap between the Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDA) and the Average Daily Intake (ADI). The Government has also enhanced the financial as well as nutritional norms for different categories of beneficiaries as follows:

Category	Revised Rates	Revised Nutritional Norms	
	(Per beneficiary per day)	Calories (kcal)	Protein (g)
(i) Children (6 months to 72 months)	Rs. 4.00	500	12-15
(ii) Severely malnourished children (6 months-72 months)	Rs. 6.00	800	20-25
(iii) Pregnant women and Nursing mothers	Rs. 5.00	600	18-20

However, malnutrition is a multifaceted and multi sectoral problem requiring coordinated action by various Ministries. The schemes being implemented by different Ministries aimed at improving the nutritional status of children have been listed in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Schemes and Programmes to improve the Child Health and Nutrition

- (i) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free food grains to undernourished adolescent girls by Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- (ii) To promote appropriate infant and young child feeding practices, the National Guidelines on Infant and Young Child Feeding have been developed and disseminated all over the country. Increased emphasis is given to:—
 - a. Initiation of breastfeeding immediately after birth, preferably within one hour.
 - b. Exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months
 - c. Implementing the Infant Milk Substitute (IMS) Act.
- (iii) Nutrition and Health Education: Food and Nutrition Board of the Ministry of Women and Child Development is engaged in advocacy, trainings and generating awareness on important nutrition issues among different level of functionaries and the masses.
- (iv) National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meal Scheme) by the Department of School Elementary Education and Literacy;
- (v) Reproductive and Child Health Programme under the National Rural Health Mission being implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has schemes for prevention of micronutrient malnutrition as below:
 - Iron and Folic acid supplementation for children, adolescents, pregnant and lactating women.
 - Vitamin-A supplementation for children upto 5 years.
 - National Iodine Deficiency Control Programme.
- (vi) Targeted Public Distribution System, Antodaya Anna Yojana and Annapurna Scheme by the Department of Food and Consumer Affairs.
- (vii) Other measures include:
 - Improving agricultural and horticulture produce
 - Improving the purchasing power of the people through various income generating scheme

Child welfare committee

1197. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Juvenile Justice (care and protection of children) Act 2000 provides for constitution of a Child Welfare Committee (CWC) in each district;

(b) if so, the number of districts in the country where such committee have been constituted; and

(c) in the absence of such CWCs the measures being taken to see that the Juvenile Justice Law is implemented properly in different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Act, 2006 provides for constitution of a Child Welfare Committee (CWC) in each district.

(b) The number of Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) set up in the country, State-wise, as per the information available in the Ministry of Women and Child Development received from the State Governments/UT Administrations, is given at Statement (See below).

(c) The responsibility for proper implementation of the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act as amended in 2006 lies with the State Government/UT Administrations.

The Child Welfare Committee is one of the statutory bodies under Section 29 of the Act, set up by the State Government/UT Administrations for exercising the powers and to discharge the duties conferred on such Committee in relation to child in need of care and protection under this Act.

The States/UTs are advised from time to time to ensure proper implementation of the provisions of the Act including setting up of Child Welfare Committee in each district.

Statement

State-wise number of CWCs

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Number of Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) set up
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	23
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	8
4.	Assam	NA
5.	Bihar	12
6.	Chhattisgarh	7
7.	Chandigarh	1

1	2	3
8.	Daman and Diu	NA
9.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	1
10.	Delhi	4
11.	Goa	1
12.	Gujarat	25
13.	Haryana	19
14.	Himachal Pradesh	NA
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	NA
16.	Jharkhand	11
17.	Karnataka	26
18.	Kerala	14
19.	Lakshadweep	1
20.	Madhya Pradesh	48
21.	Maharashtra	37
22.	Manipur	1
23.	Meghalaya	7
24.	Mizoram	8
25.	Nagaland	11
26.	Orissa	30
27.	Punjab	5
28.	Puducherry	1
29.	Rajasthan	9
30.	Sikkim	1
31.	Tamil Nadu	18
32.	Tripura	4
33.	Uttar Pradesh	10
34.	Uttarakhand	NA
35.	West Bengal	19

NA — Not available

Malnourished children

1198. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

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

- (a) whether 47 per cent of India's children under the age of six years are malnourished;
- (b) if so, Government's reaction to the remark made during October, 2009 by Anne Jellema, Action Aid's International Policy Director based on the reports released during the designated World Food Day by the United Nations; and
- (c) with massive allocation of funds for Government run programmes for improving the nutrition of the children, why the situation is going further down instead of improving the extent and content of 'Nutrition' levels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) No, Sir. As per National Family Health Survey (NFHS) 3, (2005-06), the percentage of children below five years of age who are underweight in the country is 42.5%.

The Prevalence of under nutrition in children below three years has reduced from 43 as per NFHS 2 in 1998-99 to 40% as per NFHS 3 in 2005-06.

The problem of malnutrition is multi-dimensional and inter-generational in nature, the determinants of which include household food insecurity, illiteracy and lack of awareness especially in women, access to health services, availability of safe drinking water, sanitation and environmental conditions and purchasing power etc. Besides early age at marriage of girls, teenage pregnancies resulting in low birth weight of the newborns, poor breastfeeding practices, poor complementary feeding practices, ignorance about nutritional needs of infants and young children and repeated infections further aggravate the malnutrition amongst children. Tackling malnutrition amongst children requires an integrated approach. Prevention of early marriage, appropriate spacing in pregnancy, better Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices including exclusive breast feeding, age appropriate complementary feeding, better hygienic conditions, immunization, Vitamin A supplementation, deworming, Oral Rehydration, Zinc supplementation during diarrhea, timely and quality feeding for acute malnutrition conditions, improved nutrition for adolescent girls, prevention of anemia, improved food and nutrient intake during pregnancy and lactation, better information and awareness about nutritional needs and behaviors and prevention and control of diseases would need to be promoted for mitigating the impact of malnutrition. All these need to be addressed in a holistic manner by effective intersectoral coordination, convergence and improved systems of delivery of services under different schemes and programmes of Central and State Governments.

Expansion of ICDS

1199. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

- (a) whether her Ministry is set with its plans for expansion of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether experts have criticized the scheme on several counts; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken by Government to make the scheme purposeful and result oriented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is the endeavour of the Government to universalize the Scheme of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) so as to cover all the habitations, with special focus on SC/ST and minority habitations, across the country.

At the end of Ninth Plan, there were 6 lakh sanctioned Anganwadi Centers (AWCs) in the country. The coverage of ICDS was not universalized and covered 42% of the habitations. The process of universalisation of the Scheme commenced only in Tenth Plan.

As a follow up, the Scheme has been expanded in three phases in the years 2005-06, 2007-08 and 2008-09. With these expansions, total number of sanctioned AWCs/Mini-AWCs increased from 6 lakh, as on 31.3.2002 to 13.56 lakh, as on 31.03.2009 (125% increase). As a part of universalisation, State Governments/UT Administrations have also been requested to submit requirements, if any, for 'Anganwadi on Demand', which can be sanctioned in case there are at least 40 children in a habitation without an AWC.

(c) and (d) There has been general debate about the efficacy of the Scheme that it has not been able to reduce the level of malnutrition significantly. Besides, there have also been some comments based on misconceptions that ICDS is running everywhere, for long and is solely responsible to achieve better nutritional indicators.

The problem of Malnutrition is, however, not only the result of a single cause but is a multifaceted problem acting singly or in combination with other complex factors, like health care, poor sanitation and safe drinking water, illiteracy, poverty, food availability etc. It, therefore, needs to be tackled through holistic coordinated interventions in areas of health care, nutrition, education, sanitation and safe drinking water, food security and poverty alleviation.

Government has recently taken various steps to increase the effectiveness of the delivery of services under the ICDS Scheme which include Universalisation of the Scheme, revision in cost

norms of existing interventions including Supplementary Nutrition, revision in Nutritional and Feeding norms of Supplementary Nutrition, provision of flexi fund at Anganwadi Centre level and new World Health Organization (WHO) Growth standards for monitoring growth of children etc. Government is also conscious of the need of effective convergence and has, therefore, been constantly impressing upon the States to ensure effective convergence with health, nutrition, education, sanitation and safe drinking water services under various programmes. Besides, Nutrition Education, Awareness, Counseling and Advocacy would continue.

Reconstitution of Central Social Welfare Board

1200. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:
SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Social Welfare Board has recently been reconstituted by nominating eight members to the Board;

(b) if so, the details of the members nominated and the States to which they belong to;

(c) the criteria adopted in nominating the members to the CSWB;

(d) whether it is a fact that 7 members out of 8 have been nominated from Delhi alone;
and

(e) if so, the specialty that her Ministry has found in them and whether suitable members were not available from outside the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (e) The General Body of the CSWB was reconstituted *vide* Resolution dated 16th September, 2009. A further modification was issued *vide* Resolution dated 14th October, 2009.

The reconstitution of the General Body has been done in accordance with the provisions contained in the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the CSWB. Apart from nominated members from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, it includes six professionals and 3 eminent social workers. The names of these members and the States to which they belong are:—

1. Shri Amitabha Sen, Haryana
2. Ms. Vandana Roy (Mittal), Delhi
3. Ms. Sreerupa Mitra Chaudhary, West Bengal
4. Ms. Pam Rajput, Chandigarh
5. Ms. Kalyani Menon Sen, Kerala
6. Ms. Mira Shiva, Uttarakhand
7. Shri G. Muniratram, Andhra Pradesh

8. Shri Purushottam G. Sewhany, Karnataka

9. Ms. Kiran Bedi, Delhi

The criteria for the nomination is as provided for in the Memorandum and Articles Association of CWWB, that is, they are Professionals in specified fields or eminent Social workers.

Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana

1201. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry is going to launch Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY) to ensure better health and nutrition for millions of women living below the poverty line and to encourage institutional deliveries, especially in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details of IGMSY indicating the names of 94 districts identified for implementation of IGMSY on pilot basis and the incentives proposed to be given to pregnant and lactating mother; and

(c) the future of Janani Suraksha Yojana after launching of IGMSY?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) The Ministry has proposed a Conditional Cash Transfer Scheme for Maternity Benefits — “Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY)” — CMB scheme to provide cash transfers to P&L women in response to fulfilling specific conditions. Scheme is under finalization.

Irregularities in creche scheme

1202. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN:

SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that irregularities in the implementation of creche scheme have been detected in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and agencies and organizations involved; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme (RGNCS) for the Children of Working Mothers envisages the monitoring of creches being run under the scheme through independent Monitoring Agencies identified in each State. In the last meeting with Monitoring Agencies called by the Ministry of Women and Child Development recently, certain shortcomings were reported in the implementation of the scheme, which are common to creches in many of the States. These shortcomings *inter-alia* include inadequate

space; inadequate facilities for ventilation, lighting, drinking water, sleeping facilities and recreation materials; unsafe playing area; enrolment of children of non-working mothers; lesser number of children enrolled; lack of proper linkage with Primary Health Centres and lack of training to the Creche workers, etc.

The implementing agencies are advised from time to time to take necessary action to rectify the deficiencies.

Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Schemes for Children of Working Mothers is approved for implementation by Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB), Indian Council for Child Welfare and Bhartiya Adim Jati Sewak Sangh (BAJSS). As certain complaints of irregularities in the management of creches by BAJSS were received by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, the crèches sanctioned to BAJSS have been temporarily transferred to CSWB. The complaints are being enquired into.

Plight of street children

1203. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the plight of street children in the country;
- (b) whether Government has any statistics about the number of street children in the country, State-wise; and
- (c) whether Government has any plans for their education and to look after their economic welfare?

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

(b) No authentic data on number of street children in the country is available in the Ministry of Women and Child Development as their number is fluctuating in nature.

(c) Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched a centrally sponsored scheme, namely 'Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)', with the objectives to provide a safe and secure environment to the children in need of care and protection including street children, children in conflict with law and any other vulnerable child in the country. This scheme is implemented from the current financial year through the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, Childline India Foundation (CIF), Mumbai and National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD).

ICPS provides for setting up of open shelters for such children particularly in urban areas. Such centres provide a space for children where they can play, use their time productively and engage themselves in creative activities through music, dance, drama, yoga and meditation, computers, indoor and outdoor games, etc. This is aimed at ensuring their overall growth and development, and keeping them away from socially deviant behaviour in addition to fulfilling their

basic requirements for food, nutrition and health. These shelters also have provisions for health care, quality and flexi-time education and vocational training, including provision for children to safely keep their belongings earnings.

Children in difficult circumstances

1204. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a report, 'Status of Children in India 2008', reveals that a vast group of children living in difficult circumstances such as children of long-term patients, women prisoners children with special needs, riot, militancy and disaster-affected children, refugee and displaced children, and children in orphanages and homes do not receive early childhood education;

(b) if so, the efforts made by Government in this regard; and

(c) the progress of existing schemes in this regard?

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

(b) and (c) Early Childhood Education (ECE) is one of the services provided under the Ministry of Women and Child Development's, Integrated Child Development Services Scheme to children of 3-6 years. The scheme has been universalized to cover all habitations in the country which includes children in difficult circumstances also. Presently about 3.32 crore children are the beneficiaries of the ECE services under the scheme.

The Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme of this Ministry also provides for pre-school education for children between 3-6 years of age, in the crèches. As on date Ministry has sanctioned 31718 creches with capacity of 25 children each.

The newly launched Integrated Child Protection Scheme provides for maintaining minimum standards of care in child care institutions for children in need of care and protection, including children in difficult circumstances. The minimum standards of care include age appropriate education. This scheme is implemented from the current financial year 2009-10.

Underage marriage

1205. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than a third of the world's child brides are from India, according to studies conducted by UNICEF;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to impose ban on such underage marriages by educating the parent through Government Agencies/NGOs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) As per the United Nations International Children Education Funds (UNICEF) Report, 'The Progress for Children-A Report Card on Child Protection' of September, 2009, more than one in three women in the world who were married as children, are from India. It is a Global Report base don 96 countries representing 61% of the world population. This report is based on data available for 2000-2007 from various sources.

(b) and (c) In order to prohibit child marriages and to make the provisions of the Act more effective with punishment for offenders, a new legislation "The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006" was notified in the Gazette of India on 11th January, 2007 and the said Act has been enforced *w.e.f.* 1.11.2007. In addition the Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched the Integrated Child Protection Scheme aimed for care and protection of children. Also, awareness generation and advocacy measures are continuously being undertaken by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in this connection.

Stunted growth due to malnutrition

†1206. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that growth of Indian Children has been stunted due to malnutrition;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that forty per cent population of malnutrition affected children of world live in the country alone;

(c) if so, the effective schemes being outlined by Government to prevent the children from malnutrition; and

(d) if so, by when and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) Stunting is one of the consequences of malnutrition.

(b) The percentage of world's malnourished children living in India varies from 30 to 40% depending on the growth standards and population projections used.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Women and Child Development is addressing the problem of malnutrition among children below 6 years through the ICDS in all States/UTs. The scheme, *inter-alia*, provides a component of Supplementary Nutrition which is primarily designed to bridge the gap between the Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDA) and the Average Daily Intake (ADI), The Government has also enhanced the financial as well as nutritional norms for different categories of beneficiaries as follows:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Category	Revised Rates (Per beneficiary per day)	Revised Nutritional Norms	
		Calories (Kcal)	Protein (g)
(i) Children (6 months to 72 months)	Rs. 4.00	500	12-15
(ii) Severely malnourished children (6 months-72 months)	Rs. 6.00	800	20-25
(iii) Pregnant women and Nursing mothers	Rs. 5.00	600	18-20

However, malnutrition is a multifaceted and multi sectoral problem requiring coordinated action by various Ministries. The schemes being implemented by different Ministries aimed at improving the nutritional status of children have been listed in given Statement.

Statement

Schemes and programmes to improve the Nutritional status of Women and Children

- (i) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free food grains to undernourished adolescent girls by Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- (ii) To promote appropriate infant and young child feeding practices, the National Guidelines on Infant and Young Child Feeding have been developed and disseminated all over the country. Increased emphasis is given to:—
 - a. Initiation of breastfeeding immediately after birth, preferably within one hour.
 - b. Exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months
 - c. Implementing the Infant Milk Substitute (IMS) Act.
- (iii) Nutrition and Health Education: Food and Nutrition Board of the Ministry of Women and Child Development is engaged in advocacy, trainings and generating awareness on important nutrition issues among different level of functionaries and the masses.
- (iv) National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meal Scheme) by the Department of School Elementary Education and Literacy;
- (v) Reproductive and Child Health Programme under the National Rural Health Mission being implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has schemes for prevention of micronutrient malnutrition as below:
 - Iron and Folic acid supplementation for children, adolescents, pregnant and lactating women.
 - Vitamin-A supplementation for children upto 5 years.
 - National Iodine Deficiency Control Programme.

- (vi) Targeted Public Distribution System, Antodaya Anna Yojana and Annapurna Scheme by the Department of Food and Consumer Affairs.
- (vii) Other measures include;
 - Improving agricultural and horticulture produce
 - Improving the purchasing power of the people through various income generating scheme

Working women's hostels

1207. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and location of working women's hostels in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the quantum of assistance released to each State Government for the purpose during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether any new hostels are to be set up in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) The State-wise list of completed working women's hostels is available in the website of the Ministry, *i.e.* www.wcd.nic.in.

(b) The scheme of working women hostel is a central sector scheme where grant is released directly to the implementing agencies and not to the State Governments.

(c) and (d) Setting up of new hostels depends upon receiving viable proposals from implementing organizations, duly recommended by the concerned State Government. The list of working women's hostels under construction is also available in the website of the Ministry *i.e.* www.wcd.nic.in.

Social security schemes for single women

1208. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are millions of single women particularly widows, working women and socially marginalized ones in the country who do not get ration cards, employment cards under NREGS and benefits under various social security schemes of the Central and State Governments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial measures Government have taken or proposes to take to protect the interests of the single women in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) As per 2001 census, there are 23,42,930 divorce/separated women and 3,72,89,729 widows in the country. Under the Scheme of NREGA, all

rural household including single women can avail benefit of 100 days guaranteed employment and women get priority under NREGA, Under Indira Gandhi National Social Assistance Programme all persons who are 65 years or higher and belong to BPL category are eligible to get pension of Rs. 200/- per month from the Government of India. The Scheme was expanded in February, 2009 and widows in the age group of 40-64 are also eligible for pension under the Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme. Issuance of the ration card is the responsibility of State Governments. The Ministry runs the Support for Training and Employment Programme (STEP) for skill upgradation and generation of livelihood options for assetless and marginalized women. Besides there two other schemes of the Ministry *i.e.* Swadhar and Short Stay Homes, which are intended to provide emergency outreach services including shelter, medical treatment, counseling, food, clothing etc. to women in difficult circumstances who do not have societal/family support or independent means of income.

Legislation on infant and young child feeding

1209. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to bring a legislation on the lines of India's commitment to the global strategy for infant and young child feeding adopted by the World Health Assembly resolution 54.2 in May, 2002; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement programmes on infant and young child feeding to be consistent with accepted principles for avoiding conflict of interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) To promote infant and young child feeding and to fulfill the Commitment to the World Health Assembly Resolution 54.2, India has already enacted the Infact Milk substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infact Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act 1992 (41 of 1992) which was amended in 2003. This Act is also known as the IMS Act.

This act provides the regulation of production, supply and distribution of infant milk substitutes, feeding bottles and infant foods to protect and promote breastfeeding.

(b) The steps taken to implement the programmes on infant and young child feeding are as under:—

1. The National Guidelines on Infant and Young Child Feeding have been developed and disseminated all over the country.
2. Food and Nutrition Board in the Ministry is engaged in dissemination of appropriate infant and young child feeding practices by conducting-
 - (i) Training programmes for the CDPOs under ICDS who act as the master trainers to disseminate the messages on infant and young child feeding practices.

- (ii) Orientation training programmes for field functionaries of ICDS and health functionaries on IYCF guidelines.
- (iii) Broadcast of audio spots on nutrition including nutrition for the infants and the young children under the programme “Poshan Aur Swasthay” through popular FM stations of All India Radio.
- (iv) Celebration of World Breastfeeding Week in August and National Nutrition Week in September each year under which exhibitions on nutrition including infant and young child feeding guidelines is organized for the general public. This year two such exhibitions were organized at Bawana and Narala in Delhi.
- (v) Video spots on infant and young child feeding and nutrition for the girl child starting with a message on breastfeeding are being telecast on Doordarshan and other popular TV channels.
- (vi) Important messages on breastfeeding are given through press advertisement in leading newspaper all over the country in English, Hindi as well as in regional languages as also through multilingual posters and pamphlets etc.
- (vii) Video spots on IYCF have been prepared for wider dissemination.

Permissible amount for Anganwadis in Urban areas

1210. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the maximum permissible amount given as rent for Anganwadis located in urban areas under the ICDS;
- (b) the year in which the rent rates were revised; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal for increasing the rent rates taking into consideration the high rental rates in urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) Under the ICDS Scheme, an amount of Rs. 750/- per Anganwadi Centre per month is prescribed for the rent of Anganwadi Centres located in urban areas.

(b) Rent rates for the Anganwadi Centres under the Scheme were revised in the year 2007 and are effective from 1.2.2007.

(c) Presently, no proposal for increasing the rent is under consideration.

Women trafficking

†1211. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether it is a fact that women trafficking in the country has taken a dreaded form;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the provisions made by Government to liberate the women involved in prostitution and to rehabilitate them;
- (d) whether these provisions are proving effective;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if no, the steps to be taken in this direction in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) There is no country-wide data on the number of women and children trafficked for prostitution. However, the study on 'girls and Women in Prostitution in India', (conducted between 2002-2004), sponsored by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, estimated that there are about 2.8 million prostitutes in the country.

(c) to (f) The Government is continuously taking measures to combat trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation in the country. The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 supplemented by the Indian Penal Code prohibits trafficking in human beings, including children, for the purpose of prostitution and lays down penalties for trafficking. The Ministry runs Swadhar Shelter Homes which provide shelter, food, clothing, emotional support, counseling, rehabilitation and other facilities to women in difficult circumstances including trafficked victims. Further, to give focused attention to trafficked victims, the Ministry of Women and Child Development introduced the Ujjawala Scheme, in December 2007, under which financial assistance is being provided for prevention of trafficking and for rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS SET FOR THE 27TH NOVEMBER, 2009*

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

New rail line between Nagpur and Hyderabad

†*121. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways propose to lay a third railway line between Nagpur and Hyderabad to start new trains;

*The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on 27th November, 2009 was cancelled on account of Id-ul-Zuha.

Answers to questions put down in the lists for that day were laid on the Table of the House on Monday, the 30th November, 2009.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (c) On Nagpur-Hyderabad route, Nagpur-Ballarshah-Kazipet (442 Km) is part of Delhi-Chennai section. Beyond Kazipet, the line diverts towards Secunderabad and the length of Kazipet-Secunderabad section is 130 Km.

The survey for 3rd line on Nagpur-Kazipet section has been done in two parts and the survey reports are under examination. Meanwhile, work of 3rd line between Raghavpuram - Mandamari (24.47 Km) has been taken up. On Kazipet-Secunderabad route, survey for 3rd and 4th line has been completed for Secunderabad-Bhongir (45 Km) section as a part of the Multi Modal Transport System (MMTS) Phase-II. The report is under examination by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, who would be sharing 2/3rd cost of the MMTS project.

Impact of climate change

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

- (a) the priorities to the State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI), an autonomous body under his Ministry;
- (b) whether SFCI has examined various reports of International/National agencies in regard to the impact of climate change on farm sector;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the strategy chalked out by SFCI to save the farm sector from the impact of climate change?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The main function of the State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI) Limited is to produce quality seeds of various crops at its farms for supply to the farmers.

(b) No, Sir. The mandate of the SFCI does not include examination of the impact of climate change on the farm sector.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Public-Private Partnership for Government schools

*123. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to run Government secondary schools on the basis of Public-Private Partnership (PPP);
- (b) whether such a scheme will also be applicable to State Government-run schools;
- (c) if so, whether State Governments have agreed to the scheme;

(d) if so, under such PPP, what will be the respective obligations of Government and the private party; and

(e) the anticipated financial implication for State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) There is no proposal at present to run secondary schools under this Ministry in PPP mode.

(b) and (c) For State Government run schools, it is for the respective State Governments to take appropriate decision in the matter.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Survey of out-of-school children

*124. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent survey sponsored by Government has revealed that there has been reduction in the number of out-of-school children in the age group 6 to 13 years;

(b) whether the survey has also found that the drop-out rate at primary school level is higher in urban areas as compared to rural areas;

(c) whether the survey has also revealed that the percentage of out-of-school children among the Muslims and SCs/STs continues to be much higher than the national average of 4.22 per cent; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) Government of India had commissioned two independent sample surveys in 2005 and 2009 to assess the number of out-of-school children in the 6-13 age group. The findings indicate a reduction in the total number of out-of-school children from 1.34 crore in 2005 to 81.5 lakh in 2009. The surveys reveal a decline in the percentage of out-of-school children across all social groups as follows:—

<i>(In percent)</i>				
Year	SC	ST	Muslim	Overall
2005	8.17	9.54	9.97	6.94
2009	5.96	5.60	7.67	4.28

The survey also provides the break up of never enrolled and drop out children from among the total out-of-school children in rural and urban areas. Out of the total of 81.5 lakh out-of-school children, the estimated number of drop out children in rural and urban areas is 16.86 lakh and 3.59 lakh respectively.

The State wise number of out-of-school children by social category is given in the enclosed Statement (*See below*). The main reasons for children remaining out-of-school are economic backwardness, and the need for children to help their parents in domestic work or family business.

Statement

*State-wise details of out of school children by social group in the
6-13 year age group as per SRI-IMRB Survey 2009*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Muslim	ST	SC	Others + OBC
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	9,766	18,213	54,119	90,256
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	340	15,383	35	4,844
4.	Assam	66,072	22,843	32,559	1,13,509
5.	Bihar (2)	2,30,819	7,294	6,64,762	4,42,822
6.	Chandigarh	0	0	1,974	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	1,092	49,244	15,355	19,675
8.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	0	242	0	9
9.	Daman and Diu	0	23	0	0
10.	Delhi	46,068	0	35,653	42,301
11.	Goa	0	0	0	0
12.	Gujarat	26,685	33,898	16,679	85,093
13.	Haryana	26,461	0	43,533	37,211
14.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	1,045	1,405
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	8,292	0	0	1,398
16.	Jharkhand	18,399	59,728	10,758	43,310
17.	Karnataka	6,569	10,365	44,445	46,858
18.	Kerala	1,316	5,694	55	8,712
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	10,307	1,58,039	25,795	1,34,550
21.	Maharashtra	43,153	22,506	37,542	1,04,143

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Manipur	480	7,301	0	4,441
23.	Meghalaya	180	12,344	0	131
24.	Mizoram	0	7,458	0	27
25.	Nagaland	650	5,997	0	2,046
26.	Orissa (5)	5,177	3,07,420	37,215	85,749
27.	Pondicherry	275	0	0	718
28.	Punjab	0	0	349	918
29.	Rajasthan (3)	38,325	3,48,362	2,20,143	5,11,495
30.	Sikkim	2	463	0	180
31.	Tamil Nadu	2,456	0	18,638	31,781
32.	Tripura	615	4,700	1,494	1,626
33.	Uttar Pradesh (1)	10,44,880	16,944	7,80,511	9,26,777
34.	Uttarakhand	35,358	3,262	7,286	10,319
35.	West Bengal (4)	2,51,667	51,500	2,58,828	1,44,718
ALL INDIA:		18,75,403	10,69,416	23,108,772	28,97,027

Comprehensive package to help drought-hit farmers

*125. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating a comprehensive package to help farmers affected by the severe drought conditions prevailing in many parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action plan is being drawn up by Government to tackle the loss of livelihood to the marginalized people in drought affected areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) The Central Government has taken several steps in assisting the States in tackling the situation arising out of drought in several parts of the country which, inter alia, include release of Central Government share of the Calamity Relief Fund of Rs. 1990.3275 crore and approval of Rs. 4073.785 crores out of National Calamity Contingency Fund which is meant for providing input subsidy to the farmers, provision for drinking water and fodder, etc.; assistance to save the standing kharif crops through provision of additional power from the Central pool and providing subsidy on

diesel; assistance from Central Sector Schemes for better input distribution for kharif as well as rabi cultivation; providing technical know how through the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA); allocation under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) for livelihood support; allocation of additional foodgrains and periodic monitoring and review at all levels of the Central and State Government on mitigation measures. The Government has also constituted an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM), which has been mandated to take decisions on policy issues and schemes required for effective management of drought/deficit rainfall and related issues.

More teeth to Directorate of Sugar

*126. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

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

- (a) whether his Ministry has given more teeth to Directorate of Sugar;
- (b) whether Government has also lifted the cap on refined sugar imports;
- (c) whether non-payment of sugar arrears to farmers in the last two seasons has made them shift to other crops whose minimum support price was raised;
- (d) if so, the concrete measures and steps Government proposes to take to improve sugar output and also help in growing sugarcane to meet sugar shortage; and
- (e) to what extent these measures will help in improving sugar production?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) The delay in payment of cane price to sugarcane farmers in 2006-07 and 2007-08 sugar seasons (when there was excess production of sugar and prices of non-levy sugar declined in the market constraining capacities of sugar mills to pay cane price including cane price arrears) can possibly be one of the reasons for the decline in acreage of sugarcane and farmers shifting to other crops. To improve sugar output, the Central Government has permitted duty-free import of raw sugar upto December, 2010. Further, duty-free import of white/refined sugar upto 10 lac tons has also been permitted upto March, 2010. The details of measures taken to import raw and white/refined sugar are enclosed as Statement-I (*See below*). The Central Government has taken steps to help sugarcane farmers in growing sugarcane. The details of these measures are enclosed as Statement-II (*See below*). It is difficult to quantify as to what extent these measures will help in improving sugar and sugarcane production. However they would certainly help in increasing the sugar and sugarcane production.

Statement-I

Details of measures taken to import raw and white/refined sugar

- Allowed import of raw sugar under Advance Authorization Scheme by sugar mills at zero duty upto 30.09.2009.
- Allowed import of raw sugar at zero duty under O.G.L. upto 01.08.2009 by sugar mills, later extended upto 31.03.2010. This has now been further extended upto 31.12.2010 *vide* notification dated 11.11.2009.
- Import of raw sugar was opened to private trade upto 31.03.2010 for being processed by domestic factories on job basis. This has now been further extended upto 31.12.2010 *vide* notification dated 11.11.2009.
- Allowed duty free import of white/refined sugar by STC/MMTC/PEC and NAFED upto 1 million tons by 01.08.2009 which was extended upto 30.11.2009. Further, duty free import of white/refined sugar under OGL has also been opened to other Central/State Government agencies and to private trade in addition to existing designated agencies, upto 30.11.2009. This has now been extended upto 31.3.2010 *vide* notification dated 11.11.2009.
- Levy obligation has been removed in respect of all imported raw sugar and white/refined sugar. The white/refined sugar has been also allowed to be sold at the discretion of the importing organizations, but sugar processed from imported raw sugar is subject to accelerated releases.
- The levy obligation on sugar factories has been enhanced from 10% to 20% of production w.e.f 01.10.2009 for 2009-10 sugar season only, *vide* notification dated 7th October, 2009.

Statement-II

Steps taken by Central Government to help sugarcane farmers in growing sugarcane

- (a) The Central Government has now fixed the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane payable by sugar mills for 2009-10 sugar season at Rs. 129.84 per quintal linked to a basic recovery rate of 9.5% subject to a premium of Rs. 1.37 per quintal for every 0.1 percentage point increase in recovery above that level. Hitherto, the Central Government was fixing the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane. This FRP is substantially high over the SMP of 2008-09 sugar season which was Rs. 81.18 per quintal, with an additional premium of Rs. 0.90 for every 0.1% point increase in the recovery above 9%.
- (b) The Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System (SUBACS) is one of the components of Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), namely Revised Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme (RMMA). RMMA is implemented in all States and Union Territories of the country. The main thrust of SUBACS is on the transfer of improved

production technology to the farmers through field demonstrations, training of farmers, supply of farm implements, enhancing production of planting materials, efficient use of water, treatment of planting materials. During 2008-09, in all, 19 States implemented SUBACS.

- (c) Concessional loans at an interest rate of 4% per annum are given to sugar factories from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) for modernization of plant and machinery, expansion of crushing capacity, utilization of by-products viz. baggasse for co-generation of power and molasses for production of ethanol, upgradation of technology and sugarcane development including better irrigation facilities, improved seed variety, ratoon management etc.
- (d) A short term scheme has been announced for cane development in the current financial year under which loans of Rs. 1.0 to 2.5 crore will be available to sugar factories depending upon their crushing capacity, for purchase of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides etc. This loan is expected to be passed on to the farmers.

Regulator for grievances of prospective investors in steel industry

*127. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there exists any statutory regulator to consider grievances of prospective investors in steel sector in the country;
- (b) if not, the steps Government proposes to take in the matter; and
- (c) the current mechanism to address the concerns of the steel industry?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir. There is no statutory regulator to consider the grievances of prospective investors in steel sector in the country.

(b) and (c) Steel sector in the country is deregulated and Government does not exercise any control over production, sale and price of steel products. The role of Government is that of a facilitator for an overall and healthy growth of steel sector in the country. In order to monitor and coordinate various issues, including state related issues concerning major steel investments in the country, an Inter Ministerial Group (IMG) has been constituted in the Ministry of Steel, under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Steel).

Decline in production of pulses

*128. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that production of pulses in the country has been going down for the past several years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures Government is planning to take to improve the production of pulses in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Production of pulses has increased from 13.13 million tonnes in 2004-05 to 14.66 million tonnes during 2008-09. The year wise details of pulses production is as follows:—

<i>Production (in million tonnes)</i>				
2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
13.13	13.39	14.20	14.76	14.66

(c) In order to meet the increasing demand of pulses, Government of India has been promoting pulses development through various central schemes for enhancing the production and productivity of pulses in the country. At present two major Schemes namely Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) and National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-pulses programme are being implemented in 14 major pulses growing states of the country covering about 97.5% pulses area in the country. Under these schemes farmers are provided incentives for purchase of high yielding certified seeds, demonstration of improved production technology, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) including micronutrients, gypsum, lime; farm implements such as zero tillage, rotavators crop planters, weeders etc. and water lifting and moisture saving devices which would help in production enhancement.

Besides, under Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) Scheme (Revised), assistance is also provided for pulses development to the States which are not covered under ISOPOM through National Food Security Mission. Under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana also additional central assistance is provided to the states for creation of infrastructure, agriculture development which are essential to catalyse higher crop production including that of pulses.

Financial allocation for pulses development programmes has increased from Rs. 287.19 crores in 2007-08 to nearly Rs. 615 crores in 2009-10 under Government of India schemes. Out of these, the allocation of funds under NFSM-Pulses was increased from Rs. 209.24 crores during the initial year of implementation (2007-08) to an amount of Rs. 539.40 crores during the current year (2009-10).

Minimum support price (MSP) of the pulses crops especially of arhar, urad, moong, gram and masur have been increased from around Rs. 1400/- per qtl. in 2005-06 to around Rs. 2500/- per qtl in 2009-10 to incentivise the farmers.

Kendriya Vidyalayas in Orissa

*129. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to increase the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas in the State of Orissa, where literacy rate is very low as compared to other States in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such schools proposed to be opened in different districts of the State; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, in view of the fact that people are unable to afford public school education costs and number of people living below the poverty line is very high?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. During the 3 years, *i.e.*, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09, 7 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) have been opened in the districts of Boudh, Gajapati, Malkangiri, Nabrangpur, Raigada, Kandhamal and Bhadrak in the State of Orissa.

Kendriya Vidyalayas are opened primarily to cater to the educational needs of children of Central Government employees including defence and para military forces.

Setting up of NCHER

*130. SHRI JABIR HUSAIN :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is keen to tie up with leading global universities;

(b) whether a task force has been set up by his Ministry for replacement of University Grants Commission (UGC), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) by the proposed National Commission for Higher Education and Research (NCHER) and a national testing scheme on the lines of Graduate Record Examination (GRE) for university admission;

(c) whether he visited US for developing partnership with educational institutions of global repute;

(d) if so, the outcome to his visit; and

(e) to what extent setting up of the task force will improve higher education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) In order to improve quality of education and research in Indian institutions of higher learning, the Government, in addition to other measures, is keen to promote collaborations with leading Universities of the world.

(b) and (e) The need to establish an overarching regulatory body in higher, technical and professional education based on the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission and the Committee to advise on Renovation and Rejuvenation of Higher Education under Prof. Yash Pal has been expressed by Government as one of its priorities for which a Task Force has been constituted by the Government. The Task Force would aid, advise and assist the Government in achieving its objectives of reform and restructuring of the Higher Education sector and has the following terms of reference:—

(i) To aid and advise the Central Government in the establishment of a Commission for Higher Education and Research.

(ii) To aid and advise the Central Government in the establishment of a National Testing system for admission to Universities and other institutions of higher learning.

- (iii) To aid and advise the Central Government in evolving new governance structures for Universities.
- (iv) To monitor the implementation of such recommendations of the Committee to advise on Renovation and Rejuvenation of Higher Education and the National Knowledge Commission as the Central Government may decide to implement.
- (v) To aid and advise the Central Government in the establishment of Innovation Universities aiming at world class standards.

(c) and (d) An official delegation headed by the Minister of Human Resource Development visited some Universities in the United States (US) namely Harvard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston University, Yale University and Georgetown University between 25th to 31st October, 2009. The delegation also interacted with Presidents of several other Universities, prominent academics and officials in the Department of Education in the Federal Government of USA. The discussions focused on the establishment of Innovation Universities and other institutions of higher learning in India. The Indian academe in the US expressed their keenness to participate in India's reform process for higher education. Among the issues discussed were the scope for evolving various models of partnership in Higher Education including Public-Private Partnership, encouraging twinning arrangement between universities in the two countries, joint assignments in Indian universities to Indo-American academe, invitations to academics from top US Universities in specialized fields of knowledge to Indian institutions to strengthen such fields in Indian Universities and encouragement to post-doctoral and graduate students from India to work with top academics and researchers in specialized areas of knowledge.

Effect of recession on SMEs

*131. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's initiatives for mitigating the hardships of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) have not really percolated down to the ground level;
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any fresh steps to protect the small and medium enterprises which are hard hit by the current economic slowdown; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) Keeping in view the impact of global economic slowdown on micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), the Government, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Public Sector Banks have taken several measures for

protecting and providing a stimulus to the MSMEs which, *inter alia*, include: (i) extending the loan limit under Credit Guarantee Scheme from Rs. 50 lakh to Rs. 1 crore with a guarantee cover of 50 per cent; (ii) increasing the guarantee cover under Credit Guarantee Scheme from 80 per cent to 85 per cent for credit facility up to Rs. 5 lakh; (iii) interest subvention of 2 per cent in pre and post-shipment export credit to small and medium enterprises (SME) sector; (iv) refinance limit of Rs. 7,000 crore to Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for incremental on-lending to the micro and small enterprises (MSE) sector; (v) grant of need-based ad hoc working capital demand loans up to 20 per cent of the existing fund-based limits; and (vi) reduction in interest rates for borrowing by micro enterprises by 1 per cent and in respect of SMEs by 0.5 per cent. These policy measures/initiatives and thrust on augmenting credit delivery to the sector have resulted in increasing the outstanding credit to micro and small enterprises (MSE) sector from the Public Sector Banks from Rs. 1,51,137 crore as at the end of March 2008 to Rs. 1,91,307 crore as at the end of March, 2009 (latest available).

For the promotion and development of MSMEs and to enhance their competitiveness, the Government is laying thrust on the implementation of ongoing schemes/programmes, which include National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme, Credit Guarantee Scheme, Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme, Performance and Credit Rating Scheme, Cluster Development Programme, Prime Minister's Employment Generation programme and Market Development Assistance Scheme. In addition, a special fund of Rs. 4,000 crore has been provided to SIDBI to incentivise Banks and State Financial Corporations (SFCs) to lend to MSEs and to facilitate the flow of credit at reasonable rates to the sector. Further, a High Level Task Force under the chairmanship of the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister has been constituted to address the issues of MSME sector.

Agrarian Crisis in India

*132. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the views of globally famed Agriculture Scientist Professor M.S. Swaminathan expressed during April, 2009, while releasing the book 'Agrarian Crisis in India', relating to 100 million plus small farms, comparing Government's agrarian crisis solving approach as "blind men feeling an elephant"; and

(b) if so, whether Government will be concentrating on "differentiation between the problems of farming and those of the farmers", to achieve more than 4 per cent annual growth in agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) As per a news item appearing in the web edition of the Hindustan Times dated 7th April, 2009, Prof. M.S. Swaminathan has reportedly made such remarks while releasing the book titled 'Agrarian crisis in India'.

(b) Agriculture is a State subject and all necessary initiatives continue to be taken by the State Governments. However, the Government of India has been supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in this regard and has always laid great emphasis on solving the problems of the farmers. In fact, the National Agricultural Policy, 2000 has been replaced with National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007 to give centrality to farmers and to ensure that human dimension must be the principal determinant of agricultural policies. It may be specifically mentioned here that the National Commission on Farmers (NCF), set up under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, submitted a revised draft National Policy for Farmers along with its fifth and final Report in October, 2006 incorporating its main recommendations. The NPF, 2007 is based on the said revised draft NPF submitted by the NCF.

The NPF, 2007 mentions about the need to focus more on the economic well-being of the farmers, rather than just on production. Accordingly, the first major goal of the NPF 2007 is to improve economic viability of farming by substantially increasing the net income of farmers and to ensure that agricultural progress is measured by advances made in this income.

A plan of action for operationalisation of NPF 2007 has been drawn and a monitoring mechanism put in place to oversee the progress of the implementation of the provisions contained in NPF. This along with an array of other initiatives by Government like substantial increase in the minimum support prices of important agricultural crops, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission, setting up of National Rainfed Area Authority, Micro Irrigation, Agriculture Technology Management Agency Scheme, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme, Comprehensive Credit Package, Debt Waiver Scheme, Revival of Cooperative Credit Institutions, Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses, etc. will ensure that not only the 4 per cent annual growth in agriculture is achieved but it also results in substantial improvement in socio-economic well-being of the farmers.

Endangered Indian Languages

*133. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to UNESCO's Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger (2009), India now leads the World by being home to a whopping 196 endangered languages;

(b) if so, whether a two day international seminar was held at New Delhi to discuss how to save these languages; and

(c) if so, the details of discussions held in the seminar and steps taken by Government to protect the Indian languages from dying?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The 'UNESCO Atlas of World's Languages in Danger', which according to UNESCO is a 'living' data base being corrected constantly on the basis of user feed back and screening of specialist, lists 196 languages for India, whose degree of endangerment varies from 'Vulnerable' to 'Extinct' as follows:—

Vulnerable Languages:	84
Definitely Endangered Languages:	62
Severely Endangered Languages:	06
Critically Endangered Languages:	35
Extinct Languages (since the 1950s)	09
TOTAL:	196

The next country in the same list with maximum number of languages under threat is United States of America (USA) with 192 languages. USA is followed by Brazil (190), Indonesia (147), China (144) and Mexico (144).

(b) The Intangible Heritage Division of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), a Non-Governmental Organisation working in the field of promoting and preserving the cultural heritage and funded by various Government agencies and other individual funding agencies, had recently conducted a two-day International Seminar on Endangered Languages in India on 22-23 October, 2009, at the India International Centre Auditorium, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi. One of the participants in the said seminar conducted by INTACH was the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore, a subordinate office of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

(c) A copy of the issues discussed and covered during different sessions of the two-day International Seminar on Endangered Languages in India held in New Delhi on 22-23 October, 2009, is given as Statement (*See below*).

The Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore, a subordinate office of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, was set up in the year 1969 to:—

- Coordinate the work of State Language Institutes, Tribal Research Institutes and Bureaus, University Departments of Languages and Linguistics etc.
- Coordinate the development of Indian languages by conducting research in the areas of language analysis, language pedagogy, language technology and language use in the society.
- Serve as a clearing house of information on all matters relating to the development of Indian languages in the country and abroad.
- Promote the development of languages of Scheduled Tribes, Development of methods, materials and aids for teaching Indian languages.
- Conduct of language courses through seven regional language centres etc.

- Development of human resource and production of materials in Indian languages including the minor/non-scheduled languages.
- Development of suitable translation techniques and conduct courses for translators.

CILIL is actively engaged in the development of all Indian languages including minor/non-scheduled languages and languages of Scheduled Tribes through its various programmes and schemes. The steps taken by CILIL so far in this direction include documentation of 83 non-scheduled languages with digitised data, preparation of pictorial glossaries for 29 non-scheduled languages, preparation of grammar for 49 non-scheduled languages, preparation of dictionaries for 19 non-scheduled languages and preparation of primers in 21 non-scheduled languages. In addition, 31 non-scheduled languages are taken up for field and comparative studies, folklore studies and cultural documentation.

This Ministry has also reviewed with the States/Union Territories, the progress made in the Preservation and Development of Minor Indian Languages which are not covered under the 8th Schedule of the Constitution of India. It was noticed that many States/UTs have taken concrete action to develop these non-scheduled languages.

Statement

*Issues discussed and covered during different sessions of the two-day
International Seminar on Endangered Languages in India held in
New Delhi on 22-23 October, 2009 organised by INTACH*

Session I: Overview of Endangered Languages in India Pinpointing the Problems

- (i) Which language family poses the biggest threat?
- (ii) Which geographical areas are threatened most?
- (iii) Status of the mother tongue in education and society.

Session II: Is Revival Possible or Desirable — Best Practice

- (i) Problems and Solutions in Revival Programmes
- (ii) How to save Endangered Languages — Documentation and Archiving
- (iii) Case Studies

Session III: Impact of Hindi and other Scheduled languages on Unwritten Languages

Session IV: (Part-1) Language of Education, Empowerment (Language and Power)

- (i) Monolingualism in schools — its enforcement/encouragement (Language of Understanding, Communication, Discussion)
- (ii) Endangerment of Mother Tongue — Insecurities, Dislocation
- (iii) Mother Tongue/Endangered Language inclusion in Curriculum

Session IV: (Part-2) Language of Education, Empowerment (Language and Power)

- (i) Language Empowerment

Proposal for railway flyover bridge from Orissa

*134. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have a proposal for constructing flyover bridge at Jajpur Road mining raw material plot area where three rail accidents have already occurred at different times;

(b) the number of railway flyover bridge proposals received from the Government of Orissa in 2008 and 2009; and

(c) the details of places and estimates and how many have been approved and if rejected, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) No new proposal for construction of road over bridge at Jajpur Road mining raw material plot has been received from the State Government. A road over bridge already exists on Howrah end of Jajpur-Keonjhar road railway station. One accident has occurred in the recent past at Jajpur.

(b) and (c) During 2008 and 2009, total 14 proposals for construction of Railway flyover bridges, were received from the Government of Orissa. Out of these 14 proposals, 10 Nos. have been sanctioned. Three will be examined after the State Government makes available accepted General Arrangement Drawing (GAD) and Estimate for approaches. For remaining one proposal State Government is yet to submit the standard undertaking for the construction of road over bridge. The details of places and status, thereof are given below:—

Sl. No.	Location	Description	Status
1	2	3	4
1.	Rail Over Bridge (ROB) in lieu of Level Crossing (LC) No.16 at Mangobindpuri at Km. 172/8-9 between Sukinda-Jakhapura Junction stations on Jakhapura-Daitari sec.	1. New work sanctioned in W.P. 2009-10. 2. Joint inspection done and General Arrangement Drawings (GADs) are under preparation.	Sanctioned during Works Programme (W.P.) of 2009-10 at the estimated cost of Rs. 32.50 crores.
2.	ROB in lieu of LC No. CT-41 Km. 447/5-6 between Dhenkanal-Sadasibpur Railway Stations.	1. New work sanctioned in W.P. 2009-10. 2. Joint inspection done and GADs are under preparation.	Sanctioned during Works Programme of 2009-10 at the estimated cost of Rs. 16.13 crores.

1	2	3	4
3.	ROB in lieu of existing LC No. CT-81 at Km. 439/23-25 between Bhudapank-Talcher.	1. New work sanctioned in W.P. 2009-10. 2. Joint inspection done and GADs are under preparation.	Sanctioned during Works Programme of 2009-10 at the estimated cost of Rs. 25.32 crores.
4.	ROB in lieu of LC No. ML-187 Km. 432/4 between Mancheswar-Bhubaneswar Railway Stations.	1. New work sanctioned in W.P. 2009-10. 2. Joint inspection done and GADs are under preparation.	Sanctioned during Works Programme of 2009-10 at the estimated cost of Rs. 54.02 crores.
5.	ROB in lieu of existing LC No. ML-190 at Km. 441/1 between Bhubaneswar-Ratang Railway Stations.	1. New work sanctioned in W.P. 2009-10. 2. Joint inspection done and GADs are under preparation.	Sanctioned during Works Programme of 2009 at the estimated cost of Rs. 43.00 crores.
6.	ROB in lieu of existing LC No. ML-254 Km. 525/33-35 between Gangadharpur-Balugaon Railway Stations.	1. New work sanctioned in W.P. 2009-10. 2. Joint inspection done and GADs are under preparation.	Sanctioned during Works Programme of 2009-10 at the estimated cost of Rs. 24.66 crores.
7.	ROB in lieu of LC No. ML-186 at Km. 430/14-15 between Mancheswar and Bhubaneswar Railway Stations.	1. New work sanctioned in W.P. 2009-10. 2. Joint inspection done and GADs are under preparation.	Sanctioned during Works Programme of 2009 at the estimated cost of Rs. 47.26 crores.
8.	ROB in lieu of LC No. ML-188 at Km. 433/10 between Mancheswar and Bhubaneswar Railway Stations. (4 lane ROB).	1. New work sanctioned in W.P. 2009-10. 2. Joint inspection done and GADs are under preparation.	Sanctioned during Works Programme of 2009-10 at the estimated cost of Rs. 54.07 crores.
9.	ROB in lieu of LC No. ML-309 at Km. 599/8-10 between Jagannathpur-Berhampur Railway Stations.	1. New work sanctioned in W.P. 2009-10. 2. Joint inspection done and GADs are under preparation.	Sanctioned during Works Programme of 2009-10 at the estimated cost of Rs. 25.94 crores.

1	2	3	4
10.	ROB in lieu of existing LC No. ML-312 at Km. 602/20-22 between Berhampur-Golanthra Railway Stations.	1. New work sanctioned in W.P. 2009-10. 2. Joint inspection done and GADs are under preparation.	Sanctioned during Works Programme of 2009-10 at the estimated cost of Rs. 25.36 crores.
11.	ROB at Jaleswar-Amarda Road at Km. 189/9-10	Standard stipulations have been accepted by the State Government Joint site investigations for Plan and Estimate have been done. Drawings for Railway portion have been prepared by Railway and Sent to State Government for combined General Arrangement Drawing (GAD) and estimate for preparation.	Combined GAD and Estimate are awaited from State Government, on receipt of which, proposal will be considered for inclusion in the Railways Works Programme.
12.	Balasore-Nilgiri at Km. 234/6-7	Standard stipulations have been accepted by the State Government Drawing for Railway portion has been sent to State Government for preparation of combined estimate.	Combined GAD and Estimate are awaited from State Government, on receipt of which, proposal will be considered for inclusion in the Railways Works Programme.
13.	Kalunga-Panpose at Km. 422/19-21	Standard stipulations have been accepted by the State Government Drawing for Railway portion has been sent to State Government for preparation of combined estimate.	Combined GAD and Estimate are awaited from State Government on receipt of which, proposal will be considered for inclusion in the Railways Works Programme.
14.	Soro Markona at Km. 264/33-35	Acceptance of standard stipulations by State Government is still awaited.	After the firm proposal is received from State Government its feasibility will be examined.

Contribution of Agriculture in GDP

† *135. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the gross domestic product of the country will decrease due to the negative effect of farming in the financial year 2009-10 as a result of the effect of drought in 276 districts of the country;

(b) if so, the assessment of contribution of agriculture in the gross domestic product;

(c) whether Government has assessed the adverse effect on the farmers due to decrease in the above said contribution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) As per the data compiled by Central Statistical Organization (CSO), the growth rate of gross domestic product (GDP) for the first quarter (April-June) of 2009-10 at 1999-2000 prices for Agriculture and allied sector and total Economy are estimated at 2.4% and 6.1% respectively. CSO has not yet released the annual estimates of GDP for the financial year 2009-10.

