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**RAJYA SABHA**  
OFFICIAL REPORT  
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[P.T.O.]

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NEW DELHI

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# RAJYA SABHA

Friday, 7th May, 2010/17th Vaisakha, 1932 (Saka)

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

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question 601.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: The Opposition is missing, Sir! What is the reason?

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Principal Opposition! We are also Opposition. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you have any problem with that?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: No, no; I find it strange, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question 601. Mr. Kaptan Singh Solanki.

### माध्यमिक शिक्षा हेतु छात्राओं को प्रोत्साहन योजना

†\*601. श्री कप्तान सिंह सोलंकी: क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) सरकार द्वारा देश में चलाई जा रही राष्ट्रीय छात्रा माध्यमिक शिक्षा प्रोत्साहन योजना की वर्तमान स्थिति क्या है;

(ख) क्या यह योजना विफल रही है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसकी राज्यवार स्थिति क्या है?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (श्री कपिल सिब्बल): (क) से (घ) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

### विवरण

(क) “माध्यमिक शिक्षा हेतु राष्ट्रीय बालिका प्रोत्साहन योजना” जून, 2008 में प्रारंभ की गई थी जिसका उद्देश्य माध्यमिक स्तर पर बालिकाओं के नामांकन एवं स्कूल में बनाए रखने संबंधी स्थिति में सुधार करना है। इस योजना के अंतर्गत (i) कक्षा VIII की परीक्षा उत्तीर्ण करने वाली सभी अ.जा./अ.ज.जा. बालिकाओं और (ii) उन बालिकाओं जिन्होंने कस्तूरबा गांधी बालिका विद्यालयों से कक्षा VIII की परीक्षा उत्तीर्ण करने के बाद (इस बात पर ध्यान दिए बिना कि वे अ.जा. अथवा अ.ज.जा. की हैं) शैक्षिक वर्ष 2008-09 से किसी सरकारी, सरकारी सहायता प्राप्त अथवा स्थानीय निकाय के विद्यालयों में कक्षा IX हेतु नामांकन करवाया हो, के नाम से 3000 रु. की राशि जमा कराई जाती है। वर्ष 2008-09 में दाखिले हेतु 25 राज्यों/संघ शासित प्रदेशों की 4,09,580 बालिकाओं को प्रोत्साहन देने हेतु 122.87 करोड़ रु. की राशि संस्वीकृत की गई। वर्ष 2009-10 में दाखिले हेतु 11 राज्यों/संघ शासित प्रदेशों की 83,187 पात्र बालिकाओं हेतु 24.94 करोड़ रु. की राशि संस्वीकृत की गई है।

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(ख) तथा (ग) जी, नहीं। इस योजना के तहत संस्वीकृतियां राज्यों/संघ शासित प्रदेशों से व्यवहार्य प्रस्तावों के प्राप्त होने पर निर्भर होती हैं।

(घ) बालिकाओं की संख्या के ब्यौरे सहित वर्ष 2008-09 तथा 2009-10 में दाखिले हेतु पात्र बालिकाओं को प्रोत्साहन देने के प्रयोजनार्थ विभिन्न राज्यों/संघ शासित प्रदेशों हेतु संस्वीकृत राशि का राज्यवार विवरण-1 और II में दिया गया है।

#### **विवरण-1**

*वर्ष 2008-09 के दौरान दाखिले हेतु माध्यमिक शिक्षा हेतु छात्राओं को प्रोत्साहन योजना नामक केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजना के तहत राज्यों/संघ शासित प्रदेशों के नाम, पात्र बालिकाओं की संख्या तथा संस्वीकृत राशि*

क्र. सं.	राज्य/संघ शासित प्रदेश का नाम	पात्र बालिकाओं की कुल संख्या	जारी की गई कुल राशि (रु. में)
1	2	3	4
1.	अरुणाचल प्रदेश	2853	85,59,000
2.	बिहार	26105	7,83,15,000
3.	छत्तीसगढ़	24590	7,37,70,000
4.	गोवा	610	18,30,000
5.	गुजरात	44410	13,32,30,000
6.	हिमाचल प्रदेश	2176	65,28,000
7.	जम्मू और कश्मीर	3699	1,10,97,000
8.	झारखंड	15806	4,74,18,000
9.	कर्नाटक	81190	24,35,70,000
10.	केरल	21829	6,54,87,000
11.	मेघालय	1715	51,45,000
12.	मिजोरम	2691	80,73,000
13.	नागालैंड	161	4,83,000
14.	पंजाब	30191	9,05,73,000
15.	राजस्थान	16074	4,82,22,000
16.	सिक्किम	552	16,56,000
17.	तमिलनाडु	121292	36,38,76,000
18.	त्रिपुरा	2965	88,95,000
19.	उत्तराखंड	218	6,54,000
20.	अंडमान व निकोबार द्वीपसमूह	82	2,46,000

1	2	3	4
21.	चंडीगढ़	339	10,17,000
22.	दादरा व नगर हवेली	818	24,54,000
23.	दमन व दीव	121	3,63,000
24.	दिल्ली	7567	2,27,01,000
25.	पुडुचेरी	1526	45,78,000
	कुल	4,09,580	122,87,40,000

**विवरण-॥**

वर्ष 2009-10 के दौरान दाखिले हेतु माध्यमिक शिक्षा हेतु छात्राओं को प्रोत्साहन योजना नामक केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजना के तहत राज्यों/संघ शासित प्रदेशों के नाम, पात्र बालिकाओं की संख्या तथा संस्वीकृत राशि

क्र. सं.	राज्य/संघ शासित प्रदेश का नाम	पात्र बालिकाओं की कुल संख्या	जारी की गई कुल राशि (रु. में)
1.	गोवा	588	1764000
2.	झारखंड	18918	56754000
3.	जम्मू व कश्मीर	1327	3981000
4.	केरल	22399	67197000
5.	मिजोरम	3270	9810000
6.	पंजाब	34524	103572000
7.	उत्तराखंड	607	1821000
8.	अंडमान व निकोबार द्वीप समूह	157	471000
9.	चंडीगढ़	327	981000
10.	दमन व दीव	124	372000
11.	दादरा व नगर हवेली	886	2658000
	कुल	83127	249381000

**Incentives to girls for secondary education**

† \*601 SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of National Scheme of Incentives to Girls for Secondary Education being run by Government in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) whether this scheme has failed;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) if not, the status thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d)  
A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

***Statement***

(a) The “National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education” was launched in June, 2008 with the objective to Improve enrolment and retention of girls in the secondary stage. Under the scheme, an amount of Rs. 3000 is deposited in the name of (i) all SC/ST girls, who pass class VIII and (ii) girls who pass class VIII examination from Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (irrespective of whether they belong to Scheduled Castes or Tribes) and enrol for class IX in Government, Government aided or local body schools in the academic year 2008-09 onwards. A sum of Rs. 122.87 crore was sanctioned for grant of incentive to 4,09,580 eligible girls of 25 States/UTs for the admissions in 2008-09. For the admissions in the year 2009-10, an amount of Rs. 24.94 crore has been sanctioned for 83,127 eligible girls of 11 States/UTs.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The sanctions under the scheme depend upon the receipt of viable proposals from the States/UTs.

(d) The State-wise details of the amounts sanctioned to various States/UTs for grant of incentive to eligible girls for admissions in 2008-09 and 2009-10 alongwith the details of the number of girls are given in the Statement-I.

***Statement-I***

*Names of States/UTs, the number of eligible girls and the amount sanctioned under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme “Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education” for the admissions in 2008-09*

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Total Number of eligible girls	Total amount released (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	2853	85,59,000
2.	Bihar	26105	7,83,15,000
3.	Chhattisgarh	24590	7,37,70,000
4.	Goa	610	18,30,000
5.	Gujarat	44410	13,32,30,000
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2176	65,28,000
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	3699	1,10,97,000
8.	Jharkhand	15806	4,74,18,000

1	2	3	4
9.	Karnataka	81190	24,35,70,000
10.	Kerala	21829	6,54,87,000
11.	Meghalaya	1715	51,45,000
12.	Mizoram	2691	80,73,000
13.	Nagaland	161	4,83,000
14.	Punjab	30191	9,05,73,000
15.	Rajasthan	16074	4,82,22,000
16.	Sikkim	552	16,56,000
17.	Tamil Nadu	121292	36,38,76,000
18.	Tripura	2965	88,95,000
19.	Uttarakhand	218	6,54,000
20.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	82	2,46,000
21.	Chandigarh	339	10,17,000
22.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	818	24,54,000
23.	Daman and Diu	121	3,63,000
24.	Delhi	7567	2,27,01,000
25.	Puducherry	1526	45,78,000
TOTAL :		4,09,580	122,87,40,000

**Statement-II**

*Names of States/UTs, the number of eligible girls and the amount sanctioned under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education" for the admissions in 2009-10*

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Total number of eligible girls	Total amount released (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Goa	588	1764000
2.	Jharkhand	18918	56754000
3.	Jammu and Kashmir	1327	3981000
4.	Kerala	22399	67197000
5.	Mizoram	3270	9810000



1	2	3	4
6.	Punjab	34524	103572000
7.	Uttarakhand	607	1821000
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	157	471000
9.	Chandigarh	327	981000
10.	Daman and Diu	124	372000
11.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	886	2658000
TOTAL :		83127	249381000

**श्री कप्तान सिंह सोलंकी:** सभापति जी, “राष्ट्रीय छात्रा माध्यमिक प्रोत्साहन योजना” बहुत अच्छी योजना है। इसमें ग्यारहवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में 1000 करोड़ रुपए की राशि सभी राज्यों को देने का वायदा भी किया गया है। यह योजना जितनी अच्छी है, उतना अच्छा इसका क्रियान्वयन नहीं हो रहा है, इसलिए उन बातों को ध्यान में रखकर, मैं शिक्षा मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वे इस योजना के क्रियान्वयन से संतुष्ट हैं? यह लगातार देखने में आ रहा है कि केंद्र एवं राज्य सरकारों के बीच बेहतर तालमेल न होने के कारण जिन अनुसूचित जाति और जनजाति की छात्राओं को यह प्रोत्साहन राशि मिलनी चाहिए, वह राशि भी उनके खातों में जमा नहीं हो पा रही है। क्या यह सत्य है कि डेढ़, दो साल तक भी छात्राओं के जीरो बैलेंस वाले खातों में राशि भी जीरो ही है? अगर यह सत्य है तो इस योजना का अच्छी तरह से क्रियान्वयन न होने के क्या कारण हैं और मंत्री महोदय आगे क्या करना चाहते हैं?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, the hon. Member has asked a very important question and I have to say that I too feel a little disappointed that the Scheme has not been implemented at the pace at which it should have been implemented, but I would like to, through you, Sir, inform the hon. Member that the fault fairly does not lie with anybody. The Scheme envisages, Sir, that proposals have to come from the State Government. When the proposals come from the State Government, the Centre, then, sends the money to the State Government, depending on the proposals. Then, the State Government has to go to every school, of the category that he has mentioned, which has to get the benefit, and, then, the names of girls, which class they are studying in, the father's name, the date of birth, all those details have to be collated by the State Government. Then, those details are sent to the State Bank of India and, then, the State Bank of India has to prepare the Fixed Deposit for each of those girls. This is a very elaborate exercise. We would like the State Governments to handle it, but the State Governments refuse. They say, “You handle it Centrally.” Handling it Centrally is extremely time-consuming. Therefore, there has been this delay, and the hon. Member is absolutely right, Sir, we need to devise a new system, and I will, certainly, relook at this issue and see how things can be made more efficient. But I hope that the State Governments will collaborate with us to make it more efficient.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

श्री कप्तान सिंह सोलंकी: सभापति जी, 1 अप्रैल, 2010 से देश में “शिक्षा का अधिकार” लागू हो चुका है और देश में महिला साक्षरता दर भी काफी कम है। इन सभी बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए मंत्री महोदय ने जो उत्तर दिया है, उसमें मध्य प्रदेश का कहीं भी उल्लेख नहीं है। मैंने राज्यवार सूची भी मांगी थी कि कहां पर, कितनी छात्राओं को कितनी राशि दी जा रही है। मैंने राज्य और केंद्र शासित संघ राज्यों की जो सूची देखी है, उसमें कहीं पर भी मध्य प्रदेश का नाम नहीं है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि उक्त योजनाओं में इस प्रदेश को शामिल नहीं करने के क्या कारण हैं? मध्य प्रदेश के साथ यह जो पक्षपात किया जा रहा है, मंत्री जी उसके कारण बताने की कृपा करें?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Through you, Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that the reason why Madhya Pradesh is not being mentioned is that Madhya Pradesh has never sent a proposal. So, if there is any discrimination, the discrimination lies to your end, Sir.

If you had sent a proposal, we would have certainly mentioned it.

DR. KARAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a little disappointing that the Scheme has not yet taken off. But I am sure with the dynamic Minister at the helm this will start functioning. But my question is different. Apart from giving scholarships to girls, what is required is providing some facilities like small retiring room and separate toilets for girls in the schools. Unless you have separate toilets for girls, particularly religious people and even others are reluctant to send their girls. This huge sum of money you give to the girls certainly. Will you add on to this Scheme a small retiring room and separate toilets for girls in the schools? That will go a long way as an incentive for the girls to attend the schools.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, the hon. Member is absolutely right and this is the reason why under the Right to Education Act, this provision is provided and it is mandatory. All schools in India, whether public or private, have to have separate toilets for girls and once that is done, those infrastructure requirements are met, I think, the problem will be addressed. The private unaided schools will have to pay for it. The Government has to pay for the Government schools and the aided schools, of course, as you know, are aided by us. But this is an infrastructure requirement which is mandatory and that they have to comply with it. I would like to mention that now in the context of education, we are looking at the future of our children. We are looking at the future of India. I would request all the State Governments to give us their formal proposals, expedite those proposals and if there is any difficulty, come and contact me. I will personally look into it because this is a national mission that all of us have to undertake together.

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Sir, this is a laudable Scheme. The Government also intends to educate the girls. But I want to know from the Minister whether the Scheme will be extended to all girls studying in the Government schools and aided schools. Secondly, you remove the restriction that girls passed the tenth standard only; then only they will get the incentive. What is

the reason for not removing them? Andhra Pradesh was also not mentioned in the list of the States to which the amount had been released.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, that all depends on what kind of formal proposal has been sent, whether it has been sanctioned or not. If it is not sanctioned, the amount will not be released. When we talk of extending this Scheme to all girls, if we are to extend it, there are — we tried to calculate it — about 59-60 lakh girls studying in the secondary sector. If we were to extend it, we would require more than Rs. 7,000 crores which is the budgetary provision. But under the Plan we have provided Rs. 1,500 crores. Naturally, we could not extend it to all the girls. So, with the limited provision of Rs. 1,500 crores in the Budget, we chose the SC&ST categories and the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas. Therefore, we have extended this Scheme to them.

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: The amount is not released to Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: As I have said, if Andhra Pradesh has not sent a formal proposal, the release will not be there. If it is sent, it is being scrutinized. The moment it is sanctioned, the release will be there.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, we are happy that we have a very dynamic Minister. He is a Minister of principles. I am not asking that this Scheme should be extended to all girls. But my question is this. Why don't you consider extending it to the girls coming from the Below Poverty Line families? In Navodaya Vidyalayas, you are giving full scholarships to everybody. There are Central schools also. In the case of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas you have already stated that it is given to all irrespective of caste and religion. Why don't you give it to poor girl students coming from all sections of Below Poverty Line? In this connection, I would like to submit that as far as girls' education is concerned, it is not only the SC and ST girls are suffering, but also girls from weaker sections and poorer sections in the rural areas are not being sent to schools. One of the reasons is what Dr. Karan Singh Sahib has said. Therefore, this is a question to which I would like to have an answer.

Earlier the MPs used to recommend two students. Mostly they were poor students. You have done away with that provision. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question, please.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: My question is: (1) Why don't you extend it to all girl students from BPL families? (2) Why don't you reconsider the MPs' quota?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, so far as both the questions of the hon. Member are concerned, as I said, we, ultimately, can only extend the scheme with reference to the budgetary allocation that has been made. In the context of the budgetary allocation, we thought that we first target the SC and the ST categories and the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas because those are in rural areas. Therefore, the weakest of the communities are targeted.

As far as the quota is concerned, I would like to mention and inform the hon. Members, through you, Sir, that yesterday I had an emergent meeting of the Kendriya Vidyalaya

Sangathan. I have decided, in the light of the sentiments expressed by the hon. Members, not just of the Rajya Sabha but also of the Lok Sabha, to restore the two nominations to each Member of Parliament. But as far as my own quota is concerned, I have surrendered it. I have not kept it. I have surrendered both my Minister's quota as well as my personal MP quota. But I have restored it for all of you.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, on behalf of the whole House, I thank the hon. Minister.

### **तालचेर और अंगुल में बन्द पड़ी उर्वरक इकाइयां**

**\*602. श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** क्या रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उड़ीसा के तालचेर और अंगुल उपखंडों में निर्मित परिसर में बंद पड़े उर्वरक कारखानों को प्रदूषण की आड़ में आगे नहीं चलाया जाएगा;

(ख) क्या सरकार को इस संबंध में कोई अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुआ है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) क्या सरकार अपने पहले के आश्वासन से मुकर रही है?

**रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री श्रीकांत जेना):** (क) से (घ) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

### ***विवरण***

(क) से (घ) जी, नहीं। मंत्रिमंडल के दिनांक 30.10.2008 के निर्णय के अनुसरण में फर्टिलाइजर कारपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लि. (एफसीआईएल) की तलचर इकाई सहित बंद पड़ी सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की उर्वरक इकाइयों के पुनरुद्धार की व्यवहार्यता का पता लगाने का निर्णय लिया गया है, बशर्ते गैस की उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित हो, ताकि देश में यूरिया के उत्पादन एवं मांग के बढ़ते अन्तर को पूरा किया जा सके। सचिवों की एक अधिकार-प्राप्त समिति का गठन किया गया है जिसका अधिदेश एफसीआईएल की बंद इकाइयों के पुनरुद्धार के लिए सभी निवेश विकल्पों का मूल्यांकन करना और सरकार के विचारार्थ उचित सिफारिशें करना है।

सचिवों की अधिकार प्राप्त समिति के निर्णयानुसार, व्यावसायिक परामर्शदाता मैसर्स डेलोयट ने राजस्व शेयरिंग मॉडल के आधार पर प्रस्तावित पात्रता और मूल्यांकन मानदंड प्रस्तुत कर दिए हैं।

तलचर के पुनरुद्धार के लिए, सरकार को सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों अर्थात् गैस अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया लि (गेल), कोल इंडिया लि. (सीआईएल) और राष्ट्रीय केमिकल्स एंड फर्टिलाइजर्स लि. (आरसीएफ) के संघ के माध्यम से 22.12.2009 को एक प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुआ है जिसमें एफसीआई, तलचर में कोयला आधारित प्रौद्योगिकी का उर्वरक संयंत्र लगाने का आशय व्यक्त किया गया है। कोल इंडिया लि. ने परियोजना के लिए कोयले की अबाधित आपूर्ति करने का आश्वासन दिया है और नामांकन के आधार पर परियोजना के आबंटन करने का अनुरोध किया है।

एफसीआईएल की बंद इकाइयों के पुनरुद्धार के संबंध में डेलोयट की सिफारिशों के साथ-साथ संघ द्वारा प्रस्तुत की सचिवों की अधिकार प्राप्त समिति द्वारा जांच की जा रही है ताकि उर्वरक विभाग सरकार का अन्तिम अनुमोदन प्राप्त कर सके।

पर्यावरणीय अनुमोदन के संबंध में पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय (एमओईएफ) ने आरंभिक बैठक में इस परियोजना को अपना अनुमोदन नहीं दिया था क्योंकि तलचर में व्यापक पर्यावरणीय प्रदूषण सूचकांक (सीईपीआई) इस मंत्रालय द्वारा निर्धारित मानकों से अधिक हैं।

उर्वरक विभाग द्वारा पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय को एक प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत किया गया था जिसमें राष्ट्रीय महत्व की परियोजना के प्रावधान के अंतर्गत पर्यावरणी अनुमोदन देने का निवेदन किया है। 30.4.2010 को विशेषज्ञ मूल्यांकन समिति के समक्ष एक प्रस्तुतीकरण रखा गया था। इस संबंध में पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय के अंतिम निर्णय की प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है। तलचर इकाई के पुनरुद्धार के लिए सरकार कृत संकल्प है।

#### **Closed fertilizer units at Talcher and Angul**

†\*602. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the closed fertilizer factory complex constructed in Talcher and Angul blocks of Orissa will not continue to function on the pretext of pollution;
- (b) whether Government has received any representation in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government is backing out from its earlier assurance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### ***Statement***

(a) to (d) No, Sir. Pursuant to Cabinet decision dated 30.10.2008, it has been decided to explore the feasibility of revival of the closed public sector fertilizer units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCIL) including the Talcher unit subject to assured availability of gas, to meet the emerging demand production gap of urea in the country. An Empowered Committee of Secretaries (ECOS) has been constituted with the mandate to evaluate all investment options for revival of the closed units of FCIL and to make suitable recommendations for consideration of the Government.

As per decision of Empowered Committee of Secretaries (ECOS), professional consultant M/s Deloitte has submitted the proposed eligibility and evaluation criteria based on Revenue Sharing Model.

For revival of Talcher, proposal has been received in the Government through consortium of PSUs i.e. Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL), Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF) on 22.12.2009 expressing intent to put up fertilizer plant on coal based technology at FCI Talcher. Coal India Ltd. has assured uninterrupted coal supply for the project, and requested to allocate the project on nomination basis.

The recommendations of Deloitte regarding revival of units of FCIL alongwith the proposal submitted by the consortium is under examination by ECoS to enable Department of Fertilizers to seek final approval of Government.

As regarding environmental clearance, in the preliminary meeting, the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has not accorded its clearance for the project, as Talcher

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

having a Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) higher than the standards prescribed by the Ministry.

A representation was submitted by Department of Fertilizers to MoEF to accord environmental clearance under the provision of the Projects of National Importance. A presentation was also made before the Expert Appraisal Committee on 30.4.2010. The final decision of MoEF in this regard is awaited. Government is committed to the revival of the Talcher unit.

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** सभापति महोदय, धन्यवाद। माननीय मंत्री महोदय उसी राज्य से आते हैं, जिस राज्य से मैं आता हूँ। महोदय, मंत्री महोदय बुद्धिमान भी हैं और भाग्यवान भी हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... मंत्री महोदय 1996 में कैबिनेट मंत्री थे, यद्यपि 2009 में वह राज्य मंत्री बने, लेकिन दोनों सदनों में उत्तर देने का भाग्य उनको ही प्राप्त होता है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री सभापति:** आप सवाल पूछिए।

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** महोदय, उड़ीसा में जो तालचेर है, वहां पर 70 के दशक में Fertilizer Corporation of India का एक यूनिट था, जो बाद में किन्हीं कारणों से बंद हो गया। उसके पुनः रिवाइवल के लिए तत्कालीन फर्टीलाइजर मिनिस्टर रामविलास पासवान जी से 2007 में मैंने निवेदन किया था। उस समय उन्होंने कहा था कि वह उसे Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF) को दे देंगे एवं तालचेर के फर्टीलाइजर प्लांट से फिर से उत्पादन शुरू होगा, वह प्लांट अवश्य चालू होगा। बीच में अभी यहां पर फिर पॉल्यूशन का मामला उठाते हुए...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री सभापति:** आप सवाल पूछिए न।

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** सर, अभी कुछ समय पहले पॉल्यूशन का मामला उठा कर षड्यंत्र रचाया गया ताकि वह प्लांट चालू न हो सके। इसके लिए मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदय से प्रश्न करना चाहता हूँ कि वास्तव में तालचेर के रिवाइवल के लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं? क्या इस प्रकार का कोई मामला है अथवा जैसा आप बोलते हैं, वास्तव में उस फर्टीलाइजर प्लांट को चालू करने के लिए आप कुछ करेंगे?

**श्री श्रीकांत जेना:** सर, तालचेर यूनिट इस्टर्न इंडिया में यूरिया प्रोडक्शन का एक ही यूनिट है, जिसको 2002 में आपने बंद कर दिया था। 2008 में यूपीए गवर्नमेंट ने उसे रिवाइव करने का निश्चय किया। केवल तालचेर ही नहीं, Fertilizers Corporation of India के जो अन्य यूनिट्स हैं, कैबिनेट ने उनको रिवाइव करने के लिए भी प्रिंसिपल डिसीजन लिया है। जहां तक तालचेर के रिवाइवल के संबंध में आपने प्रश्न किया है कि क्या इसमें Ministry of Environment And Forests ने कुछ पाबन्दी लगाई है, उसके उत्तर में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ, यह सच है कि उन्होंने पाबन्दी लगाई थी, क्योंकि तालचेर और अनगुल एरिया में पॉल्यूशन का इंडेक्स हायर साइड पर था। लेकिन चूंकि तालचेर एक नैशनल इम्पोर्टर्स का यूनिट है, इसलिए Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers ने उस कमेटी के सामने अपनी बात रखी। वहां से हमें पॉजिटिव इंडिकेशन मिला और उस कमेटी ने कहा कि तालचेर यूनिट के रिवाइवल में कोई असुविधा नहीं होगी। उसके अलावा एक प्रपोजल और आया है, RCF, GAIL और Coal India Ltd., इन तीनों कंपनीज ने फर्टीलाइजर मिनिस्ट्री को यह इंडिकेट किया है कि उसे रिवाइव करने के लिए नॉमिनेशन बेसिज पर काम किया जाए। वह प्रोसेस शुरू हो चुका है। मुझे लगता है कि वहां पर गैस एवं कोयला पहले से ही हैं एवं अब Coal Gasification Route में यह यूनिट रिवाइव करने का बन्दोबस्त हो रहा है।

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** लेकिन, सर, इस मामले में बहुत देरी हो रही है।...

**श्री सभापति:** आप अपना दूसरा सवाल पूछिए।

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** सर, यह मेरा दूसरा पूरक प्रश्न यह है कि इस मामले में बहुत देरी हो रही है। इसमें पर्यावरण का जो मसला आया है, उससे किसी संदेह की पुष्टि होती है, क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय, इसको स्पष्ट करेंगे?

**SHRI SRIKANT JENA:** Sir, I have already clarified very clearly; there was a problem. The index level of pollution was at 82 level; this is supposed to be at the level of 72. Since the Talcher Fertiliser Unit is of national importance, the Fertilisers Ministry approached the Environment Ministry and the Committee. They are convinced, and I am expecting, any time, their positive approval. In fact, we are also not waiting for that. As I have already told you, in respect of three companies, namely, RCF, GAIL and Coal India, Coal India has assured on the supply of coal, and the GAIL and RCF have agreed, and have already signed with the Govt. On the basis of that, we are proceeding. I am very sure that the Talcher unit, which was closed during the NDA Government, will be revived during the UPA Government.

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

**श्री सभापति:** नहीं, अब बस। ...(व्यवधान)... आपके सवाल हो गये ...(व्यवधान)... अब आप बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... आपके सवाल हो गये ...(व्यवधान)... नहीं, नहीं, बस। ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज अब आप बैठ जाइए।

**SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA:** Sir, the factory was closed down after 20 years of its existence, and 500 acres of land and other infrastructure are available. It was always assured by the Government that it would be opened. But it has not been opened. I want a specific assurance from the hon. Minister as to when this factory will be opened by the UPA Government. Will the hon. Minister specifically tell the time-frame?

**SHRI SRIKANT JENA:** Sir, the time-frame is not exactly possible. But I am hopeful about it because out of the other units, Talcher has an advantage. And, as you all know, China has put up nearly 25 coal gasification units. These are going on well. Gas is available cheaper through the coal gasification route, and the GAIL and PDIL are examining this coal gasification route. They have already entered into an agreement. The process may take some time, but the revival process is on. But if you ask me by what date it will, exactly, be available, that is on the basis of the detailed proposal. The Empowered Committee of Secretaries is in the process of examining it. After that, it will go to the Cabinet, and I am sure, it will be done within a time-frame, which I realize, will be within a span of six to ten months.

**SHRI PYRIMOHAN MOHAPATRA:** Sir, will the hon. Minister be pleased to say whether they have taken up with the Ministry of Environment that in case of Talcher, while this proposal of a Central PSU has been hanging, and they have been exploring the less polluting route of coal gasification and less costly, of course, how is it that they have been giving clearances throughout 2009 to power plants in the same area, including power plants for NTPC and ultra mega power plants? So, if they could give clearances for all these power plants which have been raising the pollution level, then, why are you not making a claim that this, being of national

importance, should get priority? And, if you have made some mistakes, then, we should get priority; we should not be in a position to get punished for your mistakes. Will you please take that route and will you please fix a time-frame for the Empowered Committee of Secretaries at every level so that this particular plant, which was closed down, due to technological problems can be revived?

SHRI SRIKANT JENA: Sir, I fully agree with the hon. Member, and we have, exactly, done what he has mentioned. The Ministry of Fertilizers has taken up this matter with the Environment Ministry, and the Committee is already convinced that this unit is of national importance. Therefore, there is a positive indication. We are just waiting for their clearance, and I am sure that will not be a hurdle in the way of revival of the Talcher unit.

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** सर, ...(व्यवधान)... पर्यावरण का मामला क्यों बीच में आया ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** पाणि जी, ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठ जाइए!...(व्यवधान)... नहीं, नहीं, पाणि जी, प्लीज़ आप बैठ जाइए।

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, fertilizers and chemicals are very important inputs. They are very much required by agriculturists and farmers. So, a steady, regular and unfailing supply should be ensured. My specific question is this. Of all the chemical fertilizer units in the public sector, how many have become sick, how many have been closed and how many have been revived?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Malaisamy, it does not relate to this question. Supplementaries have to relate to the question.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, the question relates to the revival of fertilizer and chemical units.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please read the question.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: I am on the main question, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Which?

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, I am interested to know, out of all the chemical and fertilizer factories in the public sector, how many are sick and how many have been revived. What is the extra effort you are putting in to revive the sick units? What is your extra effort and what is your priority?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is three questions in one. Please answer one.

SHRI SRIKANT JENA: As you know, eight urea producing units have been closed down. So far as the revival process is concerned, in 2008, the Cabinet had taken a decision to conduct a study to find out whether these can be revived or not. On the basis of that, the revival process had started. There has been an empowered committee. After going through this whole revival process, the PDIL and other agencies also took this initiative. Ultimately, it was decided that on the basis of the revenue sharing model, it will be applicable...(Interruptions)...



**श्री मंगल किसन:** आप यह बताइये कि यह कब तक खुलेगा?

**श्री सभापति:** प्लीज़, आप बैठ जाइए।

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** ये जनता दल की सरकार में भी थे ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री सभापति:** पाणि जी, यह ठीक नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Please do not interrupt. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please resume your places. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SRIKANT JENA: Sir, I was saying in regard to the eight units, that the process is on. The Government has taken the view that the revenue sharing model is the right model. But the question is of the availability of gas. The availability of gas depends on how much gas is available and at what price it is available. The viability of the revenue sharing model depends on the price of gas. Till that is determined, no investor is interested in investing in this sector. Therefore, that is being discussed with the Ministry of Petroleum. The moment it is cleared, this process will be...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री मंगल किसन:** मेरा एक सिम्पल क्वेश्चन यह है कि तालचर कब तक खुलेगा?

**श्री किशोर कुमार मोहन्ती:** तालचर कब तक खुलेगा?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid...**(Interruptions)**... आप बैठ जाइए। Please do not do this. ...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री मंगल किसन:** तालचर के बारे में बोलिए।

SHRI SRIKANT JENA: I fully share the concern of our Members from Orissa. Let me assure one thing about the revival of Talcher unit. The Talcher unit is at an advantageous position because of the coal availability. Therefore, three public sector undertakings have come forward. They have said that they are interested in it since the gasification technology has been a proven technology in China and they have already set up 25 units. Therefore, Talcher unit's prospects are bright and I am hopeful that within a span of six to ten months, as I have said earlier, the revival process will start.

#### **Amritsar-Anandpur Sahib rail track**

\*603. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when Government would complete the Amritsar-Anandpur Sahib rail track announced in the previous Railway Budget; and

(b) the present status of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### **Statement**

(a) and (b) Amritsar and Anandpur Sahib are already connected by rail line *via* Jalandhar, Ludhiana and Sirhind. The connectivity between Amritsar and Anandpur Sahib will further get improved after completion of Chandigarh — Ludhiana new rail line. No work of Amritsar-Anandpur Sahib rail link is sanctioned. In the Budget Speech 2008-09, it was mentioned that proposal of Anandpur Sahib — Garh Shankar new line being processed for approval. The new

line proposal was processed for 'in-principle' approval of Planning Commission, but the same was not recommended by them. State Government of Punjab was requested to consider sharing 50% of the cost of the project but their response is still awaited.

**श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना:** माननीय सभापति जी, मैंने सिर्फ एक लाइन का क्वेश्चन पूछा था, उसके जवाब में जो information दी गयी है, वह सत्य से बहुत दूर है। पंजाब में अमृतसर से आनंदपुर साहिब के लिए कोई भी connectivity नहीं है। यह connectivity ऐसी बनायी गयी है, जैसे अगर किसी को जालंधर से चंडीगढ़ आना हो तो उसको कहना पड़ता है कि पहले आप दिल्ली आइए, फिर दिल्ली से चंडीगढ़ जाइए, वहाँ ट्रेन है। अमृतसर से आनंदपुर साहिब के लिए कोई भी direct connectivity नहीं है। आपने इस सदन को गुमराह किया है।... (व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** नहीं, नहीं। आप ऐसा मत कहिए।

**श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना:** मैं आपसे यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि अमृतसर से आनंदपुर साहिब के लिए connectivity आप कब तक बनाएँगे?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman, Sir, whatever answer given is a matter of fact. It is true that Anandpur Sahib, an important pilgrimage centre, is connected with Amritsar by a circuitous route of 280 kms. It is true that it is a circuitous route. But, there is another route between Anandpur Sahib to Amritsar; that would be only after the completion of the Chandigarh-Ludhiana route. Once it is complete, the distance would be reduced to 262 kms. Another proposal also is there—Anandpur Sahib to Garh Shankar, then to Ludhiana to Amritsar. That also will be taken up for which the Railways have requested the State Government of Punjab to share the project cost because it is Rs. 618 crores. The Railways do not have the resources to meet the full amount. So, the Railways have approached the Punjab Government. I have mentioned here whatever is the fact that is available. It is a circuitous way, I do admit, that is the only thing.

**श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना:** सभापति जी, आनंदपुर साहिब दुनिया में एक माना हुआ स्थान है, लेकिन बजट में की हुई अपनी कमिटमेंट को पूरा न करते हुए मंत्री जी ने जो cost sharing की शर्त लगा दी है कि स्टेट शेयर करे, मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि यह संभव नहीं है। यह तो सेंटर का प्रोजेक्ट है, इसलिए सारी income सेंटर की ही होगी। क्या कभी ऐसा हुआ है कि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट cost share करे और उसकी income स्टेट को दी गई हो? रेलवे तो एक independent body है, इसलिए रेलवे को पूरा शेयर अपनी तरफ से bear करना चाहिए। मेरा one pointed question यह है कि रेलवे अपनी तरफ से कब तक इस प्रोजेक्ट को पूरा करेगी?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: I fully agree with the hon. Member, Anandpur Sahib is a very important place. It has to have more connectivity. But, when the Government have taken up the proposal, the Railways have approached the Planning Board. The Planning Board did not give the in principle approval on the ground, firstly that it is not economically viable and secondly that there is no money available in the Railways. Railways have included all socially important projects in its Vision 2020. For that, the Railways need at least Rs. 14 lakh crores to fulfil the most important

Vision 2020 projects, for which we are having the PPP model and wherever money is available. Only after the completion of the Anandpur Sahib to Darshangarh, costing Rs. 618 crores, for which the Punjab Government will also give us money. Then we will be in a position to go ahead. Only after taking a final decision on it I can give you the time-frame for completion of the project.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, my question comes out of the answer given by the hon. Minister. The concept of 50 per cent cost sharing, 'The State Government is requested to consider sharing of 50 per cent of the cost', it has been observed in the recent trend in the Ministry of Railways to sanction and then not to allot money thereby resulting in the cost and time overruns. If you look at the projects for the last 20 years, Sir, it is a token grant given; it means that you promise and do not release enough funds and the project is not completed. On the other hand, the aspiration of the people are risen. This is not the way we should go about. When we represent this, they are saying that those who would like to have their projects completed, they should deposit their 50 per cent share. There is a catch in that. Only Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh so far have been asked to give 50 per cent whereas the other States' projects are taken up without that 50 per cent share. Sir, if they are applying this 50 per cent sharing formula, it should be applied uniformly.

Sir, I would like to ask through you whether the Ministry of Railways will take note of this point and not insist Andhra Pradesh which is working out to complete the projects on a very rapid scale. Will it see to it that it will not insist on payment of 50 per cent project cost from Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka? Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka only are discriminated against, Sir.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, this is a matter which many a time has been referred to in this august House and in the other House also. It is a fact that availability of resources is the most important thing. Even now there are on-going projects for which the Railways require more than one lakh crores of rupees. At the very same time, the Railways have only about eleven thousand crores of rupees. Whatever money is there that we will have to give for different projects. I think, the hon. Member, Mr. Seelam, knows about this thing better than me from his experience. So, we are doing whatever is possible in this situation. We approach the State Governments and whichever State Government is ready to come forward we welcome it. For example, Karnataka has sponsored five or six projects. Other State Governments are also coming forward. We cannot make it a uniform thing asking for assistance because some States are financially very poor. For example, Chhattisgarh has only promised land. At the same time, Jharkhand is giving us two-third of the entire cost while some States are giving 50 per cent. How can the Government of India insist on every State that they should take up these projects? That is why the Railways have evolved a policy of taking up socially important and beneficial schemes in different places, including the one which the hon. Member has asked, Amritsar-Anandpur Sahib route. Therefore, we have prepared a project for which fourteen lakh crores of rupees will be necessary for taking up for completion of these projects. All these need to be taken up, Sir,

because the entire economic growth will be depending on the growth of the Railways. For the growth of Railways we also have to find out the resources. Otherwise, we will not be able to go forward. Sir, we have the Dedicated Freight Corridor Project and we have many other projects, therefore, all of us should say that the Railways should have more resources to be earmarked and be made available to complete these projects.

**श्री राम नारायण साहू:** सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से बताना चाहता हूँ कि इनके साथ रेल मंत्री जब लखनऊ गए थे, तो उन्होंने कहा था कि लखनऊ स्टेशन को मॉडल स्टेशन बनाएंगे...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** यह सवाल लखनऊ पर नहीं है।

**श्री राम नारायण साहू:** सर, यूपीए सरकार का डेढ़ साल हो गया, आज मेरा आखिरी दिन है, अब मैं कब तक लखनऊ का इंतजार करूंगा, कब तक उत्तर प्रदेश का इंतजार करूंगा...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** कृपया आप सवाल पूछिए।

**श्री राम नारायण साहू:** सर, ऐसा है कि शुरुआत में जब मंत्री जी वहां गए थे, तो उन्होंने कहा था कि लखनऊ स्टेशन को मॉडल स्टेशन बनाया जाएगा, लेकिन आज डेढ़ साल गुजर जाने के बाद भी वहां कुछ नहीं हुआ है। कागज पर design भी बन गया, नक्शा भी बन गया, लेकिन वहां कुछ शुरु ही नहीं हुआ है...(व्यवधान).... मंत्री जी राजस्थान के सवाल पर कर्नाटक का नाम ले सकते हैं, तो हम क्यों नहीं पूछ सकते हैं?

**श्री सभापति:** कृपया आप बैठ जाइए।

**श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी:** सर, हम लोग भी इस सवाल के साथ हैं।

**श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्र:** सर, हम लोग भी इस सवाल के साथ हैं।

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, I appreciate his concern. That is the only thing that I would say. But we have been here only for the last one year. He was talking about what happened 18 months ago. I have assumed office only eleven months before. You have been asking about what happened 18 months back which I will not be able to answer.

**श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्र:** 18 महीने पहले किसकी सरकार थी?...(व्यवधान).... He was also a Minister earlier. ...(Interruptions)... This is not the answer. ...(Interruptions)... It is not expected from the hon. Minister to say that 18 months back he was not there. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: I have not said anything against it. ...(Interruptions)...

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

SHRI E. AHAMMED: The Railways have set apart ten crores of rupees. ...(Interruptions)...

**श्री सभापति:** आपने अपनी बात कह दी, अब आप बैठ जाइए...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: We will definitely do it. ...(Interruptions)... Lucknow is an important place of the country. ...(Interruptions)... We have already given ten crores of rupees. ...(Interruptions)... But I don't know whether it will be completed within time or not.

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

**श्री राम नारायण साहू:** आज हमारा आखिरी दिन है।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** आपको बाद में बोलने का मौका मिलेगा...(व्यवधान)...

MS. MABEL REBELLO: Sir, in the answer the Minister has said that on 50 per cent basis they have offered the Punjab Government to build up Railway lines. From the year 2002, Jharkhand State is contributing 60 per cent for Railway connectivity and construction. I would like to know from the hon. Minister since he has offered on 50 per cent basis to other States, whether they are trying to reduce Jharkhand's contribution from 60 per cent to 50 per cent?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: I am very happy to say that Jharkhand is the only State which has agreed to bear 67 per cent. Sir, as it has already been decided and it is an ongoing project, I hope hon. Member will also appreciate the anxiety of the Railways to make available whatever resources is possible. In this context, Sir, I do not want to make any comment. ...*(interruptions)*...

#### **Suicide by farmers**

\*604. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that 17 farmers in Vidarbha and 2 farmers in Orissa committed suicide from April, 2010 till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of farmers who committed suicide during the last three years, till date, State-wise, including Uttar Pradesh;

(d) whether any fresh financial package will be announced to ameliorate miserable conditions of farmers in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons for neglecting 70 per cent of poor population of the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### ***Statement***

(a) and (b) As reported by the Government of Maharashtra, in April, 2010, 6 suicides by farmers have taken place in 6 districts of Vidarbha (monitored under the Rehabilitation Package) which are due to indebtedness or economical distress or crop failure as per reasons ascertained immediately after these suicides. One person in the State of Orissa has committed suicide in April, 2010 allegedly due to burden of loan as reported by Government of Orissa.

(c) Number of suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons, as reported by the State Governments is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(d) to (f) In order to ameliorate the condition of farmers in areas having comparatively higher incidence of suicides by farmers due to agrarian distress, the Government of India had

approved a Rehabilitation Package of Rs. 16978.69 crore for implementation in Andhra Pradesh (16 districts), Maharashtra (6 districts), Karnataka (6 districts) and Kerala (3 districts). The package was approved initially for a period of 3 years. It has been decided by the Government to extend the period for implementation of the non-credit components of the package by 2 more years *i.e.* up to 30th September, 2011.

Besides this, following initiatives have been taken by the Government to ease financial distress faced by the farmers:—

- (i) In order to address the problem of indebtedness of farmers, Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008 has been implemented benefitting about 3.69 crore farmers as per the provisional figures.
- (ii) In order to ensure a remunerative price to the farmers, Minimum Support Price (MSP) of major cereals has been increased substantially during the last 5 years.
- (iii) Crop loan up to Rs. 3 lakh is now being provided @ 5% interest rate for those farmers who repay their loan as per schedule.

Additionally, for overall development of agriculture and allied sectors assistance is provided to farmers through central schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission. Government has amended the guidelines of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in July, 2009 permitting provision of irrigation facility and land development works on land belonging to small and marginal farmers under this Scheme.

#### ***Statement-I***

*Details of suicide by farmers due to agrarian reasons as reported by State Governments*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Period/Date of report	No. of suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2007	504
		2008	419
		2009	219
2.	Karnataka	2007-08	182
		2008-09	155
		2009-10	97

1	2	3	4
3.	Maharashtra	2007	590
		2008	627
		2009 (03.05.10)	503
4.	Kerala	2007	68
		2008	22
		2009 (03.05.10)	03
5.	Tamil Nadu	2007	01
		2008	01
		2009	Nil
6.	Punjab	2007	24
		2008	12
		2009	18
7.	Gujarat	2007	04
		2008	01
		2009	Nil
8.	Assam	03.05.2010	Nil
9.	Arunachal Pradesh	17.08.2007	Nil
10.	Bihar	14.05.2008	Nil
11.	Chhattisgarh	16.03.2010	Nil
12.	Goa	03.05.2010	Nil
13.	Haryana	10.03.2010	Nil
14.	Himachal Pradesh	10.03.2010	Nil
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	18.11.2009	Nil
16.	Jharkhand	25.04.2008	Nil
17.	Manipur	23.03.2010	Nil
18.	Meghalaya	27.11.2009	Nil
19.	Madhya Pradesh	22.03.2010	Nil
20.	Mizoram	05.02.2010	Nil
21.	Nagaland	23.11.2009	Nil

1	2	3	4
22.	Orissa	04.03.2010 and 03.05.2010	Nil*
23.	Rajasthan	14.12.2009	Nil
24.	Sikkim	30.11.2009	Nil
25.	Tripura	25.03.2008	Nil
26.	Uttar Pradesh	03.05.2010	Nil
27.	Uttarakhand	09.03.2010	Nil
28.	West Bengal	31.10.2009	Nil
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	05.03.2010	Nil
30.	Government of NCT of Delhi	04.03.2010	Nil
31.	Daman and Diu	05.03.2010	Nil
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	22.03.2010	Nil
33.	Lakshadweep	12.03.2010	Nil
34.	Puducherry	24.03.2010	Nil
35.	Chandigarh	15.11.2009	Nil

\*43 cases of alleged suicide by farmers have been reported by State Government. However, the State Government has not confirmed any of these to be due to agrarian causes.

**श्री नन्द किशोर यादव:** सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने हमारे प्रश्न के उत्तर में यह स्वीकार किया है कि देश के सात प्रान्तों में किसानों ने कृषि कारणों से आत्महत्याएं की हैं। महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने इसमें जो संख्या बतायी है, आत्महत्या करने वालों की संख्या इससे कहीं ज्यादा है। जिन राज्यों के बारे में माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया है कि किसानों ने आत्महत्या नहीं की है या वहां आत्महत्या शून्य है, वहां पर भी किसानों ने आत्महत्या करने का काम किया है, लेकिन स्थानीय प्रशासन के लोगों ने, जिन लोगों ने आत्महत्या की थी, उनकी मौत का दूसरा कारण बता दिया। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि जिन किसानों के बारे में आपने अपने उत्तर में बताया कि इन्होंने कृषि कारणों से आत्महत्याएं की हैं, उनमें small farmers कितने हैं? दूसरा, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि...

श्री सभापति: एक सवाल पूछिए।

**श्री नन्द किशोर यादव:** यह उसी से जुड़ा हुआ सवाल है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या सरकार के पास अलाभकारी हो चुकी खेती को फायदेमंद व्यवसाय बनाने के लिए कोई ठोस नीति है? यदि है तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है? यदि नहीं तो देश की कृषि की अवहेलना के क्या कारण हैं?

**श्री शरद पवार:** महोदय, जो सवाल यहां पर पूछा गया, उसके संबंध में मैं बताना चाहता हूं कि कृषि क्षेत्र को लाभकारी बनाने के लिए पिछले चार-पांच साल से सरकार ने कई कदम उठाए हैं। उनमें important कदम यह उठाया था कि जो Minimum Support Price है, जिसमें आज तक कभी वृद्धि नहीं की गयी थी, उसमें वृद्धि की गयी, जिससे किसानों को ठीक तरह से कीमत मिलेगी, लागत मूल्य मिलेगा। इसके



साथ-साथ कई नई स्कीम्स introduce की गयीं — चाहे National Horticulture Mission का कार्यक्रम हो, Bamboo Mission का कार्यक्रम हो या राष्ट्रीय कृषि विकास योजना के माध्यम से राज्यों को और राज्यों की तरफ से किसानों को मदद देने का, उनको सहयोग देने का कार्यक्रम हो — ये सभी कार्यक्रम इन्हीं चार-पांच सालों में शुरू किए गए हैं, जिनके लिए सबसे ज्यादा budgetary provision करने के लिए हर साल प्रयास किए गए हैं। ताकि इन क्षेत्रों में कृषि क्षेत्र को लाभकारी बनाने के लिए कदम उठाने के लिए हम राज्य सरकारों की जितनी मदद हो सकती है, वह करें — इस प्रकार के कदम उठाए गए हैं।

**श्री नन्द किशोर यादव:** मैं मानता हूँ कि माननीय मंत्री जी कृषि के क्षेत्र में काम कर रहे हैं और किसानों के द्वारा आत्महत्याएं रुकें, इसके लिए भी प्रयास कर रहे हैं। महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से दूसरा सप्लीमेंटरी यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि बुन्देलखंड और पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश में किसानों द्वारा आत्महत्या तथा कृषि के अलाभकारी होने के कारण जो वे शहरों की ओर पलायन कर रहे हैं, इसको रोकने के लिए क्या वहां पर विशेष पैकेज देने की माननीय मंत्री जी की कोई योजना है?

**श्री शरद पवार:** बुन्देलखंड के बारे में जरूर कह सकता हूँ कि इसके लिए कम्प्रेहेंसिव पैकेज एक इंटीग्रेटी डवलपमेंट ऑफ दी बुन्देलखंड जिसमें उत्तर प्रदेश और मध्य प्रदेश दोनों के हिस्से आते हैं, ऐसा पैकेजेज तैयार किया गया जिसके लिए 7 हजार 266 करोड़ रुपए एक टाइम बाउंड मैनर में देने के लिए इस राशि का प्रबंध किया गया है। इसमें से 3 हजार 506 करोड़ उत्तर प्रदेश के लिए और बाकी मध्य प्रदेश के लिए कुछ एमाउंट रखी है। वहां बुन्देलखंड की एक अलग स्थिति है इसलिए वहां ज्यादा ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है, वहां मॉनर इरिगेशन पर ज्यादा ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है और वहां की खेती में तरक्की लाने के लिए कुछ एक्स्ट्रा मदद करने की आवश्यकता है, एक्स्ट्रा स्टेप्स लेने की आवश्यकता है। इसलिए यह 7 हजार 266 करोड़ का एक पैकेज जो किया गया है, राज्य सरकार के सहयोग से इस पर अमल करने का काम शुरू होगा और मुझे विश्वास है कि इसका असर इस क्षेत्र में ठीक तरह से होगा।

SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, we always say that our country is the country of farmers and the hon. Minister himself is an agriculturist. I would like to ask him a specific question. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is thinking of taking permanent measures to save the farmers who are committing suicides. The farmers can be saved provided the hon. Minister concentrates seriously on this issue. Sir, particularly in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra, the number of suicides may be the highest in the country. And, therefore, permanent measures to avoid these suicides have become absolutely necessary. What is required is the soft interest on loans to the farmers, or, sufficient subsidy to them, considering that they are the important citizens of this country. Will the hon. Minister reply to this?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, it is a welcome suggestion. Certain steps have already been taken by the Government. This august House and the hon. Members definitely recollect those.

The first issue that the hon. Member raised is about the interest rate. Sir, the interest rate on crop loan, initially, was 12 per cent. It came down, during the previous regime, up to 11 per cent, 10 per cent and then it had brought down to 8 per cent. Then, three years back, we brought it down to 7 per cent and 6 per cent. And, in this Budget, the interest rate up to Rs. 3 lakhs for crop has been brought down to 5 per cent to those who repay regularly. सर, 5 परसेंट का इंटरैस्ट रेट यहां तक नीचे लाने का जो कदम उठाया गया, वह कभी नहीं उठाया गया था। यह एक बहुत

महत्वपूर्ण कदम इस बारे में उठाया गया। जहां तक विदर्भ की बात है, भारत सरकार ने 16,953 करोड़ का एक पैकेज दिया था, जिसमें विदर्भ, आंध्र, कर्नाटक और केरल को सहयोग देने के लिए और वहां के अफेक्टेड डिस्ट्रिक्ट को मदद करने के लिए था। अब इसमें से 99.8 परसेंट राशि राज्य सरकार को रिलीज की गई और प्रोग्राम राज्य सरकार के माध्यम से वहां अमल किए गए और कुछ प्रोग्राम अभी भी चल रहे हैं। जहां तक विदर्भ की बात है, महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने खुद अपना अलग पैकेज बनाया और इसके लिए भी उन्होंने ज्यादा राशि का वहां प्रबंध किया था और इस पर भी उन्होंने हंड्रेड परसेंट से ज्यादा एक्ज्युअल एक्सपेंडिचर किया है। साथ ही साथ जो अल्टीमेटली, जो डेब्ट वेवर की स्कीम जिससे 65 हजार करोड़ पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में बैंकों में भरे गए किसानों के नाम पर और इनके सिर पर जो बोझ था, वह बोझ कम करने की कोशिश की गई। इससे बहुत बड़ा लाभ वहां के किसानों को भी मिला, यह बात हम नजरअंदाज नहीं कर सकते। इसलिए वहां की जो समस्या थी, चाहे मॉयनर इरिगेशन हो, चाहे आउटस्टैंडिंग लोन का बोझ हो और इंटरेस्ट का जो ज्यादा बोझ था, वह सब कम करने के लिए कोशिश की गई। इसका असर होना चाहिए। अन्य राज्यों में इसका असर हो रहा है, ऐसे रिजल्ट दिख रहे हैं। परन्तु यहां और ज्यादा ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है, इस बात को मैं स्वीकार करता हूं।

**प्रो. अलका क्षत्रिय:** सर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने जवाब में जैसे बताया है कि सरकार द्वारा कृषि ऋण माफी योजना या कम ब्याज पर ऋण दिए जाने की वजह से किसानों द्वारा आत्महत्या करने के मामले आंध्र प्रदेश, कर्नाटक, महाराष्ट्र, केरल, तमिलनाडु और गुजरात में कम हुए हैं। सर, पंजाब राज्य में सबसे अधिक गेहूं की पैदावार होती है, वहां पर किसानों द्वारा आत्महत्या के मामले 2008 के मुकाबले 2009 में बढ़े हैं। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूं कि क्या सरकार ने इसके बारे में कोई जांच करवायी है कि किन कारणों की वजह से पंजाब में किसानों द्वारा आत्महत्या करने के मामले बढ़े हैं? अगर जांच करवायी है, तो इसके बारे में सरकार क्या कदम उठाने जा रही है जिससे वहां पर आत्महत्या के मामले कम हों? क्योंकि पूरे देश में अगर सबसे अधिक गेहूं पैदा किया जाता है, तो वह पंजाब राज्य में किया जाता है और यह दुखद घटना है।

**श्री शरद पवार:** सर, पंजाब के बारे में पंजाब सरकार ने जो हमें अभी तक इन्फार्मेशन दी है, उसके अनुसार वर्ष 2007 में टोटल केस पंजाब में 24 हुए थे, वर्ष 2008 में 12 केस हो गए और वर्ष 2009 में 68 केस हो गए। यह सूचना पंजाब सरकार ने हमें दी है।

**प्रो. अलका क्षत्रिय:** सर, मैंने यह पूछा था कि आत्महत्या के केस बढ़े क्यों हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The question has been answered. **प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव।...****(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल:** माननीय सभापति महोदय, हम भी सवाल पूछने के लिए हाथ उठा रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री सभापति:** प्लीज।...**(व्यवधान)**...

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव:** सभापति महोदय, यह सारा देश जानता है कि उन इलाकों में सर्वाधिक आत्महत्याएं हुई थीं जहां कॉटन की खेती होती थी। यह रिपोर्ट है कि हिन्दुस्तान में सबसे बढ़िया कॉटन की खेती हुई है और दुनिया में कम हुई है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि अगर कॉटन के एक्सपोर्ट की इजाजत दे दी जाती है, तो जो पूरा इलाका आत्महत्या करने वाला है, वह खुशहाल हो सकता है। जब सारी दुनिया में कॉटन की पैदावार कम होने की वजह से उसके भाव बढ़े हैं, हिन्दुस्तान के किसानों को वह भाव मिल सकता है, अगर आप उनको कॉटन एक्सपोर्ट करने की इजाजत दें, विदर्भ से लेकर नासिक तक का सारा इलाका इससे खुशहाल हो सकता है, क्या आप इस बात पर विचार करेंगे कि कॉटन को एक्सपोर्ट करने की इजाजत दें?

**श्री शरद पवार:** सर, कॉटन एक्सपोर्ट के लिए तो इजाजत थी और कॉटन एक्सपोर्ट भी किया गया है। अभी लेटेस्ट रिपोर्ट टेक्स्टाइल मिनिस्ट्री की आयी है, इस रिपोर्ट के माध्यम से टोटल इस देश से कॉटन एक्सपोर्ट होने की आवश्यकता थी, उससे ज्यादा हमारा एक्सपोर्ट हो रहा है और इसका असर अल्टीमेटली देश के स्टॉक पर पड़ेगा और स्टॉक पर लिमिटेशन आएगी तथा इसका असर डोमेस्टिक इंडस्ट्री पर पड़ेगा और इनके लिए कॉटन एवेलेबल नहीं रहेगा, इस तरह की शिकायतें टेक्स्टाइल मिनिस्ट्री के पास आयी हैं। इसलिए वे एक्सपोर्ट के लिए जो लाइसेंस देते हैं, उनको रोकने के लिए काम किया है। मगर इससे पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में कॉटन के भाव पर कुछ बुरा असर हुआ है, यह बात हमारे सामने आयी है। कई जगहों पर 400-500 रुपये क्विंटल तक भाव कम हो गया है, इस तरह की समस्या सरकार के सामने लायी गयी है। यह बात सच है कि विदर्भ के इलाके के बारे में माननीय सदस्य ने बताया कि वह सब कॉटन ग्राइंग एरिया है, इसका असर वहां पर भी पूरा होगा। अभी तक वहां कुछ कॉटन का क्रॉप किसानों के पास है और उसे इसकी कीमत उनको भी देनी पड़ेगी। ऐसी परिस्थिति में इसमें second thought देने की आवश्यकता मुझे लगती है और इसीलिए फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री, टेक्स्टाइल मिनिस्ट्री, एग्रीकल्चरल मिनिस्ट्री, हम तीनों मिनिस्ट्री के लोग एक साथ बैठकर कोई रास्ता निकालेंगे, जिससे किसानों का नुकसान न हो, इस पर ध्यान देंगे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 605. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी:** सभापति महोदय, यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न है।...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति:** देखिए, इस पर तीन सप्लीमेंट्रीज़ हो गए।...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी:** सभापति महोदय, देश में किसान आत्महत्या कर रहे हैं।...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति:** तीन सप्लीमेंट्रीज़ हो गए। नहीं, नहीं, तिवारी जी, प्लीज।...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल:** सर, हम भी इस पर सप्लीमेंट्री सवाल पूछना चाहते हैं।...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति :** नहीं, नहीं, नरेश जी, आप बैठ जाइए।...*(व्यवधान)*... Question No. 605 please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी:** यह बिल्कुल सही नहीं है।...*(व्यवधान)*... 62 प्रतिशत पॉपुलेशन कृषि पर आधारित है। उस क्षेत्र के लोग आत्महत्या कर रहे हैं।...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is Question Hour, not a discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप बैठ जाइए। प्लीज डा. सी.पी. ठाकुर साहब, आप बैठ जाइए।...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी:** तीन महीने में ढाई सौ किसानों ने आत्महत्या की है।...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति:** देखिए, दूसरे सवाल का जवाब देने दीजिए।...*(व्यवधान)*... What is the point in doing this? ...*(Interruptions)*... Your colleague has put the question. Let his question be replied. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** 2009 में सबसे ज्यादा किसानों ने आत्महत्या की थी।...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति:** देखिए, यह समय नहीं है।...*(व्यवधान)*... देखिए, जो सवाल पूछा गया था, उसका जवाब दिया जा चुका है।...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी:** इतने किसानों ने आत्महत्या की है।...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति:** अब अगला सवाल चलने दीजिए।...*(व्यवधान)*...

Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*..., Mr. Darda, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप बैठ जाइए।...*(व्यवधान)*... Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is the point in doing this?

...(Interruptions)... The next question will not be answered. You are wasting time.  
 ...(Interruptions)... I am sorry. ...(Interruptions)... नरेश जी, आप अपनी जगह पर जाइए।  
 ...(व्यवधान)... यहां मत खड़ रहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... Please, thank you. ...(Interruptions)... प्रकाश जी  
 आप बैठ जाइए। आप्टे साहब, आप बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़, प्लीज़, अरे भाई बैठ जाइए।  
 ...(व्यवधान)... Question No. 605. ...(Interruptions)... Please, ...(Interruptions)... पाणि जी, आप  
 बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़ आप बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... देखिए, जो सवाल खत्म हो गया है।  
 ...(व्यवधान)... We are on to the next question. ...(Interruptions)... I am sorry.  
 ...(Interruptions)... This is not a discussion; this is Question Hour. ...(Interruptions)...

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि:** एक ही परिवार के इतने लोगों ने आत्महत्या की है। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Panyji, please. ...(Interruptions)... देखिए, क्वेश्चन के through डिस्कशन नहीं हो सकता है। आपको यह बात मालूम है। ...(व्यवधान)... Will you please sit down?  
 ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Dr. Thakur and Mr. Tiwari, both of  
 you are senior Members. Please, please. ...(Interruptions)... Questions have to be  
 rotated....(Interruptions)... All the requests cannot be entertained. ...(Interruptions)... Please  
 understand. ...(Interruptions)... आप बैठ जाइए, प्लीज़।

**श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा:** आप आधा घंटे का डिस्कशन करवाइए।

**श्री सभापति:** आप नोटिस दीजिए, उसके बाद डिस्कशन होगा। All right. Supplementary please.

#### वधवा समिति की रिपोर्ट में दिए गए सुझाव

†\*605. **श्री प्रभात झा :** क्या उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि डी.पी. वधवा समिति की रिपोर्ट में यह सुझाव दिया गया है कि प्रतिदिन 100 रुपए से कम आय वाले प्रत्येक भारतीय को गरीब माना जाए;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार खाद्य सुरक्षा कानून को लागू करते समय वधवा समिति के सुझावों पर अमल करने के बारे में विचार कर रही है; और

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

**उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री शरद पवार):** (क) से (घ) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जा रहा है।

#### विवरण

(क) से (घ) न्यायमूर्ति डी.पी. वाधवा की अध्यक्षता वाली केंद्रीय सतर्कता समिति के अनुसार गरीबी का अनुमान ऐसे मापदंड पर नहीं किया जाना चाहिए जो कृषि श्रमिकों के लिए राज्य द्वारा निर्धारित न्यूनतम मजदूरी अथवा राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी अधिनियम, 2005 (नरेगा) की धारा 6 के अधीन केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा निर्धारित मजदूरी से कम हो। शहरी क्षेत्रों के संबंध में केन्द्रीय सतर्कता समिति ने सुझाव दिया है कि निर्धारण का आधार क्षेत्र में अकुशल कामगार को देय न्यूनतम मजदूरी होना चाहिए।

खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण विभाग ने एक अवधारणा नोट परिचालित किया है और सभी राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों, केन्द्रीय मंत्रालयों, योजना आयोग और अन्य विशेषज्ञों तथा अर्थशास्त्रियों के साथ प्रस्तावित खाद्य सुरक्षा कानून पर परामर्श किए हैं। राष्ट्रीय और राज्य स्तरों पर गरीबी का अनुमान लगाने के लिए योजना

आयोग भारत सरकार की नोडल एजेंसी है। गरीबी का अनुमान लगाने की विधि की समीक्षा करने हेतु योजना आयोग द्वारा गठित विशेषज्ञ समूह ने दिसम्बर, 2009 में अपनी रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत कर दी है जिसकी योजना आयोग में जांच की जा रही है।

राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा विधेयक के प्रारूप को अंतिम रूप देने के बाद इसे जनता की जांच और टिप्पणियों हेतु खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण विभाग की वेबसाइट पर डाला जाएगा।

#### **Suggestions of Wadhwa Committee Report**

†\*605. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the report of D.P. Wadhwa Committee has suggested that every Indian with the income of less than Rs. 100 per day may be considered poor;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering to carry out the suggestions of Wadhwa Committee while implementing the Food Security Law; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### ***Statement***

(a) to (d) According to Central Vigilance Committee (CVC) headed by Mr. Justice D.P. Wadhwa, the estimation of poverty should not be made on a criteria which is less than minimum wage fixed by the State for agricultural labourers or the wage fixed by the Central Government under Section 6 of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (NREGA). In urban areas, the CVC has suggested that the basis for determination should be the minimum wage payable to an unskilled workman in the area.

