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सत्यमेव जयते

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 6th August, 2010/15th Sravana, 1932(Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Universal food entitlement

*181. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Advisory Council (NAC) has recommended extension of universal food entitlement to one-fourth of the poorest districts or the poorest blocks in the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government on the recommendation;

(c) whether the implementation of food entitlement would be extended to other schemes; 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) and (b) The National Advisory Council (NAC) has not made any recommendation to the Government.

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

प्रो. अलका क्षत्रिय : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या यह सच है कि देश के गरीब और हाशिये पर खड़े लोगों को आर्थिक विकास का लाभ मिल सके और देश की बढ़ती आबादी को भोजन मिल सके, इसके लिए सरकार राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा विधेयक लाना चाहती है? अगर हां, तो सरकार की खाद्य सुरक्षा कानून का लाभ किसको देने की मंशा है? क्या मौजूदा सालाना दो प्रतिशत के कृषि उत्पादन के ग्रोथ रेट से यह संभव है? क्या सरकार ने इसका कोई आकलन किया है?

श्री शरद पवार : महामहिम राष्ट्रपति जी की पार्लियामेंट में जो स्पीच हुई थी, उसमें सरकार की नीति साफ बतलायी गयी थी। स्पीच के मुताबिक यह बात सदन के सामने रखी गई थी कि देश की जो

below poverty line

पॉपुलेशन है, उसे wheat and rice तीन रुपये किलो के हिसाब से 25 किलो तक देने की नीति पर यह सरकार अमल करेगी। सरकार की thinking इस लाइन पर जाने की है, मगर सरकार ने अभी तक यह तय नहीं किया है कि वह 25 किलो होगा, 30 किलो होगा या फिर 35 किलो होगा। इस पर राज्य सरकारों के साथ बातचीत चल रही है। ऐसा नहीं होगा, ऐसी परिस्थिति नहीं है। सरकार यह करना चाहती है, वह बिल लाना चाहती है और इसके बारे में राज्य सरकार और बाकी संगठनों के साथ सलाह-मशविरा करने की प्रक्रिया चल रही है।

प्रो. अलका क्षत्रिय : सर, मैंने पूछा था कि क्या मौजूदा ग्रोथ रेट के आधार पर यह संभव है, उसका जवाब मंत्री जी ने नहीं दिया। मैं अपना दूसरा पूरक प्रश्न यह पूछना चाहती हूँ कि योजना आयोग के अनुमान के अनुसार, अनाज से लदे ट्रकों से करीब दो फीसदी अनाज तय स्थानों तक पहुंचने से पहले गायब हो जाता है। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या सरकार कानून का उल्लंघन करने वालों और घोटाले करने वालों पर अंकुश लगाने के लिए सामाजिक सुविधाओं के क्रियान्वयन के प्रति जवाबदेही तय करने का प्रावधान इस विधेयक में रखना चाहती है या नहीं? इसके साथ ही, लक्षित परिवार तक पहुंचने के लिए क्या सरकार ने कोई योजना बनाई है? उन्हें सब्सिडी देने का जो प्रावधान है, क्या उसमें फेरबदल करने का भी विचार है?

श्री शरद पवार : जहां तक पहले सवाल का संबंध है, भारत सरकार ने दोनों सदनों के सदस्यों के सामने जो commitment की थी, उस पर अमल करने के लिए जितने अनाज की आवश्यकता है, उतनी उपलब्धि अपने देश में आज भी है और यह रहेगी, यह हमारा विश्वास है, इसमें कमी नहीं आएगी। जहां तक बंटवारे की बात है, इस बारे में एक बात ध्यान में रखनी होगी कि Public Distribution System में कुछ भारत सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है और कुछ राज्य सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है। भारत सरकार की एक जिम्मेदारी किसानों को ठीक तरह से अनाज की कीमत देना, उनसे अनाज खरीदना और प्लानिंग कमीशन की जो सिफारिश है, उसके आधार पर इसका आबंटन करना है। तो procurement and allocation to the states, यहां तक भारत सरकार अपनी जिम्मेदारी पूरी तरह से निभायेगी।

जहां तक खेत के बाद परिवार के घर में अनाज पहुंचाने की जिम्मेदारी की बात है, इसका पूरा बंदोबस्त राज्य सरकार को करना पड़ता है और इसमें जो कुछ गलत काम होते हैं, उसकी शिकायत जाती है। इसे दुरुस्त करने के लिए हमने देश के सभी खाद्य मंत्रियों और देश के सभी खाद्य सचिवों के साथ दो-तीन बार बैठकर सुझाव दिए हैं और हम यह अपेक्षा करते हैं कि इस पर वे अमल करेंगे और ऐसी समस्या को कम करने के लिए भारत सरकार को सहयोग देंगे।

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : सभापति जी, मैं आपके प्रति आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस गंभीर प्रश्न पर सप्लीमेंटरी पूछने का मौका दिया। देश में जितने गरीब लोग गरीबी की रेखा के नीचे रहते हैं, उनको भोजन मिलने के हक का जो सवाल है, उसके तहत इस देश में BPL सूची बनी, लेकिन जो सूची बनी, वह आधी-अधूरी थी। इसलिए केन्द्र सरकार ने इसके बारे में विचार करने के लिए सक्सेना समिति और तेंदुलकर समिति का गठन किया और उन्होंने पाया कि हिंदुस्तान में और विशेषकर उत्तर प्रदेश में अभी भी बहुत से लोग गरीबी की रेखा के नीचे रह रहे हैं, जिनको दोनों समय का भोजन नहीं मिल रहा है। मेरा आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से सीधा सवाल यह है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में जो 1.06 करोड़ लोगों की BPL सूची है, क्या आप उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के इस अनुरोध पर विचार करेंगे कि जो गरीब लोग इस सूची में शामिल नहीं हैं, उनको भी इस सूची में शामिल किया जाए?

श्री शरद पवार : सभापति जी, BPL, AAY & APL की सूची बनाने की जिम्मेदारी प्लानिंग कमीशन को दी गई थी। एक साल पहले देश के चीफ मिनिस्टर्स की कान्फ्रेंस में कई राज्यों ने यह डिमांड की थी कि इसमें बदलान करने की आवश्यकता है, इसको दुरुस्त करने की आवश्यकता है, जिस पर भारत सरकार ने विचार किया और प्लानिंग कमीशन को यह जिम्मेदारी सौंप दी। प्लानिंग कमीशन की तरफ से मुझे बताया गया कि तेंदुलकर समिति की जो recommendations हैं, उनके आधार पर एक महीने में नई सूची बनाई जाएगी और हर राज्य में कितने लोग BPL में आएंगे, AAY में आएंगे, APL में आएंगे, यह संख्या हर राज्य को बताई जाएगी। मैं इतना ही भरोसा दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि चाहे उत्तर प्रदेश हो, चाहे झारखंड हो या कोई भी राज्य हो, प्लानिंग कमीशन पुरानी सूची में सुधार करके जो अंतिम फिगर्स हमारे पास देगा, जो नए आंकड़े देगा, उसको मद्देनजर रखते हुए, भारत सरकार उनके लिए आबंटन की जिम्मेदारी लेगी और प्लानिंग कमीशन की गाइडलाइंस के मुताबिक राज्य सरकारों को अनाज देने का प्रबंध करेगी।

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, the World Food Summit held in 1996, known as Rome Declaration on World Food Security, passed a resolution that "We the heads of the State and Government...reaffirm the right of everyone to have physical and economic access to safe and nutritious food, consistent with the right of adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger". India is one of the signatories to this Declaration. I would like to know, through you, Sir, when is the Government of India going to ratify this through an Act and provide safe food to each and every Indian, whether he is a poor or a middle class person or a person living above poverty line at affordable prices?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: If he recollects the statement of the hon. President in the last Parliamentary Session, the hon. President said 'food for all and at special rates for those who are below poverty line'. So, the Government of India's total approach is to take the responsibility of food for all, and special precaution will be taken for the section which is vulnerable.

श्री मोतीलाल वोरा : माननीय सभापति जी, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि राष्ट्रपति जी ने अपने अभिभाषण में जिस बात का उल्लेख किया था, क्या देश के तीन-चौथाई जिलों में 3 रुपए प्रति किलो के मूल्य पर 35 किलो अनाज देने के बारे में केन्द्र सरकार विचार कर रही है? चाहे राष्ट्रीय विकास परिषद् ने अपनी सिफारिश की हो या न की हो, लेकिन क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इस पर निर्णय लेने की स्थिति में हैं? आपने बताया कि प्लानिंग कमीशन से BPL और APL के बारे में जानकारी ली जा रही है।

माननीय सभापति महोदय, सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने कहा है कि अनाज का भंडार काफी है और अनाज के गोदामों में अनाज सड़ रहा है। जब अनाज की कमी नहीं है, तो सरकार का जो निर्णय है कि देश के तीन चौथाई जिलों में लोगों को 25 किलो अनाज 3 रुपए प्रति किलो की दर से देंगे, उस पर सरकार अमल करने की दिशा कब तक विचार करेगी?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, it is the desire of the Government of India to introduce the scheme, if possible, with effect from 2nd October, 2010

Winding up of National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme

*182. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to wind up the corpus of Rs. 1000 crore under the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme;

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

(c) the details of alternative arrangements made by Government to fund the scholarships and related expenditure under the said scheme; and

(d) the number of students benefited so far under the scheme since its inception?

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

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship scheme initially envisaged creation of a corpus of Rs.3000 crore over a 4 year period. The yield from the corpus was to be utilised for payment of scholarships every year in the secondary and higher secondary stage. After the first tranche of corpus was created, there was a drastic fall in interest rate. Since the yield from the corpus at the new interest rate would not have been adequate for the purpose of the scheme, it was decided in May, 2010 to wind up the existing corpus of Rs. 1000 crore and to make annual budget provision to meet each year's requirement.

(c) A budget provision of Rs. 90.50 crore has been made for the year 2010-11 to fund the scholarships and related expenditure.

(d) For the year 2008-09, 54564 scholarships were sanctioned to the selected students of class IX of 33 States /UTs. For the year 2009-10, 24521 scholarships have been sanctioned for students of 27 States /UTs.

श्री नंद कुमार साय : माननीय सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने मेरे प्रश्न के लिखित उत्तर में बताया है कि राष्ट्रीय साधन-सह-योग्यता छात्रवृत्ति योजना के अंतर्गत कायिक निधि वाली योजना को ब्याज दर में कमी होने के कारण समाप्त करने पर विचार किया जा रहा है और उसके प्रत्येक वर्ष की आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए वार्षिक बजट का प्रावधान किया जाएगा। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि चूंकि वार्षिक आवश्यकता छात्रों की संख्या पर निर्भर करेगी, इसलिए इसके लिए छात्रों का चयन कैसा किया जाएगा, कब किया जाएगा और इसकी प्रक्रिया क्या होगी, जिसके आधार पर आप प्रत्येक वर्ष बजट का प्रावधान कर सकेंगे?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, I thank the hon. Member for this question. मैं आपके माध्यम से बताना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो process है, यह जो already तय है। तय इसलिए है, क्योंकि यह स्कीम already लागू है। इसमें जो परिवर्तन हुआ है, वह केवल यह हुआ है कि पहले हमने सोचा था कि अगर हम तीन साल में 3000 करोड़ का corpus create करते हैं, जिनमें पहला tranche 750 करोड़ का था, फिर 1500 करोड़ हो जाता है और इस तरह से तीन साल में 3000 करोड़ हो जाता, अगर उसमें हमें 8 परसेंट ब्याज मिलता, तो उस ब्याज के द्वारा हम इस स्कीम को चला सकते थे, लेकिन हमने देखा कि जब हमने 750 करोड़ देकर corpus create किया, तो उसके

तुरंत बाद ब्याज दर 9 प्रतिशत से घटकर 5 प्रतिशत पर आ गया। इसके बाद हमने सोचा कि अब हम ब्याज के द्वारा तो इस स्कीम को चला नहीं सकते हैं, इसलिए फैसला किया कि जो deposit है, उसको रद्द कर देते हैं और हमने उसको अभी 2010 में रद्द कर दिया। इसमें सालाना एलोकेशन होगा। सालाना एलोकेशन के द्वारा जितने भी छात्र Means-cum-Merit Scholarship इम्तिहान के द्वारा आएंगे, उनको ये scholarship दिए जाएंगे, लेकिन यह स्कीम लागू करने के बाद स्टेट्स के द्वारा उतने बच्चे नहीं आए, जितने को कि इस स्कीम के द्वारा फायदा हो सकता था।

श्री नंद कुमार साय : सभापति महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं आया। यद्यपि प्रदेश के द्वारा छात्रों का चयन होता है, लेकिन इस स्कीम के तहत ऐसी कोई योजना है कि उसी परिवार के छात्र का इसके तहत यचन होगा, जिस परिवार की वार्षिक आमदनी 1,50,000 रुपए है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इसमें कुछ लचीलापन रखा जाए, ताकि छात्रों का चयन किया जा सके। आपने 2008-09 ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : कृपया एक सवाल पूछिए।

श्री नंद कुमार साय : महोदय, यह उसी से जुड़ा हुआ है। 2008-09 में 33 राज्यों/संघ शासित प्रदेशों के कक्षा IX के चुनिंदा छात्रों हेतु 54,564 छात्रवृत्तियां और 2009-10 हेतु 24,521 छात्रवृत्तियां स्वीकृत करने की जानकारी दी है। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि आपने ये जो छात्रवृत्तियां स्वीकृत की हैं, इनमें छत्तीसगढ़ के कितने हैं और जनजाति वर्ग के कितने हैं?

श्री कपिल सिब्बल : सर, जहां तक छत्तीसगढ़ का सवाल है, अगस्त, 2008 में 1,346 students ने इसमें इम्तिहान दिया और 115 को स्कॉलरशिप मिली, क्योंकि स्कॉलरशिप के लिए हमने जो मापदंड रखा है, उस मापदंड को वे तय नहीं कर पाए। उसके बाद नवम्बर, 2008 में 337 students appear हुए, जिनमें से 67 को स्कॉलरशिप मिली। नवंबर, 2009 में 5,833 appear हुए, जिनमें से 2008 को स्कॉलरशिप मिली, तो यह स्थिति है। जहां तक इस स्कीम का सवाल है, इस स्कीम में मापदंड यह है कि आपको 40 परसेंट नंबर लेने होंगे in your class IX, फिर इम्तिहान में बैठना होगा। SAT and MAT में, यह सब स्कीम में लिखा हुआ है। उसके बाद अगर आप class X में जाओगे, तो एक इम्तिहान और होगा, उसमें आपको 55 परसेंट नंबर लेने होंगे। SCs/STs को थोड़े कम नंबर लेने होंगे, तो ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री नंद कुमार साय : वही मैं जानना चाहता था कि एस.सी./एस.टी. को ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No discussion now. Thank you.

श्री कपिल सिब्बल : वह तो सब मापदंड के द्वारा ही होता है।

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: I would like to ask a question from the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, whether the Government has any proposal to

give scholarships to students belonging to the

weaker sections irrespective of their caste, not on merit basis, but because of their poor conditions; and whether the Government has any affirmative action plan to help the poor people.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, this is a question which is much wider than the issue that is before the House pursuing the question that is being asked - There are several schemes of the Government of India where we are, actually, targeting our women from weaker sections; there are several schemes of the Government of India where we target Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. There is no such scheme which targets all the poor in this country. There is no such scheme of the Government of India. Therefore, this particular question is much larger. The issue that you have raised is much larger than the question that needs to be answered.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mohapatra.

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Sir, the Minister knows the reasons for which a corpus of Rs.3000 crores which was envisaged, which would have, even on a low interest rate, brought in 2.5 crores of rupees annually for the scholarship as interest, was formed. Why was it whittled down to Rs.1000 crores and why, even with a Rs.90-crore allocation for the current year, is the number of scholarships coming down? The number of States is also coming down, as per your reply, from 33 to 27. And the number of scholarships has come down to almost 55 per cent. Is it because of inadequacy of the scholarships that the students are not applying or is it because of some criteria which are found to be too difficult considering the quantum of scholarships?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: It can be neither, Sir. It is not because of the inadequacy of the scholarships. Take, for example, a State like Madhya Pradesh. In the year 2008, 18,000 appeared, and in November, 2009, only 5,662 appeared. So, it is not because of the fact that the numbers are going down. Why? If 18,000 could appear the previous year, why should they come down to 5,000? So, this is inexplicable. Probably, one of the reasons could be that the States are not reaching the schemes to the

districts so that schools in districts know that there is a scholarship available. That could be one thing. There could be another thing. Maybe, their States could have other schemes which may be better than these schemes; so, the children are going to those schools; I do not know. But these are very strange figures of States which have done well in the first year, but the numbers

are going down now. So, I think, it lies with the States to find out as to why that is happening. As far as their criterion is concerned, if 18,000 could appear the earlier year, why should a less number of students appear this year? There is no problem relating to the criteria as well.

And as far as Orissa is concerned, no proposal has been received from Orissa so far. It is very strange that there is a scheme offered and the State does not send a proposal.

श्री मोहम्मद अदीब : सभापति महोदय, मैं मिनिस्टर साहब के जवाब से समझ नहीं पाया, यह उन्होंने बहुत अच्छी बात की कि corpus खत्म करके yearly basis पर mark किया कि इतना payment दिया जाएगा, लेकिन अभी मंत्री जी ने यह कहा कि जितनी स्कॉलरशिप है, उतने बच्चे नहीं हैं। यह बात हमारी समझ में नहीं आ रही। इस मुल्क में करोड़ों बच्चे ऐसे हैं जो गरीब भी हैं और जिनमें सलाहियत भी है। मुझे लगता है कि हमारी मिनिस्ट्री बच्चों तक communicate नहीं कर पा रही है कि ये-ये सुविधाएं सरकार दे रही है। सर, अंग्रेजी अखबार को बहुत से गांवों में गरीब बच्चे नहीं पढ़ते हैं इसलिए अगर हुकुमत यह कोशिश करे कि regional अखबारों में, छोटे अखबारों में, उर्दू के, हिन्दी के अखबारों में या अन्य छोटी-छोटी languages के अखबारों में अगर स्कॉलरशिप स्कीम के बारे में बताया जाए तो मुझे यकीन है कि जितना पैसा आपने allocate किया है, वह भी कम पड़ जाएगा। क्या आप इस बारे में कुछ करेंगे?

جناب محمد ادیب : سبھا پتی مہودے، میں منسٹر صاحب کے جواب سے سمجھ نہیں پایا، یہ انہوں نے بہت اچھی بات کی کہ corpus ختم کر کے yearly basis پر مارک کیا کہ اتنا payment دیا جائے گا، لیکن ابھی منٹری جی نے یہ کہا ہے جتنی اسکالرشپ ہے، اتنے بچے نہیں ہیں۔ یہ بات ہماری سمجھ میں نہیں آ رہی ہے۔ اس ملک میں کروڑوں بچے ایسے ہیں جو غریب بھی ہیں جن میں صلاحیت بھی ہے۔ مجھے لگتا ہے کہ ہماری منسٹری بچوں تک کمیونیکٹ نہیں کر پا رہی کہ یہ یہ سویدھائیں سرکار دے رہی ہے۔ سر، انگریزی اخبار کو بہت سے گاؤں میں غریب بچے نہیں پڑھتے ہیں اس لئے اگر حکومت یہ کوشش کرے کہ ریجنل اخباروں میں، چھوٹے اخباروں میں، اردو کے، ہندی کے اخباروں میں یا دیگر چھوٹی چھوٹی لینگویجس کے اخباروں میں اگر اسکالرشپ اسکیم کے بارے میں بتایا جائے تو مجھے یقین ہے کہ جتنا پیسہ آپ نے ایکویٹ کیا ہے، وہ بھی کم پڑ جائے گا۔ کیا آپ اس بارے میں کچھ کریں گے؟

†Transliteration in Urdu Script

श्री कपिल सिब्बल : सर, माननीय सदस्य ने बड़ा अच्छा सुझाव दिया है। हम भी चाहते हैं कि जो प्रदेश हैं, वे इस स्कीम को लागू करने के लिए लोकल न्यूज़ पेपर्स में विज्ञापन दें और हर डिस्ट्रिक्ट तक इसे पहुंचाएं तभी बच्चों को पता चलेगा कि ऐसी स्कीम लागू है जिसमें उन्हें पांच सौ रुपए महीना और 6 हजार सालाना मिल सकता है। हम स्टेट्स से बात करेंगे और कोशिश करेंगे कि इसको आगे बढ़ाएं।

Formula for sugarcane pricing

*183. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugar industry has demanded new formula linking cane pricing and sugar realisation;

(b) whether industry wants sugarcane price paid to farmers linked to realization from selling sugar and cane by-products;

(c) whether this demand has come as Government is considering deregulating sugar industry;

(d) if so, whether he has pointed out that the Ministry would finalise proposals over next few days for circulation to other Ministries;

(e) whether industry note to the Ministry focuses on marketing and sales decontrol; and

(f) if so, to what extent Government has agreed with their demands?

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

Statement

(a) to (f) The Central Government had been fixing the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane in terms of Clause 3 of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 for each sugar season on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) after consulting the State Governments and associations of sugar industry and cane growers. The sugarcane (Control) Order 1966 was amended on 22 October, 2009 by inserting clause (g), which provides for giving

reasonable margins to the growers of sugarcane on account of risk and profit, giving powers to the Central Government to determine a fair and remunerative price (FRP) from 2009-10 sugar season effective from 1.10.2009.

A representation has been received from sugar Industry inter alia, with the following demands:

(i) Sugarcane price be related to realization from sugar and direct realization from by-product on a suitable formula. Minimum price protection to come from Government during years of low sugar realization;

(ii) PDS sugar be procured from the open market;

(iii) Sugar be removed from the purview of Essential Commodities Act;

(iv) Sugar be decontrolled and release mechanism be dispensed with. Further there should be no stock holding limits on trade or bulk consumers.

The above proposal of the sugar industry and the proposal relating to deregulating sugar industry is to be discussed with all concerned Ministries. The Government will take appropriate decision in the matter after taking into consideration all aspects of decontrol of sugar including its availability, price situation, its impact on cane growers, impact on consumers of sugar and distribution of sugar through the Public Distribution System. Proposals would be finalized for circulation to other Ministries only thereafter.

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Sir, in his reply, price fixation has not taken into consideration the production of ethanol and the production of electricity from molasses.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, the formula has been changed. Sir, certain factors are taken into consideration when we decide the price, that is, cost of production of sugarcane, returns to the growers from alternative crops, general change in prices of agricultural commodities, availability of sugarcane to the consumer at fair price, price at which sugar produced from sugarcane is sold by the sugar factories, recovery of sugar from sugarcane and realisation made from sale of by-products like molasses, bagasse, etc. and their important value. So, the hon. Member is asking this question. Sir, that particular aspect has been kept in mind and

price has been fixed on the basis of that.

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: What made the Government to take up the issue for consideration, firstly, PDS sugar be procured from the open market and secondly, sugar be removed from the purview of the Essential Commodities Act? Sir, both these issues will disarm the State Governments and it will be an anti-people proposal.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: It's not a Government decision. This is a demand from ISMA, the Indian Sugar Mill Association and the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories. They have given a memorandum. In that memorandum, these are the demands which have been put forward before the Government. The Government has not taken any final view. We will definitely consult the State Governments. We will see the crop conditions; we will see the overall sugarcane and sugar availability in the country; we will see the prices for consumers and producers in the country; and, then, we will apply our mind.

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Sir, sugar is procured for the PDS. Manufacturers of aerated drinks, sweets and confectioners are also consuming it. Sir, through you, I am seeking a clarification from the Minister about the average percentage of sugar consumption by various consumers.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Generally, about 65 per cent sugar which has been produced in this country is used by this type of organised sector and rest of it by public at large.

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सभापति महोदय, चीनी मिल मालिकों और गन्ने के किसानों का रिश्ता घोड़े और घास जैसा है। मिल मालिक चाहता है कि उसे सस्ता गन्ना मिले, उसकी लागत कम से कम आए और उसे ज्यादा से ज्यादा मुनाफा हो। दूसरी ओर इस देश में किसान इस बात से परेशान हैं कि उसको अपने गन्ने की वाजिब और लाभकारी कीमत नहीं मिल पाती। अब यहां जो मांग की गई है, जो आज सवाल है जिसमें पूछा गया है कि चीनी मिल मालिकों ने मिलकर के सरकार से यह मांग की है कि गन्ने की कीमत इस आधार पर तय की जाए कि चीनी बेचने पर उनको मार्केट से कितना मुनाफा मिल रहा है। तो उनके मुनाफे के आधार पर गन्ने की कीमत तय करने की उन्होंने मांग की है। श्रीमन्, यह कुछ ऐसी बात है जैसे पहले तो घोड़े के नाप की जमीन खरीदी जाती थी, अब जीन की नाप का घोड़ा तलाशने की बात की जा रही है। जो जीन की नाप का घोड़ा तलाशने के लिए सरकार से मांग की गई है।

श्री सभापति : आप प्रश्न पूछ लीजिए।

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : श्रीमन्, मेरा प्रश्न केवल यह है कि सालों से किसान गन्ने के लिए यह मांग करता आ रहा है कि जिन पैरामीटर के आधार पर सी.ए.सी.पी. द्वारा उसकी कॉस्ट ऑफ कल्टिवेशन केलकुलेट की जाती है, वह पैरामीटर बहुत पुराने हो चुके हैं, बेईमानी हो चुके हैं और अब नए संदर्भ में नए पैरामीटर बनने चाहिए जो उसका वास्तविक मूल्य आकलन कर सकें कि गन्ने के

कितनी उत्पादन लागत आ रही है। इस पैरामीटर को बदलने के लिए और गन्ने के वास्तविक उत्पादन की लागत की कीमत को एसेस् करने के लिए, आकलन करने के लिए क्या सरकार कोई विशेष कदम उठा रही है? अगर हां, तो क्या और कब तक उसे पूरा कर लिया जाएगा?

श्री शरद पवार : कीमत तय करने के लिए जो आज तक का क्राइटेरिया था, इसमें सुधार करने की आवश्यकता है, इस तरह की मांग सदन के सामने भी थी और बाहर किसानों की तरफ से भी थी। इसको भारत सरकार ने स्वीकार किया, Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 में 22nd October, 2009 में एक नया क्लॉज डालकर इसमें fair remunerative price किस तरह से देनी चाहिए ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : यह सब तो जवाब में लिखा हुआ है।

श्री सभापति : आप पहले सुन लीजिए।

श्री शरद पवार : किस तरह से लेनी चाहिए, इस तरह की कार्रवाई सरकार ने इससे पहले ही की है। मैंने इससे पहले जो बतलाया कि इसका जो क्राइटेरिया किया है, वह क्राइटेरिया साफ है। भले ही चीनी मिलों ने मांग की होगी या और किसी ने मांग की होगी, मगर किसानों को उचित कीमत मिलने के इशु पर भारत सरकार कम्प्रोमाइज नहीं करेगी, system dilute नहीं करेगी और एक साल पहले ही इसमें जो सुधार किया है, इस पर पूरी तरह से अमल करने का प्रयास करेगी।

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : श्रीमन्, हमको आपका संरक्षण चाहिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: No supplementary on supplementary, please.

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : श्रीमन्, ऐसा है कि अगर हमारे प्रश्न का जवाब आ जाए, वह जो भी जवाब दें ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : देखिए, आप क्लेरिफिकेशन मंत्री जी से अलग ले लीजिए।

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : क्लेरिफिकेशन नहीं, श्रीमन्, यह तो आपको भी देखना होगा कि आखिर हमारे साथ न्याय हो। ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We can't have a discussion here.

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : जो पैरामीटर सी.ए.सी.पी. के हैं उनको बदलने के लिए सरकार क्या कोई कार्रवाई कर रही है? यदि हां, तो कब तक? इस मसले पर मंत्री जी कुछ तो कहें। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी : सर, यह सही है, इस पर अलग से चर्चा करा दीजिए।

श्री सभापति : आप उसका नोटिस दीजिए।

श्री वीर पाल सिंह यादव : माननीय चतुर्वेदी जी ने जो पूछा है उसी से मिलता-जुलता सवाल मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ। चीनी उद्योग के मालिकों को लाभकारी मूल्य देने का आपने कानून पास कर दिया और पिछले दिनों उसका अध्यादेश जारी हो गया। हम सरकार से यह पूछना चाहते हैं कि पहले से किसानों से वायदा

किया जा रहा था कि गन्ने पर किसानों की जो लागत आती है उसका लाभकारी मूल्य सरकार तय करेगी और मिल मालिकों को एक तरह से मजबूर करेगी उतना मूल्य देने के लिए। तो क्या चीनी मिल मालिक अपनी चीनी का लाभकारी मूल्य तय करके देंगे या किसान के गन्ने का लाभकारी मूल्य तय करके देंगे, यह माननीय मंत्री जी स्पष्ट करें?

श्री शरद पवार : किसानों के गन्ने की कीमत तय करने का अधिकार चीनी मिलों को नहीं दिया है। इसके लिए एक independent organisation CACP है। CACP इसकी कीमत तय करेगी। मैंने जो कहा कि 2009 और 2010 में जो बदलाव किया, इस बदलाव से 2009-2010.... In 2009-10, the FRP which was given to the farmers, was 51 per cent higher than the SMP which was paid in 2008-09; it was Rs. 28.8 per quintal higher than the SMP earlier fixed at Rs. 107.76. When we changed the system, farmers started getting better price. Last year was one of the years when sugarcane farmers got excellent price throughout India.