(b) Share of agriculture and allied activities in the total GDP is 16.3% for the first quarter (April-June) of 2009-10 as against 16.8% of the corresponding period of 2008-09. During 2008-09, its share in total GDP was 17.0%.

(c) and (d) The reason for decline in the share of Agriculture and allied sector in GDP is due to the structural transformation of the economy and is mainly attributed to faster growth of Mining and Quarrying, Electricity, Gas and Water Supply and Financing, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services. With a view to taking care of the interests of farmers, apart from providing various input subsidies the Government also fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for different agricultural commodities to ensure remunerative prices for their produce which in turn facilitates higher investment and higher production in the agricultural sector. The MSP of Copra, Paddy, Arhar, Moong, Sesamum, Wheat, Barley, Gram and Safflower have been raised over their last year's MSP. A statement indicating the MSPs of Kharif and Rabi crops and Copra for 2005-06 to 2009-10 is enclosed.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Details of minimum support prices of Kharif, Rabi and Copra for 2005-06 to 2009-10 (According to Crop year)

(As on 11.11.2009)

(Rs. per quintal)

Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	(#) increase in MSP 2008-09 over 2007-08	2009-10	(#) increase in MSP 2009-10 over 2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Kharif Crops									
1.	Paddy	Common	570	580 [^]	645\$ \$/850~	850\$	205(31.8)	950&	100(11.8)
		Grade 'A'	600	610 [^]	675\$ \$/880~	880\$	205(30.4)	980&	100(11.4)
2.	Jowar	Hybrid	525	540	600	840	240(40.0)	840	0.0
		Maldandi	—	555	620	860	240(38.7)	860	0.0
3.	Bajra		525	540	600	840	240(40.0)	840	0.0
4.	Maize		540	540	620	840	220(35.5)	840	0.0
5.	Ragi		525	540	600	915	315(52.5)	915	0.0
6.	Arhar (Tur)		1400	1410	1550 ^{^^}	2000	450(29.0)	2300	300(15.0)
7.	Moong		1520	1520	1700 ^{^^}	2520	820(48.2)	2760	240(9.5)
8.	Urad		1520	1520	1700 ^{^^}	2520	820(48.2)	2520	240(9.5)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9.	Cotton	F-414/H-777/J34	1760	1770 *	1800 *	2500 ^a	700(38.9)	2500 ^a	0.0
		H-4	1980	1990 * *	2030 * *	3000 ^{aa}	970(47.8)	3000 ^{aa}	0.0
10.	Groundnut in shell		1520	1520	1550	2100	550(35.5)	2100	0.0
11.	Sunflower seed		1500	1500	1510	2215	705(46.7)	2215	0.0
12.	Soyabean	Black	900	900	910	1350	440(48.4)	1350	0.0
		Yellow	1010	1020	1050	1390	340(32.4)	1390	0.0
13.	Sesamum		1550	1560	1580	2750	1170(74.1)	2850	100(3.6)
14.	Nigerseed		1200	1220	1240	2405	1165(94.0)	2405	0.0
Rabi Crops									
15.	Wheat		650\$	750\$\$	1000	1080	80(8.0)	1100	20(1.85)
16.	Barley		550	565	650	680	30(4.6)	750	70(10.29)
17.	Gram		1435	1445	1600	1730	130(8.1)	1760	30(1.73)
18.	Masur (Lentil)		1535	1545	1700	1870	170(10.0)	1870	0
19.	Rapeseed/Mustard		171.5	1715	1800	1830	30(1.7)	1830	0
20.	Safflower		1565	1565	1650	1650	0(0)	1680	30(1.82)
21.	Toria		1680	1680	1735	1735	0.00		
Other Crops									
22.	Copra	Milling	3570	3590	3620	3660	40(1.1)	4450	790(21.6)
	(Calender year)	Ball	3820	3840	3870	3910	40(1.0)	4700	790(20.2)

23.	De-husked Coconut	—	—	—	988	—	1200	212(21.5)
	(Calender year)							
24.	Jute	910	1000	1055	1250	195(18.5)	1375	125(10.0)
25.	Sugarcane	79.50	80.25	81.18	81.18	0(0.0)	129.84□	48.66(59.9)
26.	Tobacco (VFC)	Black Soil	32.00	32.00	32.00			
		(F2 Gr)						
	(Rs. per kg.)	Light Soil	34.00	34.00	34.00			
		(L2 Gr)						

Figures in brackets indicate percentage increase.

\$ An additional incentive bonus of Rs. 50 per quintal was payable over the Minimum Support Price (MSP)

\$ \$ An additional incentive bonus of Rs. 100 per quintal was payable over the Minimum Support Price (MSP)

^ An additional incentive bonus of Rs. 40 per quintal was payable on procurement between 1.10.2006 to 31.03.2007. In case of Bihar and Kerala additional incentive bonus extended upto 31.5.2007 and in case of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal additional incentive bonus extended upto 30.9.2007.

* Medium Staple.

** Long Staple

^^ A bonus of Rs. 40 per quintal was payable over and above the MSP.

~ From 12.06.2008

^a Staple length (mm) of 24.5 – 25.5 and Micronaire value of 4.3 – 5.1

^{aa} Staple length (mm) of 29.5 – 30.5 and Micronaire value of 3.5 – 4.3

& An additional incentive bonus of Rs. 50 per quintal is payable over the Minimum Support Price (MSP)

□ Fair and remunerative price.

Equitable share of minorities in education

*136. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of article 30(1) of the Constitution, minorities are still not getting equitable share in education in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 15 percent of physical targets and financial outlays, which have to be earmarked by his Ministry have not been earmarked for minorities during the last few years;

(c) if so, the reasons behind not achieving the above two objectives by Government;

(d) whether there are any plans to give legislative framework to protect the rights of minorities ensured under article 30; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir. Article 30 (1) of the Constitution provides the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice, by the minorities and therefore the number of educational institutions established and administered by the minorities would depend on such proposals which are initiated by the minorities themselves.

(b) and (c) The share of benefits accruing to the Minorities in the schemes of the Ministry targeted towards the general population, during the financial year 2009-10 was as under:—

1. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA): 19% of the financial outlays were allocated to Minority Concentration Blocks coming under 121 Special Focus Districts;
2. Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) : 21% of the financial outlays were allocated and 453 Vidyalayas sanctioned in Minority Concentration Blocks out of 2573 Vidyalayas constituting 18% of schools; and
3. National Programme of Education for Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGL) : 14% of the financial outlays have been allocated for Minority Concentration Districts.

As many as 90 Districts with Minority Concentration of population are covered under the Eleventh Plan Scheme of setting up Colleges of Excellence, one each in the districts with Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) lower than the National GER in Higher Education. Also, under the Sub-Mission on Polytechnics, 53 districts out of 90 Minority Concentration Districts are eligible for central funding. An amount of Rs. 33.705 crore has been released during the financial year as initial grants for setting up of polytechnics in 11 Districts out of these 53 Districts.

In addition 100% of the allocation under “Scheme of Providing Quality Education in Madarsa (SPQEM)” and “Scheme for Infrastructure Development Private Aided/Unaided

Minority Institutes (Elementary Secondary/Senior Secondary Schools)” (IDMI) are earmarked for the benefit of minorities.

(d) and (e) National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) has been established through an Act of Parliament for ensuring that the true amplitude of the educational rights enshrined in Article 30 (1) of the Constitution is available to the members of the notified religious minority communities, including the Muslims.

Lean Manufacturing Scheme for MSMEs

*137. SHRI R.C. SINGH : Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of Lean Manufacturing Scheme launched recently for Micro, Small and Medium enterprises in the country;
- (b) whether the new scheme enhances the manufacturing competitiveness in this sector which is reeling under various problems;
- (c) whether it is a fact that scheme would be implemented initially in 100 MSME clusters; and
- (d) if so, the details of clusters identified in the State of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The aims and objectives of the Scheme are to increase the competitiveness of the MSME sector through the adoption of Lean Manufacturing techniques which leads to reducing waste, increasing productivity, introducing innovative practices for improving overall competitiveness, inculcating good management systems and imbining a culture of continuous improvement.

- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) Yes, Sir, it will be implemented in 100 Mini Clusters.
- (d) The Mini Clusters identified so far in the State of Andhra Pradesh are Electricals/ Electric Fans (Hyderabad), Food processing (Hyderabad), Readymade Garments (Hyderabad), Fibre Reinforced Plastic (FRP) (Hyderabad) and Fabrication cluster for ship building (Vishakhapatnam).

Rottening of foodgrains

†*138. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of foodgrains under the maintenance of FCI that has rotten or become unworthy of human consumption during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) whether Government or any officer bears the cost of spoiled or rotten foodgrains.
- (c) the names of agencies which work for keeping the foodgrains unspoilt and whether there is any provision for penalising them on foodgrains getting spoiled; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the number of agencies/officials against whom Government has taken action for poor maintenance of foodgrains during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Negligible quantity of foodgrains had got rotten or become unworthy of human consumption due to poor maintenance in the godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) during the last three years. However, some quantities of foodgrains with FCI were damaged due to various reasons, such as, cyclones and floods, acceptance of below specifications stocks and movement to other regions. The details are given below:—

Year	Total quantity of damaged foodgrains (in lakh tons.)
2006-07	0.25
2007-08	0.34
2008-09	0.20
TOTAL:	0.79

(b) Government of India bears the cost of foodgrains damaged due to reasons mentioned in (a) above, other than in cases of foodgrains damaged due to negligence of officials, in which case recovery is made from them.

(c) Food Corporation of India, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs) work for maintenance and safe keeping of foodgrains. Sufficient provisions exist in Food Corporation of India (Staff) Regulations 1971 and in CWC and SWCs for penalising officials found responsible for poor maintenance/damage of foodgrains during storage.

(d) Disciplinary action against 118 number of officers/officials of FCI has been taken for poor maintenance of foodgrains during last three years.

Import of Edible Oil

†*139. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that edible oils are imported to meet the requirement of the country;

(b) if so, the average quantity of different varieties of edible oils imported during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the oils mainly consumed in the country, such as mustard, coconut and groundnut oils, are exported; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the reasons for giving approval to this export?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of the total quantity of different varieties of edible oils imported during last three years, year-wise is enclosed as Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Government had banned the export of all edible oils with effect from 17.3.2008. However, with effect from 1.4.2008, export of coconut oil has been permitted through Cochin Port. Further, the Government have allowed export of edible oils in branded consumer packs of upto 5 kgs. subject to a limit of 10000 tons during 20.11.2008 to 30.09.2010. This has been allowed to enable Indians living abroad to get Indian edible oils and to enable exporters to retain the markets created for branded edible oils.

Statement

Details of import of edible oils during the last three years

(Quantity in lakh tons) (Value Rs. in Crores)

Name of Oil	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Soya bean crude oil W/N degummed	11.98	3032.86	11.20	2673.41	6.98	1866.00
Soya bean oil of edible grade	0.09	36.91	0.08	32.40	0.01	5.01
Soya bean oil	0.09	33.91	0.11	42.45	0.00	0.93
Deodorized (salad oil)	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
Other groundnut oil	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.26
Crude palm oil and its fractions	25.42	5112.35	32.77	6121.91	43.48	9083.40
Refined bleached deodorized palm oil	0.15	52.12	0.14	56.36	0.11	43.44
Refined bleached deodorized palmolein	0.69	149.98	1.60	320.13	11.80	2698.14
Other refined palm oil	1.41	314.68	0.64	213.67	0.10	39.61
Sunflower seed oil crude	1.09	322.44	0.87	254.06	2.79	1183.43
Safflower seed oil (Kardi seed crude oil)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	24.00
Sunflower oil edible grade	0.33	100.52	0.00	0.89	0.07	44.87
Edible grade saffola oil	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	—	—
Coconut (copra) crude oil and fractions	0.00	0.17	—	—	0.03	13.89
Coconut (copra) refined oil and fractions	0.14	51.69	0.08	35.26	0.12	67.53

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Crude palm kernel oil	1.26	319.61	1.47	531.70	1.48	699.42
Refined palm kernel oil and its fractions	0.01	3.56	0.00	1.09	0.04	13.17
Crude rape oil	0.00	0.10	—	—	0.09	35.19
Refined rapeseed oil of edible grade	0.00	0.00	—	—	—	—
Other low erucic acid rape colza oil other than crude	0.00	0.02	—	—	0.01	4.99
Crude colza oil	0.00	0.01	—	—	—	—
Crude mustard oil	—	—	—	—	0.00	0.35
Refined mustard oil edible grade	0.00	0.03	—	—	—	—
Other rape colza mustard oils	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.21	—	—
Sesame oil and its fractions	0.00	0.60	0.00	0.61	0.00	0.89
Fixed veg. oils of edible grade viz. mango kernal, mahua, rice bran oil	0.04	8.26	0.07	16.90	0.04	12.63
Ground nut oil of edible grade	—	—	—	—	0.00	0.30
TOTAL :	42.69	9539.90	49.03	10301.09	67.20	15837.46

Source: DGCI & S, Kolkata Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Special Safety Fund

†*140. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Special Safety Fund was set up by Government by levying cess on passenger tickets;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the present status of the said fund; and
- (d) the details of works concerning railway security carried out from the said fund during the last three years and the expenditure incurred on them?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (d) In pursuance of Railway Safety Review Committee's recommendation, a non-lapsable Special Railway Safety Fund of Rs. 17000 crore was created in October, 2001 to clear the arrears of replacement/renewal of overaged safety related assets, viz., tracks, bridges, S&T gears and rolling stock and to cater to certain safety enhancement works. To meet the railway's targetted contribution of about Rs. 5000 crore, safety surcharge on passenger fare was imposed from 2001-02 to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

2006-07. Remaining portion of about Rs. 12000 crore was in the form of dividend-free budgetary support from Central Government. The currency of this fund has come to an end on 31.03.2008. No work concerning Railway security has been carried out under the said fund.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Gap between supply and demand of foodgrains

902. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita net cereal availability per day and the details of foodgrains production during the next two years; and

(b) the steps taken or being taken by Government to ensure that the growing gap between supply and demand is contained?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) and (b) As indicated by the per capita consumption of cereals per day, according to the report of the Consumer Expenditure Survey 2006-07 (63rd Round) conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), the capita net cereal availability of cereals in the country for the year 2006-07 is estimated at 0.71 kg per day.

As per the Working Group of the Planning Commission for Eleventh Five Year Plan, the details of projected demand and production of foodgrains for the next two years *i.e.* 2009-10 and 2010-11 are given below:—

(Million Tonnes)

Year	Projected demand	Projected production
2009-10	224.04	226.80
2010-11	229.12	233.05

As indicated in the above table, the projected production of foodgrains during the next two years is higher than projected demand. However, in order to further increase production of foodgrains, the Government is implementing following schemes/programmes:—

- To increase the production of wheat, rice and pulses, the Government has introduced National Food Security Mission. It aims at adding the production of rice by 10 million tonnes, wheat by 8 million tonnes and pulses by 2 million tonnes by the end of the Eleventh Plan, *i.e.* by 2011-12 through area increase and productivity enhancement in targeted districts.
- The Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) with an objective to incentivise the States to increase investment in agriculture and allied sector has been launched.

- To increase the production of cereals in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme “Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice), Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Wheat Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Wheat) and Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Coarse Cereals)” subsumed under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture are being implemented to provide more flexibility to States based on local needs.
- To increase the production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme “Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize” (ISOPOM) is being implemented since 01.04.2004.

Suicides by farmers in Orissa

903. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to drought, a number of farmers have committed suicide in the western part of Orissa;
- (b) whether Government has any plan to give grants for relief to the affected people;
- (c) if so, the action taken in this regard by Government, so far; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
 (a) to (d) As reported by the State Government of Orissa, 23 incidents of alleged suicide by farmers have taken place, but the State Government has not been able to ascertain so far whether anyone or more out of these alleged suicides have been caused due to agrarian distress. However, investigations by the State Police are going on this regard. In any case, the State Government has released a sum of Rs. 20 crore from Calamity Relief Fund to 15 districts covering 3305 villages/wards where autumn paddy crop loss is 50% or more.

Discrimination against farmers of Bundelkhand

†904. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that farmers of Bundelkhand are being discriminated;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for not providing similar amount of money to farmers of Bundelkhand who are affected by drought since last five years that is being provided to farmers of Vidarbha while the problems and causes of farmers of Vidarbha and Bundelkhand are similar?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Planning Commission has considered a Special Package for Drought Mitigation in the Bundelkhand regions of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh for providing assistance to the districts covered under the region.

Drought situation in the country

905. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to tackle the drought situation in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Due to erratic behaviour of South-West Monsoon, 2009, in all 12 States have declared drought/scarcity/drought like situation in 301 districts in the country. Steps taken by the Government to reduce the impact of drought situation in the country, *inter-alia*, include release of a sum of Rs. 4073.785 crores from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) to Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, subject to adjustment of 75% of the balance available with the States under the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF); release of central share of instalment under CRF to the tune of Rs. 1990.3275 crores, which is 75% of the State's quota; Diesel subsidy and additional power from the central pool to save the standing crop in the farmers' field; raised the distribution subsidy for the certified seeds, relaxed the age limit for seed varieties, allowed distribution of minikits and use of Truthfully Labelled (TL) Seeds under the Government programme; issued advisories and sent experts from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) to the affected States to enable taking up of alternate crop strategy in the sowing failed/unsown areas and early Rabi.

Shortfall in agriculture production

†906. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how far the drought conditions in different drought affected districts have been neutralized by the delayed monsoon this year; and

(b) how far the agricultural yield is likely to fall short of the targets and a comparison of the yield with the yield of past three seasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) Government of India has taken various measures to neutralize impending situation of delayed monsoon which, *inter-alia*, are constitution of an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

review the condition and take appropriate decisions to counter the impact of deficit rainfall; providing assistance to the States to salvage the standing Kharif crops through providing additional power, diesel subsidy, etc.; increasing the area under Rabi cultivation to compensate for likely loss in Kharif; increasing upper ceiling of distribution subsidy on certified seeds under Government of India programmes; providing assistance from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF)/National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) to the affected States for agriculture input subsidy and other relief measures etc; and regular review with all concerned Central Ministries/Departments and State Governments. Central Teams have visited drought affected States and based on their recommendations, the Government has approved a total assistance of Rs. 4073.785 crore from NCCF so far and also released Rs. 1990.3275 crore to these States as the Central Government's share under CRF. The assistance provided from NCCF as well as CRF includes assistance to be provided to farmers including small and marginal farmers affected by drought.

(b) 1. Being less rainfall year the 1st Advance production Estimate for major Kharif Crops have been reported less by States, Situation may improve in subsequent estimates.

2. Yield comparison statement for the years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 1st Advance Estimates (2009-10) is as follow:—

Crops	Yield (Kg/hectare)			
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Rice	2086	2278	2081	1970
Coarse Cereals	1144	1410	1357	1109
Other Kharif Pulses	449	557	382	268

Impact of drought

907. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the impact of the drought on farm sector in the country is not as bad as has been expected earlier by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the steps taken for the farm sector to deal with the drought situation in the country; and

(d) the extent to which the farm sector has been benefited so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) to (d) The erratic and irregular monsoon behaviour in the Kharif season resulted in reduction in area coverage of Kharif crops, especially of rice to an extent of 6 million hectares. During Kharif season, Ministry played a proactive role and had constantly monitored the progress of rainfall/sowing of Kharif crops in consultation with States and other relevant Ministries. Technical

as well as financial assistance were offered in time and programmatic interventions were provided to enable the States to protect the standing Kharif crops as well for taking up Contingency plans for growing catch crops. The multifaceted efforts of the Ministry had helped in reducing/stabilizing the Kharif losses to some extent. Early Rabi planning for capitalizing the soil moisture of late rains (September end to 1st week of October) was facilitated by the Ministry by extending expert support to States. Additional areas under boro/summer rice, wheat, pulses are planned to compensate the kharif losses to some extent. Boro-rice minikits were distributed in the potential eastern districts of Bihar, Assam and West Bengal for popularizing the boro rice varieties. Use of Truthfully Labeled (TL) seeds, and relaxation of age for seeds are allowed under the Government programmes. Additional wheat minikits of rust resistance, heat tolerant varieties, such as DBW-17 were distributed to cover additional areas under wheat for increased production. Area specific approach are adopted to achieve higher production through provisioning of inputs like fertilizers, credit, pest control measures, etc. in the areas with higher rainfall. Measures for tie-up for input supply, advance financial allocation and releases to the States for timely completion of Rabi operations are ensured through conferences and interactions with the States.

Gender Budgeting Cell

908. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has constituted a Gender Budgeting Cell (GBC) in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to bring gender concerns to the centre-stage in all aspects of public expenditure and policy;

(b) if so, the total amount out of budgetary allocation mandated for women farmers; and

(c) the manner in which the amount allotted to women farmers would be utilized?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of the total Budget Estimate of Rs. 7200.00 crores, outlay earmarked for Women Component Plan (30% of the Budget estimate) is Rs. 2160.00 crores during the year 2009-10.

(c) Efforts are made to ensure use of earmarked outlay for welfare of women farmers through various components like Capacity building, Exposure visits, Demonstration etc. under the Beneficiary Oriented Schemes (BOS) of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. Besides this, specific segments of activities in different schemes and programs have been identified to pass on benefits directly to women farmers as far as possible.

Organic farming

909. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the growing need for organic farming in the country in view of media reports on adulterated food items being sold by vendors;

(b) whether Government proposes to formulate a national policy to promote organic farming in the country; and

(c) if so, by when such a policy is likely to be formulated?

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

(a) The Government is aware of the need for organic farming due to increased demand for chemical residue free food and for food items grown without use of chemicals. Deterioration of soil fertility and decrease in soil organic matter have also drawn attention towards organic farming.

(b) and (c) The Government has already formulated a National Policy on Organic Farming which seeks to promote technically sound, economically viable, environmentally non-degrading and socially acceptable use of natural resources in favour of organic agriculture.

In order to facilitate, encourage and promote organic farming the Government has launched a "National Project on Organic Farming".

Fund allocation for dairy development activities

†910. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure proposed to be made on dairy development activities in the country during Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the percentage of the said expenditure to the total expenditure to be done on agriculture development related activities;

(c) the share of Madhya Pradesh in this regard;

(d) the amount allocated to the State of Madhya Pradesh for dairy development under National Agriculture Science Scheme during last two years; and

(e) the amount released out of that along with details thereof?

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

(a) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India has an approved allocation of Rs. 580.00 crore for dairy development activities during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

In addition, there is an allocation of Rs. 4323.00 crore for Animal Husbandry activities which also contribute to dairy development.

(b) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has an approved allocation of Rs. 66577.00 crore for agriculture development activities for all States including Madhya Pradesh during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The proposed expenditure for dairy development activities will constitute about 0.87% of the expenditure on agriculture development activities.

(c) No State-wise allocation has been made.

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

Dependence of agriculture on rains

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

(a) whether it is a fact that over two-thirds of the agricultural land is still dependant on rains;

(b) whether it is also a fact that China has only one-third of its agricultural land unirrigated;

(c) whether it is also a fact that developed countries depend very little on rains; and

(d) if so, the action Government has taken to create infrastructural projects in the recent past to relieve agriculture of its dependence on rains?

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

(a) During 2006-07, 43.38% of net area sown was irrigated and thus only 56.62% area were dependent on rains.

(b) As per Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Statistical Year Book 2007-08, 62.6 % of arable land and permanent crops were unirrigated during 2006.

(c) As per FAO Statistical Year Book 2007-08, percentage of unirrigated land in arable land and permanent crops in 2006 in following developed countries are given below:—

Name of the developed country	% share of net unirrigated area in arable land and permanent crops
1	2
New Zealand	43.1
Japan	45.6
Republic of Korea	52.3
Italy	60.0
Netherlands	63.0
Spain	78.2
France	86.3
United States	86.9
Sweden	93.8

1	2
Switzerland	94.2
Australia	94.7
Germany	96.0
United Kingdom	97.0
Belgium	97.3
Canada	98.4

(d) The Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) extends financial assistance to the States for creation of irrigation potential and by completion of identified ongoing irrigation projects. 272 major/medium irrigation projects and 10236 surface water minor irrigation schemes have been included under AIBP till 11th November, 2009. Out of these, 109 major/medium projects and 6640 surface minor irrigation schemes have been completed. An additional irrigation potential of 59.39 lakh hectares has been created till March, 2009.

65 major/medium irrigation projects under the Prime Minister's relief package for agrarian distressed districts of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra have been selected for receiving financial assistance under AIBP. So far 38 projects have been funded under AIBP.

The Surface Minor Irrigation Schemes for North-Eastern States, Hilly States of Sikkim, Uttaranchal, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and undivided Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi Districts of Orissa have also been provided Central Loan Assistance under this programme since 1999-2000. As per the existing AIBP criteria effective from December, 2006, grant amounting to 25% of the project cost for major and medium irrigation projects in non-special category States and 90% grant of the project cost for major/medium/minor irrigation projects in special category States (including undivided Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi districts of Orissa) are provided to the selected projects.

For the year 2009-10, projected grant requirement of AIBP is Rs. 12285 crore for creation of an additional irrigation potential of 10.50 lakh hectare. Budget allocation made available for 2009-10 for AIBP is of Rs. 8000 crore.

Since February, 2009, scheme of National Projects has also been implemented for funding high priority projects of international and interstate importance. So far, 14 projects have been identified as National Projects, which are at different stages of planning and execution. Active central assistance at the rate of 90% of the eligible balance cost of irrigation and drinking water component of these projects is being provided.

Proposal to amend NAIS

912. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is under implementation in the country and available to all the farmers;
- (b) whether Government proposes to amend the NAIS;
- (c) if so, whether the scheme has been amended/finalized so far; and
- (d) the claim amount so far paid to farmers under the modified NAIS during the last three years till date against their crop losses?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

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

New variety of paddy developed by Indian scientists

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

- (a) whether a new variety of paddy has been developed by scientists of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) which yields 3.5 tonnes per hectare despite being submerged in water for 20 days;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether ICAR proposes to increase commercial production of this variety of paddy; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) A new variety of rice Swarna Sub-1 has been developed under the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Philippines and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) collaborative research programme. The gene for submergence tolerance (Sub-1) was cloned by IRRI from the Indian flood tolerant variety FR-13-A and was transferred into the popular Indian rice variety Swarna and hence the name of this variety as Swarna Sub-1. This variety produces 3.0 to 3.5 tonnes per hectare under submerged condition for about two weeks.

(c) and (d) Indian Council of Agricultural Research is mandated for the production of breeder seed. The Breeder seed is produced at various ICAR Institutes/State Agricultural Universities based on the indents received from Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC), Government of India. As the variety has been formally notified in 2009, indents are expected from next year onwards.

Production of cotton in India

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the rank of India amongst cotton growing countries has come down;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total production of cotton in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (d) whether Government proposes to formulate a scheme to encourage production of cotton in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) State-wise production of cotton during the last three years *i.e.* 2006-07 to 2008-09 is given in enclosed Statement (*See below*).

(d) and (e) The Government has been implementing a Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) since 2000-01. The aim of the TMC is to increase production, productivity and improve the quality of cotton. The TMC consists of four Mini Missions. Mini Mission-I on research is being implemented by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), while Mini Mission-II for enhancing production and productivity is being implemented by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. The Mini Mission-III on the development of market infrastructure and Mini Mission-IV on modernization of ginning/pressing factories are being handled in the Ministry of Textiles.

Statement

State-wise estimated production of Cotton during 2006-07 to 2008-09

Production ('000 Bales of 170 Kgs. each)

States	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09*
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	2181.0	3491.0	3572.0
Assam	0.6	0.6	1.0
Chhattisgarh	0.2	0.1	0.0
Gujarat	8787.0	8276.0	7616.0
Haryana	1814.0	1885.0	1858.0
Himachal Pradesh	0.1	0.2	0.1
Jammu and Kashmir	0.0	0.0	0.0
Karnataka	610.0	778.0	912.0
Kerala	2.0	1.7	1.5

1	2	3	4
Madhya Pradesh	828.6	864.8	856.1
Maharashtra	4618.0	7015.0	4943.0
Meghalaya	7.7	6.5	#
Mizoram	5.2	0.6	#
Nagaland	0.2	0.3	#
Orissa	107.9	124.7	146.6
Punjab	2678.0	2355.0	2285.0
Rajasthan	746.8	862.2	725.7
Tamil Nadu	220.9	200.7	205.4
Tripura	1.6	1.5	#
Uttar Pradesh	7.0	6.8	1.0
West Bengal	14.7	13.2	24.0
Pondicherry	0.3	0.2	#
Others	NA	NA	9.0
ALL INDIA :	22631.8	25884.1	23156.4

*4th Advance Estimates released on 07.07.2009

#included in others

NA : Not Applicable

Suicide by farmers

†915. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of suicides by farmers in the country has increased rapidly in recent years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, for the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken so far by Government to prevent farmers from committing suicides and to what extent these steps have been effective;

(d) the provisions made by Government to provide compensation to farmers who committed suicide and whether Government is satisfied with the progress in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (e) The incidents of suicide by farmers have been mainly reported from the States of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Kerala. Besides, some stray cases of farmers' suicide were also reported by the State of Gujarat, Punjab and Tamil Nadu. Number of suicides by farmers on account of agrarian reasons as per reports received from the State Governments is enclosed as Statement (*See below*).

In order to address the problem, the Government of India approved in the year 2006 a rehabilitation package of Rs. 16978.69 crore which also included an amount for *ex-gratia* assistance from Prime Minister's National Relief Fund @ Rs. 50 lakh per district for the distressed families of diseased farmer, for 31 suicide prone Districts spread in the four States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala. The package is being implemented over a period of 3 years and includes both immediate and medium term measures with an aim of establishing a sustainable and viable farming and livelihood support system through debt relief to farmers, improved supply of institutional credit, crop centric approach to agriculture, assured irrigation facilities, watershed management, better extension and farming support services and subsidiary income opportunities through horticulture, livestock, dairying, fisheries etc. An amount of Rs. 16953.04 crore (*i.e.* 99.8% of total package cost) has been released by Centre/State Governments and Banks in 4 States up to 30th September, 2009. The implementation of the non credit components of the package has been extended by 2 more years *i.e.* 30th September, 2011.

In addition to the Rehabilitation Package being implemented in 31 districts, the Government of India implemented a Debt waiver and Debt Relief scheme, 2008 in all districts of the country. As per provisional figures, a total of 3.01 crores small and marginal farmers and 0.67 crore other farmers have benefitted from the scheme involving debt waiver and debt relief to the tune of Rs. 65,318.33 crores, as their line of credit has been declogged due to clearing off of their principal and interest liabilities. Moreover, for revitalization of agriculture sector, a number of plan schemes and programmes are under implementation across the country which include National Food Security Mission to improve production and productivity of foodgrains, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana with an objective to incentivise the States so as to increase public investment in agriculture and allied sectors in a decentralized manner, National Horticulture Mission, Macro Management of Agriculture, Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management and Support to Agriculture Extension Services etc. The National Policy for Farmers, 2007 has also definite provisions to improve economic viability of farming.

Statement

Number of suicides by farmers on account of agrarian reasons as per reports received from the State Governments

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Period	No. of suicides by farmers
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2006	532

1	2	3	4
		2007	490
		2008	390
		2009 (upto 16.11.09)	77
2.	Karnataka	2006-07	176
		2007-08	182
		2008-09	143
		2009-10 (upto 31.08.09)	14
3.	Maharashtra	2006	1028
		2007	590
		2008	627
		2009 (upto 15.11.09)	259
4.	Kerala	2006	112
		2007	.68
		2008	22
		2009 (upto 31.08.09)	02
5.	Tamil Nadu	2006	01
		2007	01
		2008	01
		2009 (upto 31.10.09)	Nil
6.	Punjab	2006	19
		2007	24
		2008	10
		2009 (upto 30.06.2009)	11
7.	Gujarat	2006	04
		2007	04
		2008	01
		2009 (upto 31.05.09)	02@
8.	Assam	12.12.2007	Nil
9.	Arunachal Pradesh	Not Received	NA
10.	Bihar	14.5.2008	Nil

1	2	3	4
11.	Chhattisgarh	31.07.2009	Nil
12.	Goa	31.10.2009	Nil
13.	Haryana	16.11.2009	Nil
14.	Himachal Pradesh	19.11.2009	Nil
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	18.11.2009	Nil
16.	Jharkhand	25.4.2008	Nil
17.	Manipur	19.11.2009	Nil
18.	Meghalaya	31.07.2009	Nil
19.	Madhya Pradesh	24.11.2009	Nil
20.	Mizoram	23.07.2009	Nil
21.	Nagaland	23.11.2009	Nil
22.	Orissa *	23.11.2009	Nil *
23.	Rajasthan	4.12.2007	Nil
24.	Sikkim	21.11.2009	Nil
25.	Tripura	25.3.2008	Nil
26.	Uttar Pradesh	20.11.2009	Nil
27.	Uttarakhand	8.5.2008	Nil
28.	West Bengal	31.10.2009	Nil
29.	Admn. of Andaman and Nicobar	26.10.2007	Nil
30.	Government of NCT of Delhi	28.9.2007	Nil
31.	Admn. of Daman and Diu	15.07.2009	Nil
32.	Admn. of Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.7.2008	Nil
33.	Admn. of Lakshadweep	19.11.2007	Nil
34.	Admn. of Puducherry	23.11.2009	Nil
35.	Admn. of Chandigarh	23.09.2009	Nil

*23 cases of alleged suicide by farmers have been reported in Orissa, but the State Government has not been able to ascertain so far whether anyone or more out of these alleged suicides have been caused due to agrarian distress. However, investigations by the State Police are going on this regard.

@Being re-verified by the Agriculture Department, Gujarat

Loss of foodgrains production

916. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of loss of foodgrains production suffered this year by the country due to the failure of Kharif crops on account of severe drought;

(b) in which manner Government proposes to make good the loss so as to maintain the public distribution system in the country; and

(c) the steps which are proposed to ensure better Rabi crop for 2009 so as to offset the production loss in Kharif crops this year?

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

(a) The Foodgrain production has been estimated about 96.53 million tonnes (as per 1st Advance Estimates) in the country as compared to 117.70 million tonnes during Kharif, 2008. Loss of foodgrain has been reported due to erratic and deficient rainfall during Kharif, 2009 season in major parts of the country.

(b) and (c) Minimum support price of rice has been increased from Rs. 850/- and 880/- for Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2008-09 to Rs. 950/- and Rs. 980/- (KMS 2009-10) per quintal for common and Grade 'A' of Paddy, respectively with a Rs. 50/- per quintal as bonus and Rs.1000/- for Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2008-09 to Rs. 1080/- (RMS 2009-10) of Wheat to enhance the availability of Rice and Wheat. Export of non-basmati rice has been banned and import of wheat and rice on private account at zero duty is allowed. Central issue price of wheat and rice has not been increased since 1.7.2002 to lessen burden of inflation on the poor. State Governments have been requested to maximize the procurement of rice by opening sufficient procurement centres and other necessary arrangement for procurement of paddy and its milling.

Besides, the Government of India has taken several other initiatives to increase more coverage of various crops during Rabi, 2009 and also to enhance the productivity. States have been given more flexibility to utilize the funds to meet the additional demand for requirement of seed distribution component. Subsidy norms of Rice, Wheat, Jowar, Bajra and Pulses (only for Rabi/summer 2009) have been increased under various crops development schemes of Ministry of Agriculture to reduce the burden on farmers in drought affected area. Age norms of certified seed of rice, wheat and pulses have been relaxed and additional area coverage under boro/summer rice/wheat/pulses are planned for enhancing production. Additional allocation of rust resistance and terminal heat-tolerance varieties of wheat minikit is made. Availability and supply of essential inputs such as fertilizer, additional power for irrigation has been ensured in coordination with States and various Central Ministries.

Modern warehouses in villages

917. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that storage of foodgrains in villages by farmers has led to losses due to pests, weather, etc.;

(b) whether there is any scheme to help panchayats or mandals to build modern warehouses with small capitals to store grains in villages; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme namely Rural Godown Scheme has been launched by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation since 1.4.2001 with the objectives of creation of scientific storage capacity with allied facilities in rural areas to meet various requirements of farmers for storing farm produce, processed farm produce, agricultural inputs, etc. The project for construction of rural godowns can be taken up by Local Bodies other than Municipal Corporations apart from individuals, farmers, Group of farmers/growers, Partnership/Proprietary firms, Non-Government Organizations (NGO's), Self Help Groups (SHGs). Corporations, Co-operatives, Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees, Marketing Boards in the entire country. Under the scheme, subsidy @ 25% of the capital cost of the project is provided, subject to a maximum ceiling on subsidy of Rs. 46.87 lakh. For the North-Eastern States and Hilly areas, subsidy @ 33.33% of the capital cost of the project is provided subject to maximum ceiling on subsidy of Rs. 62.50 lakh.

Suicide by farmers

918. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers who committed suicide during January, 2009 to October 2009 in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra, State-wise, district-wise and month-wise;

(b) whether cases of suicide in these States have increased due to drought situation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken by his Ministry to tackle the drought and suicide by farmers?

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

(a) to (d) As per information made available by the concerned State Government of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh no farmer has committed suicide due to agrarian reasons from January, 2009 to October, 2009. Month-wise and district-wise number of suicide by farmers in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and Maharashtra is given in the enclosed Statements I, II and III respectively (*See below*). The Statement indicates eligible cases *i.e.* number of suicides due to agrarian distress.

To address the problem of impact of deficit rainfall/draught, the Government of India took initiatives which *inter-alia* included, organizing a number of meetings at the level of State Chief Ministers, Agriculture Ministers and Relief Commissioners etc. to impress upon State Governments to take appropriate remedial actions to mitigate the impact of draught. States were requested to prepare alternate plan for unsown/germination failed areas with short duration/alternate crops, Use of Truthfully Labelled (TL) seeds, relaxation of age for seed varieties and distribution of minikits was allowed under the Government Programmes namely National food Security Mission (NFSM) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). Zonal Conference and Rabi Campaign programme with the State Governments were held to enable formulation of appropriate action plan for Rabi 2009-10. Funds were made available under the Centrally Sponsored Programmes, like RKVY, NFSM, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), etc. to enable taking up agriculture re-construction programme. Empowered Group of Ministries (EGoM) was formed to review the conditions and take appropriate decisions to counter the impact of drought.

In order to address the problem of the suicides by farmers, the Government of India approved in the year 2006 a rehabilitation package of Rs. 16978.69 crore for 31 suicide prone Districts spread in the four States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala. In addition to the Rehabilitation Package, the Government of India implemented a Debt waiver and Debt Relief scheme, 2008 in all districts of the country benefiting a total of 3.01 crores small and marginal farmers and 0.67 crore other farmers. The National Policy for Farmers, 2007 has also definite provisions to improve economic viability of farming.

Statement-I

District-wise and month-wise data of suicide by farmers on account of agrarian reasons in Andhra Pradesh from January, 2009 to October, 2009, as per information received from State Government

(No. of cases of suicide by farmers)

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Adilabad	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	3	0	1	9
2.	Ananthapur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Chittoor	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
4.	Kadapa	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
5.	E. Godavari	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Guntur	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
7.	Krishna	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8.	Karimnagar	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	10
9.	Khammam	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
10.	Kurnool	3	1	2	2	2	1	3	4	0	0	18
11.	Mahabubnagar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Medak	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	4	3	0	12
13.	SPS Nellore	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
14.	Nizamabad	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	7
15.	Nalgonda	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
16.	Prakasam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Ranga Reddy	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	3
18.	Srikakulam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	West Godavari	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
20.	Vishakhapatnam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Vizianagaram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22.	Warangal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:		11	5	7	3	2	3	12	25	3	1	72

Statement-II

District-wise and month-wise data of suicide by farmers on account of agrarian reasons in Punjab from January, 2009 to October, 2009, as per information received from State Government

(No. of cases of suicide by farmers)

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Amritsar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Barnala	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
3.	Bhatinda	0	0	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	7
4.	Faridkot	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
5.	Fatehgarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
6.	Ferozepur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gurdaspur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Hoshiarpur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Jalandhar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Kapurthala	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Ludhiana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
12..	Mansa	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
13.	Moga	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
14.	Muktsar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15.	Patiala	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16.	Rup Nagar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Sangrur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	5
18.	SAS Nagar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	SBS Nagar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Tarnataran	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL :		0	0	5	4	1	1	0	7	0	0	18

Statement-III

District-wise data of suicide by farmers on account of agrarian reasons in Maharashtra from January, 2009 to 25th November, 2009, as per information received from State Government

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Aurangabad	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2.	Jalna	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Parbhani	2	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	6
4.	Hingoli	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	3
5.	Nanded	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
6.	Beed	1	0	2	2	1	5	2	6	6	3	28
7.	Latur	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8.	Usmanabad	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3
9.	SUB-TOTAL:	4	2	5	4	5	7	4	7	6	4	48
10.	Amravati	3	8	3	8	3	4	2	1	0	0	32
11.	Wasim	3	0	2	2	4	1	1	1	0	0	14
12.	Akola	2	6	5	5	7	2	3	10	10	2	52
13.	Yawatmal	3	4	1	0	1	2	7	2	0	0	20
14.	Buldhana	2	3	3	5	1	0	1	1	0	0	16
15.	SUB-TOTAL:	13	21	14	20	16	9	14	15	10	2	134
16.	Nagpur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Wardha	0	1	3	1	1	0	1	3	0	0	10
18.	Bhandara	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Chandrapur	2	1	1	3	0	0	2	0	2	0	11
20.	Gondiya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Gadchiroli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22.	SUB-TOTAL:	2	2	4	4	1	0	3	3	2	0	21
23.	Nashik	1	1	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	7
24.	Dhule	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
25.	Nandurbar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Jalgaon	5	1	1	5	2	2	3	2	0	0	21
27.	Ahmednagar	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
28.	SUB-TOTAL:	8	4	2	8	4	3	3	3	0	0	35
29.	Pune	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
30.	Sangli	1	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	7
31.	Solapur	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	4
32.	Satara	0	2	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	7
33.	Kolhapur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	SUB-TOTAL:	1	6	4	2	2	3	2	2	0	0	22
35.	GRAND TOTAL:	28	35	29	38	28	22	26	30	18	6	260

Direct assistance to drought affected Bundelkhand

†919. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the places visited by the Central team to take stock of the drought situation;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Bundelkhand in Uttar Pradesh is the worst affected;
- (c) names of the States and amount provided as assistance due to drought;
- (d) whether Government would provide any direct assistance keeping in view the situation of Bundelkhand; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) and (b) The Inter-Ministerial Central Teams have visited Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, which have so far declared drought/scarcity/drought like situation due to the erratic South-West Monsoon, 2009. Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh is more affected.

(c) Assistance from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for drought relief, approved by the Government so far, is as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

(i)	Bihar	1163.64
(ii)	Himachal Pradesh	88.93
(iii)	Jharkhand	200.955
(iv)	Karnataka	116.49
(v)	Madhya Pradesh	246.31
(vi)	Maharashtra	671.88
(vii)	Manipur	14.57
(viii)	Nagaland	21.12
(ix)	Rajasthan	1034.84
(x)	Uttar Pradesh	515.05

This assistance is subject to adjustment of 75% of balance available in their respective Calamity Relief Fund (CRF).

(d) and (e) The Government has approved a Special Package at a cost of Rs. 7,266 crore for implementation of a drought mitigation strategy for Bundelkhand region. The two State Governments viz. Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh will identify their

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

respective agencies, which will draw the project proposals for implementation in their respective Bundelkhand areas.

Central assistance to drought affected States

920. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether total number of drought hit districts has risen to 278 in 11 affected States;
- (b) if so, whether States affected by drought have sought additional Central assistance of Rs. 72,313.62 crores for relief;
- (c) if so, the amount sought by each State and the amount so far provided to each of these States and whether Central team has also been sent to drought affected States;
- (d) if so, the other steps being proposed for help in this regard; and
- (e) whether Prime Minister has also assured to help these States and has stated that India can tackle drought itself?

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

(a) As reported by India Meteorological Department (IMD), there was a deficiency of 23 per cent in the rainfall during South-West Monsoon, 2009 in the country. So far, 12 States have declared drought/scarcity/drought like conditions covering 301 districts.

(b) to (e) The Inter Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) were deputed to the 12 drought affected States to assess the extent of damage and requirement of assistance in response to Memoranda submitted by the State Governments for assistance under National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). Details of assistance sought by the 12 States and assistance approved by the Government so far are as under:—

Sl. No.	State	Assistance Sought from NCCF (Rs. in crores)	Assistance approved by the Government from NCCF (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4
01.	Andhra Pradesh	9747.42	#
02.	Assam	792.60	#
03.	Bihar	23071.13	1163.64
04.	Himachal Pradesh	608.13	88.93
05.	Jharkhand	890.31	200.955
06.	Karnataka	394.92	116.49
07.	Madhya Pradesh	11669.68	246.31

1	2	3	4
08.	Maharashtra	15059.64	671.88
09.	Manipur	22.09	14.57
10.	Nagaland	119.28	21.12
11.	Rajasthan	12690.99	1034.84
12.	Uttar Pradesh	1193.75	515.05
TOTAL:		76259.94	4073.785

#under consideration

Aforesaid assistance from NCCF is subject to adjustment of the 75% of balance available under CRF. An amount of Rs. 7.00 crore was approved for Jharkhand under the Special Component of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). This apart, the Government also provided Diesel subsidy and additional power from the central pool to save the standing crop in the farmers' field; raised the distribution subsidy for the certified seeds, relaxed the age limit for seed varieties, allowed distribution of minikits and use of Truthfully Labelled (TL) Seeds under the Government programme; issued advisories and sent experts from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) to the affected States to enable taking up of alternate crop strategy in the sowing failed/unsown areas and early Rabi.

Impact of drought on agricultural output

921. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether impact of drought on agricultural output in this Kharif season is expected to weigh down shoots of economic recovery with first advance estimate projecting 18 per cent dip in kharif crop this year as compared to last year;

(b) whether his Ministry estimated shortfall this year of about 21 million tonnes in kharif crop which includes rice, coarse cereals and pulses;

(c) whether as against 117.7 million tonnes of foodgrains produced last Kharif season, estimates indicate that this year output would be somewhere around 96.63 million tonnes; and

(d) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to meet shortage of foodgrains?

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

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. As regards shortage of foodgrains, the stock of rice in the Central Pool as on 1st October, 2009 was 149.14 lakh tonnes against the Buffer Norm of 52 lakh tonnes and strategic reserve of 20 lakh tonnes. In the Current Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2009-10,

116.74 lakh tonnes of rice has been procured as on 24.11.2009. against 106.98 lakh tonnes procured in the corresponding period in KMS 2008.09. At the estimated level of procurement of 260 lakh tonnes of rice (as informed by the Food Corporation of India), the stock of rice in the Central Pool is estimated to be sufficient to meet the current level of requirement of targeted public distribution system and other welfare scheme.

Veterinary services at door steps

922. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that with the advent of commercialization, the traditional livestock farmers now rear more than 3-4 cows which are highly productive and they expect veterinary services at door-step owing to the constraints in transporting animals to veterinary institutions;

(b) if so, whether Government of Kerala has made a proposal to include schemes for providing round the clock and door-step veterinary services to the farmers under the Central Government schemes to provide assistance to such activities in future to support commercial dairying in the State; and

(c) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government of India has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, "National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding" (NPCBB) for genetic upgradation of bovine population on priority basis. One of the objectives of the scheme is to arrange delivery of quality breeding inputs and services at the farmers' door-step. Kerala is participating under the scheme since 2001-02 and central assistance to the tune of Rs. 33.77 crore has been released to the State including Rs. 300.00 lakh released during current year.

Scheme for improvement of Indian breed of cows

†923. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme for improvement of breed, increasing number and protection of cows of Indian breed is operational; and

(b) if so, the details of increase in milk production from domestic breed of cows in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, "National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding" (NPCBB)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

on 100% grant-aid-basis from October, 2000 over a period of ten years, in two phases each of five years, with an allocation of Rs. 402 crore and Rs. 775.87 crore for Phase-I and Phase-II respectively, NPCBB envisages genetic upgradation of bovine population on priority basis and also has focus on development and conservation of indigenous breeds. Increase in milk production from indigenous breed of cows in the last three years is given in the following table:—

	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
Milk Production (in million tonnes)	20.41	20.92	21.73

Implementation of Kuttanad and Idukki packages

924. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:
SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala has submitted a number of projects worth Rs. 277 crores for the Kuttanad and Idukki packages as recommended by M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation Report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether out of this, project worth Rs. 25 crores only has been approved as there are no corresponding or suitable schemes in Central Government;

(d) if so, whether State Government has sought an additional allocation under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana to the tune of Rs. 105 crores over and above the normal entitlement for implementation of the said projects; and

(e) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) and (b) Government of Kerala has submitted 26 projects involving an amount of Rs. 390.36 crore under the package for development of Kuttanad Wetland Eco-system and 23 projects involving an amount of Rs. 459.62 crore under the package for mitigation of farmers distress in Idukki District of Kerala.

(c) No, Sir. Central Government has approved projects involving amount of more than Rs. 200 crore under Kuttanad and Idukki packages.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise. The implementation issues in the packages are being sorted out on a continuous basis with Government of Kerala. Various decisions to speed up have been taken in the last review meeting that took place on 23.11.2009.

Harmful effect of toxic inputs in agriculture

925. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that toxic inputs in the form of chemical fertilizers and pesticides are proving to be very harmful for the agriculture and its produce;

(b) whether Government is also aware that due to widespread use of these inputs productivity is also declining and resulting into agrarian distress;

(c) if so, the measures which have been taken by Government and the alternatives which have been provided to the farmers; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) and (b) Judicious and balanced use of chemical fertilizers and use of registered pesticides as per prescribed practices do not result in any harmful effect on agriculture and its produce. Indiscriminate or injudicious use of fertilizers or pesticides is harmful for agriculture and its yield.

(c) and (d) Following measures have been taken by the Government for judicious use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides:—

- (i) The Government promotes Integrated Pest Management (IPM) envisaging the use of cultural, mechanical, biological methods for controlling insects-pests, diseases and weeds through conduct of Farmers' Field Schools (FFSs) aimed at training of farmers and demonstrations in the farmers' field throughout the country.
- (ii) The Government is promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) envisaging conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources of nutrients to sustain good soil health and higher crop productivity in the country.

Need to re-orient R&D in agriculture sector

926. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) proposes to reorient its research and development (R&D) in agriculture and bridge critical gaps;

(b) if so, whether there is also need to revise the course curriculum of agricultural education to make it more relevant; and

(c) if so, the steps Government/ICAR has taken/propose to take to re-orient research and development in agriculture sector?

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

(a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research continuously examines all its ongoing schemes

through various review mechanisms and, wherever felt necessary, the schemes are reoriented keeping in view the national priorities, and to bridge critical gaps.

(b) Revision of PG course curricula and syllabi was undertaken in 2009 and extant 95 P.G. courses were revised and reorganized into 83 courses. The agricultural universities have agreed to adopt the revised course curricula and syllabi. In accordance with Deans Committee Report, Agriculture Universities have adopted the revised syllabi for UG courses in Agriculture and Allied Sciences.

(c) During the Eleventh Plan, several new initiatives have been pursued to meet the emerging challenges in agriculture. In this endeavour, establishment of three new institutes has been initiated viz., National Institute of Abiotic Stress Management (already established at Baramati, Maharashtra), National Institute of Biotic Stress Management, and Indian Institute of Agricultural Biotechnology (already approved in principle by Planning Commission and in the process of seeking approval). New tools of science such as marker assisted selection, gene prospecting and allele mining, gene knock down technology, bioremediation, nanotechnology, etc. have been incorporated in research, with due capacity building of scientists through national and international training programmes.

Effect of using chemical elements in farming

927. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of agricultural revolution in the world in sixties, use of chemical elements in farming increased, environment got affected and the quality of produce decreased;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether there is a need to bring second revolution in the agriculture again; and

(d) if so, the important points which will have to be kept in mind while initiating research to bring in this revolution?

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

(a) Judicious and balanced use of chemical inputs in agriculture does not affect the environment, soil health and quality of produce adversely. However, imbalanced use of fertilizer coupled with low addition of organic matter has resulted in deterioration of soil health particularly in the intensively cultivated areas of Indo-gangetic plains.

(b) The Government of India is promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) involving use of non-chemical methods such as, cultural, mechanical for plant protection and Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) envisaging soil test based application of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with organic sources of plant nutrients for sustainable soil health and productivity.