The Department of Food and Public Distribution (DoF&PD) has circulated a Concept Note and held consultations on the proposed Food Security Law with all States/Union Territories, Central Ministries, the Planning Commission and other experts and economists. For estimation of poverty at National and State levels, Planning Commission is the nodal agency of Government of India. An Expert Group constituted by the Planning Commission to review the methodology for estimation of poverty has submitted its report in December, 2009, which is under examination in the Planning Commission.

Once the draft National Food Security Bill is finalized, it would be placed on the website of the DoF&PD for public scrutiny and comments.

**श्री प्रभात झा:** सभापति महोदय, इस सरकार में सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली की क्या हालत है, इस बारे में जस्टिस वधवा कमेटी की रिपोर्ट आई है। मैं उसकी एक-दो लाइनें पढ़कर सुनाऊंगा और उसके बाद अपने प्रश्न पर आऊंगा। वधवा समिति ने खुलकर कहा है कि सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली भ्रष्टाचार के दल-दल में धंसी है। केन्द्र सरकार हर साल 50 हजार करोड़ रुपए, इस योजना पर खर्च करती है, लेकिन करीब 40 प्रतिशत से अधिक रकम राशन डीलर, अधिकारी व नेताओं के बीच में चली जाती है। अब इस सरकार की

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

आंखों में जरा भी पानी है, तो जस्टिस वधवा समिति की इस रिपोर्ट को पूरी तरह से पढ़ ले और पढ़ भी लिया होगा, लेकिन इसके बाद खाद्य सुरक्षा अधिनियम ला रही है। यह रिपोर्ट दिसम्बर, 2009 में सब्मिट की गई थी, अब मई, 2010 चल रहा है, तो आपने इतने समय में क्या किया? आप उत्तर दे रहे हैं कि योजना आयोग जांच कर रहा है।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** आप सवाल पूछिए।

**श्री प्रभात झा:** मैं सवाल ही पूछ रहा हूँ, सर। एक्सपर्ट समिति ने रिपोर्ट दे दी, आप किससे जांच करवा रहे हैं? आपको इतनी देर क्यों लग रही है? क्या इस देश में गरीबों को मरने दोगे?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put the question.

**श्री प्रभात झा:** सर, मैं क्वेश्चन ही कर रहा हूँ।

**श्री सभापति:** अब तक आप क्या रहे थे?

**श्री प्रभात झा:** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि आपने अभी तक इसे लागू क्यों नहीं किया?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: The subject in question relates to the Wadhwa Committee's particular recommendation about who should be included in the BPL category. They have given certain advice to the Government of India. This particular subject was discussed in the House for one full day. Now, there are different reports from different expert committees. As I have already said, the Arjun Sen Gupta Committee has given certain figures, the Wadhwa Committee has given certain figures, the Tendulkar Committee has given certain figures and the Planning Commission has given certain figures. So, we need to come to a conclusion as to which figures should be accepted ultimately. Now, Government of India has referred this particular subject to the Planning Commission, which is the nodal agency. We are expecting a final communication from the Planning Commission. We would accept whatever the Planning Commission guides us and the suggestions that have been made by the Wadhwa Committee on the lines of these directions would be fully complied with.

**श्री प्रभात झा:** सभापति महोदय, केंद्र सरकार की नीयत ठीक नहीं है। इसकी राज्यों को बदनाम करने की नीयत है। मैं आपको एक छोटा सा उदाहरण देता हूँ। मध्य प्रदेश में 62 लाख बी.पी.एल. हैं, जबकि केंद्र सरकार कहती है कि 40 लाख बी.पी.एल. हैं। अब 22 लाख लोगों की नाराजगी किसको झेलनी पड़ती है? राज्य सरकार को। एक तो आप सामग्री देते नहीं, दूसरे संख्या दुगुनी है। आप कितनी कमेटियां बनाएंगे? ऐसा ही बिहार के साथ है। बिहार में कुल 1 करोड़ बी.पी.एल. हैं, जबकि आप सिर्फ 75 लाख को दे रहे हैं, बाकियों को आप दे ही नहीं रहे हैं। आप जान-बूझकर राज्यों को बदनाम करना चाहते हैं। आपकी नीयत ठीक नहीं है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: No allegations, please.

**श्री प्रभात झा:** मैं यह इसलिए जानना चाहता हूँ कि कौन सी ऐसी समिति है, उसका नाम बताइए, जो आपको एकदम सेट गरीबी की संख्या देती है? आपने आठ-दस कमेटियां बना दी हैं, आप कौन सी कमेटी की बात मानेंगे? योजना आयोग की मानेंगे या ...(व्यवधान)... वाधवा कमेटी की मानेंगे? ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** देखिए, आप सवाल पूछिए।

**श्री प्रभात झा:** किसी और की मानेंगे?

**श्री शरद पवार:** योजना आयोग की जो अल्टीमेट रिपोर्ट आएगी, हम उसको स्वीकार करेंगे।

DR. T.N. SEEMA: Sir, the criteria for identifying poor or BPL families are now being decided by the Central Government without taking into consideration the particular socio-economic

situation prevailing in each State. My question is: why can't there be more flexibility for the State Governments to fix their own criteria within a larger framework suggested by the Central Government?

**SHRI SHARAD PAWAR:** Talking about criteria, the first and most important point to be considered is, who are the people really eligible to take advantage of the various schemes, so that the number of eligible card holders is finalized and there has to be some criteria for that. Many States have their own criteria. For example, the Bihar Government have made a survey, arrived at a conclusion and they have come up with certain figures. Now, the figure which was accepted by the Government of India five years back and which has been implemented over the last five years is about six crore fifty-four lakhs. But, as against six crore and fifty-four lakhs, the State Government has actually allotted BPL cards to more than 11 crore people. So, there is a vast difference. That is why, somebody has to go into the details and give certain guidelines to us. Those guidelines will be applicable to all the States. That is the reason why we are waiting for the final decision. We are expecting a final decision at the earliest.

**श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल:** सभापति जी, मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनका बी.पी.एल. कार्ड धारक का मानक क्या है? क्या यह सही है कि तेंदुलकर कमेटी ने जो रिपोर्ट दी थी कि गांव में रहने वाला, जिसकी 360 रुपये प्रतिमाह आमदनी है, वह गरीबी रेखा से ऊपर हो जाएगा और शहर में रहने वाले का मानक 560 रुपये प्रतिमाह होगा? यह सत्यता है कि महीने में 360 रुपये की आमदनी में कोई अपना जीवन-यापन नहीं कर सकता है। मंत्री जी, मैं आपसे जानना चाहता हूँ कि आपका बी.पी.एल. कार्ड पाने का मानक क्या है? दूसरी बात है कि उत्तर प्रदेश की आबादी 18 करोड़ से ऊपर है। आपके अनुसार वहां पर बी.पी.एल. की संख्या 1 करोड़ है। जबकि राज्य सरकार यह मानती है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में 3 करोड़ से ऊपर कार्ड धारक होने चाहिए। क्या केंद्र सरकार, राज्य सरकार की उस रिपोर्ट पर कोई कार्यवाही करेगी? यदि हां, तो कब तक, यह बताइए?

**श्री शरद पवार:** मैंने इसका जवाब दिया है कि अलग-अलग राज्यों ने इसकी डेफिनेशन अलग-अलग दी है। Rural Development Ministry ने इसकी एक definition करके कुछ सर्वे की है। प्लानिंग कमीशन ने अलग की है। राज्यों ने अलग की है। इसलिए अलग-अलग figures आते हैं। इसमें किसी को depth में जाकर कुछ सलाह देने की आवश्यकता है। इसीलिए प्लानिंग कमीशन के ऊपर जिम्मेदारी दी गई है और मुझे लगता है कि वह अपनी रिपोर्ट एक बजे के अन्दर पूरी करने वाला है। वह उत्तर प्रदेश के लिए जो figure देगा, हम उसको स्वीकार करेंगे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Question Hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

### Irregularities in issue of BPL Cards

\*606. **SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:** Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the facility of BPL Cards, meant for people living Below Poverty Line (BPL), is not reaching the actual needy;

(b) if so, the steps taken/being taken to ensure that the facility reaches those who are actually poor; and

(c) the target fixed and target achieved during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 in issuing BPL Cards?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. Central Government has the responsibility for procurement, storage, transportation and bulk allocation of foodgrains to the States and UTs. The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families based on estimates of Planning Commission, issuance of ration cards to them and distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible ration card holders through fair price shops and supervision of the functioning of fair price shops rest with the State/UT Governments.

For allocation of foodgrains (wheat and rice) to States and UTs under TPDS, Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of BPL families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and March, 2000 population estimates of the Registrar General of India or the number of such families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by the State/UT Governments, whichever is less. As per these estimates, the number of BPL families is 6.52 crore, which includes 2.43 crore AAY families. However, as reported upto March, 2008, March, 2009 and March, 2010, the State/UT Governments have issued 10.28 crore, 10.68 crore and 11.08 crore BPL ration cards respectively.

There have been reports of inclusion and exclusion errors in the issue of BPL ration cards. A Nine Point Action Plan for strengthening TPDS was evolved in 2006, which, *inter-alia*, includes continuous review of BPL/AAY lists and to eliminate bogus/ineligible ration cards. Instructions have also been issued to all State/UT Governments to review the existing lists of BPL/AAY families and eliminate ineligible/bogus ration cards. As a result of these directions, since July, 2006 onwards, 23 State/UT Governments have reported detection and deletion of 173.83 lakh bogus/ineligible ration cards.

#### **Upgradation of polytechnic institutes in NER**

\*607 SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government has received any proposal from North-Eastern Region (NER) States for financial assistance for upgradation of polytechnic institutes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Under the Scheme of Sub-Mission on Polytechnics under Coordinated Action for Skill



Development, as many as seven (07) proposals have been received from North Eastern Region so far in the eleventh plan seeking financial assistance for upgradation of infrastructure facilities in existing polytechnics. The details of the proposals received are as follows:—

Sl. No.	State/UT	Name of Polytechnic
1	Sikkim	(1) Advanced Technical Training Centre, Bardang. (2) Centre for Computers and Communication Technology, South Sikkim, Namchi
2	Meghalaya	(3) Jowai Polytechnic, Ladthalaboth, Jowai (4) Tura Polytechnic Cherengre,
3	Nagaland	(5) Government Polytechnic, Kohima
4	Tripura	(6) Tripura Institute of Technology, Narsingarh (7) Women's Polytechnic, Hapania

#### **Report of National Knowledge Commission**

\*608. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that National Knowledge Commission (NKC) has accomplished its task with its final report submitted to the Prime Minister; and

(b) if so, what has been done with its recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The National Knowledge Commission (NKC) was constituted on 13 June, 2005, with a time-frame of three years, under the Planning Commission. Its term was extended upto 31st March, 2009. The NKC has submitted around 300 recommendations in 27 focus areas during its term, and implementation on a number of its recommendations is currently underway. Some of the major decisions taken which have emerged from the recommendations of the NKC are as follows:—

- (i) For expansion, redesign and quality enhancement of vocational education and training in the country, a three tier structure has been constituted under the National Skill Development Mission (NSDM).
- (ii) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, has been enacted.
- (iii) The need for the establishment of an overarching authority in higher education, based on the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission and the Committee to advise on the Renovation and Rejuvenation of Higher Education under Prof. Yash Pal, has been expressed by Government as one of its priorities. A Task Force has

been constituted to aid and assist the Central Government in the establishment of the overarching body and a draft legislation prepared by the Task Force has been placed in the public domain for wider consultations.

- (iv) A bill to provide for prohibition and punishment of unfair practices has been introduced in Parliament. The bill provides for mandatory disclosure of various aspects of functioning of technical and medical educational institutions and universities through its prospectus.
- (v) A bill to provide for the regulation and entry of foreign educational institutions has been introduced in Parliament.
- (vi) A bill to provide for mandatory accreditation of all higher educational institutions through multiple accreditation agencies registered with an independent authority has been introduced in Parliament.
- (vii) A Scheme of interest subsidy for student educational loans obtained under the scheme of the Indian Banks' Association for pursuit of professional education has been introduced.
- (viii) The Central Government in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) has approved the implementation of a National Translation Mission, to propagate Indian languages and literature through high quality translation, with a Eleventh Plan outlay of Rs. 75 crore.
- (ix) The Central Government in the Ministry of Culture has proposed the setting up of a National Mission for Libraries. The activities under the National Mission for Libraries include a National Census of Libraries, modernization including networking of Libraries; establish Knowledge Centres and establish Digital Libraries.
- (x) The Central Government in the Department of Information Technology has approved in principle the implementation of a National Knowledge Network which would interconnect knowledge institutions with gigabit capabilities for sharing knowledge resources and research.
- (xi) The National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has been launched to leverage the potential of ICT in the teaching learning process. Under this Mission, 20,000 institutions of Higher Education will be provided connectivity.
- (xii) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has written to all universities in the country to undertake academic reforms. Section 6(2) of the Central Universities Act, 2009, provides for academic reform measures in new Central Universities from its inception.
- (xiii) 16 new Central Universities have been established under the Central Universities Act, 2009, and 14 innovation universities aiming at world class standards have been envisaged.

- (xiv) Five national web based portals; one on Water (*Indiawaterportal.org*), championed by Arghyam Trust; one on Energy (*indiaenergyportal.org*) championed by The Energy Research Institute (TERI); one on Environment (*indiaenvironmentportal.org.in*), championed by Centre for Science and Environment and a portal for teachers (*teachersofindia.org*) championed by Azim Premji Foundation; and one on Bio-diversity (*indiabiodiversity.org*) championed by Ashoka Trust for research in Ecology and Environment (ATREE) have been launched

The Planning Commission, which is the nodal agency in this regard, is monitoring the implementation of the recommendations from time to time. The detailed recommendations and the action taken thereon is available at the following address <http://knowledgecommission.gov.in>.

#### **Sharing of cost of railway projects by States**

\*609 DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has asked State Governments to come forward in adopting cost-sharing method for ensuring timely completion of long-pending railway projects in their respective areas;

(b) if so, whether a movement has started with Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka Governments agreeing to share costs on 50:50 basis for their projects;

(c) if so, names of other States which have also agreed to the proposal of cost-sharing; and

(d) by when Railways are likely to implement these projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) State Governments have been requested to share at least 50% cost of projects in their state to expedite completion. Some of the State Governments have agreed to share cost of selected ongoing projects in their State.

(b) to (d) State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra have recently agreed, to share cost of some more ongoing projects and new projects on cost sharing/Public Private Partnership basis. The ongoing projects will be completed in the coming years as per the availability of resources.

#### **Construction of rural godowns**

\*610. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provides assistance for construction of rural godowns in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of targets fixed and achieved for construction of rural godowns/storages during the current Five Year Plan in the country, State-wise;

(d) the criteria fixed for identification of locations for the said purpose; and

(e) the extent to which these rural godowns have been able to attain their objectives?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has launched a Scheme of construction/renovation of rural godowns. The main objectives of the scheme include creation of scientific storage capacity with allied facilities in rural areas to meet the requirements of farmers for storing farm produce, agricultural inputs, etc., and for prevention of distress sale by creating the facility of pledge loans and marketing credit. Under the scheme, back-ended credit-linked subsidy @ 25% of the project cost is provided to all categories of farmers, agriculture graduates, cooperatives and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)/State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs). All other categories of individuals, companies and corporations are provided subsidy @ 15% of the project cost. In case of North Eastern States/hilly areas and Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe entrepreneurs and their cooperatives and women farmers, subsidy is provided @ 33.33% of the project cost.

(c) The Eleventh Plan target for creation of rural godown under the scheme is 80 lakh MT. No State-wise targets have been fixed under the scheme. The State-wise details of godowns constructed during the Eleventh Plan period up to 31.12.2009 is given in Statement (See below).

(d) The entrepreneur is free to construct the rural godown at any place outside the limits of Municipal Corporation area, as per his/her commercial judgment. The scheme is demand-driven and not location specific. Banks sanction the project depending on its viability.

(e) An evaluation of the Central Sector Scheme of construction of rural Eleventh godowns was conducted during the year 2006. The evaluation report indicates that the principal objectives of the scheme have been met like creation of scientific storage capacity, prevention of distress sale, reduction of losses in quantity and quality, creation of additional employment opportunities in rural areas, etc. Godown owners and farmers have benefited from the scheme through reducing post harvest losses, increasing income through higher price realization of 5-15%, and enhancing their saving and investment capability.

**Statement**

*Details of rural godowns constructed during Eleventh Plan*

(up to 31.12.2009)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Capacity (in MT)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	442152

1	2	3
2.	Assam	54325
3.	Bihar	39969
4.	Chhattisgarh	186702
5.	Gujarat	528619
6.	Haryana	521591
7.	Himachal Pradesh	3900
8.	Jharkhand	3283
9.	Karnataka	390996
10.	Kerala	19197
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1680475
12.	Maharashtra	1014104
13.	Orissa	105309
14.	Punjab	10460
15.	Rajasthan	285564
16.	Tamil Nadu	300301
17.	Uttar Pradesh	272061
18.	Uttarakhand	113836
19.	West Bengal	190669
TOTAL :		6163513

**Reduction in prices of agricultural commodities**

\*611. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of certain agricultural commodities, including wheat and other cereals, soyabean, mustard, sugar, etc., have softened compared to the peaks they hit towards the end of last year;

(b) if so, whether prices of these agricultural commodities are likely to reduce further after the rabi crops;

(c) the extent to which the food prices have reduced and whether Government is confident that prices of all agricultural commodities will be reduced and if so, by when; and

(d) the steps being considered in this regard?

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

(b) and (c) The retail prices of certain essential commodities declined over the last 3 months. In the 4 Metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata, the range of decline for wheat was 4.55 % to 18.75% ,rice 9.09% to 9.52%, pulses such as Gram dal 8.57% to 15.79%, Tur dal 10.00% to 22.62%, Urad dal 3.2 3% to 9.33%, Masoor dal 5.45% to 18.03% and sugar 22.35% to 27.91%.

(d) Government has taken several fiscal and administrative measures to improve the domestic availability of essential commodities to contain price rise which is given in Statement (See below). Government has also taken long term initiatives to improve production and productivity in pulses and reduce the reliance on imports, such as, Strengthening NFSM Pulses by Merger of ISOPOM for pulses with NFSM with allocation of about Rs 1000 crores in next two years; Accelerated pulses production program (A3P) and Integrated development of 60,000 pulses and oilseeds villages in rainfed areas with an outlay of Rs 300 crores under RKVY. A core Group of Central Ministers and State Chief Ministers has been constituted on 15th March, 2010 to deliberate on and recommend measures, *inter-alia*, for:—

- (1) Increasing agriculture production-and productivity (including long term policies for sustained agriculture growth);
- (2) Reduce the gap between farm gate and retail prices;
- (3) Better implementation of and amendment to the Essential Commodities Act;
- (4) Ensure better and effective delivery of essential commodities to the vulnerable sections of society;
- (5) Augmentation of warehousing and storage capacity (including cold chain) and
- (6) Issues relating to inputs viz. seeds/fertilizers etc.

***Statement***

*Steps taken by the Government to control price rise in  
essential Commodities*

**1. Fiscal Measures:**

- (i) Reduced import duties to zero - for rice, wheat, pulses, edible oils (crude); and butter and ghee.
- (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 01.08.2009 by sugar mills (notified on 17.04.2009) extended upto 31.12.2010. Furthermore, import of raw sugar has been opened to private trade up to 31.12.2010 for being processed by domestic factories on job basis.

- (iv) Allowed import of white/refined sugar by STC/MMTC/PEC and NAFED upto 1 million tonnes by 01.08.2009 under O.G.L. at zero duty (notified on 17.04.2009). 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. The cap on the quantity to be imported upto 31.03.09 has also since been removed *vide* notification dated 27th November, 2009. The Government has extended it upto 31.12.2010 without any quantitative cap.
- (v) Allowed import of raw sugar under Advance Authorization Scheme by sugar mills (at zero duty) upto 30.09.2009 (notified on 17.02.2009 and 02.03.2009).
- (vi) Withdrew export incentives on milk and milk products.
- (vii) Withdrawal of 5% benefit under VKGUY for the export of oil cake/meal.
- (viii) Reduced custom duty on Anhydrous Milk Fat (AMF) to 30% as in the case of butter/butter oil.
- (ix) Permitted import of 10,000 MT Skimmed Milk Powder (SMP) under TRQ (5%) for 2009-10.

**Administrative Measures:**

- (i) Removed levy obligation in respect of imported raw sugar and white/refined sugar.
- (ii) Banned export of non-basmati rice, edible oils (except coconut oil and forest based oil) and pulses (except kabuli chana).
- (iii) Imposed stock limit orders in the case of paddy, rice, sugar, upto 30.9.2010; In order to discourage non-household sector consumers from stockpiling sugar and to ensure adequate availability of sugar in the open market for actual consumers, the Central Government has issued a notification dated 22.08.2009 imposing stockholding limit on bulk consumers: it has been provided that *w.e.f.* 19.09.2009 no person, establishment, or industrial unit using or consuming more than 10 quintals of sugar per month as a raw material for production or consumption or use, in any manner, shall keep stock, at any time, sugar exceeding 15 days of such use or consumption. Further, the stockholding limit for stocking domestically produced sugar by bulk consumers has been reduced from 15 days to 10 days *vide* notification dated 05.02.2010, which will come into effect on 20.02.2010 and remain in force for 180 days.
- (iv) Using Minimum Export Price (MEP) to regulate exports of onion (averaging at \$250 per tonne for April, 2010) and basmati rice (\$900 PMT);
- (v) Maintaining the Central issue Price (CIP) for rice (at Rs 5.65 per kg for BPL and Rs. 3 per kg for AAY) and wheat (at Rs. 4.15 per kg for BPL and/Rs. 2 per kg for AAY) since 2002.

- (vi) 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 the end of June, 2010.
- (vii) Permitted sugar factories to sell processed raw sugar in the domestic market and fulfill export obligation on tonne to tonne basis.
- (viii) Proportion of sugar production requisitioned as levy sugar has been increased from 10 to 20% for 2009-10 sugar season to ensure adequate levy sugar supplies under PDS.
- (ix) For the month of May, 2010, 19.00 lakh tons of non levy sugar have been made available which includes 12.56 lakh tonnes of normal non-levy sugar and 2.44 lakh tonnes of sugar processed from imported raw sugar during March, 2010, estimated availability out of imported white/refined sugar is about 2.00 lakh tonne and about 2.0 lac tonnes of carry over non-levy quota of April, 2010. Besides, levy sugar quota of 2.17 lac tonnes also been released. Thus, for the month of May, 2010, 20.17 lac tons of sugar has been made available.
- (x) An additional allocation of wheat/rice @ 10 kg/family/months of January and February, 2010 has been made to the accepted numbers of AAY, BPL and APL ration cards. This is in addition to existing allocation while the wheat will be allocated at MSP price, rice will be allotted at MSP derived price.
- (xi) **OMSS interventions:**
  - (a) Allocation to State Governments under OMSS (Domestic) for release of 20.00 lakh tonnes of wheat has been made to check inflationary trends in food economy from October, 2009 to March, 2010. The State/UT Governments have been asked to distribute wheat released under OMSS (D) to household consumers and small processors of wheat.
  - (b) In addition to above a quantity of 10 lakh MT of wheat was also allocated by Government for sale to bulk consumers through open tenders by FCI from October, 2009 — March, 2010. Out of the 20 lakh tonnes wheat allocated to State Governments, 10.81 lakh tonnes was diverted for tender sale to bulk consumers.
  - (c) 5 lakh tonnes of wheat was also allocated for sale through tender through FCI to small processors.
  - (d) In order to check inflationary trend in prices of Rice, a quantity of 10.0 lakh tonnes of rice was allocated during October, 2009 to March, 2010 to State Governments for distribution to retail consumers.

**(2) Medium Term Measures:**

In the medium term, Government has taken initiatives such as the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) to improve production and



productivity in agriculture. For increasing production and productivity of pulses, the following Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Ministry of Agriculture are being implemented in different States.

#### **Construction of over-bridges**

† \*612. SHRI VEER PAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct over-bridges at all manned and unmanned railway crossings;

(b) if so, by when these over-bridges would be constructed and the details with regard to Uttar Pradesh;

(c) the number of over-bridges to be constructed and the places where they would be constructed in Uttar Pradesh;

(d) whether Government is aware that barriers at railway crossings are closed unnecessarily leading to wastage of diesel worth crores of rupees; and

(e) the rule pertaining to keeping the barriers at railway crossings closed for vehicles before arrival of train and after its departure?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) No, Sir. Railway has planned construction of over bridges on cost sharing basis only at such manned Level Crossings (LCs) where Train Vehicle Unit (TVU) is more than one lakh.

(b) In case of Uttar Pradesh, 126 number of over bridges (cost sharing basis) are at various stages of planning and construction during the year 2009-10, 04 number of Road Over Bridges/Bridge have been completed. During the year 2010-11 Railway has planned to complete 19 number of over bridges.

(c) Details are given in Statement (*See below*).

(d) No, Sir. The gates are closed for minimum time as per the existing instructions.

(e) Whenever there is a train in the block section Level Crossing gates remain closed. Once the block section is free from any train, after ensuring the safety of rail/road users, LC gates are opened to allow the road traffic.

#### ***Statement***

##### *Details of over-bridges to be constructed*

1. Bijnor-Najibabad Road — ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 484-A.
2. Mehrauli-Dasna — ROB in lieu of LC No. 95.
3. Lucknow — ROB in lieu of LC No. 1-B (Kanpur crossing) and 218-A (Hardoi crossing).
4. Sharda Nagar — ROB in lieu of LC No. 86-B.
5. Rai Bareilly — ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 176A.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

6. Meerut Cantt. — ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 30-A.
  7. Muzaffar Nagar — ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 53-A.
  8. Meerut City — ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 26-A.
  9. Hapur — ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 41-Spl and 74-Spl.
  10. Ghaziabad — ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 4-C.
  11. Faizabad Yard — ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 120.
  12. Ghaziabad — ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 98-Spl.
  13. Sultanpur-Partapgarh — ROB in lieu of LC No. 84-B near Chibila.
  14. Rampur — Road over bridge at level crossing No. 413-A (2 lane).
  15. Jaunpur — ROB in lieu of LC No. 4-B.
  16. Rai Bareilly — ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 150.
  17. Meerut-Hapur-4 Lane ROB in lieu of L-Xing No. A-55/E-3.
  18. Ghaziabad-ROB in lieu of L-Xing No. 99 Spl.
  19. Khatauli Jansath-ROB in lieu of L-Xing No. 44.
  20. ROB in lieu of LC No. 176 at km. 1026/7-8 on Lucknow-Rai Bareilly sec.
  21. ROB in lieu of LC No. 1 at km. 1/3-4 on Najibabad-Kotdwar sec near Najibabad.
  22. ROB in lieu of LC No.42 at km. 69/15-17 on Lucknow-Kanpur sec near Gangaghat, Kanpur.
  23. Moradabad-Saharanpur-Limited height RUB in lieu of LC No. 509C at km. 1545/12-13 between Dausni-Landaura.
  24. Moradabad Divn. — RUB in lieu of LC IB between Katghar-Got (Halt) on Muradabad-Kharpokhra sec.
  25. Moradabad-Ghaziabad Sec. — RUB in lieu of LC No.69/C at km. 99/11-12 in between Babugarh-Hapur Jn.
  26. Construction of ROB in lieu of LC no. 52 on Ghaziabad-Moradabad section near Garhmukteswar.
  27. ROB in lieu of LC No. 71 at km. 102/9-10 on Ghaziabad-Moradabad sec. at Hapur.
  28. Construction of ROB in lieu of LC No. 175-B on Lucknow Rai-Bareilly sec between Bachhrawan-Kundanganj Station.
  29. ROB in lieu of LC No. 35 at km. 83/5-6 on Ghaziabad-Saharanpur sec. at Daurala.
  30. ROB in lieu of LC No. 148-A at km. 793/11-12 on Rai-Bareilly-Varanasi sec. near Roopamau.
  31. Construction of ROB in lieu of LC NO. 10/C on Ghaziabad-Saharanpur section near Muradnagar.
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32. 2-lane ROB in lieu of LC No. 480 at km. 1493/10-11 on Saharanpur-Moradabad sec.
  33. 2 lane ROB in lieu of LC No. 2 at 1/19-21 on Najibabad-Kotdwar Sec. near Najibabad.
  34. 4 Lane ROB in lieu of LC No. 2-C at km. 25/8-9 on Ghaziabad-Saharanpur sec. at Ghaziabad.
  35. 2-lane ROB in lieu of LC No. 52 at km. 85/5-6 on Meerut City-Hapur sec.
  36. ROB in lieu of LC No. 33-B at km. 915/15-16 in Sultanpur yard.
  37. 2 lane ROB in lieu of LC No. 485 at km. 1499/8-9 on Moradabad-Saharanpur sec. bet. Fazalpur-Najibabad Jn. stations.
  38. Delhi-Saharanpur — 2 lane ROB in lieu of LC No. 13 at km. 46/0-1.
  39. ROB in lieu of LC No. 74-B at km. 919/12-13 on Sultanpur-Zafrabad sec at Sultanpur yard.
  40. ROB in lieu of LC No. 75-B at km. 916/13-14 on Sultanpur-Zafrabad sec near Sultanpur station.
  41. Construction of two lane ROB in lieu of LC No. 147-B at km. 992 on Lucknow-Rai Bareilly-Sultanpur section.
  42. ROB in lieu of LC No. 44 at km. 73/5-6 Allahabad-Rai Bareilly-Kanpur Section at Unchahar.
  43. ROB near Nihalgarh in lieu of LC No. 125-B at km. 962/8-9 on badagaon Xing on NH-56 Lucknow-Sultanpur-Zafrabad Section.
  44. ROB in lieu of LC No. 118B at km 956/10-11 on Warisganj Xing (near Adampur station on NH 56 on Lucknow- Sultanpur- Zafrabad Section.
  45. ROB in lieu of LC No. 112 at km. 948/2-3 on Gauriganj-Santh Raod Lucknow-Pratapgarh-Mughalsarai Section.
  46. ROB in lieu of LC No. 102 at km. 935/11-12 at Amethi town Xing on Lucknow-Pratapgarh-Mughalsarai Section.
  47. ROB in lieu of LC No. 69 at km. 906/11-12 on Hanuman Ganj Xing on NH 56 on Lucknow-Sultanpur-Zafrabad Section.
  48. ROB in lieu of LC No. 208 at km. 1066/15-17 Arjunganj on NH 56 on Lucknow-Pratapgarh-Mughalsarai section.
  49. ROB in lieu of LC No. 169-B at km. 1008/1-2 at Bhilwil on NH 56 on Lucknow-Sultanpur-Zafrabad section.
  50. Hathras — ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 95-A at km. 1296/29-31 on Ghaziabad-Kanpur section connecting Piliphit-Agra road (SH-33).
  51. Meja Road — ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 25-B on Mughalsarai-Allahabad section (SH-44).
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52. Kanpur ROB in lieu of LC No. 79-D on GT road at km. 1016/5-12 on Allahabad-Kanpur section (NH 91).
  53. Iradatganj ROB in lieu of LC No. 430-A on Allahabad-Manikpur section connecting Satna-Allahabad road on NH-27.
  54. Ghaziabad-Tundla — (Aligarh) : ROB in lieu of LC No. 112-C/3 at km. 1329/19-21 near Aligarh.
  55. Kanpur : Widening of ROB No. 253-near Tat Mill Crossing at km. 1017/31-35.
  56. Etawah- ROB in lieu of LC No. 27 Spl at km. 1155/27-29 on Kanpur-Tundla section.
  57. ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 48 in Fatehpur distt. On Allahabad-Kanpur section.
  58. ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 81D in Kanpur on Allahabad-Kanpur section.
  59. ROB in lieu of L-xing 532 on Vridavan-Radhakund Margh in Mathura Distt. on Mathura-Palwal section.
  60. Persoundha ROB in lieu of L-Xing No. 119B/3E at km. 692/15-17 between Chunar and Mughal sarai.
  61. Allahabad-Kanpur — Road over briege in lieu of level crossing No. 62-A.
  62. Tundla Yard — Road over bridge in lieu of LC No. 72.
  63. Shyamnagar ROB in lieu of L-xing No. 77 in Kanpur on Allahabad-Kanpur Section.
  64. Manzurgarhi-Harduaganj — ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 86-B.
  65. ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 7 at km. 736/39-41 on Mirzapur-Vindhyachal section.
  66. ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 51 Spl. at km. 1211/11-13 on Shikohabad-Bakteshwar section.
  67. ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 55-A at km. 955/13-15 on Fatehpur-Bindki Road.
  68. ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 528 at km. 1400/2-4 on Mathura city.
  69. Sikandrabad — ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 503.
  70. Hathras City-Jaleser City — ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 90-C.
  71. Sasni-Vijaygarh — ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 99-B.
  72. ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 83-C at km. 160/3-4 on Aligarh Jn.-Barelli Jn.
  73. ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 477-A at km. 1318/32-0 Gwalior-Agra Cantt.
  74. Hanuman Chowi-Nadoni-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 102-C at km. 1312/31-33 on Kanpur-Ghaziabad section.
  75. ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 147 at km. 1179/8-9 on Jhansi-Kanpur section.
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76. ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 492-C at km. 1338/8-10 on Jhansi-Agra section.
  77. Wair-Dankaur — ROB in lieu of LC No. 139-B.
  78. ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 84 at km. 161/8-9 on Manzurgarhi-Harduaganj section.
  79. Manzurgarhi-Harduaganj — ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 85-B at km. 136/8-9.
  80. Dadanagar — ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 240-A at km. 1331/13-14 on Kanpur-Jhansi section.
  81. ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 83-D at km. 1018/S-27 on Khapra Mohal.
  82. Phaphund — ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 8-B at km. 1100-31-33 on Kanpur-Ghaziabad section.
  83. Mirzapur — ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 6-A at km. 736/13-15 on Allahabad section.
  84. Naini-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 35-B at km. 818/15-17 on Mughalsarai-Allahabad section.
  85. Agra-Jhansi-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 472-C at km. 1305/6-8 on Gwalior-Agra section.
  86. ROB in lieu of LC No. 553 at km. 145/16-18 on Mathura-Palwal sec.
  87. ROB in lieu of 454-A manned at Bandra of JHS-MKP (Jhansi-Manikpur) sec.
  88. Agra-Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 502 near Guru Katla.
  89. Rohta-Runkata Road-Road over bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 491-C.
  90. Tundla-Ghaziabad-Kulwa-Somna ROB in lieu of LC No. 15-C at km. 1338/27-29.
  91. Tundla-Ghaziabad-Hathras-Sasni ROB in lieu of LC No. 96-C at km. 1299/9-11.
  92. Tundla-Ghaziabad-Mitawali-Barhan ROB in lieu of LC No. 78-C at km. 1261/23-25.
  93. Tundla-Ghaziabad-Barhan-Chamraula ROB in lieu of LC No. 81-C at km. 1268/15-17.
  94. Tundla-Ghaziabad-Sikohabad-Makhanpur ROB in lieu of LC No. 56 at km. 1221/11-13.
  95. Tundla-Ghaziabad-Sansi-Mandrak ROB in lieu of LC No. 100-C at km. 1307/9-11.
  96. Tundla-Ghaziabad-Hathras city-Ladpur road ROB in lieu of LC No. 94-C at km. 1294/29-31.
  97. Runkata-Kitham — ROB in lieu of LC No. 509 at km. 1360/13-15.
  98. Bhandai-Agra Cantt. ROB in lieu of LC No. 490-C at km. 1535-28-30.
  99. Tundla-Ghaziabad-Sikandarpur-Chola ROB in lieu of LC No. 131-B at km. 1375-23-25.
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100. Tundla-Ghaziabad-Wair-Dankaur ROB in lieu of LC No.136-B at km. 1389/1-3.
  101. Tundla- Ghaziabad-Khurja-Sikandarpur ROB in lieu of LC No.129-B at km. 1370/5-7.
  102. Mughalsarai-Allahabad Jigna-Maldah Road ROB in lieu of LC No.15-C at km. 762/25-27.
  103. Tundla-Ghaziabad-Kulwa-Somna ROB in lieu of LC No. 119-B at km. 148/29-31.
  104. Tundla-Ghaziabad-Kulwa-Somna ROB in lieu of LC No. 120-B at km. 1351/19-21.
  105. Tundla-Ghaziabad-Aligarh-Mehrawal ROB in lieu of LC No. 111-A at km. 1327/33-35.
  106. ROB in lieu of LC No. 129-A between Deoria Sadar-Nunkhar.
  107. ROB in lieu of LC No. 244 between Izzatnagar-Bareilly City.
  108. ROB in lieu of LC No. 8ML at km. 773/11-12 between Badshahnagar-Daliganj stations.
  109. Manduadih station Yard — ROB in lieu of LC No. 4-A.
  110. 158 Gorakhpur-Gorakhpur Cantt.
  111. 29A Azamagrah-Saral Rani.
  112. 161A Gorakhpur-Domingarh.
  113. 163 Gorakhpur-Domingarh.
  114. 8C Salempur Lar Road.
  115. 42 Baharaich-Richia-Road.
  116. 169-B Sahjanwa-Maghar.
  117. 213-C/E-2 Tinich-Gaur.
  118. 139-A Gauri Bazar-Chauri Chaura.
  119. 192-Spl/E-3 Basti-Gorakhpur.
  120. 178-A Maghar-Khalilabad.
  121. 201-A/E-3 Basti-Govind Nagar.
  122. 120-Spl. Lakhimpur Khiri Town.
  123. ROB in lieu of LC No. 199-A at km. 569/2-3 between Basti-Govindnagar station non-Gorakhpur-Gonda sec.
  124. Gurusahiganj-Kamalganj-RUB in lieu of u/m LC No. 126/C and 123.
  125. Rampur-Lalkuan-RUB in lieu of Unmanned LCs 19, 25, 26A, 30, 38, 116 and Manned LCs No. 36 and 37.
  126. RUBs in lieu of LC No. 68C (U/M/bet. Shahbaznagar-Shahjahanagar, LC No. 68 bet. Bilhaur-Araoul and LC No. 205C bet. Pilibhit-Lalauri Khera stns.
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#### **Reservation of seats in schools**

\*613. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is reserving 25 per cent seats in schools for weaker and backward sections;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the implementation status thereof in the Eleventh Five year Plan, State-wise, particularly in the rural areas of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides that a school belonging to a specified category and an unaided school shall admit in class I to the extent of at least 25% of the strength of that class, children belonging to weaker section and disadvantaged group in the neighborhood and provide free and compulsory education till its completion. [Specified Category] in relation to a school, means a school known as Kendriya Vidyalaya, Navodaya Vidyalaya, Sainik School or any other school having a distinct character which may be specified, by notification, by the appropriate Government. The provisions of the Act have prospective effect from the date of its enforcement, namely 1st April, 2010.

#### **Quality of food supplied in trains**

\*614. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quality of food served on trains is not upto the mark;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in view of the above, Railways have decided to use vegetables, milk, curd, butter, etc. from Mother Dairy and pulses, rice, wheat flour from Kendriya Bhandar, and branded spices in its base kitchens and pantry cars; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (d) There have been certain complaints regarding quality of food served on trains. In order to ensure service of good quality food to passengers, procurement of raw materials of high quality for the departmental Base Kitchens is done from leading retail chains and cooperatives such as Kendriya Bhandar, NAFED and Mother Dairy, etc. Fruits and Vegetables are purchased from Mother Dairy and other branded items are being procured from Kendriya Bhandar and other such reputed agencies. Dairy products are procured from cooperatives which are affiliated to National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India. Regular inspections are also conducted by

officers, staff and quality control professionals to ensure use of good quality raw materials. However, to address all the issues, the Catering Policy is presently under review.

#### **Opposition of private schools to admission of poor children**

† \*615. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that since 1 April, 2010, under 'Right to Education' Act, education has become a Fundamental Right for all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards statements of managers of private schools in which they have clearly declined to provide 25 per cent seats to the category of poor and deprived children from 2011;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to tackle this situation; and

(d) whether Government is taking any steps for getting children admitted in neighbouring schools; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Article 21A of the Constitution titled "Right to Education" and its consequential legislation, The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 have come into force from 1st April, 2010.

(b) and (c) Section 12 of the RTE Act, *inter alia*, provides that unaided schools shall admit in class I to the extent of at least 25% of the strength of that class, children belonging to weaker section and disadvantaged group in the neighborhood and provide free and compulsory education till its completion. The Government has not received any representation from private schools clearly declining to implement the provisions of the Act.

(d) According to the RTE Act, it is the duty of the appropriate Government and local authority to establish neighborhood schools and ensure compulsory admission, attendance and completion of elementary education by every child of the age of six to fourteen years. The Government has written to the State Governments to take necessary steps for implementing the provisions of the Act.

#### **Booking of tickets on fake names**

\*616. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are aware of operation of touts who reportedly buy a large number of tickets in fictitious names and sell them at a premium, allegedly in connivance with some departmental staff;

(b) if so, the number of such cases apprehended by Railways during the last four months from January to April, 2010, Zone-wise and Division-wise;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



(c) whether it is also a fact that HOR quota is also controlled badly by touts in connivance with Railway officials; and

(d) the action being taken to prevent such activities?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) Due to gap between demand and supply of reserved accommodation, some cases of purchasing tickets by touts in fictitious names, do come to notice of the Ministry of Railways. As a result of checks conducted by the zonal railways, the number of touts apprehended during the period January, 2010 to March, 2010 as available are given in Statement (*See below*). Division-wise figures are not segregated.

Railway staff, if found conniving with touts are taken up stringently under the Disciplinary and Appeal Rules.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) 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 augmented. During the year 2009-10, 37086 special trains were run (upto December, 2009) as compared to 29093 special trains in the same period of the previous year, an increase of about 27.5%. Further, 76 new trains have been introduced and 456 coaches on 140 pairs of trains have been augmented. Besides, regular preventive checks are conducted in and around railway reservation offices to curb the illegal activities of touts and other anti-social elements. In addition, checks are also conducted in trains to apprehend cases of passengers travelling on transfer of tickets and such passengers are charged as without ticket. The checks are intensified during peak rush and festival periods. Touts so apprehended are prosecuted under the provision of the law. In addition, travelling public is educated through various media to desist purchasing tickets from unauthorized people. To facilitate easier booking of accommodation, reservation can now be done through internet, e-ticketing, post offices, petrol pumps, etc.

***Statement***

*The zone-wise number of cases of touts apprehended/prosecuted during the period January, 2010 to March, 2010 (as available) are as under*

Railway	No. of touts apprehended/prosecuted
1	2
Central	14
Eastern	19
East Central	5
East Coast	3
Northern	37
North Central	0

1	2
North Eastern	15
Northeast Frontier	3
North Western	4
Southern	438
South Central	16
South Eastern	29
South East Central	0
South Western	8
Western	38
West Central	5
<b>TOTAL :</b>	<b>634</b>

#### **Use of CFLs by Railways**

**\*617. SHRI ANIL H. LAD:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a move to save substantial energy, Railways have taken a massive project for replacement of conventional incandescent bulbs with CFLs in over 6.5 lakh railway quarters across the country;

(b) if so, whether the save-energy project by Railways is being subsidized by any NGO; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Ministry of Railways awarded a contract through competitive bidding for supply of Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL) to Railway employees residing in Railway colonies free of cost. The firm will recover this cost through Carbon Credits to be earned from the execution of this project, as a result of savings of electricity consumption as also reduction in emission of carbon dioxide because of the higher efficiency of CFLs. Railway will also earn 3% of the Carbon Credits accruing from the project.

#### **Price-hike of pulses**

**\*618. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:** Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to extend ban on export of pulses by another year besides allowing duty-free imports till 31 March, 2011 with four lakh tonnes of pulses distributed through the scheme;

(b) whether Government is also likely to put off any decision on export of wheat amid high food inflation;

(c) if so, the other main recommendations made by Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) on food;

(d) the total import of pulses made and to what extent it has been helpful in checking the price of pulses; and

(e) whether Government will focus on low-yielding areas of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Government had extended the ban on export of pulses (except kabuli chana) and zero duty on import of pulses for another one year upto 31.3.2011. Government has also extended the scheme for supply of imported pulses by the PSUs to State Governments through PDS up to 31.3.2011.

(b) No decision has been taken by the Government to lift the ban on export of wheat so far.

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

(d) As per the DGCI&S data, 3.20 million tonnes of pulses were imported during 2009-10 (April-February, 2010). Due to the measures taken, the retail prices of pulses such as Gram dal, Tur dal, Urad dal, Masoor dal are generally showing a declining trend in the range of (-3.23% to -22.22%) over the last 3 months in 4 Metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.

(e) For increasing production and productivity of pulses, Government has been promoting pulses development through various Central Schemes. At present, National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Pulses Programme is being implemented in 14 major pulse growing States covering about 97.5% pulse area in the country. Under this scheme 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 micro nutrients, gypsum, lime; farm implements such as zero tillage, rotavators, crop planters, weeders etc. and water lifting and moisture saving devices.

Besides, the Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) scheme, assistance is also provided for pulses development in the States which are not covered under NFSM and ISOPOM Programme. An Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P) is conceived for more intensive promotion of pulses in the potential areas under NFSM Pulses. In the Budget 2010-11, an amount of Rs.300 crores has been provided to organize sixty thousand "Pulses and Oilseeds Villages" in rainfed areas during 2011-12 in order to provide an integrated intervention of water harvesting, watershed management and soil health to enhance the productivity of the dry land farming areas. It is proposed to cover 60000 villages in these seven major pulses and oilseeds producing States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

### Length of railway line

†\*619. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the length in kilometres of the railway line that has been laid annually during the last ten years;
- (b) the details of the target set for the next two years;
- (c) the number of small gauge lines in the country and by when these lines will be converted into broad gauge; and
- (d) the details of the target for broad gauge conversion during this year?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Length of rail lines laid under new lines, gauge conversion and doublings in the country during the last ten year *i.e.* from 2000-01 to 2009-10 year-wise, is as under:—

Year	Length of rail lines laid under new lines, gauge conversion and doublings during the year in kilometers
2000-01	444
2001-02	456
2002-03	1202
2003-04	1222
2004-05	1211
2005-06	1155
2006-07	1718
2007-08	2131
2008-09	1268
2009-10	2222

(b) to (d) The targets for construction of rail lines are set on year to year basis depending upon progress made, requirements and availability of resources. The target for 2010-11 has been fixed as 2500 Kms. involving 1000 Km. of new lines, 800 Km. of gauge conversion and 700 Km. of doubling.

As on 01.04.2010, there are about 9,500 Km. of Meter/Narrow Gauge lines, out of which works are in progress for about 5500 Km. Further, gauge conversion of about 450 Km. of Narrow Gauge to Broad Gauge has been included in the Railway Budget 2010-11.

Indian Railways Vision 2020 entails conversion of all Meter Gauge/Narrow Gauge lines to Broad Gauge except heritage lines. This would, however, depend upon availability of resources.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

### Production average of Indian crops

\*620. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production average of Indian crops is low as compared to the world average;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government is taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. As per FAO STAT, Food and Agriculture Organization Statistics Publication, 2010, the average Productivity of the major crops of India as compared to World for the year 2008 is given below:—

				Yield in kg/ha
Sl. No.	Name of the crop	India	World	Difference
1.	Paddy	3370	4309	939
2.	Wheat	2802	3086	284
3.	Maize	2324	5109	2785
4.	Soybean	942	2381	1439
5.	Sugarcane	68877	71510	2633
6.	Pulses	615	822	207

(b) Major inherent factors attributing to lower yield in India in comparison to world average yield are summarized below:—

- i. Indian agriculture is primarily based on rainfed farming occupying more than 60 per cent area, wherein farmers are reluctant to use improved quality seed and recommended doses of input due to involvement of risk.
- ii. Short duration of crop season due to agro-climate limitation on account of moisture, temperature etc.
- iii. Small size of farm holding is major limitation in adoption of mechanized technologies (such as ridge-furrow based system, broad bed-furrow based system and zero-tillage etc.) due to unviable economy of scale.
- iv. Poor soil texture due to low Carbon content and other organic matter in Indian soils particularly in arid and semi-arid zones.

(c) Government of India has been encouraging the enhancing production and productivity of crops through various Centrally Sponsored Schemes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) under Macro

Management, Integrated Scheme of Oilseed, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

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**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**

**Contribution of agriculture in GDP**

†4615. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of people living in the urban and rural areas of the country at present;
- (b) the percentage of people totally dependent on agriculture;
- (c) the contribution of agriculture sector in the gross production during last three years; and
- (d) the percentage of budget allocation for agriculture sector in the last financial budget?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) According to the Population Census 2001, the proportions of population living in urban and rural areas of the country were 27.81 per cent and 72.19 per cent respectively.

(b) As per the Population Census 2001, agricultural workers (cultivators and agricultural labourers) constitute 58.2 per cent of the work force.

(c) As per the Quick Estimates of National Income 2008-09, released by the Central Statistical Organization, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the contribution of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at constant (2004-05) prices for the years 2006-07, 2007-08 (Provisional Estimate) and 2008-09 (Quick Estimate) were 17.2 per cent, 16.4 per cent and 15.7 per cent respectively.

(d) The Budget Allocation of the Ministry of Agriculture, as proportion to the total Budget of the Government of India, for the year 2009-10 was 1.6 per cent.

**Bird flu in West Bengal**

†4616. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:  
DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that cases of H5N1 bird flu have been reported from Murshidabad district of West Bengal;
- (b) whether it is a fact that H5N1 is more fatal than H1N1;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that chances of mixing of H1N1 and H5N1 are arising in this area; and

(d) the measures being taken to control it and to check its spread?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Both H5N1 and H1N1 can be equally fatal to human beings. However, there is no fatality in poultry due to H1N1.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The control and containment of bird flu is undertaken as per the Contingency Plan of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Action Plan of the Department of Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries. The measures being taken to control and check spread of H5N1 are given in the Statement.

#### ***Statement***

##### *Steps taken by the Government to check spread of bird flu in the country*

- (i) Central Rapid Response Teams (both from Health and Animal Husbandry Department) are regularly deputed to the site of outbreak.
- (ii) Culling of entire poultry population in the affected zone of 0-3/5 Kms.
- (iii) Immediate compensation for birds culled during control operations.
- (iv) Active surveillance for human cases is conducted in the identified geographical area.
- (v) Isolation facilities are set up at the nearest health facility.
- (vi) Strengthening of preparedness to tackle any future eventuality in terms of upgradation of laboratories, training of manpower, stockpiling of equipments and materials for control and containment etc.
- (vii) Continuous training of veterinary personnel in preparedness, control and containment.
- (viii) Sensitization of general public on Avian Influenza through Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns.
- (ix) Immediate Reporting of outbreaks and also information of unusual sickness/mortality in poultry for quick laboratory diagnosis.
- (x) All the State Governments have been alerted to be vigilant about the outbreak of the disease, if any.
- (xi) Import of poultry and poultry products have been banned completely from HPAI positive countries.
- (xii) Border check posts with neighbouring countries have been strengthened.
- (xiii) Guidelines issued to the States for further guidance to the poultry farmers.

### **Excess use of pesticides and fertilizers in Punjab**

4617. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether excessive and indiscriminate use of pesticides and fertilizers poisoned ground water in Malwa region of Punjab turning it into Cancer-Belt;

(b) whether fertilizers consumption in the State is at 177 kg per hectare as compared to 90 kg per hectare at national level and 75 per cent of this is consumed in Malwa;

(c) whether Reyes Tirado of University of Exeter, UK, published a study on the area in November, 2009 for Green Peace, if so, the findings thereof;

(d) whether declining response of agricultural productivity to increased fertilizer usage has been noticed; and

(e) whether farmers of Punjab are dying and pesticides overuse is the likely cause?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The farmers in Punjab are advised to use fertilizers and pesticides in the doses recommended by Punjab Agriculture University Scientists/experts. Per hectare consumption of fertilizers in the State is lower than several countries including China.

The Punjab Agriculture University regularly monitors various food, feed and environmental samples for the presence of pesticide residues. Analysis of samples of ground water collected from Malwa region indicates that the use of pesticides is not poisoning the ground water.

(b) Fertilizer consumption in the State is 221.42 kg per hectare as compared to 128.58 kg per hectare at national level. The Malwa belt comprises of about 68% of the total cultivated area of the State and fertilizer consumption is about 69% of the total consumption.

(c) On the basis of limited sampling of drinking water in Punjab, M/s Reyes Tirado of University of Exeter, UK recently reported that one-fifth of the samples contained Nitrogen in Nitrate form ( $\text{NO}_3\text{-N}$ ) beyond permissible limits. Punjab Agriculture University has a regular programme to monitor groundwater quality in different parts of the State. Earlier surveys in Ferozepur and Mukatsar districts indicated that about 7% and 19% of the samples contained  $\text{NO}_3\text{-N}$  more than 10 parts per million (prescribed limit). However, relationship between  $\text{NO}_3\text{-N}$  content and fertilizer use could not be established.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A pilot study was conducted by Punjab Agriculture University under which 690 samples of different food commodities were analysed for the presence of pesticide residues.



7.3% samples were found to contain residues of lindane, chlorpyrifos and ethion but their levels were found to be less than the prescribed limits.

#### **Requirement of rice by 2025**

4618. SHRI K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that by 2025, the requirement of rice in the country is likely to be between 16.6 crore tonnes to 17.9 crore tonnes;

(b) if so, the present production level and the likely production by that year; and

(c) the strategies being contemplated to bridge the gap in the rice production and its requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Agriculture has not assessed the demand/requirement and likely production of rice by 2025. However, as per the Working Group of the Planning Commission for the Eleventh Five Year Plan, demand for rice in the country for 2011-12 has been projected at 98.79 million tonnes.

Production of rice during 2009-10 (2nd advance estimates) is estimated at 87.56 million tonnes as compared to 99.18 million tonnes during 2008-09. The decline in production of rice during 2009-10 has been due to drought and deficient monsoon in various parts of the country.

The Government is implementing a number of schemes such as National Food Security Mission, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Integrated Cereals Development Programme — Rice (ICDP-Rice) subsumed under Macro Management of Agriculture to increase the production and productivity of rice in the country. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is also engaged in research in the development of high yielding varieties of rice suited for different regions of the country.

#### **Fertilizer subsidy *vis-a-vis* farm production**

4619. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite fertilizer subsidy touching the huge figure of rupees one lakh crore, only 1.3 per cent annual growth in farm production has been achieved during the last seven years;

(b) if so, whether a holistic study has been made to find out as to why green revolution is running out of steam; and

(c) whether the quantity of fertilizer used being merely 113 kg. per hectare as compared to about 200 kg. in China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Production of foodgrains has increased from 174.77 million tonnes in 2002-03 to 234.47 million tonnes in 2008-09, growing by 34 per cent in aggregate. The fertilizer subsidy increased to Rs. 99,494.71 crore in 2008-09 mainly on account of increase in international prices.

(b) A major reason for declining marginal productivity in relation to fertilizer application is unbalanced use of fertilizers over the years affecting soil health and its productivity.

(c) The consumption of fertilizers per hectare in the country during 2006 was 111.8 kg. compared to 333.0 kg. in China.

#### **National Horticulture Mission**

4620. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Horticulture Mission has achieved its goal of development of horticulture sector during the Tenth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of and in hectare brought under horticultural crops and plantation during last 10 years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The National Horticulture Mission (NHM) was launched during Tenth Plan (from May, 2005-06), for the holistic development of horticulture sector in the country. All the States and Union Territories are covered under the Mission except the eight North Eastern States including Sikkim and the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, which are covered under another Mission namely the Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in the North Eastern States (TMNE). The scheme is continued during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

During the Tenth Five Year Plan, the scheme was implemented for a period of 2 years. The achievements made under the Mission during 2005-06 and 2006-07 are as under:—

- 637 new nurseries were set up.
- An area of 4.07 lakh ha. covered under various horticulture crops and 0.353 lakh ha. under senile plantation has been rejuvenated.
- Organic farming and integrated pest management programme was taken up in 0.37 lakh ha. and 1.28 lakh ha. respectively.
- Under the post harvest management components, 74 pack house, 14 cold storages, 4 refrigerated vans, 2 mobile/primary processing units, 8 whole sale markets and 40 rural markets have been assisted.

(c) During last 10 years (2000-01 to 2009-10), an area of 4.55 million ha. has been brought under various horticulture crops including plantation crops in the country.

#### **Growth in agriculture sector**

4621. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the average growth during Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07) in agriculture and allied sector;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the average growth in agriculture is almost one third as compared to an average of all other sectors in the economy; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The average Annual Growth rate in Agriculture and Allied Sector during the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07) was 2.5 per cent.

(b) and (c) The average Annual Growth rate of other Sectors of the economy during the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07) was 9.3 per cent. The Growth rates of GDP in Agriculture and Allied Sector (at constant prices) for the successive years of the Tenth Plan were as follows:—

Year	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Percent growth	(-)7.2	10.0	0.0	5.8	4.0

Due to severe drought in 2002-03, the GDP Growth in Agriculture and Allied Sector declined to (-) 7.2 per cent. However, the average Growth rate of Agriculture and Allied Sector in the remaining years (2003-04 to 2006-07) of the Tenth Plan was 4.95 per cent which was above the 4 per cent target set for the GDP growth of the Sector during the Tenth Plan.

#### **Agreement for quality seeds**

4622. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently signed any agreement with any company or with foreign countries to provide quality seeds to the farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, by when steps will be taken in this direction in the remaining Eleventh Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 15th March, 2010 with National Seeds Corporation Limited (NSC) and State Farms Corporation of India Limited (SFCI) for the financial year 2010-11. Higher seed production targets have been given to both Corporations for 2010-11 compared to 2009-10 *i.e.*, 19 lakh quintals of seed over 15 lakh quintals for NSC and 6 lakhs quintals of seed against 5.75 lakhs quintals for SFCI. The Government has also signed MoUs/Agreements with foreign

countries in order to enhance the existing bilateral/friendly relations through cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors including exchange of experience in the field of seeds. Further, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institutes and State Agricultural Universities have signed MoUs with several private companies to produce the parental lines of hybrids and seed production of different crops.

#### **Manual for drought management**

4623. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has recently released a manual to effectively and efficiently manage drought in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the manual also comprises a list of the States/districts which have been the worst sufferer of drought so far, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the innovative measures being proposed to tackle drought in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has brought out a Manual for Drought Management. Its objective is to serve as a handbook for all decision makers and administrators at various levels. It focuses on the general elements of drought management at the National level, while allowing the States to include their specific schemes and interventions. The Manual includes chapters on understanding drought, monitoring drought, drought declaration, drought relief and drought mitigation. The Manual, however, does not contain State-wise details of districts, which have been declared as affected by drought/scarcity/drought-like situation during 2009-10 or earlier.

#### **Crisis in agriculture sector**

4624. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of work force engaged in agriculture sector in our country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that families depending on agriculture sector are compelled to move to other areas due to crisis;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to resolve this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The Census of India, 2001 has enumerated that of the 402.23 million workers in the country, 234.1 million (58.20%) are agricultural workers.

(b) to (d) While agricultural workers as a percentage of total workers in different sectors of economy have gone down, this has happened for various reasons including rapid growth of secondary and tertiary sectors. The percentage of agricultural workers on a base of total population increased from 21.66% in 1981 to 22.77% in 2001.

The Government of India has accorded high priority for revitalization of agriculture sector by formulating different schemes to supplement the efforts of the States and by providing resources for the purpose. A key objective of the National Policy for farmers, 2007 is to improve the economic viability of farming through substantially improving net income of farmers. The major schemes under implementation include Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission, Micro Irrigation Scheme, Watershed Development Programme, Integrated Nutrient Management and Integrated Pest Management and Macro Management of Agriculture. In addition to these major initiatives, adequate care has been taken to ensure decentralization and participation in decision making and in implementation of the Schemes/Programmes with a view to improving the condition of farmers

#### **Export of meat**

†4625. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the name of countries to which India exports meat alongwith the quantity thereof;
- (b) the animals whose meat is exported along with the weight of meat; and
- (c) the quantum of meat exported from the year, 2005 to January, 2010 animal-wise and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Details of the species, quantity and value of India's exports, country-wise, for the period 2005-06 to 2009-10 (upto October, 2009) are given in Annexure (See Appendix 219 Annexure No. 27). Data is not available for the period from November, 2009 to January, 2010.

#### **Construction of cold storages**

†4626. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cold storages in the country till December, 2008, State-wise;
- (b) the number of cold storages constructed in the country in the year 2009 after Government announced some relaxation to industrialists for the construction of cold storages and the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the plan of Government to promote construction of more and more cold storages in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The State-wise number of cold storages in the country as on 31.12.2008 is given in Statement (See below).

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) The data pertaining to number of cold storages constructed in the country in the year 2009 after Government announced some relaxation for the construction of cold storages is not maintained.

Under the scheme of National Horticulture Mission, assistance is provided for development of post harvest infrastructure including construction of Cold Storages. During 2009-10, assistance of Rs. 45.31 crore was sanctioned for establishment of 225 cold storages.

Under the Scheme of Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States including Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand (TMNE) assistance is provided for post harvest management including for creation/modernization/expansion of cold storages.

During 2009-10, assistance of Rs. 60.00 lakh was sanctioned for 2 cold storage projects

National Horticulture Board is implementing the scheme of Capital Investment Subsidy for construction/Expansion/modernization of Cold Storage and Storages for Horticulture Produce, under which assistance is provided for creation/modernization/expansion of cold storages During the year 2009-10, 231 cold storage projects have been sanctioned with a subsidy of Rs 51.42 crore

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides assistance under scheme of Infrastructure Development for Setting up of integrated pack houses with cold store facilities During the year 2009-10, APEDA has provided assistance for setting up 24 integrated pack houses with cold store facilities

Ministry of Food Processing Industries provides assistance for cold chain infrastructure development including that of cold storages under the scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure, and approved 10 cold chain projects during 2008-09 for which grant of Rs 43.51 crore has been released during 2009-10

As these schemes are on going and demand driven, cold storage projects are approved based on need and as per the respective guidelines.

#### *Statement*

##### *State-wise number of cold storages (as on 31/12/2008)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total No.
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	02
2.	Andhra Pradesh	286

1	2	3
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	01
4.	Assam	24
5.	Bihar	260
6.	Chandigarh	06
7.	Chhattisgarh	65
8.	Delhi	94
9.	Gujarat	377
10.	Goa	29
11.	Haryana	243
12.	Himachal Pradesh	18
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	19
14.	Jharkhand	45
15.	Kerala	187
16.	Karnataka	161
17.	Lakshadweep	01
18.	Maharashtra	460
19.	Madhya Pradesh	192
20.	Meghalaya	03
21.	Nagaland	02
22.	Orissa	109
23.	Puducherry	03
24.	Punjab	420
25.	Rajasthan	107
26.	Tamil Nadu	139
27.	Tripura	11
28.	Uttar Pradesh	1579
29.	Uttarakhand	12
30.	West Bengal	531
TOTAL :		5386

### **Loan for dry land farming**

4627. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU:

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of farmers cultivating dry land farms/rainfed farms in the country, State-wise;

(b) the particulars of loans given for agricultural operations for dry land farming during 2008-09 and 2009-10 State-wise and Bank-wise, including RRBs and cooperatives;

(c) the plans his Ministry has to extend bank credit to all dry land farmers and the period by which this task will be accomplished; and

(d) in what manner activities of various departments/agencies involved in improving rainfed farming are being coordinated and the steps proposed to be taken to make the co-ordination more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No statistics is collected by any agency on dry land farmers separately. However, the net sown area in the country is about 140.30 million ha of which 60.86 million ha area is covered under irrigation and the remaining 79.44 million ha. is rainfed. The State-wise details of net sown area and rainfed area is given in Statement (See below).