Technical support to Gram Panchayats

*184. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Farmers (NCF) has recommended training of Panchayat Members in integrated pest management, integrated nutrient supply and scientific water management;

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

(c) whether Government contemplates extending greater technical support to Gram Panchayats and attaching the Agricultural Universities/Institutions/Research Centres with Panchayati Raj Institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The National Commission on Farmers (NCF) has recommended training of Panchayat members in integrated pest management, integrated nutrient supply, and scientific water management, as well as in new

technologies such as Biotechnology and Information and Communication Technology (ICT). The Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers recommended by

NCF provides for training of one woman and man selected by each Panchayat with the help of agricultural/animal sciences universities and the persons so trained would serve as Farm Science Managers in their respective villages. The concept of farm science managers has been suitably incorporated in the National Policy for Famers, 2007 (NPF), which has been approved by Government basing on the recommendations of NCF. The NPF, 2007 also envisages support to the State Governments for devolution of functions and functionaries for empowering the Panchayats in order to implement various schemes and programmes at the grass root level; and steps to strengthen and accord centrality to Panchayats in addressing the problems of famers. NCF has not made any recommendation for attaching the Agricultural Universities/Institutions/Research Centres with Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Training is being imparted to famers and elected members of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRJs) in the above mentioned areas and technologies by the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) established in different districts in the country. The modified Scheme of 'Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms' Scheme also provides for one Farmer Friend for every two census villages to facilitate famer-to-farmer extension service. Involvement of PRIs at various levels such as selection of beneficiaries, identification of Farmer Friend, selection of Farmer Teacher for Farmer Field Schools etc. is an integral part of the Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms Scheme. Under the schemes of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Yojana and Backward Regions Grant Fund, State Governments are being assisted for providing training and capacity building to elected representatives and functionaries of the PRIs for upgradation of their knowledge and skills.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो रिप्लाइ दिया है, उसको मैंने पढ़ा है और वह बहुत ही विस्तार में है। सरकार ने काफी कुछ farmers के लिए किया है और करने जा रही है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि जो कुछ यहां पर टेक्नोलॉजी के बारे में, एग्रीकल्चर के बारे में बताया गया है, क्या इसके लिए इन्होंने कोई मॉनिटरिंग कमेटी बनाई हुई है? जो सरकार के farmers के लिए प्रोग्राम्स हैं, उनके बारे में क्या मंत्रालय ने स्टेटों से फिगर्स मंगवाई हैं? कितनी धनराशि ग्राम पंचायतों को दी गई है और उससे कितने लोगों को बेनिफिट हुआ है या सिर्फ पेपर्स में ही

हो रहा है, यह मैं जानना चाहती हूँ?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, the question was, "Whether the National Commission on Farmers (NCF) has recommended training of Panchayat Members..." In the reply, I have said that on the basis of the recommendation of the National Commission on Farmers recommendation as well as the

Draft Policy, we are helping the Panchayats so that the agricultural activities can be augmented through the Panchayats.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सर, मैं सेकेंड सप्लीमेंट्री बाद में पूछूंगी। अभी मंत्री जी ने मेरे पहले सवाल का ही उत्तर नहीं दिया है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछ रही हूँ कि जो इन्होंने स्कीमें चलाई हैं, उनके बारे में क्या स्टेटों से फीड बैक आया है? सर, मेरे पहले सवाल का ही जवाब नहीं आया है। सर, मैं सेकेंड सवाल बाद में पूछूंगी। इनकी स्कीमों से कितने लोगों को फायदा हुआ है, कितने लोगों को बेनिफिट हुआ है? सर, यह तो कोई बात नहीं हुई कि मंत्री जी जवाब ही नहीं देते हैं। इतना इन्होंने बताया है। ... (व्यवधान) ... हमने यह पूछा है, इसलिए मैं यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी : यही बात मैं उस दिन कह रहा था कि मंत्री जी जवाब नहीं देते हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : अगर आपको सेटिसफेक्टरी जवाब नहीं मिलता है, तो आप उसके लिए नोटिस दीजिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सर, यह तो ठीक है। ... (व्यवधान) ... मंत्री जी, जवाब तो दें। इनको जो रिटर्न में दिया जाता है, उसको ही यहां पढ़ देते हैं, जो मैं पूछ रही हूँ, उसका जवाब मंत्री जी नहीं दे रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do clarify the position.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, I have got the details of the number of persons in the Panchayat institutions which have been trained. I have got a detailed list. I will pass it on to the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The information is there. It will be made available to you.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सर, मेरा सेकेंड सप्लीमेंट्री क्वेश्चन है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में कहा है कि सरकार एनसीएफ के माध्यम से सहायता दे रही है। मैं यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि आप किस प्रकार की सहायता दे रहे हैं? क्या ग्राम पंचायतों को सरकार यहां से आर्थिक तौर पर सहायता दे रही है, और अगर दे रही है, तो कितनी सहायता दे रही है? क्योंकि इन्होंने राष्ट्रीय ग्राम स्वराज योजना और बैकवर्ड क्षेत्र के प्लान के बारे में बताया है, लेकिन यह उससे भी पूरा होने वाला नहीं है? क्या ये और भी आर्थिक सहायता ग्राम पंचायतों को देने वाले हैं?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, according to this policy, one woman and one man is selected by each Panchayat with the help of agricultural/animal

sciences universities. We also give financial

assistance under various schemes, like the RGSY so that the State Governments can help in strengthening agriculture activities through the Panchayats.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Sir, the Minister's reply says that in every Panchayat one woman and one man is going to be selected as Farm Science Manager. This is not enough. Of course, every Panchayat has more than three or four villages. At least, five farm science managers should be trained in each village. Sir, the nation is very much in need of mechanization of our agriculture. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the farm science managers are going to give training in modern farm equipments for ploughing, seeding, weeding and harvesting. Also, I want to know from the hon. Minister...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only one question please.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: ...whether there is any programme for giving training for the manufacture of value-added agricultural products. Are you going to give any stipend to these farm science managers by Govt. of India?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, the modified scheme of support to State Extension Programmes for extension reform schemes provides one farmer front for every two census villages to facilitate farmer to farmer extension service. The involvement of Panchayat institutions at various levels such as selection of beneficiaries, identification of farmer fronts, selection of farmer teachers for farmer field schools is an integral part of the support to State Extension Programmes.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : माननीय सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी पूछे गए सवाल का जो जवाब दिया है, उसको देखकर मुझे लगता है कि मंत्री जी ने या तो पूरी तैयारी नहीं की है या फिर वे सवाल का वास्तविक जवाब देने से हिचक रहे हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि एक पंचायत में एक स्त्री और एक पुरुष को मैनेजर की नियुक्ति के लिए, प्रशिक्षित करने के बारे में सरकार ने सोचा है, विचार किया है या निर्णय किया है। माननीय मंत्री जी को इस बात की जानकारी होगी कि एक न्याय पंचायत में एवरेज चालीस से पचास हजार लोगों की जनसंख्या होती है। इस चालीस से पचास हजार लोगों की जनसंख्या के लिए एक स्त्री और एक पुरुष को आपने मैनेजर के रूप में या प्रशिक्षक के रूप में नियुक्त किया है, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आपने पूरे देश में कितनी पंचायतें तय की हैं और

उन पंचायतों में अभी तक कितने शिक्षण कार्यक्रम हुए हैं?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, I have got the State-wise details. For example, if you take Andhra Pradesh, the number of persons trained in 2007-08 is 2,42,611; in 2008-09, it is 1,56,851; in 2009-2010, it is...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Could this information be made available to hon. Members?

PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Shri Ishwar Singh.

श्री ईश्वर सिंह : चेयरमैन सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि राष्ट्रीय किसान आयोग ने पंचायत के सदस्यों के लिए प्रशिक्षण की सिफारिश की है, उनको ट्रेनिंग देने का प्रावधान किया है, जो एकीकृत नाशीकीट प्रबंधन, एकीकृत पोषक-पदार्थ आपूर्ति और वैज्ञानिक जन-प्रबंधन का है। पंचायत के सदस्य यहां से प्रशिक्षित होकर अपने गांवों में कृषि विज्ञान से संबंधित सेवाएं देंगे। मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जो भूमिहीन लोग हैं और विशेषकर अनुसूचित जाति और पिछड़े वर्ग के लोग हैं, क्या उन लोगों को इसमें पहल दी जाएगी? वे लोग ज्यादा कारगर साबित हो सकते हैं, क्योंकि वे साधनहीन लोग हैं। क्या सरकार ऐसा विश्वास रखती है कि उनको पहल दी जाए?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, these are all under consideration. Actually, it is the State Governments which are implementing this policy. We have already given these proposals to the State Governments.

Shortage of teachers

*185. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our country is facing shortage of 1.2 million teachers for providing compulsory education to all children of 6-14 years of age;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the shortage is acute in rural areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

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

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. Pursuant to the enforcement of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act 2009, the additional requirement of teachers and Head Teachers in elementary education has been estimated at 5.08 lakh and 2.44 lakh respectively. In addition, it is estimated that there are 5.23 lakh teacher vacancies in the State sector, which the State Governments are expected to fill.

(b) to (d) Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) a total of 12.82 lakh teachers have been sanctioned till 2009-10 to cover both urban and rural areas, against which 10.30 lakh teachers have already been appointed as on 31.03.2010. An additional 1.37 lakh teacher posts have been sanctioned under SSA in the year 2010-11.

The RTE Act stipulates that the prescribed pupil teacher ratio will be maintained in respect of every school. States have, therefore, been advised to rationalize the deployment of teachers and expedite the recruitment of teachers against posts sanctioned under SSA as well as State sector vacancies to address the problem of teacher shortage and urban-rural imbalance in teacher postings.

SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Sir, my first supplementary question is that a large number of schools are running with only a single teacher in the country. For example, in Aimoor, a place in Nagapattinam district of Tamil Nadu, there is a secondary school with 500 students but for a very long time the school has been functioning only with one teacher against 11 sanctioned posts of teachers. So, I want to know whether the Government will instruct the State Governments to identify single-teacher schools and take steps to put some teachers from other schools in the other areas in such schools. Also, what steps have been taken by the Government to put a minimum number of teachers for every forty students in schools?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I thank the hon. Member for this question. But, I must say that I do not think that we in the Government of India now want to follow the fashion of instructing State Governments. I think, this is a collaborative exercise between the Government of India and the various States of this country; I think, it is a great national opportunity. If the States and the Government of India work together, we can really transform this country. There is a shortage of 1.2 million teachers in this country. On the one hand we are saying that there is no employment; but, on the other hand, there is a shortage of 1.2 million teachers. That space is vacant, it is open. Why do not the States recruit teachers

through their various recruitment policies? We have seen the total backlog is 1.2 million but there are some States where the backlog is enormous and for years! Take for example Bihar, 2,60,841 is the total sanctioned posts and the backlog is 1,00,696. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the State Government has already started the process. ...(Interruptions)... This backlog is of fifty years and the State Government has already started the process. Why are you specifically mentioning Bihar? ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the point of argument? Please allow Question Hour to proceed.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: We should make it clear that this backlog is for 50 years. ...(Interruptions)... You must talk about this backlog which is for 50 years. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you allow the hon. Minister to answer the question? ...(Interruptions)...

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सभापति जी, बोल कौन रहा है ...(व्यवधान)... एन.के. सिंह जी, जरा सुनिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : आप लोग बैठिए ...(व्यवधान)... जवाब देने दीजिए ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: You can give us the figures of 2000-onwards. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी : बैकलॉग बताएं ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री कपिल सिब्बल : आपको संतुष्टि मिले, इसके लिए मैं राजस्थान के भी आंकड़े दे सकता हूँ, इससे आप खुश हो जाएंगे ...(व्यवधान)... मेरा यह कोई ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : देखिए, please maintain silence. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी : बताइए कितने वर्षों से है ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I am giving you. ...(Interruptions)... I am only giving expression to the prevailing situation throughout the country. Now, what is required is that the State Governments should start putting the recruitment processes in place, making sure that the recruitment is done so that the availability of teachers in each school is improved; these are the overall figures. As has been rightly pointed out by the hon. Member, you may have a total recruitment policy through which there

are enough teachers for schools but in some States in some schools there is only one teacher like what he has pointed out in Tamil Nadu. We are telling the State Governments, redeploy your teachers. Even the political parties have to be careful because what happens is, teachers come to

us, 'Please transfer me because my family is there.' We must be clear. We should be open and honest to the people of this country. Hearing them, we then recommend these transfers. The result is, in some schools, there are more teachers than required. In some schools, there are not enough teachers. So, let us introspect. This is not the question of blaming people. Let us introspect. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी : सर, ट्रांसफर से क्या मतलब है ...(व्यवधान)... आप ट्रांसफर की बात कर रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)... एम्प्लोएमेंट के बारे में बात हो रही है ...(व्यवधान)... आप उसकी बात कीजिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : आप नोटिस दीजिए ...(व्यवधान)... Can we have a discussion on this?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: This is not adversarial. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : सर, वे गलत बोल रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, agreed. Let us have this discussion. Now, the second supplementary question.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Yes, it is not adversarial. We are talking to Tamil Nadu and all States to make sure that re-deployment is done and there are right and adequate number of teachers for each school. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: I would like to know whether the Government initiate action to undertake campus interviews through State Governments at Government B.Ed, colleges to combat the problem of shortage because a number of students are coming out every year after successfully completing the teacher training courses. If so, the details thereof. If not, the alternative planning proposed by the Government.

Sir, in fact, I have had a personal meeting with almost every Education Minister of every State. And, we have looked at each State, and the problems that are confronting each State. Remember, this is going to be a collaborative exercise; this is not an accusatory forum. We need to actually talk to the State Governments. The State Governments have problems. Sometimes they want to recruit teachers, there is a court case,

and there is a stay on recruitment. Now, the big problem that we are facing is that there are not enough students going into B.Ed. There are not enough institutes for training teachers.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: It is because there is no job opportunity.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Job opportunities are there. We have shown you.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: No, no. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: The job opportunities are there. Therefore, States need to open more B.Ed colleges; States need to open more M.Ed, colleges. States need to start more programmes. Therefore, once that is done, you will have enough recruitment because there is a shortage of institutions. ...(*Interruptions*)... And that vacuum will have to be ...(*Interruptions*)... Therefore, we are requesting the State Governments to open those educational institutions. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: What is the main reason?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please resume your place. You have put your supplementary. ...(*Interruptions*)... Shri Shantaram Laxman Naik.

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी : सर, बहुत सारे बी.एड. हैं ...(*व्यवधान*)... लगभग दस हजार बी.एड. हैं ...(*व्यवधान*)... क्या आप उनको नौकरी दिलाइएगा ...(*व्यवधान*)... इतने सारे बी.एड. खाली पड़े हैं ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री सभापति : देखिए, ...(*व्यवधान*)... One minute, please. I think, if there are disputes about official statistics, the only way to counter it is by giving what may be better statistics. But Question Hour is not the time for this kind of a dispute.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Wrong statistics should not be given.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: These statistics are fabricated statistics. ...(*Interruptions*)... These are fabricated statistics. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you suggesting that official statistics of this country are fabricated statistics? ...(*Interruptions*)... I think, there have been Members from all sides of the House who have been responsible Ministers of the Government. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, बिहार इस सदन से बाहर है ...(*व्यवधान*)... बिहार का नाम

आने के बाद ही ये तिलमिला जाते हैं ... (व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Shantaram Laxman Naik. ... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Sir, along with the recruitment of teachers, which will now be done in connection with the Right to Education Act, training of teachers is very important. In most of the States, some institutions take initiative, and various institutions are clubbed together for the purpose of giving training. In that training, Sir, what is taught is, only teaching methods. Apart from teaching methods, nothing else is being taught or trained for teachers. I would like to inform that no teacher, hardly any teacher knows about the Education Policy of 1986, as amended in 1992. Will the hon. Minister advise the State Governments that whenever training programmes are held, the teachers should be trained and they should be taught about the essential features of our Education Policy?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in fact, the essential features of the Education Policy are taught in these educational institutions. It is not correct to say that they are not taught. In fact, the standards are laid down by the NCTE, and, therefore, it is not correct to say that they are not taught this. Everybody is aware of the Education Policy. The real problem is the attractiveness of the profession. That is the real problem. States need to give more incentives to the teaching community, and all of us need to respect the teacher much more. We don't give enough respect to the teacher. We need to improve their conditions of service at the level of the State; we need to give them more promotional opportunities; we need to give them housing facilities; we need to give them insurance facilities; we need to make the profession attractive. In many other parts of the world, the best minds go into teaching. How is it that that does not happen in India? The fault lies with us.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Finances. Money is the problem.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: We need to get together to make sure that enough people go into the teaching profession. In fact, we do an in-service training of teachers for twenty days annually under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, and the pedagogy content is provided by us. So, this is not correct to say that they are not aware of the Education Policy.

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Sir, the situation is very intriguing. On the one hand, the hon. Minister is saying that there is a paucity of teachers all over India; on the other hand, there is unemployment among teachers.

There are many teachers, at least, in my State, in my city where they have to work on hourly basis not on regular basis. They have to sign one amount and take another amount. They have to pay to managements. The moot question is, you are throwing the ball in the court of the State Governments that they have to employ. In most of the State Governments, I would say, the school education is far below on the priority list. State Governments say 85 per cent or more budgets go towards the salaries of the teachers. So, where does the development happen?

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your supplementary?

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: My question to the hon. Minister is: will the Union Government ask the State Governments to put education on a higher priority list and give more grant-in-aid for the school education? Thank you.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Certainly, we are very happy if the State Governments put education on a higher priority list. We would want State Governments to spend more money on it. In fact, if you look at the financial expenditure, the Government of India's expenditure on education has gone up over the years and the State's expenditure on education has gone down. That is the reality. We would like State Governments to spend more money on education. At the same time, if you really look at it, now under the RTE of the total budget of Rs.2,31,233 crores, almost 68 per cent, if you really work out the figure, comes from the Central Government.

On the one hand, the State Governments say that education is a State Subject, on the other hand, State Governments say give us 100 per cent. Now, you cannot have it both ways. It is a collaborative exercise. Please. This is a great national opportunity. I request hon. Members in the Rajya Sabha to request their State Governments, please don't recruit teachers from Class-X, as some of you are doing. Bring quality into the system. Please put education as the topmost priority of the agenda of your particular State.

DR. (SHRIMATI) KAPILA VATSYAYAN: Would the Minister like to throw some

light on the recruitment rules for these teachers? Are they standard for all India? Do they accommodate regional variations and diversity of this country? Is there a case for looking into the pedagogy of NCTE itself?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: As far as the recruitment policies of teachers in various States are concerned, each State decides on its own on its recruitment policy. The Government of India has no role to play in the recruitment policy of teachers. Each State Government decides on the conditions of service, the salary that is to be paid and how teachers are to be recruited. That is why the part of the problem is that backlogs over the years have not been filled up. When it comes to Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the money is given by the Central Government, those posts are filled up. When it comes to the States' own expenditure, money comes from their own exchequer, they are not filled up. This is part of the problem. Therefore, it has to be part of the priority within the State Government. As far as pedagogy is concerned, that is already decided by the NCERT. We request that the NCERT books should be adopted by various State Boards and most of time, in fact, the syllabus is based on the NCERT. So, that is really not an issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No.186. ...(Interruptions)... Please. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, I should also be given a chance. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I can take only three supplementary questions. ...(Interruptions)... Can we get on with the next question? I cannot give you another chance. ...(Interruptions)... You know the rules.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: It is an important question. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Every question is important. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, बिहार में 4 हजार ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : पासवान जी, प्लीज़ आप बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, only one question. ...(Interruptions)... Just one question, Sir. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid it will be opening the door for discussion which the Chair is not entitled to do during the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)... So, let us finish one more question because we have only five minutes more. Thank you. Question No.186. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, we have responded very positively. We have lifted the ban on recruitment and we are recruiting more number of teachers and Government's advice has been responded to positively by the Tamil Nadu Government. One State which is Tamil Nadu, Sir, is positively responding to the advice of the Government and we have lifted a ban on recruitment. We are recruiting a lot of teachers and I would like to seek a clarification. Some States have expressed their financial constraints. I want to know what the Government is intending to do.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the hon. Minister on this subject and he will give you a satisfactory answer. Thank you very much.

*186 - [The questioner Shri Mohammed Amin was absent]

Status of rail projects

*186. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Wheel Manufacturing Unit at Chhapra, Bihar with regard to investment and commencement of production; and

(b) the proposed investment and amount invested so far for Rail Coach Factories at Raibareli, Uttar Pradesh; Kanchrapara, West Bengal; Palghat, Kerala; Electric Locomotive Factory at Madhepura, Bihar and Electric Loco Assembly Unit at Dankuni, West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Construction of Wheel Manufacturing Plant at Chhapra was sanctioned in the year 2005-06 at an estimated cost of Rs.1417 cr and is under progress. The project is likely to start manufacture of wheels from the year 2011-12.

The project of Rail Coach Factory at Rae Bareli was approved in the year 2006-07 at an estimated cost of Rs.1685 cr and the work is in full swing. Phase-I of this project is likely to be completed by July 2011

with start of production and it is likely to be completed by 2012-13.

Rail Coach Factory at Kanchrapara was approved in the year 2010-11 for setting up in Joint Venture mode at an estimated cost of Rs.860.16 cr. Land for this factory has been identified and the work is in progress.

The project of Rail Coach factory at Palghat is awaiting government approval and is estimated to cost Rs.1215.75 cr. Government of Kerala, had earlier promised to provide land free of cost, but have now desired that the cost of land be taken as their equity in the Joint Venture to be formed for setting up this factory. The proposal is presently under consideration.

The project of Electric Locomotive Factory at Madhepura was approved in 2007-08 at an estimated cost of Rs.1293.57 cr. The Government recently decided in February 2010 that this manufacturing unit shall be set up as a Joint Venture. Selection of Joint Venture partner is likely to be finalised during the current financial year.

The project of Electric Loco components factory at Dankuni was approved in the year 2009-10 at an estimated cost of Rs.123 cr. The unit is being set up as a joint venture project. In addition, there is also a proposal for setting up of a Diesel Loco component factory at Dankuni at an estimated cost of Rs.261 cr. The work on both the projects are in progress.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, my supplementary is that the projects and works shown here in the reply had been sanctioned during UPA-I period by Railways itself but during the UPA-II it has been proposed to be done through PPP route. My question is: What is the reason for such a change?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Do you have any projects to mention? Which project do you want to mention? There are so many projects. You please name the project. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, there are so many projects. If I know the name of the project, then, I can answer.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: You have listed it in the answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Yechury, it is not your turn.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Okay, okay, I will give the reply, Sir.

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी : *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put your question.

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी : *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put your question. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी : *

श्री सभापति : भई आप सवाल पूछिए, आप इतना टाइम क्यों ले रहे हैं? Mr. Rudy, this is not fair.

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी : *

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have misused this opportunity. I am afraid, I don't agree. No, no... Please. ...(Interruptions)... Nothing of this will go on record. I am sorry. That question has been ruled out. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी : *

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, I find that instead of replying to me she has pointed a finger at me. ...(Interruptions)... Instead of replying to my question, the Minister has pointed a finger at me. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, I seek your protection. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, you have taken two minutes on this. This is wrong. ...(Interruptions)... Sorry. This is not on record. Shri Rajniti Prasad.

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, छपरा और मरहौरा में जब ...(व्यवधान)... बैठिए, बैठिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : पाणि जी, आप बैठ जाइए, प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)... Please, will you sit down?

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, छपरा और मरहौरा में जब फैक्ट्री के लिए शिलान्यास किया गया ...(व्यवधान)... तो वहां के लोगों की आंखें चमकने लगीं। लेकिन हम लोगों को मालूम है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : आपने सवाल पूछना है या नहीं पूछना?

*Not recorded

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, मैं सवाल ही पूछ रहा हूँ। मेरा सवाल है ... (व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : सवाल पूछने के लिए आपके पास सिर्फ 20 सैकिंड हैं।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, मैं सवाल पूछ रहा हूँ। मुझको मालूम है कि अभी वहां किसी तरह का कोई काम स्टार्ट नहीं हुआ है। उन्होंने कहा था कि 2011-12 में काम कंप्लीट कर देंगे, वह भी गलत है। क्या आप बता सकती हैं कि यह कब तक कंप्लीट हो जाएगा और कब इसमें काम शुरू होगा और अभी तक इसमें क्या-क्या काम हुआ है?

कुमारी ममता बनर्जी : सर, मधेपुरा, मरहौरा और छपरा, सब बिहार में हैं। हम लोगों ने बहुत सारी कोच फैक्ट्रियों का काम लिया है। छपरा 2011-12 में कंप्लीट हो जाएगा। वहां पर काम बहुत तेजी से हो रहा है। You will be glad to know that मरहौरा और मधेपुरा में भी हम लोगों ने जो PPP के रूप में एक Joint venture set up करने का प्रयास है, उसमें भी टेंडर वगैरह का प्रोसेस चल रहा है, वह जल्द-से-जल्द finalize हो कर यह काम भी बहुत जल्द कामयाब होने की आशा है। So, Marhaura, Madhepura and on other projects throughout the country, including Raibareille, the work is targated to start early. Also, Sir, Katchrapada, jankuni and the wagon factory are also under progress.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Train accidents

*187. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of train accidents which took place during the last one year;

(b) the total loss to Railways due to these accidents; and

(c) the details of number of persons killed and injured in these accidents?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) In the year 2009-10, 100 consequential train accidents excluding cases of trespassing by road users at unmanned level crossings took place and in the current year from April to 26th July, 2010, 26 such accidents have taken place. Loss of railway property in these accidents has been estimated to be Rs. 84.45 crore approximately.

(c) During the year 2009-10, 64 persons lost their lives and 238 persons suffered injuries in the above 100 consequential accidents. During the year 2010-11 (upto 26th July), 2 persons were killed and 19 injured in accidents excluding cases of trespassing by road users at unmanned level crossings. This figure does not include casualties in following three unfortunate incidents:

(i) In the incident of derailment and collision of Jnaneshwari Express on 28.05.2010 in Kharagpur Division due to sabotage, 150 persons lost their lives and 165 were injured.

(ii) One person died and 20 were injured due to derailment of Guwahati Kolkata Garib Rath on 08.07.2010 in Kokrajhar district of Assam due to sabotage.

(iii) 65 persons lost their lives and 91 were injured in the incident of rear-end collision of Uttar Banga Express with Vananchal Express on 19.07.2010 at Sainthia station, which is under investigation from all possible angles.

Storage facilities for foodgrains

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

(a) whether Government has recently admitted that lack of adequate and proper storage facilities is resulting in rotting and wastage of foodgrains;

(b) if so, whether the existing infrastructure in most of the godowns is not up to the mark for storing foodgrains;

(c) if so, the remedial measures Government proposes to take in this regard; and

(d) the estimated annual loss of foodgrains due to lack of storage facilities?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) There has been a shortage of storage space. Against the availability of about 425 lakh tonnes of covered storage space and 176 lakh tonnes in Cover and Plinth (CAP) available with FCI and State Agencies, the stock of foodgrains in the Central as on 1st July, 2010 was 578.50 lakh tonnes.

Damage to the stocks can be caused by rain, floods, cyclone, rodents and pests and fungus infestation of stocks. Details of damaged stocks for the last three years and current year and their value is given in Statement-A

To augment availability of storage capacity, Government has formulated a scheme for construction of godowns through private entrepreneurs by FCI. A seven year guarantee was given to the investors, which has now been increased to 10 years under the scheme. About 134 lakh tonnes of storage capacity in 16 States has been identified for construction of godowns under the scheme. Details of the same are given in the Statement-B (See below). Under this scheme, CWC and SWCs are also constructing 10.74 lakh tonnes capacity on their own lands.

A proposal has been formulated for creation of 5.25 lakh tonnes of additional storage capacity in the North-Eastern States.

Other preventive measure taken up the Government for the proper and safe storage of foodgrains are given in Statement-C.

Statement-A

Value of Damaged Stock of FCI accrued in last four years

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Quantity Accrued as Non-issuable	0.25	0.34	0.20*	0.07*
Value (in Rs. Crores)	16.43	22.33	13.03	3.63
%age of Non Issuable stock	0.034	0.045	0.022	0.008

* Unaudited figures.

During 2010-11 (upto 31.07.2010), 11,827 MT stock valuing Rs.6.91 crore got damaged.

Statement-B

Storage Capacity for construction of godowns under Guaranteed Scheme approved by the High Level Committee of FCI

Name of the State	Total Storage capacity finalized (tonnes)
1	2
Kerala	15,000

Karnataka	2,05,000
Andhra Pradesh	2,27,000

1	2
Tamil Nadu	3,45,000
Maharashtra	99,500
Chhattisgarh	5,000
Gujarat	45,000
West Bengal	5,000
West Bengal (DCP)	1,51,600
Jharkhand	1,75,000
Bihar	3,00,000
Haryana	38,80,000
Punjab	71,25,000
Himachal Pradesh	1,42,550
Jammu & Kashmir	3,61,690
Uttarakhand	25,000
Orissa (DCP)	3,00,000
TOTAL :	1,34,07,340

Statement-C

Preventive measures taken for the proper and safe storage of foodgrains:

- (i) All FCI godowns are constructed as per specifications and food grains are stored by adopting scientific storage practices.
- (ii) Adequate dunnage materials, fumigation covers and chemicals are provided in all the godowns.
- (iii) Prophylactic and curative treatments are carried out regularly and timely for the control of stored grain insect pests and rodents.
- (iv) Food grains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are used as dunnage material. Stacks are properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.

(v) Regular inspections of the stocks/ godowns are undertaken by qualified and trained staff of FCI.

(vi) The principle of "First-In-First-Out" (FIFO) is followed so as to avoid longer storage of food grains in godowns.