(c) and (d) The green revolution experienced in India paid rich dividends and the country became self-sufficient in food grains. The Eleventh Five Year Plan has set a target to accelerate agricultural growth to 4% per annum. The Plan envisages improving efficiency of investment, bringing technologies to the farmers and diversifying agriculture to enhance farmers' income while also protecting food security. The Plan also envisages greater focus on research in strategic areas to evolve cropping systems suited to various agro-climatic zones, and on raising the yield potential in rain-fed areas.

Death of animals due to Anthrax disease

928. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a large number of cattle/animals have died in various parts of the country due to Anthrax disease;

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

(c) whether Government has conducted any survey in this regard to find out the exact cause of spread of Anthrax disease in animals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and further steps contemplated to provide help to the State Governments to face the challenge of disease in animals?

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

(a) and (b) Sporadic occurrences of Anthrax have been reported in animals. During the year 2008 and 2009 (up to June), 710 and 274 animals died due to this disease. State-wise details are enclosed as Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) Anthrax is zoonotic disease caused by a bacteria called *Bacillus anthracis* which produced spores. These spores survive in soil for years and under favorable conditions gain entry into the animal body causing the disease. Investigations are routinely carried out in the event of any outbreak by collecting samples from the sick/dead animals for microbiological analysis. The soil samples in the affected areas are also tested to determine the source of infection.

In the event of any outbreak following steps are taken to check the spread of the disease:—

- Vaccination of all susceptible animals within a radius of 10 Kms from the site of outbreak of Anthrax disease.
- Scientific disposal of carcass through burial
- Disinfection of the cattle shed and premises where outbreak has been confirmed.
- Creation of awareness among farmers in regard to the disease.

Funds are provided to State Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Livestock Health and Disease Control (LH&DC)' for undertaking vaccination against Anthrax.

Statement

Reported occurrences of Anthrax during 2008 and 2009 (upto June)

2008

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Number of outbreaks	Species affected	Number of animals affected	Number of animals died
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26	Bovine	24	22
			Ovine/Caprine	51	51
2.	Chhattisgarh	1	Not specified	5	5
3.	Gujarat	1	Bovine	12	12
4.	Karnataka	10	Bovine	27	27
			Buffalo	1	1
			Ovine/Caprine	457	412
5.	Kerala	3	Bovine	2	2
			Buffalo	1	1
			Swine	1	1
6.	Maharashtra	2	Bovine	205	39
			Ovine/Caprine	5	5
7.	Orissa	5	Bovine	56	55
8.	Tamil Nadu	11	Bovine	30	29
			Ovine/Caprine	3	3
9.	West Bengal	10	Bovine	43	43
10.	Pondicherry	2	Bovine	2	2
TOTAL:		72	Bovine	401	231
			Buffalo	2	2
			Swine	1	1
			Ovine/Caprine	516	471
			Not specified	5	5
GRAND TOTAL:		72	—	925	710

1	2	3	4	5	6
2009					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9	Bovine	12	12
			Ovine/Caprine	188	121
2.	Karnataka	8	Bovine	7	7
			Buffalo	1	1
			Ovine/Caprine	7	7
3.	Kerala	5	Bovine	6	6
4.	Orissa	5	Bovine	36	34
			Swine	68	68
5.	Tamil Nadu	1	Bovine	2	2
6.	West Bengal	3	Bovine	22	16
TOTAL :		31	Bovine	85	77
			Buffalo	1	1
			Ovine/Caprine	195	128
			Swine	68	68
GRAND TOTAL :		31	—	349	274

Shortage of foodgrains

†929. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government accepts that the target of 'Right to Food' will not be achieved due to drought;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the plan of Government to control the imbalance of growing number of poors and decreasing foodgrains?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Right to Food will not be affected due to drought as the Government proposes to enact a new law the "National Food Security Act", to provide on a statutory basis,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

to every family below the poverty line in rural as well as urban areas 25 kgs. of rice or wheat per month at Rs. 3/- per kg.

(d) The Government has taken up National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme for providing employment of 100 days to every family which offers for employment to deal with poverty. Government has also taken up the National Food Security Mission, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Horticulture Mission, to increase investment and production of food grains and horticulture produce to ensure adequate availability of food grains in the country.

Indemnity levels under NAIS

930. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme, there are three levels of indemnity *i.e.* at 60 per cent, 80 per cent and 90 per cent for insured crops;

(b) if so, the rationale behind having three levels of indemnity/protection for insured crops;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many States, including Andhra Pradesh, have been demanding for having only one level of indemnity at 90 per cent; and

(d) if so, the requests so far received and the action taken by his Ministry thereon?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are three levels of indemnity *i.e.* 90%, 80% and 60% corresponding to low risk, medium risk and high risk areas, available under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) for all the crops based on coefficient of Variation, which reflect the variability in the yield data of past 10 years of a crop in a notified area.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. During the course of implementation of the scheme some implementing States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh have suggested one level of indemnity at 90 percent under the scheme.

Keeping in view the suggestions of States/UTs and other stake-holders, a Joint Group was constituted by the Government, to study the improvements required in the existing crop insurance schemes. The Group has reviewed the scheme and made important recommendations including that for indemnity levels. Based on these recommendations a proposal on Modified NAIS has been prepared.

Popularity of NAIS in farming community

931. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is gradually penetrating into the farming community and apart from farmers who have taken loans the farmers who have not taken loans are also evincing interest to insure their crops;

(b) if so, the number of farmers who have taken loans and who have not taken loans covered under NAIS in the country, State-wise, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many States and farming community is requesting modification with regard to calculating average yield; and

(d) if so, the details of requests received and the action taken by his Ministry in this regard?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State-wise coverage of loanee and non-loanee farmers, including Andhra Pradesh, under NAIS, during last three years is enclosed as Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. During the course of implementation of the scheme implementing States/UTs have given various suggestions, including modification in calculation of Threshold yield or guaranteed yield which is moving average of last 3 or 5 years average yield, under the scheme.

Keeping in view the suggestions of States/UTs and other stake-holders, a Joint Group was constituted by the Government, to study the improvements required in the existing crop insurance schemes. The Group has reviewed the scheme and made important recommendations including modification in calculation of Threshold Yield/guaranteed yield. Based on these recommendations a proposal on Modified NAIS has been prepared.

Statement

Statewise coverage of Loanee — Non-loanee wise farmers covered from 2006-07 to 2008-09

As on 13.10.2009

Sl. No.	State	Year 2006-07 Farmers covered			Year 2007-08 Farmers covered			Year 2008-09 Farmers covered		
		Loanee	Non-loanee	Total	Loanee	Non-loanee	Total	Loanee	Non-loanee	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2220766	49512	2270278	2321299	12403	2333702	1903604	243274	2146878
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	78	0	78	176	0	176	198	0	198
3.	Assam	14248	370	14618	19198	411	19609	35108	709	35817
4.	Bihar	606475	77960	684435	792214	120804	913018	687252	79304	766556
5.	Chhattisgarh	710838	18482	729320	707215	1375	708590	810699	17598	828297
6.	Goa	544	0	544	513	0	513	22	371	393
7.	Gujarat	877134	748	877882	839266	7	839273	841616	14	841630
8.	Haryana	98638	105	98743	140741	0	140741	1788	0	1788
9.	Himachal Pradesh	13379	5893	19272	13218	10	13228	17995	4298	22293
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5588	182	5770	5854	158	6012	1764	0	1764
11.	Jharkhand	75276	1187405	1262681	79508	662581	742089	94343	648494	742837

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12.	Karnataka	599647	740690	1340337	628756	8220	636976	615723	726223	1341946
13.	Kerala	29628	584	30212	33961	0	33961	27945	0	27945
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1851281	7827	1859108	2210798	4726	2215524	1837227	7243	1844470
15.	Maharashtra	0	1676064	1676064	0	1984301	1984301	0	3502614	3502614
16.	Meghalaya	3102	0	3102	1319	0	1319	3225	0	3225
17.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Orissa	1066486	13731	1080217	968994	4151	973145	757422	15775	773197
19.	Puducherry	2824	0	2824	2670	0	2670	1546	0	1546
20.	Rajasthan	2619180	0	2619180	2833117	1532	2834649	2249498	1224	2250722
21.	Sikkim	38	0	38	23	0	23	314	0	314
22.	Tamil Nadu	225134	90237	315371	198036	359164	557200	215631	597123	812754
23.	Tripura	2402	70	2472	1867	22	1889	4098	20	4118
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1993565	4437	1998002	2395720	2191	2397911	2178110	5447	2183557
25.	Uttarakhand	20105	30	20135	30240	3053	33293	48972	4769	53741
26.	West Bengal	1001321	0	1001321	1052579	186	1052765	955675	1377	957052
GRAND TOTAL :		14037677	3874327	17912004	15277282	3165295	18442577	13289775	5855877	19145652

MSP for rabi crops

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for many rabi crops has been raised;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government of Punjab has rejected the hike for wheat describing it woefully inadequate and unjustified; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

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

(a) and (b) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of Rabi crops fixed for 2008-09 and 2009-10 season are given below:—

(Rs. per quintal)		
Commodity	2008-09	2009-10
Wheat	1080	1100
Barley	680	750
Gram	1730	1760
Masur (Lentil)	1870	1870
Rapeseed/Mustard	1830	1830
Safflower	1650	1680

(c) and (d) Government of Punjab had suggested a MSP of Rs. 1500 per quintal for wheat for 2009-10 season.

The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for agricultural commodities, including wheat, seeks to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for encouraging higher production and investment. The Government fixes the MSPs for agricultural produce, *inter-alia*, taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries. The CACP, considers a number of important factors which include cost of production, while formulating its recommendations on MSP. The MSP of wheat has been fixed at Rs. 1100 per quintal for 2009-10 season provides adequate margin over and above the cost of production (actual expenses in cash and kind, including rent paid for leased-in land, imputed value of wages for family labour, rent for owned land and interest on fixed capital) of Rs. 643.37 per quintal for Punjab.

Criteria for drought relief

933. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the criterion for giving relief to States for drought; and

(b) the total amount Government intends to give as drought relief to various States for the Kharif season, State-wise?

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

(a) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned to take necessary measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the States with financial and logistic support. There is ready availability of funds with the States under the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) to take immediate necessary measures. The Government of India and State Governments concerned contribute to CRF in the ratio of 3:1. If additional assistance over and above CRF is required to deal with natural calamities of severe nature, the same is considered from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in accordance with an established procedure of submission of Memorandum for assistance from NCCF by the State Government.

(b) Out of 12 States which submitted memoranda for assistance from NCCF for drought relief, the Government as so far approved assistance as under, subject to adjustment of 75% of balance available in their respective Calamity Relief Fund:—

	<i>(Rs. in crore)</i>
(i) Bihar	1163.64
(ii) Himachal Pradesh	88.93
(iii) Jharkhand	200.955
(iv) Karnataka	116.49
(v) Madhya Pradesh	246.31
(vi) Maharashtra	671.88
(vii) Manipur	14.57
(viii) Nagaland	21.12
(ix) Rajasthan	1034.84
(x) Uttar Pradesh	515.05

Target of milk production

†934. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the target of 180 million tonnes of milk production has been fixed by Government;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the assessment about the requirement of total amount to be incurred to achieve the target;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the quantity of average milk production per cattle in the country at present and the estimated average to achieve the above said target; and

(d) the quantity of fodder which will be required to achieve the above said target of milk production and the additional fodder required in comparison to current availability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) and (b) The Government of India is contemplating to enhance milk production to 180 million tonnes by 2021-22 through the National Dairy Plan which is a strategic plan prepared by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). The Plan has three major components, namely, enhancing milk production through increased productivity, substantially strengthening and expanding the infrastructure for procurement, processing, marketing and quality assurance through existing institutional structures and by promoting new ones, and human resource development. It has an estimated outlay of Rs 17,371 crore for a period spanning 15 years. World Bank aid is being considered to reduce the interest burden on beneficiaries.

(c) According to the Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics, DAHD&F, GOI, 2008, the average daily milk production was 2.09 Kgs per indigenous cow and 6.52 Kgs per crossbred cow in 2007-08. To meet the projected demand of 180 million tonnes by 2021-22, average daily milk production per cattle would need to increase suitably.

(d) As per an estimation based on the draft recommendations of the Sub-group on Fodder Production Enhancement (Tenth Five Year Plan), by 2021-22 the requirement would be about 1150 million tonnes of green fodder and 640 million tonnes of dry fodder annually. It has been reported in the March 2007 Report of the Working Group of the Sub-committee of the National Development Council on Agriculture and Related issues that only 390 MT of green fodder and 443 MT of dry fodder was available in 2005-06. This huge gap in requirement and availability will have to be met by 2021-22.

Production of oil seed

935. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of oilseeds has decreased;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken to increase the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS):
(a) and (b) The production of oilseeds has increased from 10.83 million tonnes in 1985-86 (launch of Technology Mission on Oilseeds) to 28.15 million tonnes in 2008-09 (fourth Advance Estimates).

(c) In order to enhance production of oilseeds, the Government of India is implementing various schemes viz; Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM),

Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). ISOPOM is implemented in 14 major oilseeds growing States to increase the production of oilseeds. The Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) Scheme provides assistance for oilseeds development to the States not covered under ISOPOM. Under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), the States can support crop development activities approved by the State Level Sanctioning Committee headed by the Chief Secretary of the State.

MSP for wheat

936. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to help the farmers to meet increasing cost of inputs, Government has decided to raise the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of wheat;

(b) if so, to what extent and the revised MSP for wheat;

(c) the likely production of wheat in the country this year and the comparative wheat production during the last three years; and

(d) the wheat procurement by Government agencies in these years?

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

(a) and (b) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for agricultural commodities, including wheat seeks to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for encouraging higher production. The Government fixes the MSPs for agricultural produce, *inter-alia*, taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of concerned State Government and Central Ministries. The recommendation of CACP is based on important factors such as cost of production, changes in input prices etc. The MSP for wheat has been raised by Rs. 20 per quintal to Rs. 1100 per quintal for 2009-10 season.

(c) and (d) The production and procurement of wheat since 2006-07 is given below:—

(million tonnes)

Year	Production	Procurement
2006-07	75.81	9.23
2007-08	78.57	11.13
2008-09	80.58 *	22.69

*Fourth Advance Estimate.

Gas and pipeline network for revival of fertilizer plants

937. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to lack of gas and pipeline network, the expansion and revival of fertilizer plants is being hampered;

(b) if so, the steps being taken for active support from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on revival of fertilizer industry;

(c) the quantity of gas required to expand fertilizer plants and to switch from Naphtha based to plants to gas based plants; and

(d) the steps being taken for time-bound gas connectivity of the fertilizer units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) The Government has accorded highest priority for allocation of gas to fertilizer sector as and when they are in position to receive the gas. However, the expansion and revival of the fertilizer plants is hampered due to lack of firm availability of domestic natural gas for these projects from future date as the revival of fertilizer units or expansion depends upon the firm commitment towards supply of domestic natural gas. The Department has taken up the issue with Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for early resolution so that the expansion and revival projects could be expedited.

The quantity of natural gas required for the proposed expansion projects and conversion of naphtha based units to gas based units is 13.9 mmscmd and 8.12 mmscmd, respectively.

As regards the time bound gas connectivity of fertilizer units, the tentative timeline has been indicated by MOPNG which is as under:

PIPELINE CONNECTIVITY PLAN (As provided by GAIL and MOP&NG)

Sl. No.	Proposed pipeline	Agency for connecting plants	Fertilizer unit proposed to be connected	Expected year of connectivity
Naptha based plants				
1.	Dhabol, Bangalore	GAIL	ZIL, Goa	2011-12
2.	Kochi-Mangalore-Bangalore	GAIL	MFCL, Mangalore	2012-13
3.	Kochi-Mangalore-Bangalore (Also from Kochi LNG Terminal)	GAIL	FACT, Cochin	2011-12
Fuel Oil/LSHS based plant				
4.	Dadri-Bawana-Nangal	GAIL	NFL-Nangal, Panipat, Bhatinda	2011-12
Closed Units				
5.	Spur from the following pipeline: Jagdishpur-Haldia	GAIL	FCI, Sindri FCI, Gorakhpur HFC, Barauni HFC, Durgapur HFC, Haldia	2012-13

Shortage of fertilizers

938. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are complaints of fertilizer shortages from various States in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the remedial steps Government intends to take to resolve the shortage problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement and distribution control of the Government. All other fertilizers viz. DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled/de-canalized since 1992. The availability of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply. Union Government monitors availability of fertilisers at State level. State Governments are responsible for distribution of fertilizers within the State.

The State-wise cumulative requirement (demand), availability and sales of Urea, DAP, MOP and Complex fertilizers during 2009-10 (April'09 to October'09) is enclosed as Statement (See below). As can be seen, the availability of urea, DAP and MOP has been adequate. There has been a little tightness in availability of complex (NPK) fertilizers because of low level of indigenous production and also as these can not be imported.

- (d) The steps taken for smooth distribution of fertilizers are as under:—
 - (i) The movement of fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertiliser Monitoring System (FMS);
 - (ii) The subsidy on fertilizer is being paid only when it reaches the district;
 - (iii) Department of Fertilizers operates Buffer Stock of Urea, DAP & MOP through State Institutional Agencies/fertilizer companies in major fertilizer consuming States to the tune of 6.25 LMT, 3.50 LMT and 1.00 LMT respectively;
 - (iv) Department of Fertilizers has notified uniform freight subsidy scheme to transport fertilizers upto block level;
 - (v) The gap between requirement and indigenous availability of Urea is met through imports; and
 - (vi) New pricing policy for attracting investment in urea sector has been announced on 4th September, 2008. Further, fertilizer sector has been given highest priority in allocation of gas, for debottlenecking, expansion and revival projects in the country.

Statement

State-wise cumulative availability of Fertilizers during the year 09-10 (April to October)

6.11.09

Qty in ('000) MTs

State	Urea			DAP			MOP			Complex		
	Require- ment	Availability	Sales	Require- ment	Availability	Sales	Require- ment	Availability	Sales	Require- ment	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	1650.00	1503.62	1444.28	700.00	683.89	658.03	410.00	330.93	306.83	1350.00	1090.97	1040.90
Karnataka	920.00	944.46	913.19	535.00	616.40	606.25	340.00	346.44	331.51	695.00	591.65	574.74
Kerala	110.00	103.47	99.59	25.25	21.36	21.29	109.00	104.52	100.83	119.75	132.49	129.73
Tamil Nadu	585.00	480.78	472.48	285.00	197.37	194.64	322.00	247.29	240.40	221.00	341.72	335.61
Gujarat	1085.00	1032.60	996.40	560.00	557.76	527.43	136.00	145.05	142.65	285.55	247.46	227.36
Madhya Pradesh	818.29	783.10	765.12	632.26	698.68	674.86	90.59	83.97	80.05	279.67	131.32	123.10
Chhattisgarh	456.00	421.73	413.89	143.15	190.14	187.67	67.00	59.43	57.74	107.35	66.01	64.54
Maharashtra	1645.00	1617.34	1532.68	729.50	1052.76	1049.68	324.60	394.96	373.55	980.00	602.86	581.78
Rajasthan	698.00	634.48	592.11	500.00	448.07	446.72	21.00	30.82	27.66	108.80	52.28	51.66
Haryana	995.00	899.87	847.92	525.00	528.15	523.47	37.00	45.25	42.56	30.00	24.08	22.62
Punjab	1550.00	1414.22	1340.56	650.00	660.37	358.10	71.00	75.59	62.94	50.00	38.57	34.84
Himachal Pradesh	41.00	34.58	31.06	0.00	2.65	2.65	1.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	14.20	12.67

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Jammu and Kashmir	95.67	53.90	51.17	58.50	27.11	27.08	14.72	2.33	1.87	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	2800.00	2774.57	2538.87	925.00	956.49	945.92	190.00	120.76	119.59	525.00	362.72	341.84
Uttarakhand	117.50	121.26	109.41	19.00	25.90	25.72	10.00	2.65	2.65	37.50	16.45	16.18
Bihar	1030.00	889.02	880.45	235.00	207.53	202.70	105.00	74.05	72.21	195.00	140.86	137.95
Jharkhand	145.00	108.68	103.73	87.50	61.46	59.88	12.50	7.74	7.74	36.80	38.56	38.56
Orissa	425.00	393.27	360.76	140.00	177.29	164.20	125.67	85.92	81.04	209.70	171.31	158.93
West Bengal	578.77	579.11	533.02	251.30	267.05	266.74	183.90	171.53	171.51	406.50	441.16	438.05
Assam	132.60	136.70	136.04	16.80	16.29	16.28	62.30	44.62	37.73	5.50	4.89	4.89
ALL INDIA:	15969.54	14980.46	14235.77	7046.40	7403.74	7266.52	2653.22	2383.783	2271.02	5697.40	4525.63	4351.92

Import of fertilizers

†939. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total production of fertilizers in the country;
- (b) the quantity of fertilizers that we import from abroad; and
- (c) the measures being taken to reduce the quantity of imported fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The total production of major fertilizers namely urea, DAP and complexes in the country during the year 2008-09 and 2009-10 (April, 2009 — October, 2009) is given below:—

(Lakh MT)

Product	2008-09	2009-10 (April — October, 2009)
Urea	199.22	120.28
DAP	29.93	29.08
Complexes	68.48	44.17

(b) The quantity of fertilizers imported from abroad during the year 2008-09 and 2009-10 (April, 2009 — October, 2009) is given below:—

(Lakh MT)

Product	2008-09	2009-10 (April — October 2009)
Urea	56.67	32.76
DAP	66.29	45.09
MOP	56.33	27.08

(c) The Government has announced a New Investment Policy for urea sector on 4th September, 2008. The policy is expected to attract investments in urea sector subject to availability of gas. The policy is also aims at creation of additional production capacity through revamp, expansion and revival of existing urea units in the country and new Green fields projects in the country.

The Government has also announced on 6th March, 2009, policy for conversion of FO/LSHS urea units to Natural Gas, restart of existing urea units and resumption of urea production by RCF-Trombay to increase indigenous production.

The indigenous production of phosphatic fertilizers is largely dependent on imported raw material and intermediates, the Government has been encouraging fertilizer industry to actively pursue joint ventures abroad in order to secure future supplies of fertilizer inputs and finished fertilizers.

Fertilizer bonds and subsidy to fertilizer companies

940. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the number of fertilizer units operating both in public/private sector at present, State-wise;

(b) the names of fertilizer manufacturing companies to whom subsidy has been given during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 along with the amount given to each company;

(c) whether Government has issued fertilizer bonds during 2008-09 and 2009-10;

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

(e) the details of the terms and conditions of such bonds along with the details of funds collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) State-wise and Sector-wise number of major fertilizers units operating in the country are enclosed as Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Company-wise details of subsidy given during the year 2008-09 and 2009-10 are enclosed as Statement-II (*See below*). Details of subsidies released through bonds during 2008-09 are enclosed as Statement-III (*See below*).

(c) and (d) During the year 2008-09 the fertilizer industry have been allotted following fertilizer bonds:—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Tranche	Date of notification	Coupon rate	Amount
2008-09	I	10.12.2008	7%	10000
2008-09	II	24.12.2008	6.20%	4000
2008-09	II	29.1.2009	6.65%	6000
TOTAL :				20000

Government has not issued Fertilizer Bonds during the current year 2009-10.

(e) The terms and conditions of the bonds can be seen in the enclosed Statement-IV.

Statement-I

State-wise and Sector-wise no of major Fertilizers units operating in the country

Sl. No.	Name of States	No. of operating unit and Sector			Name of the units
		Public	Co-operative	Private	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh			4	Nagarjuna Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. Kakinada-I (Urea)

1	2	3	4	5	6
					Nagarjuna Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. Kakinada-II (Urea)
					Coromandal International Ltd. Kakinada (DAP, Complexes)
					Coromandal International Ltd. Vizag (Complexes)
2.	Assam	2			Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizers Corporation Ltd. Namrup-III (Urea)
					Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizers Corporation Ltd. Namrup-II (Urea)
3.	Goa			1	Zuari Industries Ltd. Goa (Urea, DAP and Complexes)
4.	Gujarat		3	5	Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizer Ltd. Bharuch (Urea, Complexes)
					Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. Vadodara (Urea, DAP and Complexes)
					Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. Sikka-I (DAP and Complexes)
					Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. Sikka-II (DAP and Complexes)
					Hindalco Industries Ltd. Dahej (DAP)
					Indian Farmers Fertilizers Co-operative Ltd. Kandla (DAP and Complexes)
					Indian Farmers Fertilizers Co-operative Ltd. Kalol (Urea)
					Krishak Bharati Co-operative Ltd. Hazira (Urea)
5.	Haryana	1			National Fertilizers Ltd. Panipat (Urea)
6.	Karnataka			1	Manglore Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. Manglore (Urea, DAP and Complexes)
7.	Kerala	2			Fertilizer and Chemicals and Travancore Ltd. Udyogamandal (Complexes)
					Fertilizer and Chemicals and Travancore Ltd. Cochin (Complexes)

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Madhya Pradesh	2			National Fertilizers Ltd. Vijaipur-I (Urea) National Fertilizers Ltd. Vijaipur-II (Urea)
9.	Maharashtra	4		1	Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. Trombay (Complexes) Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. Trombay-IV (Complexes) Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. Thai (Urea) Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. Trombay-V (Urea) Deepak Fertilizers and Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. Taloja (Complexes)
10.	Orissa		1	1	Indian Farmers Fertilizer Co-operative Ltd. Paradeep (DAP, Complexes) Paradeep Phosphate Ltd. Paradeep (DAP, Complexes)
11.	Punjab	2			National Fertilizers Ltd. Nangal-I (Urea) National Fertilizers Ltd. (Bhatinda (Urea)
12.	Rajasthan			3	Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. Gadepan-I (Urea) Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. Gadepan-II (Urea) Shriram Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. Kota (Urea)
13.	Tamil Nadu	1		2	Madras Fertilizer Ltd. Chennai (Urea) Coromandal International Ltd. Ennore (Complexes) Southern Petrochemical Inds. Corporation Ltd. Tuticorin (Complexes)
14.	Uttar Pradesh		5	2	Indian Farmers Fertilizer Co-operative Ltd. Phulpur-I (Urea) Indian Farmers Fertilizer Co-operative Ltd. Phulpur-II (Urea) Indian Farmers Fertilizer Co-operative Ltd. Aonla-I (Urea)

1	2	3	4	5	6
					Indian Farmers Fertilizer Co-operative Ltd. Aonla-II (Urea)
					Indo-Gulf Fertilizer Jagdishpur (Urea)
					Tata Chemicals Ltd. Babrala (Urea)
					Kribhco Shyam Fertilizers Ltd. Shahjahanpur (Urea)
15.	West Bengal			1	Tata Chemicals Ltd. Babrala (DAP and Complexes)
TOTAL :		14	9	21	

Statement-II

*A. Sectorwise/unitwise subsidy paid on Indigenous Urea during the years
2008-09 and 2009-10 (till 20 November, 2009)*

Sl. No.	Unit	Subsidy paid	
		2008-09	2009-10 (till 20 November, 09)
1	2	3	4
Public Sector			
1.	RCF-Thal	2217.27	788.18
2.	MFL	1045.66	610.61
3.	NFL-Bhatinda	892.72	632.87
4.	NFL-Panipat	873.00	497.72
5.	NFL-Vijaipur-I	384.97	145.94
6.	NFL-Vijaipur-II	508.52	220.40
7.	NFL-NANGAL	839.58	556.64
8.	BVFCL-Namrup-III	42.83	23.82
9.	BVFCL-Namrup-II	33.38	15.43
10.	GSFC (State Government)	121.37	130.42
11.	GNFC (State Government)	664.13	673.25
TOTAL :		7623.43	4295.28

1	2	3	4
Cooperative Sector			
12.	Kribhco	1050.35	460.04
13.	IFFCO-Phulpur-II	702.84	666.18
14.	IFFCO-Phulpur-I	604.96	339.47
15.	IFFCO-Kalol	1483.21	544.53
16.	IFFCO-Aonla-I	721.41	357.97
17.	IFFCO-Aonla-II	764.19	329.21
TOTAL :		5326.96	2697.40
Private Sector			
18.	NFCL-I	352.80	103.59
19.	NFCL-II	879.12	523.32
20.	CFCL-I	561.28	257.52
21.	CFCL-II	842.34	414.53
22.	Tata Chemicals	817.62	358.53
23.	ZIL	1066.19	684.75
24.	SFC	649.46	320.63
25.	Indo Gulf	598.30	402.04
26.	SPIC	19.87	0.00
27.	KSFL	1188.80	251.51
28.	MOFL	988.59	569.38
TOTAL :		7964.37	3885.80
GRAND TOTAL :		20914.76	10878.48

B. Company-wise payment released in r/o Indigenous P&K Fertilizers

Sl. No.	Company Name	2008-09	2009-10 upto 23/11/2009
1	2	3	4
Indigenous DAP/Complex			
1.	Coromandel Fertilizers Ltd.	7176.89	1722.171
2.	Deepak Fertilizers and Petrochemicals Corporation	119.66	36.96
3.	Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd.	1215.92	409.82

1	2	3	4
4.	Godavari Fertilizers and Chemical Ltd.	175.80	0.00
5.	Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers Co. Ltd.	699.98	70.38
6.	Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemical Ltd.	3347.48	803.16
8.	Hindalco Industries Ltd.	564.09	178.75
10.	Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO)	10007.45	3602.29
11.	IFFCO (GFCL)	0.00	0.00
12.	Indo Gulf	0.00	0.00
13.	Manglore Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd.	692.85	218.88
14.	Madras Fertilizers Ltd.	1.02	0.00
15.	Oswal Chemical and Fertilizer Ltd.	7.33	0.00
16.	Paradeep Phosphate Ltd.	2961.93	1015.25
18.	Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd.	740.93	356.21
19.	Southern Petrochemical Industries Corporation Ltd.	50.88	43.66
20.	ZIL Industries Ltd.	1840.07	642.36
21.	Tata Chemicals Ltd. (HLL)	2311.85	602.62
TOTAL :		31914.13	9702.51
Total Payment to SSP		1040.73	764.09
Exp. Pre-October, 2000		0.00	0.00
Exp. On Special Freight		2.24	0.83
GROSS TOTAL :		32957.10	10467.43

Statement-III

A. Details of subsidies released through Bonds during 2008-09

Bonds issued during 2008-09			
Company	7% Fertilizers Company's Government of India Special Bonds, 2022 (issued during December, 2008)	6.65% Fertilizers Company's Government of India Special Bonds, 2023 (issued during February and March, 2008)	Total Fertilizer Bonds issued during 2008-09
1	2	3	4
CFCL	72.00	133.41	205.41

1	2	3	4
GNVFC	167.00	86.68	253.68
GSFC	4.00	6.75	10.75
IFFCO	326.00	354.86	680.86
INDOGULF	23.00	42.54	65.54
KRIBHCO	36.00	77.55	113.55
KSFL	42.00	63.57	105.57
MCFL	108.00	89.74	197.74
NFCL	78.00	71.69	149.69
NFL	248.00	297.44	545.44
RCF	234.00	80.31	314.31
SFC	56.00	50.47	106.47
TCL	60.00	69.25	129.25
ZIL	46.00	75.74	121.74
TOTAL :	1500.00	1500.00	3000.00

B. Payment of Imported P&K Fertilizer through Bonds during 2008-09

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Zuari Industries Limited	46919.90
2.	Indian Potash Limited	322149.30
3.	Chambal Fertilizers Co. Ltd.	29174.70
4.	Paradeep Phosphates Limited	6086.50
5.	Deepak Fertilizers Petro Chemicals Limited	2583.50
6.	Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited	1748.80
7.	Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizer Company	413.20
8.	Coromandal International Limited	28135.80
9.	Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd.	337644.80
10.	Mosiac India Pvt. Ltd.	53397.80
11.	Tata Chemicals Limited	22379.60
12.	Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited	2931.20
13.	Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited	20733.40
14.	Tungbhadra Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd.	681.50
TOTAL :		874980.00

(C) Payment in r/o indigenous P&K fertilizers through Bonds during 2008-09

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Amount (Rs.)	Amount in crore
1.	Coromandel Fertilizers Ltd.	17113680000	1711.368
2.	Deepak Fertilizers and Petrochemicals Corp.	397210000	39.721
3.	Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd.	2431180000	243.118
4.	Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilisers Co. Ltd.	608110000	60.811
5.	Gujarat State Fertilisers and Chemical Ltd.	10549720000	1054.972
6.	Hindalco Industries Ltd.	1313630000	131.363
7.	Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO)	26616370000	2661.637
8.	Manglore Chemicals and Fertilisers Ltd.	1759430000	175.943
9.	Paradeep Phosphate Ltd.	8707770000	870.777
10.	Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilisers Ltd.	1756950000	175.695
11.	Southern Petrochemical Industries Corp. Ltd.	43490000	4.349
12.	ZIL Industries Ltd.	4542290000	454.229
13.	Tata Chemicals Ltd. (HLL)	6660170000	666.017
TOTAL :		82500000000	8250

Statement-IV

A. The terms and conditions of Issue of '7.00 per cent Fertilizer Companies' Government of India Special Bonds 2022', (hereinafter briefly described as "Special Bonds") for an aggregate amount of Rs. 10,000 crore (nominal) on December 10, 2008.

1. Eligibility for making subscription to the Special Bonds and limits of subscription.

The companies as referred to in the Annex I hereto shall be eligible to subscribe to the Special Bonds and their subscription to the Special Bonds shall be limited to the extent of the amount. No other person including any bank, company, corporation or any other body, except the companies as referred to in the aforesaid Annexure, shall be eligible to subscribe to the Special Bonds.

2. Price

The Special Bonds shall be issued on application at par for the amounts as per the application made by the eligible companies. The Special Bonds will be issued for a minimum amount of Rs. 10,000 (Nomial) and in multiples of Rs. 10,000 thereafter.

3. Application

The Special Bonds shall be issued on application as per proforma in Annexure-II, from the eligible companies.

4. Form of Security

The Special Bonds will be issued in the form of stock *i.e.* 'Stock Certificates' or by credit to Constituent Subsidiary General Ledger account maintained by a Subsidiary General Ledger account holder.

5. Commencement of tenure and date of repayment

The tenure of Special Bonds will commence from December 10, 2008 Interest on the Special Bonds will accrue from the date of commencement of tenure. The Special Bonds will be repaid at par on December 10, 2022 at Public Debt Office, Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai.

6. Interest

The Special Bonds will bear interest at the rate of 7.00 per cent per annum. Interest will be reckoned from the date of commencement of tenure of the Special Bonds and will be payable half yearly on June 10 and December 10 till maturity of the Special Bonds.

Interest on the Special Bonds will be payable at Public Debt Office, Reserve Bank of India, Fort, Mumbai Interest will be paid after rounding off the amount of interest to the nearest rupee.

7. Transferability

- (i) Subject to the provisions of paragraph 4 of the notification, the Special Bonds can be renewed, sub-divided, consolidated, converted and transferred by the holder in accordance with the provisions of the Government Securities Act, 2006 and Government Securities Regulations, 2007 framed thereunder.
- (ii) Notwithstanding what is stated in paragraph 1 hereinabove, there will be no restriction on the transfer of the Special Bonds by the subscribers in favour of any other person including banks, corporation or any other body and the transferee of such security would also be entitled to hold and transfer the same in such manner.

8. Statutory Provisions

With respect to any such matter which has not been provided under this Notification, the Special Bonds shall be governed by the Government Securities Act, 2006 and Government Securities Regulations, 2007 framed thereunder.

9. Applicability of Tax Law

The value of the investment in the Special Bonds and the interest payable thereon will be governed by the provisions of tax laws at applicable from time to time.

10. Eligibility of Bonds

The investment in Special Bonds by the banks and insurance companies will not be reckoned as an eligible investment in Government securities for their statutory requirements. However, such investment by the insurance companies will be eligible to be reckoned as investment under “other Approved Securities” category as defined under Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (Investment) Regulations, 2000. Further, the investment by the Provident Funds, Gratuity Funds, Superannuation Funds, etc. in the Special Bonds will be treated as an eligible investment under the administrative order of the Ministry of Finance.

11. Eligibility for Repo

The Special Bonds will be transferable and eligible for market ready forward transactions (Repo).

B. The terms and conditions of Issue of ‘6.20 per cent Fertilizer Companies’ Government of India Special Bonds 2022’. (hereinafter briefly described as “Special Bonds”) for an aggregate amount of Rs. 4,000 crore (nominal) on December 24, 2008.

1. Eligibility for making subscription to the Special Bonds and limits of subscription.

The companies as referred to in the Annex I hereto shall be eligible to subscribe to the Special Bonds and their subscription to the Special Bonds shall be limited to the extent of the amount. No other person including any bank, company, corporation or any other body, except the companies as referred to in the aforesaid Annex, shall be eligible to subscribe to the Special Bonds.

2. Price

The Special Bonds shall be issued on application at par for the amounts as per the application made by the eligible companies. The Special Bonds will be issued for a minimum amount of Rs. 4,000 (Nomial) and in multiples of Rs. 4,000 thereafter.

3. Application

The Special Bonds shall be issued on application as per proforma, from the eligible companies.

4. Form of Security

The Special Bonds will be issued in the form of stock *i.e.* ‘Stock Certificates’ or by credit to Constituent Subsidiary General Ledger account maintained by a Subsidiary General Ledger account holder.

5. Commencement of tenure and date of repayment

The tenure of Special Bonds will commence from December 24, 2008. Interest on the Special Bonds will accrue from the date of commencement of tenure. The Special Bonds will be repaid at par on December 24, 2022 at Public Debt Office, Reserve of India, Mumbai.

6. Interest

The Special Bonds will bear interest at the rate of 6.20 per-cent per annum. Interest will be reckoned from the date of commencement of tenure of the Special Bonds and will be payable half yearly on June 24 and December 24 till maturity of the Special Bonds.

Interest on the Special Bonds will be payable at Public Debt Office, Reserve Bank of India, Fort, Mumbai. Interest will be paid after rounding off the amount of interest to the nearest rupee.

7. Transferability

- (i) Subject to the provisions of paragraph 4 of the notification, the Special Bonds can be renewed, sub-divided, consolidated, converted and transferred by the holder in accordance with the provisions of the Government Securities Act, 2006 and Government Securities Regulations, 2007 framed there under.
- (ii) Notwithstanding what is stated in paragraph 1 hereinabove, there will be no restriction on the transfer of the Special Bonds by the subscribers in favour of any other person including banks, corporation or any other body and the transferee of such security would also be entitled to hold and transfer the same in such manner.

8. Statutory Provisions

With respect to any such matter which has not been provided under this Notification, the Special Bonds shall be governed by the Government Securities Act, 2006 and Government Securities Regulations, 2007 framed thereunder.

9. Applicability of Tax Law

The value of the investment in the Special Bonds and the interest payable thereon will be governed by the provisions of tax laws at applicable from time to time.

10. Eligibility of Bonds

The investment in Special Bonds by the banks and insurance companies will not be reckoned as an eligible investment in Government securities for their statutory requirements. However, such investment by the insurance companies will be eligible to be reckoned as investment under “other Approved Securities” category as defined under Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (Investment) Regulations, 2000. Further, the investment by the Provident Funds, Gratuity Funds, Superannuation Funds, etc. in the Special Bonds will be treated as an eligible investment under the administrative order of the Ministry of Finance.

11. Eligibility for Repo

The Special Bonds will be transferable and eligible for market ready forward transactions (Repo).

C. The terms and conditions of Issue of '6.65 per cent Fertilizer Companies' Government of India Special Bonds (hereinafter briefly described as "Special Bonds") for an aggregate amount of Rs. 6,000 crore (nominal) on January 29, 2009.

1. Eligibility for making subscription to the Special Bonds and limits of subscription.

The companies shall be eligible to subscribe, to the Special Bonds and their subscription to the Special Bonds shall be limited to the extent of the amount, allocated to fertilizer company. No other person including any bank, company, corporation or any other body, except the fertilizer company to whom the special bonds are issued shall be eligible to subscribe to the Special Bonds.

2. Price

The Special Bonds shall be issued on application at par for the amounts as per the application made by the eligible companies. The Special Bonds will be issued for a minimum amount of Rs. 10,000 (Nomial) and in multiples of Rs 10,000 thereafter.

3. Application

The Special Bonds shall be issued on application as per proforma in Annexure-II, from the eligible companies.

4. Form of Security

The Special Bonds will be issued in the form of stock *i.e.* 'Stock Certificates' or by credit to Constituent Subsidiary General Ledger account maintained by a Subsidiary General Ledger account holder.

5. Commencement of tenure and date of repayment

The tenure of Special Bonds will commence from January 29, 2009. Interest on the Special Bonds will accrue from the date of commencement of tenure. The Special Bonds will be repaid at par on January 29, 2023 at Public Debt Office, Reserve of India, Mumbai.

6. Interest

The Special Bonds will bear interest at the rate of 6.65 per cent per annum. Interest will be reckoned from the date of commencement of tenure of the Special Bonds and will be payable half yearly on July, 29 and January, 29 till maturity of the Special Bonds.

Interest on the Special Bonds will be payable at Public Debt Office, Reserve Bank of India, Fort, Mumbai Interest will be paid after rounding off the amount of interest to the nearest rupee.

7. Transferability

- (i) Subject to the provisions of paragraph 4 of the notification, the Special Bonds can be renewed, sub-divided, consolidated, converted and transferred by the holder in accordance with the provisions of the Government Securities Act, 2006 and Government Securities Regulations, 2007 framed thereunder.

- (ii) Notwithstanding what is stated in paragraph 1 hereinabove, there will be no restriction on the transfer of the Special Bonds by the subscribers in favour of any other person including banks, corporation or any other body and the transferee of such security would also be entitled to hold and transfer the same in such manner.

8. Statutory Provisions

With respect to any such matter which has not been provided under this Notification, the Special Bonds shall be governed by the Government Securities Act, 2006 and Government Securities Regulations, 2007 framed thereunder.

9. Applicability of Tax Law

The value of the investment in the Special Bonds and the interest payable thereon will be governed by the provisions of tax laws at applicable from time to time.

10. Eligibility of Bonds

The investment in Special Bonds by the banks and insurance companies will not be reckoned as an eligible investment in Government securities for their statutory requirements. However, such investment by the insurance companies will be eligible to be reckoned as investment under “other Approved Securities” category as defined under Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (Investment) Regulations, 2000. Further, the investment by the Provident Funds, Gratuity funds, Superannuation Funds, etc. in the Special Bonds will be treated as an eligible investment under the administrative order of the Ministry of Finance.

11. Eligibility for Repo

The Special Bonds will be transferable and eligible for market ready forward transactions (Repo).

Time frame for rehabilitation of HFCL and FCIL

941. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to rehabilitate all closed urea producing units of HFCL and FCIL;
- (b) if so, the exact time frame for such rehabilitation;
- (c) the details of feedstock to be used, cost of rehabilitation of each unit; and
- (d) whether all the plants in the public sector would be rehabilitated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) The Government has decided to explore the feasibility of revival of the closed public sector fertilizer units of HFCL and FCIL subject to assured availability of natural gas, to meet the emerging demand production gap of urea in the country. The Government has constituted an Empowered Committee of Secretaries (ECOS) with the

mandate to evaluate all financing options for revival of the closed units of FCIL/HFCL and to make suitable recommendations for consideration of the Government. ECOS has already considered various possible financing options for revival of each of the closed units and have finalized its recommendations. The recommendations of ECOS are under consideration of the Government. For the rehabilitation of the each unit of HFCL and FCIL, coal gas or natural gas as expected to be used is feedstock for revival of each of these units, which is expected to cost approximately Rs. 4000 crore. No firm time frame for the decision on finalization of revival proposal can be indicated at this stage as the same is under consideration of the Government.

Establishment of PCPIR

942. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to establish Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemical Investment Regions (PCPIR) in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such PCPIRs proposed to be established with details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) whether work towards establishing of any such Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Region has started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The PCPIR policy of the Government of India was announced on 4.2.2007.

(b) Till now, Government of India has approved the PCPIR proposals of Government(s) of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and West Bengal. The PCPIR proposed in the State of Andhra Pradesh will be located at Visakhapatnam and East Godavari Districts (Visakhapatnam-Kakinada and Rajahmundry region) covering an area of 603 sq. kms. The proposed PCPIR in Gujarat will be spread over the blocks of Vagra and Bharuch in the District of South Gujarat covering an area of 453 sq. kms, while the proposed PCPIR in West Bengal will be located in Haldia in Purva Madinipur district covering the existing Haldia Municipal Area and adjoining areas of Haldia Development Authority spread over an area of 250.19 sq. kms.

(c) Memoranda of Agreement(s) have been signed between Government of India represented by Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and State Government(s) of Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal for setting up of the PCPIRs.

Shortage of urea and DAP

943. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:
SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that farmers are facing shortage of urea and DAP fertilizers in the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh and thereby suffering heavy losses;

- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise in case of Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) the reasons which compel the farmers every year to face shortage of fertilizers during sowing season; and
- (d) the steps taken to redress the hardship of poor farmers?

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

The demand, supply (availability) and sales of Urea and Di-ammonium Phosphate (DAP) in Uttar Pradesh and All India during the current year 2009-10 (April '09 to October '09) are as under:—

('Qty. in 'LMT')

State	Particulars	Urea	DAP
Uttar Pradesh	Demand/Assessed requirement	28.00	9.25
	Supply (Availability)	27.75	9.56
	Sales	25.39	9.46
All India	Demand/Assessed requirement	159.69	70.46
	Supply (Availability)	149.80	74.04
	Sales	142.36	72.66

However, the availability of Urea and DAP fertilizers in Uttar Pradesh and All India level has been adequate.

The State-wise cumulative requirement (demand), availability and sales of urea, DAP, MOP and Complex fertilizers during 2009-10 (April '09 to October '09) is given at Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to USQ 938 Pt. (a) to (c)]. As can be seen, the availability of urea, DAP and MOP has been adequate. However, there has been a little tightness in availability of complex (NPK) fertilizers because of low level of indigenous production and also as these can not be imported.

- (d) The steps taken for smooth distribution of fertilizers are as under:—
- (i) The movement of fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertiliser Monitoring System (FMS);
- (ii) The subsidy on fertilizer is being paid only when it reaches the district;
- (iii) Department of Fertilizers operates buffer stock of urea, DAP and MOP through state

institutional agencies/fertilizer companies in major fertilizer consuming States to the tune of 6.25 LMT, 3.50 LMT and 1.00 LMT respectively;

- (iv) Department of Fertilizers has notified uniform freight subsidy scheme to transport fertilizers upto block level;
- (v) The gap between requirement and indigenous availability of urea is met through imports; and
- (vi) New pricing policy for attracting investment in urea sector has been announced on 4th September, 2008. Further, fertilizer sector has been given highest priority in allocation of gas, for debottlenecking, expansion and revival projects in the country.

Removal of toxic waste generated by Union Carbide

†944. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

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

- (a) the number of people who died due to leakage of gas in the Union Carbide plant in 1984;
- (b) the quantum of toxic waste left in the complex;
- (c) whether any study has been conducted to check the toxicity of the said waste after 25 years;
- (d) whether the State Government of Gujarat has filed a petition in the Supreme Court against decision of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh to dump toxic waste in Ankleshwar in Gujarat; and
- (e) whether Central Government has to present its view in the Supreme Court, if so whether it has presented its views in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) As per information received from the Office of the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas Victims, Bhopal, 5295 people died due to leakage of MIC gas in the Union Carbide plant in 1984.

(b) As per information received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, 346 MT of stored toxic wastes are lying at the former Union Carbide Plant Limited (UCIL) site at Bhopal.

(c) The Defence Research and Development Establishment (DRDE), Gwalior in June, 2008 conducted Acute Oral Toxicity Studies in rats and Primary Skin Irritation Test in rabbits of the stored toxic wastes at former UCIL plant site at Bhopal. In their report on acute oral toxicity, the report has concluded that all the samples viz. excavated waste, lime sludge, Napthol tar, reactor residue, semi processed pesticide and Sevin tar were having very low mammalian toxicity. With regard to Primary Skin Irritation Test, the report has concluded that all the samples were found to be non-irritant to the rabbit's skin.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) and (e) The State Government of Gujarat has filed two SLPs (No. 21936/2008 and No. CC 292 of 2009) in the Supreme Court against the Madhya Pradesh High Court Orders dated 15.7.2008 and 16.12.2008 containing direction for incineration of the 346 MT of toxic waste of former UCIL plant site at Bharuch Enviro Infrastructure Limited (BEIL) incinerator, Ankleshwar. In response to the counter-affidavit filed by this Department on behalf of Union of India, the Government of Gujarat filed an affidavit on 13th April, 2009 raising certain issues of alleged technical deficiencies and legal aspects pertaining to the BEIL incinerator at Ankleshwar. The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals on behalf of Union of India sought extension of time from the Supreme Court to enable resolution of the issues raised in the affidavit filed by Government of Gujarat. The Court was pleased to grant extension of time. The case is listed for hearing on 22.01.2010.

Requirement and availability of fertilizers

945. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is an acute shortage of fertilizers of all kinds all over the country and particularly in remote areas;

(b) the demand of different fertilizers by different States in the country and the availability of the same; and

(c) the steps Government is taking to make arrangements for supply of enough fertilizers of all kinds to avoid over pricing by suppliers?

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

The State-wise cumulative requirement (demand), availability and sales of Urea, DAP, MOP and complex fertilizers during 2009-10 (April '09 to October '09) is given at Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to USQ No. 938 Part (a) to (c)]. As can be seen, the availability of urea has been adequate. There has been a little tightness in availability of complex (NPK) fertilizers because of low level of indigenous production and also as these can not be imported.

(c) The steps taken for supply of fertilizers and avoiding over pricing by suppliers are as under:—

(i) The movement of fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS);

- (ii) The subsidy on fertilizer is being paid only when it reaches the district;
- (iii) Department of Fertilizers operates Buffer Stock of Urea, DAP and MOP through State Institutional Agencies/fertilizer companies in major fertilizer consuming States to the tune of 6.25 LMT, 3.50 LMT and 1.00 LMT respectively;
- (iv) Department of Fertilizers has notified uniform freight subsidy scheme to transport fertilizers upto block level;
- (v) The gap between requirement and indigenous availability of Urea is met through imports;
- (vi) New pricing policy for attracting investment in urea sector has been announced on 4th September, 2008. Further, fertilizer sector has been given highest priority in allocation of gas, for debottlenecking, expansion and revival projects in the country;
- (vii) The State Governments, as the enforcement agencies, are adequately empowered under Fertiliser Control Order, 1985 to take appropriate action against any offender who indulges in any kind of malpractices including black marketing.

Price variation of drugs

946. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether in view of unreasonable price variation of drugs, Government has decided to review its Drug Pricing Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has received spate of representations on variation in the prices of drugs and also on Government order of 2004-05 to reduce prices; and
- (d) if so, the action contemplated by Government on such representations and the manner in which Government proposes to remove variations in prices of drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The draft National Pharmaceuticals Policy 2006 was prepared by this Department after extensive discussions with various stakeholders and in line with the declared objective of the Government in the National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) was submitted before the Cabinet for its approval. The Cabinet considered the Policy in its meeting held on 11.1.2007 and decided that the matter may, in the first instance, be considered by a Group of Ministers (GOM). The GOM has held four meetings. However, after the formation of the new Government, the GOM has been re-constituted on 1.9.2009. The final decision on the issue of Pharmaceutical Policy will be possible after GOM makes its

recommendation to the Cabinet. At Present, the prices of medicines are being controlled as per DPCO, 1995 which was formulated as per Pharmaceutical Policy, 1994.

(c) and (d) References/representations received from individuals, Non-Government Organizations, State Drugs Controllers and Consumer fora are attended to promptly for appropriate and necessary action.

Under the provisions of the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO 1995), the prices of 74 bulk drugs, specified in the first schedule, and the formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs are controlled. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA)/Government fix or revise prices of scheduled drugs/formulations as per the provisions of the DPCO, 1995. No one can sell any scheduled drugs/formulations at a price higher than that fixed by NPPA. NPPA as part of its price monitoring activity, regularly examines the movement in their prices. The monthly reports of ORG IMS and the information furnished by individual manufacturers are utilized for the purpose of monitoring price of non-scheduled formulations. Whenever a price increase beyond 10% per annum is noticed, the specific manufacturers are asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed, conditions, action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest. This is an ongoing process.

Further, based on monitoring of prices of non-scheduled formulations, NPPA has fixed prices in case of 27 formulation packs under para 10(b) of DPCO, 1995 and companies have reduced price voluntarily in case of 64 formulation packs. Thus, in all, prices of 91 packs of non-scheduled drugs were reduced as a result of the intervention of NPPA since its inception. Monitoring and Enforcement of prices of medicines is an ongoing process and appropriate action is taken by NPPA, as and when considered necessary.