(b) Refinance amounting to Rs. 2.00 lakh for dry land farming was disbursed in the State of Karnataka for loans distributed by Commercial Banks. However, there was no refinance disbursed against dry land farming by any State in the year 2009-10.

(c) All the farmers in the country including dry land farmers are eligible to get credit facilities from banks as per the extant policies of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and NABARD.

(d) The Government has established National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) as an expert body to provide the much needed knowledge inputs regarding systematic up-gradation and management of country's dry land and rainfed agriculture. The authority is mandated to coordinate and bring convergence within and among agricultural and wasteland development programmes being implemented in rainfed areas of the country. The Authority has brought out common Guidelines for watershed Development Projects-2008 in association with concerned Ministries/Departments and Planning commission for effective implementation of Watershed Programmes in rainfed area in a unified manner.



**Statement**

*State-wise extent of Net Sown Area and Rainfed Area (2006-07)*

(In thousand hectaters)

Sl No.	States	Net Sown area	Net irrigated area	Rainfed area
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10147	4453	5694
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	209	52	157
3.	Assam	2753	140	2613
4.	Bihar	5556	3161	2395
5.	Chhattisgarh	4722	1282	3440
6.	Goa	137	24	113
7.	Gujarat	9852	3388	6464
8.	Haryana	3556	2990	566
9.	Himachal Pradesh	543	104	439
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	742	309	433
11.	Jharkhand	1769	164	1605
12.	Karnataka	10105	2946	7159
13.	Kerala	2101	392	1709
14.	Madhya Pradesh	14735	6365	8370
15.	Maharashtra	17475	2951	14524
16.	Manipur	224	51	173
17.	Meghalaya	213	67	146
18.	Mizoram	92	16	76
19.	Nagaland	322	65	257
20.	Orissa	5739	1846	3893
21.	Punjab	4243	4028	215
22.	Rajasthan	16764	6496	10268
23.	Sikkim	112	9	103
24.	Tamil Nadu	5126	2889	2237
25.	Tripura	280	61	219

1	2	3	4	5
26.	Uttarakhand	768	343	425
27.	Uttar Pradesh	16633	13080	3553
28.	West Bengal	5296	3136	2160
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	13	0	13
30.	Chandigarh	1	1	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	22	7	15
32.	Daman and Diu	3	0	3
33.	Delhi	23	23	0
34.	Lakshadweep	3	1	2
35.	Pondicherry	20	18	2
TOTAL :		140299	60858	79441

Source: Agriculture Statistics at a glance 2009.

#### Loan taken from money lenders

4628. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:  
SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers and the amount given by banks as credit to repay loans taken by them from money lenders during 2008-09 and 2009-10, State-wise and bank-wise, including RRBs and Cooperatives; and

(b) the plans his Ministry has to provide loans to all farmers for agricultural operations so that they are not forced to take loans from money lenders at high rates of interest and the period by which this task will be accomplished?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The Government has constituted a Task Force to look into the issue of a large number of farmers who had taken loan from private money lenders. The Task Force is scheduled to submit its report by 30th June, 2010.

#### Promotion of organic fertilizers

4629. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:  
SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the schemes for promotion of organic fertilizers in the country;
- (b) whether Government is planning to provide subsidies on organic fertilizers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The Government is promoting organic fertilizers by providing financial assistance under the following schemes:—

- (i) Under National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) financial assistance for setting up organic input production units @ 25% of the total cost of project up to Rs. 40.00 lakh per unit for fruit/vegetable waste compost units and Rs. 1.50 lakh per unit for vermiculture hatcheries is provided as credit linked back ended subsidy through NABARD.
- (ii) Under National Horticulture Mission (NHM) financial assistance is provided for setting up vermicompost units @ 50% of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs 30,000/- per beneficiary.
- (iii) Under National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility (NPMSHF) there is provision for promotion of organic fertilizer upto Rs. 500/- per hectare.
- (iv) Assistance is also available for organic fertilizers under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY).
- (d) Does not arise.

#### **Launch of Bt. Cotton technology by Monsanto**

4630. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government had earlier given approval to Monsanto to launch its Bt. Cotton technology between 2002 to 2005 and the Bt. Cotton seeds have been sold at an exorbitant price of Rs. 1800 to Rs. 2000 per packet leading to trail of incidents of suicides by farmers;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission had indicated Monsanto and passed an interim order stating that Monsanto was indeed following restrictive trade practices; and
- (c) if so, the reasons why Government is allowing a tainted multinational company to function?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Approval was given by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF) under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to M/s Mahyco for commercial cultivation of Bt. Cotton hybrids Bollgard-

I and II in 2002 and 2006 Farmers' suicide on account of exorbitant prices of cotton seed have not been reported by the nine major cotton growing States.

(b) and (c) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission *vide* its Interim Order dated 11th May, 2006 had directed the company not to charge trait value of Rs. 900 per packet of Bt. Cotton seed during the pendency of the case and to fix a reasonable trait value in line with what the parent company charges in China. Currently Bollgard-I and II seeds are being sold at Rs. 750 to Rs. 925 per packet in the country. Other than M/s Mahyco Monsanto Biotech Limited (MMBL), 619 hybrids of Bt. Cotton are being produced by 40 Companies/Agencies, with Bt. technology being provided by as many as five Companies/Agencies including hybrid/variety of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

#### **Farmers' suicides**

4631. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of suicides taken place in the State of Rajasthan, amongst members of the farming community since 2008; and

(b) the number of farmers that have committed suicide in different States and Union Territories since 2008?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) As per information furnished by the Government of Rajasthan, there is no reported incident of suicide by farmers in the State.

(b) The number of suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons, as reported by the State Governments and Union Territories concerned, is given in Statement.

#### **Statement**

*Number of suicide by farmers due to agrarian reasons as reported by State Governments*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Period (Date of report)	No. of suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2008	419
		2009	219
2.	Karnataka	2008-09	155
		2009-10	97
3.	Maharashtra	2008	627
		2009	503

1	2	3	4
4.	Kerala	2008	22
		2009	03
5	Tamil Nadu	2008	01
		2009	Nil
6.	Punjab	2008	12
		2009	18
7.	Gujarat	2008	01
		2009	Nil
8.	Assam	03.05.2010	Nil
9.	Arunachal Pradesh	17.08.2007	Nil
10.	Bihar	14.05.2008	Nil
11.	Chhattisgarh	16.03.2010	Nil
12.	Goa	03.05.2010	Nil
13.	Haryana	10.03.2010	Nil
14.	Himachal Pradesh	10.03.2010	Nil
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	18.11.2009	Nil
16.	Jharkhand	25.04.2008	Nil
17.	Manipur	23.03.2010	Nil
18.	Meghalaya	27.11.2009	Nil
19.	Madhya Pradesh	22.03.2010	Nil
20.	Mizoram	05.02.2010	Nil
21.	Nagaland	23.11.2009	Nil
22.	Orissa	04.03.2010 and 03.05.2010	Nil*
23.	Rajasthan	14.12.2009	Nil
24.	Sikkim	30.11.2009	Nil
25.	Tripura	25.03.2008	Nil
26.	Uttar Pradesh	03.05.2010	Nil
27.	Uttarakhand	09.03.2010	Nil

1	2	3	4
28.	West Bengal	31.10.2009	Nil
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	05.03.2010	Nil
30.	Government of NCT of Delhi	04.03.2010	Nil
31.	Daman and Diu	05.03.2010	Nil
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	22.03.2010	Nil
33.	Lakshadweep	12.03.2010	Nil
34.	Puducherry	24.03.2010	Nil
35.	Chandigarh	15.11.2009	Nil

\*43 cases of alleged suicide by farmers have been reported by State Government. However, the State Government has not confirmed any of these to be due to agrarian causes.

#### **Gap between production and demand of milk**

4632. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of gap between domestic production and demand of milk since 2004, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether currently milk scarcity is prevailing especially in urban areas in several parts of the country and Government is apprehending the same to deteriorate further in near future;

(c) if so, the basis thereof;

(d) whether India emerged as second largest milk producer globally consequent to the white revolution; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, indicating reasons for deterioration of the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) By and large the production of milk in the country is sufficient to meet the domestic demand. There is no authentic data available with regard to State-wise demand for milk. However, Statement indicating State-wise milk production for the year 2004-05 to year 2008-09 is given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) India is the largest milk producer in the world.

(e) Does not arise.

**Statement**

*Estimates of milk production — 2004-05 to 2008-09 — State-wise*

(000 tonnes)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7257	7624	7939	8925	9570
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	48	48	49	50	24
3.	Assam	739	747	751	752	753
4.	Bihar	4743	5060	5450	5783	5934
5.	Chhattisgarh	831	839	849	866	908
6.	Goa	57	56	57	58	59
7.	Gujarat	6745	6960	7533	7911	8386
8.	Haryana	5222	5299	5367	5442	5745
9.	Himachal Pradesh	870	869	872	874	884
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1422	1400	1400	1498	1498
11.	Jharkhand	1330	1335	1401	1442	1466
12.	Karnataka	3917	4022	4124	4244	4538
13.	Kerala	2025	2063	2119	2253	2441
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5506	6283	6375	6572	6855
15.	Maharashtra	6567	6769	6978	7210	7455
16.	Manipur	75	77	77	78	78
17.	Meghalaya	71	73	75	77	77
18.	Mizoram	16	15	16	17	17
19.	Nagaland	69	74	67	45	53
20.	Orissa	1283	1342	1431	1625	1672
21.	Punjab	8554	8909	9168	9282	9387
22.	Rajasthan	8310	8713	9375	9536	9491
23.	Sikkim	46	48	49	49	49
24.	Tamil Nadu	4784	5474	5560	5586	5673
25.	Tripura	86	87	89	91	96

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
26.	Uttar Pradesh	16512	17356	18095	18861	19537
27.	Uttarakhand	1195	1206	1213	1221	1230
28.	West Bengal	3790	3891	3982	4087	4176
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	24	20	23	24	26
30.	Chandigarh	43	46	46	47	47
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4	5	5	5	4
32.	Daman and Diu	1	1	1	1	1
33.	Delhi	303	310	289	282	285
34.	Lakshadweep	1	2	2	2	2
35.	Puducherry	41	43	45	46	46
ALL INDIA:		92484	97066	100869	104840	108465

Source : State/UT Animal Husbandry Departments

#### **Selling of commodities at higher prices**

4633. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that retail outlets of National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation are selling commodities at a higher price than market rates; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) It has been reported by NAFED that they are selling almost all the essential commodities at much lower rates than the market price. However, depending upon the market forces, the quality of produce and the individual business decision of the sellers, there will be fluctuations in the price of certain commodities from time-to-time.

#### **Damage to agriculture sector due to cyclone Nisha**

4634. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the damage caused to agriculture sector by cyclone Nisha in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether Central Government has been approached by the State Government for financial assistance under Crop Insurance Scheme; and



(c) if so, the details of the quantum of assistance sought by the Tamil Nadu Government and that granted by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) A total area of about 5.77 lakh hectares of Rabi 2008-09 crops was affected due to Nisha cyclone in Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) Total claims of Rs. 651.659 crore including Government of India share of Rs. 306.476 crore have been received under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) from Government of Tamil Nadu by the Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. which is the implementing agency of the scheme due to damage of crops caused by Nisha cyclone. These claims have been settled fully during the period from September, 2009 to April, 2010.

#### **Horticulture projects in tribal areas**

4635. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NABARD is providing financial assistance to tribals under the tribal development projects for growing horticultural crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of number of tribals assisted under the projects in various States including Jharkhand during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. NABARD has created a Tribal Development Fund (TDF) in 2004-05 with a corpus of Rs. 50 crore for replication of Wadi (small orchard) approach of development to promote sustainable participatory livelihood programmes in tribal predominated areas of the country.

The major purposes of TDF are:—

- i. Promotion of sustainable participatory livelihood programmes (wadi model).
- ii. Capacity building of stakeholders through exposure visits, workshops, training, sensitization programmes etc.
- iii. Supporting activities such as SHGs, Income generation activities for landless/SC/STs, micro-credit etc.
- iv. Development of Tribal market, processing and marketing of products.
- v. Other relevant activities approved by NABARD.

The horticulture crops covered under TDF are Mango, Cashew, Amla, Passion Fruit, Litchi, Arecanut, Orange, Pineapple, Banana, Papaya, Sapota, Pomegranate, Lime, Citrus, Lemon, Guava, Acid Lime, Sweet Orange, Custard Apple, Naga chilly, Jack Fruit, Clove and Pepper. The other development interventions are built around 'Wadi'. The projects are expected to ensure sustainable livelihood for tribal families and increased agriculture/ horticulture

productivity. The comprehensive tribal development through ‘wadi’ approach involves the following components/sectors:—

- a. Orchard development (fruit/plantation/herbal crops and forest plants) as the core component
- b. Soil conservation in the wadi
- c. Water resources management (conservation and use)
- d. Sustainable agriculture
- e. Human resource development (community development)
- f. Women development — The components include drudgery reduction measures, on-farm and non-farm income generating activities and self help groups for inculcating thrift and credit habits
- g. Community Health
- h. Micro-enterprises for landless people
- i. Processing and marketing
- j. Other auxiliary components to dovetail with above activities.

Under one TDF project, 500-1000 tribal families are covered with approximate coverage of 1000 acre of orchard plantation in clusters. Project duration ranges from 5-7 years. In TDF project, NABARD provide grant @ Rs 45,000 per family for the Northern-Eastern States and @ Rs 40,000 per family for other States.

Upto 31.03.10, NABARD has sanctioned 191 projects in 22 States and Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Andaman and Nicobar, at an outlay of Rs. 543.6 crore (Rs. 512 crore grant and Rs. 31.6 crore loan) covering 1.56 lakh tribal families.

(c) The details of number of tribals assisted under TDF projects in various States including Jharkhand during last three years are as under:—

Year	Total no. of projects sanctioned	Total no. of families covered	Total no. of projects sanctioned in Jharkhand	Number of families covered in Jharkhand
2007-08	16	14538	—	
2008-09	74	61924	1	1000
2009-10	79	63113	3	3000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>139575</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4000</b>

### Conversion of agriculture land into industrial corridor

4636. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to check large scale conversion of cultivable land into industry and industrial corridors in the country;

(b) if so, the details of measures undertaken/proposed to be undertaken;

(c) whether Government has fixed any ceiling for such conversion so that the size of cultivable land in each of the States/UTs remains constant and agricultural products therefrom are assured;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As per the Constitution of India, land falls under the purview of the State Governments, and therefore, it is for the State Governments to bring in suitable policies/legislation to check the conversion of cultivable/agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes including industrial corridors in the country. Government of India does not have specific policy to check such conversion/utilization of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes. The details of measures taken by Government of India for prevention of such conversion are given in Statement (See below).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Land is a State subject, therefore, it is for the State Governments to fix the ceiling with due consideration of soil fertility and its productivity for conversion of cultivable land for non-agricultural purposes.

### **Statement**

*The measures taken by Government of India for prevention of conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes are as under*

(a) **National Policy for Farmers 2007 (NPF, 2007):** The National Policy for Farmers — 2007 envisages that Prime farmland must be conserved for agriculture except under exceptional circumstances, provided that the agencies that are provided with agricultural land for non-agricultural projects should compensate for treatment and full development of equivalent degraded/wastelands elsewhere. State Governments have been advised to earmark lands with low biological potential such as uncultivable land, land affected by salinity, acidity, etc., for non-agricultural development activities, including industrial and construction activities. The Policy has been sent to the States/UTs for implementation.

(b) **National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 (NRRP, 2007):** A National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 has been formulated by Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Land Resources which came into effect on 31.10.2007. The policy provides that only the minimum area of land commensurate with the purpose of a project may be acquired. Also, as far as possible, projects may be set up on wasteland, degraded land or un-irrigated land. Acquisition of agricultural land for non-agricultural use in the project may be kept to the minimum; multi-cropped land may be avoided to the extent possible for such purposes and acquisition of irrigated land, if unavoidable, may be kept to the minimum. The Policy has been sent to the States/UTs for implementation.

(c) **Policy in case of Special Economic Zones (SEZs):** Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) have constituted an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) under the Chairmanship of Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the then Hon'ble Minister of Defence to consider the issues related to SEZs and the EGoM at its meeting held on 5th April 2007 recommended that:—

- In respect of pending applications for SEZs, these may be processed for in-principle, formal approval and, notifications subject to the conditions that the State Government would not undertake any compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs.
- Upper limit of the area required for multi product SEZs to be fixed at 5000 ha. However, State Governments may prescribe a lower limit.
- A comprehensive Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy be worked out ensuring livelihood from the project to at least one person from each displaced family.

Based on the above recommendations, Government of India has decided that Board of approval (BoA) will not approve any SEZs where the State Governments have carried out or propose to carry out compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs after 5th April, 2007. However, cases in which all persons interested in the land have either not submitted any objection under Section-5A or have withdrawn the objections submitted and have thus acquiesced in the proposed acquisition of land may be considered. In other cases, where there are objections under Section-5A, the Collector/Acquiring Authority may not proceed with the acquisition for the purpose of SEZ and such cases, if any, brought before the Board of Approval may not be considered.

#### **Benefit of loan waiver scheme for farmers of Haryana and Punjab**

4637. **SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total debt against farmers in the country;
- (b) the number of farmers in Haryana and Punjab who are under debt of nationalized banks as well as of Cooperative banks and total outstanding amount against them; and

(c) the number of farmers in Punjab and Haryana who were benefited under the loan waiver scheme of Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) As per the information made available by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) total outstanding agricultural loan as on 31.03.2009 is Rs. 590728 crore.

(b) The information is given below:—

**Punjab**

Banks	No. of Accounts	Amount outstanding as on 30.09.2009 (Rs. in crore)
Public Sector Banks	908352	17943
Private Sector Banks	42510	3072
Regional Rural Banks	101468	1249
Cooperative Banks	831252	4836
<b>TOTAL :</b>	<b>1883586</b>	<b>27100</b>

**Haryana**

Public Sector Banks	623221	13824
Private Sector Banks	15628	857
Regional Rural Banks	209113	2126
Cooperative Banks	1584909	5609
<b>TOTAL :</b>	<b>2432871</b>	<b>22416</b>

Source: State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) figures of Punjab and Haryana.

(c) As per the provisional figures, 421278 farmers in Punjab and 885102 farmers in Haryana are estimated to have been benefited under the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008.

**Availability of fertilizers**

†4638. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:  
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of fertilizers for agriculture in the country and moreover it is smuggled too;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the number of fertilizers factories in operational State in the country;
- (c) whether Government is making any concrete plan to meet the shortage of fertilizers;  
and
- (d) the details of number of closed factories and the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No, Sir. There is no shortage of fertilizers for agriculture in the country.

There are reports of smuggling of fertilizers from India to neighbouring countries. However, these have not been confirmed by the State Governments. The State Governments have been advised by the Department of Fertilizers to keep a vigil and to check smuggling of fertilizers, if any, from India to other neighbouring countries through land and sea routes.

(b) State-wise and Sector-wise number of major fertilizer units operating in the country is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) In order to ensure availability of fertilizer *vis-a-vis* requirement and to avoid shortages through out the country, Department of Fertilizer has taken various policy initiatives, some of which are:—

- (i) Each State in consultation with the fertilizer suppliers is required to prepare a monthly supply plan district wise within overall availability at State level for ensuring availability of fertilizers in all parts of the State;
- (ii) The supply of fertilizers by manufacturers/suppliers is being monitored through a web-based Fertilizer Monitoring System which is able to track production, imports, dispatch, arrival and sales up to the district level;
- (iii) The State Governments have been advised (i) that the State Institutional agencies will coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies (ii) to review the railway rake points in their States and take up the issues with the Railways for improvements, if any, required to ensure availability of fertilizers in every nook and corner of the State.
- (iv) The Government has introduced a Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy in respect of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers *w.e.f.* 1.4.2010, which has replaced the outgoing Concession Scheme for P&K fertilizers. Under the NBS, State Governments have to play more proactive role to co-ordinate with the manufacturers/importers to tie up supplies of fertilizers as per the requirement of States.
- (v) The resources available for production of fertilizers like Urea, DAP and NPK are being utilized to the full capacity. The indigenous production of fertilizers is not adequate to meet the increasing demand. There has been a gap between the indigenous production of fertilizer and its demand. The gap between the assessed requirement

and indigenous production is met through imports. Government is always encouraging production of urea in the country to achieve self-sufficiency. The Government has announced a new policy on 4th September, 2008 to attract new investments. The policy is based on Import Parity Price (IPP) benchmark with suitable floor and ceiling prices aiming to revamp, expansion, revival of existing urea units and setting up of Greenfield projects. The policy aims to substantially bridge the gap between consumption and domestic production of urea in next five years subject to adequate availability of gas at reasonable prices. As a result of this the production of urea has increased from 200 LMT in 2008-09 to about 211 LMT in 2009-10. It is expected that the indigenous production of urea is likely to increase further during 2010-11. Government has also taken initiatives to encourage indigenous production in P&K sector by allowing import parity price to the indigenous manufacturers of DAP. Government has also reduced the custom duty on phosphoric acid from 5% to 2% to enable indigenous manufacturers of P&K fertilizers to procure this important input at reasonable price. Government is also encouraging private sector and public sector companies to explore the possibilities for joint ventures abroad to ensure uninterrupted supply of fertilizer inputs to P&K sector.

(d) Five Units of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) and three Units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) in the public sector are lying closed. Following are the Unit-wise details:—

(i) FCIL

Name of unit	Date of commissioning	Date of shutdown	Date of Government decision to close down
Sindri	1979	March, 2002	5.9.2002
Gorakhpur	1969	1990	18.7.2002
Talcher	1980	1.4.1999	18.7.2002
Ramagundam	1980	1.4.1999	18.7.2002
Korba	Never commissioned	Not applicable	30.7.2002

(ii) HFCL

Barauni	1976	1999	5.9.2002
Durgapur	1974	1997	5.9.2002
Haldia	Never commission	Not applicable	18.7.2002

The closed units of HFCL and FCIL had been consistently incurring losses due to a variety of reasons including obsolete technology, design and equipment deficiencies, power shortages, problems in industrial relations, surplus manpower and resource constraints. The non-availability of natural gas further limited the ability of the units to undergo modernization and improve energy efficiencies which were low at 15 to 21 Goal/MT of Urea. The above factors combined with sharp increase in price of naphtha and FO/LSHS made the cost of production of urea from these units economically unviable, resulting in closure of the units.

In addition, two urea units in the private sector viz. Duncan Industries Ltd. (DIL) Kanpur and Southern Petrochemical Industries Corporation Limited (SPIC), Tuticorin are currently closed due to financial constraints as reported by the companies. Further, the urea unit of Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore (FACT), Cochin is also not in operation as it is uneconomical to operate under the urea subsidy regime.

***Statement***

*State-wise and Sector-wise no. of major Fertilizer units  
operating in the Country*

Sl. No.	Name of States	No of Units operating	Sector			
			Public	Co-operative	Private	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4			4	4
2.	Assam	2	2			2
3.	Bihar					
4.	Chhattisgarh					
5.	Goa	1			1	1
6.	Gujarat	8		3	5	8
7.	Haryana	1	1			1
8.	Jharkhand					
9.	Karnataka	1			1	1
10.	Kerala	2	2			2
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2	2			2
12.	Maharashtra	5	4		1	5
13.	Orissa	2		1	1	2
14.	Punjab	2	2			2
15.	Rajasthan	3			3	3



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
16.	Tamil Nadu	4	1		3	4
17.	Uttar Pradesh	7		5	2	7
18.	West Bengal	1			1	1
TOTAL:		45	14	9	22	45

#### Consumption and smuggling of fertilizers

4639. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to drought the consumption of fertilizers in the country would be more when compared to bumper crops that we had last year;

(b) whether it means that Government has to earmark more subsidy for fertilizers for 2009-10;

(c) whether smuggling of fertilizers to our neighbouring countries has come to the notice of his Ministry; and

(d) if so, the steps taken under Fertilizer Monitoring System to prevent smuggling so as to make available more and more fertilizers to our farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Consumption (Sales) of major fertilizers like Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK fertilizers during the year 2009-10 and the year prior to it *i.e.* 2008-09 is as under:—

(Sales in LMT)

Year	Urea	DAP	MOP	NPK
2008-09	266.51	99.03	40.95	71.22
2009-10	264.48	103.92	46.74	82.03

It may be observed that the sales of DAP, MOP and NPK fertilizers during 2009-10 were higher than those compared with the sales during 2008-09, whereas in the case of Urea, the sales during 2009-10 have been lower than that compared with the sales during 2008-09.

(b) An amount of 64032.30 crores was spent by the Government on subsidy during the year 2009-10 whereas the payments of 99494.71 crores (79494.71 crores in cash and 20,000 crores in the form of Bonds) were made during the year 2008-09. The subsidy outgo in the year 2008-09 was more because of higher prices of finished fertilizers, raw material in the international market.

(c) and (d) There are reports of smuggling of fertilizers from India to neighbouring countries. However, these have not been confirmed by the State Governments. The State

Governments and Para Military Forces have been advised by the Department of Fertilizers and Ministry of Home Affairs to keep a vigil and to check smuggling of fertilizers, if any, from India to neighbouring countries through land and sea routes.

#### **Revival package for IDPL**

4640. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any decision on the revival package of the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that IDPL has revamped its operation by launching new products and also trading in 50 other products and has started making operating profits; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) IDPL has diversified its activities into other areas like supply of surgical items, veterinary, ayush and homeopathy products during 2009-10. It has also re-launched trade sales on 21.12.2009 to keep pace with fast changing world. Apart from this, it has also launched a few OTC products.

#### **Joint venture projects for production of fertilizers**

4641. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state the details of projects for joint ventures (JVs) established outside the country for production of fertilizers during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Details of the Joint Ventures by the Indian Fertilizer entities established during the last three years abroad for production of fertilizers are given below:—

1. Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO): The society has entered in a Joint Venture Agreement with Jordan Phosphate Mining Company (JPMC), Jordan in December, 2007 for production of Phosphoric Acid in Jordan. The estimated project cost is US\$ 682 million and the capacity of plant will be 0.45 Million Tonne per annum and the production is likely to commence in the year 2013.
2. IFFCO has further subscribed 0.5 Million shares of 'Grow Max Agri Corp. Canada' (GMAC) equivalent to 1% of the total equity of GMAC for setting up of a Murate of Potash (MOP) production facility in Peru with proposed production capacity of 0.25 Million Tonne per annum with estimated cost of US\$ 125 million. The production is likely to commence in the year 2013 in Peru.

3. Coromandal International Limited (CIL) together with Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited (GSFC), Groupe Chimique Tunisian (GCT) and Campagnie Des Phosphate De Gafsa (CPG) has formed a Joint Venture Company with the name of Tunisian Indian Fertilizers S.A (TIFERT) for production of phosphoric acid with a capacity of about 3.6 LMT per annum in Tunisia. Expected date of commissioning of plant is the first quarter of 2011. The estimated cost of the project is US\$ 500 Million. Stake of CIL and GSFC in the JV is 15% each.

However, various Indian Fertilizer entities are in dialogue with the fertilizer entities abroad for establishing Joint Ventures abroad for production of fertilizers/raw materials.

#### **Overcharging by drug companies**

4642. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some drug companies are charging prices more than the prescribed price of drugs; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) As per the provisions of DPCO'1995, NPPA/Government fixes or revises price of scheduled drugs/formulations. No one can sell any scheduled drugs/formulation at a price higher than the price fixed by the NPPA/Government. However, companies have been found to be selling scheduled medicines at a higher price to the consumers than those fixed by the Government/NPPA. In such cases, NPPA initiates action of overcharging against the companies as per para 13 of the DPCO'1995 and the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Based on the detection of overcharged cases during August, 1997 to April, 2010, NPPA has issued demand notices in 746 cases involving an amount of Rs. 2150.43 crore (overcharged amount plus interest thereon). Of this, Rs. 192.04 crore has been realized till 30th April, 2010 leaving a balance of Rs. 1958.39 crore. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 1877.67 crore is under litigation and pending in various courts. The details of companies which indulged in overcharging is available on the website of NPPA i.e. [www.nppaindia.nic.in](http://www.nppaindia.nic.in). Action for recovery of the overcharged amount alongwith interest thereon is a continuous process for which action is taken by NPPA as per the provisions of DPCO, 1995 read with Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

#### **Closed fertilizer factories in Tamil Nadu**

4643. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of chemical and fertilizer factories in Tamil Nadu which are working well in terms of physical and financial performance;

- (b) the reasons for poor performance of certain factories in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) the background leading to the closure of Southern Petrochemical Industries Corporation Ltd. (SPIC); and
- (d) whether there is a move to open it, if so, by when and how?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Following are the fertilizer plants located in the State of Tamil Nadu:—

- (i) M/s Madras Fertilizers Ltd., Manali
- (ii) M/s Coromandel International Ltd., Ennore
- (iii) M/s Southern Petrochemicals Industries Corporation Ltd. (SPIC), Tuticorin
- (iv) M/s Coimbatore Pioneer Fertilizers Ltd., Coimbatore
- (v) M/s Coromandel International Ltd., Ranipet

M/s Madras Fertilizers Ltd. has been declared sick by BIFR on 2.4.2009. The major reasons for the losses of MFL have been as under:—

- (i) High investment in revamping of the Ammonia and Urea Plants between 1993 and 1998 and technology related problems thereafter.
- (ii) Under recovery of the cost of production in respect of NPK complex fertilizers due to the cost formula recommended by the Tariff Commission and implemented by Government of India from April, 2002.
- (iii) Reduction in subsidy amount consequent upon introduction of New Pricing Scheme (IMPS) for Urea from 1.4.2003 and withdrawal of outlier benefit from 1.10.2006.
- (iv) Reduction in credit limits by Commercial Banks due to poor financials.
- (v) Liquidity crisis affecting procurement of raw materials for Urea and NPK and spares for normal maintenance of Plants.

Even though M/S MFL is declared sick by BIFR, the Company is continuing production of urea to its full installed capacity and recently it also started NPK production in small quantities. The other fertilizer units except M/s Southern Petrochemicals Industries Corporation Ltd. (SPIC) have been working well in terms of physical and financial performance.

(c) and (d) The production of SPIC urea plant has remained suspended since April, 2007, mainly due to lower reimbursement of fixed cost. Further, SPIC's expansion planned in petrochemicals as well as a Urea Manufacturing Unit abroad could not progress, which pushed the company into a debt trap, finally resulting in closure of urea plant as well as scaling down of operation of phosphatic fertilizers. Government has amended the policy since April 2009 in such a way that the reduction in fixed cost due to averaging should not be lower

than 10%, which has helped SPIC to recover fixed cost. SPIC was about to start production on 28th April 2010 but due to failure of one of the critical turbines at the time of start up, delayed the process. However, the plant is expected to resume production in another two months time.

#### **Food security to citizens**

†4644. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the foremost responsibility of Government is to provide food security to country's citizens;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) whether Government has decided to make National Food Security Law for the purpose; and
- (d) if so, the time by which Government has decided to implement this law in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The Government is committed to enact a National Food Security Act which, *inter alia*, envisages entitling every family below poverty line to certain quantity of foodgrains each month at subsidized prices. Details of the proposed legislation are being worked out. Once the draft National Food Security Bill is finalized, it would be placed on the website of the Department of Food and Public Distribution for public scrutiny and comments.

#### **Assessment of foodgrains under NFS Bill**

†4645. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering the draft National Food Security Bill;
- (b) if so, whether Government has made assessment of the required quantity of essential foodgrains under this Bill;
- (c) if so, the total quantity of required foodgrains; and
- (d) the additional amount Government would require on the basis of current prices for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The Government is committed to

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

enact a National Food Security Act which, *interalia*, envisages entitling every family below poverty line to certain quantity of foodgrains each month at subsidized prices. The quantity of foodgrains and additional subsidy required are being worked out. Once the draft National Food Security Bill is finalized, it would be placed on the website of the Department of Food and Public Distribution for public scrutiny and comments.

#### **Storage of wheat**

4646. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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

(a) whether in view of sufficient production of wheat this year, Government has admitted that a large quantum of wheat will have to be stored in open spaces for want of proper storage facilities in the country;

(b) if so whether wheat will be stored in Covered and Plinth (CAP) storage facilities in some States;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether storing wheat in covered and plinth facilities in States are prone to damages; and

(e) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to address the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir. Some quantity of wheat will have to be stored in Covered and Plinth (CAP) which is a proven and scientific method of storage.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The storage of wheat in CAP in the major procuring States of Punjab and Haryana during Rabi Marketing Season 2010-11 is given in Statement-I and II (*See below*).

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The following steps are taken for safe and scientific storage in CAP:—

- (i) The Storage in Covered and Plinth storage (CAP), is on elevated pucca plinths and proper scientific code of storage is adopted.
- (ii) Adequate dunnage materials, such as, wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are used to check the migration of moisture from the floor.
- (iii) Covers, nylon ropes, nets and insecticides for control of insects/pests are provided.
- (iv) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments (fumigation) are carried out regularly for the control of insects/pests.

- (v) Effective rat control measures are done.
- (vi) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are undertaken by qualified and trained staff of FCI including senior officers.
- (vii) The principle of “First in First Out” is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in CAP.

***Statement-I***

*Storage Space Scenario for storing wheat by State Agencies*

**Punjab**

(Figures in lakh MT)

Estimated Procurement	92.00
Total CAP Capacity available with Agencies	82.23
Wheat Stocks as on 1.4.2010	41.20
Vacant CAP as on 1.4.2010	41.03
Vacant Covered Space	17.80
Total Vacant Space	58.83
Shortfall of Space	33.17
Anticipated Hiring of CAP during RMS 2010-11	13.00
Anticipated Movement during April/May	9.00
Net Shortfall of Space *(anticipated)	11.17
<b>Haryana</b>	
Estimated Procurement	60.00
Total CAP Capacity available with Agencies	40.64
Wheat Stocks as on 1.4.2010	24.85
Vacant CAP as on 1.4.2010	15.79
Vacant Covered Space	21.60
Total Vacant Space	37.39
Shortfall of Space	22.61
Anticipated Short term Hiring of CAP during RMS 2010-11	11.00
Anticipated Movement during April/May	11.00
Net Shortfall of Space *(anticipated)	0.61

**Statement-II**

*Storage Space Scenario for storing wheat by FCI*

**Punjab**

(Figures in lakh MT)

Estimated Procurement (FCI Share)	23.00
Vacant CAP Capacity as on 1.4.2010	10.50
Covered Godowns not to be used for rice and vacant covered accommodation	4.80
Hiring of CAP	1.44
Plinths under construction in FCI Depots	0.80
Shortfall	5.46
Anticipated Direct Movement from Mandis	4.00
Net Shortfall of Space *(anticipated)	1.46
<b>Haryana</b>	
Estimated Procurement (FCI Share)	10.00
Vacant CAP Capacity as on 1.4.2010	2.73
Vacant Covered Capacity	3.90
Total Capacity	6.63
Shortfall	3.37
Anticipated Direct Movement from Mandis	3.00
Net Shortfall of Space *(anticipated)	0.37

\*Net shortfall of space will be met by using rice mill plinths, mandi yards additional hiring of covered and CAP capacities in procurement as well as consumption States etc.

**Over-consumption by people**

†4647. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:  
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is of the opinion that prices are rising due to over-consumption by people;
- (b) if so, Government's figures regarding people affected with malnutrition; and
- (c) the reasons behind rising prices and the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Rise in domestic prices of certain essential commodities was owing to the combined effect of factors such as shortfall in domestic supplies relative to demand, increase in MSP, hardening of international prices, improvement in income and living standards, changes in consumption pattern, adverse weather and climate change. Market expectations and sentiments also play a major role in price rise. Delayed monsoon as well as floods triggered an expectation of lower production which also contributed to pushing up the price level of food articles.

(b) As per National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-3, 2005-06 conducted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the prevalence of malnutrition is as under:—

- Percentage of under nourished children under 3 years — 40.4
- Percentage of children under 3 years suffering from anaemia — 78.9
- Percentage of underweight children under 5 years — 42.5
- Percentage of children (6-59 months) with anaemia — 69.5
- Percentage of girls (15-19 years) with anaemia — 55.8
- Percentage of women (15-49 years) with anaemia — 55.3
- Percentage of pregnant women (15-49 years) with anaemia — 58.7
- Percentage of women (15-49 years) having Body Mass Index less than 18.5 *i.e.* thin — 35.6

The level of malnutrition among children under three years of age has decreased from 42.7% to 40.4% as revealed in NHFS-3 (2005-06) in comparison to NHFS-2, 1989-99.

(c) The reasons for the rise in prices of essential commodities such as rice, wheat, sugar, pulses, milk, potato and onion during the last one year are as follows:—

- (i) The increase in prices of the rice and wheat can be attributed partly due to the increase in MSP.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) Weather, apart from seasonal factors 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.
- (iv) Domestic prices of pulses rose mainly on account of the supply-demand mismatch and hardening of international prices.
- (v) The increase in cost of milk production due to increase in prices of cattle feed ingredients upto Rs. 4/kg in last one year, and higher consumption of milk in rural areas due to increase in disposable income of rural population as a result of implementation of income and employment generation schemes.

### **Hoarding of pulses and other food-items**

4648. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY:

DR. T.N. SEEMA:

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

(a) whether speculators and hoarders within the country are in league with international operators in driving up prices of pulses and other food items;

(b) whether Enforcement Directorate (ED) has taken up investigation of Rs. 250 crore pulses scam; and

(c) in what way hoarders are able to hoard a huge quantity of pulses without knowledge of Government agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No case relating to speculation and hoarding of pulses and other food items has been reported to the Government.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In view of (a) above, Does not arise.

### **Release of wheat and rice under OMSS**

4649. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it is proposed to release 30 lakh tonnes of wheat and 15 lakh tonnes of rice under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) so as to increase their availability in the open market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these quantities of wheat and rice are enough to meet the requirement of the entire country; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken by Government to meet requirements of the entire country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) 20 lakh tonnes of wheat and 10 lakh tonnes of rice were allotted to States/Union Territories/NAFED/NCCF for distribution to retail consumers under Open Market Sale Scheme for the period October 2009 to March 2010. Another 20.81 lakh tonnes and 5 lakh tonnes of wheat were allocated for sale through tenders to bulk consumers and small processors respectively under the Open Market Sale Scheme through FCI. Statements showing allocation and lifting of wheat and rice under the Scheme are given in Statement-I, II and III (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Lifting position as on 04.5.2010 is as under:—

**Allocation to State Government:**

	Allocation (in lakh tonnes)	Lifting (in lakh tonnes)
Wheat	20.00	4.22
Rice	10.00	5.16

**Allocation to FCI for tender sale:**

Wheat	20.81	12.25
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The tender sale of wheat for bulk consumers in non-wheat procuring States has been extended upto 30th June, 2010. Similarly the validity of lifting period of wheat allocated to State Government for distribution to retail consumers has been extended upto 30th June, 2010 in all North Eastern States, National Capital Territory of Delhi and Jammu and Kashmir. The validity of lifting period of rice allocated to State Government for distribution to retail consumers has been extended upto 30th June, 2010 in all States. Lifting position shows that allocations under the scheme have successfully met the demand.

**Statement-I**

*Details of the consolidated lifting position of wheat released to the bulk consumers under OMSS (D) for October, 2009 — March, 2010*

As on : 04.05.2010

Sl. No.	Zone	Name of FCI Region/ State Government	Allotment (October, 09- March 10)	Quantity approved for sale	Quantity lifted	Quantity left over (Allotment- Approved)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	North	Delhi	247,266	188800	186108	58,466
2.		Chandigarh	21,627	19010	19010	2,617
3.		Punjab	234,732	134283	134283	100,449
4.		Haryana	83,816	70381	69546	13,435
5.		Uttar Pradesh	115,756	68206	68206	47,550
6.		Uttarakhand	60,807	53852.5	53852.5	6,955
7.		Rajasthan	37,596	22845.85	22845.85	14,750
8.		Himachal Pradesh	4,275	0	0	4,275
9.		Jammu and Kashmir	154,238	95345	94578	58,893
		ZONE TOTAL:	960,113	652,723	648,429	307,390

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	South	Tamil Nadu	115,143	61510	61510	53,633
11.		Puducherry	8,430	2900	2900	5,530
12.		Kerala	87,705	64120	62487	23,585
13.		Andhra Pradesh	91,188	54246	54246	36,942
14.		Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	—	—	—
15.		Lakshadweep	0	—	—	—
16.		Karnataka	200,754	131237	131237	69,517
		ZONE TOTAL :	503,220	314,013	312,380	189,207
17.	East	Bihar	12,950	4600	4600	8,350
18.		West Bengal	126,618	54700	54699.96	71,918
19.		Sikkim	584	0	0	584
20.		Orissa	59,760	31070	31070	28,690
21.		Jharkhand	11,096	8346	8346	2,750
		ZONE TOTAL :	211,008	98,716	98,716	112,292
22.	North-East	Assam	85065	12500	12500	72,565
23.		Arunachal Pradesh	0	—	—	—
24.		Meghalaya	0	—	—	—
25.		Tripura	0	—	—	—
26.		Mizoram	0	—	—	—
27.		Nagaland	0	—	—	—
28.		Manipur	0	—	—	—
		ZONE TOTAL :	85,065	12,500	12,500	72,565
29.	West	Maharashtra	247,390	116632	115702	130,758
30.		Goa	6,321	4400	3720	1,921
31.		Madhya Pradesh	43024	22200	22200	20,824
32.		Chhattisgarh	12,236	6336	6336	5,900
33.		Gujarat	13,058	5458	5458	7,600
34.		Daman and Diu	0	-	-	-
35.		Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	-	-	-
		ZONE TOTAL :	322,029	155,026	153,416	167,003
		GRAND TOTAL :	2,081,435	1,232,978	1,225,441	848,457

\*The small processors lifting position treated as NIL.

**Statement-II**

*Lifting position of wheat by State/UT Governments/NAFED/NCCF for Distribution to retail consumers  
under OMSS (D) for October, 2009 — March, 2010*

As on: 04.05.2010 (Qty. in MT)

Sl. No.	Zone	Name of the State/ UT	State/UT Government				Lifting	NAFED		NCCF		Total	Total
			Allotment Oct., 09 to Dec., 09	Allotment Jan., 10 to March, 10	Total Allotment	OMSS (D) Rate (in Rs. qtl.)		Allotment	Lifting	Allotment	Lifting	Allotment	Lifting
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	North	Delhi	80481	80481	160962	1113.47	90653	7700		12631.57	5494	181293.57	96147
2.		Chandigarh	0	0	0	1099.28	0					0	0
3.		Punjab	88982	88982	177964	1099.28	0					177964	0
4.		Haryana	19522	19522	39044	1099.28	0			4210.52		43254.52	0
5.		Uttar Pradesh	51518	51518	103036	1145.63	0	1100		2105.26		106241.26	0
6.		Uttarakhand	26477	26477	52954	1120.74	0			10.52		52964.52	0
7.		Rajasthan	86932	86932	173864	1133.48	138753	1100				174964	138753
8.		Himachal Pradesh @	49523	49523	99046	@ 1169.17	11284					99046	11284
9.		Jammu and Kashmir	40264	40264	80528	1109.54	36511			1052.63		81580.63	36511
		ZONE TOTAL:	443699	443699	887398		277201	9900	0	20010.5	5494	917308.5	282695

10.	South	Tamil Nadu	30893	30893	61786	1260.74	34540	3300				65086	34540
11.		Puducherry	380	380	760	1269.81	0					760	0
12.		Kerala	40660	40660	81320	1295.74	23634					81320	23634
13.		Andhra Pradesh	8239	8239	16478	1239.56	0	2200				18678	0
14.		Andaman and Nicobar Islands	798	798	1596	1499.03	0					1596	0
15.		Lakshadweep	0	250	250	1359.76	0					250	0
16.		Karnataka	18032	18032	36064	1266.43	3033	2200				38264	3033
ZONE TOTAL :			99002	99252	198254		61207	7700	0	0	0	205954	61207
17.	East	Bihar	5332	5332	10664	1186.06	440.1	1100				11764	440.1
18.		West Bengal	182990	182990	365980	1220.63	0	6600		3157.89		375737.89	0
19.		Sikkim \$	738	738	1476	\$1278.93	638					1476	638
20.		Orissa	31807	31807	63614	1238.31	0			2105.26		65719.26	0
21.		Jharkhand	3149	3149	6298	1211.60	0			1052.63		7350.63	0
ZONE TOTAL :			224016	224016	448032		1078.1	7700	0	6315.78	0	462047.78	1078.1
22.	North-East	Assam	66247	66247	132494	1233.52	34179					132494	34179
23.		Arunachal Pradesh %	1535	1535	3070	%1330.50	0					3070	0
24.		Meghalaya	3677	3677	7354	1284.78	3677					7354	3677
25.		Tripura #	4472	4472	8944	#1341.69	0					8944	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
26.		Mizoram	1885	1885	3770	1324.55	2036					3770	2036
27.		Nagaland	7572	7572	15144	1268.73	1000					15144	1000
28.		Manipur	3162	3162	6324	1393.63	0					6324	0
		ZONE TOTAL :	88550	88550	177100		40892	0	0	0	0	177100	40892
29.	West	Maharashtra	68267	68267	136534	1217.03	2591	8800		4210.52	5	149544.52	2596
30.		Goa	1604	1604	3208	1259.73	1604					3208	1604
31.		Madhya Pradesh	53885	53885	107770	1170.00	14917	1100		2105.26		110975.26	14917
32.		Chhattisgarh	4939	4939	9878	1224.14	1090					9878	1090
33.		Gujarat	15991	15991	31982	1178.05	15991	2200		42.1		34224.1	15991
34.		Daman and Diu	0	0	0	1237.26	0					0	0
35.		Dadra and Nagar Haveli *	45	45	90	*1233.27	90					90	90
		ZONE TOTAL :	144731	144731	289462		36283	12100	0	6357.88	5	307919.88	36288
		GRAND TOTAL :	999998	1000248	2000246		416661.1	37400	0	32684.16	5499	2070330.2	422160.1

\*For Dadra and Nagar Haveli the rate from October, 09 to 03.12.09 was Rs. 1220.62 per Qtls.

#For Tripura the rate from October, 09 to 24.12.09 was Rs. 1342.22 per Qtls. \

@ For Himachal Pradesh the rate upto 03.01.10 was Rs. 1154.12 per Qtls.

\$For Sikkim the rate upto 31.12.09 Rs. 1260.15 per Qtls.

%For Arunachal Pradesh the rate upto 31.12.09 Rs. 1288.50 per Qtls.

**Statement-III**

*Lifting position of rice by State/UT Governments/NAFED/NCCF for Distribution to retail consumers  
under OMSS (D) for October, 2009 — March, 2010*

As on: 04.05.2010 (Qty. in MT)

Sl. No.	Zone	Name of the State/ UT	State/UT Government Allotment Oct., 09 to Dec., 09	State/UT Government Allotment Jan., 10 to March, 10	Total Allotment	Lifting	NAFED Allotment	Lifting	NCCF Allotment	Lifting	Total Allotment	Total Lifting
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	North	Delhi	8361	8361	16722	0	3500		4000	0	24222	0
2.		Chandigarh	0	0	0	0					0	0
3.		Punjab	0	0	0	0					0	0
4.		Haryana	0	0	0	0			4000		4000	0
5.		Uttar Pradesh	1593	1593	3186	0	500		2000		5686	0
6.		Uttarakhand	2196	2196	4392	0					4392	0
7.		Rajasthan	39	39	78	39	500				578	39
8.		Himachal Pradesh	8780	8780	17560	4064					17560	4064
9.		Jammu and Kashmir	24684	24684	49368	39941					49368	39941
ZONE TOTAL :			45653	45653	91306	44044	4500	0	10000	0	105806	44044



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10.	South	Tamil Nadu	126422	126422	252844	252844	1500				254344	252844
11.		Puducherry	4	4	8	0					8	0
12.		Kerala	25675	25675	51350	13650					51350	13650
13.		Andhra Pradesh	152753	152753	305506	152334	1000				306506	152334
14.		Andaman and Nicobar Islands	650	650	1300	0					1300	0
15.		Lakshadweep	206	206	412	206					412	206
16.		Karnataka	59215	59215	118430	41848	1000				119430	41848
		ZONE TOTAL:	364925	364925	729850	460882	3500	0	0	0	733350	460882
17.	East	Bihar	2	2	4	0	500				504	0
18.		West Bengal	7963	7963	15926	0	3000				18926	0
19.		Sikkim	1897	1897	3794	0					3794	0
20.		Orissa	704	704	1408	0					1408	0
21.		Jharkhand	20	20	40	0					40	0
		ZONE TOTAL:	10586	10586	21172	0	3500	0	0	0	24672	0
22.	North-East	Assam	41508	41508	83016	74					83016	74
23.		Arunachal Pradesh	3674	3674	7348	0					7348	0

24.	Meghalaya	4476	4476	8952	0					8952	0
25.	Tripura	10368	10368	20736	0					20736	0
26.	Mizoram	3549	3549	7098	7098					7098	7098
27.	Nagaland	5871	5871	11742	0					11742	0
28.	Manipur	2756	2756	5512	2711					5512	2711
ZONE TOTAL:		72202	72202	144404	9883	0	0	0	0	144404	9883
29. West	Maharashtra	3210	3210	6420	100	4000		1000	5	11420	105
30.	Goa	1406	1406	2812	0					2812	0
31.	Madhya Pradesh	351	351	702	6.5	500				1202	6.5
32.	Chhattisgarh	960	960	1920	0					1920	0
33.	Gujarat	600	600	1200	1200	1000				2200	1200
34.	Daman and Diu	7	7	14	0					14	0
35.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	100	100	200	200					200	200
ZONE TOTAL:		6634	6634	13268	1506.5	5500	0	1000	5	19768	1511.5
GRAND TOTAL:		500000	500000	1000000	516316	17000	0	11000	5	1028000	516320.5

*Rates for sale of rice to State/UT Governments under open  
market sale scheme (D) for the month of October upto 05.11.2009*

OMSS (D) rate for for Raw Rice Grade 'A'	OMSS (D) rate for Raw Rice Common	OMSS (D) rate for Parboiled Rice Grade 'A'	OMSS (D) rate for Parboiled Rice Common
1540.06	1495.28	1518.55	1474.43
<b>Revised rates for sale of rice w.e.f. 06.11.2009</b>			
<b>Upto 12.04.2010</b>			
1614.68	1569.91	1592.08	1547.96
<b>Revised rates for sale of rice w.e.f. 13.04.2010</b>			
1585.55	1540.78	1562.95	1518.13

**Open Market Sale Scheme**

4650. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has been decided that wheat and rice under Open Market Sale Scheme would be distributed to retail customers by State Governments through their cooperative network;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether wheat and rice would be sold to traders by cooperative network or whether it would be sold to consumers directly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) 20 lakh tonnes of wheat and 10 lakh tonnes of rice were allotted under Open Market Sales Scheme (Domestic) to States/Union Territories/NAFED/NCCF for distribution to retail consumers through their own corporations/cooperatives/federations/self-help groups or any other Government or Semi Government Organizations. Sale of wheat and rice to dealer/wholesaler/trader was not permitted under this scheme. Statements showing allocation and lifting of wheat and rice under the Scheme are given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement-I and II appended to Answer to USQ No. 4649 Part (a) and (b)].

**Audit on Public Distribution System**

4651. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether C&AG has decided to carry out an audit of the Public Distribution System (PDS) to check for leakages that prevent essential commodities from reaching the actual beneficiaries;

- (b) if so, the details of the C&AG report in this regard;
- (c) whether, in view of C&AG report, Government proposes to overhaul the PDS in the country; 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) The office of Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) conducts periodical audit of the Department of Food and Civil Supplies of the various State Governments. The C&AG submitted a report in respect of Karnataka State on a performance audit of the Public Distribution System during the year 2008-09. The C&AG, *inter-alia*, have recommended that the State Government should prescribe suitable socio-economic/income criteria to identify and cover only the eligible BPL families under the PDS and weed out ineligible beneficiaries in time-bound manner. The State Government should ensure that the departmental officers conduct inspections of wholesale godowns and fair price shops regularly as prescribed to prevent irregularities. Computerization of wholesale godowns and fair price shops should be expedited to ensure proper documentation and reporting of PDS transactions. The working of Vigilance Committees and Food Security Committees should also be made effective to ensure timely delivery of right quantity and quality of commodities to beneficiaries.

(c) and (d) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is implemented jointly by Government of India and State/Union Territory (UT) Governments with sharing of responsibilities in this regard. The Central Government has taken the responsibility for procurement, storage, transportation and bulk allocation of foodgrains to the States and UTs. The responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within State/UT, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families based on estimates of Planning Commission, issuance of ration cards to them and distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible ration card holders through fair price shops and supervision of the functioning of Fair Price Shops, etc., rest with the State/UT Governments.

Public Distribution System (Control) Order 2001 mandates the State and UT Governments to carry out all required action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS. To improve functioning of TPDS, State/UT Governments have been requested to:—

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

### **Shortage of sugar**

4652. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to import one million tonne of ready-to-eat white sugar through State-owned trading companies for sale to local consumers at subsidized rates;

(b) if so, whether this decision was taken amid growing concerns that India's sugar production may not fully recover even in the next season beginning October;

(c) if so, whether Indian sugar output and consumption in 2009-10 has been estimated 14.5 million tonnes and 22.7 million tonnes respectively; and

(d) if so, the estimated shortage of sugar during 2010-11 and the steps Government considers to take to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The revised estimates of sugar production and consumption of sugar in 2009-10 sugar season (October — September) are over 180 lac tons and about 225 lac tonnes respectively.

(d) It is too early to estimate sugar production during 2010-11 sugar season. However, the preliminary indications are that there unlikely to be any shortage of sugar in 2010-11 sugar season. As such, the question of taking steps to meet the shortage situation in 2010-11 sugar season does not arise at this stage.

### **Rejection of draft National Food Security Bill**

4653. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether members of the Right to Food Campaign rejected the proposed draft of the National Food Security Bill that promise 25 kg. of foodgrains a month at Rs. 3 per kg. to each family living below poverty line and urged Prime Minister to come up with a bill that covers every adult resident of the country under the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, whether this suggestion has been considered by the Prime Minister; and

(c) if so, to what extent that has been accepted and by when the proposed legislation is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The Government is committed to

the enactment of the National Food Security Act which, *inter-alia*, envisages entitling every family below the poverty line to a certain quantity of foodgrains each month at subsidized prices. The members of the Right to Food Campaign have highlighted issues like, *inter-alia*, reduction of entitlements, need to create multiple entitlements, need to universalize the entitlement to food and the need to create an enabling environment for promoting food production. The details of the NFS Bill are still being worked out and the draft NFS Bill is yet to be finalised. Once the draft National Food Security Bill is finalised, it would be placed on the website of the Department of Food and Public Distribution for public scrutiny and comments.

#### **Import of edible oil**

4654. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 20 lakh tonnes of edible oil is proposed to be imported;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The import of edible oils (except coconut oil) is allowed under Open General Licence (OGL). In order to provide relief to the consumers from rising prices, the Government had launched a Scheme for Distribution of upto one million tons of subsidized imported edible oils through States/UTs during 2008-09 at a subsidy @ Rs. 15/kg. which was increased to Rs. 25/- per kg. from January to March, 2009. The designated PSUs namely PEC, STC, MMTC and NAFED had placed orders for import of 3.60 lakh tons of edible oils out of which about 2.61 lakh tons had been distributed to various States/UTs by Central PSUs for distribution to ration card holders @ 1 kg. per ration card per month till 31.03.2009.

The Scheme has been extended on 30.07.2009 and further on 13.01.2010 with a subsidy of Rs. 15/- per kg. and PEC, STC, MMTC, NAFED and NCCF have been authorized to import upto 10 lakh tons of oils upto 31.10.2010. So far, fourteen State Governments/UTs have been allocated edible oil under the Scheme. As on 30.04.2010, a quantity of 2,59,000 MTs of edible oils has been contracted, out of which about 2,14,517 MTs have been landed in the country and about 1,97,401 MTs of edible oil have been handed over to the States/UTs for distribution.

#### **Proposed Food Security Bill**

4655. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Food Security Bill, in its present form, provides 'too little for too few' and falls short of original promises made in the UPA Government's Manifesto 'Right to food law

guarantees access to sufficient food for all, particularly the most vulnerable section of the society’;

(b) whether the present Bill also down sizes people’s food entitlements from 35 kg. to 25 kg. and not clear in its estimate of the number of BPL families; and

(c) if so, by when the Bill is expected to be re-drafted and brought before Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The Government is committed to enact a National Food Security Act which, *inter-alia*, envisages entitling every family below poverty line to certain quantity of foodgrains each month at subsidized prices. Details of the proposed legislation are being worked out. Once the draft National Food Security Bill is finalized, it would be placed on the website of the Department of Food and Public Distribution for public scrutiny and comments.

#### **People living Below Poverty Line**

†4656. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government’s own agencies are presenting varied figures on the percentage of people living Below the Poverty Line in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the percentage figures of the BPL families, Government would make a focal point, in the case of implementation of Food Security Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Planning Commission is the Nodal agency of the Government of India for estimating poverty at National and State levels. The Planning Commission constituted an Expert Group to review the Methodology for estimation of poverty. The Expert Group has submitted its report, which is under examination in the Planning Commission. Other reports submitted by the Expert Groups setup by Ministry of Rural Development and the National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector have also given their estimation of poverty.

The proposed National Food Security law envisages, *inter-alia*, entitling every family below the poverty line to a certain quantity of foodgrains each month at subsidized prices. Details of the proposed legislation are being worked out. Once the draft National Food Security Bill is finalized, it would be placed on the website of the Department of Food and Public Distribution for public scrutiny and comments.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

### Arrangement for stocking of wheat

†4657. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is sufficient arrangement for stocking of wheat in the godowns of Food Corporation of India;

(b) the number of such godowns of Food Corporation of India in which wheat has been stored in excess of their capacity and the number of tonnes of wheat that has been spoiled due to lack of maintenance; and

(c) whether any plan has been formulated by Food Corporation of India to construct new godowns, if so, the number of new godowns that will be constructed in the year 2010-11?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) At present storage gap is observed in the major procuring States on account of expected higher arrival of new rabi wheat crop. The storage gap in Punjab and Haryana is estimated at 12.63 lakh tonnes and 1.04 lakh tonnes respectively. Executive Directors (Zone), FCI have been delegated full powers to hire Covered and Plinth (CAP) capacities from private parties for 3 years extendable by 2 years as per the need/requirement. Additional space, if required, will be hired from Rice mills/Sugar mills/Mandi yards.

(b) In view of the storage gap in the major procuring States, directions have been issued to the field offices to optimally utilize the existing capacity. The State-wise percentage utilization of the available capacity as on 15.4.2010 is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

Periodical maintenance of storage godowns are carried out to maintain them in storage worthy condition. No wheat has been spoiled due to lack of maintenance.

(c) For the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission has allocated Rs. 125 crore to be released as equity to FCI for construction of godowns. The ongoing projects of FCI is given in Statement-II (*See below*).

For creation of storage capacity for the long term, Government has formulated a scheme for construction of storage godowns through private entrepreneurs, under a 7 year guarantee. A capacity totaling 127.65 lakh tonnes has been approved under the scheme. Further, Central Warehousing Corporation and State Warehousing Corporations can construct godowns at approved locations under the Scheme on their own land for which FCI will provide a 6 year guarantee.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



**Statement-I**

*The State-wise storage capacity with F.C.I. as on 15.04.2010*

(Fig. in lac tonnes)

Zone	Sl. No.	Region/U.T.	Covered					Total			Cap		Grand total	Stocks held	Utiliza- tion (%age)
			FCI Owned	State Govt.	CWC	Hired SWC	Private Parties	Total Hired	covered	Owned	Hired	Total			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	13	14	15
East	1.	Bihar	3.66	0.03	0.62	0.97	0.47	2.09	5.75	0.97	0.00	0.97	6.72	4.62	69
	2.	Jharkhand	0.66	0.03	0.13	0.15	0.20	0.51	1.17	0.02	0.00	0.02	1.19	1.01	85
	3.	Orissa	2.93	0.00	0.66	2.57	0.15	3.38	6.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.31	3.76	60
	4.	West Bengal	8.59	0.19	0.85	0.00	0.88	1.92	10.51	0.51	0.00	0.51	11.02	8.12	74
	5.	Sikkim	0.10	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.08	73
TOTAL (E. ZONE):			15.94	0.26	2.26	3.69	1.70	7.91	23.85	1.50	0.00	1.50	25.35	17.59	69
N.E.	6.	Assam	2.07	0.00	0.18	0.11	0.37	0.66	2.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.73	1.94	71
	7.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.18	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.21	0.11	52
	8.	Meghalaya	0.14	0.00	0.07	0.05	0.00	0.12	0.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.26	0.13	50
	9.	Mizoram	0.22	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.23	0.14	61
	10.	Tripura	0.29	0.05	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.51	0.35	69

	11. Manipur	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.17	85
	12. Nagaland	0.20	0.00	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.26	79
	TOTAL (N.E.Z.):	3.30	0.09	0.55	0.16	0.37	1.17	4.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.47	3.10	69
North	13. Delhi 1	3.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.36	0.31	0.00	0.31	3.67	1.83	50
	14. Haryana	7.68	4.07	2.91	5.22	2.34	14.54	22.22	3.33	0.17	3.50	25.72	18.67	73
	15. Himachal Pradesh	0.14	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.26	0.22	85
	16. Jammu and Kashmir	1.03	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.28	1.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.31	0.93	71
	17. Punjab	21.17	0.33	3.49	35.46	4.31	43.59	64.76	6.36	3.21	9.57	74.33	58.88	79
	18. Chandigarh	1.07	0.00	0.71	0.84	0.00	1.55	2.62	0.18	0.16	0.34	2.96	2.39	81
	19. Rajasthan	7.06	0.00	1.43	2.85	1.88	6.16	13.22	1.82	1.32	3.14	16.36	17.61	108
	20. Uttar Pradesh	14.95	0.07	2.26	3.85	0.23	6.41	21.36	5.20	0.10	5.30	26.66	15.93	60
	21. Uttarakhand	0.66	0.30	0.50	0.56	0.05	1.41	2.07	0.16	0.14	0.30	2.37	2.11	89
	TOTAL (N.Z.):	57.12	4.98	11.36	48.78	8.94	74.06	131.18	17.36	5.10	22.46	153.64	118.57	77
South	22. Andhra Pradesh	12.66	0.04	5.61	16.73	1.05	23.43	36.09	2.62	0.00	2.62	38.71	36.03	93
	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
	24. Kerala	5.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.17	0.20	0.00	0.20	5.37	4.73	88

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	13	14	15
	25.	Karnataka	3.78	0.00	1.76	1.38	0.25	3.39	7.17	1.16	0.00	1.16	8.33	7.35	88
	26.	Tamil Nadu	5.80	0.00	2.35	0.50	0.57	3.42	9.22	0.56	0.00	0.56	9.78	9.55	98
	27.	Pondicherry	0.44	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.10	0.54	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.59	0.56	95
	TOTAL (S.Z.):		27.92	0.04	9.77	18.66	1.87	30.34	58.26	4.59	0.00	4.59	62.85	58.25	93
West	28.	Gujarat	5.00	0.14	1.42	0.00	0.00	1.56	6.56	0.27	0.00	0.27	6.83	6.71	98
	29.	Maharashtra 3	11.77	0.13	2.46	2.44	2.26	7.29	19.06	1.02	0.00	1.02	20.08	14.66	73
	30.	Goa	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.12	80
	31.	Madhya Pradesh	3.37	0.41	1.70	1.74	2.31	6.16	9.53	0.35	0.00	0.35	9.88	8.65	88
	32.	Chhattisgarh	5.12	0.18	0.71	2.33	0.16	3.38	8.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.50	5.89	69
	TOTAL (W.Z.):		25.41	0.86	6.29	6.51	4.73	18.39	43.80	1.64	0.00	1.64	45.44	36.03	79
	GRAND TOTAL:		129.69	6.23	30.23	77.80	17.61	131.87	261.56	25.09	5.10	30.19	291.75	233.54	80

**Statement-II**

*Details of ongoing projects with FCI*

Sl. No.	Centre/State	Capacity (in MTs)
<b>North East Region</b>		
1.	Changasari/Assam	50,000
2.	Hailakandi/Assam	5,000
3.	Kohima/Nagaland	5,000
4.	Nandannagar/Tripura	2,500
5.	Jiribam/Manipur	2,500
6.	Senapati/Manipur	5,000
7.	Churachandpur/Manipur	2,500
8.	Jorthang/Sikkim	5,000
<b>Other than NE Region</b>		
1.	Lakshadweep/UT	2,500
2.	Dungrapally/Orissa	10,000
3.	Baripada/Orissa	10,000
4.	Mohania/Bihar	25,000
5.	Udhampur/Jammu and Kashmir	15,000
6.	Budgam/Jammu and Kashmir	20,000

**Implementation of NFSA with present BPL cards**

4658. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to continue with the 10.76 crore of BPL cards issued by various States for implementation of the Food Security Act; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The Government is committed to enact a National Food Security Act which, *inter-alia*, envisages entitling every family below poverty line to certain quantity of foodgrains each month at subsidized prices. Details of the proposed legislation are being worked out. Once the draft National Food Security Bill is finalized, it would be placed on the website of the Department of Food and Public Distribution for public scrutiny and comments.