Increase in Maoist attacks on railways

*189. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidents of Maoist attack on Railways are increasing;

(b) if so, the number of incidents that took place in the last two years;

(c) the areas where the incidents have taken place mostly; and

(d) the remedial measures taken by Railways?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The incidents of Maoists attack on Railways have increased. The number of incidents reported during the last two years are given below:-

Year	No. of incidents of Maoist attack on Railways
2008	30
2009	60

(c) The areas where the incidents have taken place mostly are given as under:-

Area	State	Railway	Division
1	2	3	4
Kharagpur - Tatanagar	West Bengal	South Eastern	Kharagpur
Purulia - Chandil	Jharkhand		Adra
Bimlagarh - Kiriburu	Orissa		Chakradharpur
Midnapur - Bankura			
Chakradharpur - Rourkela			

1	2	3	4
Rourkela - Ranchi			
CIC Section (Central	Jharkhand	East Central	Dhanbad
Coalfield India Section)	Bihar		Mughalsarai
Gomoh - Barwadih			
Gomoh - Hazaribagh Road			
Gaya - Dehri-on-sone			
Koraput - Kirandul Line	Chhattisgarh	East Coast	Waltair
Jamalpur - Kiul	Bihar	Eastern	Malda
Asansol - Jasidih-Jhajha	Jharkhand		Asansol
Sealdah - Ranaghat	West Bengal		Sealdah

(d) 'Policing on Railways' is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases and their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises including tracks, bridges, tunnels and running trains are, therefore the statutory responsibility of the State Governments concerned which they discharge through their Government Railway Police (GRP) and Civil Police. Railways bear 50% cost of expenditure on the Government Railway Police.

However, following measures are being taken by the Railways to ensure safety of Railway property and safe and secure journey to the passengers.

- (i) Nominated trains are escorted by Government Railway Police (GRP) and Railway Protection Force (RPF) on the vulnerable sections/areas.
- (ii) Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt, of India has issued direction to the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Bihar and West Bengal to make additional deployment of Civil Police, Government Railway Police (GRP) and Central Para Military Forces to avoid attacks on Railway infrastructure and to avoid any likely disasters.
- (iii) Coordination meeting with State Home Secretaries, officials of Ministry of Home Affairs, Intelligence Bureau and Railways are held.

- (iv) Coordination meetings are held by the General Managers and Chief Security Commissioners/RPF at Zonal level and Divisional Railway Managers and Sr. Divisional Security Commissioners/RPF at Divisional level with the State Governments and District Administration respectively.
- (v) Railway Board is also keeping close coordination with Ministry of Home Affairs.
- (vi) An Integrated Security System costing Rs. 353 crores has been approved to strengthen surveillance mechanism over sensitive and vulnerable Railway stations. In the first phase, it is being implemented at 202 sensitive Railway stations.

Welfare plan for small and marginal farmers

*190. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of small and marginal farmers continue to live below poverty line in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government for welfare of such farmers;

(c) whether Government has identified the number of such marginal farmers and made any plans to help them; and

(d) if so, the funds earmarked for this purpose in 2010-11?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) As per the Agriculture Census 2005-06, there are 12,92,22,237 operational holdings in the country (excluding Jharkhand), of which marginal and small operational holdings constitute about 83.29% and the average size of small and marginal operational holdings is about 0.6 ha, compared to the average size of all operational holdings of about 1.23 ha. Planning Commission computes poverty estimates separately for urban and rural areas. No such estimates are worked out separately for small and marginal farmers.

National Policy for Farmers, 2007 (NPF) has been approved by Government with the objective of, *inter-alia*, improving the economic viability of farming through substantially improving net income of farmers. NPF acknowledges preponderance of small and marginal holdings in

the farm sector and

places emphasis on increase in small farm productivity, creating multiple livelihood opportunities through crop-livestock integrated farming systems as well as agro processing and formation of groups for gaining efficiency and economies of scale in farming operations for benefit of small and marginal farmers.

Government has strengthened the farm credit delivery system for providing credit at affordable rate of interest to farmers. The emphasis is on providing timely and adequate credit support to farmers, with particular focus on small and marginal farmers. Under the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008, overdue debt of about 3.01 crore small and marginal farmers has been waived in order to address the problem of their indebtedness and to improve their access to institutional credit.

Government is also implementing a number of plan schemes and programmes for the benefit of farmers, including small and marginal farmers. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has a budget provision of Rs. 15042 crore for different plan schemes during 2010-11. These schemes primarily aim at improving agricultural productivity/production through provision of quality inputs and extension services. The guidelines of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana provide for assistance for development of land, horticulture and generating livelihoods for farmers below poverty line and for special schemes for beneficiaries of land reforms, who are usually small and marginal farmers. Under the Revised Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme, at least 33 per cent of the allocation is required to be made for small, marginal and women farmers. National Food Security Mission also provides that at least 33 per cent of funds be allocated for small, marginal and women farmers. The guidelines for Modified 'Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms Scheme, 2010' provide that at least 50 per cent beneficiaries must be small and marginal farmers.

Further, the guidelines of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme have been amended permitting provision of irrigation facility, horticulture plantation and land development facilities on land owned by small and marginal farmers under the Scheme.

Implementation of Food for All law

†191. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER

AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government is contemplating to implement Food for All Law in the country; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof and by when the same is proposed to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) As announced by the President in her address to the joint session of Parliament on 4-6-2009, 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 under consideration of an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) constituted to consider various issues concerning the proposed law on food security. Based on directions of EGoM, the draft Bill would be prepared and the same would be put on the website of the Department for public scrutiny and comments.

R&D in pharma industry

*192. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of research and development (R&D) in the Indian pharma industry; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for the development of infrastructure facilities with private sector for research and development?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. K. ALAGIRI): (a) and (b) The role of Government of India is that of a facilitator in promoting pharma industry, including Research and Development (R&D), through fiscal and non fiscal measures which impact the pharmaceutical industry. The following fiscal/non-fiscal measures have been taken in this regard:

Government is providing various fiscal measures such as weighted tax deduction @ 150% under section 35(2AB) of Income Tax Act, 1961, and promoting outsourcing research by providing a proposed weighted deduction of 125% to companies engaged in Research and Development. Various non-fiscal measures are being provided by Department of Science and Technology through Drugs and Pharmaceutical Research Programme of

Department of Science and Technology and

Small Business Innovation Research Initiative (SBIRI) of Department of Biotechnology for promoting Research and Development in Pharmaceutical Sector.

As per para 22.6.1 of the Modifications in Drugs Policy, 1986 announced in 1994, a new drug which has not been produced elsewhere, if developed through indigenous R&D would be put outside price control for a period of 10 years from the date of commercial production in favour of the Company who undertook the R&D.

Following the creation of new Department in July 2008, the Department of Pharmaceuticals has initiated action for establishment of two Good Laboratory Practices (GLP)-compliant Biological Testing laboratories, one GLP compliant Chemical Testing laboratory and one GLP compliant Large Animal facility in the country in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode for boosting indigenous manufacturing and testing for developing safe, potent and affordable medicines for the masses.

An initiative has been taken for establishing the Pharmaceutical and Life Science Incubator at National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Ahmedabad with an aim to bridge the gap between research and industry. It will facilitate entrepreneurs develop, test and prove the technology by providing services on 'one-stop' basis for rapid implementation of new projects.

National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali was established under The National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Act 1998. The NIPER, Mohali was declared to be an institution of national importance. The main objectives, *inter alia* being:

- i) to nurture and promote quality and excellence in pharmaceutical education & research;
- ii) to concentrate on courses leading to master's degree, doctoral and post doctoral courses and research in pharmaceutical education;
- iii) to develop a world level centre for creation of new knowledge and transmission of existing information in pharmaceutical areas, with focus on national, educational, professional and industrial commitments;
- iv) to develop a multi-disciplinary approach in carrying out research and

training of pharmaceutical manpower so that the large interests of
the profession, academia and

pharmaceutical industry are better served and a pharmaceutical work culture is evolved which is in tune with the changing world trends and patterns of pharmaceutical education and research;

- v) to act as a nucleus for interaction between academy and industry by encouraging exchange of scientist and other technical staff between the Institute and the industry and by undertaking sponsored and funded research as well as consultancy projects by the Institute;

NIPER, Mohali is now recognized the world over for its quality of research and teaching. Government has since set up six new NIPERs under the NIPER Act 1998 as amended from time to time at Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Hajipur, Rae Bareilly and Guwahati. At present new NIPERs are functioning with the help of mentor institutes.

Besides, the Government of India is promoting standards of excellence, research and development in the field of pharmaceuticals through other Ministries and Departments like Department of Science & Technology, Department of Biotechnology, etc., which are working to create the enabling environment for R&D initiatives by creating the required infrastructure as well as mechanisms and linkages to facilitate R&D in Pharmaceuticals.

The Department of Science and Technology has been implementing a Plan Scheme titled Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Research Programme (DPRP) for promoting collaborative R&D in drugs and pharmaceuticals sector with the following objectives:

- i) to synergise the strengths of publicly funded R&D institutions and Indian Pharmaceutical Industry;
- ii) to stimulate skill development of human resources in R&D for drugs and pharmaceuticals;
- iii) to extend soft loans for Pharma industrial R&D projects;
- iv) to enhance the nation's self-reliance in drugs and pharmaceuticals especially in areas critical to national health requirements.

42 state-of-the-art infrastructure for Pharmaceutical R&D have been created in different premier institutions and Universities on Bio-availability, Pharmacoinformatics, Regulatory Toxicology, Safety Pharmacology at NIPER, Mohali, Pharmacokinetic and Metabolic

Studies, Regulatory

Pharmacology & Toxicology, Medium Throughput Screening at Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow; Transgenic & Gene Knockout Mice, Clinical Research facility to Stem Cell Technologies and regenerative medicine, Biosafety Level 4 Laboratory at Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad, Bioequivalence, Pharmacovigilance, New Chemical Entities development, Animal Facility for Indian System of Medicine, etc. have been created in other Universities and Institutions.

These facilities are utilized for R&D by institutions and pharmaceutical industries including small entrepreneurs. The amount provided by DPRP to various institutions for establishing state-of the art research facilities during the last three years i.e. 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 is Rs. 50.15 crores, Rs 27.20 crores and Rs.18.96 crores respectively. During 2010-11 Rs. 5.72 crore have been released for such research facilities.

Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) under Ministry of Science and Technology is operating a scheme entitled 'New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative (NMITLI) in Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode. It has supported many projects in diverse areas including Drugs & Pharmaceuticals. It has projects on cancer, diabetes, psoriasis, lysostaphin, eye-infections, herbal medicines, heart failure, medical implants etc.

The Department of Biotechnology is implementing the scheme "Small Business Innovation Research Initiative (SBIRI)" to support biotech sector for research and development. The Department supports the activities of the private industry including Pharma industry in the Project mode. Similarly, the Department has also initiated a scheme on "Biotechnology Industry Partnership Programme (BIPP)" for high risk, transformational technology/process development and support is provided to private industry including Pharma industry for shared major research facilities around technology platform as core facilities.

Government is thus exploring various avenues to promote standards of excellence, research and development in the pharmaceuticals industry.

Share of Jharkhand in railway projects

*193. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 66 per cent is being charged for railway projects from the State of Jharkhand as State's share whereas it is 50 percent in respect of other States; and

(b) if so, whether Railways would propose to bring Jharkhand at par with other States on 50 per cent basis?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) State Government of Jharkhand had agreed to share two-third cost of six railway projects falling in the State. The share of State Government in railway projects is varying from project to project and is being reckoned as per the commitment of the State Governments. The MOU signed with the Government of Jharkhand in February, 2002 has since expired and renewal of the same is under consideration.

Broadgauge between Mayiladuthurai and Tharangambadi

*194. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a broad gauge connection is proposed between Mayiladuthurai Junction and Tharangambadi (Tranquebar) in the Nagapattinam district of Tamil Nadu to establish a train link for tourist purposes between the Danish Fort at Tranquebar and the Red Fort in Delhi; and

(b) whether further linkages from Tranquebar to the Hindu shrine of Thirunallar in Karaikal district of Puducherry, the Muslim shrine of Nagore Shareef and the Christian pilgrimage center of Velankanni in Nagapattinam district of Tamil Nadu are planned, to run the proposed Secular Express connecting all these centres of pilgrimage and others in Tiruvarur and Thanjavur?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) A survey for Mayiladuthurai -Karaikal new line via Tarangambadi & Tirunallar was completed in 2006-07. The cost of construction of 47.32 Km new line was assessed as Rs. 114.57 crore. Railway has been advised to update the Survey report.

Broad gauge line already exists between Thanjavur-Tiruvarur-Nagapattinam-Nagore section. The new line from Nagore to Karaikal is targeted for completion during 2010-11. Work on Nagapattinam-Velankanni line has been completed and will be commissioned after inspection of Commissioner of Railway Safety.

At present, there is no proposal to run a train between Delhi and Mayiladuthurai. However, 6175/6176 Chennai-Egmore-Nagore Express runs via

Mayiladuturai (for Thirukkadaiyur Temple), Nagapattinam (for Velankanni Church) and Nagore (for Dargah).

New strategies for minority education

*195. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is redrawing its minority education roadmap to include new strategies after drawing repeated flak from prominent sections of the Muslim community over key policies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to consult minorities education panel before bringing any further amendments in the Right to Education Act; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) All policies and programmes of the Government, targeted at the educational advancement of the Minorities, are framed after wide consultations with community leaders, the academe and other stake-holders among the Minority communities. For this purpose a permanent mechanism by way of the National Monitoring Committee for Minorities' Education (NMCME) is in place. NMCME is represented by the Ministers of Education of the States, Members of Parliament, Secretaries of Education of States, representatives from Minority communities who have made substantial contribution in their respective fields and representatives of managements of minority educational institutions. The Standing Committee of NMCME visits various States and interacts with representatives of the minority communities to provide feed-back on the status of education among the minorities, difficulties and problems faced in the implementation of programmes. The Annual reports of NMCME contain recommendations to be considered by the Government for educational advancement of minorities. Apart from this, the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) also reports on the general condition of educational attainment of minorities and redressal of infringement of rights of minorities under article 30 (1) of the constitution. The annual reports of NCMEI are placed before Parliament and new strategies are adopted on the basis of this feed-back.

(c) and (d) The Government has held consultations with various stakeholders on the implementation of the Right of Children to Free and

Compulsory Education Act (RTE), 2009. Government has received representations from minority institutions, seeking certain amendments to

the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill 2010 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 16th April, 2010 incorporating the provision that School Management Committee (SMC) of an aided minority school constituted under section 21 of the RTE Act: shall function in an advisory capacity and further that the SMC of an aided minority school constituted under section 21 will not be required to prepare the School Development Plan under section 22 of the Act.

Commercialisation of education

†*196. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is rapid commercialization of education sector in the country;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Supreme Court of India has also expressed its deep concern over commercialization of certain areas of education sector; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction in this regard and whether Government is committed to check commercialization of education in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) The Government has consistently held the view that education in India is not regarded as a commercial activity and all educational institutions have to be set up in the "not for profit" mode. The National Policy on Education, 1986 (as modified in 1992) encourages non-governmental and voluntary efforts in Education, while preventing the establishment of institutions which intend to commercialize Education. The Policy envisages that in the interest of maintaining standards and for several other valid reasons, the commercialization of technical and professional education will be curbed. An alternative system will be devised to involve private and voluntary efforts in Education, in conformity with accepted norms and goals.

At present, private sector participation exists in the funding and management of educational institutions as long as surplus earned is reasonable and the same is ploughed back for development

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of institution. Several pronouncements of the Supreme Court of India have also cautioned against commercialization of education, even though reasonable surplus for institutional development is permissible. The 11th Plan document as approved by the National Development Council, also mentions the need to further explore private sector initiatives and various forms of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) in the education sector.

The Government has taken several initiatives to curb commercialization of education. Section 13 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 clearly prohibits collection of any capitation fee. As regards higher educational institutions, a legislative proposal namely "The Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill, 2010" has already been introduced in the Parliament.

Implementation of reservation in educational institutions

†*197. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether all private and Government educational institutions of the country are bound to follow the official provisions for granting reservation under Article 15(5) of the Constitution of India; and

(b) the steps taken by Government so far for implementation of reservation in private educational institutions of the country under the 93rd Constitution Amendment Act?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Under Article 15(5) of the Constitution, Parliament as well as State Legislatures are competent to make laws with special provisions for the advancement of the weaker sections of society - the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes - in matters of access to educational institutions, whether aided or unaided by the State, other than the minority educational institutions referred to in clause (1) of article 30. A Central Act, namely, the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006 has already come into force in respect of publicly funded institutions coming under the purview of the Central Government.

Wider consultations are required to evolve consensus or a workable mechanism for drafting an appropriate legislation for other institutions coming under the purview of the Central Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Electrification of railway line from New Alipurduar to Dibrugarh

*198. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal for electrification of the railway line from New Alipurduar to Dibrugarh;

(b) if so, the details of the budget provisions and the expected date of completion of the project; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) The sanctioned project of electrification of Barauni-Katihar-Guwahati section, includes electrification of rail line from New Alipurduar to Guwahati at present.

(b) and (c) Rs.59.22 crores have been allotted to this work during 2010-11 and the project is targeted for completion by March, 2013.

Irregularities in distribution and smuggling of fertilizers

*199. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received reports regarding irregularities in the distribution of fertilizers in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received any reports of smuggling of fertilizers from India to neighbouring countries during the last year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to check such irregularities and make fertilizers available to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M.K. ALAGIRI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No such reports of any irregularities in distribution of fertilizers have been received from the State Governments.

(c) and (d) There are reports of smuggling of fertilizers from India to neighboring 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 from India to other neighboring countries through land and sea routes.

Similarly Union Home Ministry has also alerted Border guarding forces viz., Border Security Force (BSF). Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Assam Rifles and Sashastra Seema Bal and Coast Guard to maintain strict vigilance on the borders to curb smuggling of fertilizers. Further Ministry of Home Affairs has also addressed the Chief Secretaries of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar Gujarat, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal to sensitize the authorities concerned to curb the smuggling of fertilizers into the neighboring countries.

(e) The State Governments, as the enforcement agencies, are adequately empowered under Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 to take appropriate action against any offender who indulges in any kind of malpractices including black marketing. State Government can also initiate action under para 3 of the Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1973 - against smuggling/illegal export of fertilizers.

Further, the following steps are being taken to make fertilizers available to the farmers:

- (i) Each state in consultation with the fertilizer suppliers is required to prepare monthly supply plan district wise within overall availability at state level for ensuring availability of fertilizers in all parts of the state;
- (ii) The movement of fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertiliser Monitoring System (FMS).
- (iii) All possible steps are taken by the Department of Fertilisers to match the availability of fertilizers with the assessed requirement.

- (iv) As per provisions contained in para 4 of FCO, 1985 - Every dealer, who makes or offers to make a retail sale of any fertilizer, shall prominently display in his place of business - a list of price or rates of such fertilizers fixed under Clause 3 of FCO and for the time being in force.
- (v) The state governments have been advised (i) to instruct the State Institutional agencies to 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;
- (vi) The Government has introduced a Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy in respect of Phosphatic & Potassic fertilizers w.e.f. 1.4.2010. 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;
- (vii) Under NBS, Fertilizer companies are required to print Maximum Retail Price (MRP) along with applicable subsidy on the fertilizer bags clearly. Any sale above the printed net retail price will be punishable under the EC Act.
- (viii) The resources available for production of fertilizers like Urea, DAP & 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 & 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.

Targets for freight loading

*200. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the targets for freight loading for the current financial year;

(b) whether it is a fact that the revised freight loading targets for the current financial year are unlikely to be met; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) The freight loading target for the current financial year i.e. 2010-11 has been fixed at 944 million tonnes which is 6.31 per cent more than the last year.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Excessive use of pesticides

1331. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the potential hazards of the excessive use of pesticides in agriculture;

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to minimize the adverse effects of farm chemicals; and

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to make the manufacturers liable to pay compensation and damages to the affected due to the wrong practices of the manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Keeping in view potential hazards of excessive use of chemical; pesticides, Government of India has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as main plank of plant protection strategy in the country. Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has established 31 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) for pest/disease monitoring, production and release of bio-control agents/bio-pesticides, conservation of bio-control agents etc. and human resource development in IPM by organizing Farmers' Field Schools (FFSs). Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has also set up National Centre for Integrated Pest Management (NCIPM) in New Delhi for research and development of IPM technologies which minimize the use of chemical pesticides.

(c) Yes, Sir. Provision has been made in the Pesticides Management Bill, 2008 to make the manufacturers liable to pay compensation to the affected farmer or person if the pesticide fails to provide the expected performance or causes any harm.

Suicide by farmers

1332. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that suicide by farmers is still continuing in several parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof with a Statewise list for last three years;

(c) whether Government has been conducting some rehabilitation programme for farmers in suicide-prone districts;

(d) if so, the details thereof, districtwise;

(e) whether the number of suicides of farmers has come down in those districts where the rehabilitation programmes were conducted; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Number of suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons in various States, as reported by the respective State Governments, during last three years, is given in Statement-I (See below).

(c) and (d) From 2006, the Government of India is implementing a Rehabilitation Package involving financial outlay of Rs. 16978.69 crore for 31 suicide prone districts comprising 16 districts in Andhra Pradesh, 6 districts in Karnataka, 3 districts in Kerala and 6 districts in Maharashtra. List of these 31 districts is given in Annexure-II. An amount of Rs. 18136.59 crore has been released under this package till 31st March, 2010. The Package also includes ex-gratia assistance from Prime Minister's National Relief Fund @ Rs.50 lakh per district for the distressed families of the deceased farmer. The package is being implemented over a period of 3 years and includes both immediate and medium term measures with an aim of establishing a sustainable and viable farming and livelihood support system through debt relief to farmers, improved supply of institutional credit, crop centric approach to agriculture, assured irrigation facilities, watershed management, better extension and farming support services and subsidiary income opportunities through horticulture, livestock, dairying, fisheries etc. The implementation of the non credit components of the package has been extended by 2 more years i.e. 30th September, 2011.

(e) and (f) The number of suicides due to agrarian reasons, as reported by the respective State Governments, in the districts where the rehabilitation package is being implemented is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of number of suicide by farmers during the last three years due to agrarian reasons as reported by State Governments

Sl.No. report)	Name of the State	Period No.	(Date of suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2007	504

1	2	3	4
		2009 (03.08.2010)	246
2.	Karnataka	2007-08	182
		2008-09	154
		2009-10 (05.08.2010)	114
3.	Maharashtra	2007	590
		2008	627
		2009	503
4.	Kerala	2007	68
		2008	22
		2009	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	25.05.2010	Nil
10.	Bihar	23.07.2010	Nil
11.	Chhattisgarh	21.07.2010	Nil

1	2	3	4
12.	Goa	04.05.2010	Nil
13.	Haryana	29.07.2010	Nil
14.	Himachal Pradesh	10.03.2010	Nil
15.	J&K	28.07.2010	Nil
16.	Jharkhand	18.06.2010	Nil
17.	Manipur	23.03.2010	Nil
18.	Meghalaya	28.07.2010	Nil
19.	Madhya Pradesh	22.03.2010	Nil
20.	Mizoram	05.02.2010	Nil
21.	Nagaland	05.05.2010	Nil
22.	Orissa	26.07.2010	Nil
23.	Rajasthan	17.05.2010	Nil
24.	Sikkim	29.07.2010	Nil
25.	Tripura	26.07.2010	Nil
26.	Uttar Pradesh	03.05.2010	Nil
27.	Uttarakhand	09.03.2010	Nil
28.	West Bengal	06.05.2010	Nil
29.	Andaman & Nicobar	05.03.2010	Nil
30.	Govt. of NCT of Delhi	29.07.2010	Nil
31.	Daman & Diu	05.03.2010	Nil
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	22.03.2010	Nil
33.	Lakshadweep	12.03.2010	Nil
34.	Puducherry	24.03.2010	Nil
35.	Chandigarh	29.07.2010	Nil

Statement-II

*Farmers' Suicide due to agrarian reasons in the 31 Districts
Identified for Rehabilitation Package*

Sl. No.	Andhra Pradesh	2007	2008	2009
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Adilabad	48	12	09
2.	Ananthapur	89	83	37
3.	Chittoor	24	15	08
4.	Kadapa	26	20	10
5.	Guntur	22	26	01
6.	Karimnagar	56	62	40
7.	Khammam	60	12	02
8.	Kurnool	87	62	45
9.	Mahabubnagar	30	27	14
10.	Medak	24	20	21
11.	Nellore	02	02	03
12.	Nizamabad	16	07	10
13.	Nalgonda	10	34	16
14.	Prakasam	10	08	01
15.	Ranga Reddy	21	22	19
16.	Warangal	24	11	02
	Maharashtra	2007	2008	2009
17.	Akola	51	79	87
18.	Amaravati	75	65	43

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Buldhana	42	47	39
20.	Washim	24	32	25
21.	Yavatmal	103	77	37
22.	Wardha	43	15	24
	Karnataka	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
23.	Hassan	09	17	10
24.	Chickmagalore	20	16	04
25.	Shimoga	03	0	09
26.	Kodagu	09	05	05
27.	Belgaum	13	14	05
28.	Chitradurga	14	10	08
	Kerala	2007	2008	2009
29.	Palakkad	05	06	Nil
30.	Wayanad	30	Nil	Nil
31.	Kasargod	02	09	02

Inclusion of more districts under NFSM

1333. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Food Security Mission (NFSM) which was initiated in 2007 aims to increase the production of rice, wheat and pulses by 20 million tonnes per year;

(b) if so, the increased production of rice, wheat and pulses in 2007, 2008, 2009, year-wise and item-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that NFSM is being implemented only in 312 districts in 17 States;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of districts that are going to be added under NFSM in 2010-11 and by when the remaining districts are going to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Food Security Mission (NFSM) was launched with effect from rabi, 2007-08 with an aim to achieve additional production of rice, wheat and pulses by 20 million tonnes by the end of Eleventh Five Year Plan (2011-12) i.e. rice by 10 million tonnes, wheat by 8 million tonnes and pulses by 2 million tonnes.

The focused and target oriented technological interventions under NFSM have made a significant impact since its inception which is reflected by the fact that during the year 2006-07, the production of rice was recorded at 93.35 million tonnes which increased to 96.69 million tonnes during 2007-08 and to 99.18 million tonnes during 2008-09 showing an increase of 5.83 million tonnes over the production of 2006-07 i.e. prior to inception of the scheme of NFSM. As per the 4th advance estimate of 2009-10, the production of Rice is estimated at 89.13 million tonnes. The reduction in production during 2009-10 was due to drought conditions that prevailed during kharif, 2009 in most parts of the country.

Similarly, the situation is promising in case of Wheat, wherein its production during 2006-07 was recorded at 75.81 million tonnes which increased to 78.57 million tonnes during 2007-08 and 80.68 million tonnes during 2008-09 showing an increase of 4.87 million tonnes over the production of 2006-07 i.e. prior to inception of the scheme of NFSM. As per the 4th advance estimate of 2009-10, the wheat production is estimated at 80.71 million tonnes i.e. an increase of 4.9 million tonnes over the production of 2006-07.

As regards Pulses, the production was recorded at 14.20 million tonnes during 2006-07 which had increased to the level of 14.76 million tonnes during 2007-08. Although during 2008-09, marginally low production of pulses was recorded at 14.57 million tonnes, yet it was higher than the production of 2006-07. As per the 4th advance estimate of 2009-10, the production of pulses was estimated at 14.59 million tonnes.

(c) to (e) The districts under NFSM have been identified based on

certain criteria *i.e.* for NFSM-Rice, those districts which have more than 50,000 ha area under rice and productivity is less

than the State's average productivity, were identified; for NFSM-Wheat, the districts in which irrigation coverage under wheat was more than 50% and productivity less than State's average, were identified. The districts for implementation of NFSM-Pulses were selected based on the existing large area under pulses, potential for area expansion through inter-cropping and utilization of rice fallows.

Presently, NFSM-Rice is being implemented in 138 identified districts of 14 States. NFSM-Wheat is under implementation in 141 identified districts of 9 States. After merger of pulses component of ISOPOM with NFSM from the year 2010-11, the NFSM-Pulses has been extended to all district of 14 States. In addition, NFSM-Pulses is also being implemented in 10 identified districts of Assam and 15 identified districts of Jharkhand from the year 2010-11.

Impact of rainfall on food production

1334. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that experts have predicted below normal rainfall this year;

(b) if so, whether Government has assessed its impact on food production;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has worked out any contingency plan to meet shortage, if any, of cereals for supply at fair prices and also to take care of farmers plight; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Based on the first long range (as on 23.04.2010) forecast issued by Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), the rainfall during South-West Monsoon in the country as a whole is likely to be normal; i.e. quantitatively 98% of Long Period Average (LPA), with a model error of +5%. As per the 2nd revised forecast issued on 25.6.2010 the rainfall in the country as a whole is likely to be 102% of LPA with a model error of +4%.

South West Monsoon rainfall is precious for agriculture production in India as nearly 65% of Indian Agriculture is rain fed or depends on rain. Good rainfall in this season would positively influence the area of sowing under food grain crops and subsequently the food grain production. This is evident from the increased area sown under food grain crops during the Kharif 2010 i.e. 466.67 lakh ha so far (30.07.2010) compared to 426.94 lakh ha during the corresponding period of 2009 and 453.72 lakh ha in the year 2008.

(d) and (e) Contingent crop plan for three different scenarios of the monsoon like less rainfall, normal rainfall and excess rainfall has been prepared and issued to all State Governments for implementation as per the requirement of the state.

Under Public Distribution System it is mandated to help both the producers and consumers of food grains by linking procurement and their distribution at affordable prices.

Estimated production of foodgrains

1335. SHRI K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether foodgrains production is likely to be normal this year;
- (b) if so, the estimated production;
- (c) if not, the likely deficiency;
- (d) whether any foodgrains are likely to be imported in case of deficiency; and
- (e) if so, the strategy prepared therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) As per preliminary information on the trends in area coverage under Kharif crops received from State Governments during 2010-11, the area covered under Kharif foodgrains as on 30th July, 2010 is about 9% higher than the area coverage during the corresponding period of last year. Under Normal conditions, higher area coverage is expected to result in higher production of foodgrains in the country.