Import of pulses

947. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether pulses are being imported from various countries through different ports of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the import of pulses effected during the period 2008-09; particularly through the port of Kolkata; and

(c) the details of the off-take of pulses from the respective godowns for the purpose of PDS during the above period, godown-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per DGCIS data, 2.44 million tonnes of pulses was imported during the period 2008-2009. A quantity of 0.44 million tonnes of pulses was imported through the port of Kolkata.

(c) The PSUs viz. MMTC, PEC, STC and NAFED, were mandated to supply imported pulses to the State Governments for distribution through PDS. Of them only MMTC imported 4000 tonnes of Red Lentils during 2008-09 through Kolkata port for supply to the West Bengal Government for distribution through PDS.

Ban on export of rice, wheat and pulses

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

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to stop export of rice, wheat and pulses; and

(b) if not, the reasons for not banning export of such items considering the shortfall in production and drought situation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Export of wheat, non-basmati rice and pulses (except kabuli chana) has been banned. The export of Wheat Floor (Maida), Samolina (Rava/Sirgi), Wholemeal atta and resultant atta has been allowed subject to limit of 6.50 lakh tons upto 31.03.2010.

(b) In view of sufficient availability and to enable farmers to get remunerative prices, the export of kabuli chana and basmati rice have been permitted.

Buffer stock of foodgrains

949. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total buffer stock of foodgrains in the country till October, 2009;
- (b) the expected production of foodgrains in the current year;
- (c) the expected consumption of foodgrains in the current year; and
- (d) whether Government envisages the need to import foodgrains in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The stocks of foodgrains (rice and wheat) in the Central Pool as on 31.10.2009 were 216.21 lakh tons of rice and 268.88 lakh tons of wheat.

(b) The Targeted production of foodgrains during 2009-10, as per estimates of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is 239.10 million tons.

(c) As per the Report of the Planning Commission working group for the Eleventh Five year plan, the expected demand projections based on household consumption of foodgrains in the country during 2009-10 is 202.08 million tons including seed, feed and wastages requirements.

(d) Based on the present stocks of wheat and rice and estimates of rice procurement in

KMS 2009-10, there may not be any need to import these foodgrains for the Central Pool for meeting current level of allocations under TPDS and other welfare schemes.

Allotment of rice and wheat to Kerala

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

(a) whether Government has supplied the demanded quantity of rice and wheat to the State of Kerala for Public Distribution System; and

(b) if so, the details of demand, allocation and supply of rice and wheat to the State of Kerala for the last one year, month-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The allocations of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) are not demand based. Allocations of foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System are made based on approved norms *i.e.* @ 35 kg. per family per month for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission projected on the population estimates of Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000 or the number of families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by State Government, *whichever is less*. Accordingly, allocations of foodgrains for BPL and AAY categories are made @ 35 kg. per family per month for all accepted 15.54 lakh BPL/AAY families in Kerala. Allocations under APL category are made depending upon the availability of stocks of food grains in Central Pool and past offtake.

Existing monthly allocation of foodgrains under TPDS to Kerala for 2009-10 are as under:—

(Qty. in tons)

Commodity	AAY	BPL	APL
Rice	20855	26566	36056
Wheat	0	6963	11777
TOTAL:	20855	33529	47833

Kerala Government has requested for enhancement of APL rice allocation upto 113420 tons and wheat upto 37325 tons. Besides requests have been received for additional allocations of rice and wheat at APL rate on account of festivals, etc.

Considering the requests and availability of stocks in the Central Pool, the rice allocation for APL category to the State was increased to 3.51 lakh tons during 2008-09 as against 3.07 lakh tons during the year 2007-08. This is in addition to 1.61 lakh tons of wheat allocated in 2008-09 and 2.25 lakh tons in 2007-08. During the current year, the initial allocation of rice was 4.33 lakh tons and 1.41 lakh tons of wheat. With additional allocations of 50,000 tons of rice and 25,000

tons of wheat for Onam festival, the total allocations for this category during the current year are 4.83 lakh tons of rice and 1.66 lakh tons of wheat.

Besides, under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS), Government has released 40,660 tons of wheat and 25,675 tons of rice for distribution to retail consumers during October to December, 2009.

Month-wise details of allocations of foodgrains made to Kerala under TPDS from December, 2008 to November, 2009 are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

*Month-wise allocation of Rice and Wheat for State of Kerala under TPDS
(BPL, AAY and APL) from December, 2008 to November, 2009*

(In thousand tons)

Month(s)	Rice	Wheat
December, 08	75.477	18.74
January, 09	94.477	18.74
February, 09	94.477	18.74
March, 09	94.477	18.74
April, 09	83.477	18.74
May, 09	83.477	18.74
June, 09	83.477	18.74
July, 09	83.477	18.74
August, 09	133.477	43.74
September, 09	83.477	18.74
October, 09	83.477	18.74
November, 09	83.477	18.74

Price rise of essential commodities

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

(a) the reasons for price-rise in sugar, onion and other essential foodgrain items during last two years; and

(b) the action being taken by his Ministry to arrest price-rise in essential commodities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The less than estimated sugar production

in the country during the last sugar season 2008-09 and the anticipated low production of sugar during the current sugar season 2009-10 led to escalation in sugar prices.

Weather, apart from seasonal factors, may have contributed to increase in prices of vegetables and fruits. Onion prices increased primarily on account of the floods in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka and the heavy rain in Maharashtra, which affected the kharif crop of onion and its supply to markets across the country.

Domestic prices of pulses rose mainly on account of the supply-demand mismatch and hardening of international prices.

(b) The Government Measures to check the prices of essential commodities are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Measures taken by Government to control prices of essential commodities

1. Fiscal Measures

- (i) Reduced import duties to zero — for sugar, rice, wheat, pulses, edible oils (crude) and maize;
- (ii) Reduced import duties on refined and hydrogenated oils and vegetable oils to 7.5%;
- (iii) Allowed import of raw sugar at zero duty under O.G.L. upto 1.8.2009 by sugar mills (notified on 17.4.2009). This has since been extended upto 31.3.2010.
- (iv) Allowed import of raw sugar at zero duty under O.G.L. upto 01.08.2009 by sugar mills (notified on 17.04.2009). This has since been extended up to 31.3.2010 (notified on 17.4.2009). Furthermore, import of raw sugar has been opened to private trade up to 31.3.2010 for being processed by domestic factories on job basis (notified on 31.7.2009).
- (v) Allowed import of white/refined sugar by STC/MMTC/PEC and NAFED up to 1 million tons by 01.08.2009 under O.G.L. at zero duty (notified on 17.04.2009). This has since been extended upto 30.11.2009. Furthermore, the duty free import of white/refined sugar under OGL has been opened to other Central/State Government agencies and to private trade in addition to existing designated agencies.
- (vi) Removed levy obligation in respect of imported raw sugar and white/refined sugar.

2. Administrative Measures

- (vii) Banned export of non-basmati rice, edible oils and pulses (except kabuli chana).
- (viii) Effected no changes in Tariff Rate Values of edible oils;
- (ix) Imposed stock limit orders in the case of paddy, rice, pulses, sugar, edible oils and edible oilseeds upto 30.9.2010;

- (x) Using Minimum Export Price (MEP) to regulate exports of onion (averaging at \$445 per tonne for October 2009) and basmati rice (\$900 PMT).
- (xi) Maintaining the Central Issue Price (CIP) for rice (at Rs. 5.65 per kg for BPL and Rs. 3 per kg for AAY) and wheat (at Rs. 4.15 per kg for BPL and Rs. 2 per kg for AAY) over the last five years.
- (xii) Futures trading in Rice, Urad and Tur suspended by the Forward Market Commission in the year 2007-08 and continues during 2009-10. Futures trading in sugar was suspended *w.e.f.* 27.5.2009 upto 31st December, 2009.
- (xiii) Distribution of imported edible oils to States/UTs at a subsidy of Rs. 15/kg.
- (xiv) To augment availability of pulses, permitted the Public Sector Undertakings (namely, STC, MMTC, and PEC) and NAFED to import and sell pulses under a scheme and the losses, if any, up to 15% are reimbursed by the Government.
- (xv) Distribution of imported pulses through PDS at a subsidy of Rs. 10 per kg to State Governments.
- (xvi) Permitted sugar factories to sell processed raw sugar in the domestic market and fulfil export obligation on ton to ton basis.
- (xvii) Increased quota of levy sugar to 20% with effect from 1.10.2009
- (xviii) For the month of November, 2009, a quantity of 15.00 lakh tons of non levy sugar has been made available which includes 10.50 lakh tons of normal non-levy sugar and 1.45 lakh tons of refined raw sugar imported by sugar mills. The estimated availability out of imported white/refined sugar is about 1.50 lac ton. Besides, the validity period of October, 2009 non-levy quota has since been extended for the first fortnight up to 25.10.2009 and for the second fortnight upto 10.11.2009, it is expected about 1.55 lakh ton of sugar would be spill over quota of October, 09.

Literacy projects approved for NGOs

952. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of literacy projects approved by the National Literacy Mission for NGOs during each of the last three years especially in rural areas, State-wise and UT-wise;
- (b) whether the performance of the NGOs in such projects has been reviewed by Government periodically;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether punitive action has been taken by Government against those NGOs not having satisfactory performance;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The number of literacy projects approved by the National Literacy Mission to NGOs (State/UT-wise) during the last three years is enclosed as Statement (*See below*).

(b) to (c) Review of functioning of NGOs is a standard administrative exercise that is undertaken periodically on regular basis internally by the National Literacy Mission Authority as well as through third party evaluation. During the reviews it has been noticed that system of monitoring of performance requires further strengthening; financial norms need to be adhered to scrupulously; there is a need to develop capacity building of staff; adequate infrastructure needs to be available to carry out assigned roles; and their activities need to be demand led and relevant to the core clientele of the scheme.

(d) to (f) On account of violation of guidelines, norms and administrative instructions, grant of funds has been stopped in respect of the following NGOs:—

1. JSS, Darbhanga (Bihar)
2. JSS, Mandya (Karnataka)
3. JSS, Chikballapur (Kolar), Karnataka
4. JSS, Kushinagar (Uttar Pradesh)
5. JSS, Ramanathapuram (Tamil Nadu)
6. JSS, Kakinada (Andhra Pradesh)

Statement

The details of Literacy projects approved by NLM to NGOs in the year 2006-07 to 2008-09

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2006-07			2007-08			2008-09		
		JSS	SRC	NGO	JSS	SRC	NGO	JSS	SRC	NGO
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	—	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
4.	Bihar	1	—	—	2	—	—	5	—	—
5.	Chhattisgarh	1	1	—	1	—	—	4	—	—
6.	Delhi	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
7.	Gujarat	1	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—
8.	Goa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Haryana	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10. Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
11. Jammu and Kashmir	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Jharkhand	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Karnataka	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
14. Kerela	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
15. Madhya Pradesh	7	—	2	3	—	—	—	7	—	—
16. Maharashtra	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	5	—	—
17. Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18. Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19. Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20. Orissa	3	—	1	3	—	—	—	2	—	—
21. Punjab	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22. Rajasthan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
23. Tamil Nadu	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
24. Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25. Uttar Pradesh	8	—	1	3	—	—	—	8	—	—
26. Uttarakhand	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
27. West Bengal	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
28. Andaman and Nicobar Island	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29. Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
31. Daman and Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL :	26	1	7	23	—	—	—	50	—	—

Proper identification of BPL families

†953. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government has identified families living below the poverty line prior to the Food Security Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is of the view that for the proper implementation of the scheme identification of poor people should be in a proper manner, otherwise, the benefits of the scheme would be taken by dominant people; and

(d) if so, the action being taken by Government for proper identification of BPL families?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) For proper targeting of poor families to be covered for entitlement for distribution of foodgrains under the proposed law, it is imperative to identify correctly such families.

Different aspects of the proposed Act, including estimates of poverty and methodology for identification of eligible below poverty line families, are presently being examined by Government.

Rottening of foodgrains in FCI godowns

954. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of tonnes of foodgrains is rotted every year in the godowns of FCI;

(b) if so, the details of rotten foodgrains during last three years, State-wise, year-wise and foodgrain-wise;

(c) the reasons for such negligence; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the officials/authority guilty for rotting of foodgrains during last three years, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, some quantities of foodgrains with Food Corporation of India (FCI) are damaged due to various reasons, such as, cyclones, floods, acceptance of below specifications stocks and movement to other regions. The damaged foodgrains accrued in the godowns of FCI during last three years, State-wise, year-wise and foodgrain-wise are given in enclosed Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) The foodgrains are stored by following scientific code of practices for storage. Timely prophylactic and curative treatments are carried out for the control of stored grains insect pests. However, during periodical inspections by various authorities if some quantities of foodgrains are found damaged due to negligence of some officials, suitable disciplinary actions are initiated against them.

Statement

*Quantities of damaged foodgrains accrued in the godowns of F.C.I. during last three years,
State-wise, year-wise and foodgrain-wise*

(Fig in tons)

Sl. No.	Region	Wheat			Rice			Paddy			Maize			Total		
		2006-	2007-	2008-	2006-	2007-	2008-	2006-	2007-	2008-	2006-	2007-	2008-	2006-	2007-	2008-
		07	08	09	07	08	09	07	08	09	07	08	09	07	08	09
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1.	Bihar	27	455	6	683	5403	8	3	—	—	—	—	—	713	5858	14
2.	Jharkhand	42	46	1	—	11	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	57	15
3.	Orissa	—	—	—	35	759	84	—	—	—	—	—	—	35	759	84
4.	West Bengal	230	24	84	288	765	1705	—	—	—	—	—	—	518	789	1789
5.	Assam	—	52	—	4905	99	83	—	—	—	—	—	—	4905	151	83
6.	NEF	—	—	—	1552	141	212	—	—	—	—	—	—	1552	141	212
7.	N&M	—	—	—	5	362	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	362	6
8.	Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Haryana	9	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	16
10.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.	Punjab	16	—	26	14074	23118	16772	—	—	—	—	—	—	14090	23118	16798
13.	Rajasthan	38	4	—	17	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	55	18	—
14.	Uttar Pradesh	7	9	62	2	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	40	62
15.	Uttaranchal	3	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	4
16.	Andhra Pradesh	15	—	—	415	139	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	430	139	—
17.	Kerala	244	—	7	54	42	91	—	—	—	—	—	—	298	42	98
18.	Karnataka	28	—	—	936	1459	74	—	—	—	—	—	—	964	1459	74
19.	Tamil Nadu	2	—	1	35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	37	1	1
20.	Gujarat	195	270	620	13	56	31	—	—	—	3	—	4(*)	211	326	655
21.	Maharashtra	60	51	110	1230	139	79	—	401	—	—	—	—	1290	591	189
22.	Madhya Pradesh	87	13	14	62	63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	149	76	14
23.	Chhattisgarh	1	—	—	2	13	—	35	486	—	—	—	—	38	499	—
TOTAL:		1004	924	947	24308	32615	19163	38	887	—	3	—	4(*)	25353	34426	20114

(*) Other foodgrains

Allotment of rice to Chhattisgarh

955. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

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

- (a) the quantity of rice for APL families being allotted per month to Chhattisgarh;
- (b) whether the quantity which was allotted earlier, was much more than this;
- (c) whether the State has raised a demand to restore the previous trend; and
- (d) whether any action has been taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The allocations of food grains for Above Poverty Line (APL) category under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) to States and UTs, including the State of Chhattisgarh, are being made on the basis of availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool. Allocations of rice for the APL category were made in larger quantities till 2006-07 in view of surplus stocks available in the Central Pool at that time. However, in view of constraints on stock position of rice in the Central Pool, the allocation of rice under TPDS to States/UTs, including Chhattisgarh, for the APL category was rationalized from April, 2007 on the basis of past offtake and availability of stocks in the Central Pool.

The State Government has made requests for enhancement/restoration of the APL allocations to the level of 2006-07 allocations. It has also been requested for increasing allocation of APL what from 15,000 tons to 30,000 tons per month. Considering the request of the State for enhancement of APL allocation, Government made additional allocation of 448 tons of rice from March, 2009. Subsequently, monthly APL rice allocation was increased from 1401 tons to 10360 tons from July, 2009.

Besides, under Open, Market Sale Scheme (OMSS), Government has released 960 tons of rice for distribution to retail consumers of the State during October to December, 2009.

Storage capacity of foodgrains

956. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

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

- (a) whether storage capacity of foodgrains is falling short; and

(b) the details of production and storage capacity of rice and wheat this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir. As on 31.10.09 the FCI is having a total storage capacity of 278.59 lakh MT and the total stock held by FCI is 214.46 lakh MT. If wheat procurement in RMS 2010-11 follows the trend of procurement in RMS 2009-10, the present storage capacity may not be adequate to store foodgrains.

(b) As per the Fourth Advance Estimates, the production of wheat in 2008-09 (marketed in RMS 2009-10) has been 805.53 lakh tonnes. The production of rice in RMS 2009-10 as per First Advance Estimates is estimated to be 694.5 lakh tonnes. The details of storage capacity available with FCI as on 31.10.2009 are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of storage capacity with F.C.I. as on 31.10.2009

(Fig in lac tons)

Zone	Sl. No.	Region/U.T.	FCI owned	State Govern-ment	CWC	Covered Hired SWC	Private Parties	Total Hired	Total covered	Owned	CAP Hired	Total	Grand Total	Stocks held	Utiliza- tion (%age)	Vacant space
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
East	1.	Bihar	3.66	0.03	0.66	0.89	0.48	2.06	5.72	0.43	0.00	0.43	6.15	4.02	65	2.13
	2.	Jharkhand	0.66	0.02	0.13	0.16	0.20	0.51	1.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.17	1.03	88	0.14
	3.	Orissa	2.93	0.00	0.76	2.90	0.15	3.81	6.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.74	4.55	68	2.19
	4.	West Bengal	8.59	0.19	0.95	0.00	0.87	2.01	10.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.60	8.32	78	2.28
	5.	Sikkim	0.10	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.10	91	0.01
	TOTAL (East-Zone)		15.94	0.25	2.50	3.95	1.70	8.40	24.34	0.43	0.00	0.43	24.77	18.02	88	6.75
North	6.	Assam	2.07	0.00	0.18	0.10	0.37	0.65	2.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.72	2.00	74	0.72
East	7.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.18	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.03	14	0.19
	8.	Meghalaya	0.14	0.00	0.07	0.05	0.00	0.12	0.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.26	0.23	88	0.03

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	9.	Mizoram	0.22	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.23	0.17	74	0.06
	10.	Tripura	0.29	0.05	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.51	0.39	76	0.12
	11.	Manipur	0.20	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.12	50	0.12
	12.	Nagaland	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.13	65	0.07
	TOTAL (N.E.Z)		3.30	0.10	0.46	0.15	0.37	1.08	4.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.38	3.07	57	1.31
North	13.	Delhi	3.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.36	0.31	0.00	0.31	3.67	2.59	71	1.08
	14.	Haryana	7.68	3.84	2.16	3.97	2.18	12.15	19.83	3.33	0.05	3.38	23.21	16.23	70	6.98
	15.	Himachal Pradesh	0.14	0.06	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.19	76	0.06
	16.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.03	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.26	1.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.29	1.04	81	0.25
	17.	Punjab	21.84	0.23	3.57	31.64	4.07	39.51	61.35	6.44	3.42	9.86	71.21	48.94	69	22.27
	18.	Chandigarh	0.40	0.00	0.46	0.20	0.00	0.66	1.06	0.08	0.17	0.25	1.31	0.92	70	0.39
	19.	Rajasthan	7.06	0.00	1.58	3.23	1.76	6.57	13.63	1.58	0.19	1.77	15.40	15.29	99	0.11
	20.	Uttar Pradesh	14.95	0.07	2.22	4.06	0.23	6.58	21.53	4.69	0.10	4.79	26.32	16.94	64	9.38
	21.	Uttarakhand	0.66	0.30	0.50	0.56	0.05	1.41	2.07	0.09	0.20	0.29	2.36	2.33	99	0.03
	TOTAL (N.Z.)		57.12	4.65	10.54	43.66	8.40	67.25	124.37	16.52	4.13	20.65	145.02	104.47	88	40.55

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
South	22.	Andhra Pradesh	12.66	0.10	4.20	15.94	0.96	21.20	33.86	2.62	0.00	2.62	36.48	28.88	79	7.60
	23.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.03	43	0.04
	24.	Kerala	5.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.17	0.20	0.00	0.20	5.37	4.25	79	1.12
	25.	Karnataka	3.78	0.00	1.65	1.47	0.25	3.37	7.15	1.16	0.00	1.16	8.31	7.44	90	0.87
	26.	Tamil Nadu	5.80	0.00	2.27	0.50	0.57	3.34	9.14	0.56	0.00	0.56	9.70	9.39	97	0.31
	27.	Pondicherry	0.44	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.00	0.07	0.51	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.56	0.62	111	-0.06
	TOTAL (S.Z.)		27.92	0.10	8.17	17.93	1.78	27.98	55.90	4.59	0.00	4.59	60.49	50.61	84	9.88
West	28.	Gujarat	5.00	0.14	1.11	0.00	0.00	1.25	6.25	0.27	0.00	0.27	6.52	7.38	113	-0.86
	29.	Maharashtra	11.77	0.13	2.22	2.12	1.17	5.64	17.41	1.02	0.00	1.02	18.43	13.73	74	4.70
	30.	Goa	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.14	93	0.01
	31.	Madhya Pradesh	3.37	0.57	1.65	2.55	2.90	7.67	11.04	0.35	0.00	0.35	11.39	10.88	96	0.51
	32.	Chhattisgarh	5.12	0.18	0.34	1.70	0.10	2.32	7.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.44	6.16	83	1.28
	Total (W.Z.)		25.41	1.02	5.32	6.37	4.17	16.88	42.29	1.64	0.00	1.64	43.93	38.29	87	5.64
	GRAND TOTAL		129.69	6.12	26.99	72.06	16.42	121.59	251.28	23.18	4.13	27.31	278.59	214.46	77	64.13

Setting up of Food Security Tribunals

957. SHRI N.K. SINGH:
SHRI NARESH GUJRAL:

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

(a) whether to ensure a foolproof mechanism to enforce accountability under the proposed Food Security Act (FSA), Government has decided to set up Food Security Tribunals at all levels of governance;

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

(c) whether to evolve a clear methodology to accountability in implementation of FSA, the Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) has given their views; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and further reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) As announced by the Hon'ble President of India in her address to the joint session of Parliament on 04.06.2009, Government proposes to enact a National Food Security Act.

At present various aspects of the proposed law, including mechanism to enforce accountability through setting up of Food Security Tribunals etc., are under examination in consultation with State/Union Territory Government and various Central Ministries.

Measures to check price rise of sugar

958. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government has adopted a slew of measures to check rising sugar prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof and to what extent those measures have proved effective;

(c) whether Government has also allowed companies to import raw sugar to meet the demand and also to contain price rise of sugar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has taken a slew of measures to augment domestic stocks of sugar and to moderate prices of sugar in the open market. Details of these measures are given in the enclosed Statement (*See below*). As a result of these measures, the ex-mill prices of sugar remained subdued upto the month of July, 2009. However, indications that sugar production in

the current sugar season 2009-10 would also be substantially lower than the overall consumption requirement of sugar in the country in view of deficient and irregular rainfall during current year, have pushed up sugar prices.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has allowed companies/sugar mills to import duty-free raw sugar. The details are indicated in the Statement enclosed in reference to part (a) and (b) of the Question.

Statement

Measures taken by the Central Government to augment domestic stocks of sugar and to contain sugar prices

- Allowed import of raw sugar under Advance Authorization Scheme by sugar mills at zero duty upto 30.09.2009.
- Allowed import of raw sugar at zero duty under O.G.L. upto 01.08.2009 by sugar mills, later extended upto 31.03.2010. This has now been further extended upto 31.12.2010 *vide* notification dated 11.11.2009.
- Import of raw sugar was opened to private trade upto 31.03.2010 for being processed by domestic factories on job basis. This has now been further extended upto 31.12.2010 *vide* notification dated 11.11.2009.
- Allowed duty free import of white/refined sugar by STC/MMTC/PEC and NAFED upto 1 million tons by 01.08.2009 which was extended upto 30.11.2009. Further, duty free import of white/refined sugar under OGL has also been opened to other Central/State Government agencies and to private trade in addition to existing designated agencies, upto 30.11.2009. This has now been extended upto 31.3.2010 *vide* notification dated 11.11.2009.
- Levy obligation has been removed in respect of all imported raw sugar and white/refined sugar. The white/refined sugar has been also allowed to be sold at the discretion of the importing organizations, but sugar processed from imported raw sugar is subject to accelerated releases.
- The levy obligation on sugar factories has been enhanced from 10% to 20% of production *w.e.f.* 01.10.2009 for 2009-10 sugar season only, *vide* notification dated 7th October, 2009.

1.1 Besides augmenting the sugar stocks by permitting import of raw and white/refined sugar in 2008-09 sugar season, the Central Government has imposed stock holding and turnover limits to moderate prices of sugar as follows:—

- Stock-holding and turnover limits on sugar dealers *vide* notification dated 12.03.2009 for a period of four months, and thereafter for another period of six months *i.e.* upto 08.01.2010 *vide* the notification dated 16.7.2009. Further, Khandsari sugar has now been brought under the ambit of stockholding and turnover limit.

- An order has been issued *vide* notification dated 22.08.2009 imposing stockholding limit on large consumers of sugar who are using or consuming more than ten quintals of sugar per month as a raw material for production or consumption or use, stipulating that such bulk consumers shall not hold sugar stock exceeding fifteen days of their requirement. The notification has come into effect from 19.9.2009.
- Futures trade in sugar in domestic exchanges has been suspended *w.e.f.* 27.5.2009 till the end of 2009.

Integrated approach for food and nutrition security

959. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
 SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:
 DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:
 PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
 SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

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

- whether the prices of foodgrains in the last few months have increased manifold in the country and millions of families living in rural areas are unable to afford the same;
- if so, whether severe food and nutritional scarcity in the country have affected almost half the children under three years of age and more than one-third of women;
- if so, whether any integrated approach has been formulated to achieve food and nutritional security in the country; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) There has been an increase in prices of foodgrain items such as cereals, pulses and sugar. The Government has taken steps to protect poor sections of society through Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Antodaya Anna Yojana (AAY). Under the TPDS, wheat, rice, coarse grains and kerosene are allocated to State Governments/UTs for distribution through the Fair Price Shops. The off take of wheat and rice under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) has been going up. For TPDS, wheat and rice off take have gone up from 296.52 lakh tonnes in 2004-05 to 316.39 lakh tonnes in 2006-07 and 348.45 lakh tonnes in 2008-09. During the period 2009-10 (up to August, 2009), 183.07 lakh tonnes of wheat and rice has been allocated under TPDS.

The Central Issue Price for rice and wheat has not been revised since 2002. For wheat it remains at Rs. 4.15 per kg for BPL and Rs 2 per kg for AAY. For rice, it is Rs. 5.65 per kg for BPL and Rs. 3 per kg for AAY.

(b) As per National Family Health Survey report (2005-06) that the proportion of children under three years of age who are underweight decreased from 43 per cent in NFHS-2 to 40 per cent in NFHS-3 and the proportion of ever-married women who are thin has decreased to 33 per cent in NFHS-3 from 36 per cent in NFHS-2.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Women and Child Development indirectly contributes to the masses through complementary approach towards the food and nutrition component through its various programmes and schemes like:—

- (i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme which is the world's largest programme addressing children under 6 years of age and pregnant and lactating mothers where ICDS provides the following six services:
- Supplementary Nutrition,
 - Immunization,
 - Health Check ups,
 - Referral services,
 - Pre-school non-formal Education,
 - Nutrition and Health Education.

As on 31.3.2009 approximately 10.70 lakhs AWCs are operational for the benefit of 8.63 crore children below six years and pregnant/lactating mothers who are given supplementary nutrition and other facilities under ICDS. The target is to operationalise 14 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) all over the country.

- (ii) Nutrition advocacy and awareness generation programmes of Food and Nutrition Board under the aegis of the Ministry:—
- Nutrition Education and Training for both the masses and ICDS functionaries,
 - Training in Home Scale Preservation of Fruits and Vegetables and Nutrition,
 - Providing Fruits and Vegetable Processing facilities,
 - Mass Media Communication on nutrition awareness,
 - Food Analysis and Standardization,
- (iii) The two programmes viz. Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls and Kishori Shakti Yojana seek to address the problem of inter-generation cycle of malnutrition by taking care of the malnutrition among adolescent girls.

Procurement of paddy

†960. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the purchase of Kharif crop-paddy has been completed by Government;

(b) if so, the total quantity of paddy purchased at the end of October, 2009;

(c) the quantity of paddy purchased in comparison to October, 2008; and

(d) the total stock of paddy in the country at the end of October, 2009?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In KMS 2009-10 the total quantity of paddy procured by FCI and State Agencies as on 31st October, 2009 was 129.49 lakh MT. Procurement in corresponding period in 2008-09 was 124.89 lakh tonnes.

(d) The total stock of rice in the Central Pool as on 31st October, 2009 was 216.21 lakh MT.

Availability of rice at Rs. 2 per kg. to APL and BPL categories

961. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been demands from various quarters, including political parties, for providing rice at Rs. 2 per kg. irrespective of families belonging to APL or BPL;

(b) whether it is also a fact that food security proposed by Government could be ensured only if rice is made available for Rs. 2 per kg. through PDS;

(c) if so, the steps his Ministry would take in this regard;

(d) whether it is also a fact that there is a difference between the list of BPL families at the Centre and States; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) At present, allocation of foodgrains to States/Union Territories (UTs) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) are made for 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, which include 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. This number of BPL families is based on poverty estimates of Planning Commission for 1993-94 projected on population estimates of Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000. As against this, by October, 2009, BPL ration cards issued by States/UTs is 10.96 crore. The higher number of BPL ration cards issued by them is due to improper targeting of the poor households, which has inclusion as well as exclusion errors.

For distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible BPL, AAY and Above Poverty Line (APL) ration card holders, subsidized Central Issue Prices (CIP) communicated by Central Government are as follows:—

	AAY	BPL	APL
Rice (Rs./Kg.)	3.00	5.65	8.30
Wheat (Rs./Kg.)	2.00	4.15	6.10

Some of the States/Union Territories are, however, charging lower issue prices by further subsidizing the issue prices.

As announced in the address of Hon'ble President of India to joint session of Parliament on 04.06.2009, Government proposes to enact a National Food Security Act, under which every BPL family will be entitled to 25 kg rice/wheat per month at Rs. 3 per kg.

Stock of rice and wheat in FCI for PDS

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

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has sufficient stock of rice and wheat for regular supply through Public Distribution System in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of stocks in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Stocks of foodgrains (rice and wheat) in the Central Pool as on 31.10.2009 were 216.21 lakh tons of rice and 268.88 lakh tons of wheat. State-wise details of stocks are enclosed as Statement (*See below*).

The present stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool are adequate to meet requirement of existing levels of allocations to States and UTs under Targeted Public Distribution System.

Statement

State-wise details of total stocks of Foodgrains in Central Pool as on 31.10.2009

(In lakh tons)

State	Total Central Pool Stocks		
	Rice	Wheat	Total
1	2	3	4
Bihar	2.35	1.80	4.15
Jharkhand	0.63	0.41	1.04
Orissa	6.43	0.37	6.80
West Bengal	6.61	3.22	9.83
EAST ZONE TOTAL :	16.02	5.80	21.82

1	2	3	4
Assam	1.62	0.24	1.86
Arunachal Pradesh	0.02	0.00	0.02
Tripura	0.30	0.04	0.34
Mizoram	0.16	0.01	0.17
Meghalaya	0.19	0.02	0.21
Manipur	0.15	0.00	0.15
Nagaland	0.08	0.03	0.11
NE ZONE TOTAL :	2.52	0.34	2.86
Delhi	0.23	2.36	2.59
Haryana	17.88	68.00	85.88
Himachal Pradesh	0.07	0.12	0.19
Jammu and Kashmir	0.63	0.40	1.03
Punjab	108.59	103.37	211.96
Rajasthan	0.10	15.19	15.29
Uttar Pradesh	11.42	19.65	31.07
Uttarakhand	1.72	0.62	2.34
NORTH ZONE TOTAL :	140.64	209.71	350.35
Andhra Pradesh	26.49	2.48	28.97
Karnataka	3.58	4.11	7.69
Kerala	2.37	1.92	4.29
Tamil Nadu	8.30	3.16	11.46
SOUTH ZONE TOTAL	40.74	11.67	52.41
Gujarat	0.44	6.73	7.17
Maharashtra	3.97	10.63	14.60
Madhya Pradesh	1.24	21.27	22.51
Chhattisgarh	7.80	0.41	8.21
WEST ZONE TOTAL :	13.45	39.04	52.49
TOTAL :	213.38	266.56	479.94
Stocks in Transit	2.83	2.32	5.15
TOTAL (ALL INDIA):	216.21	268.88	485.09

Standard of teaching

963. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a need to raise the standard of teaching in schools in the country;
- (b) if so, the measures Government is taking in this regard; and
- (c) whether it also requires increased investment in Public-Private-Partnership programme to improve quality of education at the bottom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, several steps have been taken to improve the quality of elementary education. These include, recruitment of additional teachers to improve the pupil-teacher ratio, in-service training of teachers for a period of 20 days every year, free distribution of textbooks for primary and upper primary classes, provision of school development grants to schools and teacher's grant for teaching, learning material, academic support to primary and upper primary schools through Block Resource Centres, and remedial teaching to children. A new scheme called "Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan", has been launched in March, 2009 with the objective of universalisation of access to secondary education and for improvement of quality.

- (c) Public private partnership is meant to make use of private sector finances and expertise to achieve public purposes.

National Teachers awards

964. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the criteria for short listing Kendriya Vidyalaya and Navodaya Vidyalaya teachers for conferring National Teachers awards and other incentive awards;
- (b) the details of Kendriya Vidyalaya and Navodaya Vidyalaya teachers, who were given the said awards in the year 2009 out of Chandigarh and Jammu regions;
- (c) the details of top three performing Kendriya Vidyalaya and Navodaya Vidyalaya teachers, who had given outstanding results in the year 2009 in the said regions, subject-wise; and
- (d) the details of the teachers who were conferred with the awards for the year 2009 and the reasons for excluding others?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The following are the eligibility criteria for National Award to Teachers, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) incentive awards and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) National level awards:—

(i) National Award to Teachers:

Classroom teachers with at least 15 years of regular teaching experience and headmaster/principals with 20 years of regular teaching experience and who are actually working as teachers/headmasters/principals in recognized primary/middle/high/higher secondary schools only are considered for the National Awards. For teachers promoting integrated inclusive education, the eligibility stands reduced to 10 years and for headmasters to 15 years if they are to be considered for awards in respect of Inclusive Education.

(ii) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan Incentive Awards:

Teachers are selected on the basis of a weighted system of evaluation of academics and co-curricular achievements.

(iii) Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti National level Awards:

- Principals/Vice Principals and teachers should have rendered six years of regular service in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas by 31st March of the year of the presentation of award. However Vice-Principals having 4 years of service as Vice-Principal and 2 years as post graduate teacher can be considered for award.
- 90% of passes in CBSE Board Examination of Class X and XII in the immediate past 3 years (for Principals/Vice Principals).
- 90% of passes in their subject in immediate past 3 years (for teachers);
- Level of achievement in Vidyalaya activities like House management, Mess Management, co-curricular activities, NCC, Scouts and Guides, Sports and Games, Computer Education/ICT pace setting etc.
- Good conduct and behaviour and contribution towards healthy conducive atmosphere.

(b) The list of teachers of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan from Chandigarh and Jammu regions who were given the awards in 2009 is enclosed as Statement-I (*See below*).

No teacher was recommended by Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti for any of the awards from Chandigarh region, which includes Jammu.

(c) The details of top three performing teachers from Kendriya Vidyalayas of Chandigarh and Jammu region and Navodaya Vidyalayas of Chandigarh region, as informed by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, are enclosed as Statement-II and III respectively (*See below*).

(d) The list of teachers from Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas, who were conferred with the National Award to Teachers on 5th September, 2009 is enclosed as Statement-IV (*See below*). The awards were conferred on the basis of recommendation by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti respectively and as per the eligibility criteria.

Statement-I

*List of teachers of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan from Chandigarh and
Jammu regions who were given the awards in 2009*

National Award to Teachers-2008

Chandigarh Region

1. Shrimati Vinod Ahluwalia, Head Mistress, OCF, Sector-29, Chandigarh.
2. Mrs. Poonam Kohli, PRT, No. 2, DMW, Patiala.
3. Dr. Honey Arya, PRT, Sector-31, Chandigarh.
4. Dr. (Mrs.) S.P. Shergill, Principal, AFS, High Grounds, Distt. Chandigarh.

No teacher from Jammu region was awarded.

Incentive Awards 2009

Chandigarh Region

1. Ms. Amita K., PGT (Chem.), No. 3, Patiala.
2. Shri C.P. Singh, PGT (Geog.), High Ground.
3. Mr. Anal Kumar, TGT (Skt.), No. I, Patiala Cantt.
4. Ms. Kuldeep Kaur Dhanjoon, PRT, No. I, Patiala.
5. Ms. Anita Kapoor, Librarian, No. I, RCF, Hussainpur.

Jammu Region

6. Ms. Sushma Dhamija, Head Mistress, No. 4 Jalandhar.

Statement-II

*Details of top three performing teachers from KVs of
Chandigarh and Jammu region*

(A) Subject-wise top three performing teachers of Chandigarh Region in CBSE Exam-2009

CLASS X

Subject	Rank	Name of teacher	Name of KV
1	2	3	4
English	1	Mr. R.D. Suman	Kasauli
	2	Ms. Kamakshi Krishan	Shimla
	3	Ms. Seema Avasthi	Shimla
Hindi (Core)	1	Ms. Pankaj Kapoor	Jutogh Cantt
	2	Dr. Indra Bhatnagar	No. 1, Chandimandir
	2	Mrs. Archana Malik	Kapurthala Cantt

1	2	3	4
Maths	1	Shri Sanjay Kumar	Jutogh Cantt
	2	Ms. P. Dhaliwal	Sec. 47 Chandigarh
	3	Shri Vinod Kumar	Reckong Peo
Science	1	Shri Surender	Reckong Peo
		Shri Neeraj Kumar	
		Ms. Ranjana Devi	
	2	Ms. Neeti Talwar	Sec. 47 Chandigarh
	3	Shri S.C. Jat	No. 3, Bathinda
Social Studies	1	Shri Naresh Kumar	No. 2 Patiala
	2	Shri Bir Singh	Jutogh Cantt
	3	Ms. Meenakshi Verma	Naudan
Sanskrit	1	Mrs. Gaytri Sharma	No. 2, Halwara
	2	Shri Narayan Das	Sec. 47 Chandigarh
	3	Shri Het Ram	Kasauli
CLASS XII			
English	1	Shri T.R. Gulati	Paluwas
	2	Mrs. Santosh Sharma	No.3,Ambala
	3	Shri Kamala Prasad	No.3 Bathinda
Hindi (Core)	1	Ms. Vibha Rani	Hamirpur
	2	Mr. K.G. Shukla	Baddowal
	2	Dr. Raj Kumar Sharma	No. 1, RCF, Hussainpur
	2	Mrs. Krishna Bachhal	Karnal
	3	Shri L.K. Singh	Abhor
Maths1	Mrs. Rajni Gupta	Subathu	
	2	Shri Parveen Kumar	No. 3 Patiala
	3	Shri Aruna Kehra	No. 1 Ferozepur
Physics	1	Mr. R.S. Saini	Sec-47, Chd.
	2	Shri Vijay Kumar Pathak	Yol Cantt
	3	Mrs. Heema Saraswat	No. I Halwara

1	2	3	4
Chemistry	1	Mrs. Neeti Sharma	No. 3, Ambala
	2	Mrs. Parveen Kumari	Mandi
	3	Ms. S. Bhama	Sec-47, Chd.
Biology	1	Mrs. Harjit Kaur	Sec-29, Chd.
	2	Mr. S.K. Yadav	Abohar
	3	Ms. Nilika	No. 1 Chandimandir
History		Ms. Madhu Dhingra	Sec-47, Chd.
	1	Ms. Rachna	Shimla
	2	Shri D.P. Singh	No. 3 Patiala
Geography	3	Mr. Sukhmander Singh	No. I Bathinda
	1	Mr. C.P. Singh	CRPF Pinjore
	2	Shrimati Kamaljit Deol	High Ground
Economics	3	Mr. Shishpal	Palampur
	1	Ms. Vandana Mahajan	No. 1, Patiala
	2	Shri Ratish Kumar	Reckongpeo
IP/Comp. Science	3	Mr. Subhash Chandar	Sirsa No. 2
	1	Mrs. Reema Sandhu	Subathu
	2	Shri Parmjit	Abohar
B. Studies	3	Ms. Nipun	Sec-31, Chd.
	1	Mrs. Sunita Rani	Nabaha Cantt
	2	Ms. Monika Bhatia	No. 1 RCF Hussainpur
Accountancy	3	Ms. Shalu	Paluwas
	1	Shri Rajinder Kumar Arora	Reckongpeo
	2	Ms. Monika Bhatia,	No. I RCF Hussainpur
Bio Tech	2	Mrs. Sunita Rani	Nabaha Cantt
	3	Ms. Shalu	Paluwas
	1	Mrs. Q. Bari	No. 1, Patiala
FMM 1	2	Mr. Rohit Choudhary	Shimla
	3	Ms. Pallavi Verma	Sec-31, Chd.
	1	Ms. Pooja	No. 1 Ambala

B. Subject-wise top three performing teachers of Jammu Region based on CBSE Exam-2009

Class X

Subject	Rank	Name of teacher	Name of KV
1	2	3	4
English	1	Mr. Pardeshi Manoj Manulal	Kishtwar
	2	Mr. P.K. Wangdare	Anantnag
	3	Mr. Baldev and Mrs. Prem Lata	Lakhanpur
Hindi	1	Mrs. Sunita DeviDBN, Shikhar	
	2	Mrs. Sushma Gautam	Kathua
	3	Mrs. Anju and Mrs Jyoti Jamwal	Miran Saheb
Maths	1	Mr. Ashok Gupta, Mrs. Sudha Rani, Mr. Gurdeep Singh Kaler, Shri Satish Sharma	No. 1, Pathankot
	2	Mr. Raj Kumar, Shri Ram Kumar, Shri V.V. Rathore, Shri Rakesh	No. 1, Jammu
	3	Mr. Suresh Kumar, Mr. Kabir Kumar	No. 3, Pathankot
Science	1	Mrs. Neelam	Kathua
	2	Mrs. Babita Sarada, Mr. Bajender Kumar, Mrs. Chandra Thapa and Mrs. Neelam	No. 1, Pathankot
	3	Mr. S.S. Yadav	Bhadarwah
Social Studies	1	Mr. Ram Kishan	Rajouri
	2	Mrs. Arminder Kaur	No. 3, Amritsar
	3	Mrs. Rajwant Kaur	DBN, Shikhar
Sanskrit	1	Mr. Kishore Kumar	No. 1, Jammu
	2	Mrs. Vinod Bala	Nangalbhur
	3	Mr. V.P. Garg	No. 3, Srinagar
Class XII			
English	1	Mrs. Alka Bal	No. 2, Jammu
	2	Mohd. Shakir	Dalhousie
	3	Mrs. Sarla Sharma	Sunjuwan

1	2	3	4
Hindi	1	Shri P.S. Raghav	No. 2, Udhampur
	2	Shri Gian Chand	No. 3, Srinagar
	3	Shrimati Poonam	No. 2, Chamera
Maths	1	Shrimati Rashmi Sharma	Suranussi
	2	Mrs. Sarita	No. 2, Jalandhar
	3	Shri C.K. Sharma	Kishtwar
Physics	1	Shri P.C. Verma	No. 1, Chamera
	2	Mrs. S.S. Gill	Tibri Cantt
	3	Mrs. Sita Devi	Samba
Chemistry	1	Mr. Raj Kumar Sharma	Kishtwar
	2	Mrs. Neelam Guleria	No. 3, Pathankot
	3	Mrs. Suman Lata	No. 1, Srinagar
Biology	1	Mrs. Shakuntala Devi	No. 1, Jalandhar
	2	Mrs. Shakuntala Kotwal	No. 1, Akhnoor
	3	Mrs. Chandra Thapa	No. 1, Pathankot
Information practice	1	Mr. Sudhir Katoria	No. 2, Chamera
	2	Mr. Rajnish Bhatia	Kishtwar
	3	Mr. Anil Kumar Yadav	No. 1, Srinagar
History	1	Mr. Vinay Kumar	No. 2, Akhnoor
	2	Mr. Amit Walter	Jyotipuram
	3	Mr. R.N. Ganger	Samba
Geography	1	Mr. N.D. Samanta	No. 1, Srinagar
	2	Mr. Anil Kumar	Kishtwar
	3	Mrs Sukhbiri Kaur	No. 3, Amritsar
Economics	1	Mrs. Preeti Sharma	No. 4, Jalandhar
	2	Mr. Sawantantar	Nangalbur
	3	Mrs Rekha Mahajan	Pathankot
Business Studies	1	Mrs. Indu Bala	No. 1, Pathankot
	2	Mrs. J.P. Dhami	No. 2, Jammu
	3	Mr. S.K. Gupta	No. 1, Chamera

1	2	3	4
Accountancy	1	Mr. S.K. Yadav	No. 1, Chamera
	2	Mrs. Indu Bala	No. 1, Pathankot
	3	Mr. S.K. Gupta	No. 2, Jammu
Computer Science	1	Mr. Ramesh Chand	Lakhanpur
	2	Mr. Rajesh Kumar	Nangalbhur
	3	Mrs. Swati Agarwal and Mr. Novina Singh	No. 1, Jalandhar

Statement-III

*Subject-wise top three performing teachers of Navodaya
Vidyalaya Samiti Chandigarh Region*

Sl. No.	Subject	JNV	Name of Teacher
1	2	3	4

Class X

1.	English	Hamirpur	Kulwinder Sharma, TGT
2.		Shimla	Dalbir, TGT Rupali, TGT
3.		Mandi	J. Paul, PGT Ashwani, TGT
1.	Hindi	Hamirpur	Kamlesh Arya, TGT
2.		Mandi	Sandeep Shukla, PGT
3.		Ludhiana	Ram Chander, PGT
1.	Maths	Kangra	Abhishekh, PGT
2.		Hamirpur	Vinod Kumar, TGT Sant Raj, TGT
3.		Una	Lakhanpal, PGT Munish Kumar, TGT
1.	Science	Kangra	M.C. Suyal, PGT (Phy.) Kavita Soni, PGT (Bio.) Poonam, PGT (Chem.)
2.		Hamirpur	Rajesh Kumar, PGT (Chem.) Vikram Kumar, PGT (Bio.)
3.		Una	S.D. Singh, PGT (Phy.)

1	2	3	4
1.	Social Studies	Mandi	Mithilesh, PGT (Hist.)
2.		Kangra	S.K. Tiwari, PGT (Hist.)
3.		Shimla	Inderjeet Tomar, TGT A.K. Tripathi, PGT (Hist.)
1.	Urdu	Budgam	Ab. Aziz, TGT
2.		Pulwama	Contract Teacher
3.		Poonch	Contract Teacher
1.	Punjabi	Faridkot	Mandeep Kaur, TGT
2.		Ropar	Gurmeet Singh, TGT Harmohinder Kaur, TGT
3.		Ludhiana	R.K. Rana, TGT
Class XII			
1.	English	Gurdaspur	M.L. Gupta, PGT
2.		Bilaspur	Kumar Thakur, PGT
3.		Pulwama	Ravinder Kumar, PGT
1.	Hindi	Kupwara	Contract
2.		Gurdaspur	V.S. Saini, PGT
3.		Ludhiana	Ramchander, PGT
1.	Maths	Hamirpur	S.D. Sharma, PGT
2.		Ropar	Akhilesh Kumar Singh, PGT
3.		Shimla	Contract
1.	Physics	Chamba	Pratap Singh, PGT
2.		Budgam	Sunil Verma, PGT
3.		Una	D.K. Singh, PGT
1.	Chemistry	Hamirpur	Rajesh Kumar, PGT
2.		Srinagar	Contract
3.		Mandi	Rohit, PGT
1.	Biology	Ludhiana	Sunil Dogra, PGT
2.		Shimla	Yogesh, PGT
3.		Hamirpur	Vikram Kumar, PGT

1	2	3	4
1.	History	Solan	Hem Lata, PGT
2.		Sirmour	Dr. Dheeraj Kumar, PGT
3.		Muktsar	Raj Kumar, PGT
1.	Geography	Sirmour	Contract
2.		Kathua	Anil Kumar
3.		Chandigarh	Dr. Tariq Imran, PGT
1.	Economics	Kathua	Contract
2.		Baramulla	Md. Nadeem Khan, PGT
3.		Gurdaspur	Contract
1.	Accountancy	Shimla	Contract
2.		Gurdaspur	Manish Kaith, PGT
3.		Una	Contract
1.	Business Studies	Una	Contract
2.		Gurdaspur	Manish Kaith, PGT
3.		Sangrur	Chanchal Sarita, PGT

Statement-IV

*List of Teachers who were conferred the National Award to
Teachers on 5th September, 2009*

A. Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS)

PRIMARY

1. Shrimati Vinod Ahluwalia,
Head Mistress, O.C.F., Kendriya Vidyalaya,
Sector – 29, Chandigarh,
2. Shrimati T. Rajathi, Head Mistress,
Kendriya Vidyalaya, No.-I, Air Force Station,
Tambaram (East), Selaiyur (Post), Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
3. Ms. Poonam Kohli,
P.R.T., Kendriya Vidyalaya No.-2,
D.M.W., Patiala, Punjab.
4. Shri Naveen Kumar, P.R.T. (Primary Teacher),
Kendriya Vidyalaya No.-2, J.L.A., Cantt,
Distt. – Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh.

5. Shrimati Sunita Puranik, Primary Teacher,
Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 1, Indore, 2nd Shift,
Residency Club Road, Distt. — Indore, Madhya Pradesh,
6. Ms. Anusuya Srinivasan, Primary Teacher,
Kendriya Vidyalaya Hebbal,
Sadashivanagar Post Office, Distt. — Bangalore, Karnataka.

SPECIAL CATEGORY

1. Dr. Honey Arya, P.R.T.,
Kendriya Vidyalaya Sector-31,
Chandigarh, Chandigarh.
2. Shrimati Kusum Kumari, P.R.T.,
Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 2,
Air Force Station Hindan,
Distt. — Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.

SECONDARY

1. Dr. (Mrs.) S.P. Shergill, Principal,
Kendriya Vidyalaya, AFS, High Grounds,
Distt. — Chandigarh, Chandigarh.
2. Shrimati Anita Narula, P.G.T. (Geography),
Kendriya Vidyalaya Moscow,
C/o Embassy of India, 6-8, Voronilsovo Polye,
Moscow, Russia.
3. Shri Asok Kumar V., PGT (Maths),
Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 1,
Panambur, Mangalore, Karnataka.
4. Shri S.P. Singh, TGT (Hindi),
Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 1,
G.C.F. Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.
5. Shri S.S. Murthy, T.G.T. Sanskrit,
Kendriya Vidyalaya, Malkapuram,
Gandhigram Post, Nausenabaugh,
Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

SPECIAL CATEGORY (SECONDARY)

1. Shri B. Sathyanarayana, T.G.T. (Social Science),
Kendriya Vidyalaya, Arsikere Road, Near RTO,
Distt. — Hassan, Karnataka.
2. Shri Bal Krishna Mishra, PGT English,
Kendriya Vidyalaya Ambikapur,
PO Raghavpuri, Ajirna Distt. Surguja,
Chhattishgarh — 497 001.

B. Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti

PRIMARY

1. Kumari Gita Bora, Art Teacher,
Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Dabhasemar,
Distt. — Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh.

SECONDARY

1. Shrimati Rashmi Mishra, P.G.T. (English),
Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, At. -Kalamati, PO-Goshala,
Distt. — Sambalpur, Orissa.

SPECIAL CATEGORY (SECONDARY)

1. Shri G.V.S. Nageswara Rao, SUPW Teacher,
Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Kommadi,
Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

Pay fixation anomaly cases of Fifth Pay Commission in KVs

965. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many pay fixation anomaly cases of Fifth Pay Commission relating to Kendriya Vidyalayas of Delhi Region have been left unresolved and returned to schools and Sixth Pay Commission's anomaly cases are being called;

(b) if so, the details of Fifth Pay Commission's pending anomaly cases of Delhi Region, Kendriya Vidyalaya-wise;

(c) the reasons for not resolving such anomaly cases so far;

(d) whether any responsibility has been fixed and action taken against officials responsible for the delay; and

(e) the steps proposed to resolve such cases and by when these cases will be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) has informed that consequent upon implementation of the Fifth Pay Commission, a number of cases of pay anomaly were reported from the Delhi Region of KVS and were disposed of. However, when the pay of an employee is stepped up after review, it is liable to give rise to discontentment of some other employees and may give rise to more anomaly cases.