### **Proper storage facility**

4659. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large quantum of wheat is getting spoiled due to non-availability of proper storage facilities with the Food Corporation of India;
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (c) whether any on the spot probe has been conducted to find out the causes of neglect by FCI authorities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the corrective steps Government proposes to take to protect the wheat from getting spoiled due to unsafe storing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Large quantities of wheat are not getting spoilt in FCI. However, small quantities of wheat get damaged (non-issuable) due to various reasons such as, heavy rains, floods, pests, rodents etc. The quantity of wheat damaged in the year 2009-10 was 2010 tonnes. The Region-wise detail is given in Statement (See below).

(c) On the spot probe is conducted by Vigilance Squad Division on specific reports revealing vigilance angle.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The following steps are taken for safe storage of foodgrains in covered and in Covered and Plinth (CAP):—

- (i) All FCI godowns are constructed as per specifications. Covered and plinth storage (CAP), is on elevated pucca plinths.
- (ii) Foodgrains are stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices.
- (iii) Adequate dunnage materials, such as; wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are used in covered and CAP storage to check the migration of moisture from the floor.
- (iv) Covers, nylon ropes, nets and insecticides for control of insects/pests are provided in all the godowns/CAP storage.
- (v) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments (fumigation) are carried out regularly for the control of insects/ pests.
- (vi) Effective rat control measures, both in covered godowns as well as in CAP storage is done.
- (vii) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are undertaken by qualified and trained staff of FCI including senior officers.
- (viii) The principle of “First in First Out” is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns/CAP storage.

- (ix) Only covered wagons are used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damages during transit.

**Statement**

*Region-wise stock of Wheat accrued as non-issuable (damaged)  
during the year 2009-10*

(Fig. in MTs)

Sl. No.	Region	Wheat
1.	Bihar	655
2.	Jharkhand	13
3.	Orissa	0
4.	West Bengal	325
5.	Assam	0
6.	NEF	0
7.	Nagaland and Mizoram	0
8.	Delhi	3
9.	Haryana	0
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	0
12.	Punjab	0
13.	Rajasthan	12
14.	Uttar Pradesh	12
15.	Uttarakhand	0
16.	Andhra Pradesh	0
17.	Kerala	0
18.	Karnataka	0
19.	Tamil Nadu	0
20.	Gujarat	785
21.	Maharashtra	173
22.	Madhya Pradesh	28
23.	Chhattisgarh	4
TOTAL:		2010

### Exemption from minimum standards maintenance

4660. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some items used in industry such as switch gears have been exempted from the test of minimum standards maintenance;
- (b) if so, the reasons behind this decision; and
- (c) the list of such items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion *vide* Electrical Wires, Cables, Appliances and Protection Devices and Accessories (Quality Control) Order, 2003 published in the official gazette *vide* S.O. 189(E) dated 17th February, 2003 had brought 24 electrical items including low voltage switchgears under mandatory certification of Bureau of Indian Standards. Subsequently, that Department *vide* its notification published in the official gazette *vide* S.O. 165(E) dated 5th February, 2004 had deleted the following switchgears and control gears from the Quality Control Order on the ground that these items are not used by the common man but are mainly for industrial purposes:—

- |    |   |                 |
|----|---|-----------------|
| 1. | Low voltage switchgear and control gear (Pt.2)<br>circuit breakers  | IS 13947 (Pt.2) |
| 2. | Low voltage switchgear and control gear (Pt.3)<br>switches, disconnectors, switch disconnectors and<br>fuse combination units | IS 13947 (Pt.3) |
| 3. | Low voltage switchgear and control gear (Pt.4)<br>contactors and motor starters   | IS 13947 (Pt.4) |
| 4. | Low voltage switchgear and control gear (Pt.5)<br>control circuit devices and switching elements                              | IS 13947 (Pt.5) |

### Allocation of APL quota of rice to Tamil Nadu

4661. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the allocation of rice to Tamil Nadu for the Above Poverty Line (APL) families from the Central pool under PDS for the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) whether the allocation is having a downward trend;
- (c) if so, the reasons for reduction of APL quota of rice to the State which has affected the APL card holders of the State;
- (d) whether Government proposes to increase the allocation of rice to the State; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) The allocation of rice made for the Above Poverty Line (APL) category under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for Tamil Nadu during the last three years are as under:—

(in lakh tons)

Year	Allocation
2007-08	27.11
2008-09	15.15
2009-10	15.15

The allocations of foodgrains, including rice, for APL category under the TPDS to States and UTs, including the State of Tamil Nadu, are made on the basis of availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and their past offtake. 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 Tamil Nadu, for the APL category was rationalized from April, 2007 and again from April, 2008 on the basis of past offtake and availability of stocks in the Central Pool. Presently, these allocations range between 10 kg and 35 kg per family per month in different States/UTs.

During 2010-11, Tamil Nadu has been allocated 126,255 tons of rice in addition to 13,783 tons of wheat per month for APL families. In addition, from time to time additional allocations have been made to the State as indicated below:—

- (i) On the request of the State Government, an allocation of 1.80 lakh tons of rice was made at economic cost in July, 2009.
- (ii) A Special adhoc allocation of 250314 tons of rice, and 27,326 ton of wheat (@ 10 kg per family) for all accepted families under TPDS including APL families has been made at MSP based price for the months of January and February, 2010 with validity for lifting upto 31st May, 2010.
- (iii) Under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS), Government has released 252,844 tons of rice and 65,086 tons of wheat for distribution to retail consumers of the State during October, 2009 to March, 2010.
- (iv) On the request of the State Government, an additional allocation of 2.50 lakh tons of rice and 65,000 tons of wheat have been made to the State under OMSS on 4.5.2010.



### Violation of norms during procurement of foodgrains

4662. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any mechanism to check the procurement of foodgrains as per the Fair Average Quality (FAQ) norms;

(b) if so, the details of the cases of violations of such norms reported during 2008-09 and 2009-10, so far, in various parts of the country, State-wise;

(c) whether Government has made any investigations for violation of the norms and procurement of substandard quality foodgrains during the said period;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the action taken against the persons found responsible for such violation of norms during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India formulates the uniform specifications (norms) of foodgrains before commencement of every Rabi/Kharif Marketing Season. Food Corporation of India (FCI) and agencies of the State Governments procure foodgrains strictly conforming to the uniform specifications laid down by the Government. Technical staff of Quality Control Division of FCI and State Governments are posted at the procurement centres to check the quality of foodgrains at the time of procurement.

(b) The quantity detected as Below Rejection Limit (BRL) by various squads is annexed, as informed by Food Corporation of India (FCI) is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) to (e) As informed by FCI, the number of officials held responsible for procurement of substandard foodgrains are as follows:—

Sl. No.	Year	No. of officials against whom action has been initiated	Action taken	Pending action
1.	2008-09	575	443	132
2.	2009-10	846	279	567
TOTAL:		1421	722	699

The details of the action taken against the persons held responsible, are as under:—

1.	Reduction in rank/reduction in time scale	116
2.	Penalty of withholding annual increments	3
3.	Recovery from pay and terminal benefits	341
4.	Censure/Warning	204
5.	Exoneration/others	58

**Statement**

*Year-wise quantity detected as BRL by various squads, (upto February, 10)*

Fig. in lakh MTs

Sl. No.	Region	2008-09	2009-10
1.	Bihar	*	—
2.	Jharkhand	—	0.001
3.	Orissa	* *	
4.	West Bengal	—	—
5.	Andhra Pradesh	0.01	0.002
6.	Karnataka	—	—
7.	Tamil Nadu	—	—
8.	Kerala	—	—
9.	Haryana	0.27	0.01
10.	Punjab	0.69	0.11
11.	Delhi	—	—
12.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—
13.	Rajasthan	—	—
14.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	—	—
16.	Uttarakhand	—	—
17.	Maharashtra	0.02	0.01
18.	Gujarat	—	—
19.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—
20.	Chhattisgarh	—	—
21.	Assam	—	—
22.	Nagaland and Mizoram	—	—
23.	NEF	—	—

\* Bihar — One case of BRL rice was reported during KMS 2008-09 at SWC Raxaul.

\* \* Orissa — Four cases of BRL detected during 2008-09 and 2009-10. Stocks detected as BRL were replaced/issued out without any loss to the corporation.

#### **Difference between procurement and imported price of wheat**

‡4663. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the procurement price of wheat fixed by Government and the cost of imported wheat;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the rate of imported wheat is approximately Rs. 500 per quintal more than domestic procurement price of wheat;
- (c) if so, whether Government will give the same price to farmers of the country at which wheat is being imported from abroad; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by Government for procurement of wheat in RMS 2010-11 is Rs. 1100/- per quintal. The landed cost of imported wheat from Australia is Rs. 1105.20 per quintal at Tuticorin port excluding other charges. The landed cost of imported wheat from USA at Indian ports is Rs. 1222.70 per quintal excluding other charges.#

(c) and (d) No, Sir. At present the stock position of wheat at Central Pool is comfortable, hence, the import of wheat is not required for Central Pool. Nevertheless, the MSP of wheat for RMS 2010-11 is Rs. 1100/- per quintal, which is considered to be remunerative. A quantity of 204.43 lakh tonnes of wheat has already been procured, as on 5.5.2010 in RMS 2010-11, at this price.

#Source: NCMSL wheat monitor of 4th May, 2010.

#### **Allocation of foodgrains to BPL card holders**

‡4664. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to curtail the State-wise allocation of foodgrains for BPL card holders;
- (b) if so, the details of extent of reduction made in allocation of foodgrains during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (c) the number of BPL card holders and details of supply of foodgrains during last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), allocations of foodgrains are made @ 35 kg per family per month for all 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, including 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in the country accepted for allocation on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission projected on March, 2000 population estimates of

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Registrar General of India or the number of families actually identified and ration cards issued by the State/Union Territory Governments, whichever is less. There is no proposal to curtail the above level of allocation to BPL including AAY families.

The State-wise details of the accepted number of BPL and AAY of families for allocation, as on 1.3.2000, and actual number of BPL and AAY ration cards issued by the State/UT Governments, as on 31.3.2010 are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

The State-wise details of allocations and offtake of foodgrains (rice and wheat) for the BPL/AAY families during the last three years are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

**Statement-I**

*Details of BPL and AAY ration cards issued by the State and UT Governments  
Vs households based on the poverty estimates of 1993-94 projected on the  
population estimates of March, 2000*

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of BPL households as on 1.3.2000 (in lakh)	Ration cards issued by State/UT Governments as on 31.3.2010 (in lakh)		
			BPL	AAY	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40.63	185.96	15.58	201.54
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.99	0.61	0.38	0.99
3.	Assam	18.36	12.02	7.04	19.06
4.	Bihar	65.23	39.94	24.29	64.23
5.	Chhattisgarh	18.75	11.56	7.19	18.75
6.	Delhi	4.09	1.90	1.50	3.40
7.	Goa	0.48	0.13	0.14	0.27
8.	Gujarat	21.20	26.72	8.10	34.82
9.	Haryana	7.89	9.04	2.92	11.96
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5.14	3.17	1.97	5.14
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.36	4.80	2.56	7.36
12.	Jharkhand	23.94	14.76	9.18	23.94
13.	Karnataka	31.29	90.14	12.00	102.14
14.	Kerala	15.54	14.60	5.96	20.56
15.	Madhya Pradesh	41.25	52.65	15.82	68.47
16.	Maharashtra	65.34	45.73	24.64	70.37

1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	Manipur	1.66	1.02	0.64	1.66
18.	Meghalaya	1.83	1.13	0.70	1.83
19.	Mizoram	0.68	0.42	0.26	0.68
20.	Nagaland	1.24	0.77	0.47	1.24
21.	Orissa	32.98	37.90	12.65	50.55
22.	Punjab	4.68	2.89	1.79	4.68
23.	Rajasthan	24.31	16.53	9.32	25.85
24.	Sikkim	0.43	0.27	0.16	0.43
25.	Tamil Nadu*	48.63	179.64	18.65	198.29
26.	Tripura	2.95	1.82	1.13	2.95
27.	Uttar Pradesh	106.79	65.84	40.95	106.79
28.	Uttarakhand	4.98	3.46	1.51	4.97
29.	West Bengal	51.79	38.11	14.80	52.91
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.28	0.13	0.04	0.17
31.	Chandigarh	0.23	0.09	0.02	0.11
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.18	0.12	0.05	0.17
33.	Daman and Diu	0.04	0.03	0.01	0.04
34.	Lakshadweep	0.03	0.02	0.012	0.03
35.	Puducherry	0.84	1.16	0.32	1.48
TOTAL:		652.03	865.08	242.75	1107.83

\*Separate figures of APL/BPL cards in Tamil Nadu are not available as there is no categorisation on the basis of APL/BPL in the State.

**Statement-II**

*Details of allocation and offtake of foodgrains (rice+wheat) under BPL  
(including AAY) category during the last three years 2007-08,  
2008-09 and 2009-10*

(in thousand tons)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1706.376	1802.933	1706.376	1680.226	1706.376	1529.844

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	41.496	28.866	41.496	41.169	41.496	36.572
3.	Assam	770.916	778.824	770.916	768.799	770.916	703.784
4.	Bihar	2739.792	1617.367	2739.792	1511.293	2739.792	1847.466
5.	Chhattisgarh	774.632	746.665	787.632	774.638	787.632	717.045
6.	Delhi	171.78	168.067	171.78	141.52	171.780	125.472
7.	Goa	11.568	10.468	11.568	10.816	11.568	10.13
8.	Gujarat	856.648	779.734	826.549	786.101	890.448	688.775
9.	Haryana	331.392	314.839	331.392	309.824	331.392	281.064
10.	Himachal Pradesh	215.878	203.555	215.88	208.786	215.880	192.063
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	309.084	309.199	309.084	315.781	309.084	276.715
12.	Jharkhand	1005.492	814.611	1005.492	872.709	1005.492	877.803
13.	Karnataka	1274.276	1247.076	1302.756	1303.546	1314.276	1224.414
14.	Kerala	652.608	653.293	652.608	653.043	652.608	600.683
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1681.476	1653.407	1732.476	1803.04	1732.476	1906.635
16.	Maharashtra	2704.304	2278.696	2744.304	2448.383	2744.304	2369.686
17.	Manipur	69.732	66.712	69.732	60.177	69.732	70.95
18.	Meghalaya	76.86	75.027	76.86	77.76	76.860	70.324
19.	Mizoram	28.56	31.109	28.56	25.51	28.560	23.58
20.	Nagaland	52.08	53.922	52.08	55.621	52.080	53.319
21.	Orissa	1696.692	1462.028	1696.692	1691.215	1696.692	1560.947
22.	Punjab	196.536	108.316	196.536	150.764	196.536	148.354
23.	Rajasthan	984.02	903.454	1021.02	991.742	1021.020	935.107
24.	Sikkim	18.24	18.24	18.24	19.059	18.240	16.899
25.	Tamil Nadu	2042.376	2060.15	2042.376	2177.007	2042.376	1782.123
26.	Tripura	123.9	122.837	123.9	126.676	123.900	112.448
27.	Uttar Pradesh	4485.18	4163.54	4485.18	4065.288	4485.180	3948.313
28.	Uttarakhand	209.172	188.773	209.172	180.811	209.172	194.771
29.	West Bengal	2175.264	1871.518	2175.264	1894.48	2175.264	1840.515
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6.84	4.622	6.84	5.459	6.840	3.993

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
31.	Chandigarh	3.828	4.264	3.828	3.51	4.196	3.306
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	6.72	6.442	6.72	6.72	6.720	2.24
33.	Daman and Diu	1.68	0.47	1.68	0.335	1.680	0.757
34.	Lakshadweep	1.177	1.603	1.248	1.248	1.254	1.26
35.	Pondicherry	35.112	17.152	35.112	17.364	35.112	23.135
TOTAL:		27461.69	24567.78	27601.14	25180.42	27676.934	24180.492

\*2009-10 figures of allocations are for full year and offtake data is upto February, 2010.

#### **Wheat procurement from Punjab**

4665. SARDAR SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the wheat procured by Food Corporation of India (FCI) from Punjab so far;
- (b) the target of wheat procurement from Punjab;
- (c) whether FCI has made adequate arrangement for storing wheat in a scientific way;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has received offers from private parties, including farmers for wheat storage; and
- (f) 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) During current Rabi Marketing Season 2010-11, 16.22 lakh tonnes of wheat by FCI and 83.51 lakh tonnes of wheat by State agencies has been procured in Punjab, as reported by FCI on 5.5.2010 against the estimated procurement of 115 lakh tonnes.

(c) and (d) Due to heavy procurement of wheat in RMS 2009-10 and 2010-11, there is a shortfall of storage space in Punjab. For meeting the shortfall of storage space, measures such as evacuation of stock directly from Mandis and hiring of storage space both covered and Covered and Plinth (CAP) from Government/Semi-Government agencies, as well as private sector and at Rice Mills, Sugar Mills, Mandi yards have been taken.

(e) and (f) Storage capacity both covered and CAP have been hired from the private parties by FCI and State agencies as per requirements. Executive Directors (Zone), FCI have been delegated full powers to hire CAP capacity from private parties for 3 years extendable by 2 years as per need/requirement.

**Sale of essential commodities through Mother Dairy and  
Kendriya Bhandar, etc.**

4666. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government and its agencies like NAFED are selling essential commodities like atta, pulses, vegetable oils, etc., through Mother Dairy, Kendriya Bhandar, etc., to check price rise;
- (b) whether these distribution centres are restricted to urban areas or they serve rural areas as well;
- (c) the authority responsible to ensure that the items sold are genuine and unadulterated;
- (d) whether any subsidy is involved in marketing of essential commodities; and
- (e) 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) Government of India is not involved in direct sale of essential commodities. NAFED is selling essential commodities including Atta, pulses, vegetable oil, etc. from its own retail outlets and partly through the outlets of PSUs and cooperative retail to the consumers at fair and affordable prices which are lower than the retail market rates. To check price rise, NAFED also processed its stock of yellow peas into yellow peas dal and sold it to retail consumers in 1 kg pack through its own outlets and outlets of Kendriya Bhandar and Mother Dairy and through the State Governments. This campaign is extended to other parts of the country as well.

NAFED has a chain of retail outlets run by the organisation independently and those set up and run by member cooperatives. NAFED is also entering into the agreements with retail outlets in the public sector including the Civil Supplies Corporation and cooperative retail chain in the States.

Kendriya Bhandar, in collaboration with Delhi Government Bhagidari scheme, is selling Atta and pulses at lower than market prices to check price rise of these items through Kendriya Bhandar's retail store located in different areas of Delhi.

At the request of the Government of NCT of Delhi, the Grain Merchants Association of Delhi is supplying packed pulses, which is marketed by Mother Dairy Delhi's 'SAFAL' Fruit and Vegetable Shops. The pack size, price and quality standards are fixed by the Government of NCT of Delhi.

All 'SAFAL' Fruit and Vegetable Shops of Mother Dairy, Delhi are located within the National Capital Region of Delhi.

- (c) In order to ensure that items sold by Kendriya Bhandar are genuine and unadulterated, samples are laboratory tested at regular intervals.
- (d) There is no subsidy involved in marketing these essential commodities.



- (e) In view of (d) above, does not arise.

**Food inflation**

4667. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether food inflation rose by 170 basis points and stood at 17.70 per cent for the week ending March, 2010, primarily due to rise in prices of essential food commodities like fruits, pulses and vegetables with no respite in sight;

(b) if so, whether Government is expected to adopt a hawkish policy stance to rein in inflation;

(c) if so, the other steps Government has taken so far to check this food inflation;

(d) whether Prime Minister's Economic Advisor has pointed out that further tightening is necessary; and

(e) the total shortage of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The rate of Inflation of 'Food Articles' rose by 135 basis points from 16.35% for the week ending 20.03.2010 and stood at 17.70% for the week ending 27.03.2010. The rise in food inflation is primarily due to rise in prices of pulses and fruits over the week.

Government has initiated several effective anti-inflationary measures in 2009-10 as result inflation in food has declined to 17.7 per cent on March 27, 2010 from its peak of 22.4 per cent on December 26, 2009. The Government has taken several measures to control inflation, which include:—

- (i) Reducing import duties to zero — for rice, wheat, pulses, edible oils (crude) and sugar.
- (ii) Reducing import duties on refined and hydrogenated oils and vegetable oils.
- (iii) Allowed import of raw sugar at zero duty under open general licence (OGL).
- (iv) Levy obligation removed in respect of all imported raw sugar and white/refined sugar.
- (v) Banned export of non-basmati rice, edible oils and pulses (except kabuli chana).
- (vi) Imposed stock limit orders in the case of paddy, rice, pulses, sugar, edible oils and edible oilseeds.

In addition, a Core Group of Chief Ministers and concerned Central Ministers has been constituted on 15th March, 2010 to discuss issues related to prices of essential commodities with Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture as nodal agency.

**Monetary measures taken by RBI:**

The RBI has gradually raised the CRR in three phases (to 5.50% *w.e.f.* 12.2.10, 5.75% *w.e.f.* 31.3.10 and 6% *w.e.f.* 24.4.10 from 5% *w.e.f.* 21.4.09), Repo rate raised in two phases (to 5% *w.e.f.* 19.3.10 and 5.25% *w.e.f.* 20.4.10 from 4.75% *w.e.f.* 21.4.09), and Reverse Repo rate is also raised in two phase (to 3.50% *w.e.f.* 19.3.10 and 3.75% *w.e.f.* 20.4.10 from 3.25% *w.e.f.* 21.4.09) to absorb the excess liquidity in the system.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) There are ample stocks of wheat and rice in the central pool and there is no shortage of rice and wheat. In the case of pulses domestic production of pulses has been around 14 -14.8 million tonnes during the last three years. The demand for pulses was estimated around 17-18 MTs during the same period. The gap between demand and supply is filled by import of variety of pulses from different countries depending upon their availability.

**Price rise of food items due to stock exchange intervention**

4668. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various items of foodgrains are also dealt with stock exchange activities by the traders;

(b) if so, the details of items and the names of stock exchanges dealing in these activities; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the price rise in foodgrains, etc., is on account of stock exchange intervention?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Food grains are not dealt in stock exchanges.

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

**Payment of transportation charges**

4669. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware that Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested Food Corporation of India for payment of transportation charges to the tune of Rs. 53.95 crore for Custom Milled Rice (CMR);

(b) if so, the action taken by his Ministry to ensure early payment of the requested amount; and

(c) by when the demanded amount is likely to be released to State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per the recommendation of Tariff Commission, transportation charges within a distance of 8 kms. from the mills are included in the milling charges. For transportation of paddy and rice beyond 8 kms., charges are allowed provisionally on the rate fixed by the District Collectors of State Government or Food Corporation of India (FCI) rate, whichever is lower.

Final payment of incidentals including transportation charges for each Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) is released to the State Government on the basis of final incidentals fixed after examination of audited accounts/annual report for the year submitted by the State.

FCI has informed that a series of meeting were held with Government of Andhra Pradesh to resolve the claim of State Government on transportation charges. Last such meeting was held on 14.02.2010 wherein State Government was requested to submit its proposal on reimbursement of transportation charges for Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2008-09 and audited accounts for cases upto KMS 2007-08 to Regional Office, FCI, Hyderabad for examination. Proposal and audited accounts from State are awaited.

**Amount required for implementation of NFSA**

‡4670. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

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

(a) whether Government has taken note of news-item captioned 'Food Act dole may cost Government Rs. 63K crore every year';

(b) if so, whether Rs. 63,000 crore would be required to be spent annually to implement National Food Security Act in the country; and

(c) if not, the estimated amount as of now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Government has seen the said news-item published in the Times of India, Delhi dated Wednesday, the 14th April, 2010. Government is committed to enact a National Food Security Act which, *inter-alia*, envisages entitling every family below poverty line to certain quantity of foodgrains each month at subsidized prices. The estimated amount of subsidy required and other details are being worked out. Once the draft National Food Security Bill is finalized, it would be placed on the website of the Department of Food and Public Distribution for public scrutiny and comments.

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

### Domestic and foreign institutions

†4671. 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 it has been considered to maintain the balance of number of domestic and foreign institutions in the country prior to giving in principal approval for establishment of foreign universities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the average of balance in these educational institutions of both categories fixed at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

### Opposition to RTE Act from minority educational institutions

†4672. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:  
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain minority educational institutions have expressed opposition to the implementation of Right to Education (RTE) Act in the country;

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

(c) the names of institutions that have so far registered their opposition to Government;

(d) the grounds on which this opposition is based; and

(e) Government's decision on this opposition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) A number of Minority organizations including, *inter-alia*, Commission for Education and Culture, New Delhi, Association of Catholic Educational Institutions in U.P., Catholic Bishop's Conference of India, Kerala Catholic Federation, Kerala Catholic Bishop's Council, Andhra Pradesh Bishop's Council, Fatima Junior High School, Birabhanti, U.P., have represented that provisions under section 21 and 22 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, relating to the composition and functions of the School Management Committees, violate their rights under Article 30 of the Constitution of India. They have requested that all minority institutions be excluded from the requirement of constituting the School Management Committees.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2010 has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha to address some of the concerns expressed by the Minority organizations.

#### **Recommendations of NKC on SSA**

‡4673. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:  
DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Knowledge Commission (NKC) has recommended not to decrease Centre's 75 per cent contribution in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA);

(b) whether it has also recommended to provide remaining amount as Central assistance to the States which contribute 15 per cent to the scheme under Right to Education;

(c) whether it has also recommended to liberalize the procedure for granting funds by Central Government to States and to grant funds upto school level; and

(d) whether above recommendations are being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The National Knowledge Commission (NKC) has expressed concern about the reduction in central funding from 75 per cent to 50 per cent. It has recommended that in addition to 50% funds for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), the Central Government should provide all the necessary funding to ensure the Right to Education in those States where the State Government is already spending at least 15 per cent of its total budget on school education.

(d) The Framework for Implementation of SSA programme in Eleventh Plan had envisaged a funding pattern of 50:50 between the Central Government and States/UTs. However, there had been demands from States/UTs for continuing with the funding pattern of 75:25 in vogue in the Tenth Plan. The demand was considered and Government revised the funding pattern in the ratio of 65:35 during the first two years of Eleventh Plan, 60:40 in the third year, 55:45 in the fourth year and 50:50 thereafter. In respect of the NER States the funding is in the 90:10 ratio with the Central share sourced from the 10% earmarked funds for the NE States in the SSA's Central Budget.

#### **Control over fee structure in foreign universities**

4674. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:  
SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:  
SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

to answer to Unstarred Question 2368 given in the Rajya Sabha on 16th April, 2010 and state:

- (a) whether Government has proposed any mechanism to control the fee structure to be charged by foreign universities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether in the absence of any control over fee structure universities will behave like private schools in the country wherein students of middle class or lower class of the country cannot even think of getting admission;
- (e) if so, the rationale for bringing legislation for entry of foreign universities;
- (f) whether these universities will be opened in rural areas also; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (g) A legislative proposal for regulating the entry and operation of foreign educational institutions in India has been introduced in Parliament on 3rd May, 2010 and the provisions of the Bill can take effect only subject to approval by Parliament. The proposal provides for applicability of all domestic laws on Foreign Education Providers as well. At present there is no law on control over fee structure of private unaided universities. Such legislation while preventing entry and operation of sub-standard institutions would provide Indian Students access to innovative areas of studies, enhanced research opportunities, increase in enrolment and attracting foreign investments to achieve the targeted Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education.

#### **Implementation of RTE Act**

4675. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:  
SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:  
SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Right to Education (RTE) Act has become effective in the country since 1st April, 2010;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether notification in this regard has been issued and all schools, private and Government, have been directed in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether some States have refused to implement the said Act and some schools are also not following the provisions of the Act;

(g) if so, the details thereof alongwith the complaints received, State-wise; and

(h) the details of remedial measures proposed/adopted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (h) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has been enacted to provide for free and compulsory education of all children of the age of six to fourteen years. The provisions of the said Act have come into force with effect from 1st April, 2010. Notification dated 16th February, 2010 regarding enforcement of the Act has been published in the Gazette of India on 19th February, 2010.

State Government have not expressed inability in implementing RTE Act. While endorsing the provisions of the Act, various States including Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Bihar and Arunachal Pradesh have requested for allocation of adequate funds for implementation of the Act. It is the duty of the appropriate Government and the local authorities to take necessary steps for carrying out the provisions of the Act.

#### **Candidates qualifying NET examination**

4676. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOOT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether qualifying in a NET examination is based on cut-off marks and not a quota;

(b) if so, how is it that the number of candidates qualifying in each examination from the General Category, OBCs and SCs/STs was roughly constant during 2007, as per the UGC's Annual Report of 2007-08; and

(c) the data of candidates who qualified during the exams held in the last two years, caste category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), National Eligibility Test (NET) is conducted for eligibility for lecturership and Junior Research Fellowship (JRF). Category-wise minimum cut-off marks have been fixed for lecturership eligibility. Candidates with higher merit amongst them are considered for Junior Research Fellowship.

(b) The category-wise number of candidates qualifying in June, 2007 and December, 2007 is as below:—

Category	Number of qualified Candidates	
	June, 2007 Lectureship Eligibility	December, 2007 Lectureship Eligibility
General	2161	2200
OBC	878	904
SC	2107	2189
ST	647	638
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>5793</b>	<b>5931</b>

(c) The data of candidates qualifying during the last two years caste category-wise is as below:—

UGC-NET	Qualified for	Number of qualified Candidates				
		General	OBC	SC	ST	TOTAL
June 2008	Lectureship Eligibility	2329	969	2252	725	6275
December, 2008	Lectureship Eligibility	2473	1001	2340	725	6569
June, 2009	Lectureship Eligibility	2730	2892	2929	977	9528
December, 2009	Lectureship Eligibility	948	1318	630	294	3190

#### Shortage of teachers

‡4677. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:  
SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to shortage of teachers the Right to Education Act is not being implemented even after its passing; and

(b) if so, the details of the number of qualified teachers, the number of required teachers and the time by when it is likely to be fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 has come into force with effect from 1.4.2010. In addition to the need for teachers against existing State sector vacancies of about 5.23 lakh teachers in various States/UTs, an additional 5.08 lakh teachers is estimated to be required to ensure proper implementation of the RTE Act.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



Filling up of the posts of teachers is a continuous on-going process. It is the duty of the appropriate Government and local authorities to take necessary steps for providing teaching staff to facilitate implementation of the RTE Act.

#### **Common standard for quality education in schools**

4678. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Council of Boards of School Education (COBSE) has submitted any proposal for creation of National Commission to lay down common standard to bring about qualitative changes in school education; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Restoring minority character of Jamia Millia Islamia**

4679. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various organizations are spearheading agitations and movements for minority character of Jamia Millia Islamia;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) Government's present policy in the matter; and

(d) Government's plan for restoring minority character of Jamia Millia Islamia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The demand for grant of minority status to Jamia Millia Islamia, a Central University established under the Jamia Millia Islamia Act, 1988, has been received from various sections of the University community and society such as Jamia Teachers' Association, Jamia Old Boys Association, Jamia Administrative Staff Association, Jamia Old Boys Union. A number of petitions in this regard are pending before the Hon'ble National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions.

The question regarding minority status of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) is pending before a larger bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, where the interpretation of the term 'establishing' a University, as laid down in the 'Azeez Basha' matter, is under challenge. The judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the AMU matter will have a bearing on the issues relating to the minority character of Jamia Millia Islamia.

#### **Students in private schools under RTE Act**

4680. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State Government has raised objections to the provisions of Right to Education Act regarding funding of the expenditure for 25 per cent students admitted in private schools; and

(b) if so, the stand of Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Registration of students**

4681. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is planning for compulsory registration of all Indian students going abroad for studies in place of the existing voluntary registration;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it has directed the Embassies of only United States and Australia for opening up of websites for fresh registration and also streamlining the unregistered students;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reasons for not directing the Embassies in other countries where Indian students have gone for studies or work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

#### **Assistance to NGOs**

4682. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed any criteria for providing assistance to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)/agencies engaged in welfare of women and children education in the country;

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

(c) whether such funds are being provided in Maharashtra also for such NGOs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) For education of children, an Innovative and Experimental (I&E) Programme at elementary level is under implementation to promote experimentation and innovation for achievement of goals spelt out in National Policy on

Education for Universalization of Elementary Education (UEE). Under this scheme, proposals are received from Government agencies, educational institutions, panchayati raj institutions, registered societies, public trust and non profit making companies and considered for grant of financial assistance. The funding is also made to the NGOs for their innovative projects.

(c) and (d) Under I&E Scheme, funds were provided in Maharashtra to Door Step School, Mumbai. The details of grants released to Door Step School, Mumbai during last three years are given as under:—

Name of NGO	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Door Step School, Mumbai	Rs. 16,99,294	Nil	Rs. 13,68,244

#### **Global teacher accreditation and training workshops**

4683. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether British Council and Cambridge Education Foundation, U.K. recently launched a new accreditation scheme to recognize teachers' achievements in global education in India;

(b) whether part of the U.K. Government funded Global School Partnerships programme, the global teacher accreditation will be available to teachers involved in managing school partnerships through the scheme;

(c) whether 60 teachers from across the country will benefit from training workshops to develop their school-based research skills to be held in Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai; and

(d) if so, by when the scheme is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The accreditation scheme for teachers was launched in India in April, 2010 and is jointly delivered by the British Council (BC) and Cambridge Education Foundation (CEF) as part of Global School Partnerships programme with an aim to develop teachers as reflective practitioners and to recognise their contribution to enhancing global education in the classroom.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The programme was launched in April, 2010.

#### **Discussions with Australia for agreement in education**

4684. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has held discussions with his counterpart and other leaders in Australia recently on educational links;

- (b) if so, the details of discussions held and outcome thereof;
- (c) whether any agreement has been reached to set up Australian educational institutions in the country to check the Indian students going to Australia for higher studies; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the visit to Australia from 6th to 10th April 2010, the Minister of Human Resource Development met various dignitaries including his counterpart, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations of Australia and discussed wide ranging matters relating to cooperation in the education sector. The important outcomes of the visit were a Joint Ministerial Statement by the Minister of Human Resource Development, India and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education on 8th April, 2010 emphasizing the need for strengthening bilateral relations in the field of education and agreeing on an initiative to constitute the India-Australia Education Council, in addition to the following three MoUs which were signed in presence of the two Ministers:—

- (i) MoU between Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and Universities Australia;
  - (ii) MoU between Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and Australian Council of Education Research (ACER); and
  - (iii) MoU between the Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI), India and Deakin University, Australia.
- (c) No, Sir.
  - (d) Does not arise.

#### **Funds for SSA**

4685. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that large chunk of funds allocated to Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) often remain unspent year after year;
- (b) if so, the allocation made and the actual amount spent on Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10; and
- (c) the reasons for mismanagement of funds and under-utilisation on this important programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) No, Madam. The Central funds allocated and released under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) during the last three years is as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Budget Estimates (BE)	Actual Central releases	% releases against Central outlay
2007-08	1067.1 (RE=13171)	11480.75	107.58 (with reference to BE) 87.16 (with reference to RE)
2008-09@	13100	12642.75	96.50
2009-10@	13100	12826.23	97.91

RE = Revised Estimates @ BE/RE was same

The pace of expenditure in 2007-08 was affected due to delayed announcement of revised funding pattern under SSA.

#### **Collaboration with foreign educational institutions**

4686. SHRI KISHORE KUMAR MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal under consideration for collaboration with foreign educational institutions and to regulate their entry and operation in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard;
- (d) the benefits likely to accrue to the country as a result thereof; and
- (e) the acreage of land which is likely to be given to these institutions for setting up the institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) At Present Central Universities, State Universities and Institutions Deemed to be Universities can enter to Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), without the authority to confer foreign degrees, for collaboration in the nature of joint academic/research programmes, exchange of faculty, students and academic material, setting up facilities and conducting workshops and seminars etc., with foreign universities/institutions of higher learning in foreign countries. A present, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has framed regulations, for entry and operation of foreign universities/institutions, imparting technical education in India and seven collaborations between India and foreign institutions have been registered by AICTE under the said regulations.

A legislative proposal for regulating the entry and operation of foreign educational institutions in India has been introduced in Parliament on 3rd May, 2010. Provisions of the Bill can take effect only subject to approval by Parliament.

### **Infrastructure and teachers for RTE Act**

4687. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Government's plan to provide infrastructure and teachers to implement the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act;

(b) by when Government proposes to issue Notification to enforce the provisions of the above mentioned Act;

(c) whether Government will ensure that financial constraints do not hamper implementation of the Act irrespective of gender and social category;

(d) whether some States have sought financial support from Central Government to implement this Act; and

(e) if so, the details thereof indicating the financial help in percentage likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has been enacted to provide for free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years. Notification regarding enforcement of the RTE Act, with effect from 1.4.2010 has been published in the Gazette of India. It is the duty of the appropriate Government and local authority to provide infrastructure including school building, teaching staff and learning equipment. Every school is required to adhere to the norms and standards specified in the Schedule of the Act.

(c) to (e) Section 7 of the RTE Act provides that the Central Government and the State Governments shall have concurrent responsibility for providing funds for carrying out the provisions of the Act. Several States including Karnataka, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Bihar and Arunachal Pradesh have requested for allocation of adequate funds for implementation of the Act. In 2010-11, a Central budget allocation of Rs. 15,000 crore was presented to Parliament for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme which is the main vehicle for implementation of the provisions of the RTE Act. The 13th Finance Commission has awarded Rs. 24,068 crore as grant-in-aid specifically for elementary education.

### **Government schools required for RTE Act**

†4688. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has enacted the Right to Education (RTE) Act across the country from 1st April, 2010;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the number of Government schools that have been closed across the country during last five years and the number of affected children due to this, State-wise;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to check the declining standard of education in Government schools; and

(d) the number of schools that will be required to educate all children in the country and how it will be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has been enacted to provide for free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years. The RTE Act has come into force from with effect from 1st April, 2010.

(b) Information in this regard is not collected/maintained by the Central Government.

(c) Several interventions have been made under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme including recruitment of 10.22 lakh additional teachers, annual in-service training of teachers, distribution of free textbooks for primary and upper primary classes, introduction of computer aided learning at upper primary level and special emphasis on science and mathematics for quality improvement. In addition, a centrally sponsored scheme called Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) has been launched for the secondary sector. These are the main initiatives/steps which have been taken to bring qualitative improvement in school education.

(d) The RTE Act requires the appropriate Government and local authority to establish a school within such area or limits of neighbourhood, as prescribed by the appropriate Government, within a period of three years from the commencement of the Act. The actual number of schools required will therefore depend on the areas or limits of neighbourhood prescribed by the appropriate Governments.

#### **Diet provided under Mid-Day-Meal Scheme**

4689. SHRI SHADILAL BATRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the value in terms of diet provided to each child in schools at present under Mid-Day-Meal Scheme;

(b) the amount provided by Government for the diet of children during the last three years in schools under the scheme;

(c) whether Government proposes to enhance the diet amount for the children;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether Government is considering to address complaints with regard to the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme received during the year 2009-10; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which these complaints are being addressed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The cooked Mid Day Meal (MDM) provides 450 calories and 12 grams of protein at primary stage and 700 calories and 20 grams of protein at upper primary stage. The above nutrition at primary stage comes from 100 grams of wheat/rice, 20 grams of pulses, 50 grams of vegetables and 5 grams of oil/fat. For upper primary stage, it is derived from 150 grams of wheat/rice, 30 grams of pulses, 75 grams of vegetables and 7.5 grams of oil/fat.

(b) In addition to 100 grams of foodgrains (wheat/rice) at primary stage and 150 grams of foodgrains (wheat/rice) at upper primary stage Per Child Per Day (PCPD), the cooking cost PCPD was provided during the last three years at the following rates:—

Year	PCPD cost of MDM in addition to the foodgrain	For North Eastern Region (NER) States		For Non-NER States/UTs	
		Central Assistance	Minimum mandatory contribution by State/UT	Central Assistance	Minimum mandatory contribution by State/UT
2007-08					
Primary (I-V)Rs. 2.00	Rs. 1.80	Re. 0.20	Rs. 1.50	Re. 0.50	
Upper Primary (VI-VIII) (w.e.f. 1.10.2007)*	Rs. 2.50	Rs. 2.30	Re. 0.20	Rs. 2.00	Re. 0.50
2008-09					
Primary (I-V)Rs. 2.08	Rs. 1.89	Re. 0.20	Rs. 1.58	Re. 0.50	
Upper Primary (VI-VIII)	Rs. 2.60	Rs. 2.42	Re. 0.20	Rs. 2.10	Re. 0.50
2009-10					
Primary (I-V) (1.4.2009 to 30.11.2009)	Rs. 2.08	Rs. 1.89	Re. 0.20	Rs. 1.58	Re. 0.50
Upper Primary (VI-VIII) (1.4.2009 to 30.11.2009)	Rs. 2.60	Rs. 2.42	Re. 0.20	Rs. 2.10	Re. 0.50
Primary (I-V) (1.12.2009 to 31.3.2010)	@Rs. 2.50	Rs. 2.25	Re. 0.25	Rs. 1.88	Re. 0.62
Upper Primary (VI-VIII) (1.12.2009 to 31.3.2010)	@Rs. 3.75	Rs. 3.38	Re. 0.37	Rs. 2.81	Re. 0.94

\*The Mid Day Meal Scheme was extended to upper primary stage (classes VI-VIII) with effect from 1.10.2007 in 3479 Educationally Backward Blocks and from 1.4.2008 all areas across the country.

@Cooking cost before 1.12.2009 included pulses, vegetables, oil and fat, salt and condiments, fuel and labour and other administrative charges. Cooking Cost with effect from 1.12.2009 does not include labour and administrative charges as a new component of Honorarium for cooks and helpers has been introduced.



(c) to (e) With effect from 1.4.2010, the cooking cost has further been enhanced by 7.5% and the present cooking cost (pcpd) at primary stage is Rs. 2.69 and at upper primary stage is Rs. 4.03.

(f) and (g) The overall responsibility to provide wholesome and nutritious food to children in schools under the MDMS lies with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, as and when any complaint comes to the notice of the Central Government, the concerned State Government/UT Administration is asked to conduct a suitable enquiry into the complaint and to take appropriate action against the responsible person(s) and also to initiate corrective measures to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future.

#### **Elitism as a result of education system**

4690. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the Indian education system is responsible for elitism causing sense of alienation in the minds of the common people;

(b) whether Government is aware that private and foreign universities will further widen the gulf between the elite class and the common people; and

(c) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to bridge the gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 (as modified in 1992), provides for national system of education implying that upto a given level, all students irrespective of caste, creed, location or sex, have access to education of a comparable quality. It also accords priority for improvement of the standard of education at all levels. It has been stressed in the National Policy on Education as well as in several judicial pronouncements that education is not-for-profit activity and commercialization of education is to be avoided.

#### **State Governments agreeing to implement RTE Act**

4691. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether all State Governments have agreed to share 48 per cent expenditure to be incurred on implementing the Right to Education (RTE) Act; and

(b) if not, the States that are reluctant to implement the said Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 *inter alia* provides that the Central Government and the State Government shall have concurrent responsibility for providing funds for carrying out the provisions of the Act. For the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), which is the main vehicle for

implementation of the Act, a Central Budget allocation of Rs. 15,000 crore has been presented to the Parliament. The funds are shared between the Centre and States in accordance with the extant SSA norms. For 2010-11, the Centre-State sharing ratio is 55:45. State Governments have not expressed inability in implementing the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009. While endorsing provisions of the RTE Act, various States including Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Bihar and Arunachal Pradesh have requested for allocation of adequate funds for implementation of the Act.

#### **Teacher absenteeism**

4692. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per survey conducted by Government sector firm Educational Consultants India Limited (EdCIL) in several States, it has been found that teachers remain absent for long periods in Government schools;

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

(c) whether it has also been revealed in the survey that teachers in Government schools remain engaged in non-teaching work in most of the days in a year; and

(d) if so, the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The MHRD conducted a Study on "Student and Teachers attendance" through Educational Consultant India Limited (EdCIL) in 2006-07 in 20 States. As per the findings of the study, the average attendance rate of teachers was 81.7% at primary stage and 80.5% at upper primary stage. Findings were shared with the States at various forums requesting them to take steps to monitor teachers' and students' attendance closely. Measures taken by the State Governments, *inter alia*, include close supervision of schools by block and cluster resource centres and Village Education Committees and by discouraging officers for using teachers for non teaching work such as conducting surveys for other Government departments.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 which has come into force *w.e.f.* 1st April, 2010 provides that no teacher shall be deployed for any non-educational purposes other than the decennial population census, disaster relief duties, or duties relating to elections to the local authority or the State Legislatures Assemblies or Parliament.

#### **Polytechnics in Andhra Pradesh**

4693. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of polytechnics set up in the State of Andhra Pradesh, district-wise under the Skill Development Mission;

(b) whether Government proposes to have collaboration with global education providers to improve the quality; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Under the Scheme of Sub-Mission on Polytechnics under Coordinated Action for Skill Development, financial assistance has been provided to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for establishment of one new polytechnic in Ranga Reddy district;

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Entry of foreign universities**

4694. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has started inviting foreign universities/institutions in the country;

(b) if so, the response of foreign universities; and

(c) the reaction of Indian universities/ institutions to this plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) A legislative proposal for regulating the entry and operation of foreign educational institutions in India has been introduced in Parliament on 3rd May, 2010. Provisions of the Bill can take effect only subject to approval by Parliament.

#### **Minority students in minority educational institutions**

4695. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any mechanism to ensure that minority students are admitted in minority educational institutions with due priority;

(b) whether Government has any statistics regarding the percentage of minority students in minority educational institutions; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the percentage of minority students in such institutions is very negligible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Information with respect to the number of students from Minority communities admitted by minority educational institutions is not maintained centrally. Respective State Governments prescribe norms regulating admissions in the Minority Educational Institutions.

### **Guidelines for schools allotted land in Delhi**

4696. SHRI MANGALA KISAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the guidelines for allotment of land in Delhi and NCR to private educational institutions, missions and trusts associated with education;
- (b) the monitoring mechanism with the Central Government and the remedy for schools not adhering to these guidelines;
- (c) the steps Government proposes for missions, running schools and collecting capitation fee from new admissions and re-admissions every year from parents in the guise of building fund, miscellaneous fees and annual fees; and
- (d) the list of defaulter schools in Delhi and NCR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and the Land and Development Office (L&DO) allot land to the private educational institutions in Delhi. The present policy of disposal of Nazul land in Delhi by DDA to such Institutions is through auction. The L&DO allots land as per the following guidelines:—

- (i) The Institution/Organization shall have a valid sponsorship certificate from the Directorate of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi (GNCTD) in respect of middle and higher level schools and from the local body concerned (Municipal Corporation of Delhi/New Delhi Municipal Council) in respect of nursery/primary schools.
- (ii) The antecedent of the Institution/Organization shall be verified through GNCTD and if necessary through the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- (iii) The Institution/Organization shall furnish Permanent Account Number (PAN) for income tax purposes.
- (iv) The financial position to pay the cost of land as well as for the construction of the building shall be assessed. In case, the organization has been allotted land by the L&DO/DDA earlier, the proper use of the land shall be ascertained.
- (v) The applicant Institution/Organization shall furnish proof of having fixed deposit/equivalent liquid investment covering the cost of land plus 10% more and produce a 'No Loan Certificate' for the said investment.

Allotment of land in the NCR area excluding NCT of Delhi is not under the purview of the Central Government as the land is a State subject and is governed by the rules/guidelines of the respective State Governments in the NCR area.

- (b) The allotment of land to the Institution/Organization is governed by the terms and conditions of the allotment/lease. In case of any violation of the allotment condition by the lessee, the lease can be terminated by the land owing agency.

(c) In case of schools in Delhi, the Education Department of Government of NCT of Delhi has issued an order on 11.02.2009 to regulate the fee to be charged by private unaided recognized schools including pre-primary schools.

(d) The data regarding schools collecting capitation fees, miscellaneous fees and annual fees is not centrally monitored. In case of Delhi, the Education Department of Government of NCT Delhi has informed that such a list of schools is not available with them. A list of defaulter schools violating the norms of land allotment as furnished by the L&DO, is given in Statement.

***Statement***

*List of defaulter schools violating the norms of land allotted  
by L&DO in Delhi*

- (i) Mohya school, R.K. Puram, Sector-III
- (ii) Vidya Niketan School, Nanakpur
- (iii) Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Vasant Vihar
- (iv) Rai school, Lodhi Road
- (v) Sanskriti school, Chanakyapuri
- (vi) Vidya Public school, DIZ Area, New Delhi
- (vii) Guru Hari Kishan Public School, Purana Quilla Road
- (viii) G.L. Saraswati Bal Mandir, Amar Colony, Lajpat Nagar-IV, New Delhi

**Implementation of SSA in Tamil Nadu**

4697. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the shortcomings which were noticed in the implementation of SSA in the State; and
- (d) the remedial measures Government proposes to take to make SSA successful in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The 11th Joint Review Mission ( JRM ) of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) comprising the representatives of Government of India and Development Partners namely The World Bank, Department for International Development (DFID) of United Kingdom and European Commission (EC), have reviewed the progress of implementation of SSA programme during 15th January to 29th January, 2010. The overall implementation of SSA

programme in Tamil Nadu has been found satisfactory. The JRM has observed that “Tamil Nadu has continued to consolidate its already impressive achievements in elementary education. Gains in access and retention have enabled far greater focus on quality. The State continues to exhibit strong and ever improving performance on almost all parameters of equity. Improvements in ABL in Classes I to IV have enhanced effectiveness of the methodology and changes planned for 2010 and 2011 hold the promise of further progress and consolidation.”

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

#### **NCPCR to implement RTE Act**

†4698. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has been entrusted with the responsibility of implementation of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009;

(b) if so, whether the above commission works under the Ministry of Women and Child Development and responsibility of children's education rests entirely with his Ministry; and

(c) Government's reaction to the above situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) It is the responsibility of the appropriate Government and local authorities to implement the provisions of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. However, as per provisions contained in Section 31 of the RTE Act, the function relating to protection and monitoring of child's right under the Act has been assigned to various authorities, including the National Commission for Protection of Child's Rights (NCPCR), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Women and Child Development. Under the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005, the NCPCR is empowered to examine and review the safeguards provided by or under any Law for the time being in force for the protection of child rights.

#### **Funds for development of languages**

4699. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allocated funds for development of languages in the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

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

(c) the details of funds utilized so far for development of various languages in the current Five Year Plan; and

(d) the extent to which each of such languages benefited so far?

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†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 (c) Yes, Sir. Funds are allocated by the Ministry of Human Resource Development to different Language Institutions for development of various languages. The details of funds spent by the Government of India during the first three years of the Eleventh Five Year Plan for development of various languages are given in Statement (*See below*).

(d) The languages have benefited from the schemes undertaken for development of various languages which include research in the area of language analysis, language pedagogy, language technology and language use, production of material in various languages, financial assistance for publication of books, magazines, etc.

**Statement**

*Details of the funds spent for development of various languages*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Languages	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-10
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Assamese	9.81	7.96	17.90
2.	Bengali	45.49	55.24	33.84
3.	Bodo	15.77	16.50	15.91
4.	Dogri	15.33	16.85	18.05
5.	Gujarati	14.05	13.45	26.60
6.	Hindi	2889.89	3233.99	3983.48
7.	Kannada	48.30	52.87	67.27
8.	Kashmiri	18.03	21.23	18.57
9.	Konkani	12.68	12.31	18.43
10.	Maithili	24.15	22.59	31.61
11.	Malayalam	15.43	23.63	29.20
12.	Manipuri	11.24	12.85	19.56
13.	Marathi	27.69	23.36	27.03
14.	Nepali	17.63	15.58	23.44
15.	Oriya	18.00	21.74	25.27
16.	Punjabi	29.77	33.75	35.56

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Sanskrit	5742.67	6640.00	9715.00
18.	Santali	16.40	19.54	17.13
19.	Sindhi	99.59	90.97	162.93
20.	Tamil	458.59	472.70	898.64
21.	Telugu	29.39	38.37	46.70
22.	Urdu	1804.41	1833.58	1988.75
23.	Others	2.81	13.23	22.99
TOTAL:		11367.10	12692.30	17243.90

#### Enrolment of OBCs in education

4700. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the enrolment ratio of OBCs, SCs/STs and general categories in primary, secondary and higher education in last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether enrolment ratio of OBCs 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 OBCs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) State-wise Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of students of all categories, SCs and STs for the available last three years of primary/upper primary (classes I-VIII), secondary/senior secondary (classes IX-XII) and higher education is given in Statement-I, II and III (See below). The enrolment data of OBCs is not maintained separately by the Ministry.

(c) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) lays a special focus on the children of disadvantage social groups [SC, ST, OBC and Minority communities]. It provides for development of context specific interventions/strategies for education of these target groups. The Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalya (KGBV) scheme, one of the components of SSA, provides for residential schools at upper primary level for girls belonging to disadvantaged categories which include girls also from OBC category.

This Ministry has issued directions to all Central Educational Institutions for implementation of reservation for the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs/OBCs) from the academic session 2008-09.



**Statement-I**

Gross Enrolment Ratio \* in Primary/Upper Primary (Classes I-VIII) education

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2005-06			2006-07			2007-08		
		All Categories	SC Students	ST Students	All Categories	SC Students	ST Students	All Categories	SC Students	ST Students
1.	Andhra Pradesh	86.63	93.81	92.37	88.13	94.57	94.44	88.30	96.40	94.44
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	114.39	—	120.89	118.58	—	125.76	125.63	—	125.76
3.	Assam	94.18	139.69	107.98	85.92	130.50	92.06	108.79	132.48	92.06
4.	Bihar	67.84	68.45	66.10	74.12	74.02	75.62	82.57	75.01	75.62
5.	Chhattisgarh	102.56	136.09	104.22	109.93	173.80	110.73	112.18	174.45	110.73
6.	Goa	103.58	82.50	—	108.34	111.53	—	111.83	112.77	—
7.	Gujarat	102.29	134.42	106.59	103.11	134.88	107.69	105.98	135.66	107.69
8.	Haryana	77.79	94.67	—	85.17	101.80	—	84.76	102.61	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	108.48	116.71	140.56	111.07	118.07	144.16	112.72	119.55	144.16
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	85.94	96.66	83.15	87.76	99.36	85.14	88.84	100.69	85.14
11.	Jharkhand	83.09	87.11	95.02	89.41	111.96	102.34	117.48	114.02	102.34
12.	Karnataka	97.87	105.06	101.22	99.94	105.90	100.12	99.98	107.52	100.12
13.	Kerala	95.39	105.86	112.57	95.48	107.13	117.07	95.22	107.58	117.07
14.	Madhya Pradesh	124.35	138.55	133.38	130.07	144.66	138.13	133.47	144.83	138.13
15.	Maharashtra	107.91	144.45	113.11	109.03	145.75	114.40	96.13	146.92	114.40
16.	Manipur	134.52	142.81	119.80	139.97	155.14	123.90	145.80	160.52	123.90

17. Meghalaya	134.81	—	122.86	152.78	—	139.25	158.71	—	139.25
18. Mizoram	148.83	—	152.77	130.23	—	134.57	134.77	—	134.57
19. Nagaland	78.08	—	78.77	79.08	—	79.61	79.95	—	79.61
20. Orissa	97.57	100.23	89.60	98.88	114.63	102.76	102.72	116.62	102.76
21. Punjab	73.54	99.05	—	76.45	102.24	—	83.55	99.70	—
22. Rajasthan	104.11	106.84	97.92	106.42	111.24	100.07	104.40	112.12	100.07
23. Sikkim	119.10	136.60	209.21	114.40	140.33	197.39	116.57	145.05	197.39
24. Tamil Nadu	114.89	120.24	146.20	114.44	116.22	135.57	114.81	117.19	135.57
25. Tripura	118.62	131.82	125.09	119.92	133.21	124.78	122.81	137.65	124.78
26. Uttar Pradesh	88.94	91.82	102.06	90.91	93.86	100.76	96.37	94.06	100.76
27. Uttarakhand	108.35	139.08	134.69	110.60	143.49	143.05	109.29	141.54	143.05
28. West Bengal	90.25	93.44	92.64	90.49	99.53	89.28	96.70	101.84	89.28
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	102.32	—	88.74	104.85	—	88.94	101.87	—	88.94
30. Chandigarh	74.75	43.67	—	83.11	43.29	—	90.32	43.78	—
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	121.06	—	121.25	131.98	154.67	127.76	144.24	157.75	127.76
32. Daman and Diu	131.48	—	—	129.69	157.26	124.62	123.67	151.67	124.62
33. Delhi	107.01	67.97	—	101.10	63.78	—	105.49	64.08	—
34. Lakshadweep	62.25	—	61.83	59.57	—	60.87	58.01	—	60.87
35. Puducherry	122.33	118.00	—	127.06	127.63	—	129.93	128.94	—
INDIA:	94.85	101.95	106.40	97.08	105.96	109.57	100.46	106.85	109.57

\*—Provisional

**Statement-II**

*Gross Enrolment Ratio \* in Secondary/Senior Secondary (Classes IX-XII) education*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2005-06			2006-07			2007-08		
		All Categories	SC Students	ST Students	All Categories	SC Students	ST Students	All Categories	SC Students	ST Students
1.	Andhra Pradesh	48.93	55.76	47.12	49.68	56.40	50.34	51.52	56.40	50.34
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	42.55	—	43.37	47.00	—	46.43	49.41		46.43
3.	Assam	32.08	62.10	41.36	31.61	61.94	40.05	31.53	61.94	40.05
4.	Bihar	16.02	10.54	14.56	17.96	11.86	16.87	19.90	11.86	16.87
5.	Chhattisgarh	31.47	45.58	27.34	33.74	51.15	25.72	34.58	51.15	25.72
6.	Goa	56.52	17.10	—	56.15	35.50	—	58.30	35.50	—
7.	Gujarat	39.50	43.72	30.20	41.19	44.01	34.21	42.62	44.01	34.21
8.	Haryana	42.22	31.44	—	45.90	38.65	—	50.99	38.65	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	131.51	66.06	86.17	78.80	65.90	88.45	79.14	65.90	88.45
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	35.74	38.37	23.13	35.18	37.90	22.75	35.83	37.90	22.75
11.	Jharkhand	15.54	15.52	15.34	14.91	15.68	14.84	14.78	15.68	14.84
12.	Karnataka	45.19	43.86	38.93	51.73	50.56	44.69	54.52	50.56	44.69
13.	Kerala	64.63	59.58	49.79	72.10	69.98	60.95	50.17	69.98	60.95
14.	Madhya Pradesh	37.64	37.67	20.21	42.09	50.25	25.50	47.60	50.25	25.50
15.	Maharashtra	56.78	74.44	36.05	55.48	73.19	35.08	56.48	73.19	35.08
16.	Manipur	49.43	92.05	30.73	50.70	83.68	31.33	50.97	83.68	31.33

17. Meghalaya	35.71	—	31.80	38.59	—	34.74	29.88	—	34.74
18. Mizoram	41.91	—	43.13	46.08	—	47.29	45.57	—	47.29
19. Nagaland	24.07	—	23.56	23.71	—	23.12	22.98	—	23.12
20. Orissa	42.82	29.15	18.99	41.63	30.97	22.44	42.15	30.97	22.44
21. Punjab	39.76	32.90	—	39.86	34.45	—	39.44	34.45	—
22. Rajasthan	34.32	26.02	28.61	35.64	28.59	32.15	39.44	28.59	32.15
23. Sikkim	34.76	21.45	56.95	33.19	21.97	57.41	33.18	21.97	57.41
24. Tamil Nadu	63.79	70.05	45.41	67.39	74.88	56.57	72.01	74.88	56.57
25. Tripura	39.86	38.88	31.26	40.96	40.46	32.02	44.95	40.46	32.02
26. Uttar Pradesh	35.90	23.19	73.68	35.48	23.34	69.05	52.85	23.34	69.05
27. Uttarakhand	62.03	47.64	61.16	61.29	46.11	61.15	64.75	46.11	61.15
28. West Bengal	35.46	28.85	25.57	34.35	31.29	26.58	37.49	31.29	26.58
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	51.42	—	37.40	51.58	—	54.75	52.26	—	54.75
30. Chandigarh	56.52	22.09	—	57.54	21.72	—	60.64	21.72	—
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	42.14	—	37.81	37.72	59.57	36.87	48.51	59.57	36.87
32. Daman and Diu	79.88	—	—	70.38	120.79	46.72	74.92	120.79	46.72
33. Delhi	52.52	24.88	—	56.16	26.78	—	57.06	26.78	—
34. Lakshadweep	47.69	—	46.64	44.40	—	46.00	45.37	—	46.00
35. Puducherry	79.25	69.43	—	78.52	71.04	—	81.39	71.04	—
INDIA :	40.42	36.65	28.72	41.13	39.02	30.79	45.49	39.02	30.79

\* — Provisional

**Statement-III**

*Gross Enrolment Ratio \* in Higher education*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2004-05			2005-06			2006-07		
		All Categories	SC Students	ST Students	All Categories	SC Students	ST Students	All Categories	SC Students	ST Students
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11.52	8.32	5.17	14.35	11.51	8.55	16.17	13.09	12.46
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.85	—	7.75	7.19	—	9.05	8.38	—	10.92
3.	Assam	6.94	7.05	6.35	6.80	5.74	5.89	6.67	5.48	5.69
4.	Bihar	6.02	5.13	6.43	5.86	4.63	5.20	5.88	4.43	4.70
5.	Chhattisgarh	7.51	7.32	7.35	8.69	11.99	4.07	8.72	11.95	3.94
6.	Goa	13.41	9.53	—	13.05	9.50	—	12.64	11.95	—
7.	Gujarat	10.67	9.51	6.09	10.14	12.10	7.26	7.92	8.42	6.08
8.	Haryana	10.63	5.26	—	11.21	5.33	—	12.84	7.00	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	14.10	7.36	15.84	14.21	6.81	18.34	15.93	7.93	18.65
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6.54	0.12	0.13	12.56	6.97	7.97	10.38	7.05	7.91
11.	Jharkhand	7.05	3.16	3.03	8.67	2.87	1.51	8.54	2.70	1.85
12.	Karnataka	11.58	8.06	4.36	13.84	9.55	5.36	15.47	12.03	8.75
13.	Kerala	9.08	8.11	7.77	11.57	10.54	11.78	11.82	9.73	9.73
14.	Madhya Pradesh	11.02	8.93	4.28	13.77	13.52	8.81	13.75	19.28	13.76
15.	Maharashtra	13.24	12.37	3.25	13.93	14.81	8.31	14.74	14.45	8.44
16.	Manipur	13.27	13.66	12.27	12.64	14.46	11.41	12.97	—	11.74

17. Meghalaya	11.58	—	8.07	13.96	—	10.81	14.63	—	11.36
18. Mizoram	10.39	—	6.20	11.66	—	7.15	11.07	—	6.86
19. Nagaland	4.70	—	5.03	9.47	—	5.48	9.26	—	5.35
20. Orissa	8.59	2.76	1.32	9.34	3.16	1.69	9.92	4.19	2.87
21. Punjab	10.24	3.24	—	12.03	4.87	—	12.87	6.05	—
22. Rajasthan	6.04	4.04	4.61	7.41	5.06	5.70	7.70	5.63	6.42
23. Sikkim	9.61	5.65	8.83	11.98	7.85	9.82	15.36	10.11	11.44
24. Tamil Nadu	11.47	5.80	3.32	16.36	8.28	4.40	20.12	12.21	9.13
25. Tripura	6.16	5.49	2.73	6.50	6.24	3.35	6.91	6.20	3.69
26. Uttar Pradesh	8.13	7.42	24.36	9.29	8.71	61.03	9.76	9.90	25.12
27. Uttarakhand	12.97	6.26	15.02	15.74	8.73	17.36	16.46	10.70	20.40
28. West Bengal	8.09	4.70	3.32	8.21	5.02	3.55	8.79	4.72	3.43
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5.87	—	6.40	6.74	—	4.45	6.48	—	6.21
30. Chandigarh	37.01	12.63	—	41.41	15.47	—	37.20	14.73	—
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.96	—	0.63	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	—	0.0
32. Daman and Diu	2.40	—	—	3.96	—	—	3.12	4.99	4.49
33. Delhi	37.25	9.94	—	46.39	14.60	—	44.47	7.71	—
34. Lakshadweep	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	3.11	—	3.30
35. Puducherry	17.33	16.27	—	23.96	21.58	—	23.55	20.67	—
INDIA:	9.97	6.72	4.86	11.55	8.37	6.60	12.17	9.35	7.49

\* - Provisional

### **Rural-urban divide in education**

4701. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the rising rural-urban divide in the field of education;
- (b) if so, the comparative details thereof during the last three years, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to fill the rural-urban divide in education; and
- (d) the funds allocated and utilized for the purpose during the last three years, rural and urban area-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 (as modified in 1992) provides for a National System of Education, which implies that upto a given level, all students, irrespective of caste, creed, location or sex, have access to education of a comparable quality. It also accords priority for improvement of the standard of education at all levels for children living in rural and urban areas.