(d) and (e) At present level of allocations under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other Welfare Schemes and based on the procurement of foodgrains during the last two years and in the current year, the availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool is likely to be sufficient and there may not be any need to import foodgrains during the current.

Encouragement to farmers for cultivation of pulses and oilseeds

1336. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to raise Minimum Support Price (MSP) for pulses and oilseeds to encourage farmers to expand the area under cultivation for these crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is importing pulses at a higher price than that given to our farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of Kharif Pulses and Oilseeds for 2010-11 season have been increased over the respective MSPs for 2009-10 season. The MSPs of kharif pulses and oilseeds for 2009-10 and 2010-11 season are given below:

Commodity	(Rs. per quintal)	
	2009-10	2010-11
Arhar (Tur)	2300	3000
Moong	2760	3170
Urad	2520	2900
Groundnut-in-shell	2100	2300
Sunflower seed	2215	2350
Soyabean		
Black	1350	1400

Yellow	1390	1440
Sesamum	2850	2900
Nigerseed	2405	2450

For Kharif pulses of 2010-11 season, an additional incentive is also available at Rs.5/- per Kg for Tur, Urad and Moong sold to procurement agencies during the harvest/arrival period of 2 months.

(c) and (d) MSPs are in the nature of minimum guaranteed price to safeguard the interest of farmers. The farmers are, however, free to sell their produce in the open market in case the market prices rule above the MSP. Domestic market prices of pulses are ruling much higher than the MSP. Imports were undertaken at prices lower than the domestic market prices.

Self Help Groups for farmers

1337. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Commission on Farmers has suggested for mobilization and organization of farmers into Self Help Groups (SHGs);

(b) if so, the details thereof particularly in Andhra Pradesh, how many farmer's SHGs are formed;

(c) whether Government has included such suggestion in the National Agriculture Policy;

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

(e) whether any funds are given for farmers' NGOs in 2009-10?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) The National Commission on Farmers (NCF), made a mention of the Self Help Groups (SHGs) in the context of their role in issues like food security, credit, seeds, water and soil management, marketing, group farming, live stock production, fisheries etc. The NCF has also submitted a Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers along with its fifth and final report which is based on the work done and recommendations made by the NCF since its formation. After consulting the Central Ministries/Departments concerned and the States/UTs, the Government has approved the National Policy of Farmers (NPF) 2007 which incorporated all the suggestions made by NCF in its Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers in so far as they relate to SHGs.

The NPF 2007 provides for - (i) Encouragement and support to SHGs to

maintain pedigree animals of Indian breeds of cattle and buffaloes for exploiting export opportunities; (ii) Provide

foundation seed of new varieties to SHGs; (iii) Train SHGs in induced fish seed breeding, production and availability of seed and fish seed feed; (iv) Put in place appropriate mechanisms so that farmers have greater control of the market channels and improve profit opportunities through SHGs; (vi) Support SHGs to export on competitive terms by spreading awareness of the opportunities available for external agricultural trade and for value addition; (vii) Promote SHGs at the production end of the farming enterprise by encouraging groups for consolidating farming activities and also for improving access to credit; and (viii) Associate SHGs in Farmers' companies registered under the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2002 as stakeholders and not just as shareholders.

As per the information provided by the State Government, 227838 nos. of Rythu Mitra Groups, with small, marginal and tenant farmers as members, have been formed in Andhra Pradesh. Further, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) "Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms" popularly known as ATMA Scheme, 1258 Farmer Interest Groups (FIGs) have been mobilized in Andhra Pradesh, during the last 5 years. The corresponding figure for FIGs in the entire country is 56133.

The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has no scheme for providing funds directly to farmers' NGOs.

Allocation of funds under Intensive Dairy Development Programme

†1338. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds are not being released in time by Government under the Intensive Dairy Development Programme; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No Sir. Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Impact of climate change on agricultural productivity

1339. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been unable to properly address the impact of climate change on the agriculture and food sectors;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether agriculture and food experts have observed that the agricultural productivity and food availability in the country is likely to fall due to climate change in the next few years; and

(d) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to adopt improved methods to increase agricultural productivity, in view of the threat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture had launched a "National Network Project on Climate Change (NNPCC)" during X Five Year Plan with the objective to study the impact of climate change on agriculture and food sectors including livestock, fisheries, horticulture and forestry at different locations spread across the country. The assessment of climate change and its impact on Indian agriculture is an on-going process and NNPCC is continuing in the present Plan period also. Though there are no definite and conclusive evidence of the impact of climate change on agricultural productivity, the studies conducted under NNPCC indicate inter annual monsoon rainfall variability and slight change in mean annual temperature, which may affect agricultural production in future. The study also reveals that increase in temperature reduces crop duration, increases crop respiration rates, affects the equilibrium between crops and pests, hastens nutrient mineralization in soils, decreases fertilizer use efficiencies, and increases evapo-transpiration. The increase in Carbon Dioxide is beneficial for several crops such as wheat, rice, legumes and oilseeds. However, crops such as maize, jowar, bajra and sugarcane do not benefit from increase in Carbon Dioxide.

(d) With a view to enhance the agricultural productivity, sustaining foodgrain production and to address the various issues relating to

climate change adaptation and mitigation
in the agriculture and food sectors, Government of India, Ministry of
Agriculture has intensified the

implementation of various programmes/schemes, namely; Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana(RKVY), Micro Irrigation (MI) etc.

Sale of fake seeds

1340. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of sale of substandard or fake seeds have been detected in the last five years, State-wise;

(b) the companies involved in the sale of such seeds;

(c) the action taken against those companies;

(d) the size of the organized seeds market in the country; and

(e) the percentage of farmers buying branded seeds from the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The information regarding sale of sub-standard seeds is given in Statement-I to V (See below). As regards sale of fake seeds, no such cases have been reported except by Punjab, Haryana and Andhra Pradesh. Punjab has reported the sale of supply of spurious hybrid Bt Cotton during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08. No report of selling/supplying of spurious seed of Bt Cotton has been received thereafter from Punjab. FIRs against 11 dealers have been registered and prosecution has been initiated in the competent court. Government of Andhra Pradesh reported a few cases during kharif 2009 by some unscrupulous elements against whom suitable action has been taken. Government of Haryana has reported 5 cases of sale of fake Bt Cotton seed during Kharif 2010 and FIRs have been lodged.

It is further stated that the States are empowered to take action in such cases at their level. Adequate provisions are available under Seeds Act, 1966, Seeds Rule, 1968 and Seeds (Control) Order, 1983 to curb the sale of fake/inferior seeds. Further, the Inspectors notified under relevant provisions of these legal instruments have powers to draw the samples, seize the stock and issue 'Stop Sale order' in case the

commodities under reference contravene the provisions of law.

(d) and (e) Both public & private sector produce & sell seeds in India. According to Industry estimate the total size of the Seed Industry is about Rs.7500 crores.

Statement-I

Progress Report of Seed Law Enforcement during 2005-06

Sl.No	State	Total No.	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	
No. of	of samples	samples	cases in	cases	cases	cases	cases	cases	
	drawn	found	which	stop sale	filed in	decided by	pending	where seed	
		sub-	warning	order	the Court	Court of	Court	forefieted	
		standard	issued	issued	of Law	Law fine/ imprisonment awarded	of Law		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Andhra Pradesh	10107	231	16	5	101	7	94	2
2	Assam	Nil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Andaman	Nil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Arunachal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Bihar	901	113	17	-	-	-	-	-
6	Chhattisgarh	1352	16	14	36	-	-	-	-
7	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

8	Delhi	125	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
9	Dadra & Nagar	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Diu & Daman	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Gujarat	4205	208	18	46	19	15	4	-
12	Goa	308	-	Nil	-	-	-	-	-
13	Haryana	3140	166	21	3	-	-	-	-
14	Himachal Pradesh	501	-	Nil	-	-	-	-	-
15	Jammu & Kashmir	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Jharkhand	-	195	20	20	-	-	-	-
17	Karnataka	6807	166	-	-	8	-	-	-
18	Kerala	50	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Lakshadweep	Nil	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	Madhya Pradesh	4001	337	232	252	2	1	1	-
21	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
22	Maharashtra	9011	301	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Mizoram	1010	135	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Orissa	1501	455	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	Punjab	2503	305	-	-	-	-	-	-
28	puducherry	210	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	Rajasthan	3311	131	38	38	13	13	-	0
30	Sikkim	1240	21	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	Tamil Nadu	16620	1290	1501	1555	295	137	163	6
32	Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	Uttar Pradesh	325	1	51	57	12	8	4	-
34	Uttarakhand	30015	391	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	West Bengal	2801	51	762	835	-	-	-	-

Statement-II

Progress Report of Seed Law Enforcement during 2006-07

Sl.No	State	Total No.	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	
No. of	of samples	samples	cases in	cases	cases	cases	cases	cases	
	drawn	found	which	stop sale	filed in	decided by	pending	where seed	
		sub-	warning	order	the Court	Court of	Court	forefieted	
		standard	issued	issued	of Law	Law fine/ imprisonment awarded	of Law		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	
1	Andhra Pradesh	20887	727	-	-	85	-	77	2
2	Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Andaman	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Arunachal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Bihar	901	193	17	-	-	-	-	-
6	Chandigarh (U.T.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7	Chhattisgarh	1263	34	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Delhi	188	11	1	-	11	02	23	-
9	Dadra & Nagar Haveli (U.T.)-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Diu & Daman (U.T.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Gujarat	3141	107	41	-	8	19	12	-
12	Goa	405	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Haryana	2964	77	1	8	-	22	-	-
14	Himachal Pradesh	1033	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Jammu & Kashmir	918	16	16	16	16	16	-	-
16	Jharkhand	810	95	20	20	-	-	-	-
17	Karnataka	7012	41	21	21	-	-	-	-
18	Kerala	564	93	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	Madhya Pradesh	4039	1081	843	843	-	-	-	-

21	Maharashtra	11939	326	226	902	78	78	322	36
22	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	Nagaland	923	135	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Orissa	1544	149	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	Punjab	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28	Pondicherry (U.T)	260	20	7	-	-	-	-	-
29	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	Tamil Nadu	9400	794	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	Uttar Pradesh	4418	159	94	-	-	-	-	-
34	Uttarakhand	389	5	3	2	2	-	-	-
35.	West Bengal	3121	90	210					

Statement-III

Progress Report of Seed Law Enforcement during 2007-08

Sl.No		State	Total No.	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of
	No. of								
		of samples	samples	cases in	cases	cases	cases	cases	cases
		drawn	found	which	stop sale	filed in	decided by	pending	where seed
			sub-	warning	order	the Court	Court of	Court	forefieted
			standard	issued	issued	of Law	Law fine/ imprisonment awarded	of Law	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Andhra Pradesh	15581	661	17	5	102	-	99	1
2	Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Andaman	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Arunachal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Bihar	910	25	18	-	-	-	-	-
6	Chandigarh (U.T.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Chhattisgarh	884	42	-	-	-	-	-	-

8	Delhi	125	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
9	Dadra & Nagar Haveli (U.T.)-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Diu & Daman (U.T.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Gujarat	3096	33	9	-	26	10	16	-
12	Goa	932	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Haryana	3155	35	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Himachal Pradesh	509	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	Karnataka	6967	58	23	3	-	-	-	-
18	Kerala	51	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	Madhya Pradesh	3998	732	732	-	-	-	-	
21	Maharashtra	10763	185	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
23	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Mizoram	1001	125	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Orissa	1501	425	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	Punjab	7504	1809	139	-	-	-	5	-
28	Puducherry (U.T.)	203	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	Rajasthan	-	-	15	-	-	-	124	-
30	Sikkim	1205	17	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	Tamil Nadu	27950	1430	483	1155	402	242	160	-
32	Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	Uttar Pradesh	3755	68	23	7	5	2	2	-
34	Uttarakhand	337	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35.	West Bengal	3031	418	887	863	-	-	-	485

Statement-IV

Progress Report of Seed Law Enforcement during 2008-09

Sl.No	State	Total No.	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	
No. of	of samples	samples	cases in	cases	cases	cases	cases	cases	
	drawn	found	which	stop sale	filed in	decided by	pending	where seed	
		sub-	warning	order	the Court	Court of	Court	forefieted	
		standard	issued	issued	of Law	Law fine/ imprisonment awarded	of Law		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	
1	Andhra Pradesh	14570	579	17	4	105	-	91	2
2	Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Andaman	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Arunachal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	Chandigarh (U.T.)	709	21	17	-	-	-	-	
7	Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8	Delhi	110	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Dadra & Nagar Haveli (U.T.)-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Diu & Daman (U.T.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Gujarat	3011	32	19	-	5	-	5	-
12	Goa	891	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Haryana	3205	33	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Himachal Pradesh	479	-	-	-	-	-	-	
15	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	Karnataka	7015	67	52	5	-	-	-	-
18	Kerala	51	4	-	-	-	-	-	
19	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	Madhya Pradesh	3693	750	750	-	-	-	-	-
21	Maharashtra	1107	187	-	-	-	-	-	-

22	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Mizoram	1005	127	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Orissa	1607	455	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	Punjab	7571	1810	176	-	-	-	7	-
28	Puducherry(U.T)	205	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	Rajasthan	-	-	17	-	-	-	124	-
30	Sikkim	1205	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	Tamil Nadu	26878	1450	501	905	407	241	152	-
32	Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	Uttar Pradesh	3951	91	23	6	5	2	2	-
34	Uttarakhand	401	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35.	West Bengal	3009	421	512	507	-	-	-	509

Statement-V

Progress Report of Seed Law Enforcement during 2009-2010 (Tentative)

Sl.No	State	Total No.	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	No. of	
No. of	of samples	samples	cases in	cases	cases	cases	cases	cases	
	drawn	found	which	stop sale	filed in	decided by	pending	where seed	
		sub-	warning	order	the Court	Court of	Court	forefieted	
		standard	issued	issued	of Law	Law fine/ imprisonment awarded	of Law		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	
1	Andhra Pradesh	11209	232	15	7	97	7	97	3
2	Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Andaman	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Arunachal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Bihar	887	195	16	-	-	-	-	-
6	Chandigarh (U.T.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Chhattisgarh	1325	37	-	-	-	-	-	-

8	Delhi	191	12	2	-	10	2	21	-
9	Dadra & Nagar Haveli (U.T.)-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Diu & Daman (U.T.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Gujarat	3211	109	42	-	7	18	13	-
12	Goa	417	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Haryana	2897	490	1	8	-	21	-	-
14	Himachal Pradesh	1122	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Jammu & Kashmir	921	15	15	-	8	-	8	-
16	Jharkhand	811	97	20	20	-	-	-	-
17	Karnataka	7081	59	23	3	-	-	-	-
18	Kerala	712	98	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-		
20	Madhya Pradesh	4197	1077	841	-	-	-	-	-
21	Maharashtra	11967	401	401	902	77	77	311	35
22	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
23	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	Nagaland	917	133	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	Orissa	1579	151	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	Punjab	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28	Puducherry (U.T)	261	20	7	-	-	-	-	-
29	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	Tamil Nadu	9409	795	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	Uttar Pradesh	4439	161	93	-	-	-	-	-
34	Uttarakhand	397	5	2	2	2	-	-	-
35.	West Bengal	3127	91	211	-	-	-	-	-

Alkalinity and salinity in soil

1341. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether alkalinity and salinity in soil has increased due to imbalanced and indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers and unscientific use of soil and water resources in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government has ever assessed the alkalinity and salinity of soil in various States;

(c) if so, the details thereof with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh;

(d) how integrated nutrients management programme helps in reducing the alkalinity and salinity and increase organic farming in the country;

(e) whether there is any other programme, particularly to reduce alkalinity and salinity, being implemented by Government; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir. Alkalinity and Salinity in the soil has increased mainly due to imbalanced and indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers, excessive use of irrigation water coupled with low addition of organic matter, micro and secondary nutrients over the years in many parts of the country.

(b) and (c) As estimated by Indian Council of Agricultural Research, an area of about 6.73 million ha. is affected by Alkalinity/Salinity across the country which includes about 0.27 million ha. in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The State-wise details are given in Statement (See below).

(d) Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture is promoting Integrated Nutrient Management through balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with organic manures for improving soil health and its productivity under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility (NPMSHF) in the country. The components of NPMSHF scheme include setting up of Static Soil Testing Laboratories, strengthening the existing Soil Testing

Laboratories, setting up mobile soil testing laboratories, promoting organic manures, soil amendments in acidic soils and distribution of micro-nutrients, setting up of new fertilizer quality control laboratories and strengthening the existing fertilizer quality control laboratories.

(e) and (f) Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture is also implementing a Centrally Sponsored Programme on Reclamation and Development of Alkali and Acid Soils (RADAS) through Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) Scheme, across the country. The programme aims at reclamation and development of area affected by alkalinity and acidity by application of soil amendments followed by green manuring and scientific cropping partem and crop rotation.

Statement

State-wise extent of area affected by Alkalinity /Salinity in India

(Area in lakh ha.)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Extent of area affected by Alkalinity/Salinity
1	Andhra Pradesh	2.74
2	Andaman & Nicobar Island	0.77
3	Bihar	1.53
4	Gujarat	22.21
5	Haryana	2.33
6	Karnataka	1.50
7	Kerala	0.20
8	Madhya Pradesh	1.40
9	Maharashtra	6.07
10	Orissa	1.47
11	Punjab	1.52
12	Rajasthan	3.75
13	Tamil Nadu	3.68
14	Uttar Pradesh	13.69
15	West Bengal	4.41
Grand Total (Lakh ha)		67.27
Grand Total (Million ha)		6.73

Source: Central Soil Salinity Research Institute (CSSRI), Karnal, Haryana National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), Hyderabad and National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land

Use Planning (NBSS&LUP), Nagpur.

Organic farming

†1342. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incentive schemes are being run by Government for development of organic farming in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of amount sanctioned and released under above-mentioned schemes, State-wise and proposal-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Under National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) incentives are provided for establishment of organic inputs production units, awareness creation and publicity etc. Incentives are also provided for development of organic farming under other schemes like Rashtriya Krishi Vikash Yojana (RKVY) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM). The details of fund released scheme-wise and State-wise during 2009-10 are given in Statement (See below).

Statement

*State wise fund release under various schemes for
Organic Farming during 2009-10*

S.No.	Name of the State	Fund release under various schemes (Rs. in lakh)		
		NPOF	NHM	RKVY
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	306.00	-
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	5.00
3	Assam	-	-	129.29
4	Bihar	-	169.83	1808.86
5	Chhattisgarh	-	901.00	875.00
6	Delhi	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
7	Goa	3.00	5.10	-
8	Gujarat	-	66.97	293.91
9	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	310.52
10	Haryana	-	274.64	-
11	Jharkhand	-	25.50	-
12	Karnataka	8.00	752.25	763.00
13	Kerala	1.00	-	-
14	Madhya Pradesh	-	488.75	-
15	Maharashtra	-	1.28	-
16	Orissa	-	89.25	104.44
17	Punjab	-	637.50	-
18	Rajasthan	28.08	105.23	2272.00
19	Sikkim	-	-	835.00
20	Tripura			40.00
21	Tamilnadu	-	23.71	-
22	Uttrakhand			1151.34
23	Uttar Pradesh	-	152.24	-
24	West Bengal	-	-	977.55
25	Central Agency: NPC, Delhi	9.00	-	-
TOTAL		49.08	3999.25	9565.87

Quality education and aid for Madarsas

1343. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to declare a scheme for providing quality education in Madarsas;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) how many Madarsas have been granted financial aid in the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) "Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarsas" (SPQEM) is already in existence with effect from October 2008.

(c) State wise number of Madrasas provided financial assistance during the last 3 years, is as follows:-

(Rs. in lakhs)							
Sl.	State	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
No.		No. of Madarsas	Amount released	No. of Madarsas	Amount released	No. of Madarsas	Amount released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	81	48.60	73	39.6		
2	Assam	-	-	500	360		
3	Bihar	111	79.92	-	-		
4	J&K	-	-	-	-		
5	Orissa	145	104.4	151	108.72		
6	Madhya Pradesh	889	75.11	979	350.64	329	561.35
7	Maharashtra	-	-	4	2.87		
8	Kerala	-	-	425	291.03		
9	Tripura	127	45.72	127	45.72	129	374.18

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	Uttar Pradesh	4178	3010.54	3217	4479.3	1356	3190.47
11	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	-		
12	Chattisgarh	-	-	191	112.92		
13	Chandigarh	-	-	1	0.36		
14	Karnataka	-	-	-	-		
15	Uttarakhand	-	-	-	-		
16	Jharkhand	5531	3364.29	5668	5791.1	164	497.18

Comparative production of rabi and Kharif crops

1344. SHRI K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rabi production this year was as per the targets;

(b) if not, the details thereof, and

(c) how does the rabi production compare with the Kharif production this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Against the target of 113.95 million tonnes, total production of foodgrains during Rabi 2009-10 is estimated at 114.36 million tonnes (4th Advance Estimates). The details of estimated production of major crops during Rabi and Kharif seasons along with the targets for Rabi 2009-10 are given in the table below:

(Million Tonnes)

Crop	Targets Rabi Production	Estimated Rabi Production	Estimated Kharif Production
1	2	3	4
Rice	14.50	13.22	75.91
Wheat	79.00	80.71	-
Coarse Cereals	10.45	10.14	23.63
Pulses	10.00	10.29	4.30

1	2	3	4
Foodgrains	113.95	114.36	103.84
Oilseeds	12.20	9.27	15.66
Sugarcane	340.00		277.75
Cotton*	26.00		23.94
Jute#	10.20		10.70

* Million bales of 170 kg each

Million bales of 180 kg each

Note: Sugarcane, Cotton and Jute are not grown in Rabi season.

Allocation of funds to Jharkhand for green revolution

1345. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allotted to the State of Jharkhand out of Rs. 400 crore earmarked in the budget for the Eastern sector green revolution;

(b) the components of these funding, and

(c) the measures to oversee that these funds are properly utilized and yield the desired results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) Rs. 29.60 crores.

(b) State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) has approved following interventions for being funded out of the funds allotted to the State:

S.No.	Activity	Amount (in lakhs)
1	2	3
1	Construction of irrigation and Rain Water Harvesting structure	617.9
2	Intensive cultivation of rice in 17 non-NFSM (National Food Security Mission) districts	1275.62

1	2	3
3	Intensive Cultivation of Pulses in remaining 9 non-NFSM Pulses districts- slow replacement of upland rice with pulses.	345.32
4	Maize & Wheat Development Programme-MMA (Macro Management of Agriculture) pattern of assistance for maize and wheat for reducing yield gaps.	411.19
5	Soil amendments - basic slag.	240.0
6	Bridging knowledge Gaps/Training	70.27
TOTAL		2960.3

(c) Following arrangements have been made for ensuring proper utilization of funds and getting desired results:-

(i) State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) reviews the implementation of Projects.

(ii) A State Level Monitoring Team (SLMT) has been constituted by the Government of India headed by an Additional Secretary in the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. Other members of this SLMT are Vice Chancellor, Birsa Agriculture University, Ranchi, nominee of Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack and other expert members.

(iii) A District Level Committee has also been set up.

(iv) Other safeguards include audit by CAG and submission of Utilization Certificate by State Government.

Project to enhance production of pulses

†1346. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of shortage of pulses, Indian Council of Agricultural Research has submitted a project to Government for increasing its production;

(b) if so, the time when the project was received by Government and the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government would consider for implementing this important project and the time by when it would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No Sir. This Ministry has not received any project from Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for increasing production of Pulses.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Scheme for rural women employment

1347. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme under which women belonging to rural areas could be employed in animal husbandry and dairy sector; and

(b) if so, the details of those schemes which would be helpful for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Even though under the Departmental schemes, a large number of women are employed, there is no scheme exclusively for women belonging to rural areas.

(b) The Question does not arise.

Functioning of NRAA

†1348. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA);

(b) whether this authority remained indifferent towards unirrigated areas of the country except Bundelkhand;

(c) if so, whether Government has prepared any action plan about widespread functioning of the authority; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) was setup by Government of India in 2006 to ensure

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

holistic and integrated development of Rainfed areas in the country. The Authority is presently serviced by Ministry of Agriculture. An outlay of Rs. 123 Crore has been made for implementation of the activities of the Authority during the XI Plan.

(b) The Authority is providing technical inputs at the policy level for the holistic development of rainfed areas in the country. As far as Bundelkhand region is concerned, the area is basically rainfed and the NRAA has been assigned the responsibility for providing technical support and in monitoring and supervision of the Special Package for drought mitigation in the Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

(c) and (d) The Authority has much broader mandate for sustainable development of rainfed areas of the country. The mandate assigned to NRAA is given in Statement.

Statement

Mandate of National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA)

1. To prepare a perspective plan, outlining the national strategy and road map for holistic and sustainable development of rainfed farming areas.
2. To evolve common guidelines for all schemes of different Ministries including Externally Aided Projects (EAPs) for development of Rainfed / Dry land Farming systems.
3. To coordinate and bring convergence within and among agricultural and wasteland development programmes being implemented in rainfed areas of the country.
4. To identify rainfed areas in different States which need priority attention and prepare watershed development programmes for integrated natural resource management, in consultation with States, focusing on multi dimensional crop, livestock, horticulture, agri-pasture integrated systems and programmes for landless farming communities.
5. To identify gaps in input supply, credit availability, dissemination of appropriate technology and other requirements relevant for development of rainfed areas.

6. To guide the implementing agencies on priority setting and monitor the specific interventions required.
7. To develop plans/programmes for capacity building of Centre/State Government functionaries in rainfed areas.
8. To suggest modalities to strengthen National and State Level Institutions concerned with Rainfed/Dryland areas, and establish institutional linkages with prioritized watersheds.
9. To monitor disbursement of rural credit/ insurance cover/safety net programmes developed for rainfed areas.
10. To set the research agenda including a critical appraisal of on-going programmes and promote diffusion of required knowledge for integrated farming in rainfed areas to district and lower level authorities.
11. To evaluate the effectiveness of completed watersheds and concurrent evaluation of on-going programmes.

NAFED'S assistance to coconut growers

1349. SHRI MOHD ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether NAFED plans a brand push for coconut;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) NAFED has reported that in association with Coconut Development Board (CDB), they have opened an outlet at Cochin on 18th June, 2010 for marketing of coconut and other value added products on trail basis. Initially, it has been planned to market coconut virgin oil, desiccated coconut powder, coconut milk powder, coconut chips, tender coconut water, ball copra etc. These products are being procured from the CDB aided processors, certified by CDB and being sold in their brand name. Depending upon the financial viability of the project, NAFED may launch these products in its own brand, provided the response is encouraging and economically viable.

- (c) Question does not arise.

Suicide by farmers

1350. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether suicides by farmers are taking place;

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

(c) the actual reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to stop such farmers' suicides in each State by giving them incentives to improve the farming?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Details of number of suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons in various States, as reported by the respective State Governments during the last three years, is given in Statement. [Refer to the statement appended to Answer to USQ No. 1332, Part (a) and (b)]

(c) As reported by the State Governments and revealed in some studies conducted earlier, the causes of suicides by farmers are manifold including personal and other reasons. Some of the suicides have been attributed to crop failure, indebtedness, drought and socio-economic reasons. However, the Veeresh Committee (in the context of the Karnataka Farmers' suicide) has rightly concluded that connecting the spate of suicides directly to any single cause would be erroneous. Suicide is strictly a personal decision and the post suicide search for causes gives only circumstantial evidence. Typical social factors like family support, failure of social institutions, habits, alcoholism, social security, introvert nature and intra family problems are some of the critical social issues that have affected the victims to take such an extreme step.

(d) The Government is implementing a Rehabilitation Package covering 31 districts in 4 States i.e. Andhra Pradesh (16), Maharashtra (6), Karnataka (6) and Kerala (3), since the year 2006 to address the problem of agrarian distress. It has been decided by the Government to extend the period for implementation of the non credit components of the Rehabilitation Package by 2 more years i.e. September 30, 2011.

The Government has implemented the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008 benefitting about 3.69 crore farmers involving an estimated amount of Rs.65,318.33 crore. The

Government has also enhanced the interest subvention for timely repayment of crop loans up to Rs. 3 lacs from 1% to 2% for the year 2010-11. Thus, the effective rate of interest for such farmers who repay their loan in time will be 5% p.a.

For the overall development of agriculture and allied sectors, assistance is being provided to farmers through central schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission etc. A sum of Rs 300 crore has been earmarked to organise 60,000 "pulses and oil seed villages" in rain-fed areas during 2010-11 and to provide an integrated intervention for water harvesting, watershed management and soil health, to enhance the productivity of the dry land farming areas. The Government has also amended the Guidelines of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in July, 2009 permitting provision of irrigation facility, horticultural plantation and land development works on land belonging to small and marginal farmers under this Scheme. During the last 5 years, the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of major cereals have been increased substantially.

Construction of cold storages

1351. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cold storages in the country till 2009, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that farmers of States like Assam need more facilities of cold storages and there is growing demand of facilities of cold storages in places like Barpeta Road, Kharupetia etc. where plenty of vegetables are grown every year; and

(c) if so, the details of plan of Government to promote construction of more cold storages with at least 90 per cent Government subsidy for backward States like Assam?

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 31st December, 2009 is given in Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Assistance is provided under various schemes for construction of cold storages in the States including Assam. Under

the scheme of Horticulture Mission for North East and

Himalayan States, back-ended capital investment subsidy is provided for creation/modernization/expansion of cold storage/controlled atmosphere storages @50% of the cost of project with a cost ceiling of Rs.6000/MT up to 5000 MT capacity for cold storages and a cost ceiling of Rs.32000/MT for 5000 MT capacity for Controlled Atmospheric storages.

National Horticulture Board is also implementing a scheme 'Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Expansion/Modernization of Cold Storages and Storages for 'Horticulture Produce', under which credit linked back-ended subsidy is provided @40% of the capital cost of project in general areas and @55% of the capital cost in case of Hilly and Scheduled Areas for a maximum storage capacity of 5000 MT per project.