(b) 16 cases of Trained Graduate Teachers (TGTs) working in the following Kendriya Vidyalayas of Delhi Region, are pending:—

Name of KV	No. of case(s) pending
Noida	01
Pragati Vihar	01
Arjungarh	01
Sainik Vihar	01
BSF Chhawla	01
No. 2 Delhi Cantt	01
No. 3 Delhi Cantt	01
Sec. 5 Dwarka	01
No. 1 AFS Gurgaon	01
NFC Vigyan Vihar	01
Paschim Vihar	02
Pitampura	01
Sec. 8 Rohini	01
AFS Tughlakabad	01
Sec. 4 R.K. Puram	01

(c) The main reason is the non-receipt of the required documents from the employees concerned in a single lot.

(d) and (e) KVS has informed that most of the cases of anomaly in fixation of pay have been resolved and no single individual is responsible for the delay. In order to settle the pending 16 cases of pay anomaly, a special drive is being organized in the first week of December, 2009 and all the cases are expected to be resolved within 3 months.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

†966. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of budget allocated for various States under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) after the year 2005;

(b) whether Government is considering the proposals submitted by all States;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government has considered assessment of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(f) if so, the steps taken by Government over this assessment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Details of Central Budget support released to States/UTs for implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme from 2005-06 onwards is enclosed as Statement (*See below*).

(b) to (d) Annual Works Plan and Budget proposals of all the 35 States/UTs are approved on annual basis in the beginning of financial year for implementation of SSA programme.

(e) and (f) The implementation of SSA programme is reviewed on six monthly basis by a Joint Review Mission (JRM) comprising educational experts and representatives from International Development Financial Institutions. So far ten such reviews have taken place. The 10th JRM held from 20th to 31st July, 2009 has noted the progress towards the SSA goals with considerable satisfaction.

Statement

*GOI releases during 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and
2009-10 under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	GOI Release				
		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (as on 17.11.2009)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37999.00	45245.56	28100.00	71031.78	13569.90
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4442.51	7143.74	11043.55	13683.64	4117.00
3.	Assam	13850.00	51464.72	28903.62	42740.91	42480.00
4.	Bihar	32399.56	107744.39	135417.64	186158.47	45000.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	30184.39	50182.20	46787.76	51853.86	46892.60
6.	Goa	728.12	724.12	899.57	804.41	550.58
7.	Gujarat	15084.84	14806.97	22658.26	25432.47	8031.73
8.	Haryana	10196.55	25647.12	14220.00	20546.87	10000.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7614.66	6250.75	7638.30	8552.99	8608.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	18530.55	22083.37	20063.27	20532.59	30000.00
11.	Jharkhand	28568.50	51515.00	80748.99	69041.09	15000.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Karnataka	28303.78	54206.98	40604.78	51578.19	44220.60
13.	Kerala	5939.00	6382.00	8323.42	10854.04	6039.50
14.	Madhya Pradesh	77173.12	110879.68	86769.94	85569.35	100249.00
15.	Maharashtra	50235.31	52158.56	45729.96	67386.02	48023.00
16.	Manipur	3208.44	9.24	1850.95	321.21	500.00
17.	Meghalaya	1921.00	4294.00	9359.63	9440.36	8383.00
18.	Mizoram	2559.15	3441.69	4212.02	5112.59	2645.00
19.	Nagaland	2323.01	2315.20	4596.00	2867.87	1413.00
20.	Orissa	32792.50	44010.95	62853.68	49080.9	63061.60
21.	Punjab	14683.89	12879.92	10493.88	13808.1	8973.00
22.	Rajasthan	60313.43	75809.82	101307.20	108326.8	112724.00
23.	Sikkim	1062.50	402.14	1036.25	1075.31	986.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	35329.53	37329.65	53125.09	45414.47	48366.00
25.	Tripura	7070.19	5330.01	4178.49	6464.12	4273.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	182799.00	206654.00	204758.00	212884.89	178448.30
27.	Uttaranchal	10004.00	16934.00	13162.80	11444.45	13997.29
28.	West Bengal	34199.79	61736.80	90571.68	65169.37	94142.00
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	163.00	419.62	187.10	780.54	312.44
30.	Chandigarh	350.00	300.00	934.95	820.52	826.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	100.00	418.54	104.63	350.18
32.	Daman and Diu	111.91				69.00
33.	Delhi	1100.00	4230.24	1671.55	1529.01	1163.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	87.47		70	41.00
35.	Pondicherry	529.40		577.07	638.59	273.96
TOTAL :		751770.73	1083719.91	1143203.94	1261120.41	963729.68
36.	National Component	952.00	1115.04	1328.58	1459.41	1117.89
GRAND TOTAL :		752722.73	1084834.95	1144532.52	1262579.82	964847.57

Functioning of private universities

†967. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has prepared any plan to rein in private universities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any plan has also been prepared to check financial irregularities in these private universities; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Universities established by State Legislatures without public funding (as private universities) are regulated under the University Grants Commission (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003.

(c) and (d) The UGC regulations referred to in para (a) and (b) also provide that the admission procedure and fixation of fees shall be in accordance with the norms/guidelines prescribed by the UGC and other concerned statutory bodies.

Review of functioning of AICTE

968. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is reviewing the functioning of AICTE;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of new framework of the regulatory body, which would replace AICTE?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Government is reviewing the functioning of the AICTE on a continuous basis with the objective of bringing in transparency in its functioning, reforms in governance and removing discrepancies in procedures. The need for an overarching regulatory body in higher, technical and professional education has been accepted by the Government as one of its priorities.

Review Panel on Deemed Universities

969. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Review Panel on Deemed Universities has slammed Deemed University status of many Universities as they are run like private family business;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the reaction of Government to the findings of the panel; and

(c) whether Government proposes to strip these Universities of Deemed University status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Government has constituted a Committee to review the functioning of the existing institutions 'deemed to be universities' to ensure that standards of higher education and research are maintained by such institutions so as to justify their continuance as institutions 'deemed to be universities'. The Review Committee has submitted its report, which is under active consideration of the Government.

Charging of capitation fee by private unaided schools

970. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to ensure due compliance of the Supreme Court's Orders passed in August this year, barring private unaided schools from charging capitation fee and preventing any hike in regular fees for profit;

(b) whether Government has come across any case involving charging of capitation fee or enhancing fees for profits by such schools; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The affiliation Bye-laws of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and the guidelines of affiliation of Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) provide, *inter-alia*, that the fees charged by the school should be commensurate with the facilities provided. Further these guidelines prohibit the school to charge capitation fees in any form or to accept donations for the purpose of admission of pupils. The Boards receive sporadic complaints regarding enhancement of fees, charging of capitation fee etc. by the private unaided schools. These are examined and appropriate action as per the provisions of guidelines of affiliation is taken. The Department of Education of Government of NCT of Delhi has not received any complaint during the current year about charging of capitation fee.

Establishment of new IITs

971. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to establish three new IITs in the country with foreign collaborations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the details of funds allocated by Government for the purpose; and
- (d) by when these IITs are likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Government have established eight new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) in the States of Andhra Pradesh (Hyderabad), Bihar (Patna), Gujarat (Gandhinagar), Orissa (Bhubaneswar), Punjab (Ropar), Himachal Pradesh (Mandi), Madhya Pradesh (Indore) and Rajasthan for which an amount of Rs. 2000.00 crores have been earmarked during the Eleventh Plan period. The Government is also exploring the possibilities of collaboration with the Governments of the United Kingdom, France and Japan in respect of the new IITs at Punjab, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh respectively.

(d) While sessions in the new IITs in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Orissa and Punjab commenced in 2008, those in the remaining two new IITs in Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh started in 2009.

Implementation of SSA

972. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is spending funds to the tune of crores of rupees annually under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for raising infrastructure in Government schools;
- (b) if so, the details of funds utilized for the purpose, State-wise;
- (c) whether some Government schools, which had been upgraded from primary to middle standard in 2000-01 are still running in the open in Himachal Pradesh, and as a sequel, students are forced to sit under trees in scorching heat; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government for effective implementation of scheme for raising infrastructure in Government schools in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Government of India provides funds to States/UTs for construction of elementary school buildings, additional classrooms, drinking water and toilet facilities under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). The details of funds utilized for creation and upgradation of physical infrastructure in elementary schools under SSA, State-wise, is enclosed as Statement (*See below*).

- (c) No, Madam.
- (d) In view of above, question does not arise.

Statement

*Details of expenditure on creation and upgradation of physical
infrastructure in elementary schools (2003-04 to 2008-09)*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	State	Expenditure
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	1111.04
2.	Andhra Pradesh	129049.05
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	16349.98
4.	Assam	95833.68
5.	Bihar	277781.89
6.	Chandigarh	1313.33
7.	Chhattisgarh	119346.61
8.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	614.88
9.	Daman and Diu	135.43
10.	Delhi	4632.81
11.	Goa	1121.12
12.	Gujarat	59922.89
13.	Haryana	38864.01
14.	Himachal Pradesh	16570.09
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	39386.06
16.	Jharkhand	174174.95
17.	Karnataka	124069.52
18.	Kerala	17329.78
19.	Lakshadweep	171.94
20.	Madhya Pradesh	253830.65
21.	Maharashtra	143378.77
22.	Manipur	3092.85
23.	Meghalaya	13886.63
24.	Mizoram	6029.95

1	2	3
25.	Nagaland	7799.35
26.	Orissa	136420.23
27.	Puducherry	1124.91
28.	Punjab	35414.77
29.	Rajasthan	166793.81
30.	Sikkim	1180.60
31.	Tamil Nadu	108179.79
32.	Tripura	13066.54
33.	Uttar Pradesh	460790.37
34.	Uttarakhand	35106.35
35.	West Bengal	195288.41

Deemed university status

973. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of educational institutions which have deemed university status, State-wise;
- (b) the number of institutions which have excellent infrastructure;
- (c) the number of institutions which could not retain deemed status;
- (d) whether there are differences in reports regarding deemed university status between University Grants Commission and his Ministry; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Till date, a total of 130 (one hundred and thirty) institutions have been declared by the Central Government, under Section 3 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956, as Institutions 'Deemed-to-be-Universities'. The State-wise details are given below:—

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Number of institutions declared as 'Deemed to be Universities' under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	07
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	01

1	2	3
3.	Bihar	02
4.	Gujarat	02
5.	Haryana	05
6.	Jharkhand	02
7.	Karnataka	15
8.	Kerala	02
9.	Madhya Pradesh	03
10.	Maharashtra	21
11.	Orissa	02
12.	Puducherry	01
13.	Punjab	03
14.	Rajasthan	08
15.	Tamil Nadu	29
16.	Uttarakhand	04
17.	Uttar Pradesh	10
18.	West Bengal	01
19.	New Delhi	12

(b) to (e) The processes of review of existing institutions 'deemed to be universities', by the University Grants Commission (UGC) with regard to availability of infrastructure and faculty resources and by an independent Committee of Experts with regard to the justification of the continuance of such institutions, as directed by Government, are underway.

Arbitrary fee charged by private schools

†974. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government considers it legitimate for various private schools to charge the fee arbitrarily from parents/ guardians of students;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, whether Government has made any policy to decide the limits of fee structure;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The Affiliation Bye-Laws of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and Council for the Indian School Certificate Examination (CISCE) *inter-alia* prescribe the following:-

I. CBSE (Chapter 11, 11.1, 11.2 and 11.3)

- (i) Fees charged should be commensurate with the facilities provided by the institution. Fees should normally be charged under the heads prescribed by the Department of Education of the State/U.T. for schools of different categories. No capitation fee or voluntary donations for gaining admission in the school or for any other purpose should be charged/collected in the name of the school. In case of such malpractices, the Board may take drastic action leading to disaffiliation of the school.
- (ii) In case a student leaves the school for such compulsion as transfer of parents or for health reason or in case of death of the student before completion of the session, pro-rata return of quarterly/term/annual fees should be made.
- (iii) The unaided schools should consult parents through parents representatives before revising the fees. The fee should not be revised during the mid-session.

II. CISCE (Chapter-1, 6(a) and (b) of guidelines for affiliation:—

- (i) The fees charged by the School should be commensurate with the facilities provided. The tuition fees and other charges may be charges on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. Other fees may be levied in accordance with the requirements of the students.
- (ii) No school is allowed to charge capitation fees in any form or to accept donations for the purpose of admission of pupils.

Changes in CBSE examination system

975. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the examination system of CBSE has since been changed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) how the State Governments have reacted to these changes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has decided to introduce the following changes in the pattern of examination:—

- (i) There will be no class X Board examination *w.e.f.* 2011 for students studying in senior secondary schools affiliated to CBSE and who do not wish to move out of the CBSE system after Class X. However, the students studying in secondary schools affiliated to CBSE will, however, be required to appear in Board's external examination.

- (ii) Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) has been strengthened in all CBSE affiliated schools in Class IX with effect from October, 2009.
- (iii) Grading system has been introduced from class X Board Examination, 2010 of CBSE. Also grading system has been introduced for continuous and comprehensive evaluation for class IX from the academic session 2009-10.
- (c) The changes are applicable to CBSE only and are not meant for State Boards.

Establishment of IIMs

976. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria formulated by his Ministry for the establishment of Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs);
- (b) the number of IIMs that would be established in the country during this year and the financial proposal for this;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to establish an IIM in Orissa; and
- (d) if so, whether the site has been selected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Historically, Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) have been established in different parts of the country on the demand of academia, industry and public in general.

(b) In the first phase (2009-10), four IIMs at Raipur (Chhattisgarh), Rohtak (Haryana), Ranchi (Jharkhand) and Tiruchirappalli (Tamil Nadu) are proposed to be set up with a budget provision of Rs. 20.00 crore.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Uniform syllabus at high school level

977. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to make uniform syllabus at the high school level;
- (b) if so, by when it would be implemented; and
- (c) whether the courses of CBSE and ICSE are same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.

Restructuring of JEE

978. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to restructure the Joint Entrance Examination criteria;
- (b) whether Government has taken any action to check the mushrooming of JEE coaching industry; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Joint Admission Board (JAB), which consists of representatives from all the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian School of Mines (ISM), Dhanbad and Institute of Technology — Banaras Hindu University (IT-BHU) as well as a representative of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, make recommendations in respect of matters relating to the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE). A Review Committee has been set up by the JAB to give its recommendations regarding factoring in of class XII results on a percentile basis while deciding admissions into IITs. Integrating of class XII results with JEE results, would help reduce the dependence on coaching. Variation in the results of various Boards would be taken care of by following the cut-off marks on percentile basis.

Setting up of schools under PPP mode

979. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has a proposal to set up 2500 schools under the Public-Private-Partnership policy;
- (b) the details of this proposal and policy;
- (c) what would be the financial contribution of Government in this scheme; and
- (d) the role of Government in the management of such schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The Government has decided to set up 6,000 model schools at the block level at the rate of one school per block as benchmarks of excellence. Out of these, 2500 schools are to be set up in Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode in blocks other than educationally backward blocks. The modalities for setting up of these schools are yet to be finalized.

Vacant posts in universities

980. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of universities and colleges in the country as on October 31, 2007, State-wise;

(b) whether 30 per cent of the teaching and non-teaching posts in the country's Central and State Universities are lying vacant despite the efforts made by the Union Government;

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

(d) the number of vacant posts of lecturers and non-teaching categories in the academic year 2008-09, university-wise; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to fill up all these vacant posts both in the Central and State Universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Information in regard to Universities and Colleges is available in Library.

(b) and (c) Based on information collected by the UGC from a sample of 14 Central Universities and 40 State Universities, the percentage of vacancies in Central Universities for the category of Lecturers is 29%, for Readers 34%, for Professors 42% and percentage of vacant non-teaching posts in Central Universities range from 21% in Group 'D' to 28% in Group 'A'. In respect of State Universities, the status of vacant posts of Lecturers has been found to be 33%, for Readers 42%, for Professors 19% and in respect of non-teaching posts in State Universities, the vacancies range from 17% for Group 'D' and 27% for Group 'A' posts. One of the important reasons for posts lying vacant in State Universities has been the ban on recruitment to posts in States said to be due to lack of funds. Both, in respect of Central Universities as well as the State Universities, it may be generally stated that teaching as a career has been unable to attract suitable candidates due to comparatively more attractive remuneration in the other avenues in a growing economy.

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

(e) The age of superannuation in teaching posts has been increased from 62 years to 65 years and further selectively till the age of 70 years so as to prevent depletion of qualified teachers. Revised package of Pay Bands, perquisites and other benefits has been implemented, making it more attractive than salaries etc. for Civil Servants. This is expected to make teaching as a career more attractive to the youth. The Central Government also impresses upon State Governments to lift their ban, wherever it is so, on employment of teachers and persons in non-teaching posts.

Schools and hostels in minority dominated districts

981. SHRI AHMAD SAEED MALIHABADI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schools that have been established in the designated minority dominated districts of the country so far, district-wise;

(b) the number of hostels built therein specifically for the minority boys/girls, district-wise; and

(c) the total number of students who are living in those hostels, State-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), 9613 New Primary Schools and 10875 New Upper Primary Schools have been sanctioned in 121 districts with substantial minority population during 2006-07 –2009-10 for the minority boys and girls.

(b) Ministry of Minority Affairs has undertaken Multi-sectoral Development Programme for the minority concentration districts *w.e.f.* 2008-09. Under this programme, construction of hostels has been approved in principle. However, formal sanction will take some time.

(c) In view of (b) above, it does not arise.

Training to SC/ST students for higher studies

982. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is giving any training to students who want to pursue higher studies especially for the categories like SC/ST free-of-cost;

(b) if so, the details thereof especially in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years compared to other States, State-wise; and

(c) the funds released and spent during the last three years especially in Andhra Pradesh compared to other States, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) According to the information supplied by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the following schemes form components of the Merged Schemes in the Eleventh Plan for which block grants are provided by UGC to universities and colleges:—

- (i) Scheme for establishment of Remedial Coaching classes at undergraduate and postgraduate level for students from Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs) from the non-creamy layer and Minorities.
- (ii) Coaching classes for entry into services for SCs, STs, OBCs (Non-creamy layer) and Minorities.
- (iii) Coaching for preparation of the National Eligibility Test (NET) for SCs, STs, OBCs (Non-creamy layer) and Minorities.

In addition to the above schemes, UGC is also providing assistance to students directly for pursuit of higher studies through scholarships and fellowships, namely (i) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for SC candidates for pursuing M. Phil/Ph.D, funds for which are provided by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, (ii) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST

candidates for pursuing M.Phil/Ph.D., funds for which are provided by Ministry of Tribal Affairs (iii) Post-Doctoral Fellowship for SC or ST candidates for pursuing Post-Doctoral Research in their respective thrust areas, (iv) postgraduate Scholarship for professional courses for SC or ST Candidates for pursuing their postgraduate in professional Courses. However it may be stated that these schemes are scholarship schemes and do not envisage free of cost education for the beneficiary students.

(b) and (c) As the UGC has been unable to provide the required information on the details of students benefitted and the funds released State-wise in respect of the Schemes for the benefit of the SCs and STs, the information will be collected and laid separately on the Table of the House.

Policy to achieve Millennium Development Goal

983. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a need to have a forward looking policy to improve the nature, quality and access to education to achieve the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of education for all by 2015;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made so far in this direction especially in Andhra Pradesh for the people like muslim minorities, SCs, STs, and OBCs; and

(d) the funds released in this direction so far to achieve the MDG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) It is the constant endeavour of the Government to improve access, enrolment, equity and quality of education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen, through various initiatives, including the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Mid Day Meal Scheme and the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Teacher Education. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 was enacted in August, 2009 to provide for free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years.

(c) The achievements in elementary education are indicated below:—

Indicator	2001-02	2006-07
1	2	3
Gross Enrolment Ratio (classes I-VIII)	82.4	96.92
Dropout Rate (class I-VIII)	54.6	46.03
No. of out-of-school children (in crore)	3.20	0.45 (in 2008)
Gender Parity index (class I-VIII)	0.81	0.92

1	2	3
Access to primary school (within 1 km)	86.96% (in 2002)	99% (in 2008)
Access to upper primary school (within 3 km)	78.11% (in 2002)	90% (in 2008)
Gross Enrolment Ratio (classes I-VIII) for SCs	85.6	105.69
Gross Enrolment Ratio (classes I-VIII) for STs	88.9	109.48

In respect of Andhra Pradesh the achievements are as under:—

Indicator	2001-02	2006-07
Gross Enrolment Ratio (classes I-VIII)	82.47	88.13
Dropout Rate (classes I-VIII)	63.09	56.74
Gender Parity Index (class I-VIII)	0.81	0.99
Gross Enrolment Ratio (classes I-VIII) for SCs	97.07	94.57
Gross Enrolment Ratio (classes I-VIII) for STs	83.58	94.44

Information on the above indicators in respect of Muslims minorities and OBCs is not maintained centrally.

(d) The expenditure incurred by the Central Government during the last two years is as under:—

(in Rs crore)

Scheme	2007-03	2008-09
Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan	11,477.39	12,643.17
Mid Day Meal Scheme	5,835.44	6,688.02
Teacher Education Scheme	315.00	253.71

Setting up of HRD centres

984. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to set up HRD centres;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Ministry of Human Resource Development is already executing a number of schemes/programmes for the development of human resources such as Saakshar Bharat, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, National Programme for Mid-Day Meal in schools, Rashtriya Madhyamik

Shiksha Abhiyan, Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarsas, National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology, Sub-Mission on Polytechnics under the coordinated action for skill development, as also programmes for major expansion of access to higher educational institutions alongwith equity and excellence.

Regulation of admission, fee, etc. in deemed universities

985. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether is a fact that Government has decided to regulate admission, fees, etc. in deemed universities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the names of deemed universities covered by above decision and those likely to be covered in next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The University Grants Commission (UGC), has, at its meeting on 22nd June, 2009 approved the UGC (Fee Structure in Institutions Deemed-to-be-Universities) Regulations, 2009 and UGC (Admission in Professional Programmes of Study at Institutions Deemed-to-be Universities) Regulations, 2009, which are at present with the Government for consideration.

'Sakshar Bharat' programme

986. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently launched a new adult literacy programme named 'Sakshar Bharat' to achieve higher level of literacy in the country;
- (b) if so, the funds proposed to be allocated towards this programme, State/ UT-wise; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to bring in teachers for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per approved guidelines of the scheme, only such districts that have adult female literacy rate of 50% or less as per 2001 Census are eligible for coverage under the programme and they will be allocated funds as per approved financial norms subject to budgetary allocations and guidelines laid down by National Literacy Mission Authority.

(c) 'Saakshar Bharat' envisages effective link with the school education system so that teachers who can provide academic support at the village level are enlisted as collaborating partners to complement the panchayats. Teachers would motivate non-literate parents to enroll

as learners, and motivate educated youth in the village to volunteer as teachers for the campaign. The most important function that they can perform would be that of evaluation and assessment of the learners.

Entry of foreign universities

987. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to allow entry of foreign universities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any proposal to improve the standard of Indian Universities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) A law for regulating the entry and operations of foreign educational institutions is under consideration of the Government.

(c) to (e) Improvement in the quality of higher educational institutions including the universities is one of the objectives of Eleventh Plan. Several schemes, for improvement in quality of universities have been included in the Five Year Plan which, among others, seek to strengthen existing universities, provide assistance for strengthening basic sciences and other research in universities, incentivise State Governments to invest in Higher Education, and establish new institutions like new Central Universities, and Innovation Universities. State Governments are also encouraged to establish model colleges of excellence in districts with lower than national GER and also new State Universities. In addition, pay and remuneration of teaching faculty have been revised upwards and have been made more attractive so that quality of teaching faculty is strengthened through induction of talented persons. Schemes of expansion as well as strengthening and creation of universities aim towards improvement of academic infrastructure like libraries, laboratories, class rooms, etc. Academic Staff Colleges (numbering 57) funded by the UGC are also geared to improve capacity of in-service teachers through regular programmes.

NABET accreditation for schools

988. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Accreditation Board for Education and Training (NABET) has commenced rating of schools on the parameters of infrastructure, support mechanism and school governance to raise the country's educational system to global standards;

(b) whether NABET accreditation is granted at three levels, primary, secondary and higher secondary and if so, how many schools have so far been granted accreditation by NABET;

(c) whether NABET accreditation will be reviewed every year to keep it valid and in force; and

(d) whether CBSE and ICSE are likely to insist on NABET accreditation for its affiliated schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Quality Council of India has informed that National Accreditation Board for Education and Training (NABET) has accredited 9 higher secondary schools based on standard for quality school governance. However, NABET is not an organisation under this Ministry and details of activities of NABET are not maintained in the Ministry.

(d) The Council for the Indian School Certificate Examination (CISCE) has informed that they have no plans to insist on NABET accreditation for their affiliated schools.

Consultations with States for reforms in education

989. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the issues which Government has discussed with the State Governments in the last three months for the purpose of bringing in reforms in education;

(b) the reactions in brief of various State Governments on each of the issues, State-wise; and

(c) the decision of Government on each of these issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) is the highest advisory body to advise the Central and State Governments in the field of education. The CABE also acts as a forum for coordination and exchange of views between Central and State Governments/Union Territories and Non-Governmental Agencies and eminent persons from different walks of life on education policy and progress. The CABE consists of Education Ministers of States/UTs and eminent educationists.

CABE unanimously endorsed the general need for reforms at all levels of education and felt that while there may be different view points on the pace and process of reforms, there was unanimity on its direction in the interest of children who are India's most precious assets. Members reiterated their commitment to a meaningful partnership between Central and State Governments, Non-Government and civil society organizations in the national endeavour for the future of children in our country. CABE emphasized the need for all States to modify their curriculum, syllabi and textbooks on the basis of National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 2005,

so that all children in the country have access to child-centric, constructivist teaching and learning process. CAGE emphasized that curriculum and textbooks should be fully in line with constitutional values and child centered pedagogies. CAGE endorsed the necessity of a core curriculum in science and mathematics at secondary and higher secondary levels across all Education Boards in the country, so as to provide a level playing field to all students to join professional courses. CAGE noted the efforts of CBSE to introduce a grading system in lieu of marks for its Class X examination from next year with the objective of reducing unhealthy competition, and thereby reduce stress, and suggested to the States that they explore the possibility of following suit. CAGE was unanimous that there is a need to reduce examination stress among students. CAGE noted the attempt of CBSE to make Class Xth examination optional for students who will continue in the same school in Class-XI, while replacing the same with an efficient comprehensive and continuous evaluation (CCE) system so that standards of learning outcome are not compromised.

CAGE approved the proposal for an autonomous overarching authority for higher education and research with its policy related functions being distinct from regulatory functions—some States felt that there should be scope for the involvement of States. The Task Force constituted to follow up on the proposed National Commission for Higher Education and Research would consult States in this regard. CAGE also approved the proposal of a self-selecting Collegium of eminent persons for greater objectivity and assistance to search committees in the selection of Chairperson and Members of the proposed National Commission and in the selection of Vice Chancellors and other eminent academic and research positions. CAGE endorsed the need for a law to prevent, prohibit and punish malpractices in higher education — some States felt that the scope of the proposed law should be widened to include all sectors of education, and it was explained that the present proposal was in keeping with the legislative competence of Parliament. CAGE approved mandatory assessment and accreditation in higher education — the proposed law should take into consideration the concerns expressed by some of the States with regard to the autonomy of the processes of accreditation.

Adarsh Vidyalayas for tribal areas in Madhya Pradesh

†990. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted any proposal for opening Adarsh Vidyalayas for higher education in tribal areas and for providing full grant for this purpose and to further provide half of the amount required to run these institutes till the end of present Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether the said proposal is still pending and whether any time-frame has been fixed to take up this proposal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) While there is no such proposal from the State Government under consideration of the Central Government, Eleventh Plan has a scheme for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

establishing Model Colleges in 374 districts, including districts in predominantly tribal areas where the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) is lower than the national GER. The extent of Central assistance is limited to 1/3rd of the capital investment under the scheme excepting districts falling under the special category States where the assistance is on 1:1 basis. It may also be stated that a Central University focusing on tribal areas and tribal population, namely, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, has been established through an Act of Parliament with Amarkantak in the State of Madhya Pradesh, as its headquarters. The State Government has been requested to provide the necessary land for its administrative headquarters at Amarkantak and also for suitable area for establishing the academic campus near Amarkantak, free of cost and, at the earliest. The University, meanwhile, has started functioning from its temporary premises in Amarkantak, which has been made available by the State.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Enrolment ratio of minorities

991. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the enrolment ratio of minorities, SCs/STs and General categories in primary, secondary and higher education in last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that enrolment ratio of minorities is much below the national average and the average of other categories; and

(c) if so, the efforts made or proposed to be made to improve the enrolment ratio of minorities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) State-wise enrolment ratio of students of all categories, SCs and STs for the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 in primary (Classes I-V), upper primary (Classes VI-VIII), secondary/senior secondary (Classes IX-XII) and higher education is given in the enclosed Statement-I, II and III respectively (*See below*). The religion-wise data of enrolment ratio is not maintained by the Ministry.

(c) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) provides for the following targeted interventions in order to reach Muslim children:—

- Focus on provision of schools in Muslim Minority Concentration districts.
- Support Madarsas and Maktabas by providing EGS/AIE facility for regular curriculum transaction.
- Provide for Urdu text books for Urdu medium schools and also for those teaching Urdu as a subject.
- Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) have been sanctioned in 427 blocks with Muslim population above 20%.
- KGBV guidelines provide for two Urdu teachers, if there is a demand for Urdu as a medium of instruction in those schools.

Statement-I

Gross Enrolment Ratio of all Categories' Children

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2004-05				2005-06				2006-07			
		Classes (I-V)	Classes (VI-VIII)	Classes (IX-XII)	Hr. Edu.	Classes (I-V)	Classes (VI-VIII)	Classes (IX-XII)	Hr. Edu.	Classes (I-V)	Classes (VI-VIII)	Classes (IX-XII)	Hr. Edu.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	96.7	71.8	47.7	11.5	94.9	73.9	48.9	14.3	96.5	75.5	49.7	16.2
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	123.1	75.5	42.4	5.9	132.2	81.1	42.6	7.2	136.6	84.7	47.0	8.4
3.	Assam	105.2	69.7	32.2	6.9	107.1	72.8	32.1	6.8	98.4	65.6	31.6	66.7
4.	Bihar	83.8	32.4	32.2	6.0	87.2	34.3	16.0	5.9	94.7	39.0	18.0	5.9
5.	Chhattisgarh	131.8	79.9	37.3	7.5	122.3	69.1	31.5	8.7	123.2	87.6	33.7	8.7
6.	Goa	110.1	100.6	57.8	13.4	107.7	98.0	56.5	13.0	119.6	93.6	56.1	12.6
7.	Gujarat	118.6	73.8	38.6	10.7	119.4	74.2	39.5	10.1	120.1	75.4	41.2	7.9
8.	Haryana	82.2	76.4	43.6	10.6	79.6	74.8	42.2	11.2	88.2	80.3	45.9	12.8
9.	Himachal Pradesh	108.9	108.5	131.3	14.1	108.9	107.8	131.5	14.2	113.1	107.9	78.8	15.9
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	83.7	60.3	35.4	6.5	100.5	64.0	35.7	12.6	103.1	64.9	35.2	10.4
11.	Jharkhand	94.8	43.4	14.8	7.0	105.2	45.8	15.5	8.7	111.7	52.3	14.9	8.5
12.	Karnataka	107.1	85.5	46.4	11.6	106.2	84.6	45.2	13.8	107.0	88.8	51.7	15.5
13.	Kerala	93.6	98.2	60.1	9.1	93.9	97.9	64.6	11.6	93.4	98.9	72.1	11.8
14.	Madhya Pradesh	132.2	83.3	35.7	11.0	143.7	91.7	37.6	13.8	150.4	96.0	42.1	13.7
15.	Maharashtra	110.4	98.1	55.6	13.2	112.3	100.6	56.8	13.9	113.6	101.5	55.5	14.7

16. Manipur	151.7	94.7	48.6	13.3	157.9	97.7	49.4	12.6	163.6	102.6	50.7	13.0
17. Meghalaya	147.6	76.4	33.3	11.6	162.4	86.3	35.7	14.0	181.8	101.8	38.6	14.6
18. Mizoram	127.5	81.8	44.7	10.4	169.1	118.0	41.9	11.7	158.9	86.7	46.1	11.1
19. Nagaland	87.9	55.6	21.3	4.7	88.8	60.3	24.1	9.5	90.2	60.8	23.7	9.3
20. Orissa	129.7	74.1	43.4	8.6	118.1	64.6	42.8	9.3	114.1	74.8	41.6	9.9
21. Punjab	77.2	65.4	39.6	10.2	77.5	67.5	39.8	12.0	81.3	69.0	39.9	12.9
22. Rajasthan	121.2	70.7	33.1	6.0	121.7	74.1	34.3	7.4	122.4	79.6	35.6	7.7
23. Sikkim	143.6	66.7	33.3	9.6	151.1	74.4	34.8	12.0	144.1	73.2	33.2	15.4
24. Tamil Nadu	118.4	107.0	62.1	11.5	120.1	106.8	63.8	16.4	117.8	109.2	67.4	20.1
25. Tripura	131.0	78.2	38.9	6.2	143.3	82.5	39.9	6.5	143.1	86.2	41.0	6.9
26. Uttar Pradesh	107.5	52.4	36.3	8.1	110.6	53.0	35.9	9.3	113.7	53.6	35.5	9.8
27. Uttarakhand	117.7	88.1	58.0	13.0	119.9	89.9	62.0	15.7	122.3	92.1	61.3	16.5
28. West Bengal	112.1	66.5	31.4	8.1	104.9	66.7	35.5	8.2	102.8	70.9	34.4	8.8
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	108.8	106.5	49.0	5.9	101.6	103.5	51.4	6.7	106.0	103.1	51.6	6.5
30. Chandigarh	74.0	68.6	54.7	37.0	79.3	67.7	56.5	41.4	89.5	73.4	57.5	37.2
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	134.5	79.0	38.9	2.0	143.7	83.4	42.1	0.0	158.5	88.9	37.7	0.0
32. Daman and Diu	136.0	116.6	69.5	2.4	135.0	125.4	79.9	4.0	136.6	118.5	70.4	3.1
33. Delhi	94.4	87.6	52.3	37.2	115.1	93.7	52.5	46.4	105.8	93.3	56.2	44.5
34. Lakshadweep	58.8	58.7	46.0	0.0	62.3	62.2	47.7	0.0	59.9	59.1	44.4	3.1
35. Puducherry	131.6	108.2	76.1	17.3	134.3	107.1	79.2	24.0	142.4	108.0	78.5	23.6
INDIA	107.8	69.9	39.9	10.0	109.4	71.0	40.4	11.6	111.4	73.8	41.1	12.2

Statement-II

Gross Enrolment Ratio of SC Categories' Children

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2004-05				2005-06				2006-07			
		Classes (I-V)	Classes (VI-VIII)	Classes (IX-XII)	Hr. Edu.	Classes (I-V)	Classes (VI-VIII)	Classes (IX-XII)	Hr. Edu.	Classes (I-V)	Classes (VI-VIII)	Classes (IX-XII)	Hr. Edu.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	108.0	76.8	55.3	8.3	103.8	78.5	55.8	11.5	104.4	79.7	56.4	13.1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	161.6	115.2	62.9	7.1	153.1	119.0	62.1	5.7	148.3	103.9	61.9	5.48
4.	Bihar	80.2	27.6	62.9	5.1	86.8	31.5	10.5	4.6	90.8	40.8	11.9	4.4
5.	Chhattisgarh	148.6	91.2	43.7	7.3	157.4	100.0	45.6	12.0	201.2	127.8	51.1	11.9
6.	Goa	105.8	44.8	33.9	9.5	108.7	56.3	17.1	9.5	134.7	81.9	35.5	11.9
7.	Gujarat	156.9	97.0	41.6	9.5	157.7	98.3	43.7	12.1	158.8	97.9	44.0	8.4
8.	Haryana	102.1	75.2	31.1	5.3	107.8	72.7	31.4	5.3	111.0	86.5	38.7	7.0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	121.7	110.6	56.9	7.4	120.6	110.4	66.1	6.8	122.9	110.2	65.9	7.9
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	117.5	96.7	57.3	0.1	113.1	75.3	38.4	7.0	116.5	77.9	37.9	7.1
11.	Jharkhand	92.2	40.8	12.6	3.2	110.6	43.4	15.5	2.9	143.0	54.8	15.7	2.7
12.	Karnataka	114.9	85.7	44.2	8.1	115.9	87.2	43.9	9.5	114.7	91.5	50.6	12.0
13.	Kerala	107.1	104.0	57.4	8.1	107.8	102.8	59.6	10.5	108.3	105.3	70.0	9.7
14.	Madhya Pradesh	146.9	94.8	35.3	8.9	159.4	102.7	37.7	13.5	166.4	107.6	50.2	19.3
15.	Maharashtra	148.6	130.7	73.1	12.4	151.2	133.4	74.4	14.8	152.9	134.0	73.2	14.5

16. Manipur	141.5	133.9	59.3	13.7	145.9	138.2	92.1	14.5	156.8	152.6	83.7	—
17. Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18. Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19. Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20. Orissa	138.6	61.2	29.5	2.8	121.0	66.6	29.1	3.2	134.2	82.5	31.0	4.2
21. Punjab	110.5	74.0	32.4	3.2	110.6	80.1	32.9	4.9	114.4	82.6	34.5	6.1
22. Rajasthan	126.7	65.5	25.0	4.0	127.3	69.4	26.0	5.1	131.3	75.1	28.6	5.6
23. Sikkim	155.4	79.0	42.2	5.7	160.0	89.8	21.5	7.9	149.2	76.0	22.0	10.1
24. Tamil Nadu	106.2	94.1	52.3	5.8	121.8	117.8	70.0	8.3	136.3	84.8	74.9	12.2
25. Tripura	149.3	78.9	43.8	5.5	157.2	98.5	38.9	6.2	158.2	99.5	40.5	6.2
26. Uttar Pradesh	111.3	50.1	23.0	7.4	114.4	50.7	23.2	8.7	117.7	51.3	23.3	9.9
27. Uttarakhand	147.3	116.5	47.0	6.3	152.2	116.7	47.6	8.7	158.4	118.3	46.1	10.7
28. West Bengal	113.4	58.9	26.0	4.7	114.4	59.5	28.9	5.0	119.1	68.0	31.3	4.7
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Chandigarh	49.8	38.9	17.1	12.6	44.9	41.7	22.1	15.5	46.1	42.7	21.7	14.7
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	169.8	130.7	59.6	—
32. Daman and Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	182.0	126.0	120.8	5.0
33. Delhi	66.5	57.9	22.6	9.9	76.3	54.4	24.9	14.6	70.4	52.9	26.8	7.7
34. Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35. Puducherry	123.8	109.6	70.9	16.3	128.5	104.9	69.4	21.6	141.7	110.5	71.0	20.7
INDIA :	115.3	70.2	34.7	6.7	118.6	73.5	36.7	8.4	123.8	75.6	39.0	9.4

Statement-III

Gross Enrolment Ratio of ST Categories' Children

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2004-05				2005-06				2006-07			
		Classes (I-V)	Classes (VI-VIII)	Classes (IX-XII)	Hr. Edu.	Classes (I-V)	Classes (VI-VIII)	Classes (IX-XII)	Hr. Edu.	Classes (I-V)	Classes (VI-VIII)	Classes (IX-XII)	Hr. Edu.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	104.0	66.9	44.0	5.2	101.1	74.3	47.1	8.5	102.3	78.6	50.3	12.5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	131.7	80.4	44.2	7.7	139.2	85.4	43.4	9.1	145.1	88.6	46.4	10.9
3.	Assam	113.7	95.0	41.6	6.4	111.8	100.9	41.4	5.9	97.8	81.6	40.0	5.7
4.	Bihar	72.2	21.1	41.6	6.4	85.5	30.3	14.6	5.2	97.3	36.4	16.9	4.7
5.	Chhattisgarh	127.8	69.6	30.6	7.3	126.7	67.6	27.3	4.1	132.8	75.0	25.7	3.9
6.	Goa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Gujarat	129.0	64.5	29.2	6.1	129.9	65.6	30.2	7.3	130.6	67.5	34.2	6.1
8.	Haryana	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	139.0	127.5	69.8	15.8	140.9	140.1	86.2	18.3	146.0	141.2	88.5	18.7
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	101.3	79.8	22.0	0.1	100.9	53.4	23.1	8.0	103.7	54.3	22.8	7.9
11.	Jharkhand	111.8	45.8	13.6	3.0	122.7	50.9	15.3	1.5	131.7	56.2	14.8	1.9
12.	Karnataka	112.9	81.9	39.6	4.4	111.8	83.2	38.9	5.4	108.1	86.7	44.7	8.8
13.	Kerala	116.0	98.5	41.1	7.8	120.8	98.3	49.8	11.8	124.0	104.4	60.9	9.7
14.	Madhya Pradesh	147.8	72.6	18.3	4.3	160.7	84.7	20.2	8.8	167.4	86.5	25.5	13.8
15.	Maharashtra	130.5	80.3	35.4	3.2	132.8	82.2	36.1	8.3	134.3	83.0	35.1	8.4

16. Manipur	143.2	69.0	30.6	12.3	147.8	72.6	30.7	11.4	153.6	74.4	31.3	11.7
17. Meghalaya	134.0	71.2	28.3	8.1	147.7	78.9	31.8	10.8	165.5	93.0	34.7	11.4
18. Mizoram	132.5	84.1	46.8	6.2	173.7	120.9	43.1	7.1	164.6	89.2	47.3	6.9
19. Nagaland	83.1	51.6	19.9	5.0	89.6	61.0	23.6	5.5	90.6	61.5	23.1	5.4
20. Orissa	119.9	41.2	18.8	1.3	112.8	46.3	19.0	1.7	126.2	59.4	22.4	2.9
21. Punjab	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22. Rajasthan	107.6	70.0	27.6	4.6	109.1	72.0	28.6	5.7	110.0	77.4	32.2	6.4
23. Sikkim	252.9	97.1	49.8	8.8	286.7	116.3	57.0	9.8	250.8	123.3	57.4	11.4
24. Tamil Nadu	128.2	120.6	52.4	3.3	172.2	103.3	45.4	4.4	175.1	71.0	56.6	9.1
25. Tripura	128.0	58.1	26.9	2.7	153.9	77.1	31.3	3.4	150.8	80.9	32.0	3.7
26. Uttar Pradesh	148.3	57.7	75.2	24.4	145.6	56.6	73.7	61.0	145.4	55.2	69.0	25.1
27. Uttarakhand	128.0	132.2	58.4	15.0	136.0	132.4	61.2	17.4	151.1	129.0	61.2	20.4
28. West Bengal	112.4	56.1	22.2	3.3	111.6	55.5	25.6	3.6	105.1	58.6	26.6	3.4
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	121.3	94.2	31.3	6.4	101.2	70.1	37.4	4.5	97.5	74.6	54.7	6.2
30. Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	131.7	76.8	33.4	0.6	146.9	79.2	37.8	0.0	155.0	83.5	36.9	0.0
32. Daman and Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	127.5	119.8	46.7	4.49
33. Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
34. Lakshadweep	58.4	58.4	45.1	0.0	61.8	61.8	46.6	0.0	61.0	60.6	46.0	3.3
35. Puducherry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
India	121.9	67.0	27.7	4.9	125.8	71.5	28.7	6.6	129.3	74.4	30.8	7.5

Instructions in mother tongue at primary stage

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

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the extent of success achieved in introducing primary education in mother tongue;
- (b) the number of schools where primary education is not being provided in mother tongue, State-wise; and
- (c) the action taken so far in accordance with the Directive enshrined in article 350A of the Constitution and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) According to Article 350 A of the Constitution of India, “it shall be the endeavour of every State and of every local authority within the State to provide adequate facilities for instruction in the Mother Tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups”. The Government of India has consistently supported the view that Mother Tongue is the best medium of instruction at the primary stage. The National Curriculum Framework (2005) also endorses the use of Mother Tongue in primary education.

Section 29(2)(f) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 also provides that the medium of instruction shall, as far as practicable, be in child’s Mother Tongue. Data on the medium of instruction in schools is not maintained centrally.

PPP in school education

993. MS. MABEL REBELLO:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in a clear move to promote Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) in school education his Ministry has set up a round table consisting of educationists and representatives of the private sector;
- (b) whether the eleven member round table, which held its first meeting in September, has suggested ways in which school education can be revamped;
- (c) whether his Ministry wants a synergy between Government and private sector;
- (d) whether Government has big plans in school education and such a round table will help thrash out issues; and
- (e) if so, the decisions taken by the eleven member Committee and the steps being taken to implement them?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) A 'Round Table on School Education' has been constituted to advise and make recommendations on improving the school education system in the country and to suggest means of implementation thereof. The first round table was held on 24.9.2009, wherein 5 Sub Committees were set up, one of which was on public private partnership in school education. The purpose of the public private partnership is to make use of private finance and expertise for public purpose.

Discussions in the Round Table are an on-going process, and it is only one of the several fora for interactions on school education.

The Central Government is committed to make school education of good quality available, accessible and affordable to all children. At elementary stage, this is being done through centrally sponsored programme like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid Day Meal. At secondary stage, a new programme called Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) has been launched recently to universalize access to secondary education and to improve its quality.

Shortage of teachers

994. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of about five lakh teachers in the country for implementing the Right to Education Law; and

(b) if so, the details of the requirement of teachers and the steps being taken for recruitment of quality teachers for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The National University for Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) has, at the instance of the Government, prepared estimates for additional requirement of teachers on the basis of the Pupil Teacher Ratio norms prescribed under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, according to which around 5.10 lakh additional teachers would be required for the country as a whole at the elementary level. The Act has not yet come into force.

Review mechanism for deemed universities

995. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UGC and his Ministry have set up parallel mechanisms to review the recognition and functioning of the deemed universities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that despite such review by his Ministry, the UGC has been approving the applications for deemed university status; and

(c) if so, the rationale for such parallel evaluation of deemed universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir. The review of institutions 'deemed to be universities' by the University Grants Commission (UGC) as well as an independent review by a Committee of experts have been ordered by the Government with distinct mandates. While the review by UGC is to ascertain the status of infrastructure and faculty resources, the review by the Committee of experts is to assess the justification for the continuation of institution as deemed to be universities. There is no overlap between the two exercises of review.

(b) No, Sir. Applications for declaration as institutions 'deemed to be universities' have been put on hold till the processes of review.

(c) Does not arise.

Foreign faculties for IITs

996. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to encourage IITs to hire foreign faculties;

(b) if so, whether similar allowance would be made to other professional institutions of higher learning in the field of management, science and medicine;

(c) whether Government has framed guidelines in this regard;

(d) if so, the financial implications for the respective institution; and

(e) whether Government would provide grants to these institutions for hiring foreign faculties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) The Government have decided to appoint Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) on long-term and permanent faculty positions in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). However, foreign nationals other than NRIs and PIOs are appointed for a fixed tenure of five years on contract basis. As there is no difference in pay structure and allowances allowed to the Indian or NRI/PIO faculties, no additional financial implication is envisaged. Similarly, there is no proposal at present to offer special incentives/encourage either the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) or Government Medical Institutions for hiring foreign faculty.

New evaluation criteria for Class X

997. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether CBSE has notified the new evaluation criteria for Class X;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the CBSE plans to conduct workshops for the teachers according to the new evaluation criteria; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) has been strengthened in all CBSE affiliated schools *w.e.f.* October, 2009 in Class IX.

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) CBSE has adopted a cascade model of training. It has started training Principals and selected teachers of its affiliated schools in October, 2009. These trained Principals and selected teachers have the responsibility to train all the remaining teachers of the respective schools.

Opening of new IITs abroad

998. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to open new IITs abroad;
- (b) if so, the rationale of such step;
- (c) whether Government has framed the guidelines in this respect and what would be the financial implications of such a decision; and
- (d) whether the existing IITs will be allowed to open their campuses abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) In view of the faculty shortages in the seven older Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) which also have to undertake 54% expansion in their intake capacity for implementing the reservations in admissions as per the Central Education Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006 and are also engaged in the mentoring of the eight new IITs, opening of their campuses or setting up of new IITs abroad may not be feasible in the immediate future as that would further strain the IITs' limited manpower and other resources. However, as and when the faculty situation eases due to the efforts being made by the IITs to recruit new faculty, the Government would be open to the idea.

Corruption cases against officials of AICTE

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

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a case of corruption under Section 120-B of IPC and Sections 7 and 8 of Prevention of Corruption (PC) Act, 1988 has been registered against officials of AICTE;
- (b) if so, the details of the charges;
- (c) whether there is lot of corruption in AICTE;
- (d) the number of complaints received so far against its officials and their stage of processing/enquiry; and
- (e) the steps Government has taken to stop this rot?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. As on date 30 complaints have been received against officials of AICTE. Some cases have been referred to CBI. The CBI has registered various cases against Prof. R.A. Yadav, Ex-Chairman, AICTE, Prof. H.C. Rai, Ex-Adviser, AICTE and Others. The CBI inquiry is underway. AICTE have been asked to submit a report in some complaints. The Government has taken the following steps to enhance transparency in the working of the Council:—

- (i) Steps have been taken to introduce e-governance system in the AICTE.
- (ii) The approval process handbook is being modified to remove the inconsistencies and the scope for different interpretations.
- (iii) The Appellate Committees have been strengthened with people of the level of Vice-Chancellors (current and former).

Blue print for world class universities

1000. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has unveiled a blue print for world class universities that proposes a free hand and more autonomy to varsities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Brain Gain policy announced by Government to attract quality faculty from across the globe would be implemented; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and to what extent the Indian students would be benefited by this policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Government is considering a proposal to set up 14 Innovation Universities aiming at world class standards for which concept note has been circulated for comments.

(c) and (d) A policy to attract talent into the 14 Universities to be established as Innovation Universities is under consideration of Government for which a concept note has been circulated for comments.

Education in secondary schools at International standards

1001. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has decided to raise the secondary education standard in India to international standards;
- (b) if so, the steps which have been taken and are being taken to raise the education standards imparted by the secondary schools in the country to International Baccalaureate (IB) level; and
- (c) whether two types of school-syllabus are to be introduced for the purpose and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has its affiliated schools in 21 foreign countries and has taken the following steps to further raise its education standards:—

- (i) There will be no Class X Board examination *w.e.f.* 2011 for students studying in higher secondary schools affiliated to CBSE and who do not wish to move out of the CBSE system after Class X, The students studying in the schools which do not have higher secondary classes, will however, be required to appear in a Board examination.
- (ii) The Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) has been strengthened in all affiliated schools of CBSE for Class IX students from the session 2009-10.
- (iii) Grading System has been introduced for CBSE Class X Board Examination, 2010, and for Class IX students for continuous and comprehensive evaluation from the session 2009-10.

Collapse of online entrance test of IGNOU

1002. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the first experiment of the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) for an online entrance test for engineering aptitude scheduled for Saturday, October 31, 2009 collapsed;
- (b) if so, the outcome of the investigation into the collapse of the online test; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to rectify the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the information provided by Indira

Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) an autonomous organisation, the University has been conducting on line exams for past several years successfully. The online entrance test called IGNEAT-2009 for engineering degree and diploma programmes of IGNOU scheduled for 31st October, 2009 and 1st November, 2009 proposed by the University could not be conducted due to technical failure of the Online Examination Platform.

Proposed entry of foreign universities

1003. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how he would ensure that after the proposed entry of foreign universities they would strictly adhere to the quota laws of the country;

(b) whether foreign universities will have to take clearance of accreditation from the Accreditation Committee for quality control;

(c) whether it is also a fact that after the Bill for allowing the foreign universities to come to the country is passed even Indian universities will have to take clearance from the Accreditation Committee for quality control;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the manner in which his Ministry would ensure that no fly-by-night operators come to the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) A law for regulating the entry and operations of foreign education providers is under consideration of the Government.