The NPE recognizes that the rural areas, with poor infrastructure services, will not get the benefit of trained and educated youth, unless rural-urban disparities are reduced and determined measures are taken to promote diversification and dispersal of employment opportunities. Pursuant to this, a large number of schemes/programmes are being implemented throughout the country which predominantly address the educational including rural areas. The Eleventh Plan envisages implementation of a centrally sponsored scheme for Universalisation of access to and improvement of quality of education at secondary stage (SUCCESS) with the objective to make secondary education of good quality available, accessible and affordable to all young persons by providing a secondary school within five kilometers of every habitation. It also envisages setting up of six thousand good quality secondary schools at Block level, at the rate of one school in each Block, which will serve as benchmark of excellence for other schools in the area.

- (d) Funds under various Schemes/Programmes of the Ministry are not allocated on rural-urban basis.

### **Shortcomings in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan**

4702. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of measures taken to overcome the shortcomings in the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme;

(b) whether it is a fact that the quality of teaching under SSA is sub-standard and the same needs improvement and if so, the steps taken to improve the standard of teaching;

(c) the details of measures taken to contain drop-out rate of children at primary level; and

(d) the details of measures taken to improve school infrastructure as well as the pupil-teacher ratio to achieve the objectives of SSA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) For effective implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), a rigorous monitoring system is in place, which includes submission of monthly/quarterly progress reports, periodic review meetings with States, field level monitoring through reputed Institutes of Social Sciences and University Departments of Education, as also independent Review Missions on programme progress. In addition, statutory and independent annual financial audits and concurrent financial reviews are conducted under SSA. This ensures that there are sufficient checks and balances in place to address shortcomings.

(b) To improve the quality of education academic resource support is provided through Block Resource Centres and Cluster Resource Centres. There is also provision for in-service teacher training to enhance teaching capacity.

(c) To address the problem of drop-out, 3,00,895 new schools have been opened, 2,42,608 school buildings have been constructed, 10.22 lakh new teachers recruited, 2563 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya, enrolling girls from disadvantaged category and weaker sections, have been established. Mid-Day Meal is also provided to children in classes 1-8 in Government, Government aided and local body schools.

(d) To improve school infrastructure 2,42,608 school buildings and 10,33,719 additional classrooms have been constructed and 1,88,198 drinking water facilities provided under SSA.

#### **Opening of colleges**

4703. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has chosen any districts for opening colleges where the enrolment is not satisfactory and/or for any other reasons;

(b) if so, the names of the States and districts chosen for the purpose;

(c) the colleges opened, so far, if any;

(d) when was the intention to open such colleges announced; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) The Government has on 21.1.2010 approved a



new Central Sector Scheme with Central-State funding for establishment of one model degree college in each of the 374 identified educationally backward districts having Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) lower than the national GER for higher education, with 200 such colleges in the remaining period of the Eleventh Five Year Plan. Special Category States and districts having concentration of weaker sections and minorities as well as other districts in Schedule V and Schedule VI areas have been prioritized under the scheme. A list of the 374 identified educationally backward districts is given in Statement (*See below*).

The UGC has formulated guidelines which are available on its website [www.ugc.ac.in](http://www.ugc.ac.in). According to UGC it has received proposals so far from the States of Punjab and Gujarat.

**Statement**

*List of 374 identified Higher Educationally Backward Districts*

<b>1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands</b>	Tirap	Begusarai
Andamans	Upper Siang	Darbhanga
Nicobars	Upper Subansiri	Gopalganj
<b>2. Andhra Pradesh</b>	West Kameng	Jamui
Adilabad	West Siang	Kaimur
Anantapur	<b>4. Assam</b>	Katihar
East Godavari	Bongaigaon	Khagaria
Kurnool	Cachar	Kishanganj
Mahbubnagar	Darrang	Lakhisarai
Medak	Dhubri	Madhepura
Nizamabad	Goalpara	Madhubani
Prakasam	Hailakandi	Nawada
Srikakulam	Karbi Anglong	W. Champaran
Vizianagaram	Karimganj	E. Champaran
West Godavari	Marigaon	Purnia
<b>3. Arunachal Pradesh</b>	Nagaon	Saharsa
Changlang	Sonitpur	Samastipur
Dibang Valley	Tinsukia	Sheohar
East Kameng	<b>5. Bihar</b>	Sitamarhi
Lohit	Araria	Siwan
Lower Subansiri	Aurangabad	Supaul
Tawang	Banka	Vaishali

<b>6. Chhattisgarh</b> Bastar Bilaspur Dantewada Dhamtari Durg Janjgir-Champa Jashpur Kanker Kawardha Koriya Mahasamund Raigarh Raipur Rajnandgaon Surguja	Narmada Panch Mahals Patan Porbandar Rajkot Sabar Kantha Surat Surendranagar The Dangs Valsad	Rajauri Udhampur
<b>7. Dadra and Nagar Haveli</b> Dadra and Nagar Haveli	<b>10. Haryana</b> Fatehabad Gurgaon Jind Kaithal Karnal Panipat Sirsa	<b>13. Jharkhand</b> Chatra Deoghar Dumka Garhwa Giridih Godda Gumla Kodarma Pakaur Palamu P. Singhbhum Sahibganj
<b>8. Daman and Diu</b> Daman Diu	<b>11. Himachal Pradesh</b> Chamba Kinnaur Lahul and Spiti Sirmaur	<b>14. Karnataka</b> Bagalkot Bangalore Rural Belgaum Bellary Bijapur Chamarajanagar Chikmagalur Chjtradurga Dakshina Kannada Gadag Hassan Haveri Kodagu Kolar Koppal Mandya Raichur
<b>9. Gujarat</b> Amreli Banas Kantha Bharuch Bhavnagar Dohad Jamnagar Junagad Kachchh Kheda Mahesana	<b>12. Jammu and Kashmir</b> Anantnag Badgam Baramula Doda Kargil Kathua Kupwara Leh Punch	

Tumkur	Raisen	Kolasib
Udupi	Rajgarh	Lawngtlai
Uttara Kannada	Ratlam	Lunglei
<b>15. Kerala</b>	Sagar	Mamit
Kasaragod	Satna	Saiha
Malappuram	Sehore	Serchhip
Palakkad	Seoni	<b>21. Nagaland</b>
Wayanad	Shahdol	Mon
<b>16. Lakshadweep</b>	Shajapur	<b>22. Orissa</b>
Lakshadweep	Sheopur	Anugul
<b>17. Madhya Pradesh</b>	Shivpuri	Balangir
Balaghat	Sidhi	Bargarh
Barwani	Tikamgarh	Baudh
Betul	Ujjain	Debagarh
Bhind	Umaria	Dhenkanal
Chhatarpur	Vidisha	Gajapati
Chhindwara	West Nimar	Ganjam
Damoh	<b>18. Maharashtra</b>	Kalahandi
Datia	Buldana	Kandhamal
Dewas	Gadchiroli	Kendujhar
Dhar	Hingoli	Koraput
Dindori	Jalna	Malkangiri
East Nimar	Raigarh	Nabarangapur
Guna	Ratnagiri	Nayagarh
Harda	Sindhudurg	Nuapada
Jhabua	<b>19. Meghalaya</b>	Rayagada
Katni	East Garo Hills	Sonapur
Mandla	Jaintia Hills	<b>23. Pondicherry</b>
Mandsaur	Ri Bhoi	Yanam
Morena	South Garo Hills	<b>24. Punjab</b>
Narsimhapur	West Khasi Hills	Amritsar
Neemuch	<b>20. Mizoram</b>	Bathinda
Panna	Champhai	Faridkot

Fatehgarh Sahib	Nagaur	Thiruvallur
Firozpur	Pali	Thiruvarur
Gurdaspur	Rajsamand	Thoothukkudi
Kapurthala	Sawai Madhopur	Tirunelveli
Mansa	Sikar	Tiruvannamalai
Moga	Sirohi	Vellore
Muktsar	Tonk	Viluppuram
Nawanshahr	Udaipur	Virudhunagar
Patiala	<b>26. Sikkim</b>	<b>28. Tripura</b>
Sangrur	East	North Tripura
<b>25. Rajasthan</b>	North	South Tripura
Ajmer	South	West Tripura
Alwar	West	Dhalai
Banswara	<b>27. Tamil Nadu</b>	<b>29. Uttar Pradesh</b>
Baran	Ariyalur	Bahraich
Barmer	Coimbatore	Balrampur
Bharatpur	Cuddalore	Banda
Bhilwara	Dharmapuri	Barabanki
Bikaner	Dindigul	Bareilly
Bundi	Erode	Basti
Chittaurgarh	Kancheepuram	Bijnor
Churu	Kanniyakumari	Budaun
Dausa	Karur	Bulandshahr
Dhaulpur	Madurai	Chitrakoot
Dungarpur	Nagapattinam	Etah
Ganganagar	Perambalur	Farrukhabad
Hanumangarh	Pudukkottai	Fatehpur
Jaisalmer	Ramanathapuram	Gonda
Jalor	Salem	Hamirpur
Jhalawar	Sivaganga	Hardoi
Jhunjhunun	Thanjavur	Hathras
Jodhpur	The Nilgiris	Jyotiba P. Nagar
Karauli	Theni	Kannauj

Kanpur Dehat	Shahjahanpur	Dakshin Dinajpur
Kaushambi	Shrawasti	Darjiling
Kheri	Siddharthnagar	Haora
Kushinagar	Sitapur	Hugli
Lalitpur	Sonbhadra	Jalpaiguri
Maharajganj	Sultanpur	Koch Bihar
Mahoba	Unnao	Maldah
Mathura	<b>30. Uttaranchal</b>	Medinipur
Moradabad	Bageshwar	Murshidabad
Muzaffarnagar	Champawat	Nadia
Pilibhit	<b>31. West Bengal</b>	North 24 Parganas
Rae Bareli	Bankura	Puruliya
Rampur	Bardhaman	South 24 Parganas
Saharanpur	Birbhum	Uttar Dinajpur
Sant Kabir Nagar		TOTAL DISTRICTS = 374

#### New Education Policy

4704. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to announce a New Education Policy for the country;

(b) whether it is just and proper to announce sweeping reforms before any new policy to replace 1986 education policy (as amended in 1991) is prepared and put into operation;

(c) what would be the essential features of the new policy, if any; and

(d) whether contents of the policy will include the reforms already announced or in the process of being announced and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 (as modified in 1992) is based on the in-depth review of the educational situation and national consensus. It provides for National System of Education implying that upto a given level, all students irrespective of caste, creed, location or sex, have access to education of a comparable quality. The National System of Education envisages a common educational structure. The 10+2+3 structure has now been accepted in most parts of the country. NPE enunciated a comprehensive framework to guide the development of education in its entirety. The framework continues to be of relevance. Educational Reforms are a continuous process and Eleventh Five

Year Plan seeks to carry them forward through expansion, inclusion and rapid improvement in quality, through institutional and policy reforms. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2010 has been enacted which envisages significant reforms in the Elementary Education sector specially with reference to admission, attendance and completion of elementary education by all children in schools which conform to specified norms and standards.

#### **Right to Education in Minority Educational Institutions**

4705. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minority Educational Institutions (MEIs) have staged a public protest against Right to Education (RTE) Act provisions and to highlight the issue demanding deletion or amendment of Section 22 of the new Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the above section of RTE Act makes no provision for minority institutions which breach Article 30 of the Constitution which allows minorities the freedom to manage these institutions without outside interference; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Section 21 and 22 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provide that every school, other than an unaided school, shall constitute a School Management Committee in a manner provided therein and perform various functions, including preparation of School Development Plan. These provisions apply to all schools, other than unaided schools, including Minority Schools. Minority organizations have represented that provisions under Section 21 and 22 of the RTE Act relating to composition and functions of the School Management Committee violate their rights under Article 30 of the Constitution of India. They have requested that all minority institutions be excluded from the requirement of constituting the School Management Committee. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2010 has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha to address some of the concerns expressed by the Minority organizations.

#### **Construction of college buildings**

†4706. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the policy fixed by his Ministry and University Grants Commission (UGC) regarding construction of college buildings;

(b) whether Governing Body of the School of Open Learning of Delhi University had violated the prescribed policy in November 2009 by deciding to construct a building by withdrawing 72,63,00,000 Rupees from students' deposits; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the steps Government will take to stop this illegal act and to punish the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The guidelines for the Scheme of Development Assistance to Colleges for the Construction of Buildings are available at the website of the University Grants Commission (UGC): [www.ugc.ac.in](http://www.ugc.ac.in).

(b) and (c) According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, since the School of Open Learning does not receive grant from the UGC, its Governing Body has decided to utilize its own fund for construction of academic and administrative wings of the School to meet the requirement of space for Personal Contact Programme classes, conduct of examinations etc. at its Karkardooma Campus.

#### **Facilities for Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Sonipat**

†4707. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is just one nurse for treatment of 800 students studying in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Sonipat;

(b) if so, whether Government will provide doctors, and other facilities for treatment in case of emergency;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is immediate need to raise the height of boundary wall of the school and to enhance other basic facilities in the school; and

(d) if so, whether Government will provide these facilities immediately by providing sufficient funds for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) There are 475 children studying in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Sonipat (Haryana) and a full time regular qualified staff nurse is available in the Vidyalaya.

(b) In case of emergency, treatment is arranged at the nearby Civil dispensary.

(c) and (d) As per the norms of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, brick masonry boundary wall of two meters height has been constructed in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Sonipat and all basic facilities are available to the students of JNV.

#### **ICT in NER schools**

4708. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to ensure Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in North-Eastern Region (NER) schools, State-wise; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) the Centrally sponsored Scheme "Information

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and communication Technology (ICT) in Schools” is being implemented since December, 2004, to provide opportunities to secondary stage students to develop ICT skills and empower teachers to use ICT enabled processes for teaching. The scheme provides support to States/UTs including those in North Eastern Region to establish ICT infrastructure on a sustainable basis. Details of financial assistance provided to the North Eastern States under the scheme are given in the Statement.

***Statement***

*Details of financial assistance provided to the North Eastern States  
under the ICT scheme*

Sl. No	Name of State	Year	No. of Schools approved	Amount Released (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	2005-06	154	444.81
		2006-07	—	267.26
		2007-08	35	—
		2008-09	—	67.38
		2009-10	—	105.52
2.	Assam	2007-08	641	1301.23
3.	Manipur	2007-08	65	195.98
		2009-10	130	391.95
4.	Meghalaya	2008-09	75	428.88
5.	Mizoram	2005-06	60	150.00
		2008-09	100	—
		2009-10	—	301.50
6.	Nagaland	2005-06	53	319.59
		2006-07	147	327.37
		2007-08	284	1299.46
		2008-09	—	815.00
		2009-10	—	111.21
7.	Sikkim	2005-06	103	270.00
8.	Tripura	2006-07	200	603.00
			(shifted to 2007-08)	
		2007-08	400 (including 200 schools of 2007-08)	209.00
		2008-09	282	



### **World class university in Assam**

4709. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether University Grants Commission (UGC) had proposed to set up a world class university in Assam; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As many as 14 Innovation Universities aiming at world class standards have been provided for establishment across Eleventh and Twelfth Plan periods. It has been decided to locate them near 14 identified cities, including one in Guwahati, Assam. A concept note on these universities has been finalized and is in the public domain on the website of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

### **Revamping of education system**

4710. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the entire education system both at the level of school education and higher education in the country is being revamped;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in the country is too less as compared to other developing countries; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government to bridge the gap of GER between Indian and other developing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Educational reforms are a continuous process and Eleventh Five Year Plan seeks to carry them forward through expansion, inclusion and rapid improvement in quality through institutional and policy reforms and by enhancing public spending. There will be no Class-X Board examination *w.e.f.* 2011 for students studying in CBSE's Senior Secondary Schools and who do not wish to move out of the CBSE system after Class-X. The students studying in CBSE's Secondary Schools will, however, be required to appear in Board's external examination if they intend to leave the Secondary School after Class-X. The Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation has been strengthened in all CBSE affiliated schools *w.e.f.* October, 2009 in Class-IX. The new Grading System has been introduced at Secondary School Level (for Class-IX and X) effective from 2009-10 academic session. During various meetings with stakeholders, survey etc. the CBSE has received encouraging response.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2010 has been enacted which envisages significant reforms in the Elementary Education sector specially with reference to

admission, attendance and completion of elementary education by all children in schools which conform to specified norms and standards.

University Grants Commission (UGC) has taken a number of steps to bring in academic reforms in the Central and State Universities such as examination reforms including continuous internal assessment, introduction of credit-based courses, semester system, institutional mobility of students, credit accumulation and credit transfer, regular updating of curriculum etc.

(c) and (d) As per the figures published by UNESCO Institutes for Statistics (UTS) in its publication titled "Global Education Digest 2009" in Tertiary Higher Education, the GER of some of the Developing countries are as under:—

Developing Country	Percentage
China	20
Brazil	25
India	11
Indonesia	17
Morocco	14

Government have taken a number of steps to increase the GER in higher education which includes, setting up of new Central Universities, 8 new Indian Institutes of Technologies (IITs), 7 new Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), 10 new National Institutes of Technology (NITs), 3 Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs), 20 new Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) and 2 new Schools of Planning and Architecture (SPAs), Interest Subsidy Scheme on Education Loans for needy students, setting up of 374 Model Degree Colleges in Educationally Backward Districts, etc.

#### Sharing of funding under RTE Act

4711. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:  
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether one after the other States have been demanding more funds for implementation of the Right to Education Act;

(b) if so, whether Government is now considering to increase its share in the funding arrangement;

(c) if so, whether State Government's funding arrangement is being considered and the Centre-State fund sharing pattern of 65:35 or even 75:25 is being discussed by Government; and

(d) if so, the total cost that will be provided to the States under the scheme and whether States are satisfied with the new formula?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Several States including Karnataka, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Bihar and Arunachal Pradesh have requested for allocation of adequate funds for implementation of the Act. Section 7 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides that the Central Government and the State Governments shall have concurrent responsibility for providing funds for carrying out the provisions of the Act. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme will be the main vehicle for implementation of the provisions of the RTE Act. In 2010-11, a Central budget allocation of Rs. 15,000 crore was presented to Parliament for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme and the States would be required to contribute the State Share in accordance with SSA norms. The Award of Rs. 24,068 crore given by the 13th Finance Commission in the form of a grant-in-aid specifically for elementary education will augment the resources of the States.

#### **Primary education infrastructure**

4712. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether primary education infrastructure in the country is abysmally low;
- (b) if so, the details thereof in the Eleventh Five Year Plan;
- (c) the exact reasons therefor;
- (d) the funds allocated and spent on primary education; and
- (e) the steps being taken to correct the situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. As per District Information System for Education (DISE) 2008-09, 73.44% elementary schools have pucca buildings, 87.77% have drinking water facilities and 66.84% have common toilet facilities. In addition, 14,579 school buildings (primary and upper primary), 1,27,252 additional classrooms, 8425 drinking water facilities and 71,017 school toilets have been sanctioned under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme in 2009-10 to improve school infrastructure.

(d) and (e) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme provides for Universalisation Elementary Education amongst children in the age group 6-14 years in a time bound manner. Under SSA programme funds are released to States/UTs for elementary education covering classes I to VIII. In 2009-10 the Central Government has released an amount of Rs. 12826.23 crore to States/Union Territories for implementation of SSA programme which includes provision for construction of school buildings, additional classrooms, toilets and drinking water facilities etc.

#### **NCPCR and children out-of-schools**

‡4713. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has been given the responsibility of implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009;

(b) whether based on a survey conducted by a Government sponsored Non-Governmental Organisation, the number of children out-of-schools is stated to be 81 lacs;

(c) whether it is the actual number of children out-of-schools; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) It is the responsibility of the appropriate Government and local authorities to implement the provisions of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. However, the function relating to protection and monitoring of child's right to education has been assigned under the RTE Act to various authorities, including the National Commission for Protection of Child's Rights (NCPCR). Under the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005, the NCPCR is empowered to examine and review the safeguards provided by or under any Law for the time being in force for the protection of child rights.

(b) to (d) As per SRI-IMRB Sample survey commissioned by Ministry of Human Resource Development in 2009, the estimated number of out of school children is 81.5 lakhs, representing 4.28% of the total children in the age group of 6-13 years. The percentage of out of school children is more in rural areas (4.5%) as compared to urban areas (3.2%). The percentage of out of school girls (4.7%) is higher than out of school boys (3.9%).

#### **Deemed-to-be-Universities**

4714. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry's attention has been drawn to a news report titled 'A step in the right direction' published in the Hindu, dated 21 January, 2010;

(b) the factors that led Government to act against the Deemed-to-be-Universities throughout the country; and

(c) the steps Government proposes to take against those dubious management practices and admission of students who are victims of capitation fees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Media reports regarding demand for capitation fees and dilution of academic standards were the major factors that led the Government to constitute a Committee of eminent academic experts to review the functioning of institutions deemed to be universities and the desirability of their continuance as such. The report submitted by the Review Committee in this regard has been accepted, in principle, by the Government. However, implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Review Committee is, currently *sub judice* in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matter of Viplav Sharma Vs Union of India and Others [WP(C) 142 of 2006] and related matters.

(c) University Grants Commission (UGC) has, in consultation with the Government, finalized the UGC (Institutions deemed to be universities) Regulations 2010 for publication in the Official Gazette. A legislative proposal to prohibit unfair practices in technical educational institutions, medical educational institutions and universities, including institutions deemed to be universities, has been introduced in Parliament. The proposal provides, *inter alia*, for punishment for offering or demanding or charging or accepting capitation fee.

#### Online question papers for CAT-2009

4715. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the online question papers for CAT-2009 were different for each slot;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that upto CAT-2008, it was one question paper for all but from CAT-2009, it is one for every slot;
- (d) if so, how the quality of students would be judged on an all India basis;
- (e) whether the uniformity of question papers for CAT-2009, was maintained across all the ten days of online despite different sets of question papers for different slots;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As informed by the Convener, CAT-2009, for the computerized CAT-2009, different sessions had different forms of similar difficulty levels.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Till 2008 there used to be one test for all candidates. For multi-form computerized test, raw scores are generated, equated and scaled across different forms using established psychometric procedures as has been the case with other reputed multi-form computerized tests such as GMAT, GRE and TOEFL.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Uniformity of question papers for CAT- 2009 was maintained, as detailed above.

- (g) Does not arise.

### Opening of western universities in the country

†4716. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nobel Laureate Shri Venkataraman Ramakrishnan has commented in London on 30 March, 2010 regarding opening of western universities in India;

(b) whether he has stated that they are run with a commercial motive and propagate their culture;

(c) the number of professors of foreign universities who visited IITs and other universities of India during the last five years;

(d) the details of Indian and foreign universities;

(e) the number of Indian professors visiting foreign universities and the countries visited during this period;

(f) whether distance education classes, video conferencing etc., are also resorted to in exchange of knowledge; and

(g) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Government cannot comment on the views expressed by members of the academia. A legislative proposal for regulating the entry and operation of foreign educational institutions in India has been introduced in Parliament on 3rd May, 2010. Provisions of the Bill can take effect only subject to approval by Parliament. Such legislation while preventing entry and operation of sub-standard institutions would provide Indian Students access to innovative areas of studies, enhanced research opportunities, increase in enrolment, and attracting foreign investments to achieve the targeted Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education.

(c) to (g) While Government does not maintain information about professors of foreign universities undertaking visits to IITs and other universities, such visits are an integral part of Memorandum of Undertaking (MoU) for collaboration in the nature of joint academic/research programme, exchange of faculty, student and academic material, setting up facilities and conducting workshop and seminars etc. with foreign universities/institutions of higher learning in foreign countries.

Due to the absence of regulatory mechanism, other than in technical education, there is no authentic information about the foreign education providers/foreign universities operating in the country. List of Indian Universities can be accessed on the web site of University Grants Commission (UGC) [www.ugc.ac.in](http://www.ugc.ac.in).

Due to demographic dividend that India has in terms of availability of human resources demands for Indian skilled professionals is likely in foreign countries. Government does not

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

maintain information about the visits undertaken by Indian professors to foreign countries in exercise of their academic freedom.

#### **Closing down of schools**

‡4717. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of schools closed or are on the verge of closing down in various States of the country during last three years;
- (b) the details of these schools, State-wise;
- (c) the reasons for closing of these schools;
- (d) whether Government has implemented Right to Education Act from 1 April, 2010; and
- (e) whether this Act would be able to work effectively given the situation arising from frequent closures of schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Information/Statistics regarding schools closed down in various States of the country is not maintained by the Central Government.

(d) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has come into force with effect from 1st April, 2010

(e) It is the responsibility of the appropriate Government and the local authority to ensure compulsory admission, attendance and completion of elementary education by every child of the age of six to fourteen years Further, section 6 of the RTE Act provides that for carrying out the provisions of the Act, the appropriate Governments and the local authority shall establish, within such area of limits of neighbourhood, as may be prescribed, a school where it is not so established, within a period of three years from the commencement of the RTE Act.

#### **National Means-cum-Merit Scholarships**

4718. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether only 33,000 National Means-cum-Merit Scholarships (NMMS) were given out of an allocated total of one lakh in 2007-08 and 2008-09;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) if not, the number of scholarships given for both years; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure maximum uptake of this scholarship scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme was launched in 2008-09. Each year, there is provision for one lakh new scholarships.

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Each State/UT has a quota. No scholarship was given during 2007-08 under the scheme, as the scheme started only in 2008-09. 54564 scholarships were sanctioned to the selected students of Class IX of 33 States/UTs in 2008-09.

In the selection test, a student needs to secure minimum of 40% marks whereas this cut-off is 32% for the SC/ST students. Also, the scholarship is available only for students whose parental income is not more than Rs. 1,50,000/- per annum. Some States did not avail of their quota as:—

- (i) adequate number of students did not secure qualifying marks and/or
- (ii) the total number of candidates appearing in the selection test was not adequate.

All the States/UTs have been requested to ensure adequate publicity for the scheme among prospective students.

**Centralized examination for admission to Graduation/  
Post-Graduation courses**

4719. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any scheme of centralized examination for admission to Graduation/Post-Graduation courses; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Government does not have any scheme of centralized examination for admission to Graduate/Post-Graduate courses in professional and technical programmes. However, there are some common entrance examinations such as Indian Institute of Technology Joint Entrance Examination (IIT-JEE), All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE), etc., for Graduate level and Common Admission Test (CAT), Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE), etc., for Post-Graduate level programmes.

**Allocation for expenditure on education**

4720. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether to improve education in the country, Government plans to increase allocation for expenditure on this sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether this allocation includes expenditure on elementary, adult and higher education; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which this raising of funds will help to improve education in the country?



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Government has accorded high priority to education sector. During Eleventh Five Year Plan, Ministry of Human Resource Development have been allocated of Rs. 2,69,873 crore (Rs. 1,84,930 crore for the Department of School Education and Literacy and Rs. 84,943 crore for the Department of Higher Education). This constitutes 19.4% of the total Eleventh Five Year Plan allocation as compared to 7.7% in the Tenth Five Year Plan. This increased outlay is meant for creating new institutions, strengthening existing institutions and improving the quality of education. The amount allocated for elementary, secondary, adult and higher education during Eleventh Five Year Plan is as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

Sector	Eleventh Plan Allocation
Elementary Education	1,25,380
Secondary Education	53,550
Adult Education	6,000
Higher (including Technical and others) Education	84,943
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>2,69,873</b>

#### Status of Education Report, 2009

‡4721. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), 2009 which is based on the status of school education being given in rural schools reveals that the level of 50 per cent students in rural schools of the country is three classes below to their standard;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the plan of Government to uplift the level of education; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that tendency of getting private tuition is continuously on the rise and if so, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) is brought out annually by Pratham, a Non Governmental Organisation. ASER-2009 presents certain positive findings, including *interalia* that (a) 96% of children in the 6-14 age group in rural India are enrolled in schools, (b) the percentage of out-of-school children in the 6-14 age group has dropped from 4.3% in 2008 to 4% in 2009, (c) the percentage of

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

out-of-school girls in the 11-14 age group has dropped from 7.2% in 2008 to 6.8% in 2009, (d) the percentage of children in Class I who can recognize letters has increased from 65.1% in 2008 to 68.8% in 2009. ASER also points to certain areas of concern, including that the percentage of children in class 5 who can read at class 2 level is around 50%.

Government is committed to improving the quality of elementary education through the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). Under SSA, 10.22 lakh additional teachers have been recruited to improve the pupil teacher ratio, teachers are provided annual in-service training, and textbooks are provided for children. Government has also enacted the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The RTE Act prohibits teachers from private tuition or private teaching activity. It also prohibits deployment of teachers for any non-educational purposes other than decennial population census, disaster relief duties or duties relating to election to local authority, or State Legislature or Parliament. This will ensure that teachers have more time for actual classroom transaction for quality improvement.

#### **Basic facilities in elementary schools**

4722. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey on availability of basic facilities in elementary schools in the country during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the results thereof, State-wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether most of Government elementary schools in the country, particularly, in Himachal Pradesh do not have toilets and drinking water facilities; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by Government to address the problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Under the District Information System for Education (DISE), data on basic facilities in elementary schools is collected annually. As per DISE 2008-09, 73.44% elementary schools have pucca buildings, 87.77% have drinking water facilities and 66.84% have common toilet facilities. The details of availability of school buildings, common toilet, girls toilet and drinking water facilities in Government elementary schools are given in Statement (See below).

(d) and (e) In Himachal Pradesh, as per DISE 2008-09, 94.10% schools have drinking water facilities and 50.86% schools have toilet facilities. Since inception of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), 2312 drinking water and 10463 toilet facilities have been sanctioned in elementary schools of Himachal Pradesh.

**Statement**

*The details of availability of school buildings, Common toilet, girls toilet and drinking water facilities in Government Elementary Schools*

Sl. No.	State	Total elementary schools	School buildings	Common toilet	Girls toilet	Drinking water
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	313	310	299	252	309
2.	Andhra Pradesh	79550	73521	45819	28511	65342
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	4328	2696	976	541	2651
4.	Assam	60147	38567	18769	7327	39828
5.	Bihar	67649	54978	38698	17635	57714
6.	Chandigarh	112	107	41	105	112
7.	Chhattisgarh	45804	41135	19780	9444	40497
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	274	243	116	87	268
9.	Daman and Diu	87	83	78	62	87
10.	Delhi	2768	2553	1420	2224	2768
11.	Goa	1124	1002	616	522	1096
12.	Gujarat	33182	28884	24151	21035	29402
13.	Haryana	15460	14563	14555	13148	14900
14.	Himachal Pradesh	15071	14247	7041	5734	14063
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	20866	12242	5358	2126	15598
16.	Jharkhand	39461	32127	16049	10897	27959
17.	Karnataka	46199	43992	38301	23388	37274
18.	Kerala	5042	4285	4097	4172	4958
19.	Lakshadweep (UT)	39	35	30	25	39
20.	Madhya Pradesh	109757	104197	79606	46648	100499
21.	Maharashtra	65979	58685	49349	35304	55027
22.	Manipur	2563	2469	1160	203	1882
23.	Meghalaya	3747	2277	1299	344	2027

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	Mizoram	2356	2182	1946	802	1903
25.	Nagaland	1886	1841	1501	1025	1403
26.	Orissa	55713	53592	32406	18693	46635
27.	Puducherry	435	414	430	364	433
28.	Punjab	19326	18376	17108	15824	18760
29.	Rajasthan	81058	71541	36041	65894	73096
30.	Sikkim	855	800	846	374	737
31.	Tamil Nadu	35436	34932	23730	19276	35436
32.	Tripura	3742	3711	2625	929	2892
33.	Uttar Pradesh	140219	133096	129183	116006	135911
34.	Uttaranchal	17286	16647	14631	8301	14807
35.	West Bengal	57344	54171	48455	26697	53995
ALL STATES:		1035178	924501	676510	503919	900308

#### World class universities

4723. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:  
SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the concept for establishment of innovative universities aiming at world class standards has been finalized; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are available at the website at <http://www.education.nic.in/uhe/universitiesconceptnote.pdf>.

#### Inspection of Deemed-to-be-Universities

4724. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names and locations of the Deemed-to-be-Universities facing derecognition;

(b) when were these recognized as Deemed-to-be-Universities; and

(c) the number of times each of these Universities were inspected after their recognition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Committee of eminent academic experts, constituted by the Government to review the functioning of institutions deemed to be universities with regard to the desirability of continuance of these institutions as institutions deemed to be universities, found 44 out of 130 such institutions unfit to continue, owing to deficiencies, as institutions deemed to be universities. The names and locations of these institutions, dates on which they were declared/notified as institutions deemed to be universities and the number of times they were inspected thereafter, are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of institutions deemed to be universities	Date of notification	Number of inspections
1	2	3	4
(1)	Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research, Vadlamudi, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh	19.12.2008	One
(2)	Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, Bihar	13.11.2006	One
(3)	Sumandeep Vidyapeeth, Village Piparia, Taluka Waghodia, District Vadodara, Gujarat	17.01.2007	One
(4)	Maharishi Markandeshwar University, Mullana-Ambala, Haryana	12.06.2007	One
(5)	Manav Rachna International University, Faridabad. Haryana	21.10.2008	One
(6)	Lingaya's University, Nachauli, Faridabad, Haryana	05.01.2009	One
(7)	Sri Devaraj Urs Academy of Higher Education and Research, Tamaka, Kolar, Karnataka	25.05.2007	One
(8)	Yenepoya University, Mangalore, Karnataka	27.02.2008	One
(9)	BLDE University, Bijapur, Karnataka	29.02.2008	One
(10)	Sri Siddhartha Academy of Higher Education, Siddharthanagar, Tumkur District, Karnataka	30.05.2008	One
(11)	Christ College, Hosur Road, Bangalore, Karnataka	22.07.2008	One
(12)	Jain University, V.V. Puram, Bangalore, Karnataka	19.12.2008	One
(13)	Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune, Maharashtra	28.04.1987	One

1	2	3	4
(14)	Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences, Karad, District Satara, Maharashtra	24.05.2005	One
(15)	D.Y. Patil Education Society, Kolhapur, Maharashtra	01.09.2005	One
(16)	Siksha 'O' Anusandhan, Khandagiri, Bhubaneswar, Orissa	17.07.2007	One
(17)	Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth, Pillaiyarkuppam, Puducherry	04.08.2008	One
(18)	Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapith, Udaipur, Rajasthan	12.01.1987	Two
(19)	Institute of Advanced Studies in Education of Gandhi Vidya Mandir, Sardarshahr, Rajasthan	25.06.2002	Two
(20)	Mody Institute of Technology and Science, Lakshmangarh, Rajasthan	20.02.2004	One
(21)	Vinayaka Mission's Research Foundation, Salem, Tamil Nadu	01.03.2001	Two
(22)	Bharath Institute of Higher Education and Research, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	04.07.2002	Two
(23)	Dr. M.G.R. Educational and Research Institute, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	21.01.2003	Two
(24)	Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research, Chennai	31.03.2004	One
(25)	Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences, Chennai	18.03.2005	One
(26)	Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education, Anand Nagar, Krishnankoil, Virudhunagar District, Tamil Nadu	20.10.2006	One
(27)	Periyar Maniammai Institute of Science and Technology (PMIST), Periyar Nagar, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu	17.08.2007	One
(28)	Academy of Maritime Education and Training, Kanathur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	21.08.2007	Two
(29)	Ponnaiyah Ramajayam Institute of Science and Technology (PRIST), Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu	04.01.2008	One

1	2	3	4
(30)	St. Peter's Institute of Higher Education and Research, Avadi, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	26.05.2008	One
(31)	Vel's Institute of Science, Technology and Advanced Studies (VISTAS), Pallavaram, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	04.06.2008	One
(32)	Chettinad Academy of Research and Education (CARE), Padur, Kelambakkam, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu	04.08.2008	Two
(33)	Karpagam Academy of Higher Education, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	25.08.2008	One
(34)	Vel Tech Rangarajan Dr. Sagunthala R&D Institute of Science and Technology, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	15.10.2008	One
(35)	Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu	23.10.2008	One
(36)	Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education, Kumaracoil, Thuckalay, Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu	08.12.2008	One
(37)	Gurukula Kangri Vishwavidyalaya, Haridwar, Uttarakhand	19.06.1962	One
(38)	Swami Rama Vidyapeeth (renamed as HIHT University), Swami Rama Nagar, P.O. Doiwala, Dehradun, Uttarakhand	06.06.2007	One
(39)	Graphic Era University, Dehradun, Uttarakhand	14.08.2008	One
(40)	Jaypee Institute of Information Technology, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh	01.11.2004	Two
(41)	Shobhit Institute of Engineering and Technology, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh	08.11.2006	One
(42)	Santosh University, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh	13.06.2007	One
(43)	Nehru Gram Bharati Vishwavidyalaya, Kotwa-Jamunipur, Dubwali, District Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh	27.06.2008	One
(44)	National Museum Institute of the History of Art, Conservation and Museology, New Delhi	28.04.1989	One

The issue of implementation of the recommendations contained in the aforesaid report of the Review Committee is, currently *sub judice* in the Supreme Court of India in the matter of Viplav Sharma Vs Union of India and Others [WP(C) 142 of 2006] and related matters.

#### **Mungekar Committee on NET**

4725. SHRI ANIL H. LAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken an uncompromising stand by declining to give exemption from the National Eligibility Test to specific individuals/institutions and colleges;

(b) whether instances of gross violations by the University Grants Commission of its own regulations of 2009 on NET have prompted Government to act under section 20 of the UGC Act; and

(c) whether the Mungekar Committee on NET and UGC recommendations based on it had asked the commission to notify NET/SLET as the minimum eligibility condition for appointment of lecturers in universities and colleges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission in its 468th meeting held on 23rd February, 2010 had considered specific requests from Calicut University, Panjab University and Kannur University in respect of particular individuals appointed after the date of the University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for appointment and career advancement of teachers in universities and colleges) (3rd Amendment) Regulations, 2009 notified on 1st June, 2009. Therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 20 of the UGC Act, 1956, the Central Government has issued a policy direction on 30th March, 2010 stating that the UGC shall not take up specific cases for exemption from the application of the Regulations of 2009.

(c) The Government had considered the report of the Mungekar Committee and all other relevant material in this regard and issued a policy direction on 12th November, 2008 under Sub-Section (1) of Section 20 of the UGC Act, 1956 seeking, *inter-alia*, that the UGC shall, for serving the national purpose of maintaining standards of higher education, frame appropriate Regulations prescribing that qualifying in the National Eligibility Test (NET)/State Level Eligibility Test (SLET) shall generally be compulsory for all persons to be appointed as lecturers. Accordingly, UGC had notified Regulations namely, the University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for appointment and career advancement of teachers in universities and colleges) (3rd Amendment) Regulations, 2009, with exemption to be provided to persons who have obtained a Ph.D. degree in accordance with standards and rigor prescribed by the UGC under University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and procedures for Award of M.Phil/Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2009. Both these Regulations were notified on 1st June, 2009.

#### **Development of convicts as human resources**

4726. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:



(a) the details of programme with Government for the development of human resource; and

(b) the manner in which Government proposes to use the human resource of large number of convicts and under trials lodged in different jails of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) All the programmes and schemes of the Ministry of Human Resource Development are aimed at development of human resources across the country. The details are available in the Annual Report of this Ministry for the year 2009-10.

(b) Ministry of Home Affairs have informed that 'Prisons' is a State subject as per entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Therefore, the administration and management of prisons and prisoners is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Governments. However, as per the Prison Policy and the 'Model Prison Manual' circulated to all the States/UTs, all the prison inmates are to be given vocational training in order to equip them with better skills and work habits for their speedy rehabilitation on their release. In prisons across the country, various vocational trainings are provided to the inmates. In some of the prisons, certain small labour intensive industries are also run and the goods manufactured in these prisons are sold in the open markets.

#### **Regularization of *ad-hoc*/contract based staff in IIT, Delhi**

4727. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IIT, Delhi has engaged some of its staff on *ad-hoc*/contract basis continuously for more than ten years and thus denying them benefits of a regular employment;

(b) if so, the details of each of such employees who are being employed continuously or with a few days break since 2000/2001;

(c) the reasons for not regularizing them even when their performance is satisfactory and there has been requirement of the posts they are holding continuously for such a long time; and

(d) the action being taken/will be taken to regularize them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, runs Sponsored Research Projects (SRPs) of 3-5 years duration for which it employs staff, either on *ad-hoc* basis or on contract, for the project durations. A list of staff employed in the projects with their salary coming from the project funds since 2000, is given in Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) The requirement of staff changes from year to year depending on the sponsored funds received by the Institute. The funding has grown during the last decade and the staff has continued as project staff on contract basis. Being project staff, there is no assurance that their services would continue in this manner.

**Statement**

*List of employees working on ad-hoc basis or on contract since 2000 in Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi*

Sl. No.	Emp. Code	Employee Name	Current Designation	Projects	Source of Payment	Date of Joining
1.	7002	SAMSHEER SINGH	Jr. Project Assistant	GATE. Operations (Admissions)	Supported by income from Application Fee of GATE	06/11/00
2.	5048	LALIT KUMAR CHADHA	Jr. Project Assistant Support for Managing Sponsored Projects and Consultancies	Support for Managing Sponsored Projects and Consultancies	Supported by income from Sponsored projects and Consultancies	02/08/01
3.	5049	BINDU S.	Jr. Project Assistant	Support for Managing Sponsored Projects and Consultancies	Supported by income from Sponsored projects and Consultancies	07/08/01
4.	5082	SHEELA KOLI	Jr. Project Assistant	QIP programme of MHRD/AICTE	Supported by overheads of Sponsored Research and Consultancies transferred to Institute	17/08/01
5.	5085	JAI KUMAR	Jr. Project Assistant	QIP programme of MHRD/AICTE	Supported by overheads of Sponsored Research and Consultancies transferred to Institute	17/08/01
6.	7817	SANJAY KUMAR SAGAR	Project Attendant	QIP programme of MHRD/AICTE	Supported by overheads of Sponsored Research and Consultancies transferred to Institute	17/08/01

### Setting up of small scale industries in Gujarat

4728. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received proposals planning to set-up new small scale and KVIC units in the districts of Bharuch, Rajkot, Amreli, Mehsana and Surat during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the proposals;

(c) the steps taken by Government to expedite the process of setting-up of such units in the State; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The proposals for setting up of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises are received by the State Governments. As per the information provided by the Government of Gujarat, 1384 proposals were received by District Industries Centres (DICs) during 2009-10 in the districts of Bharuch, Rajkot, Amreli, Mehsana and Surat for setting up new micro and small enterprises which, are as under:—

Sl.No.	Name of District	No. of Entrepreneur Memorandum
1.	Bharuch	80
2.	Rajkot	248
3.	Amreli	29
4.	Mehsana	43
5.	Surat	984
TOTAL :		1384

Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has been implementing Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) since 2008-09 for generating employment through setting up micro-enterprises which is implemented through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) as the nodal agency throughout the country. The details of the progress of the scheme in the districts of Bharuch, Rajkot, Amreli, Mehsana and Surat are as under:—

Sl No.	District	No. of projects forwarded to bank	No. of projects sanctioned by bank	Margin Money disbursed by Nodal bank	No. of projects	Margin Money (Rs. lakh)	Employment (Nos.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1.	Bharuch	108	42	13	25.79		130

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Rajkot	283	59	53	111.51	530
3.	Amreli	206	56	39	47.34	390
4	Mehsana	375	77	40	84.26	400
5	Surat	557	87	30	117.15	300

(c) and (d) Central Government provides support for setting- up enterprises through various schemes which, *inter alia*, include assistance for easy availability of credit, training and capacity building of entrepreneurs, technology upgradation, accessing markets and improved infrastructure etc. The Government of Gujarat has set up District Level Committee viz. Single Window Industries Follow-up Team (SWIFT) to address individual issues of entrepreneurs to resolve their problems. The State Government has been implementing Industrial Policy 2009 which has various incentives for promotion of the sector.

#### **Rebate policy on Khadi and Khadi items**

4729. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of rebate policy on Khadi for the year 2009-10 and 2010-11;
- (b) the details of production and earnings from sale of Khadi and Khadi related items during the last two years;
- (c) whether Government proposes to provide normal and special rebates on Khadi and Khadi items from the month of April, 2010 before the festival seasons;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps proposed to promote the use of Khadi and Khadi items in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) In order to promote market for khadi products till 2009-10 the Government had continued with the policy of rebate on sale of khadi and khadi products @20% of sales of which normal 10% rebate is given throughout the year whereas a special rebate of additional 10% is given for 108 days in a year coinciding with Gandhi Jayanti and local festivals. Besides the above, some State Governments also declare additional rebates from time to time. However, the Governments has introduced a more flexible scheme, namely, Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme on production of khadi in place of existing Rebate scheme with effect from 01.04.2010 for implementation during 2010-11 and 2011-12. The scheme envisages financial assistance @ 20% of production value on khadi and polyvastra which will be shared among spinners/weavers, producing institutions and selling institutions in the ratio 25:30:45. An amount of Rs. 345.05 crore has been estimated to be incurred on MDA between 2010-11 and 2011-12.

(b) The details of value of production and sales of khadi sector during each of the last three years are given below:—

Year	Value of Production (Rs. crore)	Value of Sales (Rs. crore)
2006-07	491.52	663.19
2007-08	543.39	724.39
2008-09	585.25	799.61

As the khadi activities are carried out by the institutions on a 'no profit - no loss' basis, there is no earning from sales as such, and the statutory margins are just enough to cover their administrative expenses, etc.

(c) and (d) As mentioned in answer to part (a) above, the scheme of MDA on production of khadi and polyvastra has been introduced with effect from 01.04.2010 in place of existing Rebate scheme for implementation during 2010-11 and 2011-12. Under the new scheme the khadi institutions engaged in sales of khadi have the liberty to utilize their share of MDA on various activities, including providing discount to customers.

(e) To promote the use of khadi products throughout the country, the Government, through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), has taken several initiatives, viz., (i) organising exhibitions at National/Zonal/District levels, (ii) providing financial assistance to khadi institutions for participation in national and international exhibitions, (iii) providing financial assistance under Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) Scheme for improved designs and packaging of khadi products, (iv) launching 'Mission Khadi' to convert the Khadi fabric into ready-made garments of latest designs, (v) launching brand name 'Khadi India' for khadi products, (vi) launching Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) for implementation in 25 khadi clusters for their holistic development over five years beginning 2005-06, (vii) launching MDA scheme on khadi and polyvastra beginning 2010-11, etc. Besides, the Government has also embarked upon a comprehensive Khadi Reform and Development Programme to revitalize the sector through quality improvement and better marketing network through private partnership.

#### **Promotion of rural industries**

4730. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether steps are being taken to promote rural industries in the country;
- (b) if so, the funds earmarked for the purpose for 2009-10;

- (c) the allocation made for the purpose, State-wise;
  - (d) the number of industries set up under this scheme in the last three years, State-wise;
- and
- (e) the various steps proposed to be taken to promote rural industries in 2010-11 in Uttarakhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), a statutory body under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has been implementing a number of schemes to develop khadi and village industries sector, with grants available through budgetary sources of the Central Government. In particular, the Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) has been implementing the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) since 2008-09 for generating employment through setting up of 'micro enterprises', including rural industrial units, through KVIC as the nodal agency at the national level and through field offices of KVIC, State/Union Territory Khadi and Village Industries Boards and District Industries Centres at the State/Union Territories level, with involvement of banks. The scheme has an enhanced quantum of subsidy and lower rates of beneficiary contribution for new projects set up in rural areas. Besides, the Government has revamped the Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialization at Wardha, Maharashtra for accelerating the process of rural industrialization in the country through pilot projects and demonstration of innovative technology to increase efficiency and productivity of rural industrial units.

(b) An amount of Rs. 601.20 crore (Revised Estimates) was earmarked for the implementation of PMEGP Scheme during 2009-10, of which Rs. 559.70 crore has been provided as margin money subsidy.

(c) and (d) Government provides margin money assistance to eligible candidates for setting up of 'micro enterprises' throughout the country. KVIC reallocates the available funds under the scheme to the States on the basis of tentative targets. The State/Union Territory-wise details of funds allocated by KVIC for 2009-10 under the PMEGP are given in Statement (See below), including the units assisted under the PMEGP during 2008-09 and 2009-10.

(e) The various steps proposed to be taken to promote rural industries in 2010-11 in Uttarakhand include continued implementation of the PMEGP Scheme as per the targets tentatively fixed under the PMEGP to assist in setting up 800 units for creating around 8000 additional employment opportunities with the utilisation of margin money assistance of Rs. 11.20 crore.

**Statement**

*State/Union Territory-wise details of units assisted during 2008-09 and 2009-10, and margin money subsidy utilized under PMEGP during 2009-10*

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Margin Money subsidy allocated during 2009-10 (Rs. lakh)	Number of units assisted	
			2008-09	2009-10*
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Chandigarh	45.32	16	30
2.	Delhi	79.73	01	85
3.	Haryana	1081.97	484	466
4.	Himachal Pradesh	641.82	309	485
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	1565.60	680	1805
6.	Punjab	1215.68	266	587
7.	Rajasthan	2032.77	540	1059
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	115.11	40	67
9.	Bihar	1868.88	5873	884
10.	Jharkhand	1789.12	498	353
11.	Orissa	2227.72	1654	2386
12.	West Bengal	8568.45	4002	8029
13.	Andhra Pradesh	7021.87	865	2461
14.	Karnataka	2699.90	1220	1341
15.	Kerala	1605.62	365	1410
16.	Lakshadweep	5.04	0	11
17.	Puducherry	45.32	48	55
18.	Tamil Nadu	5274.87	1197	2915
19.	Goa	65.46	01	72
20.	Gujarat	2626.61	268	841
21.	Maharashtra	1937.26	1692	3281
22.	Chhattisgarh	1313.02	584	464
23.	Madhya Pradesh	1492.63	416	1138

1	2	3	4	5
24.	Uttarakhand	485.05	384	657
25.	Uttar Pradesh	8697.47	2724	3628
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	77.76	114	158
27.	Assam	550.23	1226	1936
28.	Manipur	177.90	0	190
29.	Meghalaya	182.94	0	301
30.	Mizoram	90.07	0	119
31.	Nagaland	162.80	5	37
32.	Tripura	178.46	25	234
33.	Sikkim	47.55	10	45
TOTAL:		55970.00	25507	37530

\*Figure are tentative. The date for margin money settlement for 2009-10 was extended upto 30 April, 2010.

#### **Setting up of readymade garment cluster in Hubli**

4731. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has recommended a proposal in December 2008 for setting up a readymade garment cluster in Hubli by Association of Women entrepreneur of Karnataka—a project to be implemented as SPV, to the Central Government for approval and for sanctioning of its share of the grant; and

(b) if so, by when the proposal is likely to be cleared and the grant released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The aforesaid proposal has been approved by the Steering Committee of Micro and Small Enterprises—Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP) in its meeting held on 11th November, 2009. As per the guidelines of MSE-CDP in force the Administrative Approval for the project was issued on 17.02.2010 to Government of Karnataka containing the terms and condition required to be fulfilled for release of Central Grant.

#### **Report of Prime Minister's Task Force**

4732. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report submitted by Prime Minister's Task Force is accepted by Government; and



(b) if so, the steps taken for its implementation and whether it is a time bound mandatory direction to the concerned agencies for the benefit of the stake holders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The Task Force constituted to address the issues of the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) sector has submitted its report. The Task Force has made various recommendations in the areas of credit, taxation, labour issues, infrastructure/technology/skill development, marketing, etc., for providing an impetus to the growth of the sector. The report has been circulated to the departments/agencies concerned for time-bound action as laid down in the report. A Steering Group under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister has been constituted for ensuring timely/speedy implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force.

#### **Implementation of clause 22 of Trade Unions Act, 1926**

4733. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per clause 22 of Trade Unions Act, 1926 persons holding supervisory posts like JE, SE, SSE, SSO, SO, etc., should not be office bearer of recognized unions;

(b) if so, the reasons for which Railways has not yet implemented the above clause of Trade Unions Act, 1926; and

(c) by when Railways will implement the above clause and debar Supervisors from becoming office bearers of recognized unions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Clause 22 of Trade Unions Act, 1926 deals with 'Proportion of office-bearers to be connected with the industry' and not regarding admissibility of supervisors holding trade union office. However, Ministry of Railways have been allowing participation of all non-gazetted staff in the union activities irrespective of their post, pay scales, grades.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Encroachment of railway land**

4734. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 2413 given in Rajya Sabha on 16th April, 2010 and state:

(a) the details of land which has been evicted during last one year till date in NE and NC Railways;

(b) the name of schools which have encroached 0.42 acre of railway land in Varanasi;

(c) whether land on which Sunbeam School, Lahartara has been constructed has ever been in records as railway land;

- (d) if so, how the title of this land was transferred to Sunbeam School, Lahartara; and
- (e) the action Government will take to evict these lands particularly the land in records and has been transferred to Sunbeam, Lahartara?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Total 0.22 acre of railway land has been vacated from encroachments during last one year in North Central and North Eastern Railways.

(b) Janta Vidyalaya has encroached 0.42 acre of railway land in Varanasi, North Eastern Railway.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### **Allotment of railway building to trade union offices**

4735. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the norms for allotment of railway buildings to trade union offices in Railways;
- (b) the competent authority for such allotment and the detailed procedures for the same;
- (c) the number of buildings allotted to railway unions in Railways and the charges like electricity, water rent, etc., recovered from them for use of railway building as their offices;
- (d) whether such charges are raised and recovered in time; and
- (e) the outstanding dues, if any, to be recovered from Unions on account of using railway buildings as their offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) On the Indian Railways, suitable office accommodation is provided to the recognised Unions/Associations/Federations to the extent feasible.

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

#### **Participation of private sector in Railways**

†4736. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:  
SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that private companies are being invited on large scale in Railways; and
- (b) if so, the sector which are being privatized?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Prospective investors are free to participate in schemes/areas/projects identified for execution through private participation.

(b) There is no plan to privatize any sector of Railways. However, certain areas have been identified for execution through partnership with private sector. Some of these are: manufacturing of locomotives/coaches/wagons, development of world-class stations, operation of container trains, Liberalised Wagon Investment Scheme, connectivity to ports and other industrial clusters, private freight terminal, special freight train operation, auto hubs and ancillaries, medical colleges, educational institutions and revenue generation by leveraging the advertisement potential using railway's assets, properties and services etc.

#### **Facilities for seasonal pass holders**

4737. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the facilities provided to the first class/AC Chair Car monthly pass holders travelling on Mumbai-Pune route;

(b) the action Railways has taken on numerous complaints by the seasonal pass holders travelling on this route daily in trains like Indrayani Express, Deccan Queen, Intra-City Express and Deccan Express;

(c) whether there is any plan to attach special bogies for seasonal pass holders, or providing them at least reserved seats; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) There is no separate provision of Monthly Season Ticket in AC Chair Car. However, 2 chair car coaches each in Train Nos. 2123/2124 CSTM-Pune Deccan Queen and 6 seats each in chair car coaches of Train Nos.2127/2128 CSTM-Pune Intercity have been earmarked for exclusive use of First Class season ticket holders.

(b) No such complaints have been received in this regard from 1st Class season ticket holders travelling by these trains.

(c) Presently there is no plan to further attach additional coaches for season ticket holders.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Condition of train compartments**

4738. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the long distance trains like Rajdhani, Falaknama, Coromandal, Shatabdi, Dhanli Puri express, Tapaswini express, Konark expresses running from Orissa or coming to Orissa the condition of compartments is very bad in comparison to the compartments of the trains running in North India; and

(b) whether Railways take care so that long distance trains of Orissa get good compartments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Coaches with a prescribed life and following a uniform pattern of maintenance and periodicity of overhaul are used in Passenger services on Indian Railways. There is no distinction based on 'Region' or 'State' while forming the rakes for different Trains.

#### **MEMU train for Kerala**

4739. SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are going to introduce MEMU (Mainline Electrical Multiple Unit) service in Kerala;

(b) the stations between which it will run and the date from which it would start;

(c) whether Kollam-Trivandrum sector is not included in the first phase; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The trains in Indian Railways are not introduced on the basis of State. However, in the Railway Budget 2010-11, MEMU train between Ernakulam-Kollam has been announced which shall serve people of the State of Kerala.

(c) and (d) No such phasing for introduction of MEMU trains has been done.

#### **Transfer of management of bookstalls to IRCTC**

4740. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount received by Railways from the date the management of bookstalls was transferred to Indian Railway Catering Tourism Corporation Ltd.;

(b) whether Railways have taken a decision for sharing the licence fee/royalty from bookstalls at the ratio of 75 per cent to IRCTC and 25 per cent to the Indian Railways; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has taken over bookstalls at A, B and C category of stations and the bookstalls owned by Major bookstall licensees at D, E and F category of stations except the bookstalls operated by philanthropic and social organizations during the year 2007-08 and onwards in a phased manner. As per action guideline IRCTC will keep 75% of the revenue earned from bookstalls and pass on 25% to the Zonal Railways. Till 31.03.2010 IRCTC has paid Rs. 100.63 lakhs to the Indian Railways.

**Gauge conversion work on Kollam-Punalur-Shencottah rail line**

4741. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress of Kollam-Punalur-Shencottah railway line gauge conversion work;
- (b) the time frame to complete Punalur-Shencottah section; and
- (c) the details of the spending and percentage of work completed till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Gauge conversion of Quilon-Punalur-Sengottai metre gauge section is a part of Quilon-Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur and Tenkasi-Virudhunagar gauge conversion project. Work on Quilon-Punalur (45 km) has already been completed. On Punalur-Sengottai (49 km) Ghat section, final location survey has been completed and tenders for civil engineering works have been processed. Works on this section would be completed as per availability of resources.

An anticipated expenditure of Rs. 543.55 crore has been incurred on the entire project upto March, 2010.

**Railway projects in Bihar**

4742. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several railway projects for Bihar which were announced by the predecessor Minister has been stalled;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Bihar Government has recently urged the Union Government to revive such pending projects and complete them in a time bound manner; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The projects are being progressed as per the availability of resources.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

**Traffic between Visakhapatnam and Raipur**

4743. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has done any survey of the traffic potential between Visakhapatnam and Raipur;
- (b) the present traffic in this sector, giving figures for 2008-09 and 2009-10 respectively;
- (c) the number of trains which originate from Visakhapatnam to Raipur daily; and

(d) the steps proposed to modernize and upgrade this sector in 2010-11?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) Surveys have been done for assessing the traffic requirement on this route and based on the results of the Survey, works of Titlagarh-Raipur doubling and Simhachalan North-Kottavalasa 4th line and Kottavalasa-Vizianagram 3rd line have been taken up. The present traffic on various sub-sections on this route for 2008-09 and 2009-10 with average number of trains per day each way are given below:—

Sl. No.	Section	Year	Passenger	Goods	Others	Total
1.	Visakhapatnam — Gopalpatnam	2008-09	66.00	0.00	0.20	66.20
		2009-10	66.00	0.00	0.20	66.20
2.	Gopalpatnam — Simhachalam North	2008-09	32.00	0.00	0.20	32.20
		2009-10	32.00	0.00	0.20	32.20
3.	Simhachalam North — Kottavalasa	2008-09	33.00	35.76	3.30	72.06
		2009-10	33.00	38.13	3.88	75.01
4.	Kottavalasa — Vizianagram	2008-09	33.00	28.70	2.91	64.61
		2009-10	33.00	31.05	3.40	67.45
5.	Vizianagram — Singapura Rd	2008-09	14.00	13.39	3.10	30.49
		2009-10	15.00	16.19	3.10	34.29
6.	Singapura Rd — Titlagarh	2008-09	11.00	10.09	5.95	27.04
		2009-10	12.00	13.25	5.96	31.21
7.	Titlagarh — Raipur	2008-09	10.00	8.43	2.01	20.44
		2009-10	11.00	11.62	3.00	25.62

At present 3 passenger/Express trains and an average of approximately eight goods trains originate from Visakhapatnam to Raipur daily.

#### **Tatkal reservation scheme**

4744. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tatkal Reservation scheme was launched in late 1990s with additional coaches in trains marked T-1, T-2 etc. and whether in late 2003-04 these additional coaches under Tatkal Seva were slyly withdrawn and 10 per cent of all seats were moved into Tatkal Quota;

(b) whether this decision had a huge impact on the availability of tickets under the general normal quota; and

(c) whether the number of seats under the Tatkal scheme increased from 5.6 per cent in 2005-06 to 14.60 per cent in 2008-09 thereby encroaching upon the general booking quota, without investment in any additional coaches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Tatkal Scheme was initially introduced in December, 1997 on a few trains by attaching additional coach and the same was defined in computerized Passenger Reservation System (PRS) as separate train by suffixing word "T" to the train number. The Tatkal Scheme was comprehensively reviewed in 2004 and revised Tatkal scheme was introduced extending the same to Sleeper, Air-conditioned Chair Car, AC-3 tier, AC-2 tier classes in all Mail/Express trains including Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Jan Shatabdi Express trains by earmarking the following accommodation as Tatkal:—

AC-2 tier	4 berth per coach
AC- 3 tier	6 berths per coach
AC Chair Car	6 seats per coach
Sleeper Class	10% of the accommodation or one coach whichever is less.

The Tatkal coaches running in the trains were, however, included in the train service composition.

(b) Since the revised Tatkal scheme was extended to all Mail/Express trains including Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Jan Shatabdi Express trains and in various classes, the availability of general accommodation got reduced to that extent. However, the Tatkal quota so earmarked was also available for the general passenger with the only difference of comparatively reduced Advance Reservation Period.

(c) Based on the demand pattern, the berths/seats under Tatkal scheme were increased in phases on certain trains during the period from 2004-05 to 2008-09 resulting in increased percentage. Simultaneously, general reservation quota also increased during this period on account of introduction of new trains, increasing the frequency and augmenting the load of existing trains etc., which required investment in production of additional coaches.