There is no plan of Government to promote construction of more cold storages with at least 90 per cent Government subsidy for backward States like Assam.

Statement

Statewise details of cold storages in the country as on 31/12/2009

Sl. No.	State/ UT	Total No.	Total capacity (in MT)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UT)	02	210
2.	Andhra Pradesh	290	900606
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	01	5000
4.	Assam	24	88068
5.	Bihar	246	1147041
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	06	12216
7.	Chattisgarh	69	341885
8.	Delhi	95	126158
9.	Gujarat	398	1267304
10.	Goa	29	7705

1	2	3	4
11.	Haryana	244	393121
12.	Himachal Pradesh	18	19858
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	19	42869
14.	Jharkhand	45	170148
15.	Kerala	193	58105
16.	Karnataka	170	407165
17.	Lakshadweep (UT)	01	15
18.	Maharashtra	466	546748
19.	Madhya Pradesh	197	808052
20.	Meghalaya	03	3200
21.	Nagaland	02	6150
22.	Orissa	101	291039
23.	Pudducherry (UT)	03	85
24.	Punjab	422	1345193
25.	Rajasthan	110	324226
26.	Sikkim	01	2000
27.	Tamil Nadu	148	238536
28.	Tripura	11	29450
29.	Uttar Pradesh	1589	10118000
30.	Uttarakhand	15	68499
31.	West Bengal	463	5682000
TOTAL :		5381	24450652

Development of horticulture

†1352. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the details of funds allocated to various States particularly to Orissa for the development of horticulture during last three years;

(b) the details of proposals pending with Government in this regard pertaining to various States and particularly to Orissa; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for the development of horticulture in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz (i) Technology Mission for Integrated Horticulture Development for North Eastern and Himalayan States (TMNE) which has been renamed as Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and (ii) National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in remaining States and Union Territories for the holistic development of horticulture sector in the Country by adopting an area based regionally differentiated cluster approach.

Under both the schemes, funds are provided to the States for development of horticulture based on Annual Action Plan (AAP) and AAP 2010-11 for all the States including Orissa have already been approved. No proposal relating to AAP including Orissa is pending.

State-wise details of financial assistance provided to various States under NHM & HMNEH schemes including Orissa during each of last three years and allocation for current year is given in Statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

Statement-I

State-wise details of Funds Released under National Horticulture Mission during 2007-08 to 2009-10 and Allocation during 2010-11.

(Rs. in Lakh)					
S. No.	States/UTs	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
		Release	Release	Release	Allocation
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	7836.94	12968.39	9566.59	12375

2	Bihar	269.72	3122.48	2435.17	4500
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1	2	3	4	5	6
3	Chattisgarh	6252.41	3000.00	6000.00	11500
4	Goa	3.19	100.45	150.00	500
5	Gujarat	1954.24	3531.83	2521.32	7400
6	Haryana	6476.49	3300.31	5600.00	8100
7	Jharkhand	781.00	5000.00	3084.00	5000
8	Karnataka	8571.05	12536.88	8001.67	13200
9	Kerala	6147.73	7517.29		8388.38
10	Madhya Pradesh	5537.49	6000.00	3545.00	9000
11	Maharashtra	13224.97	13021.70	9173.20	15000
12	Orissa	3812.16	2341.00	3500.00	6500
13	Punjab	2409.99	1412.48	2578.00	5000
14	Rajasthan	5673.19	4097.71	2500.00	7000
15	Tamil Nadu	8536.82	9688.00	6180.00	13000
16	Uttar Pradesh	9425.90	6372.78	9143.38	12500
17	West Bengal	681.82	607.20		5188
18	Delhi	-	-	-	0
19	Lakshdweep	29.90	0.00		135.50
20	A & N Islands	0.00	0.00	200.00	400
21	Puducherry			33.25	99
Total		87625.01	94618.50	74211.58	144785.88

Statement-II

*State wise details of Funds released under Horticulture Mission
for North East and Himalayan States from 2007-08 to
2009-10 and allocation for 2010-11.*

(Rs. in Lakh)				
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
	Release	Release	Release	Allocation
	1	2	3	4
A. Mini Mission-I				
1. NRC, orchids for NE states including Sikkim	440	500	400	700
2. CITH, Srinagar for Jammu & Kashmir	296.99	200	200	500
3. CPRI, Shimla for Himachal Pradesh	150	100	200	500
4. VPKAS, Almora for Uttarakhand	365	200	200	500
B. Mini Mission - II				
1. Arunachal Pradesh	2830	1765	1492	2700
2. Assam	2680	3675	3743	3500
3. Manipur	2228	2500	3029	3450
4. Meghalaya	2700	2862.5	1932	2900
5. Mizoram	3095	3050	3500	3300
6. Nagaland	2500	2450	3950	3700
7. Sikkim	3110	2675	3428.2	3050
8. Tripura	2400	1700	3000	2800

	1	2	3	4
9. Jammu & Kashmir	2000	1815	1700	3000
10. Himachal Pradesh	2400	2100	1589	2950
11. Uttarakhand	2839.94	2000	1700	2950
Service charges & other Project based proposals	266.35	145.12	58.93	324
C. Mini Mission - III				
SFAC and NHB for NE & Himalayan states	1175	801.95	400	1800
D. Mini Mission - IV	700	600	2050	1376
GRAND TOTAL	32176.28	29139.57	32572.13	40000.00

'Root (Wilt)' disease in coconut

1353. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) since how long the research on the 'root (wilt)' disease of coconut is going on in the country;

(b) whether the real causes of the disease has been found out;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any remedy for the 'root (wilt)' disease has been found out so far;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the action Government proposes to take?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Research on root (wilt) disease of coconut was initiated in 1947 under the Central Coconut Research Station at Kayamkulam and was intensified after the formation of Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) in 1970 under ICAR.

(b) Yes, Sir. The causal organism to the disease was identified as phytoplasma, which is a phloem bound sub-microscopic organism.

(c) the etiology of the root (wilt) disease of coconut was established that the causal organism, phytoplasma, is transmitted by plant vectors (*Proutista moesta* and *Stephanitis typical*) which was confirmed through dodder plant inoculation and molecular detection techniques. The CPCRI has also developed a sero-diagnostic (ELISA) test for early detection of the disease.

(d) to (f) The remedial measures recommended are planting of disease resistant coconut varieties (viz. Kalparaksha and Kalpasree and Kalpa Sankara), production and distribution of disease free planting materials from mother palms identified from hot-spot diseased areas, integrated nutrient practices, and integrated leaf rot disease management practices. Large scale field demonstration of integrated root (wilt) disease management practices has been conducted which has shown 91% increase in yield of diseased palms.

Distress sale of coconut

1354. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that coconut growers in Kerala are selling their products at 'distress sale' owing to very low price in the market;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to save the coconut farming in Kerala; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Sir, there is no 'distress sale' by coconut growers in Kerala owing to low price in the market because coconut is not a perishable product. 'Distress sale' takes place for fruits/vegetables which are perishable in nature and have short shelf life which is not the case with coconut. Moreover, monthly average price of coconut with husk in Thiruvananthapuram market, Kerala during 2010 is Rs.4683/- per thousand nuts as against Rs.4176 per thousand nuts in 2009 which is given in Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) Government of India regularly announces Minimum Support Price (MSP) for both milling and edible grade ball copra and also for de-husked coconut sufficiently in advance to the

procurement season. Details of MSP for last three years for ball and milling copra and de-husked coconut is given in Statement (See below).

NAFED is the Central Nodal Agency for undertaking procurement of Oilseeds including milling/ball copra & de-husked coconut under Price Support Scheme (PSS) at the MSP declared by the Govt, of India. Procurement of de-husked coconut under PSS has been undertaken in Kerala through the State Level Supporters/Procurement Societies also which are having required infrastructure for converting de-husked coconut into milling copra as per FAQ standards.

NAFED has procured 21145 MT and 19990 MT of milling copra @ Rs.44500 per MT for the crop season 2009 and 2010 respectively and has also procured 15000 MT and 19611 MT de-husked coconut @ Rs. 12000 per MT for the crop season 2009 and 2010 respectively. Further procurements of milling/ball copra & de-husked coconut are in progress.

Price of coconut has started showing signs of improvement and it is expected that during forthcoming festival season (Onam) it would improve further.

Statement

*Monthly Average price of coconut (with husk) at
Thiruvananthapuram market (Rs. per 1000 nuts)*

Months/Year	2009	2010
1	2	3
January	5096	4250
February	5250	4533
March	5000	4694
April	4300	4773
May	4000	4800
June	3850	5045
July	3788	

1	2	3
August	3550	
September	3750	
October	3750	
November	3750	
December	4030	
Average	4176	4683

Minimum Support Price (Rs. per quintal)

		2008	2009	2010	Increase in MSP 2009 & 2010 over 2008	Percentage increase
COPRA	Milling	3660	4450	4450	790	21.6
	Ball	3910	4700	4700	790	20.2
De-husked Coconut		988	1200	1200	212	21.5

Crops insurance scheme

†1355. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds provided to the State of Rajasthan under crop insurance scheme during the year 2009-10; and

(b) whether Government proposes to extend crop insurance scheme to all the crops in order to provide relief to the farmers and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Funds provided towards Government of India share under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and pilot Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) during 2009-10 in Rajasthan are Rs.66.16 crore and Rs.69.40 respectively.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) NAIS covers all food crops (cereals, millets and pulses), oilseeds and annual commercial/horticultural crops, in respect of which past yield data is available for adequate number of years. Under pilot WBCIS, perennial commercial/horticultural crops may also be covered besides the crops covered under NAIS. Pilot Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) covers coconut palm.

Groundnut milk production

1356. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of groundnut milk has been started on a commercial scale;

(b) if so, in which year it was done and progressive adoption in the years from cut-off date;

(c) whether matching processing technology and equipment has been developed;

(d) if so, the capacity thereof on daily basis; and

(e) the costing profile per litre as compared to milch cattle milk conventionally used in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Central Institute of Post Harvest Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana has developed a process technology that results in production of improved flavor groundnut milk due to action of lipxygenase enzyme. The capacity of the plant is approximately 300 litre groundnut milk per day.

(e) The cost of groundnut milk as compared to milch cattle milk is given below:

	Milch cattle raw milk (fat-6.0%, (excluding	Groundnut solid-not-fat-9.0%	milk packaging cost)
Cost per liter	Rs 21.00-22.00		Rs 4.00-5.00

Production of pulses

1357. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether domestic production of pulses is short by about 25 per cent and oilseeds by about 50 per cent compared to the domestic demand;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such shortfall has caused import of pulses which costs Rs. 30,000 crores annually;

(c) if so, whether Government will initiate action to increase domestic production of oilseeds and pulses to meet the domestic demand; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) As against the projected demand of 18.29 million tonnes of pulses and 49.35 million tonnes of oilseeds in the country during 2009-10, their production is estimated at 14.60 million tonnes and 24.93 million tonnes respectively (4th advance estimates). The estimated production of pulses and oilseeds in the country during 2009-10 is lower by about 20% and 49% respectively as compared to their projected demands.

(b) to (d) The gap between demand and supply of pulses is met through imports. As reported by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), the details of import of pulses in the country during the last three years are as under:

Year	Import of Pulses (Rs. in Crore)
2007-08	5374.94
2008-09	6246.40
2009-10	9813.37

In order to increase production and productivity of pulses, Government of India has been implementing National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Pulses in the identified districts of 16 States. From 2010-11, NFSM is strengthened by merger of Pulses component of Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) for ensuring uniformity in implementation.

Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P) has been launched under NFSM-Pulses from Kharif, 2010 for demonstration of Production and Protection Technologies on Village Level Compact Blocks for enhanced production of pulses as well as motivating the farmers. Pulses farmers are also provided assistance under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture (MMA) Scheme and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

New initiative of 'Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India' in six eastern States is also focused towards enhancing agricultural production including pulses. Besides, new initiative of 'organizing 60,000 pulses and oilseeds villages' is being implemented in major pulses growing States to supplement the efforts of other schemes in enhancing the pulses production in the dry land areas.

Production and requirement of foodgrains

1358. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimate of total requirement of foodgrains (wheat and rice) for the country for the next three years;

(b) whether Government has prepared some estimates of amount of foodgrains (wheat and rice) required for the Public Distribution System in view of the proposed Food Security Act; and

(c) the details of expected foodgrains production (wheat and rice) State-wise, for the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) As per the Working Group of Planning Commission for the 11th Five Year Plan, the details of projected demand of rice, wheat and foodgrains for the years 2009-10 to 2011 -12 are as under:

Year	Projected Demand (Million Tonnes)		
	Rice	Wheat	Foodgrains
2009-10	94.83	74.26	224.04
2010-11	96.81	75.80	229.12
2011-12	98.79	77.36	234.26

(b) The proposed National Food Security Act is presently under examination of an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) constituted to firm up the provisions of the proposed law. The estimated requirement of foodgrains (wheat and rice) for Public Distribution System under the proposed Act would depend upon the final provisions of the Act.

(c) As per working Group of Planning Commission for the 11th Five Year Plan, the estimated/projected production of wheat, rice and foodgrains for the years 2009-10 to 2011-12 are as under:

Year	Projected Production (Million Tonnes)		
	Rice	Wheat	Foodgrains
2009-10*	89.13	80.71	218.21
2010-11	101.26	81.15	233.05
2011-12	104.21	83.61	239.30

* Estimated production as per 4th Advance Estimates

State-wise details of expected/projected production of these crops have not been prepared.

Adoption of Chinese technology

1359. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government wants to adopt the technologies which China uses to preserve its grain holdings; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) In March 2006, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and China have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Cooperation in the field of Agriculture. The MoU aims at promoting cooperation in the field of agriculture and relevant sub-sectors. Consultations have been made with Chinese side to cooperate in the area of grain storage technology.

Development of Chambal Ravines

†1360. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Natural Resource Management of Agriculture and Cooperation, Government of India has received a pilot project of Rs. 50 crores for development of Chambal ravines spread over 25,000 hectare area in Muraina district from the Department of Farmers Welfare and Development, Government of Madhya Pradesh vide their letter No. D-3/7/01/14-3 dated 14th March, 2006;

(b) if so, the current status regarding approval of this pilot-project and the reasons for such a long delay; and

(c) by when the proposal would be sanctioned and the amount allocated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal for reclamation/development of Ravinous area in the Chambal basin of Madhya Pradesh with an estimated cost of Rs.50.00 crore was received in March, 2006.

(b) As per recommendation of National Development Council, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Reclamation of Ravinous Area had been transferred to State Sector. In view of this recommendation, the State Government of Madhya Pradesh was advised to approach other financing agencies for this purpose.

(c) Does not arise.

Non-availability of fertilizers

1361. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received large number of complaints of non-availability of fertilizers in the month of May-July, 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government contemplates to address the grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Urea is the only fertilizer

which is under partial movement and distribution control of the Government. All other fertilizers viz. DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled/ de-canalized since 1992. The availability of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers is

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

decided by the market forces of demand and supply. Union Government monitors availability of fertilisers at State level. State Governments are responsible for distribution of fertilizers within the State.

The State-wise and month-wise requirement (demand), availability and sales of Urea, DAP, MOP and Complex fertilizers during 2010-11 (April'10 to July'10) is given in Statement (See below). As can be seen, the availability of fertilizers has been adequate.

Further, the following steps are being taken to make fertilizers available to the farmers:

(i) Each state in consultation with the fertilizer suppliers is required to prepare monthly supply plan district wise within overall availability at state level for ensuring availability of fertilizers in all parts of the state;

(ii) The movement of fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertiliser Monitoring System (FMS);

(iii) The state governments have been advised (i) to instruct the State Institutional agencies to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies; and (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 & Potassic fertilizers w.e.f. 1.4.2010. 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) All possible steps are taken by the Department of Fertilisers to match the availability of fertilizers with the assessed requirement;

(vi) Department of Fertilizers and Department of Agriculture & Cooperation are jointly reviewing fertilizer availability with State Agriculture department through Video Conferences every week. The corrective actions, if required, are taken immediately to avoid any hardships to farmers; and

(vi) The Department of Fertilizers contacts on phone the officials of major fertilizer consuming states on daily basis to find out any shortages of fertilizers in any part of the state and the corrective actions are taken immediately.

Statement

Statewise and monthwise details of demand, availability and sales of Urea, DAP, MOP and Complex Fertilizers

Kharif 2010

	Urea		DAP				MOP				NPK	
	(Figures in 000 MTS)						April 2010					
States	Require-Availability	*Sales	*Require-Availability	*	Sales	*	Require-Availability	Sales	Require-			
	Availability	*Sales										
	ment			ment			ment			ment		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	30.00	281.45	150.81	50.00	79.87	58.54	20.00	9.65	4.45	50.00	211.27	153.15
Karnataka	45.00	103.33	79.36	64.00	144.55	135.46	28.00	13.09	6.91	89.70	148.88	128.82
Kerala	10.00	0.82	0.91	3.20	4.51	3.49	9.50	5.62	4.75	16.25	16.52	10.48
Tamil Nadu	55.00	47.93	42.48	22.00	15.75	15.66	45.00	4.95	4.93	26.75	39.07	35.71
Gujarat	100.00	150.10	132.25	50.00	72.90	69.91	14.00	22.30	10.37	20.50	61.19	31.90
Madhya Pradesh	30.50	108.02	84.36	10.50	70.92	46.44	1.40	24.22	7.13	18.30	54.49	50.62
Chhattisgarh	180.00	68.49	58.91	110.00	86.12	77.34	32.00	5.89	1.30	19.81	17.96	11.29
Maharashtra	225.00	217.18	194.99	105.00	192.59	188.40	35.00	5.09	2.34	72.00	159.20	150.59

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Rajasthan	32.00	64.50	29.88	10.00	11.17	8.37	6.00	12.84	3.92	5.00	3.77	2.92
Haryana	50.00	136.83	111.91	10.00	66.23	65.85	10.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	15.39	9.79
Punjab	60.00	232.90	179.09	20.00	37.40	36.79	8.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	16.86	12.01
Himachal Pradesh	2.50	3.64	1.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	2.60	2.05	2.05
Jammu & Kashmir	15.29	45.49	45.43	14.06	7.59	7.26	4.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	200.00	373.19	157.07	100.00	109.18	95.72	10.00	3.71	1.98	85.00	250.80	227.96
Uttarakhand	11.00	15.81	12.22	4.80	0.52	0.51	0.70	0.00	0.00	3.00	17.83	15.72
Bihar	75.00	92.71	63.00	15.00	21.63	20.62	5.00	0.12	0.00	10.00	23.78	16.13.
Jharkhand	6.00	11.65	9.05	3.00	8.00	8.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	1.50	4.52	4.08
Orissa	10.00	20.42	1.31	7.00	12.37	5.51	4.00	6.87	2.60	4.00	14.91	7.04
West Bengal	25.20	120.96	85.29	16.50	39.15	36.51	12.32	7.70	3.74	27.30	34.75	31.28
Assam	10.80	46.33	46.12	1.46	1.58	1.58	5.40	5.37	5.25	0.61	0.00	0.00
All India :	1182.01	2145.76	1489.34	618.60	980.76	880.70	253.69	127.43	59.65	461.19	1095.51	903.76

* Includes pre-positioning of stock during March'10 against the requirement of Kharif 10

Kharif 2010

	Urea		DAP		MOP		NPK					
	(Figures in 000 MTS)						May 2010					
States	Require-	Availability	Sales	Require-	Availability	Sales	Require-	Availability	Sales	Require-	Availability	Sales
	ment			ment			ment			ment		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	75.00	245.73	50.71	50.00	97.87	78.38	20.00	21.76	9.44	95.00	147.68	84.39
Karnataka	55.00	127.86	100.09	138.00	87.01	81.14	33.00	24.13	13.90	100.70	99.77	74.99
Kerala	10.50	13.74	11.11	4.00	5.63	5.60	11.85	12.88	9.86	16.75	19.08	15.03
Tamil Nadu	60.00	81.28	74.35	25.00	14.09	12.93	30.00	29.35	23.14	35.75	47.80	44.91
Gujarat	75.00	126.94	91.80	110.00	70.05	64.80	15.00	19.10	13.23	38.80	66.50	38.22
Madhya Pradesh	59.80	104.46	55.78	78.90	89.71	45.56	4.90	19.68	5.06	29.80	26.70	18.88
Chhattisgarh	60.00	67.28	49.96	20.00	21.08	15.14	10.00	12.75	4.65	15.21	14.64	7.53
Maharashtra	215.00	241.60	210.78	175.00	159.76	149.81	40.00	43.10	30.51	98.10	121.44	105.04
Rajasthan	55.00	86.35	42.99	23.00	48.59	44.93	4.20	8.92	1.06	10.50	12.58	11.71

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Haryana	100.00	144.43	101.63	40.00	39.63	37.78	5.00	2.65	2.65	6.00	12.03	5.00
Punjab	350.00	358.20	310.86	150.00	109.69	98.20	8.00	0.00	0.00	5.50	10.12	6.80
Himachal Pradesh	7.50	5.11	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	2.60	2.65	1.10
Jammu & Kashmir	25.67	10.83	8.88	14.90	8.73	8.56	5.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	400.00	596.48	333.85	100.00	76.93	61.23	10.00	6.96	5.07	85.00	87.50	53.36
Uttarakhand	23.00	25.58	22.91	7.50	0.01	0.01	3.35	0.00	0.00	4.00	4.76	3.22
Bihar	75.00	125.14	94.19	20.00	23.94	15.40	10.00	10.53	6.21	25.00	30.76	18.95
Jharkhand	9.00	10.49	7.38	5.00	3.40	3.40	1.00	0.26	0.26	5.50	3.60	0.68
Orissa	20.00	56.56	8.22	8.00	21.95	12.75	8.00	8.35	4.56	16.00	22.48	11.85
West Bengal	41.10	93.61	50.32	18.50	20.67	13.54	14.11	25.07	17.73	28.85	62.13	49.36
Assam	15.60	7.02	7.02	1.58	2.66	0.26	7.80	5.49	1.92	0.69	0.00	0.00
All India :	1749.25	2531.22	1635.13	992.26	901.95	749.42	246.49	250.96	149.23	621.95	793.96	552.73

Kharif 2010

	Urea			DAP			MOP			NPK		
	(Figures in 000 MTS)											
	June 2010											
States	Require-	Availability	Sales	Require-	Availability	Sales	Require-	Availability	Sales	Require-	Availability	Sales
	ment			ment			ment			ment		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	250.00	365.45	157.09	175.00	94.29	83.22	35.00	38.67	20.22	135.00	195.93	158.68
Karnataka	115.00	162.49	144.53	136.00	85.27	81.10	72.00	67.80	45.77	117.60	153.23	136.72
Kerala	18.50	21.76	19.26	4.80	2.77	2.73	22.25	29.95	24.61	31.25	31.70	26.47
Tamil Nadu	80.00	61.92	55.15	30.00	16.49	15.43	53.00	35.13	28.01	31.25	45.60	44.78
Gujarat	140.00	187.11	147.81	110.00	91.83	86.87	20.00	17.02	15.45	38.50	81.39	51.26
Madhya Pradesh	108.40	167.81	127.17	175.60	140.20	109.97	13.30	26.05	8.22	10.00	35.09	29.18
Chhattisgarh	84.50	87.86	65.58	40.00	28.56	24.25	10.00	22.42	17.20	21.96	17.31	16.67
Maharashtra	200.00	263.30	250.21	230.00	126.53	117.88	70.00	67.90	48.90	233.20	197.57	185.61
Rajasthan	95.00	143.46	92.13	66.00	38.09	35.41	3.20	9.08	0.70	13.80	15.56	14.73

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Haryana	205.00	200.77	163.86	85.00	73.87	69.73	3.00	9.78	8.52	5.00	19.06	10.16
Punjab	220.00	316.43	272.43	60.00	69.62	62.60	10.00	13.86	10.41	5.50	9.31	6.99
Himachal Pradesh	15.00	16.79	14.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	2.60	3.37	3.32
Jammu & Kashmir	17.74	14.15	9.49	14.49	13.09	12.44	4.41	0.94	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	605.00	712.37	396.42	145.00	75.24	59.92	30.00	25.58	7.79	85.00	111.17	73.52
Uttarakhand	28.00	27.72	20.59	6.30	3.93	2.24	0.30	0.21	0.21	5.00	8.13	6.88
Bihar	160.00	150.65	93.85	50.00	23.79	13.48	20.00	17.65	13.85	40.00	26.76	16.45
Jharkhand	21.00	21.48	14.48	12.50	1.69	1.69	2.50	2.72	2.72	7.00	6.39	4.00
Orissa	25.00	65.06	28.94	30.00	31.90	26.09	20.00	15.39	11.00	30.00	37.96	29.64
West Bengal	74.90	106.03	46.69	42.92	33.14	26.34	17.80	33.77	26.08	39.00	74.61	58.77
Assam	25.20	30.72	27.57	2.23	5.42	2.43	12.60	13.90	7.13	0.98	4.50	4.20
All India :	2508.54	3132.69	2153.72	1322.16	955.72	834.63	423.46	447.83	297.57	858.10	1077.85	880.99

Kharif 2010

	Urea				DAP				MOP				NPK	
	(Figures in 000 MTS)												July 2010	
States	Require-Availability		Sales	Require-Availability		Sales	Require-Availability		Sales	Require-Availability		Sales	Require-Availability	
	ment			ment			ment			ment			ment	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
Andhra Pradesh	300.00	400.72	235.85	150.00	219.77	175.53	50.00	84.85	51.66	260.00	254.48	122.75		
Karnataka	190.00	151.23	90.85	142.00	168.26	102.46	33.00	81.07	39.19	109.10	138.26	90.90		
Kerala	16.75	22.18	15.42	3.20	5.91	5.19	16.60	25.00	18.54	28.25	34.95	26.16		
Tamil Nadu	80.00	68.98	51.26	35.00	28.74	28.13	54.00	47.36	26.31	33.25	42.71	29.73		
Gujarat	250.00	218.83	161.17	90.00	83.38	68.51	21.00	20.01	15.31	41.70	84.03	59.11		
Madhya Pradesh	218.90	163.01	101.10	135.00	174.53	134.29	17.50	40.51	23.66	32.30	27.70	24.61		
Chhattisgarh	105.75	101.84	62.58	35.00	70.40	57.95	20.00	22.00	13.24	26.19	32.16	22.36		
Maharashtra	240.00	246.38	227.82	210.00	220.61	193.32	60.00	134.80	70.58	189.10	191.43	155.57		
Rajasthan	145.00	138.58	85.67	96.00	112.02	100.49	4.10	12.55	6.18	10.00	10.11	8.89		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Haryana	230.00	185.26	135.82	65.00	99.88	77.35	3.00	15.66	9.80	5.00	18.63	2.15
Punjab	320.00	280.18	157.27	100.00	92.63	62.17	10.00	28.54	14.00	3.00	14.96	3.08
Himachal Pradesh	5.00	13.81	3.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.06	0.00
Jammu & Kashmir	8.22	9.95	5.16	0.00	3.29	0.05	0.00	0.14	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	605.00	713.76	376.00	295.00	252.40	195.33	40.00	39.94	12.20	110.00	127.39	62.11
Uttarakhand	30.00	34.16	21.29	2.75	5.65	3.29	0.15	1.56	1.33	2.00	11.75	5.87
Bihar	180.00	173.23	92.39	60.00	54.10	39.83	30.00	25.34	15.29	40.00	40.18	21.63
Jharkhand	37.00	33.36	15.40	28.50	17.68	10.86	3.00	0.88	0.63	13.50	7.21	4.05
Orissa	100.00	97.81	57.79	50.00	64.02	47.06	30.00	34.45	23.62	70.00	66.36	35.25
West Bengal	98.90	126.27	56.63	90.62	71.31	46.38	36.74	28.03	10.29	105.90	82.48	58.89
Assam	27.60	42.51	27.48	6.50	10.34	3.18	13.80	13.40	3.47	1.12	0.31	0.31
All India	3208.23	3224.98	1984.54	1600.88	1755.20	1353.65	446.41	659.11	355.76	1086.31	1185.51	736.16

Compensation to victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy

†1362. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is not serious about the toxic waste generated from Bhopal Gas Tragedy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has any data of victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy and the compensation received by them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Out of the 390 MT of stored toxic waste lying at UCIL plant, 40 MT of lime sludge has been disposed off in the Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility (TSDF) at Pithampur in June, 2008. Attempts to dispose off the remaining 350 MT of toxic waste at Ankleshwar in Gujarat could not fructify. On endorsement by Supreme Court of the decision of the Task Force that the new incinerator at Pithampur, MP will be made operational at the earliest after which the wastes can be incinerated in that incinerator, all the necessary clearances have been given by all agencies of the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh for operationalisation of the incinerator at Pithampur on 7th May, 2010.

In addition, the Government has accepted the recommendations of the Group of Ministers (GoM) and established an Oversight Committee in the Ministry of Environment and Forests to provide oversight and support to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for taking necessary remedial action. The Government of India has also decided to bear the cost of remediation in the first instance and claim restitution from the persons/companies liable for the damage on the principle of 'polluter pays'. An application has already been filed in the High Court of M.P. to expeditiously decide the question of liability of Dow Chemicals Company and/or other successor to UCC/UCIL.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) and (e) The Office of the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas Victims, set up under the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Processing of Claims) Act, 1985 awarded the actual compensation of approximately Rs.3058.44 crore as on 30.6.2010, which comprises approx. Rs. 1548.56 crore awarded as compensation to 5,74,375 original claimants and an additional compensation of approx. Rs. 1509.88 crore paid to 5,62,647 of these claimants on pro-rata basis in the ratio of 1:1.