Barring of M.Phil degree holders from teaching

†1004. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that University Grants Commission (UGC) has barred M.Phil degree holders to teach in universities and degree colleges in 2009;

(b) whether holders of the said degree were qualified to teach so far and they were engaged in the profession in a large number;

(c) whether they have to lose their jobs after this direction; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and reasons for implementing the order issued on 1st June, 2009?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The UGC has notified the University Grants Commission (Minimum qualifications required for the appointment and Career Advancement of teachers in Universities and Institutions affiliated to it) (3rd Amendment) Regulation 2009, providing that qualifying the National Eligibility Test (NET) shall be the minimum eligibility for appointment as teacher with exemption provided to those who have obtained Ph.D degree in accordance with the standards and rigour detailed in the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for award of M.Phil/Ph.D. Degree) Regulations 2009. The Regulations apply only prospectively and does not apply to regular appointments already made prior to the date of notification of the Regulations pertaining to NET as minimum eligibility *i.e.* 1st June, 2009.

Quality of teaching in higher education is a matter of great concern. When the Pay Review Committee recommendations in respect of teachers in colleges and universities were taken up by the Central Government, the salaries and other allowances for teachers were approved to be higher than those for the Group "A" Civil Services, subject to the eligibility conditions for appointments to teaching positions being tightened. This step, *inter-alia*, would ensure that over time the best talent comes into the academic profession through a process of tightening entry and liberalizing pay and other incentives.

Conference of Commonwealth Education

1005. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has represented the 17th Conference of Commonwealth Education;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the views expressed by Government in the Conference; and
- (d) the decisions arrived so far for the minority Muslims, SCs, STs and OBCs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development, Government of India led a delegation comprising Secretary (School Education and Literacy), Joint Secretary (Distance Learning), Joint Secretary (International Cooperation) and APS to Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development that participated in the 17th Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 15-18 June 2009. The focus of the conference was to improve access to early childhood care and education, secondary education, skill development, higher education, quality and professionalism of teachers, good governance, gender mainstreaming, education for respect and understanding, sustainable development, multi-grade teaching, strengthening HIV and AIDS education etc.

The communique issued at the conclusion of the conference clearly mention that the Ministers highlighted the need for all children to have equity of access to quality education, regardless of geographical location, resources, gender, ethnicity and ability, in order to equip them to interact effectively in a global community. Ministers committed themselves to working towards this end as a priority, while recognizing the need to tailor approaches to take account of socio-economic and cultural diversity across different member countries.

Education infrastructure in rural areas

1006. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the harsh fact that education in the rural areas suffers from inadequate infrastructure and quality teachers; and

(b) if so, the steps that would be taken to raise the standard of education at all the level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), which is a flagship scheme of the Government of India for universalization of elementary education, is being implemented in all States and UTs of the country. Under SSA, funds are provided to States/UTs both for appointment of teachers and for creation and upgradation of physical infrastructure in elementary schools.

Under the SSA programme, 2.63 lakh school buildings, 11.05 lakh additional classrooms, 1.98 lakh drinking water and 3.34 lakh toilet facilities have been approved for elementary schools so far. 9.30 lakh school toilet units have been constructed under Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) and 8.52 lakh rural schools have been provided drinking water supply from National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) and State schemes.

Under SSA, several activities have also been undertaken to improve the quality of elementary education. This includes, *inter alia*, recruitment of 9.91 lakh additional teachers to improve the pupil teacher ratio, in-service training of teachers for a period of 20 days every year, free distribution of textbooks for primary and upper primary classes to about 8.76 crore students, school development grant to schools and grants to teachers for teaching learning material, academic support to primary and upper primary schools through 6472 Block Resource Centres and 69268 Cluster Resource Centres, remedial teaching to children and upto 2% of district outlays for learning enhancement programmes.

Grants to private colleges

1007. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government and private colleges in the country as on date, State-wise;

- (b) the number of private colleges getting grants from the University Grants Commission (UGC);
- (c) the criterion for disbursement of grants to private colleges; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government for promoting quality education in private and Government colleges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) According to information furnished by UGC, 7346 colleges have been recognized and included in the list of colleges maintained under Section 2(f) and Section 12B of the UGC Act -1956, of which 3993 private colleges are aided colleges as on 31st October, 2009. The State-wise list of colleges is enclosed as Statement (*See below*).

(c) Colleges which receive grants for salaries from State Governments and which are permanently affiliated to the University of jurisdiction are eligible for grants from the UGC.

(d) UGC provides development grants to eligible private as well as Government colleges for promoting quality education. In addition, the Commission also has a scheme of Colleges with Potential for Excellence for providing special assistance to promising colleges.

Statement

No. of Colleges included under Section 2 (f) and 12 (B) of the UGC Act, 1956 (State-wise) as on 31.10.2009

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of Colleges			Total
		Government	Private		
			Aided	Unaided	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	191	227	44	462
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	—	2	8
3.	Assam	27	169	37	233
4.	Bihar	205	92	45	342
5.	Chhattisgarh	114	29	2	145
6.	Goa	8	15	3	26
7.	Gujarat	40	330	19	389
8.	Haryana	52	99	4	155
9.	Himachal Pradesh	40	10	—	50
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	43	8	57	108

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Jharkhand	61	25	20	106
12.	Karnataka	156	390	61	607
13.	Kerala	55	164	9	228
14.	Madhya Pradesh	302	125	29	456
15.	Maharashtra	75	755	144	974
16.	Manipur	36	12	6	54
17.	Meghalaya	3	22	9	34
18.	Mizoram	10	11	2	23
19.	Nagaland	4	10	3	17
20.	Orissa	119	208	52	379
21.	Punjab	48	163	9	220
22.	Rajasthan	137	92	27	256
23.	Sikkim	5	—	3	8
24.	Tamil Nadu	83	203	80	366
25.	Tripura	13	3	—	16
26.	Uttar Pradesh	102	426	596	1124
27.	Uttaranchal	32	12	3	47
28.	West Bengal	45	344	9	398
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	—	—	2
30.	Chandigarh	11	7	—	18
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	0
32.	Daman Diu	1	—	—	1
33.	Delhi	36	40	5	81
34.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	0
35.	Pondicherry	10	2	1	13
TOTAL :		2072	3993	1281	7346

Setting up of Tool Rooms

1008. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up Tool Rooms to assist MSME Sector in technical upgradation and to provide training and consultancy for tool and die makers;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that not a single Tool Room has been set up in the Southern States;
- (d) if so, the reasons for neglecting Southern States; and
- (e) whether Government proposes to undo the injustice done to the Southern State in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The details of the Tool Rooms set up by the Government (including those set up by the States/State Agencies with Central Government assistance), are given in the enclosed Statement (*See below*).

(c) to (e) Four Tool Rooms/Mini Tool Rooms are functioning in the Southern States.

Statement

Tool Rooms set up by the Government

(I) Tool Rooms set up by Government of India

- (i) Central Tool Room and Training Centre, Bhubaneswar (Orissa)
- (ii) Indo Danish Tool Room, Jamshedpur (Jharkhand)
- (iii) Indo German Tool Room, Aurangabad (Maharashtra)
- (iv) Indo German Tool Room, Ahmedabad (Gujarat)
- (v) Indo German Tool Room, Indore (Madhya Pradesh)
- (vi) Central Tool Room, Ludhiana (Punjab)
- (vii) Central Institute of Hand Tools, Jaiandhar (Punjab)
- (viii) Central Institute of Tool Design, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)
- (ix) Tool Room and Training Centre, Guwahati (Assam)
- (x) Central Tool Room and Training Centre, Kolkata (West Bangal)

(II) Mini Tool Rooms set up by States with Central Assistance

- (i) KELTRON Tool Room Research and Training Centre, Aroor (Kerala)
- (ii) Centre for Research and Industrial Staff Performance (CRISP), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh)
- (iii) Nagaland Mini Tool Room and Training Centre, Dimapur (Nagaland)
- (iv) Mini Tool Room and Training Centre, Hubli (Karnataka)
- (v) Mini Tool Room and Training Centre, Hassan (Karnataka)
- (vi) Modern Mini Tool Room and Training Centre, Dasnagar, Howrah (West Bengal)
- (vii) Jharkhand Government Mini Tool Room and Training Centre, Ranchi (Jharkhand)
- (viii) Government Tool Room and Training Centre, Dumka (Jharkhand)

Sale and export of khadi

1009. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the total annual sale of khadi in the country in the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the quantum of export in the last three years, year-wise;
- (c) the quantum of subsidy given on khadi during the same period, year-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure that the amount of subsidy reaches the targeted individuals and organizations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The year-wise values of sales of khadi during the last three years are given below:—

Year	Value of Sales (Rs. crore)
2006-07	663.19
2007-08	724.39
2008-09	799.61

(b) The year-wise values of export of khadi and village industries products, including khadi, during the last three years are given below:—

Year	Value of khadi and village industries products exported (Rs. crore)
2006-07	53.74
2007-08	91.93
2008-09	104.85

(c) Subsidy under the khadi programme is provided mainly towards (i) rebate on the retail sales of khadi by the institutions to the customers at the point of sale, which is thereafter reimbursed to the khadi institutions after due checks and verification, and (ii) the subsidized finance made available to the khadi institutions under the Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate (ISEC) Scheme, under which working capital as well as capital expenditure credit is provided to the khadi institutions as per their assessed requirement by the banks. The institutions have to bear the interest liability only at the rate of 4 per cent per annum while the difference between the actual lending rate and 4 per cent is borne and paid by the Central Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to the lending bank. The year-wise details of subsidy given to khadi sector under the rebate system as well as ISEC scheme during the last three years are given below:—

Subsidy given to khadi sector (Rs. crore)		
Year	Rebate on sale of khadi (Rs. crore)	Interest subsidy under ISEC Scheme (Rs. crore)
2006-07	101.47	10.62
2007-08	84.05	17.61
2008-09	158.60	27.54

(d) Rebate allowed to the khadi customers by the khadi institutions at the point of sale is reimbursed by KVIC to the khadi implementing Institutions, which are registered with KVIC/Khadi and Village Industries Boards (KVIBs) of States/Union Territories. As per Bye-laws adopted by these Institutions, they have to abide by the Khadi Certification Rules and the integrated audit system of KVIC ensures that the financial assistance/subsidies provided to the implementing agencies are not misutilised.

Central assistance to drought affected States

1010. SHRI R.C. SINGH:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with the deficiency of 29 per cent in South-West monsoon, the number of drought affected districts has risen to 177 in August this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central teams have visited the affected States to assess the extent of damage; and

(d) if so, the details and findings thereof and the details of the Central assistance given to the affected States for relief measures?

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

(a) and (b) As reported by India Meteorological Department (IMD), there was a deficiency of 23 per cent in the rainfall during South-West Monsoon, 2009 in the country, as a consequence of which 12 States have declared drought/scarcity/drought like conditions covering 301 districts. State-wise details are as under:—

Andhra Pradesh (Drought)	22 districts
Assam (Drought like situation)	27 districts
Bihar (Drought)	26 districts
Himachal Pradesh (Drought)	12 districts
Jharkhand (Drought)	24 districts
Karnataka (Drought)	20 districts
Madhya Pradesh (Drought)	37 districts
Maharashtra (Drought)	28 districts

Manipur (Drought)	9 districts
Nagaland (Drought like situation)	11 districts
Rajasthan (Scarcity)	27 districts
Utter Pradesh (Drought)	58 districts

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Inter Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) were deputed to all the 12 drought affected States to assess the requirement of assistance in response to memoranda submitted by the State Governments for assistance from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

On the basis of the reports of the IMCTs, the Government has so far approved assistance as under, subject to adjustment of 75% of balance available in their respective Calamity Relief Fund:—

	(Rs. in crore)
i. Bihar	1163.64
ii. Himachal Pradesh	88.93
iii. Jharkhand	200.955
iv. Karnataka	116.49
v. Madhya Pradesh	246.31
vi. Maharashtra	671.88
vii. Manipur	14.57
viii. Nagaland	21.12
ix. Rajasthan	1034.84
x. Uttar Pradesh	515.05

Retrenchment of employees in MSMEs

1011. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether employees are being retrenched from micro, small and medium enterprises owing to global recession;

(b) if so, the total number of employees retrenched;

(c) whether decline in demand for manufactured goods in the cause of this retrenchment; and

(d) if production has increased, the details of increase in percentage in the three categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The global recession adversely impacted the Indian economy, including the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). However, the number of employees retrenched from MSMEs owing to global recession is not maintained centrally.

(c) In the wake of global recession, the major problems faced by micro and small enterprises (MSEs) relate to slackening of demand for their products/services, especially reduction in export-related orders, and delayed payments of dues by large units.

(d) As per the latest estimates available, the MSE sector registered a growth of 13 per cent in production during 2007-08. The comparative production data for medium enterprises is not available.

Specialized khadi institution for SCs and STs

1012. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any specialized khadi institutions are set up or fully supported by Khadi and Village Industries Commission exclusively for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes;

(b) if so, the penetration of KVIC in hilly areas where raw-material and traditional expertise availability is comparatively more diverse in quantity and traditional arts and crafts; and

(c) as the sale through KVIC outlets in North-Eastern sector is restricted due to less tourism activity, whether KVIC is subsidizing production operations with a view to utilizing optimum local employment potential?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. There are 154 khadi institutions having predominantly scheduled castes and scheduled tribes population, registered with the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).

(b) The khadi programme is implemented through the khadi institutions registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and enlisted with KVIC/Khadi and Village Industries Boards (KVIBs) of States/Union Territories. There are 50 khadi institutions functioning in various hilly and border areas, which are working primarily by using local manpower, raw materials and expertise.

(c) Although there is no separate scheme for subsidizing KVI production operations in the North-Eastern Region (NER), production operations of the khadi institutions in NER, as a special case, are supported by providing khadi loans from the budgetary sources of the Government to meet the working capital requirement of the khadi institutions of the region. In

addition, the khadi institutions of the NER are also eligible to avail loans towards working capital from the banks as per their assessed requirements at concessional rate of interest under the Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate (ISEC) Scheme, where the institutions have to bear interest liability only at the rate of 4 per cent per annum while the difference between the actual lending rate and 4 per cent is borne and paid by the Central Government through KVIC to the lending bank directly.

Also under the recently introduced 'Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme' (PMEGP), under which entrepreneurs can establish 'micro enterprises' as defined in the "Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006", in the rural as well as urban areas throughout the country and the entrepreneurs in NER are required to bring in lower beneficiary contribution and avail higher margin money assistance under special category as shown in the table below:—

Categories of beneficiaries under PMEGP	Beneficiary's Contribution (of project cost)	Rate of Subsidy (of project cost)	
		Urban	Rural
Area (location of project/unit)			
General Category	10%	15%	25%
Special Category (including SC/ST/OBC/ Minorities/Women, Ex-servicemen, Physically handicapped, NER, Hill and Border areas etc.)	05%	25%	35%

Sick industries in Andhra Pradesh

1013. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:
SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:
SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 5,500 micro, small and medium units are sick in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is also a fact that more than 38,500 micro, small and medium enterprises in Andhra Pradesh are closed;

(c) if so, the number of people who have become unemployed and the number of families affected due to (a) and (b) above; and

(d) whether his Ministry is planning to address this problem and help the above units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) As per the data compiled by the Reserve

Bank of India (RBI) from the scheduled commercial banks, there were 5,201 sick micro and small enterprises (MSEs) in the State of Andhra Pradesh at the end of March 2009. Information in respect of medium enterprises is not being collated by the RBI. As per the quick results of Fourth All India Census of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), out of 42,360 registered MSMEs in Andhra Pradesh as on 31st March, 2007, the number of MSMEs found closed were reported to be 13,370. Information in respect of people who have become unemployed and the number of families affected due to sickness/closure of MSMEs is not maintained centrally.

(d) The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises does not provide any direct financial assistance for rehabilitation of sick micro and small enterprises (MSEs). However, financial assistance, by way of debt restructuring, including fresh loans, for the rehabilitation of sick MSE is provided by the primary lending institutions (PLIs), including commercial banks, which provide credit to the MSEs. For this purpose, the RBI has issued detailed guidelines to banks in January, 2002 on detection of sickness in MSE at an early stage and taking remedial measures and for rehabilitation of sick MSEs identified as potentially viable. RBI has also issued guidelines on 8th September 2005, based on the “Policy Package for Stepping up Credit to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)” announced by the Central Government on 10th August 2005. These guidelines relate, *inter alia*, to viability criteria, prudential norms for restructured accounts, provision of additional finance and time-frame for working out the restructuring package and its implementation. Further, based on the recommendations of the Working Group under the chairmanship of Dr. K.C. Chakrabarty, the then Chairman and Managing Director, Punjab National Bank, the RBI has advised all scheduled commercial banks on May 4, 2009 to consider, for speedy implementation, the recommendations made with regard to timely and adequate flow of credit to the MSE sector. The Banks have also been advised to apply the RBI’s guidelines on debt restructuring optimally and in letter and spirit and put in place their own non-discretionary one-time settlement (OTS) policy for this sector.

Foreign Direct Investment in MSEs

1014. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether to help cash-strapped micro and small enterprises and to attract higher overseas investment, Government has liberalized the FDI norms for the sector, replacing the current 24 per cent ceiling on foreign holding with the sectoral caps;

(b) if so, whether these industries will now be guided like other large enterprises as far as the FDI is concerned;

(c) whether the present policy on FDI in MSE permits FDI subject only to the sectoral equity caps, entry routes and other relevant regulations; and

(d) if so, to what extent these easier FDI guidelines have helped the small scale sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) The norms for FDI in MSEs were changed in February, 2009. The present policy permits FDI in MSEs subject only to the sectoral equity caps, entry routes and other relevant sectoral regulations, as is applicable to other large industries.

However, for manufacturing items reserved for the MSE sector (presently 21 items), any industrial undertaking which is not an MSE, will require an industrial license under Industries Act. The issue of Industrial License will be subject to a few general conditions and the specific condition that the undertaking shall undertake to export a minimum of 50% of the new or additional annual production of the MSE reserved items to be achieved within a maximum period of three years. Such an undertaking would also require prior approval of the Government (FIPB) where foreign investment is more than 24% in the equity capital.

It is expected that with easier FDI guidelines, Micro and Small Enterprises will attract more FDI.

Rail projects in Andhra Pradesh *vis-à-vis* other States

1015. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of ongoing projects in Andhra Pradesh *vis-a-vis* other States, indicating the total cost of each such project;

(b) the justification for taking up less number of rail projects for Andhra Pradesh as compared to other States like Bihar and Tamil Nadu;

(c) the operating ratio, in terms of income generated for every 100 rupees spent, in respect of Southern Railways *vis-à-vis* South Central Railway; and

(d) if this operating ratio is more in the case of South-Central Railway, the reasons for taking relatively less projects in South-Central Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Total 286 number of new line, gauge conversion and doubling rail projects are in progress at a total cost of Rs. 105301.16 crore spread in all States including Andhra Pradesh. Total 15 number of new lines, 2 number of gauge conversions and 6 number of doubling projects are ongoing in Andhra Pradesh at a cost of Rs. 9075.42 crore. The details of ongoing projects in Andhra Pradesh with cost of each project is as under:—

					Rs. in crore
Sl. No.	Rly	Project	Kms	Cost	Outlay (As per Budget 2009-10)
1	2	3	4	5	6
New Line					
1.	SR	Attipattu-Puttur	88.3	446.87	45

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	SCR	Cuddapah-Bangalore (Bangarapet)	255.4	1000.23	29
3.		Gadwal-Raichur	60	156.6	15
4.	SCR	Jaggayapet-Mallacheruvu	21.6	94.69	22.99
5.	SCR	Kakinada-Pithapuram	21.5	85.51	0.01
6.	SCR	Kotipalli-Narsapur	57.21	695	0.01
7.	SCR	Macherla-Nalgonda	92	243.17	0.1
8.	SCR	Manoharabad-Kotapalli	148.9	497.47	10
9.	SCR	Munirabad-Mehbubnagar	246	497.47	20
10.	SCR	Nandyal-Yerraguntla	126	429.49	51
11.	SCR	Obulavaripalle-Krishnapatnam	113	732.81	50
12.	SCR	Peddapally-Karimnagar-Nizamabad	177.49	517.63	15
13.	SWR	Rayadurg-Tumkur	213	1027.89	13.48
14.	SR	Tindivanam-Nagari	179.2	582.83	25
15.	SCR	Vishnupuram-Janapahar	11	54.57	10
Gauge Conversion					
1.	SCR	Dharmavaram-Pakala	227	610.07	100
2.	ECOR	Naupada-Gunupur	90	168.88	14
Doubling					
1.	SCR	Gooty-Renigunta-Patch doubling	151.04	515	120
2.	ECOR	Kottavalasa-Simhachalam North 4th line	16.69	94.73	32
3.	SCR	Raghvapuram-Mandamari (tripling)	24.47	92.3	10
4.	SCR	Raichur-Guntakal	81.1	221.93	55
5.	SCR	Samalkot-Kakinada	15.6	114.49	9.7
6.	ECOR	Vizianagram-Kottavalasa 3rd line	34.7	194.89	35

(b) to (d) Operating ratio of Southern Railway and South Central Railway is 126.06% and 77.23% respectively for year 2008-09. Projects are considered based on traffic requirements and various laid down criteria.

Execution of new lines projects in Tamil Nadu

1016. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that execution of many new railway lines projects in Tamil Nadu sanctioned by the Railway Board are not taken up; and

(b) if so, the initiatives taken by Government for an early execution of the said railway projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) New line projects are being progressed as per availability of resources. A number of initiatives have been taken to generate additional resources through non-budgetary measures like public/private partnership, funding by State Governments and other beneficiaries to expedite progress of ongoing projects.

Formation of Monitoring Committees

1017. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry has formed Monitoring Committees as announced by her in the Budget for the year 2009-10;

(b) whether Monitoring Committees are empowered to take decisions on the setbacks noticed in the ongoing railway projects; and

(c) if so, the details of the powers vested with Monitoring Committees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A Project Monitoring Group (PMG) has been formed to monitor the implementation of projects. The PMG will monitor performance *vis-à-vis* targets of the projects and suggest remedial actions wherever necessary.

Pending works of B.G. conversion in Tamil Nadu

1018. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of pending works of broad gauge conversion in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the time-frame for completion of such pending items;

(c) whether it is a fact that enough attention has not been given for the safety and security aspects in Railways; and

(d) whether allocation given for these items are not spent or diverted elsewhere?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Status of ongoing gauge conversion work falling fully/partly in the State of Tamil Nadu and their time-frame for completion, wherever fixed, is as under:—

Sl. No.	Gauge Conversion Project	Status and time-frame for completion, wherever fixed
1	2	3
1.	Villupuram-Katpadi (161 km)	Work on Katpadi-Vellore (10 km) completed and entire balance portion is targeted for completion during 2009-10.

1	2	3
2.	Manamadurai-Virudhunagar (66.55 km)	Earthwork, bridgeworks and ballast supply have been taken up.
3.	Dindigul-Pollachi-Palghat and Pollachi-Coimbatore (224.88 km)	Work on Podanur-Coimbatore (6 km) completed. On the balance portion, earthwork, bridgeworks and ballast supply have been taken up.
4.	Mayiladuturai-Tiruvarur-Karaikudi and Tiruturaipundi-Agastiyampalli (224 km)	Earthwork, bridgeworks and ballast supply have been taken up on Mayiladuturai-Tiruvarur section (38 km). Final location survey for Tiruvarur-Karaikudi section (149 km) has been taken up.
5.	Madurai-Bodinayakkanur (90.41 km)	Tenders have been processed for major bridge works.
6.	Quilon-Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur and and Tenkasi-Virudhunagar (357 km)	Work on Virudhunagar-Tenkasi-Sengottai and Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur (190 km) completed. Work on balance Quilon-Punalur is targeted for completion during 2009-10. Work on balance portion is in various stages of progress.
7.	Thanjavur-Villupuram (192 km)	Work is nearing completion.
8.	Tiruchchirappalli-Nagore-Karaikal (200 km) with extension of Nagapattinam-Velankanni- Tiruturaipundi via Tirukkuvalai (43 km)	Trichy-Nagore (135 km) gauge conversion has been completed. The work of new line for Nagapattinam-Velankanni (10.3 km) and Nagore-Karaikal (11 km) are targeted for completion in 2009-10.

Target of completion for projects, wherever fixed, is given above and completion of remaining projects would depend upon availability of resources.

(c) No, Sir. Safety and Security of trains, passengers etc. are given the highest priority. All possible steps are undertaken on a continuing basis to prevent accidents, as a result of which, there has been a declining trend in the number of Consequential Train Accidents over Indian Railways. As regards security, steps have been taken for modernization of RPF for which work of integrated security system has been taken up to strengthen surveillance mechanism over 195 sensitive and vulnerable stations. Other steps include, escorting of trains, modernization of RPF, amendment in RPF Act to increase role/responsibility of RPF to prevent theft, pilferage, etc.

(d) Funds provided on Safety and Security works are being spent for this purpose only and are not diverted for any other activity.

More facilities to passengers

1019. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for not increasing passenger facilities in proportion to increase of users;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the upper class railway passenger fare is higher than the concessional air fare of certain private airlines;
- (c) if so, whether it is fair and desirable to have such a situation;
- (d) whether the thefts, pilferages and crimes in railway service are on the increase; and
- (e) if so, the effective measures taken to deal with this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Provision and upgradation of amenities/facilities is a continuous process. While providing amenities, the Railways take into account the number of passengers dealt with at a station. Moreover, a separate allocation is made every year in the Railway Budget under the Plan Head "Passenger Amenities" to provide better amenities to rail users and an allocation to the tune of Rs. 1102.5 crore has been made during 2009-10 as against Rs. 852.50 crore during 2008-09.

(b) and (c) Due to a variety of reasons, Railway fares cannot be directly compared with air fares.

(d) and (e) As regards theft and pilferage of Railway Property, there has been a decrease in number of cases reported during 2008-09 in comparison to 2007-08. During 2008-09, RPF has arrested 8,961 criminals with recovery of stolen Railway Property worth Rs. 4.68 crores.

In order to control crime against the Railway Property including booked consignments, the following preventive measures are being taken:—

1. Escorting of trains carrying valuable and important consignments as far as possible.
2. Patrolling in yards and other vulnerable areas/sections.
3. Conducting raids on the dens of criminals and receivers of stolen Railway Property in order to bring them to book.
4. RPF armed pickets are posted/deployed in vulnerable sections as far as possible,
5. Plain clothed RPF personnel are deployed to collect crime intelligence with a view to tracking down criminals.
6. Dog squads are deployed for patrolling in yards and vulnerable areas.
7. Close co-ordination between the RPF, the GRP and the Local Police is maintained at various levels to deal with criminal and receivers of stolen Railway Property.

Ongoing railway projects in the country

1020. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the ongoing railway projects in the country, State-wise and division-wise;
- (b) the details of funds allocated against each of these projects; and
- (c) the status of work being carried out, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The details of total ongoing works under the plan head New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling, State-wise are as under:—

Sl. No.	State	Total number of Projects
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23
2.	Assam and North Eastern States	16
3.	Bihar	51
4.	Chhattisgarh	11
5.	Delhi	4
6.	Gujarat	13
7.	Haryana	8
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	2
10.	Jharkhand	16
11.	Karnataka	22
12.	Kerala	13
13.	Madhya Pradesh	12
14.	Maharashtra	13
15.	Orissa	19
16.	Punjab	7
17.	Rajasthan	14
18.	Tamil Nadu	22
19.	Uttar Pradesh	33
20.	Uttarakhand	4
21.	West Bengal	32
TOTAL :		338

(The projects falling in two or more States have been shown in each State.)
Division-wise statistics of railway projects are not maintained.

(b) and (c) Allocation of fund to each project is given in the Budget Document for the year 2009-10. The Budget Document also provides expenditure status against each project upto the last financial year. All the projects are in various stages of progress as per the funds made available for each project.

Local train accident in Mumbai

†1021. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons behind the local train accident at Kopri in Mumbai on 23rd October, 2009;
- (b) whether any enquiry has been ordered into this;
- (c) if so, when and whether Railways has received the enquiry report;
- (d) if so, when and the persons found guilty in the report;
- (e) whether the enquiry report in respect of death of the motorman of this local train has also been received; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) *Prima-facie*, the reason is collapsing of 40 Meter length pre-stressed concrete girder of under construction Road over bridge of Thane Municipal Corporation on the Motorman's coach of K-37 EMU Local passing on DN line between Mulund and Thane at Km. 31/14 which hit a water pipe line close by, bringing it crashing down.

(b) Yes, Sir. Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS), Central Circle has been entrusted with the inquiry of the accident.

(c) 'Preliminary Report' of CRS has been received. Final Report is yet to come.

(d) Inquiry is still going on and after completion of all investigations, CRS will submit "Final Report" revealing the facts of the case and fixing responsibility.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The Motorman Lt. Shri. R. Ramachandran was stuck inside the cab and the body could be extricated after 3 hours. Motorman's cabin was badly mangled. Further details are still under investigation by CRS which will be furnished in his "Final Report".

Regular cleaning of local trains of Mumbai

†1022. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether work of internal or external cleaning of local trains of Mumbai which is called the life line of Mumbai is done by Railway itself;

(b) if so, whether the Railway officials take care to ensure that the coaches of trains are cleaned regularly;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (c) if so, the details of external condition of new local trains running in Mumbai;
- (d) if not, whether this work has been awarded to a contractor; and
- (e) if so, whether Railways is making payment of bills of contractors without obtaining the report alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a), (b) and (d) The work of internal and external cleaning of local trains in Mumbai is done in the car sheds departmentally in Western Railway and contractually in Central Railway.

Work of internal cleaning during the stabling of local train in the sidings outside the car sheds is done through contractors on Western and Central Railways except at Kurla, Thane, Vashi and Belapur sidings where this work is done departmentally by Central Railway.

Officials have been nominated to ensure that coaches are cleaned regularly in the carsheds as well as in the sidings.

- (c) In general, external condition of coaches of new local trains running in Mumbai is good.
- (d) The payment to the contractors is being made only after due verification of the cleaning report from the officials nominated for this work.

Rail line between Dehradun-Rohru

1023. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any proposal from the Government of Himachal Pradesh forwarded by Prime Minister's Office for construction of rail line between Dehradun and Rohru of Himachal Pradesh; and
- (b) if so, the action taken in this regard to provide connectivity in this remote and border area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

Productivity of meter gauge lines

†1024. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any assessment of the productivity of meter gauge lines;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the meter gauge lines are becoming unproductive;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (c) if so, whether there is proposal for conversion of these lines into broad gauge;
- (d) whether there is a plan for gauge conversion of rail lines from Gonda to Anandnagar in North-Eastern Railways; and
- (e) if so, by when it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The gauge conversion of metre gauge lines into broad gauge lines has been taken up since April, 1992 under "Project Unigauge" in a progressive manner.

(d) and (e) The gauge conversion of Gonda-Anandnagar is already in progress as a part of Gonda-Gorakhpur loop with Anandnagar-Nautanwa gauge conversion project. On this project, Gorakhpur-Anandnagar-Nautanwa gauge conversion project. On this project, Gorakhpur-Anandnagar-Nautanwa has already been completed. The balance portion from Gonda to Anandnagar would be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

Bridge over Brahmaputra river at Saraighat

1025. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways has conducted survey for the second rail-cum-road bridge over river Brahmaputra at Saraighat;
- (b) if so, the details of assessment made thereof;
- (c) whether Government of Assam has represented for converting the proposed road bridge at Saraighat under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) to a rail-cum-road bridge; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and target set with total allocation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) A survey for second rail bridge adjacent to existing Saraighat rail-cum-road bridge was completed in 2008-09. As per the survey, the cost of the proposal was worked out as Rs. 300.67 crore. Chief Minister, Assam had written in this regard. Prima facie, it was considered that the existing broad gauge lines via Saraighat bridge and via Jogighopa bridge along with gauge conversion of Rangia-Murkongselek and new line with Bogibeel bridge would be able to meet the traffic requirement.

Incident of stone pelting on Amritsar-New Delhi Shatabdi Express

1026. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that on the 15th September, 2009 Amritsar-New Delhi Shatabdi Express was stoned at Ghoranda station near Panipat district in Haryana;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that window panes of three coaches of the train were broken as a result of throwing of stones by some miscreants;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken against the miscreants to ensure that such incidents do not occur again?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. On 15.09.2009 an incident of stone pelting on train no. 2030 Dn. (Amritsar-New Delhi Sawarn Shatabdi Express) was reported in which window panes of 03 coaches were broken.

(d) A case *vide* crime no. 79/09 U/s 152 Railways Act was registered by GRPS/Panipat on 17.09.2009 and 02 boys were arrested. Effective patrolling and raids are being conducted in vulnerable sections and train escorting staff is briefed/to keep watch.

Loss to railway property

1027. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that railway property worth several crores of rupees was gutted and hundreds of passengers escaped getting roasted when a mob of locals went berserk and torched five coaches of Mahananda Express at Hathras Junction on 30th September, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the loss suffered by Railways in that incident; and

(c) whether Government has arrested some persons found involved in that incident and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 30.09.2009 local people and supporters of organizations/unions agitated demanding stoppage of Gomti and Magadh Express trains at Hathras. During the course of agitation, train no. 4083 (Mahananda Express) was stopped and hose pipe was disconnected due to which the train could not proceed ahead. The passengers were detrained safely and security arrangements were made by the civil/local police/Government Railway Police (GRP) and Railway Protection Force (RPF) authorities. The agitators burnt 06 sleepers and 05 general bogies causing loss amounting to Rs. 1,83,56,000/-.

(c) A case *vide* crime no. 155/09 U/s 147, 148, 336, 427, 436, 307, 353, 332 IPC and 151, 152 Railways Act and Government Property Damage Act was registered by GRPS/Hathras against 82 offenders out of which 47 were arrested.

Incidents of damage to railways property

1028. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that damaging railway property and stone pelting on trains have been happening regularly across the country and the same are not being reported;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that only six FIRs lodged in 9 months by Railways whereas Railways spends huge amount on repairing etc.; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government to make damaging of Railway properties non-bailable crime and impose severe penalties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There have been stray incidents of Damage of Railway property and stone pelting on train. During the year 2009 (upto October). 92 cases have been reported over zonal Railways for which FIRs were lodged with concerned Government Railway Police Station/Local Police Station/Railway Protection Force Post.

- (d) The offence of damage to Railway property is non-bailable as defined in section 151, 152 of The Railways Act, 1989.

Damage to railway property

†1029. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the loss occurred to railways property by the activities of naxalists, maoists and terrorists;
- (b) the list of such losses, area-wise;
- (c) the number of cases out of them against which Government filed the case in court;
- (d) the economic loss occurred to Railways due to dharnas, protests and accidents during the last three years; and
- (e) the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Facilities for senior citizens

†1030. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal of her Ministry whereby senior citizens would be allotted lower berth at the time of booking of railway ticket; and
- (b) whether Government has any solution to difficulties being faced by senior citizens on this count despite various facilities provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Following provisions have been made to facilitate senior citizens in getting lower berth:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1. In trains having reserved accommodation, a combined quota of two lower berths per coach has been earmarked in Sleeper, AC 3 tier and AC 2 tier classes for following category of passengers when traveling alone:-
 - (i) Senior Citizens;
 - (ii) Female passenger 45 years of age and above; and
 - (iii) Pregnant women.
2. In the Computerized Passenger Reservation System (PRS), there is a provision to allot lower berths automatically to male passengers of 60 years and above and female passengers of 45 years and above subject to the availability of lower berths at the time of booking of tickets.
3. After departure of the train, if there are vacant lower berths available in the train, and if any senior citizen who has been allotted upper/middle berth, approaches for allotment of vacant lower berths, the Conductor/Train Ticket Examiner (TTE) has been authorized to allot the vacant lower berth to them after making necessary entries in the chart.

Proposal for shuttle trains between Delhi and Barot

†1031. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to run a shuttle train from Delhi to Barot on Delhi- Shamli railway line;
- (b) whether Government has got a survey conducted in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) 10 pairs of trains, including one pair of Express service are available on Delhi — Baraut section. It present, there is no proposal for introduction of additional trains between Delhi and Baraut.

Rail line works in Haryana

1032. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of completed/ongoing rail line works in Haryana during the last three years with details of total number of over/ under bridges and manned/unmanned crossing built therewith;
- (b) whether all these works were executed/are progressing as per schedule; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor, project-wise?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) No new line work in Haryana was completed in the last three years. There are two ongoing new line projects as under:—

- (i) Rewari-Rohtak new line (75 km.) is in progress with anticipated cost of Rs. 475.17 crore. Rewari-Jhajjar portion is targeted for completion during 2009-10 and Jhajjar-Rohtak during 2010-11. 4 Road Over Bridges, 30 Road Under Bridges, 37 Manned Level Crossings are proposed on this rail line project. No Unmanned Level Crossing is proposed.
- (ii) Jind-Sonepat new line (81 km.) is in progress with anticipated cost of Rs. 385.95 crore. Land acquisition, bridgework, blanketing works are in progress. 2 Road Over Bridge, 34 Road Under Bridges and 40 Manned Level Crossings are proposed on this rail line. No Unmanned Level Crossing is proposed. No target date has yet been fixed.

The works are being progressed as per the availability of resources.

Frequency of trains

†1033. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the frequency of many trains have not been increased even after the announcement in Rail Budget and assurances in the House;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and by when their frequency are to be increased;
- (c) whether the frequency of train No. 2447/2448 (Uttar Pradesh Sampark Kranti Express) has not been increased yet despite the announcement; and
- (d) if so, the details of reasons for not increasing the frequency thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Increase in the frequency of 13 pairs of trains have been announced in the Railway Budget 2009-10. Of these, frequency of 4 pairs of trains has been increased, frequency of the remaining 9 pairs will be increased during 2009-10.

(c) and (d) Increase in the frequency of 2447/2448 Uttar Pradesh Sampark Kranti Express has not been found feasible due to operational and resource constraints for the present.

Proposal of stoppage of train at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road

1034. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state in view of industrialization in Kalinga Nagar-Jajpur Road and Jajpur-Keonjhar being the centrally located place of Jajpur, Keonjhar, Kendrapada and Dhenkanal districts, whether Railways have the proposal of stoppage of Falaknuma Express; Coromandal Express and Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): There is no such proposal at present. Stoppage of additional trains at Jajpur Keonjhar Road has been examined but not found feasible.

Vacancies in Railways

1035. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of vacancies in Railways as on 31st October, 2009, category-wise;
- (b) whether Government is going to fill up these vacant posts in Railways in near future;
- (c) if so, the details of programme contemplated;
- (d) whether regional languages would be considered the medium of interview while conducting recruitment; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The number of vacancies in zonal railways as on 31.03.2009 category-wise is 1704 in (A and B) category and 168109 in (C and D) category.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and the programme of the Government is to fill up these vacancies promptly as per laid down procedure through departmental promotions as well as through Railway Recruiting Agencies.

(d) and (e) Interview has been eliminated in most of the recruitment category examinations. Wherever interview is prescribed, the medium is Hindi or English.

Illegal selection for Group-D posts

1036. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 2000 people were illegally selected for Group-D posts in railways in 2007;
- (b) if so, the details of persons recruited, division-wise and zone-wise;
- (c) whether these persons were recruited without any examination; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Recommendation of Passenger Amenities Committee to attract foreign tourists

1037. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the recommendations of the Passenger Amenities Committee of Railways to attract more foreign tourists;

(b) whether there is any plan to modify normal trains other than luxurious trains on the pattern of the amenities provided in the trains of the developing countries;

(c) the estimated expenditure on modifications of notified trains; and

(d) the revenue expected to be earned from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The Passenger Amenities Committee has not given any recommendation in this regard, so far.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Implementation of announcements

†1038. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether former Railway Minister had announced to increase the number of coaches upto 24, to double the number of unreserved coaches and to induct double decker coaches;

(b) if so, the status of its implementation;

(c) whether it is fact that these announcements have not been implemented so far; and

(d) by when it would be fully implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) In the Budget announcement 2006-07, augmentation of popular trains upto 23-24 coaches, increase in number of unreserved second class coaches from four to six in new trains except fully reserved AC trains and to make efforts to start air-conditioned double decker trains, were made.

(b) to (d) Attachment of coaches in trains is an ongoing process and a number of popular trains have been augmented upto 23/24 coaches keeping in view operational feasibility and commercial justification. New trains are introduced with at least 6 number of general class coaches except in special type trains like Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Garib Rath trains etc. Non-air conditioned double decker coaches are already running on Indian Railway. It has been planned to develop a suitable design and undertake manufacture of a prototype air conditioned double decker coach.

Unused land of Railways

†1039. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) the total area of the additional land which is lying unused with the Railways;
- (b) the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether her Ministry is considering about giving the land on lease to the poor people living for years on its additional land; and
- (d) whether any request has been received from the State Governments for returning the unused land that was acquired by Railways from the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid down on the Table of the Sabha.

Concessions for disabled persons in Shatabdi and Rajdhani

1040. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to extend concessions for travel given to disabled persons to cover Shatabdi and Rajdhani trains also;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Rajdhani and Shatabdi trains are premium trains to patronize full fare paying passengers.

Standard of food served in trains by contractors

†1041. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the pantry car service in trains is totally run by private contractors under the label of Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC);
- (b) if not, the details of such trains in which IRCTC provides meals directly;
- (c) whether the standard of meals being served by contractors is fixed; if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the system in place to check the quality of meals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) The pantry car services in the trains are operated by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) either directly or through its licensees. Out of 269 Mail/Express trains running with pantry car facilities, the following trains are managed by IRCTC directly under departmental operation:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (1) 2301-02 New Delhi-Howrah Rajdhani
- (2) 2305-06 New Delhi-Howrah Rajdhani
- (3) 2951-52 New Delhi-Mumbai Central Rajdhani
- (4) 2953-54 Nizamuddin-Mumbai Central Rajdhani
- (5) 2309-10 New Delhi-Patna Rajdhani.
- (6) 2123-24 Mumbai-Pune Deccan Queen.
- (7) 2857-58 Howrah-Digha Tamralipta Express
- (8) 8001-02 Howrah-Digha Kandari Express
- (9) 2353-54 Patna Garib Rath Express
- (10) 3108-09 Maitree Expreess
- (11) 2641-42 Thirukkural Express
- (12) 2483-84 Amritsar Express
- (13) 2627-28 Karnataka Express
- (14) 2957-58 Ahmedabad Rajdhani
- (15) 2259-60 New Delhi-Sealdah Duranto Express
- (16) 2269-70 Nizamuddin-Chennai Duranto Express
- (17) 2261-62 Howrah-CSTM Duranto Express
- (18) 2263-64 Pune- Nizamuddin Duranto Express
- (19) 2625-26 Kerala Express
- (20) 3413-14/3483-84 Farakka Express

(c) and (d) Standards for the meals being served in Rajdhani/Shatabdi and Mail/express trains have been laid down. Various measures such as inspection, monitoring, safety audit, passenger satisfaction surveys, etc. through officers, Quality Control Professionals (QCPs) and independent professionals agencies are undertaken to ensure quality and quantity of food items. Punitive actions are also being taken against defaulting licensees by imposing heavy fines in case of major deficiencies.

Vacancies in various Railway zones

1042. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of vacancies, zone-wise in Railways and the number of recruitment actually done along with the vacancies yet to be filled in last three years;
- (b) the details of actual vacancies which were filled in Railway zones falling in the State of Maharashtra;
- (c) whether her Ministry is contemplating to allow recruitment to a zone for candidates who are domiciled within the zone only; and

(d) if not, the steps initiated to ensure regional disparities in selection of candidates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to
(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Train accidents

1043. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of train accidents took place during last three years, yearwise;
- (b) the total number of train accidents reported after the formation of this Government in 2009; and
- (c) the number of inquiries held and the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a)
The number of consequential train accidents which took place during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 were 195, 194 and 177, respectively.

(b) and (c) During the period 23rd May, 2009 to 19th November, 2009, 76 consequential train accidents took place. Out of these, 11 were inquired into by the Commission of Railway Safety, an independent organization under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, and the balance 65 were inquired by the Departmental Committees. Based on findings of inquiries into those accidents which have been finalized and *prima facie* causes of those accidents where inquiries are still under progress, 34 accidents were caused due to failure of railway staff, 5 were caused due to failure of persons other than railway staff; 29 were caused due to negligence of road users at unmanned level crossings, 5 due to sabotage and cause of 3 accidents was incidental.

Japanese loan for Western Dedicated Freight Corridor Project

1044. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a meeting was scheduled on 10 September, 2009 to discuss her Ministry's proposal for seeking Rs. 17,000 crores Japanese loan to fund Western Dedicated Freight Corridor Project; and
- (b) if so, the outcome of the meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a)
and (b) The proposal of Japanese funding for the entire Western Dedicated Freight Corridor, including Phase-I estimated at Rs. 17,700 crore, was taken up and approved in the Cabinet Meeting held on 17 September, 2009 and not on 10 September, 2009.

Effects of forcible land acquisition

1045. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether forcible land acquisition has brought entire development activity of Railways to a grinding halt with land acquisition on hold for its various projects;
- (b) if so, whether Railways have decided to review its land acquisition policy in a bid to break logjam;
- (c) whether among hardest hit scheme is Railways ambitious Dedicated Freight Corridor Project worth around Rs. 28000 crores;
- (d) whether Railways need to acquire nearly 11535 hectares of land spread over 2793 kms.; and
- (e) if so, the details of other railway projects that have been delayed and by when final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (e) As per the land acquisition policy followed by Indian Railways, suitable compensation is paid to land owners where land is acquired by Railway. The policy also provides for redressal mechanism in case the compensation is not considered acceptable by the affected person(s). In order to make the land acquisition process more transparent and humane, a review of the land acquisition policy has been taken up by Railway. It is expected to be completed soon.

Special attention is being paid to the Dedicated Freight Corridor Project as well as other railway projects. Work on Dedicated Freight Corridor has already commenced in part on both Eastern and Western corridors.

Sale of tickets on fake names

1046. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways are aware of the fact that a number of touts buy large number of railway tickets in fake names and sell those tickets to the needy people at higher cost;
- (b) if so, the total number of cases that have come to the knowledge of Railways; and
- (c) the action being taken by Government to prevent such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Some cases of touts buying tickets in fictitious names and selling them, do come to notice.

(b) During the current year 2009-10 (upto October, 09), 22,650 persons were detected travelling on tickets purchased in others' names and 1483 touts were apprehended and prosecuted.

(c) Regular preventive checks are conducted in and around railway reservation offices to curb the illegal activities of touts and other anti social elements. Such checks are intensified during peak rush and festival periods. In addition, travelling public is educated through various media to desist from purchasing tickets from unauthorized people. In order to bridge the gap between demand and supply of reserved accommodation, new trains and special trains are run and the carrying capacity of the existing trains is augmented. To facilitate easier booking of accommodation, reservation can now be done through internet, e-ticketing, post offices, petrol pumps, etc.

Train accidents

1047. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of passengers and others killed in consequential train accidents during the last three years and the cost of damage to railway property and compensation paid;

(b) the measures undertaken to check accidents;

(c) whether the safety and security of passengers and others are undermined by overloading of trains/wagons, overloading of tracks and bridges by adding frequency of trains and increasing the speed of trains, due to temptation to earn more profit by Railways; and

(d) the number of manned/unmanned crossings and their correlation with accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Number of passengers and others killed, compensation paid and loss of railway property in consequential train accidents during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 and the current year from April to 15th November, 2009, are as under:

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (April to 15th November, 2009)
Passengers Killed	38	9	53	47
Others Killed	170	182	156	89
Compensation Paid (Rupees in lakhs)	500.89	121.37	218.94	267.56 (April to October, 2009)
Loss of railway property (Rupees in lakhs)	3193.0	4055.40	5852.37	276.40* (April to October, 2009)

*Figures are provisional as inquiry reports are awaited.

(b) Safety is the prime concern of Indian Railways and all possible measures are being taken to prevent accidents which include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of

suitable technologies for up-gradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. As a result, there has been a declining trend in the number of consequential train accidents. In the current year during April to October, 2009, consequential train accidents decreased from 105 to 82 in comparison to the corresponding period of the previous year.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The number of Manned and Unmanned Level Crossings on Indian Railways as on 01.04.2009 is 17244 and 16976, respectively. As the unmanned level crossings are being progressively manned on continuous basis, unmanned level crossing accidents have decreased from 72 in 2006-07 to 65 in 2007-08 and further to 62 in 2008-09.

Duranto trains

1048. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have started non-stop air conditioned trains connecting a few cities;

(b) if so, the details of such trains known as “Duranto trains” started so far;

(c) whether all the Duranto trains have been made operational;

(d) whether Railways contemplate to introduce more such services between important cities especially in Jharkhand; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Railways have started both AC and non AC non-stop Duronto trains connecting important cities.

The following Duronto trains have been introduced so far:—

1. Sealdah-New Delhi (AC)
2. Chennai-Nizamuddin
3. Nizamuddin-Pune (AC)
4. Howrah-Mumbai CST(AC)
5. Nagpur-Mumbai CST

(c) Of the 14 pairs of Duronto trains announced, 5 pairs have been introduced, the remaining 9 pairs of trains will be introduced during the year 2009-10.

(d) At present there is no such proposal.

(e) Does not arise.

Shortage of porters

1049. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to diversion of licensed porters as gangmen by Railways, there is continuing shortage of porters in the country, particularly at big stations, causing extreme hardship to the passengers, particularly women and the elderly;

(b) whether it is also a fact that senior railway officials are not interested to recruit suitable number of porters for vested interest and existing porters are charging exorbitantly from the helpless passengers; and

(c) whether Government would solve the problem in a time-frame for the welfare of the travelling persons; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Consequent to absorption of licensed porters as Trackmen, some vacancies had arisen in the category of licensed porters. Railways have already initiated the process of assessing the vacancies and engaging additional licensed porters, wherever required, at the railway stations. The availability of licensed porters is also ensured through redeployment within the division. To overcome the problem of exploitation by the licensed porters, regular checks are conducted at stations. The badges of the licensed porters involved in such activities are impounded/suspended.

Construction of budget hotels

1050. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is not been to construct “budget hotels” for which allotment letters had already been issued and is now planning with another project “World Class Railway Stations”;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and Railway Land Development Authority (RLDA) are both pressing for claim for functioning as implementing agency for construction of “much hyped-budget hotel scheme”; and

(d) if so, her Ministry’s stand indicating selected sites of these hotels, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Development of budget hotels is an integral part of the World Class Stations proposed to be taken up at 39 railway stations over the Indian Railways. In addition, 66 railway stations across the country have been identified for development of Multi-functional Complexes, which may also have budget hotels, wherever warranted, by passenger requirements. List of the railway stations so identified is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

List of identified railway stations for Multi functional complexes

Sl. No.	List of Stations for Multifunctional Complexes	Sl. No.	List of Stations for Multifunctional Complexes
1.	Alipurduar Jn.	34.	Kathgodam
2.	Allahabad	35.	Katra
3.	Alleppey	36.	Khajuraho
4.	Anandpur Sahib	37.	Kottayam
5.	Ayodhya	38.	Kozhikkode
6.	Bansapani	39.	Kurukshetra
7.	Barddhaman	40.	Madurai Jn.
8.	Bikaner	41.	Manmad
9.	Bilaspur	42.	Mysore Jn.
10.	Cuttack	43.	Nainital
11.	Darjeeling	44.	Nasik Road
12.	Dehradun	45.	New Alipore
13.	Digha	46.	Palakkad Jn.
14.	Durg	47.	Parasnath
15.	Ernakulam Jn	48.	Rae-Bareilly Jn.
16.	Gandhidham	49.	Raipur
17.	Gangasagar	50.	Rajahmundry
18.	Ghatsila	51.	Rajgir
19.	Guntur	52.	Rajkot
20.	Gwalior	53.	Rameswaram
21.	Haldia	54.	Ranchi
22.	Haridwar	55.	Shirdi
23.	Hazur Sahib Nanded	56.	Silchar
24.	Hubli	57.	Siliguri
25.	Hyderabad	58.	Talcher
26.	Indore	59.	Tarapith Rd. (Rampurhat)
27.	Jabalpur	60.	Tiruchirappalli
28.	Jammu Tawi	61.	Tiruvalla
29.	Jasidih	62.	Trichur
30.	Jhansi	63.	Udaipur City
31.	Jodhpur	64.	Ujjain
32.	Kanniyakumari	65.	Vadodara
33.	Kannur	66.	Vishakhapatnam

Iron-ore mines in Karnataka

†1051. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether iron-ore mines project in Chikmagalur district of Karnataka has been closed;
- (b) if so, since when this project has been closed;
- (c) the reasons therefor and the number of people in that region who have become unemployed;
- (d) whether mining activity is likely to be restarted in this mine; and
- (e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Consequent upon the verdict of Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Kudremukh iron ore mining project located in Chikmagalur district in Karnataka has been stopped with effect from 1.1.2006. This was earlier being operated in the name of Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited, now renamed as KIOCL Ltd. Around 1300 direct employees and around 3,500 indirect employees have been affected by closure of the mining operations.