#### **Utilisation of rake capacity**

4745. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the concept of higher utilisation of rake capacity with decreased turn-around time was extended to passenger services also;

(b) if so, whether without adequate investments in acquisition of new rolling stock, several daily mail/express train services that earlier utilized four rakes are now being run on three rakes leading to curtailment of stipulated turn-around time for cleaning and maintenance services; and

(c) if so, whether this curtailment of turn-around time has led to dirty trains pressed into service from originating stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Optimization of rake links of passenger trains is a continuous exercise on Indian Railways. In

line with pattern of maintenance/running of trains, various cleanliness/hygiene improvement initiatives are put in place, including mechanised cleaning during maintenance in depots, machanised cleaning attention to identified trains at nominated “Clean Train Stations” during the scheduled halt and an On Board Housekeeping Scheme for frequent cleaning and hygiene attention to long distance trains during their run.

#### **Train accidents**

4746. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that number of accidents due to human errors and carelessness are increasing every year in railways during last three years;

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

(c) the steps Government is taking to achieve zero tolerance for accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To prevent accidents attributable to human failures, priority is accorded to training including induction training, refresher courses and promotional courses. Defaulting staff are also dealt appropriately with the imposition of major/minor penalties.

All possible steps are also undertaken on a continuing basis to prevent accidents by way of replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of tracks, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, etc. Safety devices introduced to prevent accidents include provision of Train Protection Warning System (TPWS), Anti-Collision Device (ACD), Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS) and Vigilance Control Device (VCD).

Every train accident is enquired into either by the Commission of Railway Safety or the Departmental Inquiry Committee depending upon the severity of the accident. Findings and recommendations of the Commission and Inquiry Committees are examined by the concerned departments of Indian Railways for compliance if feasible and remedial actions are undertaken.

#### **Post of Bungalow Chaprasi**

4747. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Railways want to retain the post of ‘Bungalow Chaprasi’ even now which was once kept by Englishmen to enjoy luxury and comforts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government is abolishing these posts by accepting the recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission?



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) There is no post of Bungalow Chaprasi in Railways. However, the position in Railways, in regard to Telephone Attendant-cum-Dak Khalasi (TADK), is based on the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure), Resolution, dated 29.08.2008.

**Passenger halt at Nalko Nagar**

‡4748. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a policy decision has been taken to establish a passenger halt at Nalko Nagar between Talcher Road and Angul station in Orissa under the East-coast Railway; and

(b) if so, by when the construction work of station would commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work will be taken up after sanction of estimate and finalisation of contract.

**Electrification of rail track from Shakur Basti to Rohtak**

4749. SHRI MANGALA KISAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken electrification of Shakur Basti (Delhi)- Rohtak rail track;

(b) if so, whether work has since been completed;

(c) the time when the EMU, MEMU and electric engine trains are likely to be introduced;

(d) whether Government proposes to extend some more trains upto Rohtak after completion of this project; and

(e) the steps being taken by railways to enhance facilities on this route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Introduction of specific types of trains and extension etc. would depend on operational and commercial factor after project completion.

(e) Providing passenger amenities as per norms at all railway stations is a continuous process. In Shakurbasti-Rohtak Section, works of improved illumination, platform extension and surface improvement, signage, water availability, sitting area, toilet improvement and public announcement system improvements have been carried out at various stations in the section.

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

#### **Providing employment to land-owners by railway**

4750. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether land-owners were assured to be provided with employment in railways if they gave their land to railways;
- (b) if so, the number of kilometers of land railway needs to acquire for the purpose of laying new railway lines in the country, State-wise and the present status thereof; and
- (c) the total number of family members of land-owners likely to get employment in railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Railways will provide employment to land losers as per the detailed policy guidelines and eligibility criteria which are under finalization.

(b) and (c) There are more than 300 ongoing new line, gauge conversion and doubling projects which are in different stages of progress. On many of these projects, details will be known only after completion of final location survey and its finalization.

#### **Incidents of eve-teasing in trains**

4751. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that cases of eve-teasing and manhandling with women in the passenger trains have been on rise particularly in the national capital region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of cases reported during 2009-10 in this regard;
- (d) the details of action taken by Railways in this regard; and
- (e) whether Railways proposes to deploy more force in such trains to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future?

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.

#### **Leasing of real estate assets**

4752. SHRI N. R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways plan to lease some of its real estate assets and aim to get Rs. 600 crores this fiscal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Railway land development authority have finalised lease deal of 15 plots in different metros and tier III cities on long lease and have also identified a land bank of 1900 hectares for development and have appointed 15 consultants for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) In order to mobilize additional financial resources, Indian Railways have set up Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) through an act of Parliament to undertake suitable development of its vacant land not required by railways for its own immediate future operational needs, by leasing it on long term basis.

Vacant land is also leased/licensed for purposes connected with Railway working viz. shops, coal dumps, steel yards, bulk oil installation etc. This yields additional revenues for Railways, which was expected to be to the tune of Rs. 611 crore for 2009-10.

(c) and (d) RLDA have so far finalized lease deals for two sites viz. Gwalior and Bangalore. 135 sites measuring 3761 acres of railway land has been entrusted to RLDA so far in this regard. Consultants have been appointed for 62 sites.

#### **Pending railway projects of Punjab**

4753. SARDAR SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new railway projects pending for clearance/approval in respect of Punjab; and

(b) the status of each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The details of railway projects pending for clearance/approval falling partly/fully in the State of Punjab are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of Projects	Length (in km.)	Status
1.	Ellenabad — Sirsa new line	49.00	Survey completed.
2.	Rama Mandi — Maur Mandi new line	32.38	Survey completed. Proposal has been sent to Planning Commission for 'in principle' approval.
3.	Pathankot-Joginder Nagar gauge conversion	189.00	Survey has been taken up.
4.	Yamuna Nagar-Chandigarh new line	80.00	Survey has been taken up.

#### **Security of passengers**

4754. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that security of train passengers is entrusted to RPF, GRP, State Police, etc.;

(b) if so, the duties and responsibilities assigned to them and the authorities which oversee their performance and command them;

(c) whether State Police is authorized to check passengers in a moving train without association of RPF or force authorized by Railways; and

(d) if not, the complaints received in this regard by Railways and action taken during 2008 and 2009?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Duties and responsibilities assigned to Railway Protection Force, Government Railway Police and State Police are as under:—

**RPF:** is primarily responsible for security of railway property. It is headed by the Director General.

**GRP:** maintained by the respective State Governments, as a wing of the State Police, is entrusted with maintenance of Law and order and security of passengers between outer signals of the stations and in running trains. It is headed by the Director General (Police) of the State Governments.

**State Police:** is responsible for Security of tracks, tunnels and bridges over Indian Railways, Law and order problems and passenger security beyond outer signals of railway stations. It is headed by the Director General (Police).

(c) and (d) Government Railway Police are a part of the State Police. They are authorized to check passengers in a moving train in respect of security of passengers or other crimes, without association of Railway Protection Force or force authorized by Railways.

#### **Recruitment of RPF jawans**

‡4755. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal with Government to recruit five thousand jawans in Railway Protection Force (RPF) to enhance the security of Indian Railways;

(b) if so, since when; and

(c) the status of this proposal and complete details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government has approved creation of 5134 posts in Railway Protection Force. Modalities to fill up these posts are being worked out.

#### **Pending audit objections**

4756. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 28755 audit objections have been shown as outstanding as on 31st March, 2006 involving financial irregularities amounting to Rs. 10829. 67 crores in the CAG report No. 6 of 2007 transaction audit;

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the number of these audit objections settled as on date and the number of audit objections added thereto giving a final tally thereof as also of money; and

(c) the reasons for not settling the audit objections and to clear them up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. However, as per records available with Zonal Railways and Production Units, there were 14204 audit objections amounting to Rs. 10363.25 crore outstanding as on 31.3.2006.

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

(c) Arising of Audit objections and clearance thereof is a continuous process wherein the irregularities pointed out are analyzed for clarifications and compliance and are thereafter closed in consultation with Audit. Most of the audit objections are cleared quickly but in a few cases involving legal intervention or information from other government agencies, prolonged corrective action such as recoveries etc., finalization gets delayed. Zonal Railways and Production Units have been instructed to expedite remedial/corrective action, as required and hold periodical review meetings with Audit to ensure early clearance of the audit objections.

#### ***Statement***

*Current status of Audit objections which were outstanding  
as on 31.3.2006 is as under*

(Rs. in crore)

Outstanding as on 31.3.2006		Clearance till 31.3.2010		Outstanding as on 31.3.2010	
Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Number	Amount
14204	10363.25	8399	8747.28	5805	1615.97

*The status of outstanding Audit objections as on 31.3.2010 is as under*

(Rs. in crore)

Outstanding as on 31.3.2006		Accretion till 31.3.2010		Clearance till 31.3.2010		Outstanding as on 31.3.2010	
Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Number	Amount
14204	10363.25	21892	27484.76	21602	24933.85	14494	12914.16

#### **Sale of expiry date products at railway stations**

‡4757. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that cakes, biscuits and beverages of expiry dates, are being sold at railway stations in Delhi and other metropolitan cities;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether the Government has received any complaints in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Four complaints were received in this regard in the year 2009-10. These pertain to Churchgate (Mumbai), Raipur, Secunderabad and Sholapur respectively regarding beverage.

(c) Out of four complaints reported, fine was imposed on the licensee in one complaint while in another, the licensee was warned. Remaining two complaints were not substantiated. Controlling the quality and hygiene of food being served on trains and at stations by the licensee is a thrust area and is being monitored through continuous inspections by officers/Quality Control Professionals (QCPs).

#### **Development of Pandharpur railway station**

4758. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government received representations from people or their representatives for development of Pandharpur railway station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action Government is taking for development of Pandharpur railway station; and

(d) the amount sanctioned for this and the time-frame for completion of this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) As per available records, no request has been received for development of Pandharpur railway station.

(c) and (d) Pandharpur is a 'D' category station and minimum essential amenities have already been provided as per norms. One additional platform with shelter and foot over bridge has been provided recently as part of gauge conversion of Pandharpur-Miraj. No separate work is sanctioned.

#### **Repairing of old bridges**

4759. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the works undertaken to repair old bridges of Railways in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, Zone-wise;

(b) the funds allocated and spent on them, Zone-wise;

(c) whether preference is being given to rural and backward areas like Telangana regions in Andhra Pradesh compared to other States for the said period; and

(d) whether the PPP model has been adopted in such repair of old bridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening of bridges is an ongoing process on Indian Railways. Railways undertake rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening of bridges on the basis of their physical condition as ascertained during regular inspections carried out in the field.

Zone wise no. of bridges rebuilt/rehabilitated/strengthened in the Eleventh Five Year Plan till March 2010 *i.e.*, from 01.04.07 to 31.03.10 are as follows:—

Railway	No. of bridges rebuilt/rehabilitated/ Strengthened	Allocation (Bridge works) (Rs. crore)	Expenditure (Rs. crore)
CR	185	71.48	63.24
ER	506	301.05	235.44
ECR	129	213.39	151.54
ECoR	140	43.66	39.88
NR	527	111.40	76.88
NCR	182	37.84	30.88
NER	34	38.26	25.08
NFR	274	60.99	44.14
NWR	199	64.03	24.24
SR	282	87.93	50.44
SCR	229	120.67	105.02
SER	259	69.71	83.73
SECR	177	29.67	24.03
SWR	146	22.23	20.51
WR	310	171.65	160.51
WCR	311	65.54	72.57
<b>TOTAL :</b>	<b>3890</b>	<b>1509.50</b>	<b>1208.13</b>

(c) Each bridge requiring rebuilding/rehabilitation/strengthening is given equal importance and attention, being safety works.

(d) PPP model has not been adopted for rebuilding/rehabilitation/strengthening of bridges till now.

### **Trains without pantry car**

†4760. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of long distance trains without pantry car;
- (b) the number of such trains not having pantry cars at least for last five years;
- (c) whether lack of production is the reason behind it; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the measures intended to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

### **Free passes for train journey**

4761. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is having any policy of issuing free passes for train journey;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and criteria to select beneficiaries; and
- (c) the details of such passes issued since 2006 including names of persons to whom passes were issued and the purpose for which the passes were issued, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): Yes, Sir.

- (b) Details are given in Statement (*See below*).
- (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

### ***Statement***

*Passes for free rail travel are issued to the following categories of persons as per the schemes announced from time to time by the Ministry of Railways.*

1. Freedom Fighters (Cost borne by Ministry of Home Affairs).
2. Arjun Awardees/Olympic Medalists/Asian and Commonwealth Gold Medalists/Dronacharya Awardees.
3. Winners of Param Veer Chakra, Maha Veer Chakra, Veer Chakra (Defence personnels)
4. Winners of Ashok Chakra, Shourya Chakra and Kirti Chakra. (Civilian awardees are not included)

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



5. Winners of President's Police Medal For Gallantry and Police Medal for Gallantry (Police Personnels).
6. Non-official Members of Railway Hindi Salahkar Samiti.
7. One office bearer each of the four organization namely Kendriya Sachivalaya Hindi Parishad, Nagrik Pracharini Sabha Varanasi, Rashtrabhasha Prachar Samiti, Wardha and Akhil Bharatiya Hindi Sansthan engaged in propagation of Hindi.
8. Ex-Minister of Railways/Minister of State for Railways/Deputy Minister for Railways.
9. Bharat Ratna Awardees
10. Complimentary card passes under discretionary powers of Minister of Railways.

In addition to the above, passes are also issued to railway employees under Railway Servants (Pass) Rules, 1986.

#### **Survey of new rail line from Jogighopa to Guwahati**

4762. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the Budget provision for Survey of new railway line between Jogighopa- Guwahati Kamakhya *via* Barpeta-Daulasal, Hajo;

(b) whether any action has been taken regarding the survey of the said new rail line and to provide atleast one long distance train stoppage in the sub-divisional headquarters at Bijni and Pathasala of Assam;

(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) A survey for new line from Jogighopa to Guwahati *via* Barpeta-Sarthebari-Hajo-Sualkuchi (120 km) has been taken up at a cost of Rs. 36 lakhs. The survey is targeted for completion by March, 2011.

Stoppage of 4055/4056 Dibrugarh Town-Delhi Brahmaputra Mail at Bijni and that of 5959/5960 Dibrugarh Town-Howrah Kamrup Express at Pathasala have been provided with effect from 23.03.2010.

#### **High speed trains in India**

†4763. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating a plan to introduce high speed trains in the country on the lines of trains in Britain;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (c) whether any steps have so far been taken to introduce such trains;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government is considering to prescribe a time schedule for the introduction of high speed trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (e) Railways have decided to undertake prefeasibility study of six corridors, out of which study for Pune-Mumbai-Ahmadabad corridor is in progress. However, any comments regarding technology to be adopted and time schedule for the introduction of High Speed Corridors is not possible at this stage.

#### **Rejuvenation of Mannargudi railway station**

4764. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that rejuvenation of the forbidden railway station in Mannargudi, Tamil Nadu and connecting it with Needamangalam and other nearby stations were previously announced by the Government and the same has not been realized and still remains on paper;
- (b) if so, whether Government will take action for rejuvenation of this forbidden railway station in Mannargudi;
- (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 (c) Restoration of Needamanglam-Mannargudi (13.25 km) line has been taken up. This work also includes construction of new station building at Mannargudi. Total anticipated cost of construction of this new line is Rs 78.44 crore.

- (d) Does not arise.

#### **Double stack container facility at Kandla-Bhildi-Jodhpur-Bhatinda section**

4765. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to run double stack container facility on Kandla-Bhildi-Jodhpur-Bhatinda section;
- (b) whether there is any plan prepared by Railways for providing such double stack facility in any other part of the country;
- (c) whether it is technically possible to provide such double stack container arrangement on this route;
- (d) whether CONCOR is running a special container train anywhere in the country connecting ports;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) how many such trains are planned to run to Gujarat Ports; and

(g) whether Government plans to run special double stack container trains connecting Kandla and Mundra Ports and if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Technical feasibility is studied as and when a route is identified for running of double stack container trains which depends on the demand for running of such trains.

(d) to (f) CONCOR is running regular container trains connecting Inland Container Terminals and different ports including Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Pipavav, Mundra, Cochin, Chennai, Kolkata, Tuticorin etc. Depending upon the traffic on offer, CONCOR is running regular container train services to Mundra and Pipavav ports situated in Gujarat.

(g) Double stack container trains are running only between ports of Pipavav/Mundra and container terminal near Jaipur.

#### **Disinvestment of SAIL**

4766. SHRI KISHORE KUMAR MOHANTY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes disinvestment in SAIL;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons behind the disinvestment and the percentage of disinvestment proposed; and

(d) the steps Government is going to take to prevent the retrenchment of employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government has decided to disinvest 10% of its shareholding in Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and for raising of 10% of additional equity by SAIL, in two discrete tranches to be issued at appropriate times in consideration of SEBI guidelines and prevailing market conditions. Each tranche will consist of 5% raising of fresh equity capital by SAIL and 5% disinvestment of Government of India's share. The disinvestment of Government of India's shareholding in SAIL is in line with the Government's policy to develop larger people's ownership of Central Public Sector Enterprises with Government retaining majority shareholding and control.

(d) No retrenchment of employees is envisaged at SAIL.

#### **Setting up of steel plant at Lasipora Pulwama**

4767. SHRI G.N. RATANPURI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry had decided to establish a steel plant at Industrial Growth Centre Lasipora Pulwama in Kashmir;

(b) whether nearly two years ago, then Minister of Steel laid the foundation stone of the proposed steel plant at IGC Lasipora Pulwama;

(c) whether the land transferred to the department for establishing the steel plant is still under its possession; and

(d) the reason why the proposed steel plant has not come up and by when the construction work of the steel plant would start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) The proposal for setting up a Steel Processing Unit (SPU) at Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir was approved “in-principle” by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) in April, 2008.

(b) The foundation stone was laid in September, 2008.

(c) A total of 25 acres of land at Lasipora in Pulwama district has been acquired by SAIL in October, 2009.

(d) The work on setting up the SPU is expected to commence after Stage-II (final) approval by SAIL Board and it will take 18 months for commissioning from Stage-II approval.

#### **Agreement between multinational companies and Government**

4768. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of MoUs signed for mining and setting up of steel plants in the country with multi-national companies;

(b) the details of the terms of these agreements;

(c) whether companies are also allowed to export iron-ore from India as per these agreements; and

(d) if so, the percentage of iron-ore would be processed in the units set up in the country by these companies, company-wise and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) As per the available information in the Ministry of Steel, two of the major foreign direct investors *i.e.* Arcelor Mittal India Limited and Posco India Limited have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with the State Governments of Orissa and Jharkhand to set up new steel units in the country as per the following:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Company and Location	Location and State	Date of signing of MoU	Proposed Capacity in MTPA	Estimated Investment (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	M/s POSCO India Project (P) Ltd.	Jagatsinghpur, Orissa	22.06.05	12.00 (to be implemented in four phases)	51,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	M/s. Arcelor Mittal Limited.	Keonjhar, Orissa	21.12.06	Integrated Steel Plant — 12.00 (to be implemented in four phases)	40000
3.	M/s. Arcelor Mittal India Limited.	Jharkhand	8.10.05	Integrated Steel Plant-12.00 (in two phases)	40000

(b) The details of the terms of MoU in respect of Posco India Ltd., Orissa and Arcelor Mittal Limited, Jharkhand are given in the Statement-I and II (*See below*). The details of the terms of MoU in respect of Arcelor Mittal Limited, Orissa will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) M/s. POSCO India is allowed to export iron ore from Orissa as per the conditions of MoU.

There is no information in respect of export of iron ore from India as per the MoU with, Arcelor Mittal Limited and Government of Orissa and Jharkhand.

As per the terms of MoU, POSCO may swap certain quantities (not exceeding 30% of the total requirement for the Paradeep Plant annually) of such iron ore which have high alumina content with equal quantity of low alumina content iron ore of better Fe content imported for blending, in order to produce better quality steel in the Paradeep Project and conserve energy. Any export of iron ore by way of swap will be allowed only after an equivalent quantity of ore has been imported for the plant. The extent of the above quantity of iron ore by way of replacement for equal quantity of import of higher grade iron ore will be within the framework of the Export-Import Policy of the Government of India applicable from time to time. It is clarified that no export of iron ore will be allowed from the captive mine except by way of full replacement through import of equal quantity of high grade ore and within the limits mentioned above.

(d) Since the projects are very preliminary stage, such details are not available.

#### ***Statement-I***

##### ***Salient features of the MoU entered into between Government of ORISSA and M/s. POSCO India Project***

1. POSCO has proposed to set up a 12 million tonnes integrated steel plant at Paradeep, district Jagatsinghpur, Orissa.
2. The project would be implemented in two phases. Each phase will have two modules of 3 million tonnes per annum crude steel capacity.
3. Proposed investment is of the order of around US \$ 12 billion (Rs. 51,000 crores approximately).

4. First module of Phase-1 is to be commissioned by July, 2010. 3 million tonnes capacity will be added every two years. Whole project is likely to be commissioned by July, 2016.
  5. The product mix is slabs, hot rolled coils, plates and cold rolled coils.
  6. POSCO will also set up infrastructure necessary for the integrated steel plant, related projects and related mining of iron ore and other ores.
  7. The company will require approximately 6000 acres of land for steel project, associated facilities, including township.
  8. The cost of the private land will be in accordance with the provisions of Land Acquisition Act and incidental charges as mutually agreed upon. For Government land, the company shall pay as per the rates determined by the prevailing Industrial Policy Resolution. For Forest land, the company shall pay the rates determined under the applicable Rules. The Government of Orissa will assist the company in acquisition of land.
  9. For rehabilitation of displaced families, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Package would be implemented as per prevailing guidelines and practices.
  10. The State Government will recommend to the Government of India for allotment of a suitable coal block and coal linkage until it is ready for mining of its coal block.
  11. The company will need 600 million tonnes of iron ore. The company may swap certain quantities (not exceeding 30% of the total requirement of the Paradeep plant annually) of such iron ore which have high alumina content with equal quantity of low alumina content iron ore. Any export of iron ore by way of swap will be allowed only after an equivalent quantity of ore has been imported for the plant. The extent of the above quantity of iron ore by way of replacement for equal quantity of import of higher grade iron ore, will be within the framework of the Export-Import Policy of the Government of India applicable from time to time. It is clarified that no export of iron ore will be allowed from the captive mine except by way of full replacement through import of equal quantity of high grade ore and within the limits mentioned above.
  12. Prospecting licenses and captive mining leases for 600 million tonnes of iron ore would be granted in accordance with the prescribed procedure and completion of required milestones as specified in the MoU including approvals of GOI.
  13. Recommendation of mining lease will be made in two phases, commensurate with the first two modules and the last two modules of 3 million tonnes each based on progress and investment made therein.
  14. The State Government will assist the company to make arrangement for meeting iron ore requirement of suitable grade from OMC alongwith other private iron ore leases in the State for initial period under mutually agreeable terms and conditions, if required by the company.
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15. Iron ore mining leases shall be granted initially for a period of 30 years and will be considered for renewal on an application by the company before expiry, for another 20 years.
  16. Export of additional 400 million tonnes of iron ore from India for existing steel plants of POSCO in South Korea would be regulated by the prevailing EXIM Policy. No min-able reserves would be provided purely for the purpose of the direct exports.
  17. The Government of Orissa agrees to provide all possible assistance to the company for acquiring mineral concession for limestone and dolomite within the ambit of the MMDR Act and MC Rules.
  18. State Government will facilitate suitable long terms arrangement with OMC and other leases for supply of chrome ore to meet the requirement of the plant.
  19. Water will be provided from suitable source(s) for construction and operation as per the prevailing rates, subject to availability.
  20. The Government of Orissa will ensure supply of 25 MW power during the construction stage. During the operation phase, the State Government will make best efforts to meet power requirements.
  21. For captive power plant, the State Government will facilitate fuel linkages, if required.
  22. The State Government would consider granting to the company such incentives and concessions as are provided in the relevant Industrial Policy Resolution in force on this date.
  23. The State Government shall recommend to the Central Government and facilitate granting of Special Economic Zone status as required by the company.
  24. The State Government shall coordinate with the Ministry of Railways for early completion of Daitari-Banspani rail link, development of Haridaspur-Paradeep rail link and Banspani-Paradeep rail link.
  25. The State Government shall provide all support to facilitate the early completion of the National Highway between Haridaspur (Chandikhol) and Paradeep and for upgradation of State Highway from Cuttack to Paradeep to a two lane road.
  26. The State Government shall actively consider construction of two lane, free access public roads connecting the steel project, the mine project and the integrated township development to the nearest National Highway or State Highway.
  27. The State Government shall assist for developing a new minor port adjacent to the existing major port of Paradeep and dedicated berth at Paradeep, if required within the existing policy provisions.
  28. The State Government shall establish a special "Single Window Clearance Committee" to ensure clearances under State laws from agencies/departments within specified time limits.
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### ***Statement-II***

*Salient features of the MoU entered into between Government of Jharkhand and  
M/s. Mittal Steel (Currently Arcelor Mittal India Limited)*

1. M/s. Mittal Steel envisages to develop own and operate in the State of Jharkhand an integrated steel manufacturing operation comprising a steel mill, iron ore mines, a captive power plant, a township and related infrastructure with an investment of Rs. 40,000 crores (Rupees Forty Thousand Crores only) for the 12 million tonnes steel project.
  2. Within eighteen (18) months from the date of signing of the MoU, M/s. Mittal Steel or its affiliates will submit a Detailed Project Report (DPR) which shall include an implementation schedule for the project.
  3. Land requirement will be as follows:—
    - (i) Steel plant and associated facilities: — 5,000 hectares.
    - (ii) Power plant/downstream facilities/ancillary units and other allied facilities: — 3,000 hectares.
    - (iii) Township, recreational activities and all related social infrastructural development: — 2,000 hectares.
  4. Government of Jharkhand agrees to consider recommending grant of new mining leases in favour of M/s. Mittal Steel, subject to and in accordance with applicable laws for 600 million tonnes of mineable iron ore reserves sufficient for first 30 years of operation and Government of Jharkhand further agrees to reserve an additional 400 million tonnes of mineable iron ore reserve sufficient for the next 20 years, of operation.
  5. Government of Jharkhand agrees to consider recommending grant of new mining leases in favour of M/s. Mittal Steel, subject to and in accordance with applicable laws, for 1.28 billion tonnes of mineable coal reserve. Similarly Government of Jharkhand agrees to consider recommending to Government the grant of Manganese blocks identified in the DPR.
  6. The requirement of water for the steel plant is estimated at 10,000 cubic meters per hour at a capacity of 6 million tonnes of steel per annum. Subject to applicable laws, Government of Jharkhand will allocate and allow M/s. Mittal Steel to draw the required quantity of water.
  7. Government of Jharkhand will endeavour to facilitate grant of necessary permission to M/s. Mittal Steel to develop/construct weirs, barrages, dams etc. on the rivers.
  8. Government of Jharkhand will facilitate the supply of 40-50 MVA at the construction stage through Jharkhand State Electricity Board (JSEB) as per tariff fixed by Jharkhand State Electricity Regulation Commission (JSERC). Government of Jharkhand further agrees to facilitate the setting up of a mega power plant, if M/s. Mittal decides to set up such a plant of about 2500 MW.
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9. Government of Jharkhand will actively pursue with Government of India and Ministry of Railways to provide railway linkages to the steel plant, mines and collieries from the nearest railway routes and to strengthen the identified railway linkages.  
  
M/s. Mittal Steel will construct roads connecting the project to the nearest NH or State Highway and Government of Jharkhand will facilitate the construction of such roads including grant of necessary permission.
  10. M/s. Mittal Steel will examine the viability of establishing dedicated berths at the existing ports at Haldia/Paradip/Dhamra/Gopalpur and Government of Jharkhand will endeavour to facilitate procuring of such detailed berthing facilities for the project.
  11. Government of Jharkhand shall consider recommending to the Government of India and facilitate granting of Special Economic Zone (SEZ) status to the project in accordance with applicable laws.
  12. M/s. Mittal Steel and/or its affiliates will undertake, at their cost, relocation and rehabilitation of families that may be displaced or relocated in connection with the project, in accordance with applicable laws.
  13. The areas of cooperation may include other issues which shall be decided through mutual agreement on a case-to-case basis.
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#### **Meeting of steel producers**

4769. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has convened a meeting of all major primary and secondary steel producers to preclude abnormal increase in the price of steel;
- (b) if so, the results of this meeting;
- (c) the total quantity of steel produced in the country in 2008-09 and 2009-10;
- (d) whether it is a fact that Government is following a deliberate policy of eradicating small producers of steel in favour of consolidation of mega producers of steel; and
- (e) if so, the steps proposed to review this policy of favouring giant steel companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) Ministry of Steel had convened a meeting of major integrated steel producers on 22.04.2010 to discuss issues regarding production, demand and market price of steel. Issues concerning international and domestic steel production, demand in the market, price movement of raw materials and steel as well as the short term outlook in the steel market were discussed in the meeting.

12.00 NOON

(c) The finished steel production in the country during the last two years is given in the table below:—

Year	Finished Steel Production (in million tonnes)
2008-09	57.16
2009-10 (Provisional)	59.58

Source: JPC

(d) and (e) Steel is a totally deregulated sector. Investment and performance of the sector are determined by the market forces. The role of the Government is limited to that of a facilitator. The National Steel Policy lays down a roadmap for the entire steel sector including the large and small/secondary producers. Ministry of Steel is working for promotion of the whole of the steel sector in the country including integrated steel units and secondary steel units as well as the steel consuming industries.

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#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

##### **Report and Accounts (2006-07 and 2007-08) of the National Foundation for Communal Harmony, New Delhi and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN):  
Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Foundation for Communal Harmony, New Delhi, for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.  
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2508/15/10]
- (b) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Foundation for Communal Harmony, New Delhi, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (c) Statement by Government accepting the above Reports.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) and (b) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2509/15/10]

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair)

##### **Notification of the Ministry of Civil Aviation**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): Sir, on behalf of SHRI PRAFUL PATEL, I lay on the Table, under Section 14A of the Aircraft Act, 1934, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry

of Civil Aviation Notification No.G.S.R.297 (E), dated the 8th April, 2010, publishing the Aircraft (1st Amendment) Rules, 2010, together with an Explanatory Note on the Notification.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2478/15/10]

**Memorandum of Understanding (2010-11) between the Government of  
India and various Limited Companies**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals) and the Brahmaputra Cracker and Polymer Limited (BCPL), for the year 2010-11.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2481/15/10]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers) and the Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL), for the year 2010-11.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2482/15/10]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers) and the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT), for the year 2010-11.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2488/15/10]

- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers) and the National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), for the year 2010-11.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2483/15/10]

- (v) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers) and the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF), for the year 2010-11.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2484/15/10]

- (vi) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers) and the Projects and Development India Limited (PDIL), for the year 2010-11.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2485/15/10]

- (vii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers) and the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL), for the year 2010-11.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2486/15/10]

- (viii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers) and the FCI Aravali Gypsum and Minerals India Limited (FAGMIL), for the year 2010-11.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2487/15/10]

**I. Notifications of the Ministry of Human Resource Development**

**II. Report and Accounts (2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09) of EdCIL/Various educational institutes/Samakhya Societies/Goa Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Society, Panaji and related papers.**

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I lay on the Table—

- I. (i) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education) Notification No. MU/2-2/2006, dated the 5th September, 2009, regarding amendment of the Statute 2(4) of the Manipur University Act, 2005, under sub-section (2) of Section 46 of the Manipur University, Act, 2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2585/15/10]

- (ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education) Notification No. G.S.R. 138, dated the 26th September, 2009, publishing the National Institutes of Technology (Council) Rules, 2009, under sub-section (3) of Section 34 of the National Institutes of Technology Act, 2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2469/15/10]

- (iii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education) Notification F.No. 37-3/Legal/AICTE/2009, dated the 1st July, 2009, publishing the All India Council for Technical Education (Prevention and Prohibition of Ragging in Technical Institutions, Universities including Deemed to be Universities imparting technical education) Regulations, 2009, under Section 24 of the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987, along with the delay statement.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2468/15/10]

- II (i) (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Educational Consultants India Limited (EdCIL), for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.

- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2461/15/10]

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

- (ii) (a) Annual Accounts of the Nagaland University, Kohima, for the years 2007-08, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub section (4) of Section 32 of the Nagaland University Act, 1989.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2459/15/10]

- (iii) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 2008-09.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 2008-09, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 23 of the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961.
- (c) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) and (b) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2453/15/10]

- (iv) (a) Forty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Hazratbal, Srinagar, for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts, under sub-section (4) of Section 22 of the National Institutes of Technology Act, 2007.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2586/15/10]

- (v) (a) Annual Report of the Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology, Surat, for the year 2008-09.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology, Surat, for the year 2008-09 and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 22 of the National Institutes of Technology Act, 2007.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iv) (a) and (b) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2458/15/10]

(vi) (a) Annual Accounts of the Malaviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur, for the year 2007-08 and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 22 of the National Institutes of Technology Act, 2007.

(b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (v) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2456/15/10]

(vii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Kerala Mahila Samakhya Society, Trivandrum, for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (vi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2457/15/10]

(viii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jharkhand Mahila Samakhya Society, Ranchi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (vii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2467/15/10]

(ix) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Karnataka Mahila Samakhya Society, Bangalore, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (viii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2464/15/10]

(x) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Andhra Pradesh Mahila Samatha Society, Secunderabad, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ix) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2465/15/10]

- (xi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Tamil Nadu State Mission of Education for All, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Tamil Nadu, Chennai, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (x) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2587/15/10]

- (xii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Goa Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Society, Panaji, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2133/15/10]

- (xiii) (a) Forty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Durgapur, for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts, under subsection (4) of Section 22 of the National Institutes of Technology Act, 2007.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2588/15/10]

- (xiv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology, Bhopal, for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts, under sub-section (4) of Section 22 of the National Institutes of Technology Act, 2007.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xiii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2589/15/10]

- (xv) (a) Annual Accounts of the University of Allahabad, Allahabad, for the year 2008-09 and the Audit Report thereon, under Section 32 of the Allahabad University Act, 2005.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xiv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2462/15/10]

- (xvi) (a) Annual Accounts of the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09 and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 29 of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2455/15/10]

A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (3) of Section 32 and sub-section (4) of Section 33 of the Sikkim University Act, 2006:—

- (xvii) (a) Second Annual Report and Accounts of the Sikkim University, Gangtok, for the year 2008-09 together with Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2460/15/10]

**I. Notification of the Ministry of Finance**

**II. Progress Report on the action taken pursuant to the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Stock Market Scam**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): Sir, I lay on the Table—

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), under Section 48 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999:—
  - (1) G.S.R. 340(E), dated the 21st April, 2010, publishing the Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign Currency Accounts by a Person Resident in India) (Amendment) Regulations, 2010.
  - (2) G.S.R. 341(E), dated the 21st April, 2010, publishing the Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident Outside India) (Amendment) Regulations, 2010.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2526/15/10]

- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Fourteenth Progress Report on the Action Taken pursuant to the Recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Stock Market Scam and matters relating thereto.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2515/15/10]



### Notification of the Ministry of Finance

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: Sir, I lay on the Table, under Section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) Notification No. S.O. 943 (E), dated the 23rd April, 2010, publishing the Income-tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 2010, together with an Explanatory Memorandum on the Notification.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2524/15/10]

### Notification of the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of Section 74 of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology Notification No. G.S.R. 789 (E), dated the 29th October, 2010, publishing the Indian Post Office (Third Amendment) Rules, 2009, along with the delay statement.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2590/15/10]

#### I. Report and Accounts (1993-94 and 2008-09) of various corporations and related papers.

#### II. Report (2008-09) of the Development Council for Sugar Industry and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): Sir, I lay on the Table—

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

- (i) Sixteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited (J&KHPMC), Srinagar, for the year 1993-94, 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. 2407/15/10]

- (ii) Thirty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Gujarat State Seeds Corporation Limited (GSSC), Gandhinagar, 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. 2408/15/10]

- (iii) Twenty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited (HVOC), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporations.

- (2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2411/15/10]

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

- (a) Annual Report of the Development Council for Sugar Industry, for the year 2007-08, under sub-section (4) of Section 7 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.
- (b) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2410/15/10]

I. **Report and Accounts (2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09) of various institutes/Medical Council of India/G.K. General Hospital Society, Bhuj and related papers.**

II. **Statement giving reasons for not laying the Annual Reports and Audited Statement of Accounts of various institutions within the stipulated period.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

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

- (i) (a) Nineteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (NEIGRIHMS) Shillong, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2591/15/10]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Biologicals (NIB), NOIDA, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2529/15/10]

- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Medical Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09 together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2528/15/10]

- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the G.K. General Hospital Society, Bhuj, for the year 2004-05, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2530/15/10]

- (v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the G.K. General Hospital Society, Bhuj, for the year 2005-06, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (v) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2373/15/10]

- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the G.K. General Hospital Society, Bhuj, for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (vi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2373A/15/10]

- (vii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the G.K. General Hospital Society, Bhuj, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (vii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2373B/15/10]

- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Statement giving reasons for not laying the Annual Reports and Audited statement of Accounts of the following Institutions within the stipulated period:—

1. National Board of Examination, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09.
2. Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, for the year 2008-09.
3. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09.
4. Indian Red Cross Society, for the years 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09.

5. National Institute of Biologicals, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09.
6. National Population Stabilization Fund, for the year 2008-09.
7. Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal, Manipur, for the years 2007-08 and 2008-09.
8. Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09.
9. National Institute of Homoeopathy, Kolkata, for the year 2008-09.
10. Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2532/15/10]

**Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the FTII, Pune and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2533/15/10]

**Report and Accounts (2008-09) of the IMPCL, Mohan, Almora and related papers**

SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN: Sir, I lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
  - (a) Thirty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited (IMPCL), Mohan, Almora, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
  - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2535/15/10]

**Memorandum of Understanding (2010-11) between the Government of  
India and the Engineering Projects (India) Limited/Heavy  
Engineering Corporation Limited**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND ENTERPRISES  
(SHRI ARUN YADAV): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following  
papers:—

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industry) and the Engineering Projects (India) Limited (EPI), for the year 2010-11.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2502/15/10]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industry) and the Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited (HEC) for the year 2010-11.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2500/15/10]

**Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the  
year ended March, 2008/March, 2009**

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi)  
of the following Reports, under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution:—

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2009: Report No. 1 of 2008-09: Accounts of the Union Government, Union Government Finance Accounts and Appropriation Accounts (Civil, Postal Services, Defence Services) for the year 2008-09;

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2519/15/10]

- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2009: Report No. 23 of 2009-10 Union Government (Civil) — Autonomous Bodies;

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2520/15/10]

- (iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2008: Report No. 5 of 2010-11: Union Government (Civil) (Performance Audit) — Non Lapsable Central Pool of Resources Scheme (Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region);

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2517/15/10]

- (iv) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2008: Report No. 4 of 2010-11: Union Government (Civil) (Performance Audit) — Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) (Ministry of Water Resources);

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2516/15/10]

- (v) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2009: Report No. 7 of 2009-10: Union Government (Direct Taxes) (Income Tax Refunds).

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2518/15/10]

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**REPORT OF DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE**

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR (Maharashtra): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Seventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in its First Report on "Demands for Grants (2009-10)" of the Ministry of Defence.

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**REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

DR. KARAN SINGH (NCT of Delhi): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs (2009-10):—

- (i) Fifth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in its First Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants (2009-10)" of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs; and
- (ii) Sixth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in its Second Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants (2009-10)" of the Ministry of External Affairs.

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**STATEMENT BY MINISTERS**

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second  
Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing  
Committee on Agriculture**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): Sir, I make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture.

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and  
Fourteenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing  
Committee on Human Resource Development**

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in Chapter III of

the Two Hundred and Fourteenth Report on Demands for Grants (2008-09) of the Department of Higher Education of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development.

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fifth Report  
of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): Sir, I, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fifth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance.

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fourth Report  
of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): Sir, I make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways.

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twenty-fifth Report of the  
Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee  
on Petroleum and Natural Gas**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): Sir, I make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Twenty-fifth Report on [Marketing Supply, Distribution, Dealerships and Pricing of Kerosene and other Petroleum Products] of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas.

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**Re: THREAT BY MAOISTS TO BLOW UP  
A MEMBER'S HOUSE IN BIHAR**

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया** (झारखंड): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं एक बहुत ही संगीन मसला आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। सर, गए दिन बिहार में SIT Team ने रेड किया और वहां पर पारु थाने के अंतर्गत, बसन्तपुर गांव निवासी, मलाही पंचायत के पूर्व मुखिया सुरेन्द्र भगत के यहां छापा मारकर माओवादी हार्डकोर सदस्य व एरिया कमांडर चन्दन उर्फ सुभाष गुप्ता को गिरफ्तार किया गया ...(व्यवधान)... महोदय, गंभीर मसला यह है कि उनके पास ये बहुत सारा नक्सली साहित्य मिला, जो लेवी वे वहां से वसूलते हैं, उसकी रसीदें मिलीं, कहां-कहां से वसूलना है, उसकी कुछ लिस्ट्स मिली और उसके साथ-साथ उनके पास एक नक्शा मिला और वह नक्शा हमारे माननीय सांसद श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी जी के गांव का, उनके घर का है। वे उनके गांव में जाकर उनके घर को उड़ाना चाहते थे, यह षड्यन्त्र चल रहा था। यह एक बहुत ही सीरियस मामला है। उनके साथ में उनका कोई जातीय, व्यक्तिगत या जमीन जायदाद का झगड़ा नहीं है, महोदय, झगड़ा यही है कि हम जब सांसद होते हैं, तब संसदीय प्रणाली के तहत बहस करते वक्त या as a spokesman of a party हमें firm stand लेना पड़ता है और देश की जो अनैतिक और असंसदीय गतिविधियां

हैं, उनके खिलाफ बोलना पड़ता है। उनके कंठरोध के लिए, उनको धमकाने के लिए, जहां उनके पूर्वज रहते हैं, उनके पैतृक निवास को बम से उड़ा कर उनको आघात पहुंचाने की कोशिश की गई है।

**श्री उपसभापति:** देखिए, अहलुवालिया जी ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया:** इस षड्यन्त्र को दबाने की भी जरूरत है और साथ ही इस षड्यन्त्र का पूरा खुलासा करने की भी जरूरत है ...(व्यवधान)... मेरा कहना यह है, मैं सदन से मांग करता हूँ कि उनकी सुरक्षा की व्यवस्था की जाए ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश):** सर, यह एक बहुत ही गंभीर मामला है और इसका संज्ञान लिया जाना चाहिए।

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया:** यदि ऐसा नहीं किया जाता है तो नक्सलवाद के खिलाफ आवाज़ उठाना एक अपराध हो जाएगा ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री उपसभापति:** पहले आप जरा बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान)... Hon. Members, Please sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... मैं कुछ बता रहा हूँ ...(व्यवधान)... Hon. Member, Shri Rudy has written a letter to the Chairman. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद (बिहार):** क्या हम नक्सलवाद के खिलाफ नहीं बोलें? सर, यह बहुत सीरियस मामला है ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, Shri Rudy has written a letter bringing these facts to the notice of the Chairman. This will be sent to the Home Ministry and then directions will be given. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया:** सर, ये चीजें एक नॉर्मल कोर्स में नहीं जाएं ...(व्यवधान)... इसको गंभीरता से लिया जाना चाहिए।

**श्री उपसभापति:** नहीं, नॉर्मल कोर्स में नहीं जाएंगी, उन पर कार्यवाही होगी ...(व्यवधान)... It will be taken up with the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... This will be sent to the Home Ministry. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Bihar): Sir, I have a small submission. I am not talking anything about my security. My only concern is... ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Why are you talking about it? We are talking about it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: No, Sir. What is my concern? My concern, today, is that people like us, who are raising a voice against Maoism and Naxalism, are being targeted simply because we take a stand on behalf of the party and we speak in Parliament. Tonnes of ammunitions and landmines were being prepared to blow up my house. It is not a question of my security. Tomorrow, each and every Member who is speaking in this House would be targeted by these Maoists. This is my concern. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद:** सर, हम लोग भी बार-बार यही बोलते हैं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Ravi Shankar Prasadji, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: There should not be a wrong impression... ...*(Interruptions)*... This is the matter. ...*(Interruptions)*...



MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is a serious matter. It will be taken up with the Home Ministry. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Kerala): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir,... ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Rajasthan): Just one minute, Sir. Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, you are also the Chairman of the Privileges Committee. We have taken up many a time the privileges of the Members of Parliament. Sir, we would like to take up this matter... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a matter of security. It is not a question of privilege at all. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: This is also a matter of privilege. I am very sorry, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a matter of privilege. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Why don't you allow me, Sir? ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान): सर, मैंने भी नोटिस दिया था।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No Zero Hour, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not a Zero Hour, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप स्पेशल सेशन में दे दीजिए, वहां से हम उसे ले लेंगे।

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, the matter that has been raised by hon. Member, Ahluwaliaji, is a very important issue. This is concerning the security of a Member. This is not a party issue. The whole House should support it and the Government should take necessary action on this.

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#### MESSAGES FROM LOK SABHA

1. **The Prevention of Torture Bill, 2010.**
2. **The Land Ports Authority of India Bill, 2010.**
3. **The Plantations Labour (Amendment) Bill, 2010.**

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following messages received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:—

(I)

“In according with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Prevention of Torture Bill, 2010, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 6th May, 2010.”

(II)

“In according with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Land Ports Authority of India Bill, 2010, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 6th May, 2010.”

(III)

“In according with the provisions of rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 6th May, 2010, agreed without any amendment to the Plantations Labour (Amendment) Bill, 2010, which was passed by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 30th April, 2010.”

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay a copy each of the Prevention of Torture Bill, 2010 and the Land Ports Authority of India Bill, 2010 on the Table.

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GOVERNMENT BILL

**The Lotteries (Prohibition) Bill, 1999**

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Lotteries (Prohibition) Bill, 1999.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I withdraw the Bill.

श्री साबिर अली (बिहार): सर, मैंने आपसे गुजारिश की थी कि मध्य प्रदेश में ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं, नहीं ...(व्यवधान)... आपसे कहा गया था कि ...(व्यवधान)... नहीं, नहीं। आप पेपर मत दिखाइए ...(व्यवधान)... बगैर नोटिस के ...(व्यवधान)... यह सही बात नहीं है ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज, प्लीज ...(व्यवधान)... आप पेपर मत दिखाइए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री कमाल अख्तर (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री साबिर अली: सर, यह बहुत खतरनाक है कि ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आपसे कहा गया था कि ...(व्यवधान)... आज जीरो ऑवर नहीं है ...(व्यवधान)... स्पेशल मेशन है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री साबिर अली: सर, ...(व्यवधान)... वहाँ के मंत्री ने लोगों को ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आपसे कहा गया था कि ...(व्यवधान)... साबिर अली जी, प्लीज ...(व्यवधान)... आज जीरो ऑवर नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... इसके लिए आपका नोटिस भी नहीं है ...(व्यवधान)... आपको चाहिए कि आप हाउस के नियमों का पालन करें ...(व्यवधान)... नोटिस दिए बगैर आप कह रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... आपको कहा गया था कि स्पेशल मेशन ...(व्यवधान)... आपसे कहा गया था, प्लीज। Special Mentions.

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SPECIAL MENTIONS

**Demand for stoppage of trains at Mehsana Railway Station**

श्री ननुजी हालाजी ठाकोर (गुजरात): महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीया रेल मंत्री जी का ध्यान अपने गृह राज्य के मेहसाणा रेलवे स्टेशन पर कुछ रेलगाड़ियों के ठहराव और इन ट्रेनों के लिए आरक्षण कोटा मेहसाणा स्टेशन को दिए जाने के संबंध में आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

महोदय, मेहसाणा रेलवे स्टेशन से वर्तमान में बांद्रा-दिल्ली-गरीबरथ-बीकानेर-काच्छिवली-त्रिवेन्द्रम-जोधपुर-यशवंतपुर-पोरबंदर-मोतीहारी-मुजफ्फरपुर गाड़ियां गुजरती हैं। लेकिन इन गाड़ियों का स्टॉपेज

मेहसाणा को नहीं दिया गया है। मेहसाणा शहर में राष्ट्रीय डेयरी निगम की इकाई, ओएनजीसी, कृषि संसाधन राष्ट्रीय स्तर का कृषि और मत्स्यालयों का बाजार इत्यादि प्रसिद्ध हैं। यह उत्तर गुजरात का प्रमुख शहर है और पश्चिम भारत को उत्तर भारत से जोड़ने का मुख्य द्वार है।

मेरा आप से अनुरोध है कि आप उपरोक्त रेलगाड़ियों का स्टॉपेज मेहसाणा में देने की तत्काल व्यवस्था करें और साथ ही साथ मेहसाणा स्टॉपेज के लिए इन गाड़ियों में आरक्षण कोटा भी निर्धारित करने का प्रयास करें, ताकि मेहसाणा में रोजगार व्यवसाय क्षेत्र से जुड़े भारत के इन प्रान्तों के लोगों को एक सीधा और सरल रेल सम्पर्क प्राप्त हो सके। मेरे क्षेत्र के लोगों की इस दिशा में लगातार यह मांग रही है कि इन गाड़ियों का स्टॉपेज हमें दिया जाए।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीया रेल मंत्री महोदया जी से पुनः आग्रह करता हूँ कि वे इस दिशा में तत्काल रूप से सकारात्मक कदम उठाकर इस सुविधा को उपलब्ध कराने का प्रयास करें।

#### **Demand to take stern action against the manufacturers of spurious medicines in the country**

श्री कलराज मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश): देश के गांव-गांव तक बेहतर स्वास्थ्य सेवा मुहैया कराने के दावों के बीच राष्ट्रीय राजधानी सहित विभिन्न राज्यों में सरकारी और कुछ केंद्रीय अर्द्धसैनिक बलों के स्वास्थ्य केंद्रों में करोड़ों रुपये मूल्य की घटिया दवाएं पाई गई हैं। दिल्ली स्थित पंडित मदन मोहन मालवीय अस्पताल में एंटी एसिड की 4,320 बोतलें जांच से घटिया स्तर की पाई गईं, जिनकी कीमत 50,444 रुपये आंकी गई है। इसके अलावा हरियाणा के सरकारी अस्पतालों, पी.जी.आई. अस्पताल चंडीगढ़, इंदिरा गांधी मेडिकल कॉलेज शिमला तथा सी.आर.पी.एफ. एवं अर्द्धसैनिक बलों के कुछ स्टोर्स में घटिया दवाएं पाई गई हैं।

2007-08 में सी.आर.पी.एफ. के चैन्ने स्थित स्वास्थ्य केन्द्र, 105 बटालियन, कोयंबटूर, सीटीसी-2 कोयंबटूर एवं अंडमान निकोबार प्रशासन, पोर्ट ब्लेयर में डेक्सामेथसोन सोडियम फॉस्फेट 4 एम जी, एम.एल. इंजेक्शन की कुल 3500 शीशियां घटिया स्तर की पाई गईं, जिसमें 1318 शीशियों में घटिया इंजेक्शन का इस्तेमाल हुआ था। वित्त वर्ष 2007-08 में केन्द्र सरकार स्वास्थ्य सेवा, सरकारी कर्मचारियों को मुहैया कराये जाने वाली चिकित्सा सुविधा, के तहत बंगलौर में घटिया स्तर की दवाओं की आपूर्ति की गई। जांच में सी.जी.एच.एस. में '00000x00x000000' टेबलेट की 12050 गोलियां घटिया स्तर की पाई गईं।

पोस्ट ग्रेजुएट इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ मेडिकल एजुकेशन एंड रिसर्च, चंडीगढ़ में 40,327 रु. मूल्य की '000000x0000000000' एवं क्रोरोक्वीम 0000000000'00 घटिया स्तर की पई गईं। इसी प्रकार केंद्र सरकार स्वास्थ्य सेवा के तहत 2007 में अहमदाबाद, भोपाल, जबलपुर, मुंबई, पुणे में इन्वैलप्रील पैलफेट की 10,40,540 शीशियां घटिया स्तर की पाई गईं।

हरियाणा के विभिन्न स्वास्थ्य केंद्रों में पिछले पांच साल में कुल 49 दवाएं जांच के दौरान घटिया स्तर की पाई गईं। 2005 में विटामिन बी कॉम्प्लेक्स के 56,000 कैप्सूल्स, डेक्ज़ोज इंजेक्शन की 6200 शीशियां, 2006 में 3640 पाई गईं। इसके अलावा 2006 में प्राप्त सेट्रोपेप्टीडोज की 53,400 गोलियां और एंपीसीलिन इंजेक्शन की 2007 में प्राप्त शीशियां शामिल हैं। इंदिरा गांधी मेडिकल कॉलेज, शिमला में भी नियोस्टीनामिन इंजेक्शन, एम्पीसीलिन, सिग्मोपार यंत्र सीएल जैसी दवाएं घटिया स्तर की पाई गईं।

तथ्यों को प्रस्तुत करते हुए मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि उक्त प्रकार की घटिया स्तर की औषधियों के निर्माता का पता कर कड़ी से कड़ी दंडात्मक कार्यवाही कर देश की जनता के बीच विश्वास स्थापित करें।

#### **Demand for intervention by the Government to resolve the pending issues of pay and other facilities to the workers of Sail Refractories Ltd. at Bhilai**

श्री मोती लाल वोरा (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, दिनांक 28.7.2009 को भारत सरकार के राजपत्र

अधिसूचना के प्रकाशन के पश्चात् भारत रिफ्रैक्ट्रीज लिमिटेड का विलय सेल में हो गया है एवं इसे सेल रिफ्रैक्ट्रीज यूनिट के रूप में मान्यता दी गई है। विलय के 6 माह बाद भी यहाँ के कर्मचारियों/अधिकारियों को सेल के समकक्ष वेतनमान एवं अन्य सुविधाएँ नहीं दी जा रही हैं तथा यहाँ के अधिकारियों को एक से दो ग्रेड डिग्रेड कर दिया गया है।

भारत सरकार के राजपत्र में सेल रिफ्रैक्ट्रीज यूनिट के कर्मचारियों/अधिकारियों को वेतन का संधारण 1 जनवरी, 1997 से दिए जाने का निर्देश है। कर्मचारियों के वेतन पुनर्निर्धारण संबंधी एक द्विपक्षीय समझौते पर 22 मार्च, 2007 को केन्द्रीय श्रमिक नेताओं एवं बी.आ.एल. के प्रबंधन के बीच अनुबंध पर हस्ताक्षर हुए थे, जिसका अनुपालन सेल द्वारा किया जाना है।

आश्चर्य की बात है कि विलय के बाद रिफ्रैक्ट्रीज यूनिट में कार्यरत कर्मचारियों व अधिकारियों को सेल के अधिकारियों के समकक्ष वेतनमान और अन्य सुविधाएँ दी जानी चाहिए थीं, किन्तु इसके विपरीत यहाँ के कर्मचारियों का वेतन संधारण 1 अप्रैल, 2007 से एक ग्रेड नीचे कर दिया गया है। इसके अलावा, वर्ष 2007 एवं 2008 में पदोन्नत हुए अधिकारियों की पदोन्नति को सेल द्वारा मानने से इंकार करने के फलस्वरूप यहाँ के सभी अधिकारी एक या दो ग्रेड डिग्रेड हो गए हैं। अन्य सुविधाएँ, खास कर वाहन भत्ता, एलटीसी, एलटीई दिनांक 1 अप्रैल, 2007 की बजाय 28 जुलाई, 2009 से दिया गया है।

मेरा इस्पात मंत्री से अनुरोध है कि वे इस मामले में तत्काल हस्तक्षेप कर सेल रिफ्रैक्ट्रीज यूनिट के श्रमिकों को न्याय प्रदान करें।

**Demand to reconstitute Banking Service Recruitment Boards for  
conducting recruitments in nationalized banks in the country**

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, the nationalized banks in India invited applications for clerical and officer cadre posts after a long time. In State Bank of India, 36 lakh people applied for 11,000 clerical posts. The condition is same in other banks also. A single bank has got hundred crores of rupees as the application fees. The candidates are compelled to apply separately for every nationalized bank. They are also compelled to go through the same recruitment processes. The basic rules of the test and interview remain more or less same for every bank. So, this is wastage of money and time. Earlier, this process had been conducted by the Banking Service Recruitment Board. After nationalization, this system had been introduced. Seven BSRBs were set up in 1978 for conducting examination for clerical and officer cadre posts for meeting the manpower requirement of banks. As of January, 2002, there were 15 BSRBs and one Central Recruitment Board. In 2002, the BSRBs were abolished by the Finance Ministry. The Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, in its 24th Report, seriously criticized this decision and the Committee also expressed its apprehension that the abolition of RRBs would defeat the very purpose of nationalization and the interest of SC/ST would be adversely affected. But, the Government was not ready to reconsider its decision. Now, the situation is very serious. The candidates who got selected are jumping from one bank to another. This would affect the normal functioning of the banks also.

So, I urge the Government to reconstitute BSRBs for conducting the recruitment process for nationalized banks. Thank you.

#### **Demand to streamline the process of payment of toll tax on the Delhi-Jaipur Highway**

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल (राजस्थान): महोदय, राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों का निर्माण करते समय यह उद्देश्य था कि इन मार्गों में अवरोध पैदा न हो, यात्रा का समय कम हो, यात्रा आरामदायक ढंग से शीघ्र हो, समय की बचत हो और डीज़ल और पेट्रोल की खपत में कमी हो।

महोदय, उदाहरण के तौर पर मैं दिल्ली-जयपुर हाइवे की बात करना चाहता हूँ। दिल्ली से जयपुर के बीच की दूरी 240 किलो मीटर है, जिसमें 4 टोल गेट बने हुए हैं। पैसा लगता है तो चुभता है, यह अलग बात है परन्तु दिल्ली से निकलते ही 45 किलो मीटर की दूरी के अंदर दो टोल गेट पड़ते हैं और दोनों टोल गेटों पर पैसा चुकाने में जो समय बर्बाद होता है वह असहनीय होता जा रहा है। लम्बी कतार इतनी दुःखदायी और क्षुब्ध करने वाली है कि राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग पर यात्रा करने का सारा मजा किरकिरा हो जाता है, जिससे मन क्षुब्ध होता है और गुस्सा आता है। राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों पर टोल टैक्स लेने के लिए समुचित व्यवस्था होनी आवश्यक है वरना राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग एक्सप्रेस वे होने के बजाय पैसेन्जर वे बन जायेंगे।

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान इस विशेष उल्लेख के द्वारा आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि तत्काल इस समस्या के समाधान की उचित व्यवस्था की जाए। मेरी आपसे प्रार्थना है कि टोल-टैक्स के संबंध में मान्यता प्राप्त प्रेस करेस्पॉण्डेंट्स को भी वही सहूलियतें दी जायें जो कि अभी संसद सदस्यों/एम.एल.ए. को उनकी राज्य सरकारों द्वारा दी जा रही हैं।

#### **Demand to bring reforms in primary education in the country**

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA (Maharashtra): Since 1950s, our emphasis has been to develop higher education to compete technologically. But due importance to 'primary education' has been ignored. Focus has been on establishing institutions for producing engineers, doctors, scientists, etc. But such specialized programmes can hardly be sustained without building foundation at primary level. Only this can develop children's faculties. This will ensure equal opportunity for making primary education system accountable to the child for what 'the child learns' and how 'he understands it'. One-third of the children, who take admission in primary schools, drop out before fifth standard. The World Bank's statistics reveal that only forty per cent Indian adolescents attend secondary schools. The Right to Education Act, being implemented extensively since 1st April, 2010, caters only to plus-six children. Meeting nutritional and developmental needs of children under the age of six is critical for their upward educational journey. This requires greater material and congenial environment, like, playful learning and comprehensive need for story books to which, presently, only small number of comparatively affluent children have access. Urban slum or rural children have no resource, either at school or at home. It is an acknowledged fact that quality of education, these kids receive, is going to impact our future generations. Nearly 25 per cent of the entire global workforce will be Indian in next 20 years. Therefore, Primary Education must be significantly more than just an elaborate ritual of finishing the syllabus, through which children receive, memorize and repeat, but do not understand. Fuller comprehension is a fundamental requirement to sharpen children's intellect and thought-process at this impressionable age. I, therefore, urge upon the Government that it

must give utmost importance to the development and reorientation of primary level education in the country.

**Demand to take measures to check the disposal of industrial effluents and wastes in the rivers to protect them from pollution**

**श्री प्रभात झा (मध्य प्रदेश):** सर, आदि काल से नदियाँ मानव के लिए जीवनदायिनी रही हैं। उनकी देवी की तरह पूजा की जाती है और उन्हें यथासंभव शुद्ध रखने की मान्यता व परंपरा है। आज देश की 70 फीसदी नदियाँ प्रदूषित हैं और मरने के कगार पर हैं। केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड ने एक अध्ययन में कहा है कि देश-भर के 900 से अधिक शहरों और कस्बों का 70 फीसदी गंदा पानी पेयजल की प्रमुख स्रोत नदियों में बिना शोधन के ही छोड़ दिया जाता है। वर्ष 2008 तक के उपलब्ध आँकड़ों के मुताबिक ये शहर और कस्बे 38,254 एम.एल.डी. गंदा पानी छोड़ते हैं, जबकि ऐसे पानी के शोधन की क्षमता आज 11,787 एम.एल.डी. ही है। गुजरात की अमलाखेड़ी, साबरमती और खारी, हरियाणा की मारकंडा, उत्तर प्रदेश की काली और हिंडन, आंध्र की मुंसी, दिल्ली की यमुना तथा महाराष्ट्र की भीमा नदियाँ सबसे ज्यादा प्रदूषित हैं। पिछले 40-50 वर्षों में अनियंत्रित विकास और औद्योगीकरण इसका प्रमुख कारण है। इनके पानी से लोग त्वचा रोग, पिताशय के कैंसर और आंत्रशोथ जैसी भयंकर बीमारियों के शिकार हो सकते हैं। दिल्ली के 56 फीसदी लोगों की जीवनदायिनी, उनकी प्यास बुझाने वाली, यमुना आज खुद अपने ही जीवन के लिए जूझ रही है। देश की प्रदूषित हो चुकी नदियों को साफ करने का अभियान पिछले लगभग 20 वर्षों से चल रहा है। इस काम में अरबों रुपए खर्च हो चुके हैं, किन्तु परिणाम शून्य है।

अतः सरकार इन नदियों को प्रदूषण से मुक्त रखने हेतु उद्योगों को प्रदूषित जल व कचरा नदियों में बहाने से रोकने हेतु ठोस कदम उठाए।

**Demand to take action for the construction of an additional bridge over the river Narmada near Jadeshwar on NH-8 in Gujarat**

**श्री भरतसिंह प्रभातसिंह परमार (गुजरात):** उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनके मंत्रालय द्वारा राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-8 स्थित जडेश्वर के निकट नर्मदा नदी पर एक अतिरिक्त पुल के निर्माण की दिशा में क्या स्थिति का कोई अवलोकन किया गया है?