Implementation of new investment policy for fertilizer Sector in Gujarat

1363. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:

SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

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

(a) whether the new investment policy for the fertilizer sector has been implemented;

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

(c) whether the fertilizer industry has responded positively towards the new investment policy;

(d) if so, the names of the fertilizer units which have revamped their units including Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizer Company Limited (GNFC), Bharuch, so far;

(e) whether some units have asked Government for assured availability of gas for their plants of Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited (GNAC), IFFCO and KRIBHCO, Surat; and

(f) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (c) Policy for New Investments in urea sector and long-term offtake of urea from joint venture abroad has been implemented vide notification No. 12012/12/2007-FPP, dated 4th September 2008. The fertilizer Industry has responding positively to the New Investment Policy by initiating investment decision for revamp/expansion of existing capacities.

(b) and (d) The details are given in the Statement (See below).

(e) and (f) The companies have been regularly requesting the

Government for either firm allocation of gas at predetermined fixed prices from domestic gas sources or insulate industry from

any additional liability arising due to increase in delivered price of gas by correspondingly increasing the floor prices in the absence of any commitment on allocation of natural gas at fixed prices. The constraints indicated are under examination in the Department of Fertilizers and a proposal for amendments in the New Investment Policy notified on 4th September 2008 is under consideration to facilitate the investments in urea sector.

Statement

Implementation of New investment policy for fertilizer Sector in Gujarat.

S.No.	State	Revamp	Expansion (Intend expansion by firm)
1	Andhra Pradesh	NFCL - Kakinada-I&II (Revamp completed)	
2	Chhattisgarh		
3	Bihar		
4	Gujarat	KRIBHCO-Hazira (under revamp)	IFFCO-Kalol KRIBHCO- Hazira
5	Jharkhand		
6	Madhya Pradesh	NFL-Viajipur-I&II (under revamp)	
7.	Maharashtra	RCF-Thal (under revamp)	RCF-Thal
8.	Karnataka		
9.	Rajasthan	CFCL-Gadepan-I & II (Revamp completed)	CFCL-Gadepan-I & II
10.	Uttar Pradesh	IFFCO - Aonla-I & II (Revamp completed) IFFCO - Phulpur-I & II (Revamp completed) TCL-Babralla IGFL-Jagdishpur KSFL(under Revamp)	TCL -Babralla IGFL - Jagdishpur
11.	West Bengal		

12. Orissa

Note: In Gujarat State, there is no proposal from GNFC for investment in revamp project.

Price control for all essential medicines

1364. SHRI R.C. SINGH:

SHRI D. RAJA:

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

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to bring all essential medicines sold in the country under price control; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Supreme Court in its interim order dated 10.3.2003 in SLP(C) No. 3668/2003 directed the Government, inter alia, to "consider and formulate appropriate criteria for ensuring essential and life saving drugs not to fall out of price control and further directed to review drugs which are essential and life saving in nature till 2nd May, 2003". As per the directions of the Supreme Court, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare reviewed the National Essential Drugs List 1996 and brought out the National List of Essential Medicines, 2003 (NLEM 2003) Keeping in view the directions of the Supreme Court it has been proposed in the Draft National Pharmaceutical Policy, 2006 that basket of drugs for price control would be the essential medicines as contained in the NLEM 2003 (subject to certain conditions and exemptions) in addition to the 74 drugs which are at present under price control under the Drug (Price Control) Order, 1995. The Draft National Pharmaceutical Policy was submitted to the Cabinet for its approval. The Cabinet considered the policy in its meeting held on 11.1.2007. It was decided that the matter may, in the first instance, be considered by a Group of Ministers(GOM). The GOM had held four meetings but did not finalise its recommendations to the Cabinet. After the formation of the new Government, the GOM has been reconstituted.

GoM on Bhopal Gas Tragedy

1365. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted to study the judgement of the Chief Judicial Magistrate on the issues relating to

Bhopal Gas Tragedy has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government proposes to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) The recommendations of the Group of Ministers (GoM) reconstituted on 26th May, 2010 to examine all the issues relating to Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster including remediation measures and to make appropriate recommendations regarding relief and rehabilitation of Bhopal Gas Victims and their families, are given in Statement (See below). The Cabinet has approved all the recommendations of the GoM with the modification that 'enhanced compensation' recommended by the GoM will be paid as 'ex-gratia'.

Statement

*Compensation to the following categories of claims of victims
and their families may be enhanced as under:*

Category	Compensation
Death (5295)	Rs.10 lakh (less amount already received)
Permanent disability (3199)	Rs. 5 lakh (less amount already received)
Cancer cases (about 2000)	Rs. 2 lakh (less amount already received)
Total Renal Failure Cases (about 1000)	Rs. 2 lakh (less amount already received)
Temporary disability (33,672)	Rs. 1 lakh (less amount already received)

In order to facilitate the payment of this additional compensation an amount of Rs.650-700 crore may be provided by Government of India.

(ii) CBI may be directed to put together additional material in support of the request for extradition and MEA be directed to press the request for extradition with the US Government.

(iii) A curative petition may be filed in the Supreme Court for

reconsideration of the judgement dated 13.9.1996 by which the charges under the graver sections of the IPC were quashed and the trial was confined to the offence under Section 304A;

(iv) A Revision Application may be filed in the High Court under Section 397 of the Cr.P.C. against the judgement of the trial court praying that the judgement be set aside and the trial court be

directed to refer the case under Section 323 of Cr.P.C. to the Sessions Court to try the case for offences under Sections 304 Part II, 324, 326 and 429 read with Section 35 IPC.

(v) An appeal may be filed in the Sessions Court against the judgement of the trial court to correct the errors in the sentences imposed on the accused under different sections.

(vi) The Attorney General may be requested to examine whether a curative petition could be filed in the Supreme Court for reconsideration of the compensation amount earlier settled at US \$ 470 million.

(vii) Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers and CBI may be directed to file appropriate applications/motions before the Courts concerned to expeditiously decide the question of liability of Dow Chemicals Company and/or any other successor to UCC/UCIL.

(viii) The GoI may approach the Supreme Court to allow takeover of the BMHRC by the Government of India through the Department of Bio-Technology and the Department of Atomic Energy. The hospital can then be strengthened, upgraded and run as a super-speciality and research hospital.

(ix) ICMR should establish a full-fledged Research Centre in Bhopal itself in 90 days. An Empowered Committee under the chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare and including other officers of the Ministries/Departments concerned may be set up to approve all proposals, including purchases and appointments, relating to the proposed ICMR Research Centre to facilitate setting up of the Centre within 90 days.

(x) ICMR should conduct epidemiological studies and clinical research in areas identified by ICMR including following areas:

(I) Respiratory diseases

(II) Eye-related diseases

(III) Cancer

(IV) Total Renal Failure

(V) Genetic disorders

(VI) Congenital disorders

(VII) Women-related medical issues

(VIII) Second-generation children related medical issues.

(xi) Once the reports of NEERI, NGRI and IICT are submitted, they will be subjected to a peer review by scientists jointly appointed by the Department of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and Ministry of Environment and Forests will also share the main conclusions of the reports with selected NGOs and invite their suggestions/comments in writing within a period of 30 days.

(xii) The responsibility for remediation actions be entrusted to the Government of Madhya Pradesh. Government of Madhya Pradesh will suitably empower the Department of Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation.

(xiii) An Oversight Committee will be established at the level of the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Minister for Environment, GoI as the chair and the Minister for Gas Relief, GoMP, as the co-chair. Besides, NEERI, NGRI, IICT and CPCB will be associated in a suitable capacity. The Oversight Committee will provide oversight and support to the Government of Madhya Pradesh in taking the necessary remedial actions.

(xiv) Without prejudice to its legal rights to claim restitution, Government of India will bear the cost of remediation of approximately Rs. 310 crore in the first instance. Government of India will also take steps to claim restitution from the persons/companies found liable for the damage on the principle of "polluter pays".

(xv) The remediation works including disposal of the stored hazardous residues, dismantling the contaminated structure and remediation of contamination of water and soil will be taken up and completed by 31.12.2012.

(xvi) The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals may file an application before the High Court, Jabalpur, to discharge the Task Force appointed by the High Court.

(xvii) In the first instance, Rs. 272.75 crore be approved for the New Plan of Action and funds provided to the Government of Madhya Pradesh as additional central assistance on 75:25 basis.

Overcharging on fertilizers from farmers in tribal areas

1366. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fertilizer agencies charge much more than the MRP rates from the farmers in tribal areas; and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to be adopted to stop fertilizer agencies from exploiting the farmers especially in tribal areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No, Sir. No report of overcharging have been received by the Department of Fertilizers.

(b) The fertilizer companies have been asked by Department of Fertilizers to print the MRP as well as the amount of subsidy on each bag of fertilizer and companies do follow this. The State Governments have also been requested to ensure that the fertilizers are sold at the MRP printed on the bags. Any sale above the printed maximum retail price is punishable under the Essential Commodities Act. This Department has not received any complaint that a company has not printed MRP while selling their fertilizers.

Building of fertilizer capacity in Middle East

1367. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any report/suggestion to consider to build new fertilizer capacity in the Middle East, where gas supplies are abundant and relatively inexpensive; and

(b) if so, Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The various proposals are under discussion in Middle East for exploring the possibility of putting up Ammonia-Urea fertilizer plant in countries like Oman, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Qatar and Kuwait. The Government is continuously following-up the issue of availability of gas with the competent authorities in the respective nations. However, no country has till now, given confirmation about availability/supply of gas at affordable price.

Revival of closed fertilizer units

1368. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has been actively considering with an action plan to revive the closed fertilizer manufacturing units across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the existing fertilizer units in the country are unable to meet the demand of urea in the country; and

(d) if so, to what extent revival of the closed fertilizer manufacturing units will meet this shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) Government has decided to explore the feasibility of revival of the closed public sector fertilizer units of the Fertilizers Corporation of India Ltd. (FCIL) and Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation Ltd. (HFCL) subject to assured availability of natural gas, to meet the emerging demand production gap of urea in the country. The Government has constituted an Empowered Committee of Secretaries (ECoS) with the mandate to evaluate all investment options for revival of the closed units of FCIL/HFCL and to make suitable recommendations for consideration of the Government. The Government has also decided 'in-principle' to consider waiver of all pending liabilities of HFCL/FCIL against Government of India Loan & interest subject to availability of a fully tied up revival proposal for the closed units.

ECoS has already considered various possible investment options for revival of each of the closed units and decided to recommend the Revenue Sharing Model, for approval of CCEA.

In view of the interests shown by some PSUs in the Revival of these closed Units and detailed report with recommendations submitted by Project Advisor, M/s Delloitte, DOF has decided to call a meeting of ECOS to seek further necessary guidelines before obtaining approval of CCEA.

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. SPIC is going to start very soon and DIL has also shown their interest to start the plant by 2012-13. Further, the urea unit of Fertilizers & Chemicals

Travancore (FACT), Cochin is also not in operation as it is uneconomical to operate.

Presently urea is being imported to bridge the gap between indigenous demand and production of fertilizers substantially to bridge the existing gap between demand and production of Urea in the country.

Smuggling and black-marketing of fertilizers

1369. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state the steps taken by the Ministry to stop illegal smuggling and black-marketing of chemical fertilizers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): State Governments have been advised by the Department of Fertilizers to keep a vigil and to check smuggling of fertilizers from India to other neighboring countries through land and sea routes.

Similarly Union Home Ministry has also alerted Border guarding forces viz., Border Security Force (BSF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Assam Rifles and Sashastra Seema Bal and Coast Guard to maintain strict vigilance on the borders to curb smuggling of fertilizers. Further, Ministry of Home Affairs has also addressed the Chief Secretaries to the Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal to sensitize the authorities concerned to curb the smuggling of fertilizers into the neighboring countries.

Under Clause 21 of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 (FCO), it is mandatory to print the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) on the bags of fertilizers and no person is permitted to sell the material above the statutory/indicative price. The State Governments are adequately empowered under the provisions of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 to check such activities. Any violation of the provisions of the FCO, 1985 attracts penal/administrative action under the Essential Commodities Act 1955/FCO, 1985. State Governments have been advised to prevent such malpractices and ensure that the farmers are provided with proper quality of fertilizers at statutory/indicative price.

Department of Fertilizers has written to Chief Secretaries of the States having international boundaries for initiating action against

person/persons involved in smuggling of fertilizers with the help of
Central/State enforcement agencies.

Release of Union Carbide Chairman

1370. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that controversy broke out recently about the arrest and release of Union Carbide Corporation Chairman, Warren Anderson;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that he was flown in a State Government aircraft; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) After the gas leak, Warren Anderson came to India on 06.12.1984 and visited Bhopal on 07.12.1984. He was arrested/taken into custody on 07.12.1984 by the State Police, on the basis of FIR filed in P.S. Hanumanganj, Bhopal. He obtained bail on furnishing a personal bond of Rs. 25,000 with one surety. Then, he returned to Delhi on the same day and, shortly thereafter, left the country. Anderson did not appear before the Court subsequently and he wilfully jumped bail and violated the bail conditions.

(c) and (d) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has been requested to provide the information.

Hiring of godowns by FCI

1371. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether FCI has hired godowns in places where its owned capacity was available resulting in incurring of unfruitful expenditure of about Rs. 1324 crore paid as rent for the past three years;

(b) if so, the details of the places where FCI hired godowns despite having owned capacity together with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has conducted any study on the functioning and utilization of godowns by FCI and if so, the details thereof and measures taken to use 100 per cent owned capacity by FCI; and

(d) the quantum of wheat and rice lying in open and how much of them got damaged during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Food Corporation of India has hired godowns at places where owned capacity was available to accommodate procured stocks due to its owned capacity being insufficient to accommodate the stocks or due to operational constraints in the procuring regions. In the consuming areas godowns have been hired to meet the 4 months requirement of Public Distribution System and other welfare schemes. The details of the places where FCI hired godowns despite having owned capacity, due to the reasons given in the Statement.

(c) Yes, Sir. M/s. McKinsey & Co. was engaged by the Government to conduct a study on FCI including storage utilisation. The following measures have been taken by FCI to optimally use owned capacity.

(i) During the years i.e. 2005-06 to 2008-09 when the stocks were low, FCI rented out the excess capacity to optimize the utilisation of owned capacity.

(ii) Presently, when the stocks are high, efforts are being made to utilize capacity upto 120% by increasing the height of stacks.

(d) The details of wheat stocks stored under CAP (Covered & Plinth) are as under:

As on 1st July, 2010

(Figures in Lakh MTs)

Commodity	FCI	State Agencies	Total
Wheat	23.08	144.97	168.53
Rice	No rice stocks is stored in CAP		

The quantity of wheat stocks damaged (non-issuable) in CAP storage during the last three years are as under:

Year	Quantity of Wheat damaged (in MTs)
2007-08	147
2008-09	623

Statement

The places where FCI hired capacity despite having owned capacity during the past three years

1. North Zone

Region/State	District
1	2
Punjab	Amritsar
	Bhatinda
	Chandigarh
	Faridkot
	Ferozepur
	Hoshiarpur
	Jalandhar
	Kapurthala
	Ludhiana
	Moga
	Patiala
Haryana	Sangrur
	Kurukshetra
	Hissar
	Karnal
Uttarakhand	Rohtak
	Haldwani
Delhi	Nil
Himachal Pradesh	Nil
J & K	Srinagar
UP	Sitapur
	Shahjahanpur
	Bareilly

1	2
	Moradabad
	Aligarh
	Allahabad
	Gorakhpur
	Jhansi
	Kanpur
Rajasthan	Vader (Jodhpur)
	Dholpur
2. West Zone	
Chhattisgarh	Raipur
	Durg
	Bilaspur
Maharashtra	Pune
	Borivli
	Nagpur
Madhya Pradesh	Indore
	Dhamod
	Khandwa
	Makshi
	Alirajpur
	Meghnagar
	Khargone
	Ujjain
	Dewas
	Morena
	Guna

1	2
	Shivpuri
	Jabalpur
	Katni
	Seoni
	Lakhnadone
	Shahdol
	Chhindwara
	Mandlabhraghat
	Pallari
	Garrha
	Satna
	Rewa
	Sidhi
	Sagar
	Damoh
	Narsinghpur
	Gadarwara
	Bhopal
	Itarasi
	Betul
	Bhind
	Lalbara
	Katangi
	Sonkhutch
	Nalkheda
	Neemuch
	Kalapipal

1	2
	Sujalpur
	Agar
	Khilchipur
	Tarana
Gujarat	Banapur
	Ahmedabad
	Baroda
	Rajkot
3. East Zone	
Orissa	Balasore
	Berhampur
	Bhubaneswar
	Cuttack
	Jeypore
	Sambalpur
	Titilagarh
West Bengal	Nil
Bihar	Nil
Jharkhand	Nil
4. North East Zone	
Assam	Nil
NEF	Nil
N&M	Dimapur
5. South Zone	
Kerala	Nil
Karnataka	Mysore
	Tumkur
	Maddur

1	2
	Koppal
	Bijapur
	Hassan
	Bellary
Tamilnadu	Mettupalyam
	Salem
	Arkonam
	Morappur
	Chidambaram
Andhra Pradesh	Guntur
	Prakasam
	Kakinada
	Vijayawada
	Cuddapah
	Kurnool
	Nalgonda
	Chittor
	Nellore
	Nizamabad
	Srikakulam
	Medak
	Mahbubnagar
	Vizag
	Vizianagaram
	Warangal
	Khammam
	T.p.gudem
	Adilabad
	Karimnagar

Failure to control price rise

†1372. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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 prices of consumer food items have been soaring instead of declining;

(b) if not, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has assured the country in and outside the House to bring down the price rise for last three years; and

(d) if so, the reasons for failure to fulfil the assurance so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) On account of various fiscal and administrative steps taken by the Government over the last six months, retail prices of most of the essential commodities are either steady or declining.

(c) and (d) Rise in prices is due to the combined effect of factors such as, growing demand on account of increase in population and income, hardening of international prices, changes in consumption pattern, diversion of food grains for fuel, adverse weather and climate change, increase in crude oil prices, hikes in MSP, and increase in freight rates also have had an impact on the prices of essential commodities. Market expectations and sentiments play a major role in price rise. Weather apart from seasonable factors was responsible for the rise in the prices of fruits and vegetables. Government takes several proactive measures to moderate the price rise and to ensure that the vulnerable sections of the society is protected.

Wastage of wheat

†1373. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of quantum of wheat spoiled since year 2007 till the current financial year, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for wheat getting spoiled;

(c) whether Government has taken any action against careless officials, if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether Government has considered formulation of a new plan to check it; 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) Details of damaged wheat stocks in FCI godowns from 2007-08 till July, 2010, FCI Region-wise are at Statement-I (See below).

(b) Wheat got damaged due to various reasons such as storage pests attack, leakages in godowns, procurement of poor quality stocks, during movement of stocks, exposure to rains, flood, etc.

(c) FCI officials found responsible for damages to wheat and proceeded against during last three years are as under:

Year	No. of officials proceeded against for wastage of wheat
2007-08	9
2008-09	5
2009-10	2
Total	16

(d) and (e) For proper handling and scientific storage of wheat and other stocks of foodgrains in FCI godowns, there are standing guidelines as given in Statement-II (See below). These need to be followed strictly by FCI authorities.

Statement-I

A. Region-wise wheat stock accrued as non-issuable (damaged) for the year from 2007-08 to 2010-11 (upto June)

(Fig. in tons)

Sl.No.	Region	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11 (upto June)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Bihar	455	6	655	11
2.	Jharkhand	46	1	13	0
3.	Orissa	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	W.B.	24	84	325	8
5.	Assam	52	0	0	0
6.	NEF	0	0	0	0
7.	N&M	0	0	0	0
8.	Delhi	0	0	3	0
9.	Haryana	0	16	0	6
10.	H.P.	0	0	0	0
11.	J&K	0	0	0	0
12.	Punjab	0	26	0	0
13.	Raj.	4	0	12	0
14.	U.P.	9	62	12	34
15.	U. Khand	0	0	0	0
16.	A.P.	0	0	0	0
17.	Kerala	0	7	0	5
18.	Karnataka	0	0	0	0
19.	T. Nadu	0	1	0	0
20.	Gujarat	270	620	785	1
21.	Mah.	51	110	173	6
22.	M.P.	13	14	28	1
23.	C. Garh	0	0	4	0
Total		924	947	2010	72

*B. Damage to wheat stocks in FCI godowns in July 2010
(01.07.2010 to 31.07.2010) as reported by FCI.*

States	Depots	Damaged wheat (tons)
Uttar Pradesh	Hapur	9.3
	Harduaganj	90
	FSD, Roza, Shahjahanpur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Orai, Jalaun	Damage yet to be quantified
Rajasthan	Udaipur, rail head	8.56
Haryana	HSWC, Bani	Damage yet to be quantified
Punjab	Khonuri, Sangrur	Damage yet to be quantified
Uttrakhand	SWC Gadarpur,	Damage yet to be quantified
	Udham Singh Nagar	

Statement-II

*Steps required to be taken for proper storage, movement and
safe upkeep of foodgrains in FCI godowns:*

- (i) All FCI godowns should be constructed as per specifications and foodgrains stored by adopting scientific storage practices.
- (ii) Adequate dunnage materials, fumigation covers and chemicals should be provided in all the godowns.
- (iii) Prophylactic and curative treatments should be carried out regularly and timely for the control of stored grain insect pests and rodents.
- (iv) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage should be stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates be used as dunnage material. Stacks should be properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water proof covers and tied with nylon

ropes/nets.

- (v) Regular inspections of the stocks/godowns should be undertaken by qualified and trained staff of FCI.

- (vi) The principle of "First-In-First-Out" (FIFO) should be adopted to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.
- (vii) Only covered wagons should be used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damages during transit.
- (viii) Proper weighment and accounting should be ensured at the time of receipt and issue of foodgrains.
- (ix) Transit losses in rail movement of foodgrains should be insured.
- (x) While transporting foodgrains from Depot to Rail head & vice-versa, escorts should be provided.

Distribution of subsidized foodgrains

1374. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

MS. MABEL REBELLO:

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

(a) whether National Advisory Council (NAC) has recommended that Government should rollout distribution of subsidized foodgrains in at least 200 poorest disadvantaged districts across the country by April next year without waiting for the passage of Food Security Bill in Parliament;

(b) if so, whether it has also been suggested that people living in the poorest of the poor districts which included naxal affected regions should get 35 kg. of foodgrains - rice, wheat, millets and pulses at a subsidized rate of Rs. 3/- per kg; and

(c) if so, whether Government has considered the NAC proposals and by when they are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The National Advisory Council (NAC) has not made any recommendation to the Government regarding distribution of subsidized foodgrains in at least 200 poorest disadvantaged districts across the country by April next year without waiting for the passage of National Food Security Bill in Parliament.

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

Import/export of pulses and sugar

1375. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of pulses and sugar in the country during each of the last three years, variety-wise and State-wise;

(b) the total requirement of the pulses and sugar in the country during each of the last three years, variety-wise and Statewise;

(c) the total quantity of pulses and sugar that has been exported during the last three years and the current year;

(d) the total quantity of pulses and sugar that has been imported during the last three years and the current year; and

(e) the details of losses that Government has borne in export and import of pulses and sugar during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The details of the total production of pulses, variety wise and State wise during the last three years is given in Statement-I (See below).

The details of total requirement of pulses during each of the last three years; total-quantity of pulses that has been exported and total quantity of pulses that has been imported is given in Statement-II (See below). The data on variety wise and State wise requirement of pulses is not maintained.

A statement showing state wise total production of sugar in the country during each of the last three years (October-September) is given in Statement-III (See below). The data on variety wise production of sugar is not maintained.

The details of total Consumption Export and Import of Sugar is given in Statement-IV (See below).

(e) Pulses are not imported on Government account. As such there is no question of loss to the Government. In the case of sugar also there has been no import/export of sugar on Government account during the said period. Import/export of sugar was/is undertaken by the sugar

mills/merchant importers/exporters as per their commercial prudence. As such the question of losses on account of export or import of sugar during the last three years and the current year does not arise.

Statement-I

*The details of the total production of pulses, variety wise
and State-wise during the last three years*

Production in Lakh Tonnes			
States	2007-08	2008-09	2009-2010*
1	2	3	4
Lentils			
Uttar Pradesh	3.68	4.6	NA
Madhya Pradesh	2.059	2.68	NA
Bihar	1.29	1.28	NA
west Bengal	0.448	0.32	NA
Jharkhand	0.169	0.15	NA
All India	8.116	9.53	NA
Moong			
Rajasthan	4.165	3.732	0.44
Maharashtra	3.72	1.04	1.36
Andhra Pradesh	1.52	1.52	0.75
Bihar	0.942	1.169	1
Gujarat	1.14	0.87	0.7
All India	15.227	10.094	7.33
Urad			
Andhra Pradesh	2.5	2.1	2.51
Uttar Pradesh	1.79	1.95	2.26
Maharashtra	3.29	1.09	1.32
Madhya Pradesh	1.657	1.833	1.91
Tamil Nadu	0.738	0.967	1.38
All India	14.571	11.123	12.91

1	2	3	4
Tur			
Maharashtra	10.83	6.05	9.29
Karnataka	4.85	3.15	2.82
Uttar Pradesh	3.279	2.88	2.64
Gujarat	2.94	2.63	2.42
Madhya Pradesh	2.176	2.584	3.07
All India	30.759	22.65	25.57
Gram			
Madhya Pradesh	17.4	27.9	29.8
Maharashtra	11.2	7.7	11.88
Andhra Pradesh	9.1	8.6	8.28
Rajasthan	5.7	9.8	6
Uttar Pradesh	3.8	5.6	5.82
All India	57.5	70.6	73.79

Source: Department of Agriculture & Cooperation

*4th Advance Estimate

Statement-II

*Table showing total exports and total imports of pulses
during the last three years.*

(Qty in million tonnes)

Year	Total requirement@	Total exports^	Total Imports^
2007-08	16.77	1.64	2.84
2008-09	17.51	1.36	2.48
2009-10	18.29	0.99	3.50 (prov.)

Source: @ Estimates of the XI th Plan Working Group of Planning Commission, ^DGCIS.

Statement-III

*Statement Showing State-Wise Production of Sugar for the Sugar Season
2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 (October to September)*

State	Sugar Season	Sugar Season	Sugar Season
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Punjab	5.50	5.34	2.43
Haryana	6.77	5.99	2.29
Rajasthan	0.07	0.06	0.04
Uttarakhand	5.28	4.01	2.23
Uttar Pradesh	83.52	73.20	41.53
Madhya Pradesh	1.48	1.74	0.49
Chhattisgarh	0.21	0.38	0.13
Gujarat	13.90	13.66	10.22
Maharashtra	90.13	90.75	46.00
Bihar	4.83	3.36	2.22
Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00
Orissa	0.65	0.63	0.30
West Bengal	0.04	0.05	0.02
Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	19.24	13.35	5.92
Karnataka	25.42	28.39	16.75
Tamil Nadu	24.21	21.41	15.95
Pondichery	0.55	0.51	0.16
Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00
Goa	0.19	0.15	0.09
All India	281.99	262.98	146.77

Source: Department of Food & Public Distribution

Statement-IV

*Table showing Consumption, Export and Import of Sugar since
2006-07 to 2009-10 (October - September)*

(Unit: lakh tons)

Year	Consumption	Export	Import
2006-07	191	24.90	0.05
2007-08	205	58.23	0.04
2008-09	220	2.17	10.97
2009-10		0.21	30.14
		(Oct.2009 to March 2010)	(October 2009- July 2010)

Source: Department of Food and PD.

Decontrol of sugar prices

1376. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

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

- (a) whether there is a move to decontrol sugar prices;
- (b) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and
- (c) if so, how Government proposes to protect the poor consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) A representation has been received from sugar industry demanding, *inter alia*, the following:

i. Sugarcane price be related to realization from sugar and direct realization from by-products on the basis of a suitable formula. Minimum price protection shall come from Government during years of low sugar realization;

ii. PDS sugar be procured from the open market;

iii. Sugar be removed from the purview of Essential Commodities Act;

iv. Sugar be decontrolled and release mechanism be dispensed with. Further, there shall be no stock holding limits on trade or bulk consumers.

A decision will be taken only after taking into consideration all the aspects including availability, price situation, its impact on cane growers, impact on the consumers of sugar and distribution of sugar through the Public Distribution System. Government will ensure that interest of poor consumers is protected.

Wetting of produced foodgrains

†1377. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat procured by various Government agencies till-8 May, 2010;

(b) the names of States where foodgrain got wet due to rains from May, 2010 to now and the quantity thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that concerned agencies did not make timely arrangement for tarpaulin; and

(d) if so, the persons found guilty therefor and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) 209.97 lakh tonnes of wheat was procured by Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State agencies during Rabi Marketing Season 2010-11 till 8th May, 2010.

(b) to (d) Some of the Food grains stocks kept in FCI and state agencies storage points got damaged by rains and floods during July, 2010 in UP, Uttrakhand, Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab. Details of FCI godowns and state government agencies where the damage took place are given in Statement (See below).