(d) and (e) Restarting of the mining activities cannot be undertaken without specific clearance from the Hon'ble Supreme Court, hence no specific time frame can be fixed for reopening of the mine.

Investment plans in steel sector

1052. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of major investment plans in the steel sector in Jharkhand;
- (b) the progress made so far;
- (c) whether Government has drawn any time bound implementation programme for these projects; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (d) The details of major investment plans, present progress and the schedule of implementations in respect of major steel investment proposals in Jharkhand are given below in the table:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No	Name of the Company and Location	Proposed Capacity in MTPA	Estimated Investment Rs. in crore	Date of signing of MoU	Present status and progress	Implementation Programme as per MoU
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Bokaro Steel Plant (Green field project)	Existing - 4.59 Proposed - 5.77	6325.00	—	Orders for major equipments have been placed.	Likely to be completed in 2011-12
2.	M/s. Tata Steel Limited (Green field project), Manoharpur/Chandil	Integrated Steel Plant - 12.00 (in two phases)	42000.00	8.9.2005 Extended upto 07.09.2010	Project at initial stage	The 1st phase will be set up within 36 months to 54 months from the date of receiving all statutory clearances, allotment of iron ore leases and transfer of land, free from all encumbrances.
3.	M/s. Tata Steel Limited (Expansion project), Jamshedpur	Existing - 6.8 Total Integrated Steel Plant - 10.00 (in two phases)	11000.00	8.9.2005 Extended upto 07.09.2010	Partially commissioned from 5.0 mtpa to 6.8 mtpa	Within 24 months of MoU, Tata Steel would submit a DPR, which will lay down the timelines for execution of the 2nd phase of the proposed expansion.
4.	M/s. Arcelor Mittal India Limited, Torpa, Karra, Khunti and Kamdara	Integrated Steel Plant - 12.00 (in two phases)	40000.00	8.10.2005 Extended upto 07.10.2010	Project at initial stage	The 1st phase will be set up within 48 months to 54 months from the date of submission of the DPR.

5.	M/s. JSW Steel Limited, Sonahatu, Ranchi	Integrated Steel Plant - 10.00	35000.00	9.11.2005	Project at initial stage	The plant will be completed in 84 months after grant of land and all statutory clearances.
6.	M/s. Essar Steel Jharkhand Limited, West Singhbhum	Integrated Steel Plant - 6.00	9900.00	6.7.2007	Project at initial stage	Likely to be completed 1st past in 2012-13 *
7.	M/s. Jindal Steel and Power Limited, Balkudra, Patratu	Integrated Steel Plant - 6.00	18560.00	8.11.2007	Land acquisition stage	Likely to be completed 1st phase in 2013-14 *
8.	M/s. Jindal Steel and Power Limited, Asanboni	Integrated Steel Plant - 5.00	11500.00	5.7.2005	Project at initial stage	The plant will be completed within a period of five years from the handing over of land possession and necessary availability of raw material linkage for the project.
9.	M/s. Ispat Industries Ltd., Govindpur, Karra, Khunti	Integrated Steel Plant - 2.8 (One phase)	6750.00	12.1.2007 Extended up to 12.1.2010	Project at initial stage	Likely to be completed in 2013-14 *

*As per information furnished by the respective companies

Lack of skilled manpower

1053. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's target of steel production of 120 million tonnes by 2019-20 is likely to be severely hampered due to lack of skilled manpower, estimated 2,20,000 per year, which could not be provided by present Industrial Training Institutes due to under utilization of intake for skill development; and

(b) if so, whether any mechanism has been created between the Ministries of Steel, Labour and Employment and HRD to overcome this difficulty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) Ministry of Steel commissioned the Indian Institute of Metal (IIM), Kolkata to study the requirements of Technical Manpower in view of the growing need of the Indian Iron and Steel industry. The IIM in its report on "Study on Technical Manpower in Steel Industry" — Requirement and Availability : 2007-2020 has estimated the gross requirement of Technical Manpower by the terminal year 2020, at 2,22,149 and 1,67,999 under two alternative scenario *i.e.* projected steel making capacity of 297.9 million tonnes (option-I) and 215 million tonnes (option-II) respectively. Considering option II, the report has also projected shortage of technical manpower in the disciplines of Metallurgy and Ceramic Engineering.

(b) In pursuance of the recommendations of the report to meet the shortages, Ministry of Steel has taken follow up action. The Ministry has circulated the report to all concerned Departments and Agencies *viz.* Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD), Ministry of Science and Technology and the Steel Plants with a request to take action on their part. Further, as an immediate action, Ministry of Steel has decided to create Chair Professor in Ferrous Metallurgy in all Engineering Colleges/Institutes/Universities where Metallurgical Engineering is taught for a period of 5 years, to address the problem of shortage of faculty. Similarly, to attract the students in the Metallurgical discipline, it has been decided to give Scholarship @ Rs. 4000/-pm to 5 selected under-graduate students in Metallurgical Engineering in each of these institutions. To begin with, these schemes have been implemented in 15 institutions.

Production of steel

1054. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether going by production of steel in country so far this year, India is on its way to become the third largest steel producer in world;

(b) whether India has a target of becoming world's largest steel producer by 2013 and also aims to produce 124 MT of steel by 2011-12;

- (c) to what extent the output of steel has helped India in its development; and
- (d) the steps being considered to improve the production further?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) India became the 5th largest crude steel producer in the world in the year 2006 and held this position in the years 2007 and 2008 also. As per the latest global rankings released by the World Steel Association, India has emerged as the 3rd largest crude steel producer for the period from January to September, 2009.

(b) A number of major steel companies have announced investments in steel sector, both under capacity expansion (Brownfield) plans and setting up of Greenfield projects. Taking these projects into account, it is estimated that the overall domestic crude steel production capacity is likely to reach 124 million tonnes by the year 2011-12 and 295.93 million tonnes by the year 2019-20, as per the details given in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(c) Increase in production of steel has contributed to the growth of various industries like construction, automobiles, consumer durables and other infrastructure sectors like oil and gas, capital goods, transport equipments etc. which, in turn, contributed to the overall industrial growth of the country and thereby contributed in the growth of India's gross domestic product. It has also encouraged employment growth, growth in exports and foreign exchange, better excise collection, progress in research and development and has led to improvement in India's ranking and status in world steel market as a major steel producing country.

(d) Steel being a deregulated sector decisions related to production are taken essentially by the steel producing units. The Government acts as a facilitator only and provides the overall policy environment to promote industry growth. In order to promote the domestic steel industry and to meet the projected demand, the Government has framed the National Steel Policy, 2005 and constituted an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG), under the chairmanship of Secretary (Steel), to monitor and coordinate the issues concerning major steel investments in the country related to infrastructure, raw material supply, environmental clearance and other resource constraints.

Statement

Details of Steel production by 2019-20

(In million tonnes)

Investor	Existing capacity	Brownfield capacity expansion by 2011-12	Greenfield capacity expansion by 2011-12	Total capacity likely by 2011-12	Total capacity proposed by 2019-20
1	2	3	4	5	6
Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL)	12.84	12.00	—	24.84	60.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL)	2.90	3.40	—	6.30	10.00
Tata Steel	6.80	3.20	3.00	13.00	33.50
Essar Steel	4.60	3.90	6.00	14.50	20.50
JSW Steel	6.90	4.10	—	11.00	31.00
JSPL	2.40	4.80	3.25	10.45	26.50
Ispat Industries	3.00	2.00	—	5.00	17.00
POSCO India Ltd	—	—	—	—	12.00
Arcelor Mittal India Ltd.	—	—	—	—	24.00
NMDC	—	—	—	—	3.00
Bhushan Power and Steel	1.20	—	2.80	4.00	7.00
Bhushan Steel Ltd.	0.80	—	5.20	6.00	9.00
Other and Secondary Steel	23.00	—	5.97	28.97	42.43
TOTAL :	64.44	33.40	26.22	124.06	295.93

Steel projects in Andhra Pradesh

1055. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to focus on expansion of PSU giants in steel in the current Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise especially for the steel projects of Andhra Pradesh compared to other States;

(c) the funds released and spent for the steel projects infrastructure during the last three years especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the financial conditions of each steel project especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has undertaken modernisation and expansion of its plants viz. Bhilai steel Plant in Chhattisgarh, Bokaro Steel Plant in Jharkhand, Rourkela Steel plant in Orissa, Durgapur Steel Plant and IISCO Steel Plant in West Bengal and Salem Steel Plant in Tamil Nadu. SAIL envisages increasing the installed capacity of hot metal from 13.82 million tonne per annum to 23.46 million tonne per annum in the current phase. Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL), Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) is an integrated steel plant

located at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. The plant has capacity to produce 3 million tonnes of liquid steel and is expanding its production capacity of liquid steel to 6.3 million tonnes per annum at a cost of about Rs. 12,228 crores.

(c) No budgetary support is being made by Government of India to SAIL and RINL. The capital expenditure incurred by SAIL and RINL for the three years are given as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Expenditure by SAIL	Expenditure by RINL in Andhra Pradesh
2007-08	2181	1115
2008-09	5233	2667
2009-10 (till Oct'09)	5897	1009

(d) The Profit before tax of each steel plant of SAIL for the financial year 2008-09 is given as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

Plant	2008-09
Bhilai Steel Plant	4965
Durgapur Steel Plant	754
Rourkela Steel Plant	1011
Bokaro Steel Plant	1293
IISCO Steel Plant	-182
Alloy Steel Plant	-110
Salem Steel Plant	3
Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant	-149
SAIL	9403

RINL (VSP) in Andhra Pradesh has been operating continuously over 100% of its capacities since 2001-02. This is a profit making company since 2002-03. The company had a turnover of Rs. 10,411 crores during 2008-09 with a profit of Rs. 2027 crore before tax.

Strike in steel plants

1056. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was strike and stoppage of work in some steel plants including Rourkela;

- (b) if so, the quantum of production and financial loss occurred due to it; and
- (c) whether the Steel Authority is going to finalise the long term settlement very soon in order to avoid any unwanted situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The overall estimated loss of production in plants/mines of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) are about 8 thousand tonnes of HR Coils, 68 tonnes of Hot Metal and 20,968 tonnes of Iron ore and the total financial loss is about Rs. 12.68 crores.

(c) The wage revision for the non-executive employees of SAIL is being undertaken by the Management under a national level bipartite forum called National Joint Committee for the Steel Industry (NJCSI). Negotiations for setting the issue are at an advanced stage.

—————

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, we want to know about the team.
...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Papers to be laid ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Prithviraj Chavan.
....*(Interruptions)*... Shri Prithviraj Chavan.*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, let the Home Minister make an announcement first.*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us finish this first.*(Interruptions)*... Papers to be laid on the Table of the House.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

- I. **Notifications of Ministry of Law and Justice.**
- II. **Report and Accounts (2008-09 of ICADR, New Delhi and related papers.**

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

- I. (A) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department), under sub-section (2) of Section 11 of the Delimitation Act, 2002:—
 - (1) O.N. 142 (E), dated the 12th September, 2008, publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No. 39, dated the 15th February, 2007, relating to the State of Haryana.

- (2) O.N. 143 (E), dated the 16th September, 2008, publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No.50, dated the 2nd July, 2007, relating to the State of Meghalaya.
- (3) O.N. 144 (E), dated the 16th September, 2008, publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No.32, dated the 15th December, 2006, relating to the State of Orissa.
- (4) O.N. 145 (E), dated the 25th September, 2008, publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No.33, dated the 12th December, 2006, relating to the State of Gujarat.
- (5) O.N. 146 (E), dated the 25th September, 2008 publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No.28, dated the 4th September, 2006 relating to the State of Sikkim.
- (6) O.N. 147 (E), dated the 25th September, 2008, publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No.8, dated the 12th May, 2005, relating to the State of Tripura.
- (7) O.N. 148 (E), dated the 25th September, 2008, publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No.35, dated the 28th December, 2006, relating to the State of Uttarakhand.
- (8) O.N. 149 (E), dated the 30th September, 2008, publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No.46, dated the 31st May, 2007, relating to the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (9) O.N. 153 (E), dated the 21st October, 2008, publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No.49, dated the 2nd July, 2007, relating to the State of Karnataka.
- (10) O.N. 154 (E), dated the 21st October, 2008, publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No.54, dated the 17th August, 2007, relating to the State of Bihar.
- (11) O.N. 155 (E), dated the 22nd October, 2008, publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No.18, dated the 15th February, 2006, relating to the State of West Bengal.
- (12) O.N. 156 (E), dated the 27th October, 2008, publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No.10, dated the 27th May, 2005, relating to the State of Mizoram.
- (13) O.N. 157 (E), dated the 30th October, 2008, publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No. 39, dated the 18th December, 2006 and Order No.41 dated the 30th March, 2007, relating to the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(14) O.N. 170 (E), dated the 18th November, 2008, publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No.9, dated the 31st May, 2005, relating to the State of Kerala.

(15) O.N. 171 (E), dated the 21st November, 2008, publishing corrections in the Delimitation Commission's Order No.46, dated the 31st May, 2007, relating to the State of Andhra Pradesh.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (15) See No. L.T. 841/15/09]

(B) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislature Department) Notification No. S.O. 1219 (E), dated the 15th May, 2009, publishing the Registration of Electors (Amendment) Rules, 2009, under sub-section (3) of Section 28 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 842/15/09]

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

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the International Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ICADR), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 929/15/09]

MR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. Dr. Farooq Abdullah. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Report and Accounts (2008-09) of C-WET), Chennai and related papers

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Wind Energy Technology (C-WET), Chennai, 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. 955/15/09]

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri B.K. Handique. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Notifications of the Ministry of Mines

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B. K. HANDIQUE): Sir, I to lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Mines, under sub-section (1) of Section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957:—

(1) G.S.R. 574 (E), dated the 13 August, 2009, amending the IInd schedule to Mines

and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 regarding Revision of rates of Royalty and Dead Rent in respect of minerals (other than minor minerals, coal, lignite and sand for stowing).

- (2) G.S.R. 575 (E), dated the 13 August, 2009, amending the IIIrd schedule to Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957 regarding Revision of rates of Royalty and Dead Rent in respect of minerals (other than minor minerals, coal, lignite and sand for stowing).
- (3) G.S.R. 723 (E), dated the 6th October, 2009, regarding reservation of an area of 814.71 hectare in Nagpur and Bhandara Districts in the State of Maharashtra for Manganese Ore (India) Limited.

[Placed in Library. (For (1) to (3) See No. L.T. 865/15/09]

I. Notification of the Ministry of Coal.

II. Report and Accounts (2006-07) of CMPFO, Dhanbad and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Sir, I lay on the Table—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Coal Notification G.S.R. 774 (E), dated the 22nd October, 2009, publishing the Coal Mines Pension (Amendment) Scheme, 2009, under Section 7A of the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous provisions Act, 1948.
- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—
 - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation (CMPFO), Dhanbad, for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on Account.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Organisation.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 810/15/09]

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, let the Home Minister make announcement.
....(Interruptions)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, will he make a statement? ... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Papers to be laid. ... (Interruptions)... Papers to be laid.
... (Interruptions)... Shri Salman Khursheed. ... (Interruptions)...

Notification of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, on behalf of Shri Salman Khursheed, I lay on the Table, under Section 30B of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs Notification G.S.R. 620 (E), dated the 31st August, 2009,

amending Notification No. G.S.R. 448 (E), dated the 28th June, 2007, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 845/15/09]

Notification of the Ministry of Environment and Forests

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

- I. (A) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, under Section 26 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986:—

(1) G.S.R. 543 (E), dated the 22nd July, 2009, publishing the Environment (Protection) Fourth Amendment Rules, 2009.

(2) G.S.R. 595 (E), dated the 21st August, 2009, publishing the Environment (Protection) Fifth Amendment Rules, 2009.

[Placed in Library. (For (1) and (2) See No. L.T. 893/15/09]

(3) S.O. 1802 (E), dated the 22nd July, 2009, amending Notification No. S.O. 1174 (E), dated the 18th July, 2007, inserting certain entries therein.

(4) S.O. 2399 (E), dated the 18th September, 2009, amending Notification No. S.O. 1174(E), dated the 18th July, 2007, inserting certain entries therein.

[Placed in Library. (For (3) and (4) See No. L.T. 892/15/09]

(5) S.O. 2412 (E), dated the 22nd September, 2009, amending S.O. 394 (E), dated the 16th April, 1987 to substitute certain entries therein.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 811/15/09]

- (B) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, under sub section (3) of Section 63 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, together with delay statement on the Notification:—

(1) S.O. 407 (E), dated the 28th May, 2008, repealing G.S.R. 298 (E), dated the 19th April, 2007.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 894/15/09]

(2) S.O. 820 (E), dated the 24th March, 2009, publishing the Central Pollution Control Board (Method of Recruitment, Terms and Conditions of Service of Officers and other Employees other than Member-Secretary) Amendment Regulations, 2009.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 812/15/09]

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Home Minister is here. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Home Minister is here. After the formalities are completed, if the Home Minister wishes to make a statement, he will make a statement. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Okay, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Bharatsinh Solanki.

**Report and Accounts (2008-09) PFC, New Delhi and REC,
New Delhi and related papers.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
Sir, I lay on the Table—

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

- (a) Twenty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Power Finance Corporation Limited (PFC), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1008/15/09]

- (b) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rural Electrification Corporation Limited (REC), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporations.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1007/15/09]

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF SCHEDULED
CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES**

SHRI MUKUT MITHI (Arunachal Pradesh): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Second Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on "action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-ninth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha)" on the subject "Situation arising out of the employment secured on the basis of false caste certificates".

RECOMMENDATIONS OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform the House that the Business Advisory Committee at its meeting held on the 26th November, 2009, has allotted time for the Government Business as follows:—

Business	Time allotted
1. Consideration and passing of the following Bills:—	
(a) The Legal Metrology Bill, 2008.	2 hours
(b) The National Commission for Heritage Sites Bill, 2009.	3 hours
2. Consideration and passing of the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill, 2009, as passed by Lok Sabha.	3 hours
3. Consideration and passing of the following Bills, after they are passed by Lok Sabha:—	
(a) The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2009 — To replace Ordinance.	2 hours
(b) The Essential Commodities (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2009 — To replace Ordinance.	4 hours

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Visit of Central Team to West Bengal

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I understand that some hon. Members wish to know whether and, if so, why a Central team is proposed to be sent to West Bengal.

Sir, I have been in touch with the Chief Minister of West Bengal on more than one occasion in the last few months. We are both committed to working together to ensure that law and order is maintained in West Bengal and, particularly, inter-party clashes do not take place. Sir, we had exchanged letters, and there was a good working relationship. But in view of recent incidents, I suggested to him that he should do another review. He has told me that another review will be done and he will keep in touch with me.

We, then, felt, Sir, that Centre and State have to work together not in a spirit of confrontation. But in a non-confrontational manner they have to work together. And, therefore, we felt that a team may go to Kolkata to discuss with the State Government and come back and tell us what the position is. I did say this to the Chief Minister; we wrote a letter to the West Bengal Government on the 28th, *i.e.* the day before yesterday. There has been no demur so far. Therefore, let me assure everyone that a team of officers is going to Kolkata to hold discussions with the West Bengal Government. This is not in any spirit of confrontation. We should work together so that the law and order ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. This is not in any spirit of confrontation, but in order to discuss the matter to help the State Government, in whatever manner we can help, so that the law and order is maintained and, in particular, the inter-party clashes — there are more than one party — come to an end, and we can all get along with the business of development. Therefore, I would appeal to the hon. Members not to read more into it, and to accept my statement and allow the House to continue.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, you must pardon me to the extent of invoking the fact that we have been the victims of the misuse of article 356, for the first time, in India's modern history. It happened twice in West Bengal and twice in Kerala. So, our apprehension stems from that score. Please understand the background in which we are agonised in raising the issue. We are extremely committed to the fact that is sacrosanct in our Constitutional scheme of things is the federal spirit of the Constitution. In that federal spirit there has to be a complementarity of work between the Centre and the State without infringing upon the rights of the State. The law and order is a State subject upon which there should be no infringement.

Now, as far as what the Home Minister has said is concerned, yes, during the past few months there has been cooperation between the Centre and the State not on the question of inter-party clashes, but more on the question of containing the Maoist violence in West Bengal and on that, I think, both the Governments are working together, and on that score we don't have any complaints. But the apprehension of the misuse of article 356 is there. I notice that it was not only us but also our fraternal or brotherly parties or the regional parties, all of them, had experienced such things, whether it is the DMK, the AIADMK, the Samajwadi Party, the RJD or Asom Gana Parishad. It includes the ruling benches. Dr. Farooq Abdullah is sitting here. He is also a part of it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sitaram Yechuryji, the hon. Home Minister gave a very categorical assurance. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Therefore, please understand my concern.

Coming to the present point, the Home Minister has now made a statement that the Central Government does not wish to have a confrontational situation. That is very good. But the point is that the political atmosphere in which it is being done... *(Interruptions)*... But my concern is that the political atmosphere in which it is being done, the projection is that the Central Government is interfering with the law and order situation in the State if this team is going to visit only certain specific spots. That is the political context...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is over now. The hon. Home Minister has given an assurance. After that the apprehension is disproved. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let us carry on with the business. ...*(Interruptions)*... Your leader is speaking. I have given him an opportunity. The hon. Home Minister gave an assurance. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I am seeking your indulgence, as also of the Government and the Home Minister. Please understand our predicament. You have a situation here where you have the Government of India, the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Home Minister on record saying that the greatest menace to India's internal security is the Maoist violence. You have members in the Cabinet or as Union Ministers who are, in our opinion, patronising, protecting and giving opportunities to these people. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Please listen to me. I fully sympathise...*(Interruptions)*... Please understand me. I fully sympathise that such pressures will be working on the Government. Now the point is that the question of succumbing to such pressures is detrimental to the Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sitaram Yechuryji, when the hon. Home Minister has given a categorical assurance on the floor of the House that it is only to work together, please let us go ahead with the business.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: So, I just want this Government assurance to be extended one step further that this team will not visit any other places unless there is consultation, cooperation and agreement with the State Government. That assurance we need to have. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, my statement should be accepted and the business should go on.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, the Leader of the Opposition.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, we are grateful to the Home Minister ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are not making it a party issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI AMAR SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, it is not a party issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति : वृंदा जी, आप हर चीज़ — आप देखिए, एक नोटिस था, उस पर hon. Home Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... I request all of you ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Sir, you have identified the Leader of the Opposition. Please allow him to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री अमर सिंह: सब बात करेंगे, सर। ...*(व्यवधान)*... अगर आप हाऊस नहीं चलने देना चाहते, तो ठीक है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, there was a considerable doubt in our mind which had arisen. This is today in the context of one of the States, West Bengal and tomorrow it may apply to any other State. I had said in the morning that even though we have serious differences with our friends in the Left and we are also opposed to a lot of what is happening in West Bengal, but our concern is really the federal system of governance in India. The circumstances under which the news has been appearing is entirely different from what the Home Minister has today explained in the House. The Home Minister has indicated in that direction. It is his duty as the Home Minister, it is the duty of the Union Government to assist any State if there is any form of internal disturbance or Maoist violence, but not at the behest of one of their alliance partners who wants an interference in the activities of the State. Therefore, the House would like to be assured in

consonance with what he is saying that this is only a consultation process with the State Government on maintenance of law and order in the State and does not and will not constitute any form of interference in the governance of a State which all elected State Governments are supposed to do.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us continue with the business.

श्री अमर सिंह: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, let them speak.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, it will take only a few minutes. It is an important issue.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is an important issue.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, this is a Council of States. It is our responsibility. It will take a few minutes. Please allow others also.

श्री अमर सिंह: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, आप निश्चित रहें, मैं विवाद को बढ़ाने के लिए नहीं, सुलझाने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। मैं नेता प्रतिपक्ष से तथा अपने साथी कामरेड येचुरी जी से पूरी तरह से सहमत हूँ और मैं माननीय गृह मंत्री जी की प्रबुद्धता और प्रतिबद्धता दोनों से भी सहमत हूँ, लेकिन मैं एक बात जानना चाहता हूँ कि परिस्थितियों के साथ निर्णय कैसे बदल जाते हैं? एक दल जब इधर था तो प्रगतिशील वामपंथी साथियों का समर्थन उधर था, उस समय परिस्थिति कुछ थी और जब अदला-बदली हुई तो परिस्थिति बदल गई और चूंकि न सिर्फ वामपंथी दल, चार बार ये 356 के शिकार हो चुके हैं। हमें याद है कि धर्मनिरपेक्षता के प्रश्न पर, चाहे लाभ के पद का विवाद हो, टेलिफोन टेप का विवाद हो, हमारे नेता के CBI केस का विवाद हो, उसके बावजूद भी संकट में हमने समर्थन दिया, लेकिन तब हमारे ऊपर भी राष्ट्रपति शासन की तलवार और गाज गिरी, लगभग गिर चुकी थी, ...(व्यवधान)... बयान आ गए थे समर्थन ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आज के विषय पर क्या कहना है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अमर सिंह: बिल्कुल सही है, गिर चुकी थी। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are not discussing 356. We are not discussing 355.

श्री अमर सिंह: इसलिए यह प्रश्न ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी (उत्तराखण्ड): कब गिरी? ...(व्यवधान)... कहां गिरी? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अमर सिंह: देखिए, आप हमारी आवाज दबा नहीं सकते। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: कब गिरी, कहां गिरी? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अमर सिंह: आपके नेताओं का बयान है, हम नाम नहीं लेना चाहते। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: कब गिरी, कहां गिरी? ...(व्यवधान)... अनावश्यक * बातें करने से क्या मतलब है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अमर सिंह: * बात हम नहीं करते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... * शब्द आप वापिस लीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: आपने ही कहा कि हमारे ऊपर 356 की गाज गिरी। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप conclude कीजिए, अमर सिंह जी। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अमर सिंह: सर, यह * शब्द रिकार्ड से हटवाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... यह * शब्द रिकार्ड से हटवाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... हम भी इनकी भाषा बोल सकते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... * को रिकार्ड से expunge करिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

Expunged, as ordered by the Chair.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, this word should be expunged.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If it is unparliamentary, expunge it.

श्री अमर सिंह: मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम लोग भयभीत हैं, क्योंकि जब भी इनकी सत्ता आती है, तो इनके अंदर दंभ आता है।

श्री उपसभापति: यह डिबेट नहीं है।

श्री अमर सिंह: डिबेट नहीं है, इसीलिए तो मैं कह रहा हूँ कि गृह मंत्री जी यह आश्वस्त करें कि किसी के दबाव से पश्चिमी बंगाल सरकार के प्रशासनिक काम में कोई हस्तक्षेप नहीं होगा और अगर ये ऐसा नहीं करेंगे तो फिर यह लोकशाही के साथ अन्याय होगा।

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the hon. Home Minister has made a significant statement that the Centre is not pursuing any confrontationist method with the State Government. If that is so, then, the Minister, as demanded by several colleagues, has to clarify further that law and order is the subject-matter of the State Government, that the Centre will not, in any way, interfere as far as law and order is concerned and that the Centre will not do anything which can undermine the federal structure of our governance, which has been assured and enshrined in our Constitution. This is the simple thing which we have been demanding. Whatever happens in West Bengal is known to everybody. But what is the role of the Central Government? The Central Government should abide by the Constitutional obligations, and the Centre should not undermine the principle of federalism. They have to stand by that. The Home Minister has said that there will not be any confrontation with the State Government. At the same time,...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kannan, don't answer him. I have not called you.

SHRI D. RAJA: That is what the Home Minister needs to clarify further and make it very clear.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, no less a person than the head of the CPI (M), the General Secretary, has said yesterday, "Let the Committee go". Why did he say that? It is because he totally agrees with what the Home Minister has said now that there is no apprehension at all. Then, why is there this sort of apprehension in the House ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Kerala): He is putting words in the mouth. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: When you said something, they listened to you. When he is saying something, kindly listen to him. Don't do this...(*Interruptions*)... देखिए, विजयराघवन जी, आप बोलें तो दूसरों को सुनना है, अगर दूसरे बोलते हैं, तो आप नहीं सुनेंगे, यह क्या बात है? यह ठीक नहीं है...(*Interruptions*)... Please, Brindaji, when others listen to you, you should also listen to them. That is Parliamentary decorum.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: I shall cut short my point. I will not make a speech. I would only say that violating the Parliamentary procedures, by asking for suspension of the Question Hour, is as good as violating the Constitution. When the apprehensions that they have raised, are now

allayed by the statement of the Home Minister, then, where is the need for any further discussion on that? The Leader of the Opposition also has said that they were concerned in the morning, and that he is now satisfied with what the Home Minister has said. Then, why do we have this discussion at all?

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार): सर, यह सेंटर का कोई इंस्पेक्टर राज नहीं है कि जिसको चाहे जहां भी भेज देना है, ऐसा नहीं करना चाहिए, क्योंकि इसके अंदर की बात दूसरी है, अंदर की बात कुछ और है और अगर आपको किसी को चीफ मिनिस्टर बनाना है, तो आपको यह काम नहीं करना चाहिए! यह गलत काम करने के लिए यहां बैठे हुए हैं? यह अच्छा नहीं है, क्योंकि फ़ैडरल स्ट्रक्चर है।

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION OF CHAIR

Notice issued by Lucknow bench of the Allahabad High Court to two civil servants on their conversation about changing the court's bench recorded in a CD

श्री अमर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति जी, मैं एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर आज यह बात उठा रहा हूं। मेरी नेता, प्रतिपक्ष से बात हो रही थी, अरुण जेटली जी से बात हो रही थी, वह खुद न्याय मंत्री रहे हैं और बहुत बड़े विधिवेत्ता भी हैं। न्यायपालिका के बारे में उन्होंने व्यक्तिगत बातचीत में और सार्वजनिक तौर पर भी कई बार चिंता प्रकट की है। मुझे पिछले दिनों एक तथ्य संज्ञान में आया। उत्तर प्रदेश शासन के दो बड़े अधिकारी, उनका नाम सदन में लेना ठीक नहीं है, एक केबिनेट सेक्रेटरी, उत्तर प्रदेश और उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री के प्रिंसिपल सेक्रेटरी, उत्तर प्रदेश विधान परिषद् के एक सदस्य से बात कर रहे थे और विधान परिषद् के सदस्य यह कह रहे थे कि तुम्हारा बंगला बहुत अच्छा है और वह वर्तमान मुख्य मंत्री के बंगला विस्तारीकरण का एक अंग बनना चाहिए। सात बंगले उनके अंग बन चुके हैं। अब सवाल उनके बंगले का विस्तारीकरण का है, इसके लिए मैं सदन का समय खर्च नहीं करूंगा। उस विधान परिषद् के सदस्य ने यह कह दिया कि अदालत है, कानून है, तो उन महोदयों ने कहा कि 27 तारीख के बाद अदालत और कानून का गुमान तुम्हें पता चल जाएगा और 27 तारीख के बाद सारी बेंचें बदल जाएंगी। मुझे आश्चर्य यह होता है, मैं कोई आरोप नहीं लगा रहा हूँ, कि 27 तारीख के बाद सुप्रीम कोर्ट की बेंच, जो मुख्य मंत्री का मुकदमा सुन रही है, बदल जाती है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think we cannot discuss about the Supreme Court here ...**(Interruptions)**... Please restrain yourself. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री अमर सिंह: सर, मैं कोई आरोप नहीं लगा रहा हूँ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, यह गलत आरोप लगा रहे हैं...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया आप बैठिए, मैं बता रहा हूँ, मैं point out कर रहा हूँ...**(व्यवधान)**... The Chair is seized of the matter.**(Interruptions)**...

श्री अमर सिंह: लखनऊ उच्च न्यायालय ने इस वार्तालाप को संज्ञान में ले लिया है, इसका टेप रिकॉर्ड है और इन दोनों संबद्ध अधिकारियों को नोटिस दिया गया, इसलिए यह कहना कि मैं सुप्रीम कोर्ट की अवमानना कर रहा हूँ, यह गलत है। मैं कोई आरोप नहीं लगा रहा हूँ, मैं यह सिर्फ आपको अवगत करा रहा हूँ कि लखनऊ उच्च न्यायालय ने इस बात को संज्ञान में लेकर इन दोनों अधिकारियों को नोटिस दे दिया है। मुझे ताज्जुब यह होता है कि मुख्य मंत्री सचिवालय के ये दोनों * बेंच को बदलवाने की बात कर रहे थे ...**(व्यवधान)**...

Expunged, as ordered by the Chair.

श्री उपसभापति: यह * शब्द unparliamentary है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अमर सिंह: महोदय, इन दोनों अधिकारियों का अभिभावक कौन है, किसके कहने से यह बेंच बदली जा रही है, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ? यह बहुत serious matter है। इसका पता लगना चाहिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी: महोदय ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप बैठिए ...(व्यवधान) ... Shri Ali Anwar Ansari.

श्री वीरेन्द्र भाटिया (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: भाटिया जी, आप बैठिए ...(व्यवधान) ... दूसरे का समय समाप्त हो रहा है ...(व्यवधान)...

Death of labourers on Manali-Leh Highway in Himachal Pradesh

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार): महोदय, पिछले हफ्ते हिमाचल प्रदेश के मनाली-लेह मार्ग पर रोहतांग दर्रे के बीच बर्फीले तूफान में फंस कर झारखंड के पाकुड़ इलाके के सात नौजवान मारे गए, और भी लोग मारे गए, उनमें से कुल 14 लाशें निकाली गईं। रोज लाशें निकाली जा रही हैं। ये लोग निहायत गरीब और पिछड़े मुसलमान थे और ये सभी बॉर्डर रोड ऑर्गेनाइजेशन में काम करते थे ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ (Orissa) : Sir, why should there be mention of Muslim and Hindu in it? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is making a Zero Hour Mention. How can I...*(Interruptions)*... If there is anything objectionable in it; you bring it to my notice, I will delete it. But, don't disturb him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी: मरने वाले लोग गरीब थे, पिछड़े थे, वह पिछड़ा राज्य भी है और वे भी पिछड़े थे, तो इसमें आपको क्या आपत्ति हो रही है? महोदय, यह कोई एक घटना नहीं है। लेह तक जो सड़क जाती है, वह छः महीने तक बंद रहती है और जो अंतिम खेप आता है, उस अंतिम खेप के लोग उसी में मर खप जाते हैं। यह हर साल होता है और उनकी लाशें पड़ी रहती हैं। वहां पोस्टमार्टम हाउस में पांच दिन तक लाशें पड़ी रहीं। हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार ने झारखंड सरकार को खबर दी और झारखंड सरकार के अधिकारियों ने इस बारे में कोई नोटिस नहीं लिया। महोदय, ये सब गरीब लोग थे। मैं आपका बताऊं कि इनके पैर में हवाई चप्पल थी, जहां इतनी ठंड पड़ती है, वहां ये लोग हवाई चप्पल में थे। ये लोग ठेके के मजदूर थे। ठेकेदार भाग जाता है और बॉर्डर रोड ऑर्गेनाइजेशन इसकी जिम्मेदारी नहीं लेता है.. और लाशें सड़ने-गलने लगती हैं। वहां जामा मस्जिद में इनको दफनाया गया। महोदय, अगर ये अमीर होते, अगर ये प्रभावशाली और पैसे वाले होते, तो हिमाचल सरकार या झारखंड सरकार हेलीकॉप्टर या हवाई जहाज से उनकी लाशों को ले जाती। महोदय, यह एक वाक्या नहीं है, हर साल इस तरह की घटनाएं होती हैं। हम कहना चाहते हैं कि आप सरकार को इंस्ट्रक्शन्स दें कि इसकी जवाबदेही तय की जाए ताकि इस तरह की घटनाओं की पुनरावृत्ति न हो और जो इनके परिवार के लोग हैं, उनको मुआवजा और सरकारी नौकरी दी जाए, यही मैं मांग करता हूँ।

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी इस विषय से एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

Expunged, as ordered by the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All the Members associate with this issue.

Crisis in NTPC power house in Bihar

श्री प्रभात झा (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, देश में बिजली की बहुत कमी है और 1980 मेगावाट की योजना एक * के कारण किस तरह से अधर में लटक गई है, वह भी कुछ नेताओं के कारण और उन नेताओं के नाम इंटरपोल और सी.बी.आई. के सामने भी आए हैं। सी.बी.आई. की रिपोर्ट पर ऊर्जा मंत्रालय और विदेश मंत्रालय ने संयुक्त रूप से रूस की कंपनी टेक्नोप्रोमो एक्सपोर्ट के 2066 करोड़ रुपए के ठेके को रद्द करने की सिफारिश अभी हाल ही में की है, जिसे भारत सरकार के सरकारी उपक्रम एन.टी.पी.सी. ने दिया था। टेक्नोप्रोमो एक्सपोर्ट रूस की कंपनी है, जिसे बिहार की बाढ़ स्थित थर्मल पावर स्टेशन को बिजली के उपकरण सप्लाई करने का ठेका मिला था। सारी चीजों के बाद इंटरपोल ने इसमें इसलिए enter किया कि सौ करोड़ रुपए इसमें * की रकम लंदन भेजा गया। ये सारी बातें आई हैं और इसमें एक ** नाम की बिचौलिया है। ** की एक कंपनी है।

श्री उपसभापति: नाम मत लीजिए, नाम निकाल दीजिए।

श्री प्रभात झा: इसमें कहा गया है कि सी.बी.आई. के अनुसार इस कार्य में 2.1 मिलियन डॉलर अर्थात् सौ करोड़ रुपए की * दी गई है और 3.33 करोड़ रुपए रवीना एंड एसोसिएट्स कंपनी को दिए गए हैं। महोदय, आप जानते हैं कि बिहार जैसे प्रांत में और पूरे भारत में बिजली की कमी है। यह परियोजना 2006 में शुरू हुई और अब 2009 चल रहा है। इस परियोजना के लिए अब सरकार ने कह दिया है कि आगे कोई कार्यवाही नहीं होगी, सारा काम रोक दिया जाए और यह * कांग्रेस के मुझे नाम नहीं लेना है, लेकिन कांग्रेस के एक बहुत बड़े नेता, जो अखबारों में भी आया है, उन लोगों ने इस कंपनी को मदद की है, जिसने * खाई है। तो क्या * के कारण भारत अंधेरे में रहेगा? क्या भारत की बिजली की समस्याएं इस तरह से रोक दी जाएंगी? मैं चाहता हूँ कि सरकार उजागर करे कि कांग्रेस के वे कौन नेता हैं, जो इस रवीना एंड एसोसिएट्स कंपनी को समर्थन दे रहे थे? किसके पैसे थे? किसके साथ इस कंपनी की मैत्री थी? अगर यह उजागर नहीं होता है, तो देश में ऐसे ही हज़ारों मेगावाट की परियोजनाएं रुकी रहेंगी और भारत आने वाले वर्षों में अंधेरे में रहेगा और इस अंधेरे को दूर करने के लिए ऐसे बिचौलिए जबकि उसमें कंडीशन है कि इसमें कोई बिचौलिया नहीं चाहिए और जब नहीं चाहिए तो उसके बावजूद यह बिचौलिया कैसे पहुंचा? महोदय, कांग्रेस के उन नेताओं का नाम इस सदन में उजागर होना चाहिए, जो देश को अंधेरे की ओर ले जाते हैं।

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY (Orissa): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K. B. SHANAPPA (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR (Gujarat): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

Exposure of workers to radioactive substance in Kaiga Nuclear Power Plant

श्री कलराज मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, कर्णाटक के कैगा परमाणु संयंत्र में विकिरण की घटना को साजिश मानते हुए भारतीय परमाणु ऊर्जा निगम के प्रमुख ने कहा है कि जान-बूझकर पेयजल

*Expunged, as ordered by the Chair.

**Not recorded

वाटर कूलर में रेडियोधर्मी ट्राइटियम रखा गया, जिससे लगभग पचास कर्मचारी इसके प्रभाव में आ गए और उनका प्राथमिक उपचार किया गया है। एन.पी.सी.आई.एल. प्रमुख के अनुसार इन कर्मचारियों के शरीर में रेडियोधर्मी तत्व की सीमा ज्यादा पाई गई, जो कि परमाणु ऊर्जा नियामक बोर्ड के मानक से ज्यादा है। उसके पूर्व भी तारापुर में परमाणु ऊर्जा केंद्र में इसी तरीके की शिकायत पाई गई थी। इसके पूर्व तमिलनाडु परमाणु संयंत्र के करीब एक विदेशी विमान पहुंच गया था। परमाणु संयंत्र की सुरक्षा को लेकर इस प्रकार की हरकत किसी गंभीर साजिश को अंजाम देने की तैयारी हो सकती है। महोदय, परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र के अंतर्गत इस प्रकार की घटनाएं लगातार हो रही हैं। और इसके बारे में सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से जिस गंभीरता से ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए, वह ध्यान नहीं दिया जा रहा है। परिणामस्वरूप ऐसे संयंत्रों में इस प्रकार की घटनाएं लगातार देखने को मिल रही हैं और ऐसा लग रहा है कि जिस तरीके से परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र के ऊपर — जो आतंकवादियों का एक टारगेट बना हुआ है, सुरक्षा व्यवस्था की कमी को ध्यान में रखते हुए वे इसी माध्यम से किसी भी समय किसी भी भयंकर घटना को परिणाम दे सकते हैं — इस प्रकार की स्थिति का निर्माण हो सकता है। यद्यपि हमारे मंत्री जी और अध्यक्ष ने यह जरूर कहा है कि इसकी गंभीरता से जांच की जा रही है और जांच करने के पश्चात जो भी इसके लिए दोषी पाए जाएंगे, उनके विरुद्ध कार्यवाही होगी। लेकिन इसके पहले तमिलनाडु में विमान का आना, तारापुर में इस प्रकार की घटना का घटित होना और इसके तत्काल बाद वाटर कूलर में ट्राइटियम का पाया जाना और पानी का प्रदूषित होना, यह इस बात का द्योतक है कि जिस प्रकार की सुरक्षा व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए वह नहीं हो रही है और इस संबंध में जिस प्रकार की गंभीरता की अपेक्षा की जाती है, उस अपेक्षा की पूर्ति नहीं की जा रही है। मैं सदन के माध्यम से यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि इसके बारे में विशेष ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है।

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री विक्रम वर्मा (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री भारतकुमार राऊत (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Sir, the issue is very important, because it was only on 16th November, 2009, on the advice of the United States of America, the Government of India had issued an Alert Notice to all the nuclear plants in the country. While interrogating David Hadley, they got information that terrorists are going to target nuclear plants in India and have visited some of the plants. That is why additional security measures were taken and, as a part of it, security was also upgraded. But, it is very unfortunate that we got information that there are some disgruntled scientists in the complex. If there are some disgruntled scientists within the complex, it is more dangerous. They become tools in the hands of terrorists and that will be another serious threat to the nation. So, Sir, my point is, if they have identified the disgruntled scientists, they must take care of that. Also, Sir, precautionary measures should be taken up to save the lives, security of employees and also installations.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Kerala): Sir, I have also given notice on this. So, I also associate myself with the issue raised. I request that the Government should make a statement on this. Thank you.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, while associating myself with the issue, I would like to say...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The entire House is associated with it ...*(Interruptions)*... This is Zero Hour. I cannot change the rules. ...*(Interruptions)*... Brindaji, I cannot change the rules...*(Interruptions)*... You can give a separate notice on this....*(Interruptions)*...

Impact of Dubai debt crisis on India

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Kerala): Mr. Deputy Chairman Sir, the debt default reports from Dubai have shaken the markets all over the globe. It has its impact on the global share market as well. It has also its impact on the currency market all over the world. And, it has created a panic situation even in our country. Sir, Dubai is an Emirate where 60 per cent of its population is from outside and, among them, the Indian population is in majority. Nearly 2 million Indian expatriates are working there. We have good investment in that country. After this situation now, on the one hand, we have deep concern about their investment and, on the other, since a good number of them are workers, especially, from my State, Kerala, we are also concerned about their future. We have more than 1.5 million Keralites working in Dubai. So, a good number of them will be forced to come back. As we are already reeling under global recession which made lakhs of Keralites to send back their families to the State. It has its own negative impact on the economy of the State. The unskilled workers in the construction industry already lost their jobs. So, naturally, lakhs of workers working there are going to lose their employment. So, it is a matter of concern and the Government has to come forward and address the concerns of the people, the concern of my State and the concerns of the nation.

The first response of the Government, in the direction to resolve the issue, is not satisfactory. So, I would like to urge upon the Government to look into this matter and announce some package for those who are coming back to their State. Utmost importance should be given to this issue. I would also like to request the Government to come forward with a statement in this regard. Of course, there is a Minister who is looking after this issue, but I have not heard anything from him so far.

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh) : Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri A. Vijayaraghavan, has said.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri A. Vijayaraghavan, has said.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri A. Vijayaraghavan, has said.

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): Sir, I had given a notice on the issue of bomb blasts in Goa. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; no. Mr. Naik, I am calling only those Members whose notices have been accepted by the Chairman. Now, Shri P. Rajeeve.

Indian stand in the last meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the stand taken by India, supporting the Resolution against Iran in the IAEA. This is for the third time in the last four years that India is voting for a Resolution against Iran in the IAEA. This is actually a beginning of another sanction era against Iran. This Resolution is for 'freeze uranium enrichment'. The uranium is used in cancer treatment also. Iran is a signatory to the NPT. It is a sovereign country. The country has a right to develop it for peaceful purposes. India's present stand is, in fact, against its previous stand in the IAEA. The present stand taken by India has actually been dictated by the USA. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Kerala): What is he saying, Sir! ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Please allow me to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Prof. Kurien, please let him speak what he wants to.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: It's okay, then, Sir! ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: This stand has actually been dictated by the USA. It has been reported in the newspapers that during the meetings between the Obama Administration and the Indian Administration. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please don't read the newspaper.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, even the National Security Advisory, Mr. Narayanan, also talked to the Obama Administration in this regard. This is, in fact, an attack on India's sovereignty. I would like to request the House to stand up against this and register its protest against this act on the part of Indian Government.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

Failure of online CAT examination at certain place

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT (Maharashtra): Sir, I rise to draw the attention of the House towards the panic amongst the students, appearing for the Common Admission Test, popularly known as the CAT, for admission to IIMs all over India. The first experiment of the online test has failed due to, what is called, 'technical snag'. I am really surprised by the attitude of the IIM Management. When all students, on Saturday and Sunday, went to appear in the CAT examination at various centres all over India, the servers did not log on. The students had worked hard for the examination. They went to the centres with great aspirations. But when the servers did not log on and they had to go back or change the centre. Some were asked to come

the next day, that is, on Sunday. And, on Sunday too the examination could not take place. But the IIM management says that it is a minor issue and nothing serious has happened. The contract for conducting this online examination was given to an American company. I would not like to name that company here. But the same company has been entrusted the responsibility of conducting the GMAT examination too. I don't know what is the status in the matter, now. Sir, at least, 50 per cent of the students could not take their examination. What is their fate? What is their future? The students, who are aspiring to take admissions in the IIMs, the foremost and premium management education institutes in India, have really been working hard to get success in the examination. But, when the time came, they could not even log on. You can imagine the plight and the mental situation of those students.

Sir, in Mumbai, students, not only from the city but also from the remote areas, had come on Friday night to appear in the examination. They spend a night there. On Saturday, they go to the examination Centre. They are asked to hold on for another day. Again, on Sunday, they go to the examination centre, but they are asked to go back. Where do they stay? In the morning, I received a complaint from a candidate from Lucknow. Children, from areas near to Lucknow had also come there. There was a cold wave. They stranded in Lucknow for two days and, again, went back. Now, the IIM is saying that exams have been rescheduled. Rescheduling of exam will be of no use. If the exam is rescheduled for sometime in December, at that time, (Time-bell) there would be other examinations also. Therefore, I request the House to take up the matter. Please do not play with the future of these children. They are our future managers. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to take care of this and come back to the House with a proper answer.

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY (Orissa): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet at 2.00 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at forty-one minutes
past twelve of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at two of the clock,
[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.]

GOVERNMENT BILL

The Legal Metrology Bill, 2008

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us take up the Legal Metrology Bill, 2008. Yes; Mr. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): Sir, I beg to move that the Bill to establish and enforce standards of

weights and measures, regulate trade and commerce in weights, measures and other goods which are sold or distributed by weight, measure or number and for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.

The question was proposed.

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया (झारखंड): उपसभापति महोदय, we are discussing the विधिक मापविज्ञान विधेयक, 2008, i.e., the Legal Metrology Bill, 2008 and I would like to make some observations on it. Sir, many Members were asking, 'what is this 'legal metrology and is there any 'illegal metrology' also? So, why is this name!'

Then, what does this 'metrology' mean? If we read the Hindi name of 'metrology', it is 'मापविज्ञान'; the Hindi name is 'मापविज्ञान', 'science to measure'. Sir, it is not a new thing. If you read the ancient text, 'मनुस्मृति', you will find that one of the duties of the King was that the King should examine the weights and balances every six months to ensure true measurement and to mark them with the royal stamp. I am not saying this; it is mentioned in 'मनुस्मृति', Chapter 8 and Shloka number 403. So, this was mentioned in ancient India. ... (Interruptions)... अरे, उहरिए भाई। मैं हर चीज का पंडित नहीं हूँ। मैं संस्कृत में शपथ जरूर लेता हूँ, लेकिन श्लोक याद नहीं रखता। ... (व्यवधान)... मैं आपको इतिहास याद दिलाता हूँ और याद दिलाने के लिए यह बताता हूँ कि जब जहांगीर के यहां बेटा हुआ, तो उसका वजन करने के लिए उसको भी एक तराजू पर बैठाकर वजन किया गया। That is also a way of measurement. अब आप कहेंगे कि मैं जहांगीर के टाइम में पैदा ही नहीं हुआ, तो कोट क्यों कर रहा हूँ, ऐसा नहीं है। (Interruptions)...

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS (Karnataka: Ahluwaliaji, my book 'Legal and Constitutional History of India', is a textbook for the law degree; everything is there, including Shloka.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Good, Sir. Good, good. ... (Interruptions)... Sir, in the Harappan era, which is nearly 5000 years old, one finds excellent examples of town planning and architecture. That is again a metrology. The sizes of the bricks were the same all over the region. Even the brick size is same. In Harappan excavation, the Archaeological Department's people and the foreign archaeologists found the bricks of same size in the entire Harappan area. That means that there was a system earlier. Now we have three inch thick and six inch thick bricks available, but in those days, different types of bricks of the same size were available. Sir, during the time of Chandragupta Maurya, some 2400 years ago, there was a well-defined system of weights and measures. The Government of that time ensured that everybody used the same system. In the Indian medical system, Ayurveda, the units of mass and volume were well-defined. Sir, when we were under the Imperial rule of Britain and during the time of Mughals, the system of yard or gaj was used. Even now, when we go to the rural parts of India, they say, कितने गज का सामान लेना है? And if you go to Maharashtra and ask for a saree, they ask, 'कितने हाथ की साड़ी लेनी है, सात हाथ, नौ हाथ, तेरह हाथ?' So, they measured it with hands.

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दंडा (महाराष्ट्र): आप साड़ी को बीच में क्यों लाए?

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया: मैं गज और मीटर की बात कह रहा हूँ। जो बिल पढ़ा है, इसमें इन्होंने कहा है, to establish and enforce standards of weights and measures, regulate trade and commerce in weights, measures and other goods which are sold or distributed by weight, measure or number and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. मापना, नापना और नंबर अर्थात् संख्या से गिनना, इन तीनों चीजों का जो मापदंड है, उसके लिए यह legal metrology बिल है।

Sir, after 1947, the Britishers discussed with the Indian Government and they wanted to bring a new Bill. They wanted to bring changes; पहले तौला, रक्ती तौला, मासा, सेर, मन, पसेरी का हिसाब चलता था, उसके बाद they thought they should use ounces, pounds, gallons and all these things. Then we switched over to the metric system. The first Bill came in 1956 — the legislation of Weights and Measures Act, 1956. After that there were two Bills —one in 1976 and another in 1985— and now they have brought this Bill in 2008, which is not only a new Bill but also seeks to repeal the earlier two Bills. I do not know why, the provisions that you wish to incorporate today were not incorporated in the 1976 or 1985 Bills. Most of the clauses that are being brought today were part of the regulation passed in 1985. Sir, this Bill seeks to bring in laboratories and testing centres. In January, 1950, the National Physical Laboratory was inaugurated by the then Deputy Prime Minister, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The prime duty of the National Physical Laboratory was to look into the issue of the legal metrology system and they were the testing centres. With the passage of time, and with globalisation, the markets lying in far-flung areas came closer. Earlier we were not doing trade and commerce with many countries; now the entire world is open for trade and commerce. Now, we have to interact with them and we have to do trade and commerce with those countries or Governments. So we have to maintain universal metrology, which means we need to see whether the measures are same or not, whether the weight is same or not, whether the number is same or not. When we are talking about European Union; when we are talking about America; when we are talking about Britain and when we are talking about ASEAN countries, we have to maintain a uniform metrology.