महोदय, राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग प्राधिकरण द्वारा प्रदेश की सरकार को यह सूचित किया गया है कि इस नर्मदा नदी पर नए पुल का निर्माण B.O.T. द्वारा ही किया जाना है और कंसेशन समय सीमा पूर्ण होने के उपरांत ही यानी दिसंबर, 2012 के बाद ही नए पुल का निर्माण किया जा सकेगा। प्रतिदिन सौराष्ट्र-कच्छ से मुंबई तक के यातायात का आवागमन इसी राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग से होता है और देश का अधिकांश वाणिज्य अर्जन भी गुजरात और मुंबई के बीच इसी राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग से होता है।

प्रतिदिन लाखों की संख्या में यातायात का आवागमन होने के कारण जडेश्वर स्थित इस पुल पर यातायात के निकास की समस्या एक सिरदर्द साबित हो रही है और बड़ोदरा-सूरत के बीच छह मार्गीय राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग बनाने का उद्देश्य सार्थक साबित नहीं हो रहा है। मेरा माननीय मंत्री महोदय से इस सदन के माध्यम से अनुरोध है कि वे राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग प्राधिकरण के द्वारा जडेश्वर के निकट राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग संख्या 8 पर वर्ष 2010-11 के दौरान नए पुल का निर्माण कराने की दिशा में तत्काल उचित कदम उठाने के निर्देश जारी करें। प्रदेश ने अपने राजपत्र दिनांक 07.09.2009 के द्वारा आपके मंत्रालय से इस स्थिति को निपटाने के लिए विशेष आग्रह किया है और इसके लिए तत्काल कोई विशेष कदम उठाने का अनुरोध किया है।

अंत में मैं मंत्री महोदय से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि वे स्वयं इस पुल के निर्माण के संबंध में हस्तक्षेप करें, जो कि राष्ट्र के हित में है।

**Demand to take action to enhance the minimum amount of  
pension under EPF pension scheme in the country**

SHRI P.R. RAJAN (Kerala) : All India Pensioners' Association has brought the attention of the Government to the revision of Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995. It is very essential to revise the Pension Scheme, 1995.

It may be noted that the Government of India had appointed a Committee in March 2008 to review the Employees Pension Scheme, 1995, under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Labour and Employment) with other five members. The Committee met four times, but so far, they have not arrived at any conclusion.

Subsequently, the Government of India also constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary (L&E) for reviewing the EPS, 1995. But there is no result. Out of 33 lakh pensioners, 14 lakhs are getting Rs. 16/- per day, that is, Rs. 500/- per month and 13 lakhs are getting Rs. 25/- per day. The employees who have contributed to the development of the nation as a whole are being ignored after their retirement. Most of the pensioners are struggling for their survival. Most of the pensioners lost their health while in service and they are severely affected by various diseases.

Their demand is that their monthly pension should be increased to a minimum of Rs. 3,000/- per month. The Central Government Employees Pensioners are getting a minimum of Rs. 3200/-per month.

They are also demanding free medical and special treatment in chronic diseases and operations. Free ESI medical facilities while in service, commutations in this scheme as per other employees may be allowed. The concept of Pension Scheme should be Basic + DA.

Considering the plight of EPF Pensioners, the minimum pension should be raised to Rs. 3,000/- per month for all existing pensioners for which necessary action to introduce a Bill in this Session of Parliament may please be taken.

**Demand to take steps to maintain the regular supply of clean  
drinking water in R.K. Puram, New Delhi**

PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI (Bihar): Sir, for the last about 6-7 months, contaminated potable water is being supplied in some quarters of Sector-8, R.K. Puram, New Delhi. When the matter was brought to the notice of the CPWD authorities, they assured to lay down new sewer and water pipe lines. But, instead of laying down the new pipe lines, they have stopped the supply of potable water and for the last 8-10 days, there is no water supply and in spite of repeated complaints, no action is being taken by CPWD to restore water supply. The residents are buying water to complete their daily chores. Elders and children are forced to live in inhuman conditions without water under 45 degrees Celsius. Water is life. Without water life is nothing.

I demand that necessary arrangements be made immediately to supply water and action is taken against the CPWD officers for harassing/troubling the residents. Thank you.

**Demand to convert the Delhi Technological University into an IIT or  
NIT to maintain its central status**

SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI (Maharashtra): Sir, the Delhi College of Engineering, now the Delhi Technological University, was an affiliated college of Delhi University, the only engineering college under Delhi University. But it was converted into a University by the Delhi Government without taking permission of the Central Government. The teachers and students were agitated against this decision of the Delhi Government and they were on the roads for almost a month, and they even boycotted their mid-term examinations. Many of the students have put their careers at stake for the sake of maintaining its Central character, but no attention was paid to their demand for reconvertng it into the Delhi College of Engineering and maintaining its central character. This college has been ranked next to IITs but after its upgradation, ironically, its rank has dipped.

Sir, many States have IITs and NITs but the Capital of the country does not have any NIT or any Central University for Engineering and Science. The Central Government should intervene in the matter to maintain its Central character by converting it into an IIT or NIT or a university of innovation, thereby maintaining its central character.

**Demand to give reservation to women in Central Government Jobs  
to ensure their economic empowerment**

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान): सर, Special Mentions अब हमेशा lay होने लगे हैं। हमारा यह privilege था कि जो चीज़ हम ज़ीरो आवर में नहीं बोल सकते थे, उसे हम इसके माध्यम से कह पाते थे और उसे पूरा सदन सुनता था। हम भी औरों की बातें सुनते थे और उनको एसोसिएट करते थे, इसलिए उसे फिर से आरंभ किया जाए।

श्री उपसभापति: बहुत सी चीज़ें वापस लानी हैं।

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर: महोदय, वर्तमान यू.पी.ए. सरकार के गठन के बाद लोक सभा एवं राज्य सभा की संयुक्त बैठक में महामहिम राष्ट्रपति महोदय के अभिभाषण में यू.पी.ए. सरकार की जिन योजनाओं एवं कार्यक्रमों का उल्लेख था, उनमें महिलाओं के आर्थिक सशक्तिकरण के लिए केंद्रीय सरकारी नौकरियों में महिलाओं को आरक्षण दिए जाने संबंधी सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता की भी घोषणा की गई थी। आज लगभग हर परिवार में शिक्षित बेटी या बहू आर्थिक रूप से आत्मनिर्भर बनना चाहती है तथा सरकारी नौकरियों में अधिकांश की रुचि होती है। किन्तु आम तौर पर ऐसी नौकरियां पाने के दौरान महिलाओं को अनेक प्रकार की परेशानियों का सामना करना पड़ता है, जिसके कारण अनेक बार कई प्रतिभाशाली महिलाएँ सरकारी नौकरियां पाने से वंचित रह जाती हैं। इसीलिए केन्द्र की सरकारी नौकरियों में हर महकमे में महिलाओं का अनुपात बहुत कम है। अतः महिलाओं के आर्थिक सशक्तिकरण के लिए आवश्यक है कि सरकार अपनी घोषणा के अनुसार सरकारी नौकरियों में महिलाओं के आरक्षण के संबंध में शीघ्र विधेयक लाए ताकि हमारे देश की लाखों शिक्षित बहन-बेटियों को न्याय मिल सके।



**Demand to regularize the employees and artists of All India Radio and  
Doordarshan appointed on casual basis**

Dr. BARUN MUKHERJI (West Bengal): Sir, Prasar Bharati units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting are, no doubt, elite bodies of the country. All India Radio broadcasts and Doordarshan telecasts represent the cultural life-line of the nation and bring to us daily news, information, knowledge and entertainment. Thousands of talented artists and dedicated employees of AIR and Doordarshan are engaged in this service to the nation. But, unfortunately, all of them are not recognized in a way they deserve to be. This refers to hundreds or thousands of employees/artists who are compelled to rot there as 'casuals' continuously for 10 to 25 years. This distressing fact is not so much known to the public. This may be equated to darkness at the bottom of the lamp that emits light to all sides. Even there is discrimination among the 'casuals'. Some of them (as in Doordarshan) are getting employment bookings for about 24 days in a month, while others (as in AIR) are getting merely 5 to 6 days booking in a month. Lowest earnings vary from Rs. 2100/- to Rs. 2400/- per month. They don't have any prospect of regularization of their job. They are deprived of PF, ESI and other benefits. Many privileged retired persons are even getting re-employment, but the 'casuals' continue to be 'casual' for years together. These young casual artists are qualified and experienced, doing responsible essential work in production and news units, but are victims of utter deprivation and exploitation. It is high time that the whole system of casual employment be reviewed immediately and the agony of the unfortunate casual artists be redressed. I have already brought it to the notice of the Minister of Information and Broadcasting. I would request the Government to make an end to this unjustified policy, to start immediately the process of regularization of the casuals and to see that there is no discrimination in treatment of the casuals.

**Demand to institute an inquiry into the incident of loss of vision of  
weavers engaged in silk industry in Karnataka**

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS (Karnataka): Magadi town in Bangalore district of Karnataka is an important centre of silk industry for over a century. It is reported in the *Hindustan Times* today at page-10 that as many as 60 weavers engaged in silk industry have lost their vision when they were rinsing raw silk before putting the thread on the spindle to prepare threads. As soon as the weaver turned the machine, they smelt some pungent chemical and as a result, their eyes became blurred. Some of them have been taken to eye clinic in Bangalore. It is not certain whether they will regain their sight. According to the report, as many as 60 persons have lost their vision. As a result, many weavers are leaving their jobs and going to cities in search of some other employment. All this appears to have happened because suppliers of raw silk treated the raw silk with a chemical to make it appear as better quality yarn.

The matter is of such an urgent nature that it should be inquired into immediately and

measures should be taken to save the weavers, their employment and the flourishing Mysore Silk Industry.

**Demand to include the enumeration of Non-Resident Indians  
during the Census, 2011**

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, the parameters for conducting the first phase of 2011 Census have been finalized by the Government. The 'House Listing and Housing Census' has already commenced from 1.4.2010 in various States and Union Territories.

As per the pre-fixed parameters, the total number of persons normally residing in the households is taken into account for assessing the data. While following this procedure, the Pravasi Indians, the NRIs, who are temporarily migrated to alien lands for livelihood, will not be counted in the Census. Being included in the Census data is very much important for every Indian. Presently, the whole country is eagerly looking to grant of voting rights to the NRIs. But due to technical grounds, the Election Commission has not yet accepted the proposal.

Including the names of the NRIs in the Census data is not technically difficult. They can be included as NRIs in the Census data. This inclusion will help them in many respects including the feeling of getting a patronage from the mother land. For availing a number of services rendered by the Government and the private agencies, the inclusion of name in the Census rolls is a basic necessity.

So, I request the hon'ble Chairman to consider this urgent necessity of the NRIs positively and direct the Government to take urgent necessary action.

**Demand to resolve the problems to employees of Railways in the country**

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा):** महोदय, यह सर्वस्वीकृत है कि भारतीय रेल देश की जीवन रेखा है, किन्तु आज रेलवे में इतनी सारी गंभीर समस्याएं हैं कि अगर उन पर तुरंत ध्यान नहीं दिया गया, तो मामला बिल्कुल बिगड़ जाएगा। जैसे, रेल पटरियों में नवीनीकरण का मुद्दा है। ऐसा आरोप है कि 2004 के बाद रेल पटरियों का नवीनीकरण बिल्कुल नहीं हो रहा है और इन पर अधिक रेलगाड़ियों के चलने का सिलसिला चालू है। ऐसी स्थिति में लोगों की जान खतरे में पड़ सकती है।

रेलवे को देश में सबसे बड़ा रोजगार देने वाला क्षेत्र माना गया है। भारतीय रेल पर पिछले कई सालों से भर्ती के मामले में पीछे चलने का आरोप सामने आया है। ऐसा कहा जाता है कि अभी लगभग दो लाख पद रिक्त पड़े हैं। विशेषकर, समूह १ और समूह २ में ये रिक्तियां अत्यंत उत्कट हैं। इससे track maintenance से लेकर गाड़ी परिचालन तक, सभी कार्य बाधित हो रहे हैं।

महोदय, भारतीय रेल से संबंधित एक और गंभीर मामला यह है कि उसमें जो लगभग एक लाख रेलवे इंजीनियर्स कार्यरत हैं, वे वेतन विसंगतियों के शिकार हैं। छोटे वेतन आयोग की सिफारिश के मुताबिक उनके प्रति न्याय नहीं हुआ है। रेलवे में यह विसंगति है कि ऐसे कई सारे डिग्री इंजीनियर्स हैं जो रोजगार की आवश्यकता हेतु श्रेणी-3 में भर्ती हो जाते हैं, लेकिन उनकी पदोन्नति न होने के कारण वे जिंदगी भर श्रेणी-3 में ही रह जाते हैं। जो मांग रेलवे इंजीनियर्स कई सालों से उठाते रहे हैं, उनके प्रति ध्यान न दिया जाना अत्यंत दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है।

इसी प्रकार, रेलकर्मियों के संघों की मान्यता हेतु चुनाव का मसला भी एक अत्यंत आवश्यक विषय है। यह चुनाव वर्ष 2007 में कई साल के संघर्ष के बाद गुप्त मतदान के जरिए संपन्न हुआ, फिर भी श्रम मंत्रालय को

इससे दूर रखा गया। वह चुनाव संपन्न हुए तीन साल होने जा रहे हैं, इसलिए पुरानी कमियों को दूर करके अब फिर से नए सिरे से चुनाव कराए जाने की प्रक्रिया चालू कर देनी चाहिए। इससे कर्मचारियों को लोकतांत्रिक तरीके से अपना प्रतिनिधि चुनने का मौका मिलेगा और कर्मचारी आनंद मन और लगन से काम करेंगे, जिससे रेलवे को अधिक लाभ होगा। इन मुद्दों के प्रति ध्यान दिया जाए, ऐसा मेरा आपसे नम्र निवेदन है।

**Demand to create a separate time zone for the  
north-eastern region of the country**

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS (Assam): Sir, there is a growing demand for creation of a separate time zone for the North-East Region in order to make optimum use of daylight and to take advantage of the early sunrise in the region. It is a practice followed by most developed countries and a few developing countries also. For example, our neighbour, Bangladesh, has been observing Daylight Saving Time (DST). They advance their time by one hour. Singapore's mean longitude is 105 East but Singapore set its standard time of longitude 120 East. They advance their time by one hour.

In British Raj also, in the tea plantation areas, they introduced the practice of setting the clock one hour earlier during winter season when the sun set earlier.

Non-creation of a separate time zone has created unproductive tendencies, imbalance in biological clock, degeneration of society, wastage of electricity, loss of productivity, etc., in the North-East Region. It has created health and psychological problems. Impact on the younger generation has been severe particularly due to the artificial time schedule imposed on the Region.

Therefore, the North East Region should have a separate time zone based on 105 East which will be seven hours ahead of the GMT and one hour ahead of the IST.

**Demand to institute a high level inquiry to probe the cyber scam in  
the Indian Railways and take action against the guilty**

श्रीमती माया सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, भारतीय रेल अपने विशाल नेटवर्क से यात्री और माल का परिवहन करने वाली राष्ट्रीय संवाहक के रूप में भारत के सामाजिक एवं आर्थिक विकास में बड़ी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका का निर्वहन करती है। लेकिन अत्यंत खेद की बात है कि कुछ रेल कर्मियों और travels agencies के मालिकों की मिलीभगत से रेलवे में साइबर घोटाले का मामला प्रकाश में आया है। इस घोटाले में पूर्व मध्य रेलवे के पांच रेल कर्मचारियों को अभी तक निलंबित किया गया है।

महोदय, वित्तीय वर्ष 2009-10 में गुगौली, बेतिया, जनकपुर रोड व सिमरी बख्तियारपुर स्टेशन के रिजर्वेशन काउंटर से 310 ट्रेनों को अलग-अलग तिथि में कई-कई बार कुछ देर के लिए फर्जी तरीके से रद्द कर दिया गया और लिच्छवी, सप्तक्रांति एक्सप्रेस को एक वर्ष में 70 से अधिक दिन इसी तरह फर्जी तरीके से रद्द दिखाया गया। इसी प्रकार बरौनी से दिल्ली चलने वाली वैशाली एक्सप्रेस को कई बार फर्जी तरीके से रद्द दिखाया गया। सिर्फ बिहार से गुजरने वाली ट्रेनों को ही नहीं, बल्कि देश के अन्य भागों से चलने वाली तमाम ट्रेनों को भी रद्द दिखाया गया। फर्जी तरीके से रद्द ट्रेनों की घटना से आईआरसीटीसी के टिकट एजेंसी संचालक या उस account में पैसा स्वतः वापस चला जाता है जिससे ई-टिकट के लिए भुगतान किया गया होता है। परन्तु ई-टिकट धारक को इस सब खेल की भनक नहीं होती और जब वह यात्रा हेतु ई-टिकट पर

प्रिंट विवरण के अनुसार जाता है तो उसे पता चलता है कि उक्त सीट किसी ओर के नाम आबंटित है। यह यात्री तो इस बात को समझ ही नहीं पाता है कि यह गंदा खेल चंद रेल कर्मियों और एजेंटों का है और वह रेलवे को कोसता रहता है कि कैसे देने के बाद दुबारा फाइन भरना या यात्रा न कर पाना, यह कैसी व्यवस्था है?

अतः मेरी मांग है कि सरकार तत्काल इस संबंध में उच्चस्तरीय जांच कराए और दोषियों के खिलाफ कानूनी कार्यवाही करे तथा यह सुनिश्चित करे कि आगे से रेलवे में ऐसी घटना न दोहराई जाए।

**Demand to take concrete steps to protect the traditional forms of rural and tribal art from extinction**

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Rajasthan): I want to raise an important matter related to traditional art forms of rural and tribal India which is facing danger of extinction. There are over 15 million traditional artisans, folk dancers, rural theatre artists, folk musicians and singers who have been living in India and supporting their families by engaging themselves in various forms of crafts and performing arts. After all, these were important economic activities and second largest source of income for rural India. Except a few popular art forms like Bharatnatyam, Odissi, Kuchipudi, Kathak, Veena, Sarod, Sitar, etc., others are on the verge of extinction.

Rajasthan's Kalbeliya dance, Khartal recital and miniature paintings, Orissa's Chhow and Chaiti Ghonda dance, Gujarat's Tippi Nritya, Siddi dance, Padhar Nritya, Dangi Nritya and folk drama Bhavai, Bihu dance of Assam, Maharashtra's Dindi, Kala, Lavni dance and Warli paintings, Bihar's Karma dance and Santhal paintings, Madhya Pradesh's Har Endanna, Hulki and Kaksar dance, etc., are some of the endangered art forms.

There was a time when these different performing art forms used to be part and parcel of rural festivities but wider reach of mass-media like television, radio, revolution in entertainment sector and affordable music devices have gradually replaced them which has put the artists out of job.

On the other hand, tribal and rural artisans are also finding it difficult to market their products and to get good price to support their families. Hence they are forced to search for more financially lucrative livelihoods. For this very reason youngsters are becoming reluctant to carry forward their family tradition.

I appeal to the Government to take concrete steps in order to save invaluable cultural heritage of India which is on the verge of gradual disappearance.

**Demand to defer the procurement process of the ULH Gun System and examine its suitability for the armed forces**

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, it seems, Bofors is still haunting India as Defence Ministry is pushing to procure Ultra Light Howitzer Gun System from BAE Systems (originally Bofors) knowing that it is not required for Indian conditions. Some officials in Ministry and Armed Forces included ULHGS in Artillery Procurement Plan in 2005-06 even after Plan was finalized! ULHGS manufactured by BAE System to meet America's requirements as it needs lighter gun for 'out of area contingency', i.e., a gun which could be transported by military

aircraft to foreign lands. China, Pakistan also rejected this Gun. So, why are we procuring this Gun when it does not suit to our conditions and costing ten times more than 39 Caliber same type of gun?

Army Chief ordered for study about use of ULH in Indian Artillery to use in 'inaccessible areas'. Artillery Directorate, Prospective Planning Directorate, Deputy Chief and the Military Operations Directorate, after study, unanimously said, there are no 'inaccessible areas' in India and hence, no need for ULH Guns. Again, review study was ordered by Northern and Eastern Command and both rejected ULH type of gun. In spite of all this, ULH was included in APP. Now, I think, BAE Systems began pressurizing to offer its ULH through US's FMS route and Ministry is seriously considering to acquiring ULH.

I request Government of India to enquire into genesis of how ULH Gun System was included in APP and to what extent it is helpful for our armed forces and till everything is cleared, I sincerely urge to direct officials not to proceed further as it involved thousands of crores of tax payers' money.

**Demand to review the policy of appointments on deputation in the  
Central Bureau of Investigation**

**श्री कप्तान सिंह सोलंकी** (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, देश की सबसे प्रतिष्ठित जांच एजेंसी केन्द्रीय अन्वेषण ब्यूरो अभी तक प्रतिनियुक्ति के माध्यम से ही अपनी कार्यशैली को कार्यान्वित कर रही है। यह काफी आश्चर्य की बात है कि इस जांच की निगरानी करने वाले उच्चतर पदों में से अधिकांश प्रतिनियुक्ति पर आने वाले भारतीय पुलिस सेवा के अधिकारियों के लिए पहले से ही आरक्षित कर दिए गए हैं, जिसके लिए सी.बी.आई. को अलग से करोड़ों रुपए प्रतिनियुक्ति भत्ते के रूप में हर साल खर्च करने पड़ते हैं। इसके अलावा बड़े पदों पर अस्सी प्रतिशत तक पद प्रतिनियुक्ति पर ही निर्भर रहते हैं और सी.बी.आई. के अपने कैडर के लिए मात्र 20 प्रतिशत पद ही बचते हैं। हाल के वर्षों में राज्यों में आई.पी.एस. अधिकारियों की कमी का असर अब सी.बी.आई. पर दिखने लगा है, जिसके कारण सी.बी.आई. में एस.पी. के कुल 24 पद खाली हैं। आज सी.बी.आई. प्रतिनियुक्ति के सहारे चलने वाली जांच एजेंसी बन गई है। प्रतिनियुक्ति के कारण ही बड़ी जांचों में कठिनाईयां आती हैं, क्योंकि जांच में अहम भूमिका निभाने वाले अधिकारी प्रतिनियुक्ति का समय पूर्ण होने के पश्चात् अपने मूल कैडर में वापिस चले जाते हैं। महोदय, सी.बी.आई. के मूल एक्ट में यह कहीं भी उल्लिखित नहीं है कि यह प्रतिनियुक्ति के माध्यम से चलने वाली जांच एजेंसी होगी। मेरा आग्रह है कि सी.बी.आई. में एक तिहाई पर सी.बी.आई. के मूल कैडर के लिए आरक्षित करने की आवश्यकता है, जिससे जांच में आने वाली रुकावटों में कठिनाईयां उत्पन्न न हो सकें।

**Demand to adopt the policy to promote every student of class first  
to eighth to the next class in the country**

**सुश्री अनुसुइया उइके** (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस विशेष उल्लेख के माध्यम से केंद्र सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहती हूँ कि सरकार द्वारा शिक्षा का अधिकार कानून लागू कर बच्चों को शिक्षा का अवसर उपलब्ध कराने का जो महत्वपूर्ण कार्य किया जा रहा है, वह सराहनीय है। यह कानून 1 अप्रैल, 2010 से लागू किया गया है जिसके अंतर्गत अब कक्षा एक से आठवीं तक के बच्चों को अनुत्तीर्ण नहीं किया जाएगा।

उल्लेखनीय है कि शिक्षा सत्र 2009-2010 में कक्षा पहली से आठवीं तक केन्द्रीय विद्यालयों में अध्ययनरत अनेकों विद्यार्थी अनुत्तीर्ण हुए हैं। इस प्रकार से देश भर में लाखों बच्चों को नवीन शिक्षा का अधिकार कानून का लाभ नहीं मिल पा रहा है। यदि इस नियम में कुछ शिथिलता बरतते हुए शिक्षा सत्र 2009-2010 में अध्ययनरत अनुत्तीर्ण हुए विद्यार्थियों का शैक्षणिक स्तर सुधारकर आगामी कक्षा में प्रवेश दिया जाता है, तो देश के लाखों बच्चों के एक वर्ष को बचाया जा सकता है।

उल्लेखनीय है कि इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था मध्य प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा राज्य के शिक्षण संस्थानों में इसी वर्ष से की गई है। ऐसे अनुत्तीर्ण बच्चे छुट्टियों में अतिरिक्त समय में अध्ययन कर शैक्षणिक स्तर सुधार कर 1 जुलाई, 2010 से अगली कक्षा में प्रवेश प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।

अतएव मैं केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहती हूँ कि यदि इस नियम में कुछ शिथिलता बरतते हुए शिक्षा सत्र 2009-2010 में अध्ययनरत रहते हुए अनुत्तीर्ण हुए विद्यार्थियों को शैक्षणिक स्तर सुधारने का अवसर देकर 1 जुलाई, 2010 से आगामी कक्षा में प्रवेश की अनुमति दी जाती है, तो देश के लाखों बच्चों के एक वर्ष को बचाया जा सकता है।

**Demand to recognize anganwadi workers as Government  
employees in the country**

SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA (Tripura): Sir, today, at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi, thousands of Anganwadi employees from different States have assembled to press their long-pending just demands for the consideration of the Central Government. The poor Anganwadi employees are demanding that the Central Government should formulate a pension scheme at the Central level for all the Anganwadi workers and helpers; *ex-gratia* payment of Rs. 1 lakh to the Anganwadi workers and Rs. 50,000 to the Anganwadi helpers who have been forcibly retired or removed from service; immediate enhancement of remuneration of these workers and helpers considering the spiralling rise in prices of essential commodities; minimum wages and automatic linkage of wages to the CPI and payment of DA; non-privatization of ICDS, including the supply, preparation and distribution of supplementary nutrition; and regularization of ICDS and recognition of Anganwadi workers and helpers as Grade III and Grade IV Government employees.

Sir, ICDS is a unique scheme, if it is implemented properly. Keeping Anganwadi workers and helpers, who are bringing up the children and contributing to build the future of our country, in a pathetic economic condition is really frustrating the aims and objects of ICDS. Hence, I urge upon the Government to consider their demands sympathetically.

**Demand to rehabilitate people displaced due to land acquisition for  
Rourkela Steel Plant in Orissa by giving them appropriate employment**

SHRI MANGALA KISAN (Orissa) : Sir, a large number of families were displaced during land acquisition for the Rourkela Steel Plant. The last meeting between the local administration and the Rourkela Steel Plant was held on 11th March, 1993. Even after 17 years, no other meeting has held and a large number of displaced persons are yet to get employment. The authorities of the Rourkela Steel Plant have not given any firm assurance as to when all the displaced persons would be given a permanent job. I would also like to bring to the notice of the

Government that among the displaced persons, people from Bangladesh, West Bengal, Ranchi, Balasore, Cuttack have also been included leading to discrimination against people of Sundargarh. This matter needs to be resolved at the earliest. The capacity of ITI, Rourkela has to be increased so that more people can be trained and given employment. Therefore, I request the Government to clear the backlog immediately. The other units of SAIL should also be directed to clear the backlog of SCs and STs in employment. The matter may be inquired into and the genuine people should be given employment. Thank you.

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY (Orissa): Sir, I associate myself with this matter.

SHRI KISHORE KUMAR MOHANTY (Orissa): Sir, I also associate myself with this issue.

#### **Demand to conduct the caste-based census in the country**

श्री राम नारायण साहू (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, राष्ट्रीय जनगणना आरम्भ हो चुकी है। 14 माह में 640 जिलों, 5767 तहसीलों, 7742 शहरों एवं 6 लाख गांवों के 120 करोड़ नागरिकों से 35 बिन्दुओं पर आधारित जानकारी दो चरणों में एकत्रित की जाएगी। भारत की 15वीं जनगणना से प्राप्त आंकड़े जनसंख्या, नीति, सुरक्षा, शिक्षा व विकास के नियोजन एवं मूल्यांकन का आधार बनेंगे। राष्ट्रीय जनगणना से राष्ट्रीय जनसंख्या रजिस्टर तथा 15 वर्ष से अधिक आयु के लोगों का 16 अंकों का बहु-उपयोगी विशिष्ट पहचानपत्र भी जारी होना है, जिसमें फोटो, उंगलियों के निशान एवं अन्य जानकारी उपलब्ध रहेगी।

महोदय, मेरा सरकार से सुझाव है कि इतने महत्वपूर्ण कार्यक्रम को लागू करने से पहले सदन में चर्चा अवश्य करवानी चाहिए थी, ताकि माननीय सदस्यों के सुझावों का संज्ञान लिया जाता। सरकार को इस विषय पर स्वीकार करना चाहिए कि भारत में हर व्यक्ति किसी न किसी जाति और धर्म में जन्म लेता है, यह अकाट्य वास्तविकता है फिर सरकार जातीय जानकारी प्राप्त करने में क्यों कतराती है। विगत 14 जनगणनाओं में अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति की जानकारी लगातार एकत्र की गई, परन्तु कोई अशांति और विभाजन नहीं हुआ। अब पिछड़े वर्ग की जानकारी प्राप्त करने में विभाजन और अशांति का कुकृत्य हास्यास्पद लगता है। यह अत्यंत आवश्यक है कि सरकार यह जाने कि पिछड़े वर्ग की कितनी जनसंख्या किस हाल में है, तभी उनके उत्थान की योजना बनाई जा सकेगी। जिस प्रकार सच्चर कमेटी की रिपोर्ट ने मुसलमानों की वास्तविकता उजागर कर सरकार की खोखली कार्यशैली की पोल खोली है, इसी प्रकार सरकार पिछड़े वर्ग से उत्पन्न ज्वलंत ऊर्जा से घबरा रही है। देश में जानवरों की गणना जातिवार हो सकती है, तो नागरिकों की गणना जातिवार क्यों न हो। कुछ विकसित देश यूआईडी की उपयोगिता को नकार रहे हैं। सरकार को यह सुनिश्चित करना होगा कि इस जानकारी का दुरुपयोग पुलिस, सरकारी तंत्र या अपराधिक तत्व अन्यथा न कर सकें।

#### **Demand to take steps for renovation of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**

##### **Memorial at 26, Alipur, New Delhi**

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र): डॉ. बाबा साहेब अंबेडकर जी के जीवन के पांच प्रमुख स्थान हैं। वह महू, जहां उनका जन्म हुआ, वह महाड जहां उन्होंने छूआछूत के खिलाफ लड़ाई छेड़ी, वह नागपुर, जहां उन्होंने धर्म परिवर्तन के निर्णय को अमली जामा पहनाया, जहां उनकी मृत्यु हुई व 26, अलिपुर का निवास, दिल्ली और चैत्यभूमि मुंबई, जहां उनकी अंत्येष्टि हुई। जहां संविधान का काम हुआ और स्थापना हुई, वह तो यह संसद परिसर है। सभी स्थानों पर समय से राष्ट्रीय स्मारक बने, लेकिन 21वीं सदी की शुरुआत तक 26, अलिपुर में स्मारक नहीं बना था, जिसकी बरसों से मांग और प्रतीक्षा थी।

2003 में तत्कालीन प्रधानमंत्री माननीय अटल जी ने अगुवाई करके वहां पर राष्ट्रीय स्मारक घोषित किया। 16 करोड़ रुपए में यह कोठी खरीदी गई और उसका लोकार्पण हुआ। इस स्मारक की भव्य योजना भी बनी।

2004 से स्मारक की हालत खस्ता हुई। न कोई रखरखाव, न कोई सुधार न कोई योजना, न अमल, न लाइब्रेरी, न बगीचा, न यात्रियों को लाने की सुविधा, न उनकी पावन स्मृति को जीवित रखने की कोशिश। अगर इलाहाबाद में आनंद वन की व्यवस्था अच्छी है, तो 26, अलिपुर की व्यवस्था क्यों नहीं? मैं मांग करता हूं कि एक साल में इस स्मारक का पूर्णरूपेण नवीनीकरण हो।

**Demand to take steps to remove bottlenecks in the  
development of textile sector**

SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, there is a steep increase in the price of cotton by 40 per cent as compared to last year. This is due to wrong policies of the Government. Last year, the Government increased remunerative price for cotton by 40 per cent. As a result, cotton growers were benefitted by this move. But the Government increased the remunerative price to encourage export of cotton in spite of heavy local demand. Middlemen and online traders were greatly benefitted than cotton growers.

Now, the Government has suspended registration of cotton exports. It is a welcome move and a wise decision. Now, cotton and yarn prices will come down. This decision seems to have come as a pleasant surprise to the spinning sector, as they have been in real trouble. The spinning mills had suffered huge losses during the past two years and urged the Government to provide more support to this sector so as to absorb the increasing cost of cotton and yarn. Now the cotton availability in the domestic market is expected to increase. The spinning sector also face many problems like 55 per cent power cut, scarcity of labour force and high price of cotton. So, this move will give them relief.

About 292 lakh bales of cotton production are expected this year. With the suspension of export contract registration, the prices of cotton and yarn would stabilize. I would urge upon the Government to announce Fibre Policy and to take steps to get data on the actual cotton production and stock available.

SHRI S. ANBALAGAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with this Special Mention.

**Concern over the pathetic condition of Nehru Memorial  
Museum and Library**

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार): महोदय, नेहरु मेमोरियल म्यूजियम और लाइब्रेरी संस्थान में अराजकता की हालत पैदा हो गई है। पंडित नेहरु की मृत्यु के बाद इन्दिरा जी ने उनकी स्मृति को संरक्षित करने के मकसद से उनके सरकारी आवास को म्यूजियम तथा पुस्तकालय के रूप में विकसित करने का फैसला लिया। इसके लिए प्रसिद्ध गाँधीवादी विद्वान बलराम लाल नन्दा से स्वयं आग्रह किया और इन्हें इसकी जवाबदेही लेने के लिए राजी किया। नन्दा जी ने इस संस्थान को राष्ट्रीय रूप दिया।

स्व. हरदेव शर्मा, जो बाद में इसके निदेशक बने, उन्होंने इस संस्थान में मौखिक इतिहास की परम्परा



शुरू की और उसका एक अलग विभाग बनाया। यह अपने ढंग का अनूठा काम है। इस विभाग की गतिविधि आज बन्द है।

चार वर्षों से यहाँ कोई पेशेवर लाइब्रेरियन नहीं है। पिछले तीन वर्षों से पुस्तकों के चयन के लिए कोई समिति नहीं है। फलस्वरूप नयी पुस्तकों की खरीद नहीं हो रही है। पिछले चार वर्षों से संस्थान ने किसी पुस्तक का प्रकाशन नहीं किया है। यहाँ सिर्फ बाहर की पुस्तकों का विमोचन भर होता है।



रख-रखाव के अभाव में पूरे संस्थान का माहौल बीमार दिखाई देता है। इसकी हालत को सुधारने के मकसद से केन्द्र सरकार ने इस संस्थान को 2007 में 20 करोड़ रुपए का स्पेशल ग्रांट दिया, ताकि इसको आधुनिक रूप दिया जा सके। लेकिन इस रुपए के बेजा इस्तेमाल का आरोप लगने लगा। नियम-कायदे को ताक पर रख कर काम कराने का आरोप लगा।

काफी हो-हल्ला और शिकायतों के बाद सी.वी.सी. ने संस्थान की विशेष ऑडिट कराई है। चर्चा है कि ऑडिट में बहुत सारी गड़बड़ियों का खुलासा हुआ है। एक जनाब ने सूचना के अधिकार के तहत ऑडिट रिपोर्ट की जानकारी मांगी है, लेकिन अभी तक जानकारी नहीं दी गई है।

मैं मांग करता हूँ कि ऑडिट रिपोर्ट को सार्वजनिक किया जाए और गड़बड़ करने वालों को दंडित किया जाए। अगर सरकार इस प्रतिष्ठित संस्थान को इसकी प्रतिष्ठा के अनुरूप चलाने में असमर्थ है, तो इसको बंद कर देना चाहिए। अन्यथा जिसके नाम पर यह संस्थान है, उनका इससे अपमान होता है।

#### **Demand to declare the Gorkha Fort in Dehradun, Uttarakhand as a National Memorial and take steps for its conservation**

**श्री समन पाठक** (पश्चिमी बंगाल): महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से केंद्र सरकार का ध्यान देहरादून स्थित नालापानी के खलंग क्षेत्रों में अवस्थित गोरखा किला की ओर आकृष्ट करना चाहूंगा।

महोदय, सन् 1814 में अंग्रेजों के विरोध में खलंग क्षेत्रों में वीर गोरखा सैनिकों ने वीरता पूर्वक संघर्ष करके ईस्ट इंडिया कंपनी को पीछे हटाया था। अंग्रेजों के विरोध में सैनिकों के साथ-साथ इस युद्ध में महिलाएं और बच्चे भी वीरतापूर्वक लड़े थे और अपने जीवन का बलिदान किया था। यहां का किला आज भी वीरता के प्रतीक के रूप में स्थित है, लेकिन रख-रखाव और संरक्षण के अभाव में आज भी यह जीर्ण अवस्था में है। विगत कुछ साल में उत्तराखंड सरकार के सहयोग से किले तक जाने का रास्ता और युद्ध स्मारक (स्तूप) का निर्माण किया गया। गत वर्ष 2009 में  ऑफ़  ने सर्वेक्षण करके पूरे क्षेत्र का एक मानचित्र (map) भी तैयार किया है।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि ऐतिहासिक और पुरातत्व महत्व के इस गोरखा किला को राष्ट्रीय संरक्षित स्मारक घोषित करते हुए पुरातत्व विभाग द्वारा पूरी तरह इसके संरक्षण की व्यवस्था की जाए, साथ ही इस पूरे क्षेत्र को पर्यटन के रूप में विकसित किया जाए।

#### **Demand to bring organizational reforms in the Neyveli Lignite Corporation in Tamil Nadu**

**DR. K. MALAISAMY** (Tamil Nadu): Sir, while it is a matter of great satisfaction to note that the Neyveli Lignite Corporation, Tamil Nadu, is one of the leading public sector undertakings, which is continuously earning profit and is marching towards Navaratna from its Miniratna status, it is a matter of regret to learn that things are not all right now and that its name and fame are on the decline for want of efficient management due to system failure.

It is sad that there have been some serious irregularities, financial mismanagement and maladministration, leading to a loss of thousands of crores of rupees to the organization. There is corruption at the level of executives and subordinates involved in the decision-making process. This seems to have led to CBI enquiry and arrest of officers of the NLC. Besides this, a Public Interest Litigation is also said to be pending in the court. There is a lot of grouse and dissatisfaction among the employees and their Anti-Corruption Front had gone to the extent of holding a demonstration before the public. It is further said that the loyal employees interested in the well-being of the organization but opposed to malpractice and corruption in the organization are penalized and victimized by the superiors.

Therefore, in the larger interest of the organization and that of the people interested in the well-being of the organization, the hon. Minister for Coal may ensure the following measures:—

1. To see to it that the top management of the organization has to fix the right persons in the right positions.
2. To arrange for a periodical review of the working of the organization.
3. To enquire into the various allegations that are made against the officers of the NLC within a time-frame and take remedial measures.
4. To have a mechanism at the top level of the management to redress the grievances of the employees.

**Demand for Central intervention to amend the rules regarding promotion  
of Assistant Teachers in Primary Schools of Delhi**

SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI (NCT of Delhi): Sir, in the era of women empowerment, it is sad to note that discrimination is being done to the Primary Teachers (Nursery) who are all women and that too in the Union Territory of Delhi. Sir, last year also, the attention of the Government of India was invited towards this problem. However, till date no action has been taken in the matter. These teachers are B.Ed./M.Ed., but are not being promoted to the post of TGT, whereas other Assistant Teachers (Primary) without B.Ed. were being promoted. Where a teacher is not having B.Ed. qualification, arrangements are there to help them to do B.Ed. at Government expenses. The matter was brought to the notice of the concerned authorities a number of times. In 2007, the Department of School Education and Literacy had given an assurance to get the recruitment rules amended to ensure that Primary Teachers (Nursery) with B.Ed. get promotion to the post of TGT. However, thereafter no action seems to have been taken in the matter. I request you to direct the Government to get the said assurance fulfilled and to do away with the injustice being meted out to the Primary Teachers (Nursery).

**Demand to resolve the problems being faced by the cabin crew due to disciplinary action taken  
against them by the management of Air India**

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT (Maharashtra): Cabin crew of Air India has decided to go on 'non-cooperation drive' against the NACIL management from May 8, which is likely to paralyse

the international operations of Air India. The cabin crew decided to start the agitation as the management unlawfully grounded 23 member of cabin crew for not reporting on duty in time at Cairo in the last week of April.

During that period, the Europe sector had come to a stand still due to the problem of volcanic ash. Our cabin crew was stranded in a hotel at Cairo, at a far off distance from the city. As the crew members ran out of their funds, and the AI management did not make any arrangement with the hotel for their two-meals, the staff had to go to the city for cheaper lunch and dinner.

The staff was not told about their duties in advance and therefore they could not reach on time. If disciplinary action had to be taken against, why and how no action was initiated against the station manager and crew coordinator and also the pilots, who also reported on duty approximately the same time?

The action taken against the flying staff violates the agreement of 1987. As continuous negotiations with the management failed to yield result, the cabin crew is compelled to resort to agitation.

I, therefore, request the Union Government, the hon. Prime Minister and hon. Civil Aviation Minister to immediately look into the matter and resolve the issue by giving justice to the staff.

**Demand to give recognition to Courtallam in Tamil Nadu  
as national tourist spot**

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, Courtallam in Tirunelveli District of Tamil Nadu is a seasonal healthy resort. The temperature is about 15 degree Celsius lower than surrounding villages proving pleasant climate. The area around Courtallam has the same weather. The humidity maintains a desirable minimum level throughout the year. The annual rainfall is 147 cm which is thrice the average of the district. The temperature and humidity-rainfall combine make this season climatically invigorating and enjoyable. During this period it drizzles intermittently throughout the day. The weather remains pleasant and delightful. During season, around one lakh tourists visit Courtallam. The falls here have all their origin in the hills abounding in many herbs having medicinal properties. The water is said to contain curative medicinal value. Thousands of people from the hotter areas of the peninsula visit the place and stay for weeks. To the enthusiastic hill climbers Courtallam has a lot to offer. During the season there is mild sunshine along with slight drizzle being just a reflection of the torrential rains on other parts of the hills. Going about in this drizzle does not in any manner affect the health system. This lovely place with its captivating scenery, pollution free environment, beautiful weather, spectacular water cascades a hub of tourist is recognized as a State tourist spot by the Tamil Nadu State Government. Considering the above facts, I urge the Union Government to declare Courtallam as a national tourist spot. The State Government has also represented to the Union Government urging for the same. Thank you.

**Demand to take steps to ensure the early settlement of insurance claims of  
persons suffering from the failure of operations performed for  
family planning in Rajasthan**

**श्री ललित किशोर चतुर्वेदी** (राजस्थान): सर, जनसंख्या नियंत्रण हेतु चल रहा परिवार कल्याण कार्यक्रम राजस्थान में समस्या का सबब बन गया है। प्रदेश में ऑपरेशन में अव्वल होने का श्रेय लेने वाले राजस्थान में परिवार नियोजन के लिए किए जाने वाले ऑपरेशन के अधिकाधिक फेल होने से परिवारों के सामने समस्याएँ खड़ी हो गई हैं। वर्ष 2008-09 में करीब 1450 नसबन्दियाँ फेल हुई हैं; सिर्फ जयपुर में ही गत साल 90 ऑपरेशंस फेल हुए। बचत इतनी ही है कि इसमें दो-तिहाई से ज्यादा मामले महिलाओं के हैं। यदि पुरुषों के होते तो महिलाओं पर कहर ढा दिया गया होता।

दूसरी तरफ ऑपरेशन फेल होने पर मुआवजे में केवल 30,000 रुपए मिलते हैं और इसमें भी बीमा कम्पनी वाले बड़ा गुरेज करते हैं। क्लेम के मामले देखते ही इंश्योरेंस कम्पनी वाले पीड़ित व्यक्ति को दफ्तर में नहीं घुसने देते। कोर्ट का सहारा हर आदमी नहीं ले सकता। स्वास्थ्य विभाग के निदेशक कहते हैं कि जब ऑपरेशन ज्यादा हो रहे हैं तो उस हिसाब से फेल के मामले भी बढ़ेंगे। स्वास्थ्य विभाग मामला जिला कमेटी को भेजकर पल्ला झाड़ लेता है। इस कमेटी का चेयरमैन कलेक्टर होता है और वह इंश्योरेंस कम्पनी को अपनी अनुशंसा भेज देता है जिसे कम्पनियाँ यह कह कर अपना पल्ला झाड़ रही हैं कि ऑपरेशन कम होने की बजाए काफी बढ़ गए हैं और इससे वह क्लेम भरते-भरते घाटे में आ गई हैं। चूँकि इंश्योरेंस का सारा काम केन्द्र सरकार की मातहत में है, अतः केन्द्र सरकार को क्लेम भुगतान की व्यवस्था तत्काल सुनिश्चित करने हेतु में ध्यान आकर्षित करता हूँ।

**Demand to take action against guilty persons committing violation of  
fundamental rights of Dalits in Jait Village of Sehore District  
in Madhya Pradesh**

**SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM** (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, *dalits* are not allowed entry to the temple in the Jait village of Sehore District in Madhya Pradesh. This is a blatant violation of the Fundamental Right to equality granted by article 15 of the Constitution of India. What makes it more serious is the fact that the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh belongs to this village itself, but, no action has ever been taken to protect the rights of *dalits* and end the curse of untouchability in his parental village. I urge upon the Union Government to act in the matter as per the provisions of article 3 of the protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and upholders of this shameful practice. The culprit should be brought to book and punished to send a message of deterrence.

**Demand for enquiry and compensation for affected families in the incident  
of firing by BSF or Dhadihal Village of Toofanganj sub-division  
along the Indo-Bangladesh border**

**SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY** (West Bengal) : Sir, on 4th May, 2010, the villagers of Dhadihal of Toofanganj sub-division went for cultivation across the fencing of Bangladesh border. While entering, the BSF alleged that they were smuggling cattle and demanded money from them. The villagers denied. All of a sudden, the BSF opened fire on them. As a result, Ashik Seika, a child of only six months and Basiram Bibi (40 years) shot dead. Sir, four other persons got serious injuries and were hospitalized.

The villagers living along the Bangladesh fencing are allowed to cross the fencing for cultivation within 150 meters of fencing from 8.00 A.M. to 4.00 P.M. Sir, off and on, they face harassment from the B.S.F.

I demand for an immediate enquiry by the Home Ministry on the incident and demand cash compensation of Rs. 25 lakh for each of the dead persons and Rs. 10 lakh for those who have sustained injuries. Thank you.

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MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet at 2.30 P.M.

The House then adjourned for lunch at twenty-three minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House reassembled after Lunch at thirty minutes past two of the clock,  
MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

#### PRIVATE MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

##### Constitution of an environment adaption and mitigation fund

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. N.K. Singh.

SHRI N.K. SINGH (Bihar) : Sir, I have a submission for your consideration to be placed before the House. A discussion on a Resolution by me on Creation of an Environment-Related Fund has been initiated and has remained incomplete. It was to have taken up, being taken up today, Sir, but because of the special occasion of farewell, I propose, Sir, that this be now considered at the next Session. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Just one minute, please.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ (Orissa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, are they boycotting the session?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no; there is no such apprehension. Now, Ahluwaliaji. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Minister is sitting there.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Hardly there is any presence of Members on that side. ...*(Interruptions)*... There are hardly three Members.

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया (झारखंड): सर, आज के ballot में पहला जो Resolution था, वह आज पेश होता और उस पर discussion होता, इसके समाप्त होने के बाद श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी जी का Resolution था, इसलिए उसको भी carry forward किया जाए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the House agrees, the Resolutions moved by Shri N.K. Singh and Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari may be taken up as the first item under the Private Members' Resolutions to be taken up during the next Session.

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Yes, Sir.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Yes, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

### FAREWELL TO THE RETIRING MEMBERS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, today, we bid farewell to fifty-one of our colleagues, who are retiring in the month of June and July this year, after completion of their term of office. According to the Constitution, as all of you are aware, one-third of our Members retire every second year.

Out of the fifty-one Members who are retiring, nineteen Members will be completing their term in June and thirty-two Members in July. I am sure that some of the retiring Members would be returning. The House will certainly miss those who would not be coming back.

The membership of the Rajya Sabha is an honour. The Members, who are retiring, have contributed immensely to the stature of this House and influenced public policy to serve larger causes. One of my enduring joys as Chairman has been to watch adversaries bury their differences to uphold the lofty traditions of this great institution.

I place on record my heartfelt appreciation of the valuable contributions the retiring Members have made to the deliberations of the House, and the service they have rendered to Parliamentary Democracy. The House shall ever cherish their association. Personally, I am grateful for the courtesy and consideration that they have always shown to me in conducting the Business of the House. I wish the retiring Members good health, success and long years of service to the nation.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Mr. Chairman, Sir, fifty-one of our colleagues retire in the inter-session period, in the month of June and July. We have all seen them here for the last few years making an immense contribution to the debates and the proceedings of this House. While they appear to be apparently retiring, I am sure, some of them would be back with us in the House, and the others who are not back with us have still the privilege of being in public service because politics is one area of our national activity where people don't normally retire. It is an instrument of public service, and whether you get an opportunity by being a Member of this House or the other House or any other Legislature or you get an opportunity of being within your political organizations or some civil society organizations, you find always appropriate instruments of serving the people.

Sir, we have had great debates in this House. With the contributions that our retiring Members have made, all of us, after listening to them have gone back wiser. This House has seen high moments; when the nation expects from us, we all speak in one voice. Even when we speak in different voices, it is not on account of mere partisan differences that we have, it is essentially because we all think that by suggesting a particular course that we have differences with the other on, we perhaps believe that we would be serving the country the best. In fact, all of the hon. Members have made an immense contribution to this House. Some of them have added a lot of humour, wit, charm with their experience of activities outside in other areas of our national activity.

I join you, Sir, in wishing all of them a very fruitful career and life in the service of the people outside this House. I wish and pray that as many of them are back in this House. I wish them all good health and a great service of this country in the years to come. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is indeed very difficult to bid farewell to colleagues with whom we have worked so closely sharing our thoughts, experiences and cherishing our common areas. I wish to see most of you back in this august House. Retirements are only transitory phases in the political careers of our retiring colleagues. You will continue to serve the country in different capacities. The dynamic nature of parliamentary experience and exposure which you all have gained over the years in Rajya Sabha will come handy for discharging your duties in the larger society. As Members of Rajya Sabha, you made important contributions to pass laws and shape the policies impacting the lives of millions of our people.

On this occasion, let me place on record that your contribution to enrich and enliven the debates in the House and your initiative and participation in the Committees will be missed very much. I take this opportunity to wish you all good health, happiness and fulfillment in life and many more years of service to the nation. Thank you.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, it is with a sense of deep regret that I stand to speak. We shall miss the company of all the esteemed hon. Members who served with us in this House. They have made a very important contribution and we hope that some of them will come back to this House and they will continue to be inspired by the learning process that this august House offers to every one of us to continue to serve the country and the people to the best of their ability and interest. I am sure, all the hon. Members, who have made such a valuable contribution, who enriched the proceedings and enriched the work during their stay in our House as Members of Rajya Sabha, would continue to do the good work when they go back to their fields and respective areas. I wish them all the best in the future in their work.

I join the entire House in recording our deep sense of appreciation and deep sense of satisfaction of having known them, having worked with them. I am sure, they will continue to make such contributions outside the House and work together for building a better India. I wish them all the best. Thank you.

**श्री बृजभूषण तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश):** सभापति महोदय, विदाई का क्षण बहुत ही दुखदायी होता है परन्तु इस सदन में बहुत तथ्यपूर्ण और तर्कपूर्ण भाषण सुनने को मिले और जनता में संबंधित जो लोक महत्व के विषय थे, वे जिस तरीके से उठाए गए, उससे हम सबको बहुत कुछ सीखने का मौका मिला। यह लोकतंत्र का सर्वोच्च सदन है और यह माना भी जाता है कि सचमुच यह सदन जनता या जनआकांक्षाओं का आकर्षण होता है या उसका आइना होता है। तो यह बातें हमें यहां सदन में देखने को मिलीं। करीब 51 सदस्य रिटायर हो रहे हैं। यह सही है कि इनमें से काफी लोग वापिस आएंगे या आने की सम्भावना है। परन्तु जो नहीं भी आ पाएं, क्योंकि यहां पर ज्यादातर वही सदस्य आए हैं जिनका सार्वजनिक जीवन में बहुत बड़ा योगदान रहा है। ठीक

ही कहा है



हमारे नेता विरोधी दल ने कि राजनीति में कोई रिटायर नहीं होता, क्योंकि जीवनपर्यन्त जनता की सेवा करनी पड़ती है। तो इसी उद्देश्य से लोग सार्वजनिक जीवन में आते हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस सदन में जो लोग नहीं आ पाएंगे वे भी अपने कर्तव्यों का निर्वहन करेंगे। मैं तहेदिल से उनको अपनी शुभकामना व्यक्त करता हूँ।

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, it is indeed a sad occasion that some of our colleagues will be retiring and we are here to bid farewell to them. It is all the more important because many of our distinguished colleagues, on my both sides, Satish Chandra Misraji, Shri Brij Bhushan Tiwari, Venkaiah Naiduji, Dr. Najma Heptulla, people of immense experience will be retiring. Also with deep regret I say that I will personally be losing four of my colleagues. Coming from a remote corner of Tamil Nadu, they have made in their own way significant contribution to this House and they have learnt considerably from the past experiences in this House during the very crucial six years of their political career. I wish all of them great success in their endeavours. Thank you, Sir.

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार): सभापति महोदय, आज हम लोगों के बीच में 51 सदस्य रिटायर हो रहे हैं। उन सबका सदन की कार्यवाही में काफी योगदान रहा है और सभी लोग अपने-अपने क्षेत्रों के अनुभवी लोग रहे हैं और सार्वजनिक जीवन में एक अच्छा खास समय व्यतीत करने के बाद इस सदन में आए हैं। उन सबकी कमी यहां खलेगी, जैसा सब लोगों ने कहा, हम भी इस बात को महसूस करते हैं कि जो लोग रिटायर हो रहे हैं उनमें कई लोग वापिस सदन में आएंगे, कुछ नहीं भी आएंगे। हमारे पड़ोस के साथी सदस्य भी रिटायर हो रहे हैं। तो स्वाभाविक है कि विदाई की जो पीड़ा होती है उसका अहसास हम लोगों को है। लेकिन हम मानते हैं कि यहां से जाने के बाद, भले ही यहां से रिटायर हो जाएं लेकिन सार्वजनिक जीवन से उनका रिटायरमेंट नहीं होगा और लम्बे समय तक वे सार्वजनिक जीवन में अपना योगदान करेंगे, वे समाज को अपना बहुमूल्य योगदान देंगे। मैं उन सब के लिए अपनी ओर से और अपने दल की ओर शुभकामना व्यक्त करता हूँ।

श्री तारिक अनवर (महाराष्ट्र): सभापति महोदय, आज राज्य सभा के 51 सदस्य रिटायर हो रहे हैं। उनमें मैं भी शामिल हूँ। जाहिर है कि अपने लोगों से बिछड़ने की यह घड़ी दुखदायी तो होती ही है। 6 साल का जो संबंध रहा, जो रिश्ता रहा उसको कोई भी फरामोश नहीं कर सकता है। हालांकि यहां लोगों ने ठीक ही कहा है कि सार्वजनिक जीवन में, राजनीति में कोई रिटायर नहीं होता है और किसी न किसी रूप में सेवा करने का मौका मिलता ही है। मुझे भी यहां आकर बहुत कुछ सीखने का मौका मिला। चार बार मैं लोक सभा का सदस्य रहा। लेकिन यहां का एक अलग ही अनुभव रहा है, एक्सपीरिेंस रहा है और यहां की बहस का जो स्तर हमको देखने को मिला वह बहुत अच्छा लगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि यहां से जो 51 लोग रिटायर हो रहे हैं वे सभी अपने-अपने क्षेत्रों में, अपने-अपने राज्यों में और अपने राजनीतिक दल के माध्यम से काम करते रहेंगे। यह एक चक्र है, हो सकता है कि आगे जाकर फिर हम लोगों को मौका मिलेगा इस सदन में आने का, उन तमाम लोगों को आने का और यह सिलसिला जारी रहेगा। अंत में, मैं सभापति महोदय आपको, उपसभापति महोदय को, सेक्रेटरी जनरल को और सेक्रेटिएट के उन तमाम लोगों को, जिनका हमेशा सहयोग रहा है, मैं उनको भी धन्यवाद देता हूँ। मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि जो हमारे साथी रिटायर हो रहे हैं, नये जीवन में वे कामयाब रहें, सफल रहें और इसी तरह से लगातार जनता की सेवा, राष्ट्र की सेवा करते रहें। धन्यवाद।

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I join you and the entire House to greet our retiring colleagues. I wish them good health and a good future. The Rajya Sabha has a unique beauty that every two years it has to pass through this kind of pain. But it is a pleasant

pain. It gets itself renewed. As the Leader of the Opposition has said, many of them may come back and renew their work; many of them will restart their work on different terrains. Finally, we are all political activists, committed to the service of country and people. Wherever we are there, we will continue. I wish our colleagues all the best in their work wherever they are. If they come back, we will be very happy. If they continue their work in some other forum, we will be very happy. The politicians are in constant public scrutiny. It makes them more adorable. I hope, all our retiring colleagues will be more adorable in the coming future. Thank you very much.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, one more day to remind ourselves that this reality is inevitable! Some things in life, we want to avoid, but we cannot — ageing, sickness, and bidding farewell. The friends, whom we have met everyday here, and whom we have been very close, some of them we will miss in the coming days. I think, words cannot express the feelings that we are having now. The Alfred Tennyson, in his poem ‘The Brook’ says, “Men may come and men may go, but I go on forever.” So, this system of Parliament will be functioning without some of our colleagues. We may miss them here in the House, but not from our minds and hearts. The contribution, which they have rendered in this House, and their deliberations have added vigour to this august House. And, as many of my colleagues expressed here, I hope some of them will return here; otherwise, they will be working in the other spheres of the society for the nation. I don’t want to name anybody in particular because I may miss some of my close friends with whom I was here all these days. I expect only one thing from them. Kindly keep the nation as priority and wherever you go, educate the students or anybody, whom you come across, the patriotic feelings. I wish them all success in their future. Thank you.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will always remain grateful and highly indebted throughout my life to Miss Mayawati, the National President of the Bahujan Samaj Party, for having given me this opportunity to enter into this august House and getting the opportunity to hear the learned speeches, discussions of eminent leaders in this House during this tenure. When I entered this House, we had only six Members from the BSP. And, today, in July, when the fresh elections would be over, the BSP will be having eighteen Members, which shows the manifold phenomenal growth of the BSP during these six years.

Before entering this House, I had a different experience in the Bar as an Advocate, which included my tenure as the Chairman of the Bar Council and also as the Advocate General of UP. But I must confess that that experience was different from the experience here. I learnt a lot from this House. And while sitting in this House, I speak in another capacity also today, being the leader of the BSP. Sir, 51 Members are retiring; I am also one of them. I wish the other 50 Members all the best, with the hope, as Leader of the Opposition said, that many of them would be returning to this House and this House would again get an opportunity to hear them and to share their experiences in this House.

With these words, I thank each Member of this House, who has cooperated with me throughout in my learning process in this House. I also thank the Chair and the staff, including the Secretary-General, for their full cooperation during this tenure. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA (Orissa): Sir, I rise to bid farewell to 50 hon. Members. I am also retiring. I wish them the best in their political careers and the best of health. Having been a student of 'The Constitution' and having read 'May's Parliamentary Practices' half a century ago, I had a lot of expectations from this House. Some, of, course, came true. There have been frustrations at the House sometimes not running or getting stalled. In spite of all that, the debates whenever they took place, were of such high standards that I learnt a lot, and I learnt a lot not merely from my colleagues over here, but also from various Ministers who were not members of this House. They too made their contributions, which were, at times, of a very high order. For a small party like mine, with a small presence, there were always difficulties of finding enough time, finding enough opportunity for participation, but even so, the Chair has always been quite considerate to small parties and has always given time for participation and contribution.

I wish and hope that most of my colleagues do come back to this House. This House is unique in the sense that it renews itself; there is renewal every two years and always new blood comes in, enriching the House and the quality of its debates.

Once again, Sir, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by you in relation to all the retiring members including myself and thank you and everyone along with you for having helped in making a novice like me into somewhat less of a novice.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Rajasthan): Sir, this is my maiden retirement speech and so, if I take a little more time, I hope you would not mind. Mr. Arun Jaitley has sent me a little note saying that I have retired the maximum number of times and returned. I came here in 1980 and I had the most memorable times in the House, as a Member for a few years and for a long time in the Chair. When I came here, I had the opportunity to work with Justice Hidayatulla who was the Chairman of the House, the Vice-President of the country, a person highly respected throughout the country. He was succeeded by people like Shri Venkataraman, Shri Shankar Dayal Sharma, Shri K.R. Narayanan, Shri Krishnakant and Shri Bairon Singh Shekhawat and then yourself, Sir. Though I did not get an opportunity to work with you as the Deputy Chairman, I definitely had an opportunity to work along with you on many other occasions.

Sir, when I came here Shri Shyam Lal Yadavji was the Deputy Chairman and then I had very few Deputy Chairmen to work with, namely, Mr. M.M. Jacob, our President, Shrimati Pratibha Patil whom I succeeded and my very good friend, Shri K. Rahman Khan. Similarly there have been many Prime Ministers that I have seen in this House — if I remember correctly, seven Prime Ministers — namely, Rajiv Gandhiji, Narsimha Raoji, Deve Gowdaji, I.K. Gujralji, V.P. Singhji,

3.00 P.M.

Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji and the present Prime Minister who was the Leader of the Opposition and I had the opportunity to share bench with him for six long years, and I know him pretty well. Similarly, there have been many Members with whom I shared the bench and I had the greatest cooperation from all of them when I was in the Chair. They were Sikander Bakhtji, Jaipal Reddyji, Dipen Ghoshji, Shiv Shankerji and Jaswant Singhji. I remember very fondly their cooperation. I had also very good cooperation from Parliamentary Affairs Ministers, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad who is sitting over here and Shri Pramod Mahajan. I remember Shri Pramod Mahajan with great fondness. He was one of those Parliamentary Affairs Ministers who used to agree for everything in the Business Advisory Committee in the Chairman's Chamber but he would do exactly what he wanted to do, and nobody ever complained to him why he was doing it. I conveyed this to Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji, the then Prime Minister, the kind of person he was. We miss him in the House. I also worked with the first ever woman Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, who was the Member of the Lok Sabha at that time. Sir, there were many people like Shri H.K.L. Bhagat and Shri Ahluwaliaji who was not the Chief Whip but he was very important whip. At the end, I will mention something about Shri Ahluwalia. There were very many eminent nominated Members and other Members in the House when I entered Rajya Sabha in 1980. Among the nominated Members, I remember the contribution of — Prime Minister himself being a very great economist he would also remember him — Dr. Malcolm Adiseshiah. Whenever he used to speak on the Budget there would be pin-drop silence and everybody, including the Finance Minister, would listen to him what he was saying. Dr. Salim Ali was the nominated Member. I knew him as a student of Geology and we cooperated on many issues. He was an Ornithologist. He came to my Chamber and told me, "Dr. Heptulla, can I bring my binoculars to the House?" I told him that Dr. Sahab there was hardly anything worth watching with binoculars, surely not me in the Chair. Then I remember R.K. Narayan of the famous Malgudi Days. He came to my Chamber and asked for a Special Mention. The only time he spoke was about the heavy load of school books which the children carry. He was very, very sensitive and was very sincerely speaking about it. Then we had Khushwant Singhji over here. He used to have a lot of humour in his speeches. We had Dr. Raja Ramanna, Dr. Kasturirangan and Nargis Duttji in this House. We also had very eminent film personalities like Dilip Kumarji, Shabana Azmijji, Lata Mangeshkarji and Mrinal Senji. We had also very eminent personalities like Dr. Bimal Jalan, Shri R.K. Karanjia, Shri Fali Nariman and Prof. M.G.K. Menon. There is a plethora of names which I can take and I want to remember them that they were Members of this House. Sir, among the Members in the House, whom I really remember very fondly, was Bhupeshda because he used to sit and if he wanted to hear the ruling of the Chair or admonition from the Chair to sit down, he would take out his hearing aid, and then, he would put on his hearing aid when he wanted to hear. Then, we had Shri Piloo Mody, the most humorous person

that we have seen in the House. Sir, one day, he was trying to say, “I am square.” He used to sit here. And, he was saying, “I am square; I am square.” I told him, “Pilooji, you are not square anymore; you are slender”; he laughed. Then, one day, he was passing through the Treasury Benches. So, I believe it was Pranabji who asked him, “Do you want something to talk to me?” He said, “No; when I want to go to the toilet, I have to pass through the Treasury Benches only.” That was the kind of people in this House who said many things. We had Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee in this House. We had Shri L.K. Advani in this House. Shri Pranab Mukherjee remained in this as a leader and a Member for a very-very long time. We had even Shrimati Pratibha Patil as Member of this House. And, Puratchi Thalaivi Jayalalitha was a Member of this House and the way she had made her maiden speech, there was a pin-drop silence. I remember very much, Mr. Kalp Nath Rai was the Parliamentary Affairs Minister at that time. Whenever I tried to ring the bell, every time she spoke, he never let me ring the bell for Jayalalithaji. So, he was so impressed by her. Sir, we had Shri Jaipal Reddy, who was the Leader of the Opposition. Shri Deve Gowda was there. Shri V.P. Singh, Shri I.K. Gujral — there were many people in this House.