For dereliction of duty of FCI officers at Hapur, Orai and Harduaganj, FCI has initiated action including suspension of 8 officers.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

FCI godowns and storage centres of State Government agencies where foodgrains got affected by moisture etc. during July 2010

S.No.	State	Depot/CAP complexes	Details of affected foodgrains
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Hapur - FCI depot	30 MTs
		Orai - FCI depot	Estimated 36 wagons of wheat unloaded in open area got exposed. Estimated damage inside the godown is about 13-14 MTs.
		Harduaganj (Aligarh) - FCI depot	300 MTs
2.	Rajasthan	Udaipur Rail-head - FCI stocks	-
3.	Haryana	Bani in Sirsa district - FCI stocks at SWC depot	Being ascertained
		Ismailabad in Kurukshetra district - State Food Dept. stocks in CAP complex	Being ascertained
4.	Uttarakhand	Gadarpur in Udham Singh Nagar district - FCI stocks at SWC godown.	Being ascertained
5.	Punjab	Sangrur FCI CAP Complex at Khonuri (Shergarh) Three Punjab Agro Food Corpn. CAP complexes	Being ascertained
		Ferozpur PUNGRAIN, Talwandi, Two Punjab Agro Food Corp. Ltd. CAP complexes MARKFED CAP Complex, Zira	Being ascertained

Demand to remove government control on sugar

†1378. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the demand to remove Government control from sugar industry is being made by sugar mills;

(b) if so, the details of demands of sugar mills;

(c) whether farmer would be left at the mercy of sugar mill owners in case these demands are accepted as it is; and

(d) if so, whether farmer's representatives would be taken into confidence before decontrolling the sugar industry, if so, the plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demands include relating sugarcane price to realization from sugar and direct realization from by-products on the basis of a suitable formula; minimum price protection of sugarcane to come from Government during years of low sugar realization; procurement of PDS sugar from the open market; removal of sugar from the purview of Essential Commodities Act; decontrol of sugar; dispensing with the release mechanism and stock holding limits on trade or bulk consumers.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Government will ensure that farmers' interest is suitably protected. Government will take into account all aspects including availability, price situation, impact on cane growers as well as consumers of sugar, development of sugar industry and fulfilment of future growth in demand, etc. before taking any decision on decontrol.

Food security to all

†1379. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that it is being contemplated to provide food security to all citizens in the country;

(b) if so, whether in the course of discussion it has been decided to distribute 35 kg. foodgrains at Rs. 3 per kg. under food security in 2000 poorest blocks of the country so far;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and whether any time-frame has been set in this regard to put the system in place; 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) to (d) As announced by the President in her address to the joint session of Parliament on 04.06.2009, 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 by an EGoM constituted to examine various aspects of the proposed law. Based on directions of EGoM, the draft Bill would be prepared by the Department of Food and Public Distribution in consultation with the Ministry of Law and the same would be put on the website of the Department for public scrutiny and comments.

Shortcomings in PDS

†1380. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that success of food security related scheme depends on the working of present public distribution system in the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that several Government appointed committees have exposed the loopholes in the Present Public Distribution System to Government over the years; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, whether it is necessary to reform this system before implementing the Food Security Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is implemented jointly by Central Government 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 (FPSs) and supervision of the functioning of FPSs, 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.

The proposed National Food Security law envisages entitling every BPL family to a certain quantity of foodgrains per month at subsidized prices. The proposed law will also be used to bring about broader systemic reforms in the PDS.

Evaluation studies on functioning of TPDS got done by the Department, have revealed certain shortcomings in the functioning of TPDS.

Strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a continuous process. To improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly requesting State/UT Governments for continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families; ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at fair price shops; ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS; improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels; and introduction of new technologies such as Computerization of TPDS operations at various levels. In the Conference of Food Secretaries of States and UTs held on 12th and 13th July 2010, various resolutions were adopted to further strengthen and streamline TPDS.

Damage of wheat

1381. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that huge quantity of wheat was found damaged by exposure to rain at an FCI warehouse at Hapur in Ghaziabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such damages have been reported from so many other Godowns in the country; and

(d) if so, the total quantity of foodgrains that got damaged due to stock keeping in the open during the current year and steps being taken to see that the precious foodgrains are not damaged like this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Stocks of wheat stored in open areas at Hapur FCI Depot got damaged due to exposure to recent rains. After segregation and salvaging operations, FCI has reported a damage of 9.3 tons of wheat.

Damage to wheat stocks in various FCI godowns during July 2010 have been reported by FCI as under:

States	Depots	Damaged wheat(tons)
Uttar Pradesh	Hapur	9.3
	Harduaganj	90
	FSD, Roza, Shahjahanpur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Orai, Jalaun	Damage yet to be quantified
Rajasthan	Udaipur, rail head	8.56
Haryana	HSWC, Bani	Damage yet to be quantified
Punjab	Khonuri, Sangrur	Damage yet to be quantified
Uttrakhand	SWC Gadarpur, Udham	Damage yet to be quantified
	Singh Nagar	

In addition to damages in July, 2010 stated above, 30 tons of wheat

got damaged due to stock kept in the open during April to June 2010 in FCI depots.

For proper handing and scientific storage of wheat and other stocks of foodgrains in FCI godowns, there are standing guidelines. These need to be followed strictly by FCI authorities. As per the guidelines, FCI has to take these steps:

(i) All FCI godowns be constructed as per specifications and foodgrains stored by adopting scientific storage practices.

(ii) Adequate dunnage materials, fumigation covers and chemicals be provided in all the godowns.

(iii) Prophylactic and curative treatments be carried out regularly and timely for the control of stored grain insect pests and rodents.

(iv) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage be stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates to be used as dunnage material. Stacks should be properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.

(v) Regular inspections of the stocks/godowns be undertaken by qualified and trained staff of FCI.

(vi) The principle of "First-In-First-Out" (FIFO) be adopted to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.

(vii) Only covered wagons be used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damages during transit.

(viii) Proper weighment and accounting be done at the time of receipt and issue.

(ix) Transit losses in movement of foodgrains by rail be insured.

(x) While transporting foodgrains from Depot to Rail head & vice-versa, escorts be provided.

Re-introduction of universal PDS

1382. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI D. RAJA:

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

(a) whether Government is actively considering to re-introduce the Universal Public Distribution System to provide consumers protection against the food inflation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the new system will start functioning; and

(c) 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 (c) With a view to specifically target poor sections of society for distribution of subsidized foodgrains (rice, wheat & coarse grains) and sugar, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) was launched in June, 1997.

Government is not actively considering to reintroduce Universal Public Distribution System as the focus on poor will get diluted.

Further, procurement of huge quantities of wheat and rice to meet the requirement of Universal Public Distribution System, would result in very less availability of foodgrains in the market, leading to rise in open market prices. If the same quantity of foodgrains is distributed equally among all, then the scale of issue will have to be reduced.

Further, in order to manage the level of food subsidy, the issue prices of rice and wheat may have to be increased substantially from the present Central Issue Prices (CIPs) which have not been revised during the last eight to ten years. This would also mean that BPL and AAY families would end up not only getting much reduced scale of issue but also have to pay higher CIPs.

Production and consumption of sugar

1383. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE:

PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:

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

(a) whether consumption of sugar has drastically increased from 199 to 230 lakh tones and the production has decreased from 282 to 160 lakh tones during 2006-07 to 2009-10 and if so, the details/reasons thereof;

(b) the measures taken to boost the production of sugarcane to avoid dependency on imported sugar;

(c) the details of facilities being given to farmers to persuade them to grow sugarcane;

(d) the measures taken by State Governments to recover cane price arrears from defaulting sugar mills as per the provisions of Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966; and

(e) the quantum of outstanding cane price arrears as on 31.7.2010, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The consumption of sugar in the country estimated to have increased from 191 lakh tonnes (earlier estimated at 199 lakh tonnes) to 220 lakh tonnes whereas the production of sugar is estimated to have decreased from 282 lakh tonnes to 185 lakh tonnes during 2006-07 to 2009-10 sugar seasons. The main reason for decline in sugar production is reduced acreage under sugarcane as also more diversion of sugarcane to gur and khandsari units reducing availability of sugarcane for producing sugar.

(b) and (c) The measures taken by the Central Government to boost the production of sugarcane and facilities given to farmers are given in Statement-I (See below).

(d) The Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966, contains the necessary provisions for recovery of cane price arrears as arrears of land revenue from defaulting sugar mills and the powers in this regard are delegated and vested with the State Governments concerned who have the necessary field formations. The action taken by the concerned State Governments under these provisions of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966, against such defaulting sugar mills is not maintained.

(e) The latest available information on cane-price arrears is as on 31.05.2010 and the State-wise position of cane price arrears during the current 2009-10 sugar season and earlier seasons is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

The Central Government has taken the following steps to boost production of sugarcane in the country:

(a) The Central Government has fixed the Fair & Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane payable by sugar mills for 2009-10 sugar season at Rs. 129.84 per quintal linked to a basic recovery rate of 9.5% subject to a

premium of Rs. 1.37 per quintal for every 0.1 percentage point increase in recovery above that level. Hitherto, the Central Government was fixing the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane. This FRP is substantially higher than the SMP of 2008-09 sugar season which

was Rs.81.18 per quintal, with an additional premium of Rs.0.90 for every 0.1% point increase in the recovery above 9%. Further, the 'Fair & Remunerative Price' (FRP) of sugarcane for ensuing sugar season 2010-11 has also been announced at Rs.139.12 per quintal linked to a basic recovery rate of 9.5% subject to a premium of Rs. 1.46 per quintal for every 0.1 percentage point increase in recovery above that level.

(b) The Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System (SUBACS) is one of the components of Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), namely Revised Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme (RMMA). The main thrust of SUBACS is on the transfer of improved production technology to the farmers through field demonstrations, training of farmers, supply of farm implements, enhancing production of planting materials, efficient use of water, treatment of planting materials etc.

(c) The Central Government provides concessional loans at an interest rate of 4% per annum to sugar factories from Sugar Development Fund (SDF), *inter-alia*, for sugarcane development including better irrigation facilities, improved seed variety, ratoon management etc.

(d) A short term scheme was announced for cane development in the financial year 2009-10 under which loans of Rs.1.0 to 2.5 crore at 4% simple interest from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) were made available to sugar factories depending upon their crushing capacity, for purchase of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides etc. to be passed on to the farmers at the same rate of interest.

Statement-II

Statewise position of cane price arrears during 2009-10 season as well as earlier sugar seasons as on 31/05/2010

(Rs. in Lakhs)

State	Cane Price Payable for 2009-10 Season	Arrears of Cane Price as On 31/05/2010 or the latest available date for season	
		2008-09	2007-08 & earlier
1	2	3	4
Punjab	3.44	0.00	0.00
Haryana	188.22	0.00	0.00
Rajasthan	228.31	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4
UP	63,742.46	81.46	7,583.56
Uttarakhand	8,764.72	0.00	629.73
Madhya Pradesh	89.58	0.00	1,061.67
Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	3,277.72	0.00	1,197.61
Maharashtra	1,875.49	36.12	2,051.36
Bihar	246.64	19.42	3,552.36
Andhra Pradesh	6,886.14	0.00	3,349.32
Karnataka	18,910.00	2.00	2,624.00
Tamil Nadu	10,856.20	24.54	215.94
Kerala	0.00	0.00	384.74
Orissa	40.53	0.00	0.00
West Bengal	0.45	0.00	0.00
Puducherry	0.00	0.00	0.00
Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
All India Total	115,109.90	163.54	22,650.29

Non-lifting of paddy and rice from cellars in Punjab

†1384. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that paddy and rice have still been kept in 'cellars' in Punjab till date; and

(b) whether Government of Punjab was not provided the special train despite their demand for it and the paddy and rice were not lifted either; and the efforts being made by Government to address this problem?

†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) In Punjab region, paddy is stored in rice shellers premises only by the State Agencies and it is under the joint custody of millers as well as State Agencies. As on date approximately 30.5 LMT paddy is lying with State Agencies.

(b) As regards movement of paddy, it is stated that paddy as such is not moved from Punjab. First paddy is milled by State Agencies and rice is delivered to F.C.I, which is moved as per demand of deficit region, vacant storage capacity etc. F.C.I, is continuously making efforts to evacuate the maximum possible rice stocks from Punjab and during the Year 2009-10 F.C.I, had moved 2159 number of rice specials (approx. 55.05 LMT) from Punjab to other States. In the first four months i.e. from April 2010 to July 2010, 544 rice special (approx. 13.87 LMT) have been moved.

Allotment of rice to Kerala

1385. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to give more rice to State of Kerala during this Onam season;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) 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 (c) The Government has made an additional allocation of 50000 tons of rice at MSP derived price to Kerala for Onam Festival 2010.

In addition to the above, the Government has made following additional allocations to the State of Kerala:

1. 55818 tons of rice and 48052 tons of wheat at the price of Rs.8.45 per kg for wheat and Rs.11.85 per kg for rice for all accepted number of families (AAY, BPL & APL) under TPDS made on 19.5.2010 with validity period for lifting upto 20th November 2010.

2. 16319 tons of rice and 4188 tons of wheat per month has been allocated for APL families at APL issue price on 02.08.2010 from August 2010 to January, 2011.

Fruits and vegetables cooperatives

1386. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of fruits and vegetables co-operatives set up/being set up/proposed to be set up in the country;

(b) the details of employment generated from such co-operatives;

(c) whether the interests of small farmers living in hilly States like Himachal Pradesh are being protected from the emerging urban retail outlets by such co-operatives and network of Self-Help Groups; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the impact of such linkage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) has informed that no fruits and vegetables multi state cooperative society has been registered under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act and no such proposal is pending for registration. However, such Societies might have been registered in the states under the respective cooperative societies act. DAC does not maintain information about state level Cooperative Societies.

Food inflation

1387. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether fresh arrival of Rabi crops has helped in checking food inflation to 16.4 per cent during April, 2010 and the inflation fell over 0.57 per cent from 16.6 per cent in the previous month;

(b) whether experts have also pointed that inflation could fall further if there is normal monsoon; and

(c) if so, to what extent inflation has been checked so far and whether the price rise which was on high has been reduced and food inflation has been under control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Due to various Government measures the WPI based inflation of food articles had declined to 9.67% for the week ending 17.7.2010 from the peak level of 21% prevailing during the week ending 28.11.2009.

Allocation of foodgrains to Rajasthan under TPDS

1388. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether total foodgrains allocation for BPL, AAY and APL families in Rajasthan under Public Distribution System has been reduced;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the quantum of wheat, rice, sugar and kerosene supplied under Public Distribution System to Rajasthan during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Allocations of foodgrains to all States/Union Territories (UTs) under the Targeted Public Distribution System are made @ 35 kg. per family per month for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission and March 2000 population estimates of Registrar General of India or the number of families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by State/UT Governments, whichever is less. Accordingly, allocations of foodgrains for BPL and AAY categories are made @ 35 kg. per family per month for all accepted 24.31 lakh BPL/AAY families in Rajasthan.

Allocations of foodgrains to 64.36 lakh APL families in the State are made depending upon the availability of stocks of food grains in Central Pool and past offtake. No reduction has been made in the total allocations of foodgrains to the State since 2007-08.

Significantly, over and above the normal monthly allocations of foodgrains made to the State of Rajasthan under TPDS as indicated above, the Government has made the following additional allocations:-

1. Special adhoc additional allocation of 177340 tons of wheat at MSP based price for January and February 2010 for all accepted number of BPL/AAY/APL families.
2. Special adhoc additional allocation of 20000 tons of rice and 130739 tons of wheat at the price of Rs.8.45 per kg for wheat and Rs.11.85 per kg for rice for all accepted number of families (AAY, BPL & APL) under TPDS on 19.5.2010 with validity period for lifting upto 20th November 2010.
3. 20000 tons of rice and 130739 tons of wheat on 22.07.2010 at the price of Rs 11.85 per kg for rice and Rs. 8.45 per kg for wheat.
4. 25744 tons of wheat and 6436 tons of rice per month for APL families at APL issue price from August 2010 to January 2011.
5. 25354 tons of wheat per month at MSP based issue price from October 2009 to May 2010 as drought relief allocations.
6. 173864 tons of wheat and 78 tons of rice released under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) for retail consumers of Rajasthan during October 2009 to March 2010.

The details of the quantum of foodgrains (wheat and rice), sugar and kerosene supplied to Rajasthan during the last three years are as under:

Foodgrains under TPDS: (in thousand tons)			
Year(s)	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Allocation	1,274.968	1,364.624	1,945.464
Offtake	1,143.286	1,280.799	1,919.335
Sugar: (in thousand tons)			
Sugar Season	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Allocation	55.37	97.05	99.30
Kerosene: (in metric tons)			
Year(s)	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Allocation	398913	398913	398431
Offtake	400254	398263	199030*

* For April to September, 2009

Village Grain Bank Scheme

1389. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Village Grain Bank Scheme specially in Uttarakhand;

(b) whether Government is setting up village grain banks during current Five Year Plan;

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

(d) the steps taken to achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Under Village Grain Bank Scheme, this Department has sanctioned 18,692 Village Grain Banks (VGBs) to various State Governments till date. The Govt, of Uttrakhand was sanctioned 55 VGBs during the year 2006-07. The State Government has reported setting up of 55 VGBs in the State during the year 2009-10.

(b) to (d) During the 11th Five Year Plan period, a target to establish 12,823 Village Grain Banks (VGBs) has been fixed. Proposals are requested from State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to set up VGBs. They are pursued periodically through meetings and in writing for submission of fresh proposals. During the first three years of the 11th Plan period, 7,219 Village Grain Banks have been sanctioned to 12 States as given in statement.

Statement

*Village grain banks sanctioned during the first three years
of the 11th five year plan*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Village Grain Banks sanctioned
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1628
2.	West Bengal	650
3.	Bihar	415

1	2	3
5.	Madhya Pradesh	1858
6.	Orissa	260
7.	Tripura	26
8.	Rajasthan	550
9.	Kerala	387
10.	Uttar Pradesh	781
11.	Nagaland	336
12.	Manipur	200
Total		7,219

Amendment to Consumer Protection Act

1390. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to facilitate and provide for online filing of cases before various forums under Consumer Protection Act;

(b) if so, whether the Act is proposed to be amended; and

(c) the essential features of the proposed amendments along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Yes. There is a proposal to amend the Consumer Protection Act, which is under consideration in consultation with the concerned Ministries and Departments.

Shortage of wheat under open sky

†1391. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of buffer stock of wheat available with Government on 30th April, 2010 before the arrival of new wheat crops;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the quantum of wheat purchased in May, 2010 by Food Corporation of India and various agencies;

(c) whether Government left most of the wheat purchased this year in Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh under the open sky;

(d) if so, the quantum of wheat left under open sky; and

(e) the quantum of wet wheat from May, 2010 till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) A quantity of 337.13 lakh MTs wheat was available in Central Pool on 30th April 2010. The new wheat crop arrival started before 30th April and wheat procurement started from 1st April, 2010 in major procuring states.

(b) A quantity of 27.05 lakh MT of wheat was purchased in May 2010 by Food Corporation of India and various agencies.

(c) and (d) As informed by FCI 168.05 lakh tonnes of wheat was kept under CAP(Covered & Plinth storage as on 1.7.2010.

(e) Instances of foodgrains affected by moisture have come to notice. Details are given at Statement. [Refer to the statement appended to Answer to USQ 1377 Part (b) to (d)]

High food inflation rate

1392. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite declaration of the Prime Minister a few months ago that the "worst of food inflation is over", the food inflation rate continues to remain extremely high at over 16.5 per cent;

(b) the concrete steps Government proposes to take to curb the food price rise; and

(c) the reasons for not using buffer stock of over six crore tonnes of foodgrains rotting in Government godowns to restore the huge cut in foodgrains allocations to the States for APL sections who have been wrongly excluded from the Public Distribution System?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No Sir. The WPI food inflation had declined to 9.67% for the week ending 17.7.2010.

(b) Government had already taken several fiscal and administrative measures to contain the inflation which is given in Statement (See below).

(c) Buffer stock of rice and wheat is maintained by the Central Government. Allocation of foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is made for Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojna (AAY) families on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission projected on the population estimates of Registrar General of India as on 10.3.2000, or the number of families actually identified and ration cards issued by the State Governments, whichever is less. Accordingly, allocations of foodgrains for BPL and AAY categories are made @ 35 kg per family per month for all accepted 6.25 crore families in the country. Allocations under Above Poverty Line (APL) category are made depending upon the availability of stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool and past offtake. Presently, these allocations range between 10 kg and 35 kg per family per month in different States/UTs.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government to contain price rise in essential Commodities such as rice, wheat, pulses and sugar are briefly stated below:

I. Fiscal Measures

(i) Reduced import duties to zero - for rice, wheat, pulses

(ii) Allowed import of raw sugar at zero duty under O.G.L. up to 01.08.2009 by sugar mills (notified on 17.04.2009) extended up to 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.

(iii) Allowed import of white/refined sugar by STC/MMTC/PEC and NAFED up to 1 million tons by 01.08.2009 under O.G.L. at zero duty (notified on 17.04.2009). 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.

II. Administrative Measures

(i) Removed levy obligation in respect of imported raw sugar and white/refined sugar.

(ii) Banned export of non-basmati rice, 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 was reduced from 15 days to 10 days vide notification dated 05.02.2010, which came into effect on 20.02.2010 and remain in force for 180 days.

(iv) Using Minimum Export Price (MEP) to regulate exports of 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 2010-11. Futures trading in sugar were suspended w.e.f. 27.5.2009 upto 30th of September, 2010.

(vii) Permitted sugar factories to sell processed raw sugar in the domestic market and fulfil export obligation on ton to ton basis.

(viii) Proportion of sugar production requisitioned as levy sugar was increased from 10 to 20% for 2009-10 sugar season to ensure adequate levy sugar supplies under PDS.

(ix) For the month of June, 2010, 17.00 lakh tons of non-levy sugar have been made available which includes 12.80 lakh tons of normal non-

levy sugar and 3.70 lakh tons of
sugar processed from imported raw sugar during April, 2010. Estimated
availability out of imported

white/refined sugar during the month is about 0.50 lakh ton. Besides, levy sugar quota of 2.08 lac tons also been released. Thus, for the month of June, 2010, 19.08 lac tons of sugar have been made available.

(x) An additional allocation of wheat/rice @10 kg/family/month of January and February 2010 has been made to the accepted number 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) Specific ad hoc additional allocation of 30.66 lakh tons of food grains has been made for all cardholders wef 19.5.2010 with validity for lifting up to 20.11.2010 @ of Rs.8.45 per kg for wheat and Rs. 11.85 per kg for rice.

(xii) **OMSS interventions:**

(a) Allocation to State Governments under OMSS (Domestic) for release of 20.00 lakh tons of wheat was made to check inflationary trends in food economy from October 2009 to March 2010. The State/UT Government were 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 MTs wheat was also allocated for sale to bulk consumers through open tenders by FCI from October, 09 - March, 10. Another 10.88 lakh tons of wheat from the expected savings from retail allocations was allocated for bulk consumers through tender sale.

(c) In order to check inflationary trend in prices of Rice, a quantity of 10.0 lakh tons of rice was allocated during October 2009 to March 2010 to State Governments for distribution to retail consumers.

(d) On 18.1.2010, NAFED was allotted 37400 tons of wheat and 17000 tons of rice from the un-lifted quantity of OMSS allocations to State Governments. Similarly, NCCF was allocated 32684.21 tonnes wheat and 11000 tons rice for sale to retail consumers.

(e) On 16.2.2010, another allocation of 5 lakh tons of wheat was made for tender sale to small processors by FCI. High Level Committee of FCI has formulated guidelines for tender sale to small processors. The reserve price fixed for tender sale of wheat to bulk consumers undertaken

by

FCI. The total wheat allocation under OMSS now in 35 lakh tons, and total rice allocation is 10 lakh tons.

(xiv) The Government also contemplating bringing legislation on Food Security.

(B) 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.

Universalization of PDS

1393. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the States in the country that have introduced statutory rationing for essential commodities through Public Distribution Shops; and

(b) whether Government would take steps to implement universalized Public Distribution System for essential commodities in all States of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (b) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is implemented jointly by Central Government 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 food grains to the States and UTs. The responsibilities for allocation of food grains 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 food grains to eligible ration card holders through fair price shops (FPSs) and supervision of the functioning of FPSs, etc., rest with the State/UT Governments.

Food grains (rice and wheat) @ 35 kg per family per month are allocated to the State/UT Governments to 6.52 crore accepted number of BPL families, including 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families

for distribution at subsidized prices through Fair Price Shops. Depending upon their availability in Central pool, food grains are also allocated to Above Poverty Line (APL) families.

Presently, the allocations for APL category range between 10 and 35 kg of food grains per family per month.

There is no proposal to implement universalized Public Distribution System in the country.

Price hike due to increase in prices of petrol and diesel

1394. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of essential commodities like food grains, edible oil, pulses, vegetables and fruits have registered spiraling rise due to recent hike in petrol and diesel prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether action has been taken to control and check relative price rise of all commodities due to hike in diesel prices by wholesalers, retailers and shopkeepers; 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) No Sir. The prices of essential commodities like food grains, edible oil, pulses, vegetables and fruits have not registered spiraling rise due to recent hike in petrol and diesel prices.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Expenditure on transportation of food grains

†1395. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge expenditure is incurred on transportation of food grains first to storage godown and then to distribution outlets;

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

(c) the quantum of food grains pilferaged during their transportation and storage and the price thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the measures taken by Government to stop such wastage and loss of food grains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The food grains procured by Food Corporation of India (FCI) are issued for Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other welfare schemes directly from the storage godowns of the Corporation. The concerned State Governments incur transportation cost thereafter till distribution outlets.

However, FCI is required to transport the stocks from procuring States to the consuming States. The cost incurred for such transportation during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in crore)	
Years	Amount
2007-08	3338.56
2008-09 (Provisional)	3014.48
2009-10 (Revised Estimates)	3241.34

(c) As informed by FCI, the quantum of food grains pilfered during their storage and its value during the last three years is as under:

(Qty. in MT/ Value in Rupees)		
During Storage		
Year	Qty. of Loss	Value of Loss
2007-08	97.85	895766
2008-09	1.15	17422
2009-10	3.42	486227

(d) The remedial measures taken by FCI to minimize pilferage of food grains are given in Statement.

Statement

Steps taken by FCI to minimize pilferage of food grains

Following remedial measures have been taken by the FCI to minimize pilferage of food grains:

1. Physical measures like installation of barbed wire fencing of the boundary walls, provision of street lights for illumination of

godowns and proper locking of the sheds have been taken to secure the godowns.

2. Security staff of FCI as well as other agencies like Home Guards, Special Police Officers are deployed for safety of the stocks.
3. Deployment of CISF and State armed police has been done at some depots which are vulnerable.
4. Security inspections as well as surprise checks of the depots are also conducted from time to time at various levels to detect and plug the security lapses.
5. Lodging of FIRs with the Police when pilferage comes to notice in addition to departmental action where necessary.

Compulsory procurement of food grains from small and medium farmers

1396. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is proposing policy for compulsory Government procurement of food grains from small and medium farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the aims and objectives of such proposal; and

(d) the views of the States and farmers in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Government procures food grains (wheat, rice and coarse grains) conforming to uniform specifications at Minimum Support Price (MSP) from the farmers through Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State agencies procuring on behalf of FCI for the Central Pool. Procurement of food grains is open ended wherein all the food grains offered by farmers including small and marginal farmers at MSP and conforming to prescribed specifications are procured. Farmers have a choice to sell it to FCI/State Agencies at MSP or to sell in the open market. There is no proposal for compulsory Government procurement of food grains from small & medium farmers.

Rottening of wheat and peas in Rajasthan

1397. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that hundreds of tonnes of wheat and peas belonging to Food Corporation of India and National Cooperative Consumers Federation meant for BPL people under PDS continue to rot in Rajasthan;

(b) whether Government has sought report from the concerned authorities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) As per the reports received from Food Corporation of India (FCI) and National Cooperative Consumers Federation (NCCF), 8.56 tons wheat of FCI and 1500.52 tons imported yellow peas of NCCF got damaged at the railway yard Udaipur due to rains in first week of July, 2010. For these damages, FCI has to recover loss from the handling and transport contractor and NCCF has to recover it from the Insurance Company.

Free and compulsory education for girls at college level

†1398. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to provide free and compulsory education for girls at college level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the procedure being formulated in this regard; and

(d) by when the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to provide free and compulsory education for girls at college level at present.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Clearance for setting up of IIITs

1399. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government had earlier prepared a Public Private Partnership (PPP) model for setting up of 30 Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) with a funding pattern of 85:15 between Government and the industry;

(b) whether Government has sought clearance of the proposal from Expenditure Finance Committee for its inclusion in the Eleventh Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Government of India has a scheme of setting up 20 new Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode, in the XI Plan. The cost of new IIITs will be shared by the Central Government, State Governments and private partners.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. The proposal includes the mode of financing of the Institutes, phasing of recurring & non-recurring expenditure and recruitment of faculty & non faculty etc.

Coaching centres

†1400. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering closing coaching/ training centres helping in preparation for medical and engineering entrance exams, if so, the basis thereof;

(b) whether Government has made changes in entrance examinations for medical and engineering, if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government has prepared legal draft to ban institutes related to coaching, if so, details thereof;

(d) whether Government is considering bringing about uniformity in mathematics and science syllabus throughout the country, if so, whether all State Governments have been convinced; and

(e) whether Government is considering to bring uniformity in higher education throughout the country and whether Constitutional arrangements have been made for this?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) The Ministry does not maintain data on coaching centres in the country. There is as of now no law or regulation regulating the functioning of such centres. However, steps have been taken from time to time to reform engineering entrance exams like IIT- Joint Entrance Examination System (JEE) with a view to reduce dependency of engineering aspirants on coaching centres. Under the present IIT- Joint Entrance Examination System only those students who secure at least 60% marks in the Standard XII Examination are eligible for admission to the IITs so that the marks obtained in the qualifying Board Examination are given due weightage. Efforts are being made to promote classroom teaching and learning by adopting uniform syllabus in Science and Mathematics prepared by the Council of Board of School Education in India in both class XII as well as in the All India Pre Medical/Pre Dental Entrance Examination and All India Engineering Entrance Examination conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

(d) Yes, Sir. In a meeting of Council of Boards of Secondary Education in India (COBSE) held on 16th February, 2010, attended by 21 Boards unanimously decided to adopt uniform syllabus prepared for Science and Mathematics subject at senior secondary level. Boards have also agreed for 5-10% variation from Core Curriculum. Core Curriculum was also placed before the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) in its meeting held on 19th June, 2010

(e) No, Sir. However, as a part of an effort to bring uniformity in higher education throughout the country, UGC has prepared model curricula for 32 subjects at undergraduate and postgraduate level. UGC has requested all universities to adopt the Model Curricula.