Sir, something new that this Bill has brought is that it allows a company to nominate one of its Directors to be responsible if the company commits an offence. I think this has come from this notion that, say, a pharmaceutical company is manufacturing a tablet of 10 mg that you are taking for your treatment, and instead of 10 mg the tablet is carrying 9.5 mg. For each tablet, the company is saving 0.5 mg. If it is caught, who will be responsible in the whole company? Now to fix the responsibility of one man, this Bill is brought. Now suppose it is gold. It may be 10 gm gold, or, 20 gm gold, or, 50 gm gold or 100 gm gold. It's value is very high. If it is 9.999 gm in place of 10 gm, who will be responsible? Normally, they write 9.999 per cent purity. If in the guise of this mention they cheat customers, who will be responsible? Similar is the case for grocery items also. You buy a packet because you believe the packet and what is written on the label. When you buy cloth or wire or anything which can be measured by length, you believe the

stamping on the product and what is written on the product. The entire trade and commerce is done on the basis of quality and quantity. For quality, there are standards. For quantity also there are standards, but still we are lacking something. So, there we want a uniformed system which can match the international market, and that is the reason that this Bill is brought. Now, there is a procedure for appeals. The appeal procedure does not follow the principle of separation of power because it allows senior Government officers to act as an appellate body instead of courts. Now, everything is in your hands. Why do you want to keep this appellate authority in your hand? You are a regulator. The appellate authority should be under the judiciary or some other independent organisation. Then the Bill is not clear whether imported pre-packaged goods can display other units in addition to the standard units of weights and measures. Also non-metric system is used in land measurement. Today the Chinese products are flooded in the market. If you buy a Chinese product, sometimes you do not find anything or any instruction in English. It is in Chinese or in Arabic. You cannot read what is written there and what is the specification. Not only the measurements, but also other instructions and cautions should be mentioned in an international language which is known in that area. Chinese and Arabic are international languages as far as the United Nations is concerned, but they are not known to the Indian population.

Of course, if it is written in English, one can understand. So, there is no such provision for the imported packaged products. Now, although the Standing Committee has recommended about the Government-approved testing centres to verify the weights and measures, rule-making power should remain with the State Governments. Since local conditions differ from State to State, there should be provisions for taking cognisance of offence.

Now, while framing this Bill, a Central Act, you should see this aspect also. I was looking into the websites of the Maharashtra Government. The Legal Metrology Department of Maharashtra is well advanced. So, if they are advanced and they have a system, local laws are there, local legal formalities are there, have you incorporated those conditions that tomorrow, if you want to enforce this for those who are violating this, whether they can be punished under the Central Act or the State Act? Who will be the enforcement agency? And, if it is a State, and if States are objecting because they already have their laws, are they also going to repeal their laws and ultimately adopt this law? Or, are they going to accept it in totality and pass similar laws in their States? That point is not clear. Sir, there are certain discrepancies. I just wanted to do a small comparison between the Bill of 2008 and The Standard of Weights and Measures Act, 1976, and Standard of Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1985. The definition in the 2008 Bill is, "Legal metrology means the treatment of instruments and units of weights and measures to meet mandatory technical and legal requirements in order to ensure the security and accuracy of the weights and measures." I believe, you have taken this from Manu Smriti,

where a King is bound to check this within six months' time. And, I do not know since when UPA Government started copying the Manu Smriti because, this definition was not there in the Acts of 1976 or 1985. ...(*Interruptions*)...

Now, Sir, regarding exports, the Bill says, "provisions of the Act do not apply if weight or measures is manufactured exclusively for export", whereas in 1976 or 1985, exports of weights and measures is regulated. Now, in the case of export, why is it not regulated? One should see in detail as to why it is not regulated. Then, I come to 'approval of model'. Every person has to get an approval of the model of weight or measures he wants to import or manufacture from an authority to be prescribed. Some categories are exempted such as cast iron, brass, bullions, etc. The Standard of Weights and Measures Act of 1976 and the Act of 1985 say that every person has to get an approval of the model of weight or measures he wants to make or manufacture in the manner to be prescribed from the Central Government. Some categories are exempted such as cast iron, brass, bullion, etc, and any means for measuring instrument manufactured for exclusive domestic use unless used by the medical profession. Here, the point was different. Now, there are three types of measurements done — one is the manual measurement; another is the mechanised measurement; and the third is the digital measurement. Now, who is going to do the calibration? It was done by the National Metrological Institute and especially the National Physical Laboratory will do it, or you are going to come out with a new National Metrological Institute which is going to do it — the calibration and regulation check of the calibrations.

With regard to registration, a person has to register with the Director in order to import any weight or measure; the imported weight or measure has to conform to specified standards. In the Acts of 1976 and 1985, it was written, a person has to register with the Director in order to import or export any weight or measure; and, all users of weights and measures have to register with the Controller except the international vendors.

As far as verification is concerned, weight or measure to be used for transactions has to be verified in the prescribed manner by the Controller. According to the earlier law, the weight or measure to be used for transaction has to be verified in the prescribed manner by the Controller, and, it has to be re-verified periodically. So, it was little better. But now, it is 'once'. The 2008 Bill speaks about allowing Government approved test centres to verify prescribed weights and measures. The centre shall be notified by either the Central or the State Government; which was not allowed by the earlier Act.

With regard to the liability of the Company, a company can nominate a Director who shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the law. The earlier provision was that every person, who was in charge of the company, shall be liable in case the company has committed an offence. Normally, what happens is that the Chairman or the Managing Director decides the policy of the company. The calibration is done. The calibration of the equipment, weighing balances is done by the National Physical Laboratory or the National Metrological Institute. But

later on, it is manipulated. The worker or the person who is working on them is not aware of the manipulation done on the weighing scale or manipulation done in the calibration. Now, only one person, the Director, the nominated Director is the scapegoat. Not the policymaker, who will take the decision, commercial decision, or, the manufacturing decision, but a director, maybe a law officer, or, maybe an instrument officer, will be liable for this. I do not know whether he will be a certified person or not because the qualification of the Director is not mentioned here. If he is not an instrument engineer, what will he do and how will he know that the calibration is not manipulated. If he is only a shareholder of the company or *rishtedaar* of the owner, he will manipulate these things.

As far as rules are concerned, the Central Government has the power to make rules. The earlier provision was, the State Government may make rules relating to enforcement after consulting the Central Government. We are discussing this matter in the Council of States, and, if the right of the State is snatched by the Central Government, I would protest there. As a Member of the Council of States, I am duty-bound to protect the interest of my State. So, why will you not allow a State Government to make rules with the approval of the Central Government?

Now, for packaged commodity, every pre-packaged commodity has to be manufactured, packed, imported or sold in such standard quantities or numbers as may be prescribed. But whereas in 1976 or 1985, it mentioned, commodities in package form shall be made or sold with the label, which states the identity of the commodity, the net quantity, accurate number of the commodity, if sold by number, sale price and unit sale price.

Now, everyday we watch the *Jago Grahak* campaign in television. The customer must wake up. And, there they say don't believe what is written there. That is the maximum retail price. You can still bargain. But now you want a packaged system where the price is not mentioned. Why? You must have a price. Otherwise it will be a self-defeating argument on television by the Consumer Department, Government of India that *Jago Grahak*.

Then come penalties. It enhances fines for offences and in some cases terms of imprisonment. Earlier it prescribed fines and imprisonment for offences such as use, manufacture or sale of non-standard weight or measure, use of unverified weight or measure and use of counterfeit seals. So, simply saying that we have enhanced the fines and imprisonment is not going to solve the problem. What are the offences? That should be specified. Why has it not been specified in this 2008 Bill? Sir, clause 49 sub clauses (1) and (2) talk about nomination of Director which I have already explained. Then, clause 50 sub clause (1) talks about appeals. I have already raised that issue. Then, Sir, use of non-metric system, that is, clause 11 and 7. The Bill states that only standard weights, measures or numbers shall be used and it defines standard weights and measures as weights and measures which follow the metric system. Use of non-standard weights or measures is a punishable offence. I can understand that instead of using kilogram, they can't use *sair* or in place of tons or metric tons,

they cannot use mans. That I can understand. But here there is a lacuna. It is not clear that if a good displays some other unit such as pound — if it is Great Britain, it is pound — whether we will accept it or not. It is not mentioned here. In addition to standard units, this issue may frequently occur in case of pre-packaged goods imported from countries that use different system.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: How much time will you take?

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: I am just concluding, Sir. Currently non-metric measurements are frequently used in some fields such as land measurement. Still we are calculating our land into *bighas* and acres. We have not started the measurement in metric system. This Bill would require all such measurement to use the metric system only.

Sir, the Standing Committee very categorically said that instead of allowing Government-approved test centres to verify weights and measures, the State Government organisations should be strengthened, trained and equipped through Central grant to carry on verification because Central Government cannot start these testing centres in every State, right from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and from Kutch to Kohima. They may be planning to outsource it. They may bring some foreign company and outsource it. Some weights and measures company from Canada or U.K. or France or Germany will come and take over. So, instead of doing that, I believe, that it should be done by some Government organisation because if you allow the multi-national weights and measures company, which is the normal practice in Europe and America, if you adopt the similar line here, then, there are chances of manipulation because you are not depending on Government authority, you are depending on individuals or business houses which are making money.

Their business is to earn more money. So, they may be pliable. They may be going to play in the hands of the manipulators. That is not fair. Rule-making powers should remain with the State Government since local conditions differ from State to State.

If you go to Nagaland, you will find different situations; if you go to Goa, you will find another system; and if you go to rural Bihar, or Bengal, or Orissa, you will find another system. Why don't you allow the State Governments to make the rules? There should be provisions for cognisance of offence. First you take cognisance of it and then say, yes, he has done some cognisable offence. Then only you can fine or punish a person. That can be done by an enforcement officer at the ground level, that is, a Government officer. Otherwise, what will happen if you outsource everything? An outsourcing company will report to you and on the basis of his report — which may be a manipulated one, that is my apprehension — you are going to punish your own people.

These are my small submissions before the House. While passing the Bill if the Minister confirms that he is going to bring all these things together, I am in support of the Bill. Thank you, Sir.

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा: इनका जो भाषण हुआ, इनको measurement करके भाषण देना चाहिए था।

श्री उपसभापति: वह measurement हम करेंगे।

श्री एस०एस० अहलुवालिया: आपने बोला था 20 से 30 मिनट में खत्म कर दीजिएगा, मैंने 29 मिनट में खत्म कर दिया।

SHRI P. KANNAN (Puducherry): Sir, I am very happy to speak on the Legal Metrology Bill, 2008. It is my maiden speech or deliberations or comments. Our party leader, Kurien sahib, contacted me today and asked me if I will speak on it. I agreed happily because this is a thing which is very much affecting the people of the country, particularly the poor people of the country. Our perception of measurement may be an inch or a gram, but in respect of money, we cannot imagine the amount looted by big houses — not all big houses but some big houses — and some companies and some people who are in the trade. At least I cannot imagine how much money they make by illegal means. That money belongs to poor people, the middle class people. And, of course, affluent people also pay for that without minding for that.

Sir, I would like to bring these things to the notice of the House. If I start from the Public Distribution System (PDS), I am hundred per cent sure, not only in my State but, invariably, throughout the country, people living below the poverty line are not given the quantity or amount they should be given. I can say that it is 100 per cent true, whichever Government may be in the State. I don't want to do any politics here. No politics. I have seen many people coming to me and telling that instead of one kilogram, they are given 700 or 800 grams, particularly sugar and all those things. They don't have pucca measurement. They don't have uniform measurement machines throughout the country, as Mr. Ahluwalia said. I don't know what can be done in this regard throughout the country because it is a matter of whole country. States have got their own powers. Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the House that we can do something in this regard to have uniform measurement machines as we do in elections, like Electronic Voting Machines. When you can do it for voting, why don't you do it for PDS, for every measure and for every commodity? If it can be done in coordination with the State Governments, then, we can sort out the differences in measurement so that people can get the correct quantity.

Sir, we are seeing some good advertisements on television. I really appreciate that. Sometimes, even if it is in Hindi, it serves the purpose. It's a very good thing. We have seen on television the advertisement that one lady is purchasing and the other lady comes and tells her the nitty-gritty about price, measurement, etc. It is a good thing. It has to be done vigorously and rigorously. It has to go to the rural people. Then, there will be awareness. Without people's awareness, we can't do this successfully.

Secondly, Sir, the supervisory machinery normally is with the Government people. Of course, there are bureaucrats. Without bureaucrats and executive, we can't implement all these things. We need them. We want them. There are many good bureaucrats. Of course, our Prime

Minister, hon. Manmohan Singhji, was a bureaucrat. We had such a wonderful bureaucrat and he has become the Prime Minister of the nation. By God's grace, now he is leading the nation...*(Interruptions)*... I am sorry. He is leading the nation in a new era, I can say, in a golden era. It is not because I belong to the Congress Party that is why I am saying this. He is being appreciated throughout the world. But, Sir, we can't totally rely on bureaucrats and bureaucracy. Things like what to do and how to do have to be sorted out. I am just putting forward this suggestion. This can be subject to alteration, correction or anything else. I don't mind rejection. You are there to reject. Mr. Deputy Chairman is here.

The next thing is, I would like to involve consumers, sellers and officers. Not only one officer. Normally, when we go to Revenue Department to get a certificate, the certificate is not given by a single officer. You all must be knowing that. What they call it is a lower level officer. It is a village level officer. He gives the certificate and it is endorsed by the Deputy Tehsildar and the Tehsildar. Then, it goes on like that. In this case also, it has to be like that. You cannot give it to one person. Sir, I am sorry to say, I am ashamed to say, we know people who are in this Department, people who have been working in this Department are big, big crorepatis in the country. How? When they work in some vulnerable departments, they become money makers, great money makers, because the system is making them to loot money like this. Kindly don't entrust this to a single officer, whosoever he may be. So, we must have a collective responsibility. And on the company side also — I have not studied it completely, Sir, honestly speaking, but I have just gone through it and I have heard that — do not fix the responsibility on one executive; otherwise, he will become a scapegoat. The company will make him a scapegoat. Let the company give him the responsibility. Let it fix the responsibility on this one gentleman. I am not saying, let us hang him for this kind of a small crime or an offence. But the company must take the responsibility and say, "Yes, we have committed a mistake. We have done the wrong thing. We will correct it." If we ask the press, whenever they make some mistake, to publish it tomorrow, the responsible press does it. The next day, they correct it and publish it. Like that, companies have to come forward and say that they have committed the mistakes, that their companies have committed the mistakes and they will correct it in future; it will not be repeated in future. Like that, companies must fix the responsibility. Sir, the Legal Metrology Bill is a fundamental Bill; the measurements and other things you need; I know that. It is a very interesting thing. Many people may not be knowing. Even in the sale of gold, illiterate people are, what should I say, fooled by some companies, by some merchants. Gold is not a small thing; it is not an ordinary thing. 'Yellow Metal' is not an ordinary thing. Instead of two grams they give only 1.7 grams! How do they know? That is a very serious problem, Sir. I do not know every thing. Our seniors are there. I request my seniors, who are sitting here, to appreciate me if I say anything correct. I request my colleagues, if I do or say anything wrong, to educate me, to correct me. I am not a person who knows everything. I am only a learner as far as this

House is concerned. My guru is sitting over there, our Deputy Chairman! And you are all my professors! Teach me. Kindly teach me. So, Sir, my heart goes to the people of my nation. Whether it is an all-India thing or whether it is vested with the Government of State, let us make coordination. Let us not split it wholly as a State power or as a Central power. This thing needs both Governments' involvement and their role. Then only it could be a successful one. With these words, I wind it up, Sir. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI MATILAL SARKAR (Tripura): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to make some observations on the Legal Metrology Bill. I think, the word "legal" should not have been included here because when a Bill becomes an Act, it becomes legal! When a Bill becomes an Act, it is legal. It has legal status. By adding the word "legal", we are just emphasising on one undesirable thing. I just remember the method of measurements during my childhood. That was a very complicated system. Inches, feet, yards, miles, maunds, seers, chataks and all these units were there. In the calculation, sometimes the parameters were 40 and sometimes the parameters are 16 and like this. When the new system emerged, we were afraid whether the sellers would be benefited and the consumers would be the loser. If the new systems come into force, some traders might deprive innocent persons. When this new system came into vogue, the metre system or the decimal system, was much more easier to understand than the earlier one. Even then we can't measure certain things. It is beyond our reach. We can't measure a point. We can't measure a straight line as a whole. We can't get the biggest number. We can't get the smallest number. Even then we are measuring length, volume and weight and now we are measuring time also. Though time does not come under this Legal Metrology Bill, it is an important thing.

Coming to the Bill, Sir, the main point is: Who will have the power of regulation, whether it is the Centre or the State? This is a matter where the Centre can curb the rights of the States. The Centre will make the Act and frame the rules, and it will be executed fully in the States. If the States don't have any role in the making of the rules, it will be very difficult for the States to execute it.

Coming to the definition of the GATC, Government Approved Test Centre, it was pointed out in the Standing Committee more than once as to why there was no definition of GATC. In Legal Metrology Bill there is no definition. What does the Government Approved Test Centre mean? What is its function? How far is it going to be beneficial and whom? It is not defined. That is why the Standing Committee was of the opinion that the GATC concept should be removed. I am a Member of the Standing Committee. In the Standing Committee meeting the Members suggested that the Government Approved Test Centre should be removed because there was no definition and the works to be done by this Centre can be done by the State Governments. You strengthen the State Governments. You give them grant. You give them suggestions. You make programmes for all the States. You are switching over to a new system,

whatever it may be. The State Government will do what you are going to do by giving powers to the GATC. But that was not considered. The Standing Committee recommendation was not considered and I find that the GATC, the Government Approved Test Centre, exists in the Bill.

What was the reply of the Government? The reply of the Government was, "It is self-explanatory." So it does not require any explanation as to what is meant by GATC. I think this complication still exists there and it needs to be revisited, whether GATC should remain or it should be removed. The State Government may do these works. You may render whatever suggestions you want to render to the State Government. The Standing Committee was of the opinion that Government Approved Test Centre should be done away with. If you maintain GATC, it will be under which Government? Will it be under the Central Government or the State Government? Then there will be a variety of approved test centres. The situation will become more cumbersome. That is why the Standing Committee was of the opinion that the concept of GATC should be done away with.

Now I come to clause 52 — power to make rules. It is said that power to make rules would vest with the Central Government, not with the State Government. Sir, every morning, fishermen come to my house and say, "Sir, you take some fish from us." They are generally having one kilogram weighing appliance. But if we have to take small quantity, then what we see is, they bring some stone or a piece of brick and place it on one side of the weighing instrument and on the other side they place the fish. We do not mind it because they are poor people. They cannot purchase these weighing boxes. The whole problem is its cost. They are very poor. Somehow, they could purchase one kilogram weighing instrument, but for weighing half a kilogram, they use some stone or a piece of brick. These fellows are not thieves. They are poor people. My earnest request to the Government is, the Government should provide these weighing appliances to the small traders at the cheapest possible rates. They should be provided with these appliances at subsidised rates so that they do not face any difficulty. If due to switchover of the system they have to lose their jobs, they have to lose their profession, the situation will become more difficult for them. Therefore, my earnest request to the Government is, wherever you are going to enforce it, you provide these measuring appliances to the small traders at subsidised rates.

Now I come to the punishment part. If a company commits any offence by weighing less, then the person concerned will be punished, not the company. It is the company which is sending that person. So the person, who is in charge, becomes the scapegoat. He will bear the brunt of punishment and the company will escape. This was discussed in the Standing Committee. The whole company should be held responsible. Maybe, the person is involved in it. He may be serving the company. He is, after all, working for the company.

3.00 P.M.

Sir, in the case of outsourcing, the Government has taken into account a wide range of imports. Now, sugar also comes under this arena of import. Rice was not imported earlier for some years. But now, rice is also going to be imported. So, we are becoming a very weak country having large imports, and we are legalising all these criteria. We are going to liberalise all these conditions. When this is going on in a tremendous way, what will be the fate of these measuring appliances? Who will care for these things? You have mentioned that 'sophisticated appliances', delicate and accurate, will be provided. We all admit that qualities of honesty are very much needed. There it needs to have accuracy. But the thing is that in the name of sophistication, we are going to eradicate a large section of traders from the market saying that they are not abiding by the new system. They will have to drop from the field. Only those who are capable of maintaining all these sophistic methods will survive. It is a threat to those who are working at the grassroots, the poor traders and small businessmen. What security will be there for them? Sir, the capacity to make rules and the power to make rules should vest entirely with the State Government, not on the Centre. This should be entirely left to the State Governments. The Centre should provide some model rules. The State Governments will adopt these rules according to the suitability to the States because different States have different systems, different set of environment and different practices. We cannot override them. We cannot bulldoze them. There should be some model rules initiated at the Centre. But, for adopting them, the States will devise its own policies, its own systems. That should be the main purpose of this Bill. Otherwise, the whole spirit will be defeated. Thank you.

श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, जो विधेयक लाया गया है, इसके उद्देश्यों में यह बात कही गई है कि समय को देखते हुए और जिस प्रकार से टेक्नॉलोजी का विकास हो रहा है उसको देखते हुए अब तक के जो पुराने नियम और कानून थे, जैसे 1956, फिर 1976 और फिर उसके बाद 1985 का था, इन सब के बाद 2008 का यह विधेयक लाया गया है। इस विधेयक पर स्टैंडिंग कमेटी में भी काफी तफसील से चर्चा हुई थी। परन्तु उसके बहुत से सुझावों को इसमें स्वीकार नहीं किया गया है। अभी माननीय सदस्यों ने कुछ बिन्दुओं पर जो अपने विचार व्यक्त किए, उनके कई बिन्दुओं से मैं भी सहमत हूँ, क्योंकि यह ठीक है कि पूरे देश में एक प्रकार की व्यवस्था या सिस्टम माप-बाट का होना चाहिए, क्योंकि आप जानते हैं कि हमारे देश में गरीब लोग हैं और जो उपभोक्ता है वही विक्रेता भी है। तो जो छोटे लोग हैं जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य ने अभी कहा कि कहीं ईट के टुकड़े से नापा जाता है, कहीं अनाज को अनाज के बराबर तौल कर और फिर उसका आधार बनाकर के उसका नाप तौल होता है।

परन्तु इसमें जो बड़े लोग हैं, बड़ी कम्पनियाँ हैं, वे छोटे लोगों के साथ बहुत दगा करती हैं। मेरे इलाके में गन्ना चीनी मिलें हैं और गन्ना किसान अपना गन्ना लेकर जब बिक्री केन्द्रों पर जाता है, तब बहुत से नामी-गिरामी जो चीनी मिल मालिक हैं, उनकी कमाई का बहुत बड़ा श्रोत घट-तौली होता है। गन्ना किसान बेचारा गन्ना बेचने जाता है और वे (मिल मालिक) नई-नई किस्म के नये तरीके ईजाद करके, उन मशीनों में हेरफेर और गड़बड़ी करते हैं। यही हालत पेट्रोल पम्पों पर होती है और जो बड़ी-बड़ी कम्पनियाँ पैक सामान बाजार में लाती हैं, उनमें जो क्वांटिटी अंकित है या दिखाई गई है, उसके बराबर उसका माप सही नहीं होता है, इस

प्रकार की व्यवस्था हमारे यहां है। यह एक अच्छा प्रयास है, एक अच्छा कदम है कि आपने पूरे देश के पैमाने पर एक नाप की मशीन की व्यवस्था की है और उसके लिए जो आपने पेनल्टी प्रावधान किए हैं, वे भी स्वागत योग्य हैं।

इस सम्बन्ध में मेरा एक सुझाव है, इन मशीनों का ज्यादा उत्पादन करेंगे, ज्यादा मशीनों का निर्माण करेंगे और उसके लिए आपको कम से कम सबसिडी भी देनी पड़े, अगर आप सबसिडी देंगे, तो यह छोटे दुकानदारों तक या गांव के दुकानदारों तक पहुंच सकता है। अब इसके लिए कई प्रकार की व्यवस्थाएं हो सकती हैं, लेकिन वह टेस्ट सेंटर से सम्भव नहीं है। यह अधिकार आपको राज्य को देना पड़ेगा, क्योंकि राज्य में माप-बाट विभाग है और वह विभाग इसकी वैरिफिकेशन करने का काम, जांच-पड़ताल करने का काम, मुकदमा लिखाने का काम, ये सारा काम करता है। परन्तु आप ज्यादा से ज्यादा जिन नई मशीनों का इस्तेमाल करवाना चाहते हैं, अगर आप उसकी सोसायटी बनवा दीजिए या व्यक्तिगत कोई सबसिडाईज्ड रेट पर लेना चाहे, तो वह ले सकता है, तो इस प्रकार से इन मशीनों को उपलब्ध कराने की अगर आप व्यापक पैमाने पर व्यवस्था करेंगे, तो मैं समझता हूं कि इससे उपभोक्ता को भी फायदा होगा और विक्रेता को भी फायदा होगा।

दूसरी बात यह है कि आपने इसका नियम बनाने का अधिकार सेंटर को दे दिया है। हमारा देश बहुत बड़ा है और इसकी अपनी अलग-अलग व्यवस्थाएं हैं, अलग-अलग तौर-तरीके हैं, मैं समझता हूं कि इसको प्रभावी तरीके से अमल में लाने के लिए यह आवश्यक है कि आप राज्य सरकारों को यह अधिकार दें कि वह अपने हिसाब से इस सिलसिले में नियम बनाएं। जो सबसे ज्यादा आपत्ति और आशंका का जो प्रावधान है, वह गवर्नमेंट एप्रूव्ड टेस्ट सेंटर का प्रावधान है। ठीक ही कहा है कि स्टैंडिंग कमेटी ने इसको रिजेक्ट किया, कई राज्यों ने भी इसको रिजेक्ट किया है। वह कहते हैं कि ensuring public guarantee is the prime importance to Government, whereas private venture, approved test centre is primarily guided by profit and loss consideration. इसके लिए कोई इंस्टीट्यूशन हो या अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर की कोई प्रयोगशाला हो, तब तो उसकी विश्वसनीयता पर विश्वास किया जा सकता है, परन्तु अगर आपने ऐसे ही लाइसेंस दे दिया, उसकी कोई क्वालिफिकेशन नहीं रखी, कोई शर्त नहीं रखी और आप इस तरह की व्यवस्था करने जा रहे हैं, तो मैं समझता हूं कि इससे बहुत ही अराजकता की स्थिति पैदा होगी और व्यापक पैमाने पर भ्रष्टाचार होगा। इसीलिए स्टैंडिंग कमेटी ने बहुत सोच-विचार करने के बाद यह निर्णय लिया कि इस प्रावधान को इस एक्ट से खारिज कर देना चाहिए, राज्यों ने भी ऐसा ही किया, मैं भी इसके बारे में यही कहना चाहता हूं। मैं बताना चाहता हूं कि राज्यों में सरकारी विभाग हैं, जिसे माप-तौल विभाग कहते हैं, जिसमें लाखों लोगों को रोजगार मिला हुआ है। यह विभाग इसलिए प्रभावी नहीं हो पा रहा था क्योंकि इसमें मैन-पावर की कमी थी। इसमें आदमी थे ही नहीं, इन्स्पेक्टर थे ही नहीं। जो इन्स्पेक्टर है, वह यदि तीन-तीन ब्लॉकों की जिम्मेदारी लेगा, तो फिर कैसे इसकी जांच करेगा? इसलिए यह आवश्यक है कि हमें मैन पावर बढ़ानी चाहिए और राज्य सरकार की एक अलग विश्वसनीयता है। उसका मुकाबला प्राइवेट एजेंसियां नहीं कर सकती हैं, लेकिन प्राइवेटाइजेशन की धूम चली हुई है, इसका पता नहीं क्या मकसद है? स्टैंडिंग कमेटी ने ठीक ही कहा है। जब इस पर स्पष्टीकरण मांगा गया तो आपने कह दिया कि this provision is self explanatory. यह self explanatory क्या है? आप शर्तें बताइए, आप आधार बताइए, आप उसकी आवश्यकता क्यों महसूस करते हैं, कारण बताइये, तब तो इस पर विश्वास किया जा सकता है। क्योंकि इस प्रकार की बहुत सी फ्रॉड एजेंसियां काम करने लगेंगी। आप उनको रजिस्टर्ड करवा लीजिए। आप और हम यह सब जानते हैं कि रजिस्ट्रेशन कैसे होता है? अगर आप इस प्रकार यह व्यवस्था करेंगे, तो इस पूरे विधेयक का ही अर्थ बदल जाएगा और इसका सारा प्रभाव खत्म हो जाएगा। इस बात को लेकर केवल हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश में ही नहीं बल्कि सभी राज्यों में जो माप विभाग के कर्मचारी हैं, वे बहुत ही आतंकित हैं। यदि इस आउटसोर्सिंग के जरिए यह सिलसिला शुरू हो

गया, तो आप जानते हैं कि इस तरीके से तमाम सरकारी विभाग या अर्ध-सरकारी विभाग या सहकारी विभाग दिनों-दिन खत्म होते जाएंगे, चाहे वे कॉन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर या कॉन्ट्रैक्ट कर्मचारी हों अथवा चाहे शिक्षा विभाग से हों या किसी अन्य विभाग से हों। इसी तरह से माप विभाग भी प्राइवेटाइजेशन के गर्त में चला जाएगा। इसमें केवल उन्हीं को फायदा होगा, जो बिग प्लेयर्स हैं। चाहे वे बिग प्लेयर्स राष्ट्रीय हों या अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हों और वे ही मैनिपुलेट कर लेंगे। सरकार का किसी भी प्रकार का कोई नियंत्रण नहीं रह जाएगा। इसलिए मैं पुरजोर शब्दों में यह मांग करता हूँ कि जो स्टैंडिंग कमेटी की राय है और जो विभिन्न राज्यों ने अपनी राय दी है, सदन की राय भी यही है ...**(समय की घंटी)**... कि इस प्रावधान को इस विधेयक से खत्म किया जाए। मैं इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. On behalf of the CPI, I rise here to make certain observations in regard to the Legal Metrology Bill, 2008. The Standing Committee which visited various States found several indiscrepancies. They found that the infrastructure was not sufficient and the manpower too was very much lacking. To their utter dismay, they found in one district headquarters that there were only 3-4 persons managing the entire show. There is every need that we have to add more to the manpower and then our infrastructure also should be strengthened. In some corners, there are persons who are also speaking about outsourcing, by giving examples of Germany and other countries. There, each and every thing is managed from outsourcing—from water meters to electric meters. If we also implement same sort of things, then things may not improve. What we feel is that, first of all, we have to expand our own manpower and we have to do proper justice to our own infrastructure. Then only we can strengthen the Department of Legal Metrology.

There are several ways of manipulating in weights and measurements. In measurement of petrol, diesel and gas, we have seen that there are several ways of manipulation. There is a reason why they shed lakhs of rupees in getting a licence to petrol and gas companies; because, if they strictly adhere to the State or the Central Government's profit margins, then they will get paltry amount of 2 paise or 5 paise, which cannot cater to the needs. That is why they are bound to do manipulation.

Unfortunately, in our inspection teams which are there, they are very few in number and they are not regularly going and inspecting those places and they are not keeping proper vigilance. That is why the consumers are very much cheated. The primary reason of the Legal Metrology is to protect the interests of consumers. But, unfortunately, due to lack of proper manpower, this is not properly maintained. Now, we have seen that big companies like Reliance and others want to dilute the very Act so that they can manipulate and loot. So, we have to take into consideration these things and we should see to it that it is not diluted and that it is further strengthened.

Lastly, previously, if anybody is doing an offence for the third time, there used to be imprisonment. But now, we are proposing imprisonment in the second instance. But, what I suggest is that why give this second chance. Whenever you find somebody doing some offence or manipulating the things, he should be sent directly to the jail and he should not be given any

shelter, using one more chance. So, this is my concrete suggestion. Instead of two times, one offence is sufficient to take legal action; the punishment should be more stringent and deterrent so that persons indulging in this sort of manipulation should not repeat this mistake in future. Thank you.

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार): उपसभापति जी, यह जो बिल है, मैं इसका समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे जो भी ऐक्ट बने हैं, कानून बने हैं, उन कानूनों में मैंने आज तक अपनी लीगल प्रैक्टिस में नहीं देखा है कि किसी बड़ी कंपनी को सजा मिली हो। छोटे लोग, जो एकदम छोटे-छोटे रोजगार करने वाले लोग हैं, उनको सजा मिलती है। उसका कारण क्या है? ये जो बड़े लोग हैं, जिनको सही सामान देना है, मेजर करके देना है, वे लोग सजा से वंचित रहते हैं। वे इसलिए वंचित रहते हैं, क्योंकि इनकी मिली-भगत होती है। जो इंस्पेक्टर लोग होते हैं, जांच करने वाले लोग होते हैं, उनके साथ उनकी मिली-भगत होती है। आपने इसमें दिया है कि इतना फाइन होगा। मेरी राय में, क्योंकि सिचुएशन बदल गई है, पूरे ग्लोबल सर्कल में आज सिचुएशन बदल गई है, इसलिए आपने इसमें लिखा है कि फाइन होगा या सजा होगी, मेरा आपसे यह निवेदन है कि छोटे लोग, जो पाव और सेर में बेचते हैं, उनके लिए यह ज्यादा कष्टकारक होता है। वे टोकरी में जो सामान लेते हैं, वे दस रुपए, बीस रुपए, पचास रुपए का सामान बेचते हैं। उनके पास जो वेट होता है, वह वेट, वे जहां से लेते हों, अगर वह देने वाला ही कम वेट देता है, तो वे क्या करेंगे? हम लोगों को विश्वास पर ही चलना पड़ता है। यह पत्तल का सेर है, यह पत्तल का पौआ है, यह पत्तल का अदला है, इसी विश्वास पर चलना पड़ता है। सर, यह परंपरा रही है। हम लोगों ने आज तक यह नहीं देखा है कि जो मेजरमेंट करके घी, तेल देते हैं, उस घी, तेल में जो मेजरमेंट होता है, उसमें जो क्वान्टम रहता है, जो सामान रहता है, उस सामान का कितना नैट वेट है और उसके टिन का कितना वेट है। यह पूरा स्पेसिफाई करके मेजरमेंट करने का काम न तो किसी सरकारी ऑफीसर ने, न मेट्रोलॉजी डिपार्टमेंट ने किया है कि टिन का दाम ले रहे हैं माल के दाम में या आप सामान का दाम ले रहे हैं या जो कंटेनर होता है, उसका दाम ले रहे हैं। यह एक मुसीबत है। हमारे मतिलाल सरकार जी ने ठीक कहा कि ये जो परिस्थितियां हैं, ये परिस्थितियां इसीलिए कारगर नहीं हो पाती हैं क्योंकि हमारे पास मैन पावर नहीं है, हमारे पास ज्यादा आदमी नहीं है। अब इतनी measurement होती है, आज भी यहाँ दिल्ली में जाइए, तो कोई मीट्रिक प्रणाली से काम नहीं करता, वह कहता है कि कितनी जमीन है, तो यह 100 गज जमीन है। गज का अभी भी प्रचलन है — 100 गज, 200 गज, 300 गज। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सब्जी भी पाव के हिसाब से देते हैं। अभी भी पाव चलता है। इसलिए यह बड़ा मुश्किल काम है।

सर, आपने जो सजा का प्रावधान रखा है, वह सजा का प्रावधान सही है, लेकिन उसमें गरीब लोग, जो पाव और सेर में बेचते हैं, जो खोमचों में बेचते हैं, जो ठेलागाड़ियों में बेचते हैं, सबसे ज्यादा punishment उनको ही मिलती है। बड़े लोगों को मिलेगी ही नहीं, बड़े लोग आराम से निकल जाएंगे। तिवारी जी ने बहुत अच्छी बात कही कि outsourcing नहीं होना चाहिए। अगर outsourcing होगा, तो फिर उन लोगों को गरीबों को सताने का लाइसेंस मिल जाएगा। बड़े लोग तो बच जाएंगे, लेकिन गरीब लोग सताए जाएंगे। इसलिए मेरी राय है कि कुछ ऐसे नियम, कुछ ऐसे कानून बनने चाहिए, जिनसे जो गरीब लोग हैं, उनको बहुत सस्ती दर पर weights and measurement का सामान मिले। अगर उन्हें सस्ती दर पर ये चीजें मिलती हैं, तो वे सही माल खरीदेंगे। अगर सही weights and measurement का प्रावधान नहीं रखेंगे, तो फिर वही पत्थर से, लोहे से या हाथ से नाप कर वे सब खरीदने वाले हैं। फिर आपने जो कानून बनाया है, आपका वह कानून जहाँ है, वहीं रहेगा, लेकिन यह जो हाथ का नाप है या पत्थर की माप है, वह खत्म होने वाली नहीं है। इसलिए मैं आपसे यह निवेदन करूँगा कि ऐसा कोई प्रावधान बनाना चाहिए, ऐसा कोई नियम बनाना चाहिए, ताकि हम लोगों का

standard भी maintain हो जाए और जो गरीब लोग हैं, जो साधारण काम करने वाले हैं, उनकी रक्षा भी हो जाए। धन्यवाद।

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I support this Bill. But, at the same time, I would like to draw the attention of the Government on certain important issues. This enactment is now repealing the earlier enactment which was a very successful enactment made during the period of Madam Indira Gandhi when she implemented the Twenty Point Programme. The Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976 was brought by her. It gave a lot of strength to the common man and consumers. Throughout India people were very happy that they are going to get clear weighed measures and they are going to get the materials in a proper method. That was also imposed as part of the successful Emergency Rule. But, at the same time, the enforcement was subsequently made by way of another enactment, Standards of Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1989 during Rajiv Gandhi's period. Now, we are coming forward, taking both the enactments together in the new Bill. But, at the same time, I would like to draw the attention of the Government that we have missed the main part, *i.e.* this enactment is for the consumers, for the people. But, there is no participation for the consumers or for the people in any of the positions throughout the enactment. Even now, we are thinking only in the name of enforcing things as if we are having all powers to enforce certain things and we have got very big machinery to enforce. But, it can never happen. The country is a very big country. There are 106 crores of consumers. We cannot find out how the consumer is going to benefit, in which way this enactment is violated by a particular group of people or corporate bodies or multi-nationals.

We are not having examples to say that multinational companies were prosecuted and their company's share has fallen due to enforcement of a particular provision of this enactment. We cannot cite even a single instance that a very popular company, which has a wide consumer base in India, is not following the rules of weights and measures and, therefore, it was prosecuted or its Director was prosecuted. It never happened. It cannot happen, because the society like is that. We have to bring awareness among the people about their rights. We can very easily say that print and electronic media fight every time to increase their TRP Ratings. Even if there is a small violation here and there, they are making it a live telecast, but not consumer issues. It is only the DD and the AIR which are bringing awareness among the people. They are telecasting advertisements. They are educating consumer how to measure a particular product and see whether it is properly measured or properly packed. They also educate that if there is any violation, the consumer can go to the Consumer Court and claim damages.

Sir, financial commitment of Rs. 25 crores has also been mentioned in this Bill. I would say that money committed should not be used for salaries or other perquisites for employees alone. When we are enforcing this kind of legislation, we have to recruit many people. There is no doubt, many people will get employment. We are happy about it. But, at the same time, we must spend a considerable amount of money for bringing awareness among the consumers. We have to educate the consumer that he has got such and such right. I find a small word included

under Clause 15. But, it is not giving a clear meaning that rights are given to the consumer. When we are making enactment, I feel, we have to think about the international standards. The international standards are made for the people and by the people. They are looking after it. The regulatory authority is only guiding and helping them to see that enforcement is properly made. Here, under Clause 15, it says, "Whether from any information given to him by any person and taking down in writing or from personal knowledge or otherwise..." This is the power given to Director, Controller or any legal Metrology Officer. That means, we think that this can be enforced only by an officer. That will never happen. They will go only for statistics purpose as to how many cases have been registered every week, etc. Sir, a poor borrows money from a nationalised bank and starts his business. And, officer will go to that shop and tell him, "look here, there is an Act, if you are ready to pay Rs. 2,500, I am ready to leave you. Otherwise, I will send you behind the bars for six months." That fellow will, naturally, give money. This is the thing that is happening in the country.

Similarly, if you think the other way, then the consumer, who is affected by that, who is not getting a proper measure or weight of a particular product after spending some money, and if he is not satisfied, he should have a right to prosecute that retailer or the company which has that brand name or the person has packed it or weighed it or who has certified it. Here, we are not giving that right to the consumer. The consumer participation is totally absent in this Bill. We have to draw inspiration only from the Consumer Protection Act. Why should we go to that Act? When we are making legislation, we can very well bring that provision in this and give power to the consumer. When you are giving power under Clause 15 of the Bill, I hope, the hon. Minister, Prof. Thomas, who is very famous and successful Minister, he can understand the common man's problem. Clause 15 is only for employees and officers and not for the common man. Therefore, the common man has to be heard. I hope the hon. Minister might have noted this. He has to, at least, bring some amendment giving power to consumer to prosecute when there is violation of law.

Similarly, I would like to request the Government to think about punishing companies not just by way of fine. Now, under the proposed Bill, compounding system of penalty has also been provided. It is very easy for them. They will pay Rs. 25,000 or even any amount for that matter through its representative. It is very easy for any corporate body. If it is so, how the Director is going to be liable? He takes the plea that he is not knowing it. It is given by a retailer or by its agent.

Therefore, they will also have to be made responsible. But, at the same time, if the measurement or the weightage is not properly given, then, that company should be de-listed. When a company issues new shares, it should put in its prospectus how many violations it had made under this particular enactment, how many cases were lodged against it, how many convictions have been made, how much money it had paid as penalties, how many Directors or

employees had been prisoned for the violation of this enactment. These types of things have to be put in the prospectus, only then the people would be able to understand to what extent the company had violated the law and, then, decide whether they should invest in that company or not. These types of modern things have to be introduced. But we are taking just the same provision from the old enactment. Then, Sir, this enactment, more or less, falls under criminal law category. I mean, offences, under this enactment, are treated as criminal offences. That means, a prosecution has to be lodged before a magistrate. Are we providing money for starting the courts? Are we providing money for prosecutors? Are we providing money for keeping undertrial and convicted persons in jail? If they are imprisoned, who is going to pay the money for keeping them in jail? We are going on pushing the cases in the courts, but we never pay money from the nodal departments. That is why we have even been repeatedly recommending in various reports of our Committees also that when a particular nodal department is enforcing a law for enforcement of that law, for implementation of that law, for making prosecution and conviction and for enforcing the sentence, charges should also to be paid by the nodal agency. That department should pay the money for that. They should not just push on the cases into the courts and, then, say that the courts are having crores of cases and they will have to find some other means for disposal of the cases. Who is the culprit? Actually the departments who are enacting and pushing the law everywhere — in every Parliament Session we are pushing new laws, in every Assembly Sessions we are pushing new laws — but nobody thinks that it directly burdens the courts, the prosecution agency and also the prisons, and we never pay for that. This is the state of affairs. Therefore, I would like to request that the Government should come forward and ensure that the nodal department makes the payment for all this.

Sir, finally, I would like to conclude with the observation that when we are making a law, it should be a comprehensive one. We are already having the Bureau of Standards. The standards are fixed by one enactment, for which an institute is working. They are giving the ISO-2001 or ISO-2009 certification. The private agencies are also coming up. They are also putting the standards. Now, the fashion of the world, more or less, is giving everything to the professional bodies rather than keeping everything with the Government. But we are even now keeping everything with the Government. We think that only the Government can ensure the law. No, Sir; it is not so. It is the discipline that has to be brought in among the people and among the participants, who may be a manufacturer, who may be a distributor, who may be a retailer. That has to be enforced collectively. Therefore, the participation of the countrymen and the common man in everything has to be brought in. Take the examples of Western Countries and the USA, they are giving this type of enactments to the professional bodies. They are giving to the Federation of Chambers; they are endowed with the regulatory authorities; they lay the standards; they enforce it. If they do not properly enforce it, then, they are dissolved and the

Government comes into picture and put the new bodies in place. Rather than keeping the powers with the Government and Government officials, if we give it to the actual stakeholders, it would be a very good enforceable enactment. And, that can succeed in this democracy. Thank very much, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The discussion on the Legal Meteorology Bill, 2008 is over. The reply and the passing of the Bill will be taken up tomorrow.

Now, we shall take up Special Mentions.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Lalit Kishore Chaturvedi; he is not here. Shri Santosh Bagrodia; he is also not here. Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda; he is not here. Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy; he is not here.

Demand to start recruitment in security forces to fulfill the requirement of the security forces of the States

श्री कलराज मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, आंतरिक सुरक्षा के मोर्चे पर जब देश दहशत में जी रहा है, राज्य सरकारें सुरक्षा बलों की कमी से जूझ रही हैं, ऐसे में गृह मंत्रालय और वित्त मंत्रालय द्वारा आपसी खींचतान में सुरक्षा बलों की भर्ती न हो पाना चिन्ताजनक है।

गृह मंत्रालय के पास 7 लाख सुरक्षा बल हैं, किन्तु नक्सली हिंसा में बढ़ोत्तरी आंतरिक सुरक्षा के लिए चुनौती बनते आतंकवादियों से निपटने में राज्य सरकारें भी अपने को असहाय पा रही हैं। झारखंड, उत्तर प्रदेश, आंध्र प्रदेश, पश्चिमी बंगाल, नेपाल से सटे बिहार के क्षेत्र के लिए तत्काल बड़ी संख्या में सुरक्षा बलों को बढ़ाये जाने की आवश्यकता है। एस.एस.बी., आई.टी.बी.पी., सी.आर.पी.एफ. ने अतिरिक्त बल मुहैया कराये जाने से हाथ खड़े कर दिये हैं। सुरक्षा बलों के सूत्रों के अनुसार, इन क्षेत्रों में लगभग 1 लाख अतिरिक्त बलों की भर्ती की आवश्यकता है। 210 बटालियन वाले सी.आर.पी.एफ. के पास भी अब सुरक्षा बल नहीं बचे हैं। अभी झारखंड के लिए बिहार से सुरक्षा बल को हटाकर भेजा गया है। सुरक्षा बलों पर किये गये अध्ययन के अनुसार, ज्यादा दिनों तक नक्सल प्रभावित इलाकों में तैनात रहने के परिणामस्वरूप सुरक्षा बलों में अवसाद की स्थिति बन रही है, जिससे अनुशासनहीनता और दुर्व्यवहार की घटनाएं बढ़ रही हैं। इन क्षेत्रों में तैनात सुरक्षा बलों को हटाना भी जोखिम भरा काम है, क्योंकि ये सभी क्षेत्र काफी संवेदनशील हैं।

मैं सदन के माध्यम से मांग करता हूँ कि सरकार तत्काल सुरक्षा बलों की भर्ती करके राज्यों में आवश्यकतानुसार सुरक्षा बल मुहैया कराये।

श्री कुमार दीपक दास (असम): महोदय, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नतुजी हालाजी ठाकोर (गुजरात): महोदय, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको संबद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Gireesh Kumar Sanghi. He is not here. Shrimati Jaya Bachchan. She is also not here.

**Need to ban the export of cotton to ensure its availability for
domestic production**

SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would like to request the Government to ban cotton exports immediately since many cotton-growing States are hit by floods thereby giving low cotton yield. The cotton yield this year is ten per cent less than that of the last year. And, of this, only about 60 per cent is of good quality. The textile mills in the South are not able to compete with the traders who are buying a significant portion of good quality cotton for exports. Also, such a low yield of cotton during the current year has caused a sudden price rise of good quality cotton. It is estimated that failure of monsoon in some States and floods in other cotton-growing States have hit the crop yield. The actual production is only around 260 lakh bales, as against 290 lakh bales produced in the last year. Of this, only about 150 lakh bales are of good and above average quality. If quality cotton is permitted to be exported, domestic textile mills would be saddled with sub-standard and inferior quality cotton. The mills would also be compelled to pay the price of good quality cotton for the sub-standard quality, for the domestic production. Hence, I request the Government to ban export of cotton temporarily to ensure availability of cotton for domestic production, so that small and medium textile units in the country would be saved. Further, all good and above average quality cotton can be converted into finished goods and exported, which would increase foreign earnings.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Rajkumar Dhoot; he is not here. Shri Ali Anwar Ansari; he is not here. Dr. Gyan Prakash Pilania; he is not here. Shri Sharad Anantrao Joshi; he is not here.

**Need to release the budget for arrears of the employees of the Hindustan
Shipyards Ltd. retired under VRS**

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I would like to mention that the employees of the Hindustan Shipping Yard, Vishakapatnam, who had opted for VRS, are suffering a lot as their pay revision arrears have not yet been released. The management of Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. Offered Voluntary Retirement Scheme in 1999. In 2002, pay revision was announced with retrospective effect, that is, from 1999.

Since 1999, a total of 870 employees have availed themselves of the VRS. Since then, the employees have been requesting for the payment of differential amount of Gratuity, leave encashment and VRS compensation, etc. The management of Hindustan Shipyard Limited have even given the details of the amount due to each employee retired under VRS. The arrear of each employee ranges from Rs. 70,000/- to Rs. 3,00,000/-. The management of HSL agreed to pay the arrears to these employees soon after they get funds from the Government of India.

Considering the poor and pathetic position of these employees who are mostly above the age of 60 years, with no pensionary benefits, the Government should release the money. This is

for your information, Sir, that about 200 employees, who came out of HSL, under VRS or normal retirement, have been expired.

The employees are struggling for their day-to-day life. Hence, I request the Government to release the budget, specifically for VRS and retired employees immediately.

**Demand to give grants to States for harnessing the solar energy to
resolve the power crisis in the country**

सुश्री अनुसुइया उइके (मध्य प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय, मेरे विशेष उल्लेख का विषय है — विद्युत संकट से निपटने के लिए सौर ऊर्जा को बढ़ावा देने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा अनुदान देने के संबंध में।

महोदय, जैसा कि सर्वविदित है कि इस समय लगभग सभी प्रदेश विद्युत की कमी के संकट से जूझ रहे हैं। किसानों को खेतों के लिए, गरीब आदिवासी जनता को घरों के लिए, उद्योग को चलाने के लिए पर्याप्त विद्युत प्राप्त नहीं हो पा रही है। दूर-दराज में निवास करने वाले ग्रामीण गरीब आदिवासी परिवारों को घरों में रोशनी के लिए भी विद्युत प्राप्त नहीं हो पा रही है। ऐसी स्थिति में भविष्य के ऊर्जा संकट को देखते हुए यह आवश्यक हो गया है कि ऊर्जा के वैकल्पिक स्रोतों की ओर ध्यान दिया जावे।

बढ़ती हुई ऊर्जा की मांग, दुर्गम क्षेत्रों में विद्युत पहुंचाने की समस्या, पारेषण हानि से निपटने के लिए ऐसे क्षेत्रों में सौर ऊर्जा के छोटे-छोटे प्लांट स्थापित किए जा सकते हैं, जो कि एक, दो या पांच गरीब आदिवासी परिवारों के घरों की मांग को पूरा कर सकें। देश में इस तरह के छोटे प्लांट विकसित हो चुके हैं, चूंकि इनकी कीमत अधिक है, इसलिए गरीब परिवार इन्हें स्थापित नहीं कर सकते हैं। वहीं राज्य सरकारों के साधन सीमित हैं, इसलिए वे अपने संसाधनों से ऐसे प्लांट स्थापित नहीं करवा सकती है।

अतएव मेरा केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि प्रदेश की सरकारों को अनुदान के रूप में आर्थिक मदद प्रदान करे, जिससे आदिवासी एवं गरीब परिवार के घरों की ऊर्जा की मांग को पूरा करने के लिए छोटे-छोटे सौर ऊर्जा प्लांट स्थापित किए जा सकें, जिससे गरीब आदिवासियों के घर जगमगाने लगें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11 a.m.

The House then adjourned at thirty-seven minutes past three of the clock
till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 1st December 2009.