As far as the Secretariat is concerned, we had many very eminent Secretary Generals of Rajya Sabha. When I came in 1980, it was Shri Bhalaraoji — a very excellent Secretary General that this House has seen. And, for a very long time, it was Shri Sudarshan Agarwal. A lot of humour he had, and the way he used to assist me while I was presiding in the most difficult period of the time. Then, we had the first lady Secretary General of the Rajya Sabha - Shrimati Rama Devi. Then, we had Shri R.C. Tripathi, Shri Yogendra Narain. Now, we have Shri Agnihotri.

Sir, there have been very important moments and events in this House. There was a House with excellent contribution and debate, and there was a House which was in total turmoil, especially, I remember, during the time of Bofors. Most of the time, Members would be in the House and I would have to adjourn the House.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): In the Well.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Yes, in the Well. Sorry; you will have to assist me all the time. And, Sir, I will tell you Mr. Ahluwalia used to trouble me a lot from there during those days. So, I decided to come and sit next to him. So, now I can trouble him. That was the reason I came and sit here. Sir, there were excellent debates in this House. I have seen excellent debates by many people who were over there, who used to speak and people will stay. But, Sir, there were many good events and there were many very sad and unfortunate events. Sir, the most unfortunate event was the attack on the Parliament. Perhaps, some Members do not know. The Chairman was in his Chamber. I was in my room. My door used to be always open because anybody could walk in and out — the Members, the Press, anybody. The Marshall, Mr.

Mani, came to me and I heard some gun shots. The House was adjourned for something. I asked my Secretary whether some wicket had fallen down because of which fireworks were here. At that time, a cricket match was going on. Then, Mr. Mani came and shut the door and said, "Terrorists have attacked." Sir, I remember Mr. Yadav. I want to remember today the two people, Mr. Yadav and Mr. Negi, who laid down their lives to save all of us. They were Watch and Ward people, without any arms and ammunition. They only had their walky-talky sets. At gate no. 12, he told everybody to close the doors of the Parliament House that terrorists had come. And, he was shot down there.

Even today, when I pass through gate no. 12, I am always reminded of him, of his blood. We were all sitting in the Chairman's chamber.

Sir, the 200th Session of Rajya Sabha was celebrated in the Central Hall with great fanfare. The occasion of 50-years of the Parliament was celebrated during Mr. Sangma's time. It was a very useful function. Every time, we discuss the agenda which the Parliamentary Affairs Minister or the Government decides but that time, for three days, we only discussed what the Members wanted to discuss. That was the kind of agenda for three days for each one of us. Sir, if you look at the speeches some time, you will find that excellent speeches were made by the Members of Parliament because they were guided by their own vision, by their own desires.

I remember another day. It was October, 1999, when I got elected as the first-ever woman President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the good wishes and the congratulations given to me, when I presided in the House after that. Sir, I must mention here about the Secretariat of the Rajya Sabha, the officers who sit here, or, sit behind, and, also the people who are working in the Annexe, whom we do not even see. They have been so cooperative in running this House. As the Deputy Chairman, and, as a Member, I have experienced this thing in these thirty years. See the amount of material they provide to us. So, I want to put on record their services.

Sir, I must say about the Watch and Ward people, and, those who are in the white turbans. We just raise a paper like this, and, don't even speak. Don't come now, I don't want to give the paper. Whenever we want to send a chit to anybody, they are always there to help us in the lobby, inside, everywhere. Everybody said that we will do something. I can say one thing. If we are not Members of Parliament, whether we are Leftist or Rightist, finally, we become Centrist or Lobbyist because we sit in the Central Hall or in the Lobby. We take up the role of being a Centrist or a Lobbyist.

Finally, Sir, I would like to mention another important thing. I have noted a lot of humour and repartee in this House. There has been a lot of acrimony too but there was a lot of humour and repartee in the House, and, nobody took it ill. People used to crack jokes. I remember the day when Mr. Ashok Sen moved the Bill relating to the Panchayats. It was very late in the evening, around 10 o'clock. He was there in the House for the whole day, and, he kept on

calling me, “Sir, Sir, Sir”. Somebody reminded him that a lady is in the Chair. He said, “Oh, Madam, sometimes I forget it in the other House, and, I call the Speaker, Me Lord”. I said, Ashok Sen ji, I hope, you are not going to call me, Me Lady, and, Sir, it was in news next day.

Sir, we have got two books, which I along with Sudarshan Agarwal prepared on the Humour in Rajya Sabha. Sir, I wish under your Chairmanship, we should have another book on Humour in Rajya Sabha because a spoon full of sugar lets the medicine go down. Sir, the humour can really calm the House down, which the bell cannot do, which the gavel cannot do. A little word or humour can make it happen.

Sir, अहलुवालिया जी ने वहां पर तो तुझे तंग किया, इसलिए इनको तंग करने के लिए मैं भी इधर आ गई कि बताओ अब क्या करना है और अब रोज ही इनको पेशान करती हूं। लेकिन, सर, आज यह मुझसे कुछ और ही कह रहे थे। अहलुवालिया जी, क्या मैं कह दूँ? क्या बोल दूँ? यह मुझे कह रहे थे, अभी कहीं पर कुछ मुशायरा या गज़ल का प्रोग्राम हुआ था, जिसमें पाकिस्तान से एक सिंगर आई थीं, शायद फरीदा खानम थीं। उन्होंने एक ग़ज़ल गाई, जिसे मैं आपको सुना कर बता देती हूँ और जो इन्होंने —

आज जाने की ज़िद न करो।  
यूँ ही पहलू में बैठे रहो।  
हम तो मर जाएंगे, हम तो लुट जाएंगे।  
ऐसी बातें किया न करो।  
वक्त की कैद में, ज़िन्दगी है मगर।  
चन्द लम्हें यही हैं, जो आज़ाद हैं।

तो अहलुवालिया जी, अब आप ही को पहलू में बैटाने की कोशिश करनी पड़ेगी।

Sir, with these words, I thank everybody who has cooperated with me in the Chair or in the House. Thank you very much, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Thank you Mr. Chairman, Sir, and my friends in the House. After listening to my hon. sister, Najmaji, I think she has covered most of the points which I thought I would like to discuss and speak. She has been here since 1980. I joined in 1986, thanks to our leader late Rajiv Gandhiji who brought me here in 1986. If I look around, I don't find many faces who have been there since 1986. Of course, Najmaji was there and Ahluwaliaji also was there. I do not think if anybody else was there in 1986. Both of them were here those days. Now they are there. Sir, the experience, obviously everybody has mentioned, was immense. As far as I am concerned, I have the privilege of being in the Treasury Benches and also in the Opposition Benches. From 1986 to 1989, I was there in the Treasury Benches, Rajiv Gandhiji being the Prime Minister, and on the other side of the House up to 1989. We shifted back because of Chandra Shekharji. These are all years which I can make mistakes about. The Parliamentary Affairs Minister knows better and he has better memories of all the dates and everything.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): It was Vishwanath Pratap Singh.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: I have all the details. But I thought I would not go into those details. Otherwise, it will become a longer speech than that of Najmaji's. Most of us, including myself, have suffered a lot for 18 years when she was in the Chair. So, I don't think I love to suffer that today.

Sir, everybody says that this House is the second House or not an important House. I want to tell my friends who will be left-over, why I am saying left-over is because 51 are going and the remaining will be left-over, they should know that this House is second to none. This is only the other House. Just because the Government is required to have confidence in Lok Sabha, it does not mean that Rajya Sabha is not important. Rajya Sabha is vested with equal and sovereign rights. This is the House of elders. Our Chairman is elected by both the Houses who is the Vice-President of the country. How can it be an unimportant House? Right at the beginning of 'Rajya Sabha at Work', this is the book 'Rajya Sabha at Work', there is a quote from Shanti Parva of Mahabharat which actually summarises the relevance of Rajya Sabha. It says, "That is not an Assembly where there are no elder men. Those are not elders who do not speak with righteousness. That's no righteousness where there is no truth. That is not the truth which leads one to deceit".

Now, Gopalaswamy Iyengar and Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnanji both underlined the need for Rajya Sabha to guard against any hastily passed legislation. And, this is well-proved recently when the Commercial Division of High Courts Bill was passed there in the Lok Sabha but this House refused to pass it as it was.

We have a select Committee under Prof. Kurien. A detailed report is being made before it was passed. It is of great importance. I remember that when we were in the Opposition, in 2003, I think, this Power Bill was passed. The Standing Committee had given 100 recommendations. The Lok Sabha passed, but there were 96 recommendations. Four recommendations were not accepted by the then NDA Government, but we were in the Opposition. We said, even these four recommendations had to be accepted. Mr. Geete who was the then Power Minister, had to assure us on the floor of the House that they would bring amendments in the next Session. And they were brought. A historic Amendment which was made was that no other regulatory body in the country is accountable to the Parliament; it is only the Electricity Regulatory Body which is accountable to the Parliament. It is accountable because of this Amendment. So, this House cannot be considered, in any way, less important. Sir, it is very relevant; it is a permanent House; all these things are well said. At this point, Sir, I like to mention that I had the privilege of remaining in the Opposition, but under the leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh, from 1998 to 2004. And after that, I also had the privilege of serving him in the Cabinet. I am yet to find a person who is so straightforward, who has clarity of mind, whose thoughts are very clear, well-meaning for the country, for every individual. It is my privilege, Sir, that I was associated with him for so many years.



Sir, after assassination of Rajiv Gandhiji in 1991, from 1992 to 1998 I was not here. Soniaji took over the charge of our party, and I am grateful to her that the moment she took charge, she brought me back here in 1998 and, then, in 2004. So, I have nothing to regret. Somebody mentioned — I think, Tiwariji mentioned — कि विदाई बड़ी दुखदायी होती है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जैन धर्म में मृत्यु-महोत्सव मनाया जाता है। विदाई दुखदायी नहीं है। जहाँ तक मेरा सवाल है, मैं तो बहुत खुश हूँ कि मैंने जितना समय यहाँ बिताया, बड़ी ईमानदारी के साथ बिताया। मेरी समझ में, I don't think there was a single day, from 1986 onwards, till now, when I have missed the House. There was not a single sitting which I had not attended. Even if I had to leave the country for some personal reasons, for medical reasons for my family members, I was ensuring, during the Session, I must come back. Why? Because this was a commitment; the party had brought me in the Parliament to do my parliamentary work. Similarly, for that reason, in the Parliamentary Standing Committee and other Committees, I made sure that I must attend all the meetings and participate. This I am saying to all my brethren sitting here, to my colleagues, please attend all the meetings and contribute. Your contribution is very important.

Sir, I won't take a very long time. I won't mention all the names which Najmaji has mentioned. They are all clear. Everybody knows, from 1986 onwards, who were the Vice-Chairmen or who was the Chairman, or who were the Secretary-Generals. They were all very important people, and it was, really, very, very enlightening to work with them.

Sir, I also had the privilege to work as Vice-Chairman and faced the problems at different times from my colleagues. They were all very cooperative finally. I want to mention the last incident. It shows the kind of camaraderie that we have. One day Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad and I had a big fight on the floor of the House. I mean a verbal fight from here and there and the House had to be adjourned. Then we went to the Chairman's Chamber, he came from that side and I went from this side, and we started hugging each other. The gentleman with the white cap, as Najmaji has mentioned, was wondering what kind of characters were these. Just a few minutes before they were fighting against each other and now they were hugging each other! He said, “क्या आप करते हैं?”, आप क्या कर रहे हैं?”. I said, “Look, when the House is on we are fighting on principles and there is no personal enmity”. This should continue and, I am sure, it will continue.

Last but not the least, I compliment the Secretariat. I have never found such an efficient Secretariat or such efficient Government officers in any Department in the country. What we discuss now will be published word by word and circulated tomorrow morning. A lot of time is spent on what you call “the lottery of questions”. When the Members' names came frequently, probably, the Chairman also had doubts whether some foul play was going on. I can vouch for them that there is absolutely no foul play when the lottery takes place. I have attended it, at least, three or four times during the 18 or 20 years. Everything is fair. They are very fair and things happen as per the rules.

With these words I thank all my colleagues, especially, Ahluwaliaji. I can name many more. But I name him because the love and hate relationship between us has been continuously going on. I must also thank Ghulam Nabi Azadji who has been a great help when he was the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. I thank, of course, the Prime Minister, Motilal Vora and all my colleagues who are sitting here for the cooperation which they have extended to me. I wish all of you a very successful career, wherever you are, as retiring Members. As the Leader of the Opposition has mentioned, you will never retire. At least, as far as I am concerned, my life is dedicated to the country and it will continue to be dedicated to the country. Thank you.

**श्री नन्द किशोर यादव** (उत्तर प्रदेश): आदरणीय सभापति जी, मैं यहां आपके प्रति, राज्य सभा सचिवालय के प्रति और हमारे जितने भी सहयोगी हैं या जो हमसे वरिष्ठ हैं, उनके प्रति आभार प्रकट करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूं। महोदय, पिछले 6 वर्षों से मैंने यहां राज्य सभा के सदस्य के रूप में काम किया और उससे मैंने बहुत कुछ सीखा तथा बहुत अनुभव प्राप्त किए। इस सभा में पूरे देश में ऐसे लोग हैं, जिनको विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में बड़ा लंबा अनुभव है, चाहे राजनीति के क्षेत्र में हों, चाहे कला के क्षेत्र में हो, तमाम साइंटिस्ट्स, कानूनविद और अपने-अपने दलों के जो महत्वपूर्ण नेता लोग हैं, वे इस सदन के सदस्य हैं। जहां तक मेरी अपनी पृष्ठभूमि का सवाल है, मेरी कोई बहुत बड़ी राजनीतिक पहचान नहीं थी। यह सही है कि मेरा पूरा परिवार एक राजनीतिक परिवार रहा और बहुत लंबे समय से राजनीतिक और सामाजिक जीवन में सक्रिय रहा।

मेरे पिता जी emergency के जमाने में 19 महीने तक मीसा कानून के तहत देश के विभिन्न जेलों में निरुद्ध रहे। आदरणीय मुलायम सिंह जी को सन् 1988 से लेकर सन् 1999 तक, दो बार इस सदन का सदस्य होने का गौरव प्राप्त हुआ। इसके बाद सन् 2004 में आदरणीय मुलायम सिंह जी के आशीर्वाद से और हमारे नेता आदरणीय प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी के आशीर्वाद से मैं राज्य सभा के अंदर आया और पिछले 6 वर्षों में जितना हो सकता था, जितना मेरा अनुभव था, मैंने इस देश के किसानों के बारे में, छात्रों के बारे में यहां पर अपनी बात रखने का काम किया।

जहां तक 8-9 मार्च की घटना का सवाल है, मैं मानता हूँ कि 8 और 9 मार्च को जो कुछ भी इस सदन में हुआ, वह अच्छा नहीं हुआ। जब हम लोगों ने यहां पर शपथ ली थी, उस समय मुझे सभा की नियमावली और राज्य सभा की कार्यवाही कैसे चलती है, से संबंधित एक पुस्तक मिली थी, उसको मैंने पढ़ने का काम किया था। मैं मानता हूँ कि 8 और 9 मार्च को मुझसे और हमारे साथियों से जो कुछ भी हुआ, वह संसदीय प्रणाली और भारत के लोकतंत्र के हिसाब से अच्छा नहीं हुआ। लेकिन दूसरी तरफ हम जिस समाज में रहते हैं और जिनके बीच हम काम करते हैं, चाहे वह पिछड़ा समाज हो, चाहे Minority हो, चाहे SC हो, उनका भी हमारे ऊपर दबाव था और उस बात को लेकर हम लोगों ने जो कुछ भी किया, जिसकी वजह से तमाम बहसें हुईं, हो सकता है कि वह मार्यादित न हो, लेकिन सभापति जी, मेरी कहीं से भी ऐसी मंशा नहीं थी कि मैं आपको किसी प्रकार से ठेस पहुंचाऊं या किसी प्रकार से आपको अपमानित करूं। आप हम लोगों के संरक्षक हैं और आपके guardianship में हम लोग रहने का काम करते हैं, लेकिन मुझे पीड़ा है और दुख भी है कि उस दिन जिस तरह का काम किया गया या जिस तरह से मार्शलों के द्वारा हम लोगों को बाहर करने का काम किया गया, वह इस देश के लोकतंत्र के हिसाब से, जिसकी वजह से हमारे देश में पूरी दुनिया में पहचान है, ठीक नहीं हुआ। इसके लिए पूरा प्रयास करना चाहिए था, महिला आरक्षण विधेयक ने आज भी कानून का रूप नहीं लिया, उस दिन हाउस adjourn हुआ था, उसके बाद हम कितनी देर तक यहां धरना देने का काम करते, निश्चित रूप में हम बाहर जाते, इसके लिए और भी विकल्प थे, हमारी सदस्यता भी समाप्त की जा सकती थी, उसका भी हम स्वागत करते। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी यहां बैठे हुए हैं, उनका बड़ा लंबा अनुभव है,

आदरणीय प्रतिपक्ष के नेता श्री अरुण जेटली जी, आदरणीय अहलुवालिया जी, इन लोगों को हम लोग बहुत पहले से, जब इस सदन की कल्पना भी नहीं थी, तब से अखबारों में पढ़ते थे और सुनते थे, लेकिन उस दिन जिस तरह से हम लोगों को निकालने का काम किया गया, वह ठीक नहीं रहा।

मेरा निवेदन है कि चाहे वह सदन हो या वह सदन हो, भविष्य में कोई विधेयक परित करने के लिए मार्शल का प्रयोग न किया जाए। उस दिन जो घटना हुई, उसके लिए मैं आपसे खेद प्रकट करता हूँ।

मैं दो बातें और कह कर अपनी बात समाप्त करना चाहूँगा। यह सदन बुद्धिजीवियों का सदन है और यहां पर तमाम बड़े और विद्वान लोग हैं। मैं चाहूँगा कि देश की राजनीति को और देश के लोकतंत्र को जिस प्रकार से पैसे वाले, माफिया किस्म के लोग और अपराधी लोग दूषित करने का काम कर रहे हैं, यह सदन निश्चित रूप से कोई ऐसा कानून लेकर आए, जिससे आज जिस तरह से इस देश के अंदर पैसे का बोलबाला हो गया है, जिससे पूरी राजनीति प्रभावित हो रही है और पूरे भारत में — चाहे उत्तर प्रदेश हो, चाहे बिहार हो — अपराधियों का बोलबाला बढ़ रहा है। मैं मानता हूँ कि हमारे जैसे मध्यम वर्गीय परिवार का आदमी इस तरह के आतंक में कभी भी राजनीति में आगे नहीं बढ़ पाएगा। महोदय, आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री जी यहां बैठे हुए हैं, आदरणीय प्रतिपक्ष के नेता बैठे हैं, हमारे नेता प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी हैं — मैं चाहूँगा कि इस देश में अपराधियों को रोकने के लिए, पैसे वालों को रोकने के लिए यह सदन निश्चित रूप में आने वाले सत्र में कोई कानून बनाने का काम करे। महोदय, इस देश की पहचान किसानों के नाम से होती है। पूरे देश की अर्थव्यवस्था किसानों के ऊपर निर्भर है। मैं जानता हूँ कि किसानों के लिए यह सदन बहुत काम कर रहा है, लेकिन मैं चाहूँगा कि आने वाले समय में भी किसानों के लिए जितना हो सके, उनकी सहूलियत के लिए, उनकी फसलों के लाभकारी मूल्य के लिए यह सदन काम करने का प्रयत्न करे। इसी के साथ मैं आपके प्रति, आदरणीय उपसभापति जी के प्रति, आदरणीय प्रतिपक्ष के नेता के प्रति, आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री जी के प्रति, आदरणीय प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी के प्रति और राज्य सभा सचिवालय के प्रति आभार प्रकट करते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

**श्री कमाल अख्तर** (उत्तर प्रदेश): सभापति महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया। सर, विदाई का कोई भी क्षण हो, वह बहुत दुखद होता है। खास तौर से जब अपने लोगों से विदाई लेने का समय हो — जिनके साथ काम किया हो, जिनके साथ वक्त गुजारा हो, जिनके साथ बातचीत की हो, जिनके साथ हंसी की हो — जब उनको छोड़ने का टाइम आता है, तब बहुत दुख होता है। सर, यहां पर जो भी साथी हैं, जिन लोगों के साथ हम लोगों ने काम किया है, मैं उन सबका शुक्रगुजार हूँ। सबसे ज्यादा शुक्रगुजार मैं अपने नेता मुलायम सिंह यादव जी और समाजवादी पार्टी का हूँ, जिन्होंने मुझ जैसे मामूली वर्कर को इस सदन के अंदर भेजा और सेवा का मौका दिया। महोदय, जिन लोगों को मैं छात्र संघ के समय में या पढ़ाई के टाइम में टीवी में और अखबारों में देखा करता था — स्वर्गीय जनेश्वर मिश्र जी, प्रो. राम गोपाल जी, अरुण जेटली जी, माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी, एंटनी जी — मुझे यह सौभाग्य प्राप्त हुआ कि मैंने ऐसे बड़े-बड़े बुद्धिजीवियों, बड़े-बड़े महान नेताओं के साथ इस सदन में काम किया। सर, मैं शुक्रगुजार हूँ — आपका और आपके बड़े दिल का — कि सब कुछ सहने के बाद आपने हमेशा बड़प्पन दिखाकर हम लोगों को संरक्षित करने का काम किया, हम लोगों को यहां पर बहस में बोलने का और कई मुद्दे उठाने का मौका दिया, महोदय, मैं लंबी बात नहीं करना चाहता, लेकिन मैंने किताबों के अंदर पढ़ा है और कभी सुना भी है — यह कहा जाता है कि जब किसी आदमी की मृत्यु होती है तो उससे यह पूछ लिया जाता है कि तेरी अंतिम इच्छा क्या है। मैं यह सोचता हूँ कि अंतिम इच्छा पता चलने के बाद लोग उसे पूरा कर देते हैं। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी यहां बैठे हैं, मैं सिर्फ दो दरखास्त करना चाहता हूँ, क्योंकि यह एक अच्छा समय है, जब हम लोग जा रहे हैं, हम लोगों ने 6 साल तक उन मसलों को उठाया, लेकिन वे पूरे नहीं हो पाए। मैं उन मसलों की ओर आपका संज्ञान दिलाकर अपनी बात खत्म करके विदाई

लूंगा। हो सकता है कि शायद मेरे जाने के बाद वे मुझे पूरे हो जाएं। सर, सब लोग जानते हैं कि जब एक सिपाही की भी भर्ती होती है तो उसकी ट्रेनिंग होती है। कोई आईएएस, आईपीएस या अन्य अधिकारी की भर्ती होती है, तो उसकी भी ट्रेनिंग होती है। यह ट्रेनिंग इसलिए होती है ताकि वह जाकर अपने क्षेत्र के अंदर देश की सेवा करे या ठीक से काम करे। सर, हम लोगों ने सुना कि राजनीतिक लोगों का भी प्रशिक्षण होता है और वह प्रशिक्षण छात्र संघों में होता है। छात्र संघों के अंदर जो लोग पढ़कर आते हैं, जो छात्र संघों से पढ़े-लिखे प्रतिनिधि आते हैं, उनके बारे में लोगों का ऐसा मानना है — इस बारे में मैं पूरी तरह से नहीं कह सकता — कि वे अच्छी तरह से काम करते हैं। इस देश के लोकतंत्र में ग्राम सभा के चुनाव समय पर होते हैं, विधान सभा के चुनाव समय पर होते हैं, लोक सभा के चुनाव समय पर होते हैं, लेकिन मैं आपसे अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि आज पूरे देश के छात्र संघों में ताला लगा हुआ है — जामिया मिलिया इस्लामिया, बीएचयू, अलीगढ़ यूनिवर्सिटी है या अन्य जो यूनिवर्सिटीज़ हैं, आज उन सब पर ताला लगा है। मैं आपसे अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर आप इस देश से साम्प्रदायिकता को मिटाना चाहते हैं, जातिवाद को मिटाना चाहते हैं तो मेरा और मेरे नेता का ऐसा विश्वास है कि आप जैसे ही छात्र संघ बहाल कर देंगे तो निश्चित तौर पर — जैसा अभी मेरे साथी नन्द किशोर जी ने कहा — पैसे वाले लोग, अपराधी लोग, साम्प्रदायिक लोग और जातिवाद से प्रेरित लोग इन सदनों के अंदर, इस देश की राजनीति के अंदर नहीं आएंगे। सर, मैं एक और दूसरी बात कह कर अपनी बात समाप्त करूंगा। आज सरकार करोड़ों रुपए का बजट खर्च करती है। इस पर बड़े-बड़े होर्डिंग्स होते हैं। आज पुरुष और महिलाओं के बीच असमानता हो रही है। आज लोग होने वाली बच्ची को मार रहे हैं। मैं यह बात इसलिए कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो मां-बाप वेष्णो देवी जाते हैं, अजमेर और कलियर वगैरह जाते हैं और वहां भगवान के मंदिरों में जाकर माथा टेक कर अपने बच्चे की ख्वाहिश करते हैं, कोई मां अपने बच्चे को पैदा होने से पहले इसलिए नहीं मारेगी कि वह बच्चा लड़की है, बल्कि वह उसको इसलिए मारती है कि वह गरीब है, उसके पास उस बच्ची को पढ़ाने के लिए या शादी करके विदा करने के लिए पैसा नहीं है। सर, आप देखिए उत्तर प्रदेश के अंदर, जहां मुलायम सिंह यादव जी ने एक मिसाल कायम की थी कि जो लड़की इंटर पास करेगी उसको बीस हजार रुपए देंगे, जिससे लड़की की मां-बाप उसकी पढ़ाई कर दें या शादी कर दें। मैं प्रधान मंत्री जी से कहूंगा कि अगर आप महिलाओं का सशक्तिकरण चाहते हो तो इसका हल महिला बिल नहीं है। अगर आप चाहते हैं कि कन्या भ्रूण हत्या रोकੀ जाए और आपके पास सरकार है तो इतना जरूर कर दीजिए, कोई ऐसी स्कीम ले आइए कि इस देश में पैदा होने वाली हर लड़की को 50 हजार रुपए या एक लाख रुपए मिल जाएं तो हर गरीब बाप उस बच्ची को पैदा होने से पहले मारेगा नहीं, यह मुझे पूरा विश्वास है।

सर, मैं एक अंतिम अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि आज बेरोजगारी है, जगह-जगह अपराध बढ़ रहे हैं, जगह-जगह गरीब बच्चे हैं। उनके पास कोई रास्ता नहीं बचता, या तो वे आत्म-हत्या करें या अपराध करें। मैं आपसे अंतिम बात में यह दरखास्त करना चाहता हूँ, एक बार मुलायम सिंह जी ने भी आपसे दरखास्त की थी, मैं जानता हूँ कि इतनी बेरोजगारी में हम कुछ उपलब्ध नहीं करा सकते, उतने साधन नहीं हैं। लेकिन, सर, हम लोगों को यह सोचना पड़ेगा कि या तो हम रोजगार दें या हम उनको बेरोजगारी भत्ता दें। सरकार है, साधन हैं। अगर हम नौजवानों जो बी.ए., एम.ए. ग्रेजुएट हुए हैं, को भत्ता दे देंगे कि कम से कम उनका जेब खर्च चले, तो सर, मैं निश्चित रूप से कह सकता हूँ कि इस देश के अंदर उनका योगदान भी होगा और इस देश के अंदर अपराध या जो आत्म-हत्या, कुंठाएं जैसी घटनाएं हैं, इन पर भी रोक लगेगी।

दूसरे, सर, मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस पूरे सदन के अंदर हम लोगों ने हमेशा प्रयास किया कि जिन लोगों का प्रतिनिधित्व करने हम लोग आते हैं, उनके लिए उनकी बात रखें। लेकिन अगर कहीं किसी मेरे साथी को, किसी नेता को कहीं किसी मेरी बात से या मेरे किसी कार्य से कोई दुख पहुंचा हो, कोई तकलीफ पहुंची हो, तो, सर, मैं उसके लिए पूरे सदन से क्षमा चाहता हूँ। मेरा प्रयास यह था कि मैं अपनी पूरी बात आप लोगों के सामने रख सकूँ।

सर, एक और अनुरोध मैं आपसे माफी मांगते हुए रखुंगा। मैं इतना जरूर कहूंगा कि हम लोग तो जा रहे हैं, लेकिन जो नए लोग आएंगे, आपने बहुत मौका हम लोगों को दिया, कभी-कभी हम हाथ उठा देते थे, आगे वाले पहले मौका पा लेते थे और पीछे वाले रह जाते थे। सर, आप यहां पर रहें तथा आगे जाएं और आने वाले समय में भी आप सभापति रहें। लेकिन, सर, पीछे वालों का जरूर ध्यान रखिएगा। इसी विश्वास के साथ आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। अगर आपको कोई तकलीफ पहुंची हो, तो आपसे, रहमान साहब, जेटली साहब से तथा प्रधान मंत्री साहब से, अपने सभी नेताओं से, अपने लोगों से सबसे अपनी गलती की क्षमा मांगता हूं। आप सबके सहयोग के लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI S. ANBALAGAN (Tamil Nadu): \* Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. During the past six years of my association with this august House, I have been very happy. It is our revered leader Dr. *Puratchithalaivi* Amma, General Secretary of our party All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIDAMK), who had adorned my life by sending me to this august House. This is the House of eminent statesmen and men of high calibre. But I belong to an ordinary rural family of teachers. It is my duty to recollect the words of our esteemed colleague Dr. Najma Heptullah, who had mentioned that our former leader *Peraringar* Anna and our esteemed leader Dr. *Puratchithalaivi* Amma had participated in the discussions of this House in a remarkable manner. When I was a teacher, I had observed my students. When I was a member of Legislative Assembly, I had witnessed the debates in Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. But, my experience in this august House has been distinct. It has brought a remarkable change in my attitude. My colleagues participated in serious discussions from both the treasury side and the opposition side. They would engage in serious debates. But, immediately after the end of the business inside the House, they would be very cordial outside the House. They remain very good friends. It was a new experience for me and I had shared this experience with our village people. I wish all my honourable colleagues a long life. I thank you once again for giving me this opportunity. I thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. I thank the Hon'ble Leader of Opposition and I thank all my Hon'ble colleagues. Thank you. Vanakkam.

SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, today I am extremely happy to speak because every one of my colleagues gave me an opportunity to learn many things in this House. All these days, on different occasions, I was able to learn many things through the valuable contributions of my own colleagues from Opposition Members to the Prime Minister, to hon. Ministers, to leaders of different political parties. For every one of you, I am grateful. I would always remember them for their contributions they rendered for my learning. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all my colleagues.

Sir, for any Rajya Sabha Member, retirement is inevitable. For me, it is taking place now. But, there is no retirement towards the service of the mankind. Here, before every one of you, I would say that I would do whatever little I can in my coming days. Sir, here, our Rajya Sabha Secretariat, the Watch and Ward staff and every one of them, did their best towards the smooth

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\*English version of the original speech in Tamil.

functioning of the highest House of this country and contributed a lot for my learning too. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to every one of them.

Finally, Sir, I hope that in the coming days, I am fully confident, this House would contribute a lot to the nation and I always stand by it. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR (Tamil Nadu): \* Hon'ble Chairman Sir,

I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak in this moment of parting. This august House has witnessed the participation of many eminent statesmen of the nation. Outstanding leaders such as Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Dr. Manmohan Singh, former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu *Perarinar* Anna, and our esteemed leader Dr. *Puratchithalaivi* Amma have made their valuable contributions in this august House. Sir, I wish to convey my heartfelt thanks to our revered leader, the goddess of Tamil Nadu, Dr. *Puratchithalaivi* Amma for her blessing to send me to this august House. Sir, I am an ordinary person. Our patron Dr. *Puratchithalaivi* Amma has given life to me.

Hon'ble Chairman Sir,

During the past six years, I participated on behalf of my party in various business of the House such as Question Hour, calling attention motions, short duration discussions, discussions during Bills and discussions about the functioning of some Ministries. I enjoyed my participation in all discussions. There have been differences of opinion with some of my colleagues. Being a member from the opposition side, it was my duty to express my views. I have been a learner in this House. I learnt a lot from my valuable colleagues from various parties, who made erudite speeches on various occasions. I benefitted enormously from the amount of wisdom, knowledge and experience represented in this august House.

Hon'ble Chairman Sir,

I thank you once again for your benign cooperation. Mahatma Gandhi said, "Tell me who your friend is, I will tell you who you are." Sir, this House granted me the privilege of being the friend of many eminent statesmen of our nation. Sir, I have been a student in this House. I have learnt a lot from my knowledgeable and experienced colleagues.

I thank our party leader in this House Dr. V. Maitreyan for his valuable guidance. I thank Shri Arun Jaitley, the Hon'ble Leader of Opposition for his erudite leadership. I thank my esteemed colleague Shri Sitaram Yechury for his sagacious speeches. Sir, I deem it my privilege to be their colleague.

It is in this eminent House, that our former leader *Perarinar* Anna had said that he was proud to be a member of the Dravidian race. *Perarinar* Anna's erudition had fascinated outstanding leaders like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Our party had been named after *Perarinar*

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\*English version of the original speech in Tamil.

Anna. I am proud to say that I also belong to Dravidian race. After my retirement from this august House, I will work as a volunteer in my party under the guidance of our party's General Secretary Dr. *Puratchithalaivi* Amma. Of course, politics is an instrument of continuous public service. As told by Robert Frost, 'And Miles to go before I sleep,/And Miles to go before I sleep,' we have to travel so many miles in our social service. Wherever we are, in whatever capacity we are, we can serve the nation, serve the people, and we will continue to do that.

I thank the Secretary General and other staff members of the Secretariat for their valuable guidance. I wish all my dear colleagues a long life, a life of many thousand years. Thank you, Vanakkam.

SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ (Maharashtra): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like everyone else, I learnt a great deal in this House during the last four years, I made many good friends who now I will miss. Quite frankly, Sir, I enjoyed myself a great deal, both in this House and in the Central Hall. I would, of course, be delighted and honoured if I could come back, but I do not know whether that will be possible. I do not want to take the time of all my colleagues in this House to say anything else, but I thought, with your permission, I will take two minutes only to read out a few excerpts from the maiden speech which I delivered in this House four years ago on the subject of suicides by farmers in Vidarbha. Sir, these are the excerpts. They are a bit high-sounding. But, I believe, they apply to all of us and not just to me as an independent. I quote, "In this august House, I will endeavour, in all humility, to play the role that the Constitution envisaged to each Member to play *i.e.*, on behalf of the people of India to hold the Government accountable, nothing more, nothing less. I will try to be even handed as an independent with right and wrong for the country being the sole yardstick for holding an opinion. I may be mistaken at times, and I was, but I will try to be steadfast in this criteria. Coming into this House, I am conscious of my responsibility to the nation. Panditji's 'Tryst with Destiny' reverberates in my mind. Yes, I have come here to try to help redeem the pledge that was taken by our Founding Fathers. So, may God give me the strength to make a difference." Unquote are these very high-sounding words, Sir. I believe they apply to all of us. And, if I have been able to achieve even 5 per cent of that, I will consider myself fortunate. Thank you everyone for your affection and love. Thank you.

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT (Maharashtra): Mr. Chairman, I am not retiring. But, my leader, Dr. Manohar Joshi, asked me to convey his wishes to the retiring Members. So, I am here. I join the House in wishing best luck to those 51 hon. Member who are retiring in the next two months.

Sir, earlier, as a working journalist, as a political journalist and later as a Member of this House, I witnessed the working of the hon. Members. It has been a very happy and learning experience for me. They have enriched my emotional life. I wish, if my prayers have such strength, all of them to come back to this House. Surely, we will be meeting each other and

crossing each other's path on this little planet in future also. I wish them all a successful public life. I also wish healthy and happy personal life to all those who are retiring and again wish them *punaragamanayecha*. Thank you.

DR. K. MALAISAMY (Tamil Nadu): Beloved Chairman, benevolent colleagues, at the outset, I want to convey that I have been trained and tried by this Chair to speak in minutes and not to make lengthy speeches. As such, I cannot afford to make a long speech, because I have been trained, all along, in this House, to speak less. Unlike Najamji, I try to be brief and quick. Sir, after a long experience of thirty-three years in bureaucracy and five years in the Lok Sabha, I have come to this Rajya Sabha to serve for six years. Over a period of time, I am able to gauge what could be the experience of mine — whether pleasant experience or painful experience. As rightly said by my colleagues, it is all pleasant experience, pleasant experience and only pleasant experience.

As far as Parliament House and infrastructure is concerned, it has been well done in everyway — in terms of infrastructure, in terms of structure, in terms of organization, in terms of manpower and in terms of operations — starting with the Secretary-General and ending with Sapraji or the LGJS. All these people have been welltrained in everyway.

Sir, I am given a quarter in South Avenue. When you talk about the infrastructure, the quarts are very nice and the infrastructure is very good, the atmosphere and environment are also very good. Everyday, I used to have my *dhyana* and my walk. The only inconvenience is the menace of monkeys in South Avenue... Coming to Parliament, it has a panoramic and pleasant look. When we enter inside, to be honest with you there are seven or eight cheap and best restaurants, we get nice food at a cheap rate. When you go to library; when you go to the Central Hall everything has an attraction.

Coming to Rajya Sabha, one of my age-old friends, Mr. Era Seziyan, who had been a Parliamentarian for more than two decades, used to say that a Parliamentarian has different roles; and, one could count them, they are five in number. These are: His role or duty to his leader; his role or duty to his party; his role or duty to his constituency; his role or duty to the House; and his role or duty to his family. These are the five obligations or duties for a Parliamentarian. Taking this definition as a guideline, I was trying to find out what my experience was. Though I was a Member of Lok Sabha too, yet I could not do much well there because it was very crowded, it was a big House. Whereas, when I came to the Rajya Sabha — which is a House of Elders, a house of enlightened persons, philosophers, scientists, legal luminaries, political *pandits*, etc. — I could watch through every inch of the activities of the House. The most important item, which was very interesting, was the Question Hour, followed by the Zero Hour. As far as the Question Hour is concerned, the Zero Hour is concerned, the debate is concerned everything was interesting and useful. To be honest with you, Chairman Sir, I could not speak so many words. You are the most likable, loveable gentleman to the core, I use the



words 'gentleman to the core'. You do not know how to be harsh. You are gentle and nice and, will all that, you mean business. This is one side of it. When we come to the Deputy Chairman, he will be tough in appearance and talks, but he will get things done; whatever be the situation, he will manage to do it. We have got certain Vice-Chairmen. Take, for instance, Prof. Kurienji. He is, again, very firm, but he will be extra nice to everyone. I mean, he will talk with soothing and nice words. He will never appear to be harsh, but he will mean business. So, we are having these kinds of personalities who preside over the House. We are very much eager to speak, but we can't do that. Some of our people would ask me how I was able to get a chance in the Question Hour. To explain to this House, I must be fair enough to say that the Chairman has got a principle. I know your technique. That's why I am able to get a chance. I come at 10 o'clock, go to library and prepare myself for nearly about ten questions to put supplementary questions. This is how I prepare. When I come over here, I raise my hand in first, question, second question, third question, but you will not give a chance. You give a chance to the BJP, to the Communist, to the Congress, etc. You have your own principle. But I will not relent. I will keep on raising my hand continuously because I am ready for ten questions. My name will be there in all the questions, but you will not call. You will make it a point to give a chance in the fifth or sixth or seventh question. Thus, I get a chance. This is the way I have been doing. So, I am telling my friends that if they want to get a chance, keep on raising your hand. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, on the whole, we enjoyed the House. Sir, with my age and experience, I, honestly, concede that I have learnt so many things here, in terms of skill, in terms of knowledge and I also learnt a lot of things from my friends here. Whatever I failed to learn in 33 years in bureaucracy, I was able to learn in Parliament. This is what I could say, Sir. Becoming a Lok Sabha MP or a Rajya Sabha MP is not an ordinary thing but I could get. It was all with the grace and great help of my great Leader, Madam Jayalalitha, who is a mass leader, a magnificent leader, a marvelous leader, a field leader, a fearless leader and a famous leader and it is because of her I got this chance. I will be ever grateful to her. Thanks a lot.

**श्री राम नारायण साहू** (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आपका, रहमान साहब का, कुरियन साहब का और जो हमारे अन्य साथी सदस्यों का, चाहे वे इस पक्ष के हों, उस पक्ष के हों या इधर के हों, बहुत-बहुत आभारी हूँ। हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी यहां बैठे हुए हैं, जिनके बारे में मैं कहूंगा कि दुनिया के जितने भी प्रधान मंत्री हैं, वह उनमें से सबसे ईमानदार प्रधान मंत्री हैं। वह बात दूसरी है, कि मैं व्यक्तिगत रूप से यह कह रहा हूँ और यह मेरा अपना व्यक्तिगत विचार है, हमारे हिसाब से कभी-कभी कहीं कुछ निर्णय लेने में प्रधान मंत्री जी से चूक हुई हो सकती है। लेकिन वैसे वह बहुत अच्छे आदमी हैं, बहुत ईमानदार आदमी हैं, कम बोलते हैं और इधर-उधर नहीं देखते, केवल सीधे देखते हैं। दरसल उनसे मैं बहुत प्रभावित हूँ और उनसे मैंने बहुत कुछ सीखा है।

यहां पर जो राज्य सभा का स्टाफ है, सेक्रेटरी जनरल से लेकर जो हमारे पीछे खड़े हुए हैं, उन सब लोगों का भी मैं बहुत आभारी हूँ। इन लोगों का खासकर आभारी हूँ, क्योंकि हमेशा इन लोगों से हमें सहयोग

4.00 P.M.

मिला है, चाहे कभी किसी कागज़-पेपर की जरूरत पड़ी हो या किसी सूचना या इन्फॉर्मेशन की जरूरत पड़ी हो, उनसे हमेशा बहुत सहायता मिली है।

सभापति जी, हमसे नाराज़ होते हुए भी, हम जानते हैं कि आप हमसे और हम आपसे बहुत संतुष्ट हैं। आपने हमेशा हमारी बात को सुना, समझा और पूरा करवाया। मेरा ख्याल है कि प्रधान मंत्री जी का भी उसमें अवश्य ही सहयोग था, उसके लिए मैं और मेरा साहू समाज आपके बहुत आभारी हैं।

यहां पर जो बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण बिल लाए गए, उनके लिए भी मैं आपको धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा, जैसे '0000000 का 1x-00000... अपने आप में यह एक बहुत बड़ी चीज़ है और इससे पहले कभी ऐसी कोई बड़ी चीज़ यहां नहीं आई। इसके लिए मैं तहे दिल से आपकी तारीफ करता हूं। जिन लोगों को भी उसका लाभ मिल रहा है, उन्होंने कभी सपने में भी नहीं सोचा था कि ऐसा भी हो सकता है। इसके माध्यम से छोटे से छोटा आदमी भी दस रुपये की एक एप्लीकेशन लगा कर, बड़ी से बड़ी बात की जानकारी हासिल कर सकता है। यह बात दूसरी है कि कहीं-कहीं पर उलझाया जाता है, देर लगती है, लेकिन जो लोग इच्छा शक्ति के पक्के होते हैं, वे अपनी मंजिल को हासिल कर ही लेते हैं और उनको न्याय अवश्य मिलता है।

इसी तरीके से जो मनरेगा आया है, वह भी बहुत अच्छा कदम है। जब यह बिल आया था, उस समय मैं भी इसके ऊपर बोला था कि इस तरीके की योजना अवश्य आनी चाहिए। उसको पास किया गया, फर्क इतना रहा कि आपने 365 दिन के बजाय उसे 100 दिन कर दिया। लेकिन, अगर यह आज सौ दिन है, तो कल 200 दिन हो जाएगा और आगे 300 दिन भी हो जाएगा। यह योजना बहुत अच्छी है, लेकिन इसमें पेंच भी बहुत ज्यादा हैं, उन पेंचों को कसने का काम करें। इसकी मॉनिटरिंग बहुत अच्छे ढंग की हो जाए, जो गलत लोग इसका लाभ उठाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं, जो लोग गरीबों का हक मार रहे हैं, उनको ऐसा न करने दिया जाए और जो लोग न्याय नहीं पा रहे हैं, उनको पूरा-पूरा न्याय मिले। प्रधान मंत्री जी, यह आपके कार्यकाल में हो जाएगा, इसका मुझे बहुत भरोसा है। वैसे तो सरकारें आती-जाती रहती हैं, सत्ता कभी किसी को नहीं होती है। वह तो बदलती रहती है और यह परम्परा हमेशा से चली आई है और आगे भी ऐसा ही चलता रहेगा। प्रधान मंत्री जी, आपकी ये जो दोनों स्कीमें हैं ये आपके कार्यकाल में लागू हुई हैं, लिहाजा आपको बहुत-बहुत बधाई।

सर, मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि यहाँ पर जितनी योजनाएँ हैं, अगर देखा जाए, वे ज्यादातर एक ही परिवार के नाम से चल रही हैं। अगर आप ध्यान देंगे तो पाएँगे कि बहुत-से लोग ऐसे हैं, चाहे आपकी पार्टी के लोग ही हों, जो दबी आवाज से महसूस तो करते हैं लेकिन कह नहीं पाते हैं और शायद इधर के भी लोग नहीं कह पाते हैं। मैं भी दबी जुबान से कह रहा हूँ। सर, मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि सुभाष चंद्र बोस, सरदार पटेल, भगत सिंह, चंद्रशेखर आज़ाद, अशफ़ाक उल्ला आदि लोगों का भी योगदान रहा और नाम रहा, लेकिन उनको क्यों भुला दिया जाता है? उनके फोटो तो लगा रखे हैं, लेकिन उनके नाम से योजनाएँ नहीं चलतीं। उस समय इन लोगों ने हँसते-हँसते फाँसी दे फंदे को चूम लिया लेकिन आज उनका नाम लेने वाला कोई नहीं है। उनके साथ सुखदेव थे, राजगुरु भी थे और न जाने कितने ऐसे हजारों हमारे नेता थे, जिन्होंने अपने प्राण न्यौछावर कर दिए, लेकिन उनके नाम से कोई योजना नहीं चल रही है और न ही कोई चीज़ बन रही है, तो इस बात का भी ध्यान रखा जाए। मेरी यह गुजारिश है कि आज भी लोग न्याय के लिए लड़ाई लड़ रहे हैं, अपना जीवन भी दान कर रहे हैं और कहीं-कहीं तो ऐसा भी हुआ है कि ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, हमें खुशी यही है कि बहुत-सी चीज़ें हमने यहाँ उठाईं। हमने यहाँ बहुत-से सामाजिक मुद्दे भी उठाए हैं। आपकी कृपा से इन 6 सालों के दौरान लगभग 50 बार मुझे मौका मिला है, भले ही छोटी बातें कहने का मौका मिला हो, लेकिन मुझे मौका मिला है और उनमें से कई बातें implement भी हुई हैं, जो बहुत जरूरी हैं। यह खुशी की बात है।

जब इंडिया हॉकी में क्वालिफाई नहीं कर पायी थी और ब्रिटेन से हार गयी थी, तो उसके बाद हमने यहाँ आवाज उठाई थी। यह बात न तो किसी न लोक सभा में उठायी थी और न ही राज्य सभा में उठायी थी। हमें

अफसोस इस बात का था कि हम उससे हारे थे जिसको हमने 1952 के ओलम्पिक में दिग्विजय सिंह बाबू की कप्तानी में शिकस्त दी थी। चूँकि हॉकी में ही हम गोल्ड मेडल लाते थे, लेकिन उसमें क्वालिफाई नहीं कर पाए, इसका बेहद अफसोस था। उसके बाद हॉकी में बदलाव आया। पुराने लोगों से इस्तीफा लेकर दूसरों को जिम्मेदारी सौंपी गई। अभी हम उस मुकाम को हासिल तो नहीं कर पाए हैं, लेकिन इतना जरूर है कि इस खेल में बदलाव आया है। अभी हाल ही में जो टूर्नामेंट हुआ, उसमें पहले हम 11वें नवम्बर पर थे, अब 8वें नम्बर पर आ गए हैं। इतना फर्क अवश्य आया है। इस तरह से हम तीन नम्बर से सुधरे हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

सर, जो आत्मा की आवाज है, उसे बोल लेने दीजिए। आज यहाँ मेरा आखिरी मौका है। मैं यहाँ आखिरी बार बोल रहा हूँ। मेरी आपसे एक प्रार्थना है। अटल जी के समय में लखनऊ के गोमती नगर में स्टेशन बनाने का एक proposal आया था। यहाँ पर जैसे पुरानी दिल्ली, नयी दिल्ली या निजामुद्दीन का स्टेशन है और जैसे इसी प्रकार के और भी स्टेशन बने हैं, उसी प्रकार, लखनऊ में चारबाग स्टेशन पर भीड़ को कम करने के लिए गोमती नगर में स्टेशन बनाने की बात थी। वहाँ की 40 परसेंट पब्लिक नये लखनऊ के अंदर रहती है। इससे चारबाग स्टेशन पर दुर्घटनाएँ भी कम होंगी और लोगों को वहाँ सहूलियतें भी मिलेंगी। यह मेरा पुराना proposal है। मैंने यह एक request की थी।

मैंने जो दूसरी request की थी, उसके बारे में हमारे पास मंत्री जी का पत्र भी आया था कि इस पर विचार किया जा रहा है, लेकिन उस पर विचार होते हुए बहुत टाइम हो गया। मैंने यह कहा था कि कवि प्रदीप और नौशाद अली साहब के ऊपर आप डाक-टिकट निकालें। कवि प्रदीप जी के बारे में आप जानते होंगे, उन्होंने *मेरे वतन के लोगों...* जरा याद करो *तड़पत हरि दर्शन हो* गाने में संगीत दिया था। इस गाने की एक खास बात यह है कि इसको लिखने वाला मुस्लिम, गाने वाला मुस्लिम और संगीतबद्ध करने वाला भी मुस्लिम ही है। यह फिल्म *मोहब्बत* का भजन था। उनके ऊपर डाक-टिकट निकाला जाए। उन्होंने जितनी ऐतिहासिक फिल्मों में संगीत दिया है, भले ही उन्होंने कम फिल्मों में ही संगीत दिया है, लेकिन उनकी फिल्मों ने जितनी गोल्डन जुबली और सिल्वर जुबली मनायी है, उतनी अन्य फिल्मों ने नहीं मनायी है। इसलिए उनके ऊपर डाक-टिकट जरूर निकाला जाए। इधर-उधर के लोगों के ऊपर तो डाक-टिकट निकाल दिया जाता है, लेकिन जिनका संगीत हम आज भी सुन रहे हैं, उनके ऊपर यह नहीं निकाला जाता है। हमारे कवि प्रदीप ने कितने ही राष्ट्रीय गीत लिखे हैं, अगर मैं उनके बारे में बताऊँ तो भाषण लम्बा हो जाएगा।

मैं आपसे एक बात और कहूँगा। इस समय सदन में प्रधान मंत्री बैठे हैं, वे इस पर जरूर ध्यान देंगे। मृतक-आश्रितों का जो मामला है, इसके लिए आपका 5 परसेंट का कोटा है। आप यह बताइये कि अगर कोई छठे परसेंट पर आ जाता है तो इसमें उसकी क्या गलती है? मैं आपके साउथ ब्लॉक में या यह नॉर्थ ब्लॉक है, मुझे नहीं मालूम, मैं वहाँ एक बहुत बड़े अधिकारी से मिला। वे कहने लगे कि साहब, आप लोगों ने ही कानून बनाया है।...(व्यवधान)...

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव:** विदाई के समारोह में आप यह क्या कह रहे हैं?...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री राम नारायण साहू:** साहब, यह बहुत जरूरी बात है, मुझे कह लेने दीजिए। सर, मैं आपसे माफी चाहता हूँ। उस अधिकारी ने बताया कि यह कानून आप लोगों ने ही बनाया है। उन्होंने एक किस्सा सुनाया कि एक सिपाही आतंकवादियों से लड़ता हुआ शहीद हो गया और जब उसका आश्रित नौकरी के लिए गया तो उससे यह कहा गया कि अभी तुम 12 साल के हो, जब बालिग हो जाओगे, तब आना। जब वह बालिग हो गया और वहाँ गया तो उससे कहा गया कि ये formalities तो तीन साल में पूरी होती हैं, अब तो तुम्हारे तीन साल over हो गये, अब यह नहीं होगा। रेलवे में इसके लिए कोई परसेंटेज नहीं है, जबकि वह भी एक सरकारी डिपार्टमेंट है। इसलिए इस चीज़ को दूर किया जाए।

मैं और बहुत कुछ बोलना चाहता था, लेकिन अपने नेता, प्रोफेसर साहब का सम्मान करते हुए और मुलायम सिंह जी को धन्यवाद देते हुए मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करूंगा। मैं मुलायम सिंह जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहूँगा कि मैं एक साधारण व्यापारी था, जिसे उन्होंने यहाँ राज्य सभा में भेजा। मैं उनका आभार प्रकट करना चाहूँगा और उनको धन्यवाद देना चाहूँगा। यहाँ पर आकर मुझे सीखने का जो मौका मिला और मुझे जो जानकारी मिली, सही बात तो यह है कि खुशी से मेरा वजन बढ़ गया। मुझे और कई चीजों के बारे में भी बोलना था, लेकिन चूंकि मेरे और दूसरे साथियों को भी बोलना है, इसलिए आप लोगों का बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I just want to thank everybody. This term in this House gave me an opportunity to learn many things for six years. The learning was not only in terms of participation, but also in terms of learning procedure, improving my abilities and knowledge. We learn from stalwarts. When we see them and observe them, we are humbled by their wisdom. So, this gave me a great opportunity to build and improve my own capacity. It also gave me an opportunity to improve the quality of my contribution to my State of Andhra Pradesh, as I hail from that State, and also the State of Karnataka. I have taken up a noble and unique scheme of providing 300 drinking water plants at a place from where I come from out of my MPLAD funds. With the help of these plants, the poorest people can have purified drinking water for drinking purpose. I have also helped to construct 250 *Parivartan Bhawans*-cum-Libraries in the most poorest localities. In under-privileged areas, health and education were one of the areas where I could spend my money. I also helped to construct girls' hostels in two district headquarters with the cost of around Rs. 2 crore. This tenure of Rajya Sabha facilitated me in doing all these works and helped me to serve better. It also gave me an opportunity to provide access to under-privileged to various facilities. It also fulfilled, to some extent, my mission of working for the roadmap laid down by Dr. Ambedkar. We have also some unfinished tasks. We were very disappointed when some of the most important legislations could not see the light of the day. I hope, those legislations will come before the House in future.

At the end, I would immensely like to thank our Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh. We are greatly inspired by his leadership. We learned so many things. I am also grateful to our Party President, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, who gave me this opportunity of being a Member of this august House. I am also very grateful to you for your kind guidance, support and blessings. Your guidance is always with us. I don't regret that I left my Administrative Service of 15 years. While serving as a civil servant, I had the opportunity to work for people, but I had a better opportunity, as a Member of this House, to continue my mission of working for the people. Of course, I should not forget that this term in Rajya Sabha gave me an opportunity to serve my Congress Party in a qualitative manner and I will continue doing so. This six years of membership has made me humble, enhanced my wisdom, enhanced my learning capacity and enhanced my knowledge and I have been blessed with more wisdom, more knowledge and more humbleness.

I think that this is a great contribution. I think, this is a great contribution. Finally, I am very grateful to a lot of friends from the other side. We may differ on certain issues, but I have got love and affection shown by Members of all the parties. It gave me an opportunity to work on social front like the forum on HIV/AIDS. I had been a Member of the IPU and I travelled widely to 20-25 countries. I was actively associated with Parliamentarians for Global Action on various issues. I think, wherever I went, I got a chance to enhance the prestige of our country. Definitely, I worked for the qualitative inputs. I am grateful to my party, my leader, who has given me this opportunity. I once again thank you, Sir, and the Rajya Sabha Secretariat. I also thank hon. Deputy Chairman and the panel of Vice-Chairmen for guiding me during these six years of my tenure.

DR. RADHAKANT NAYAK (Orissa): Thank you, Sir. At the outset, I am extremely grateful to the Congress President, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, and the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, who got me elected from Orissa and brought me to the Parliament.

The last six years have given me a great experience, quite different from my experience in Civil Service lasting about 36 years before entering into Rajya Sabha. What I had imagined about its nature and functions, sitting in the official gallery to the left, was radically different from what I actually experienced inside this House, including the happenings which I witnessed deep inside the Well of this House. Similarly, as a student and a teacher of Political Science in the university systems, what I had learnt about Rajya Sabha in theory, happened to be completely different from the practice that was prevailing here.

Prof. Henry Sidgwick, a political philosopher and author of *The Elements of Politics*, of 50's and 60's fame, posed a dilemma, popularly known as the Sidgwick's dilemma, on the role and functions of a Second Chamber. According to him, if the Second Chamber agrees with the First Chamber, then it is superfluous; if it differs, then it is mischievous. Now, this dilemma has never been resolved. There were, and are even now, innumerable arguments both for and against the second Chamber, like what we found the other day in this House when we approved the Bill relating to Legislative Council for Tamil Nadu. What I found was the phenomenon of principles, sometimes giving way to expediency, depending on times and seasons has occurred in the role and functioning of the Second Chamber. But, to my education, Rajya Sabha, where I have spent last six years, has proved to be a vital institution of national importance in the architecture of Indian democracy. I am more than convinced now that Rajya Sabha has given to itself a distinct character, a pre-eminent dignity and a respectable authority in the structure of a bi-cameralist Parliamentary democracy. Rajya Sabha, in turn, has also given to each Member of this House a position of primacy and a place of pride in its working as we have witnessed this evening when every Member has assessed his own functioning and also about Rajya Sabha. But, Rajya Sabha cannot get away from the stigmata of Churchill when he said that Parliament is a 'talking shop'. We cannot be free from that kind of stigmata because of inherent institutional constraints and extant political culture in our country.

My humble observation in the functioning of Parliamentary democracy, through the Rajya Sabha as a unique institution, will surely linger long in my memory. One spectacular phenomenon that impressed me most is the success with which the Constitution of India, partly through Rajya Sabha, has excelled in expanding democracy and reducing conflicts in a sharply divided pluralistic nation like ours which is riddled with problems of caste, ethnicity, religion, race, region and language compounded by structural and societal impediments like inequality, exclusion and deprivation.

The entire credit for this designing of the Parliament goes to our Founding Fathers, with Dr. Ambedkar, the Chief Architect of the Constitution, amongst them. The success of the constitutional engineering is due to the outstanding statesmen like Dr. Manmohan Singh and a galaxy of his predecessors, who were the stewards of managing conflicts and harmonizing the divisions.

During the last six years, while Madam Sonia Gandhi has introduced the '*aam aadmi*' vocabulary and charted a pro-poor statecraft, Dr. Singh has crafted a new discourse on political economy, and, both together, have embarked upon a paradigm shift of a new vision in the Indian democracy. Today, as I leave Rajya Sabha, I bow my head in reverence to both these leaders.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in parting, I must be grateful to you for your brilliant management of this House. Within a very short time, you have endeared yourself with all of us through your charm and warmth of a friend, philosopher and guide. We can never forget your breakfast meetings at your residence, and, I am sure that even an ex-MPs, we will get a chance again to come to our House.

And, to you, Deputy Chairman, Sir, the image of your resounding voice with seeming anger and instant smiles, intermittently displayed, at insistent Members will always be fresh in my memory.

And, to you, the Leader of the Opposition, I must say that I have learnt a lot from the depth of your Constitutional philosophy and jurisprudence, both from practical as well as theoretical point of view. I must thank you.

I also thank all the Presiding Officers, notably Prof. P.J. Kurien and all other colleagues in this House, the Secretary General and his brilliant colleagues including the staff of Watch and Ward, and, Security, who all have extended their kindness and courtesy at any time of the day or night. Thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, the hon. Prime Minister and the Leader of the House.

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I join you and all other colleagues in conveying our very best wishes to our retiring colleagues. The House has gained enormously by their wisdom, knowledge and experience, which they have brought forth in discussions in this august House. I hope and trust that all of them have a long period of public life ahead of them.

Some of them will, no doubt, come back to this august House, and, we look forward to that day. There are many other avenues of remaining active and productive in national public life, and, I have no doubt that the experience that they have gained as being Members of this august House will stand them in good stead in carrying out their future responsibility, whatever way of public life they may choose.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, with these words, I wish all our retiring colleagues all the very best. May God give them long life and good health. Thank you.

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#### VALEDICTORY REMARKS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Hon. Members, the 219th Session of Rajya Sabha comes to a close today. It commenced on the 22nd of February, 2010, and, being the Budget Session, it was principally devoted to the financial business of the Government. Important legislations enacted by the Council included, amongst others, the Constitution 108th Amendment Bill 2008, popularly known as the Women's Reservation Bill, the Tamil Nadu Legislative Council Bill 2010, the National Green Tribunal Bill 2010 and the Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Bill 2010. Apart from transacting the Government business, the Session provided opportunity to the Members to discuss the working of five Ministries. In addition, Calling Attention notices on five matters of urgent public importance were admitted and discussed. These related to the questions of paid news, radiation exposure, the HPV vaccine programme, the presence of arsenic in potable water and irregularities in the functioning of the Medical Council of India. Two Short Duration Discussions on Rise in Prices of Essential Commodities and Alleged Tapping of Telephone were also held. I have directed the Secretary-General to make available the statistical information about this Session to the hon. Members. A significant achievement of this Session was the introduction of a new integrated talk-time management and display system which, *inter-alia*, provides information regarding the total time allotted to various parties, time taken by individual Members as well as the time consumed and in balance for different parties. The system, in addition to the original Zero Hour submissions, also covers the Short Duration Discussion, Calling Attention and discussion on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

Notwithstanding the work done an overview of the Session cannot avoid the impression that much time was lost in disruptions and adjournments arising out of disruptions. Rules for the conduct of business were sought to be flouted with disturbing frequency. The Question Hour became its principal victim and could not be conducted on 13 of 31 scheduled sittings. Equally disturbing is the practice of the time taken by each Starred Question. We maintained the procedural fiction of admitting 20 questions for each sitting. In practice only five or six of these are taken up since far too much of the time is consumed in asking and responding to supplementary questions. Members tend to overlook the rule that the sole purpose of a supplementary is to seek elucidation on any matter of fact regarding which an answer has been

given. The Private Members Legislative Business suffered the most. During this long Budget Session, not even a single sitting could be devoted to Private Members' Legislative Business. Hon. Members also did not have adequate time to raise Special Mentions or Matters of Public Importance with the Permission of the Chair.

These trends in the conduct of business have invited adverse comments and lowered the image of the Legislature in the eyes of the public. Correctives have thus become imperative.

Twenty one new Members joined the House during the Session. I am sure they would make rich and valuable contributions to the House in the days to come.

I take this opportunity to thank the Leader of the House, the Leader of Opposition, Leaders of various political parties and groups and the hon. Members for the cooperation extended by them for the overall functioning of the House. I also thank the Deputy Chairman, the Members on the Panel of Vice-Chairmen and the officers and staff of the Secretariat for the help and cooperation.

Now we shall have the National Song.

*(The National Song, "Vande Mataram," was then played.)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned *sine die*.

The House then adjourned sine die at thirty six minutes  
past four of the clock.

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