Members of NCMEI

1401. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) is over-burdened and there is a need for more members in the Commission to dispose off the pending work; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a)
Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (Amendment) Bill 2010, passed by Lok Sabha, to provide for *inter-alia*, increase in the number of Members from 2 to 3, has been introduced in Rajya Sabha.

Admissions against seats reserved for OBCs

1402. SHRI M.P ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that increased number of seats provided for 27 per cent reservation for OBCs for admissions to central educational institutions got transferred to general category for want of suitable candidates from backward classes;

(b) if so, the number of seats provided under this category and transferred to general category later on in JNU, Delhi and Delhi University during the years 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11; and

(c) Government's reaction to this situation?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) The Government, in accordance with the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of IA No. 3 of 2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 35 of 2007, has issued-instructions vide OM No. 1-1/2008-(III)-U.I(A) dated 17th October, 2008 to all the Central Educational Institutions (CEIs) to ensure that seats reserved for OBCs are filled by other eligible students only if they are vacant after admitting all eligible OBC students i.e. after excluding creamy layer as per OM No. 1-1/2008 - U.1(A) dated 13.10.2008. CEIs were also asked to ensure that maximum cut off marks of OBCs are not kept lower than 10% from the cut off marks for general category candidates as directed by the Hon'ble Court.

According to information provided by University Grants Commission (UGC), the details regarding no. of seats provided under OBC category and transferred to general category later on in Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Delhi and Delhi University are as under:-

Name of Univ.				
	University of Delhi		Jawaharlal Nehru university	
	Year	No. of	No. of	No. of
	No. of			
	seats	seats	seats	seats
	provided	transferred to	provided	transferred
	under OBC	general	under OBC	to general
	category	category	category	category
2008-09	4897 (925 for Univ. Deptt and 3952 for Delhi colleges)	Nil *	256	54
2009-10	9778 (including 1722 (1580 for Delhi Colleges) Delhi Colleges and 142 seats for Univ. Deptt.)		410	75
2010-11	Since the process of admission is not complete yet in respect of year			
	2010-11, the required information for the same is not available.			

* As admission for 2008-09 were over before the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India became available 2136 seats (361 for University Deptt. and 1775 for Delhi Colleges) remained unfilled and were not transferred to the general category.

Education through English medium in government schools

†1403. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is increasing trend among common public to get their children educated through english medium, so that, in future their children could get jobs in any private or Government sector by having knowledge of this global language;

(b) whether keeping in view the sentiments of the Public, Government has considered to provide facility of education through english medium to the students of Government schools on their demand, as is being provided in private english medium schools;

(c) whether Government found it necessary to consider it, if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF), 2005 advocates a multi-lingual approach to schooling from the outset. It also states that within the first eight years of school education, it should be possible to achieve basic English language proficiency.

Education being a concurrent subject, most of the schools come under the purview of the State Governments, and it is for them and the school management to choose medium of instruction for the schools. Schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education have either English or Hindi as medium of instruction. Kendriya Vidyalayas have both English and Hindi as medium of instruction, whereas Jawaharlal Navadoya Vidyalayas have English and regional language as medium of instruction.

Seats in Central Schools

†1404. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to increase seats in Central schools with a view to give admission to maximum number of children in them;

(b) if so, the percentage of seats increased in every school;

(c) whether seats have also been increased in Central schools being run in tents; and

(d) if so, whether only poor children have been admitted on the increased seats?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the demand for seats in Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs), 585 more sections with capacity of 40 each have been added to the existing KVs for 2010-11 session by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS). Orders have also been issued by KVS to open 71 more new KVs during 2010-11 session, thus adding to the capacity by 355 more sections.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) No Kendriya Vidyalaya is being run in tents.

(d) Does not arise.

Proposal for holding single entrance test for IITs

1405. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed to hold a single entrance test for admissions into various Indian Institutes of Technology of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that various IITs have opposed the proposal and opined for retaining Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) System;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has arrived at a final decision on the issue; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (f) The Committee appointed under the chairmanship of Prof. D. Acharya to explore the possibility of replacing the Joint Entrance Examination with a Single Entrance Test has not submitted its report to this Ministry. This Ministry is not aware of the rejection of the Single National Entrance Test by the Indian Institutes of Technology.

Employment of untrained teachers

1406. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a large number of untrained teachers are being employed in the country at the primary and upper primary levels;

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

(c) whether several State Governments have been employing teachers without any professional training;

(d) if so, whether Government and NCTE proposes to lay down the minimum qualification for teachers at the elementary schools level and also to provide mandatory professional training; and

(e) if so, whether Government proposes to take any step in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (e) As per District Information System for Education (DISE) 2008-09, the percentage of professionally trained teachers in Government schools in the country is 85.79. A State-wise statement of the distribution of professionally trained teachers is given in Statement (See below). Section 23(1) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides that any person possessing such minimum qualifications as laid down by an academic authority authorized by the Central Government, by notification, shall be eligible for appointment as teacher. The Government has issued a notification authorizing the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) to lay down the academic qualifications for appointment as teacher. Further, Section 23(2) of the RTE Act lays down that where a State does not have adequate institutions offering courses or training in teacher education, or teachers possessing minimum qualification are not available in sufficient number, the Central Government may, if it deems necessary, by notification, relax the minimum qualifications required for appointment as a teacher, for such period, not exceeding five years. The proviso to Section 23(2) of the RTE Act, 2009 lays down that a teacher who, at the commencement of the RTE Act, does not possess the minimum prescribed qualifications shall acquire such qualifications within a period of five years.

Statement

*State-wise details of professionally trained teachers in
Government Schools in the country*

Sl.No.	State	Percentage Distribution of Professionally Trained Teachers
1	2	3
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	99.55

2.	Andhra Pradesh	98.53
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	23.49

1	2	3
4.	Assam	49.74
5.	Bihar	40.92
6.	Chandigarh	99.90
7.	Chhattisgarh	67.37
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	99.84
9.	Daman & Diu	99.37
10.	Delhi	99.37
11.	Goa	97.38
12.	Gujarat	99.62
13.	Haryana	96.48
14.	Himachal Pradesh	99.86
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	76.71
16.	Jharkhand	88.21
17.	Karnataka	97.96
18.	Kerala	98.90
19.	Lakshadweep	100.00
20.	Madhya Pradesh	83.40
21.	Maharashtra	99.57
22.	Manipur	38.65
23.	Meghalaya	46.20
24.	Mizoram	77.33
25.	Nagaland	27.16
26.	Orissa	82.20

1	2	3
27.	Pondicherry	99.05
28.	Punjab	97.39
29.	Rajasthan	93.26
30.	Sikkim	33.61
31.	Tamil Nadu	99.21
32.	Tripura	43.92
33.	Uttar Pradesh	95.67
34.	Uttarakhand	96.88
35.	West Bengal	79.06
	India	85.79

Concerns of Muslims about Right to Education Act

1407. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Muslim minority has expressed their concern about the Right to Education Act; and

(b) if so, the details of their concern about the Act and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Government has received representations from minority organizations regarding certain provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 including the provision relating to constitution and function of School Management Committee under the RTE Act. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2010 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 16th April, 2010 incorporating the amendment that the provision of School Management Committee (SMC) of an

aided minority school constituted under section 21 of the RTE Act shall function in an advisory capacity and further that the SMC of an aided minority school constituted under Section 21 will not be required to prepare the School Development Plan under Section 22.

Inclusion of Mid-Day-Meal scheme under National Food Security Bill

1408. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recommended for the Mid-Day-Meal scheme to become part of the proposed National Food Security Bill;

(b) if so, whether any response has been received from the Ministry of Food in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the scope of the Mid-Day-Meal scheme would be extended; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Department of Food & Public Distribution had invited the views of the Department of School Education & Literacy for including the Mid Day Meal Scheme in the proposed National Food Security Law. This Department replied in the affirmative as it would ensure better commitment from all participants in implementation of the Scheme.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) and (e) No such proposal is pending in the Ministry.

Central grants for SSA

1409. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2554 given in the Rajya Sabha on 11th December, 2009 and state:

(a) the amount spent by Government towards grants to States under sharing pattern for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) during Eleventh Five Year Plan, Year-wise; and

(b) what is the ratio of above to GDP in terms of percentage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Total year-wise Central grants released to States/Union Territories for implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme during XIth Plan and their percentage in relation to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at factor cost at current prices are:

Year	Central releases (in lakh)	GDP (in lakh)	%age value between Central releases & GDP
2007-08	1142626.87	454098700	0.2516
2008-09	1260481.82	522865000@	0.2411
2009-10	1278107.89	579126800*	0.2207

@quick estimates *advance estimates

Source: National Account Statistics, 2010

Setting up of NCHER

1410. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the impediments being faced by Government over setting up of a National Commission for Higher Education and Research (NCHER);

(b) whether Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Bar Council of India have expressed reservations over setting up of such a Commission; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) The Government has constituted a Task Force to aid and assist the Government in drafting a Higher Education and Research Bill. The Task Force is in the process of giving final shape to the Bill after taking into consideration the views of all concerned, including statutory bodies such as the Bar

Council of India. Formal inter-Ministerial consultations would be held with other Ministries of the Government; including the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, after the 'draft' of the proposed Bill is made available by the Task Force.

SAARC University

1411. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the SAARC University has started functioning;
- (b) whether the admission process has started; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) The South Asian University has started the admission process in May, 2010 for the academic year 2010-11. The University will start functioning with the commencement of its first academic session in the last week of August 2010. The University has invited applications for admissions to the initial two courses that were offered for 2010-11, namely, Master of Arts in Development Economics and Master of Computer Applications. The deadline for receiving applications for admission to the academic year 2010-11 is over.

NUEPA estimates for requirement of teachers

1412. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per the estimates prepared by the National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA), 5.1 lakh additional teachers are required to maintain pupil-teacher ratio as prescribed under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that there is an urban-rural imbalance in teacher availability; and
- (c) if so, the plan Government has to maintain pupil-teacher ratio so as to achieve the objectives of free education to children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) States have been advised to redeploy teachers so that the school-wise Pupil Teacher Ratio is achieved. It is the duty of the appropriate government and local authority to ensure that the Pupil-Teacher Ratio as specified in the Schedule of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act is maintained in each school.

Exploitation of teachers in private schools in NCR

†1413. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the official procedure for opening private play/pre-nursery/K.G. and middle schools and with which authority's approval these schools are being run;

(b) the total number of such schools being run in NCR;

(c) the annual average amount Government gets out of the total amount of fees/other expenditure charged by private school operators;

(d) whether the teachers working in these schools are economically exploited;

(e) whether Government proposes to convert these schools to Government schools in order to provide employment to educated unemployed persons; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Education is a concurrent subject and school education is primarily within the purview of the State Governments. It is for the concerned State Governments to lay down the procedure for opening of schools. In case of Delhi, Government of NCT Delhi has informed that the procedure for recognition of schools is governed by the Delhi School Education Act and Rules, 1973. As per Section 49 of Delhi Education Act every private school seeking recognition has to make an application to the appropriate authority. Conditions for recognition are mentioned in Section 50 of the Act. Anyone intending to establish a new school needs to give an intimation in writing of the intention alongwith certain particulars that are mentioned in Sec 44(2) of the Act, and which includes details of infrastructure and financial resources, the stage of education, the

composition of the Managing Committee, admission procedure, and the facilities proposed to be provided. Director (Education) Municipal

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Corporation of Delhi, and Director (Education) New Delhi Municipal Council approve recognition in respect of schools upto primary level under their jurisdiction. Director (Education) Government of NCT Delhi approves recognition in respect of all schools which are middle and above level throughout Delhi.

(b) Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that there are 1989 recognized schools functioning in Delhi.

(c) Government of NCT of Delhi does not get any amount from the fees charged by the private schools.

(d) Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that no such complaint has been received by them in this regard.

(e) and (f) No such proposal is under consideration of Government of NCT of Delhi.

Basic facilities in Central Schools

1414. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any survey on availability of basic facilities in Central schools in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the findings of the survey, State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether most of Central schools in the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar do not have proper toilets and drinking water facilities; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by Government to redress the problem?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) No, Sir. As on date, all Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) functioning in the country have basic facilities like water supply, electricity & toilets.

(d) and (e) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) has informed that all KVs have toilet and drinking water facilities. KVs functioning in permanent buildings have proper facilities. However, for KVs running in temporary buildings, toilets and drinking water facilities as per

standard building norms may not be available in some cases. In case of KVs running in temporary building in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, KVS has written to the State Governments & other sponsoring agencies to transfer land to enable, construction of permanent building.

Basic facilities in schools

†1415. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the latest position, schools in various States of the country particularly in tribal, backward and rural areas lack basic facilities like building, drinking water, toilets, etc.

(b) whether it is also a fact that the basic objective of new education policy could not be achieved;

(c) whether any assessment regarding the position in this respect has been made, State-wise;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the effective measures taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (e) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is being implemented to universalize elementary education in accordance with the policy parameters of the National Policy on Education, (1986/92) in all areas of the country, including tribal, backward and rural areas. A Statement showing State-wise availability of basic infrastructural facilities in elementary schools is given in Statement (*See below*).

Districts with large infrastructure gaps, *i.e.* districts with a gap of over 3,000 classrooms, and districts with a ratio of primary schools to upper primary schools exceeding 3:1, are classified as Special Focus Districts (SFD) under SSA. In order to enable these districts meet their infrastructure gaps, SSA provides for relaxation of the normal ceiling of 33% on civil works, and provides upto 50% of the total outlay for construction of civil works in a particular year's annual plan, provided that the overall ceiling of 33% is maintained for the SSA programme as a whole. In the year 2010-11, SFDs have been sanctioned 13,356 primary school buildings, 5893 upper primary school buildings, 1,56,838 additional classrooms, 78,863 toilets and 5448 drinking water facilities.

Rashtriya Madhaymik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), which aims at universalizing access to secondary education, is being implemented from 2009-10. This scheme also focuses on areas with a concentration of SC, ST

and Minority populations for opening schools. Under the RMSA programme,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

2478 new/upgraded secondary schools have been sanctioned. Strengthening of 7355 existing Government schools has also been sanctioned in 2009-10, which includes provision for separate toilet blocks and drinking water facilities in 4912 schools. Further under the Girls' Hostel scheme, 425 hostels in 11 States have been sanctioned so far. Under another scheme for setting up of 6000 Model Schools at Block level as benchmark of excellence, 434 Model schools in Educationally Backward Blocks have been sanctioned.

Statement

Statewise availability of basic infrastructural facilities in Elementary schools

S.No.	State	School Buildings	Drinking Water	Common Toilet
1	2	3	4	5
1	A & N Islands	98.61	98.61	95.56
2	Andhra Pradesh	96.55	85.59	61.45
3	Arunachal Pradesh	99.52	63.30	25.79
4	Assam	99.94	65.34	30.27
5	Bihar	85.16	85.32	57.19
6	Chandigarh	99.44	100.00	40.11
7	Chhattisgarh	92.13	88.74	44.16
8	D & N Haveli	100.00	93.83	42.21
9	Daman & Diu	100.00	100.00	89.90
10	Delhi	100.00	100.00	52.82
11	Goa	98.40	97.70	61.10
12	Gujarat	98.92	90.24	73.10
13	Haryana	99.23	96.99	94.80
14	Himachal Pradesh	99.83	94.10	50.86

1	2	3	4	5
15	Jammu & Kashmir	98.46	78.66	35.27
16	Jharkhand	91.29	71.70	40.92
17	Karnataka	99.50	82.73	83.29
18	Kerala	99.21	97.73	82.88
19	Lakshadweep	100.00	100.00	76.92
20	Madhya Pradesh	97.03	92.69	74.20
21	Maharashtra	97.38	87.70	77.14
22	Manipur	99.06	76.58	51.44
23	Meghalaya	96.53	50.61	32.82
24	Mizoram	99.47	80.64	81.71
25	Nagaland	100.00	75.15	79.88
26	Orissa	97.93	83.33	57.15
27	Pudducherry	99.57	99.71	99.28
28	Punjab	99.33	97.32	89.17
29	Rajasthan	98.11	91.96	48.65
30	Sikkim	99.65	87.50	98.69
31	Tamil Nadu	100.00	100.00	66.74
32	Tripura	99.95	77.77	70.47
33	Uttar Pradesh	99.28	97.58	92.65
34	Uttarakhand	98.90	87.23	85.55
35	West Bengal	99.96	82.71	74.34
All States		97.32	87.77	66.84

Pendency of cases in NCMEI

1416. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a huge pendency of cases in the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI);

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

(c) the steps being taken to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) During the last 5 years (2005-2010) 8276 matters were registered with the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI), out of which 7284 have been disposed off and the number of pending matters is 992. A legislative proposal to amend the NCMEI Act, 2004 (2 of 2005) to provide for, inter-alia, one additional Member is before Parliament.

Objections of minorities to Right to Education Act

1417. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been pointed out by various sections of minorities that Right to Education Act is not in their favour;

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

(c) the action being proposed in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Government has received representations from minority institutions on various issues relating to the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, including the provisions on constitution and functions of the School Management Committee under the Act.

The Right to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2010 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 16th April, 2010 incorporating the provision that School Management Committee (SMC) of an aided minority school constituted under section 21 of the RTE Act shall function in an

advisory capacity and further that the SMC of an aided minority school constituted under Section 21 will not be required to prepare the School Development Plan under Section 22 of the Act.

Bordia Committee for harmonizing SSA and RTE

1418. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bordia Committee set by Government to harmonize the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and the Right to Education Act has suggested Government to increase the Central share;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government will propose to increase the Central share under SSA and RTE Act from the present level;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Bordia Committee has recommended a revision in the sharing pattern between the Central and State Governments for implementation of the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 through the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme.

(c) to (e) The Government is considering a revised fund sharing pattern between the Central and State Governments for implementation of the revised RTE-SSA programme.

Fake mark-sheets

1419. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any report recently on the investigation made by CBI on fake mark-sheets, particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and Government's response thereto;

(c) whether CBI has recommended to store mark-sheets in tamper-proof electronic format to avoid further fake mark-sheets incidence in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has reported 1576 cases of fake Degree/ Mark Sheets/Provisional Certificates in the State of Maharashtra. Accordingly, after the enquiry letters were issued to the Director General of Police, Maharashtra, Mumbai requesting to direct the concerned Police Stations to register FIRs in respective jurisdictional Police Stations. The University authorities were instructed to lodge complaints in respective Police/ Stations so that investigation take place.

(c) and (d) The Government has already initiated action even before the advisory from the CBI referred to in part (c) of the question, to create a National Academic Depository through an Act of Parliament. A draft legislation has been circulated for consultations.

Shortage of premier educational institutions

†1420. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of premier educational institutions in the country;

(b) if so. the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that 1100 new universities and 13000 new colleges are required across the country; and

(d) if so, the action plan of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) To raise the Gross Enrolment Ratio from the present 12.4% (approximately) to 30% by 2020, as per an estimate, over 27000 additional colleges and over 24000 technical colleges will be required. The National Knowledge Commission had estimated that 1500 universities would be needed, whereas the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

present number of university level institutions is 504. A mix of initiatives, in stepping up public investments, encouraging not-for-profit private participation and public-private-partnerships, is the strategy towards capacity expansion in higher education.

Multiplicity of entrance examinations for higher education

1421. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a meeting of State Education Ministers was held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether they reached any consensus on reducing the multiplicity of entrance examinations for higher education; and

(d) if so, how much time it will take for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A Conference of State Education Ministers' was held on 18th June, 2010. In the Conference, a child centric vision of education including higher education was shared with States. In particular, States were exhorted to join hands in reducing the multiplicity of entrance examinations for entry to higher education as also the need to develop a core curriculum in schools for the subjects of science and mathematics, without in any manner restricting or affecting the authority of States in prescribing syllabi and conducting examinations.

The need to establish a National Institute for Assessment and Evaluation; giving weightage to be accorded to performance in Class-XII in entrance tests for professional and other courses; extending the system of Comprehensive and Continuous Evaluation for assessment of students upto Class-X; enunciating a National Vocational Education Qualification Framework and promoting value education are some of the other important issues that were discussed in the Conference of State Education Ministers.

Establishment of central university in Darjeeling

†1422. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the reasons for pendency of the proposal for establishing a Central University in Darjeeling;

(b) the problems in establishing Central University in Darjeeling; and

(c) by when this university is likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) As approved by National Development Council, during the XIth Five Year Plan period 2007-12, the Central Government has established, through Central University Act 2009, 16 new Central Universities in all such states (except Goa) as do not have a Central University. Since in West Bengal there is already a Central University, namely, Visva-Bharati at Santi-Niketan, it has not been possible, at this stage, to accede to the request for establishment of a Central University in Darjeeling.

Admission of students in IITs

1423. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of students have lost their admission to IITs a day before they were to deposit their fees;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to safeguard the future of these students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Some candidates who did not qualify in the Architecture/Design aptitude test were inadvertently allotted B.Arch and B.Des courses in the Joint Entrance Examination (IIT-JEE) 2010. Most of the affected candidates have been allotted seats based on their original choice sheet and seat availability.

Proposal to amend RTE Act

1424. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to amend the Right to Education Act;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that schools have been protesting against automatic promotions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Government has received representations from (a) organizations working for the welfare of the children with disabilities and (b) minority institutions, seeking certain amendments to the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill 2010 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 16th April, 2010 incorporating the following amendments to the RTE Act:

i. Inclusion of children with disabilities in the definition of 'child belonging to disadvantaged group' in clause (d) of section 2 of the RTE Act.

ii. Inclusion of children with cerebral palsy, mental retardation, autism and multiple disabilities under the proviso to Section 3 (2) of the RTE Act, 2009.

iii. Provision that School Management Committee (SMC) of an aided minority school constituted under section 21 of the RTE Act shall function in an advisory capacity and further that the SMC of an aided minority school constituted under section 21 will not be required to prepare the School Development Plan under section 22 of the Act.

(c) and (d) The Govt. has received representations on the provisions of the RTE Act relating to no board examination and no detention till completion of elementary education.

Schools in Assam

1425. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that students of hundreds of lower primary and middle schools (ME, LP, MV) in Assam which were opened with requisite permission are not getting Mid-Day-Meal and free book facilities till date;

(b) whether it is also a fact that teachers of these schools, are not getting even minimum wages; and

(c) if so, whether Right to Education Act can give specific relief on such matters for its proper implementation?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) As per the information furnished by the Government of Assam, Mid Day Meal (MDM) and Free Text Books are being provided to the children studying in Government/Provincialised and financially assisted non-provincialised educational institutions (L.P. and Upper Primary Schools).

(b) In the provincialised schools, teachers are being paid salary by the State Government. The salaries of non-provincialised LP/ME/MV school teachers are not being paid by the State Government. However, a State Plan Scheme has been implemented for providing financial assistance to the recognized non-provincialised ME/MV schools and L.P. schools on the basis of seniority, need and performance.

(c) Under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act (RTE), 2009, all children shall have the right to free & compulsory education in a neighbourhood school. The Act, inter-alia, provides that no child shall be liable to pay any fees, charge or expense which may prevent him/her from pursuing and completing elementary education. With regard to salary of teacher, the RTE Act provides that the salary and allowances payable to, and the terms and conditions of services of teachers shall be prescribed by the appropriate Government.

Opening of new Kendriya Vidyalayas in Orissa

1426. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Central Schools being opened in Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether it is a fact that 113 Central Schools are being opened in this financial year;

(c) the total number of new Kendriya Vidyalayas sanctioned for Orissa for the year 2010-11; and

(d) whether a new Central school is being opened at Jajpur Road, District Jajpur, Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) 107 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) have been approved for opening during the remaining part of the 11th Plan i.e. 2010-11 and 2011-12. Order for opening of 71 of these has been issued by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan on 10.7.2010.

(c) and (d) 11 KVs have been sanctioned for opening during 2010-11 in the State of Orissa including a KV at Jajpur.

Mid-Day-Meal scheme in aided schools

1427. SHRI THOMAS SANGMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any instruction have been issued to the effect that Government aided schools, Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) Alternative and Innovative Education (AIE)/Non-Formal Education (NFE) centres be covered under Mid-Day-Meal Scheme (MDMS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Government-aided schools, EGS/AIE/NFE centres;

(d) the number of Government aided schools, EGS/AIE/NFE centres that are providing a regular hot cooked meal;

(e) whether Government is aware of any gap in coverage; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Instructions have been issued to cover all children studying in classes I-VIII in Government, Government aided and Local Body Schools, Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) and Alternative and Innovative Education (AIE) centres including Madarsas and Maqtabas supported under SSA and schools being operated under the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) under the National Programme of Mid Day Meal in Schools (NP-MDMS).

(c) to (f) The Programme Approval Board (PAB) for Mid Day Meal Scheme for the year 2010-11 approved all 11,65,966 Government, Government aided and Local Body Schools, 82,111 EGS/AIE

centres, 9385 Madarsas/Maqtabs and 5794 NCLP schools as proposed by the State Governments and Union Territories for coverage under MDMS along with number of children and working days. It was clarified to the States/UTs that the PAB approval on above numbers is only for the purpose of estimating Central Assistance under MDM Scheme, every student attending the institutions, eligible to be covered under the scheme, will be served Mid Day Meal on all school days. In the event of any increase in these numbers, if the State Government/UT Administration finds that the available resources are not adequate, it may approach Government of India with evidence for enhancement of the same.

Anti-ragging mechanism

1428. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that ragging is still prevalent in our educational institutions throughout the country;

(b) if so, whether the anti-ragging mechanism which was considered a year ago has not been put in place;

(c) if so, whether Government in consultation with States proposes to bring in a legislation to tackle it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No information on incidents of ragging was being maintained centrally prior to the launch of the National Anti-Ragging Helpline on 20th June, 2009 under the "UGC Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009". Based on information obtained from the National Anti Ragging Helpline established by the University Grants Commission (UGC), 409 complaints on ragging have been registered through the Helpline.

(b) The Government has issued directions to regulatory bodies to implement major recommendations made by the Committee headed by Dr. R. K. Raghavan to look into the issue of ragging and suggest means of prevention in educational institutions. The Government has also requested the Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of all State Governments/Union Territories to comply with the directions of the

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

The University Grants Commission has notified, on 17th June, 2009, its regulations namely "The UGC Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009". The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) Medical Council of India(MCI) and Dental Council of India have also notified anti-ragging regulations on 01-07-2009, 3-8-2009 and 13-08-2009 respectively. Pharmacy Council of India has issued the guidelines to curb the menace of ragging in pharmacy colleges/institutions. UGC's regulations are binding on universities as well as institutions affiliated thereto, institutions such as the Indian Institutes of Technology which do not come under purview of the UGC or under any of the statutory councils have also been advised to adopt the UGC regulations with appropriate modifications.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Educational loans

†1429. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a National Education Finance Corporation (NEFC) has been created for providing educational loans; and

(b) if so, the details of the loan assistance provided in different States by this corporation?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) There is a proposal under consideration for establishment of National Education Finance Corporation (NEFC) for providing loans for infrastructure development and expansion of educational institutions, as well as refinance facility for educational loans.

UGC guidelines to universities

1430. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued new set of guidelines for Universities to be followed while granting temporary or permanent affiliation to colleges and recognized educational institutions; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. University Grants Commission (UGC) has notified the UGC (Affiliation of Colleges by Universities) Regulations, 2009 in order to regulate and standardize the process of granting affiliation to Colleges by the Universities. The same is available on the UGC website <http://www.ugc.ac.in/policy/AffiliationofCollegesbyUniversitiesregulation.pdf>.

South Asian University

1431. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether South Asian University is to start functioning in August, 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof like the courses offered; and

(c) the funds allocated and released so far for it; and

(d) the views of the experts and the academics in this regard to expand such universities in all the States, especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The South Asian University will start functioning with the commencement of its first academic session in the last week of August 2010.

(b) The process for admission started in May 2010 when the University invited applications for admissions to the initial two courses that were offered for 2010-11, namely, Master of Arts in Development Economics and Master of Computer Applications. The deadline for receiving applications for admission to the academic year 2010-11 is over.

(c) Funds allocated so far for the South Asian University is US\$ 239.93 million payable over the period 2010-2014. Funds released so far is US\$ 0.756 million.

(d) As per the decision of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), the main campus of the South Asian University is being established in New Delhi and provision has been made for

establishing specialized and/or multi-disciplinary centers of the University in other SAARC Member Countries. Being a University for the whole South Asian region, other campuses in India are not presently envisaged.

Legislation for foreign educational institutions

†1432. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is bringing any legislation to allow foreign educational institutions to run their institutions in the country;

(b) if so, whether under the proposed legislation educational institutions currently operating in the country can figure in the definition of foreign educational institutions through coordination or by making an agreement with them; and

(c) whether Government has made provision of reservation in the proposed legislation for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) A legislative proposal for regulating entry and operations 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.

A non-discriminatory approach has been envisaged in the proposed legislation and Foreign Educational Providers shall have national treatment in the application of all laws as are applicable to private educational institutions in the country.

Children and schools covered under Mid-Day-Meal scheme

1433. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schools covered under Mid-Day-Meal scheme;

(b) the total number of children getting benefit of the scheme in the country; and

(c) the break-up of the food items, both for primary and upper primary children, component-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) For the year 2010-11, all 12.63 lakh institutions proposed by States/UTs have been approved for coverage under Mid-Day Meal Scheme.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) For the purpose of allocation of resources, the Programme Approval Board of Mid-Day Meal Scheme has approved provision of benefits under the Scheme for 7.97 crore children at primary stage and 3.39 crore at upper primary stage making a total of 11.36 crore children. The State Governments/UT Administrations have been advised to provide mid-day meal to all children attending the eligible institution on all school days irrespective of the approved numbers and to approach the Government of India for additional resources in the event of any increase in the approved number of children and/or school days. They have also been advised to share this with all field functionaries to ensure providing mid day meal to all children attending school on all school days.

(c) The food norms with effect from 1.12.2009 for primary and upper primary classes are as under:

S.No.	Items	Quantity Per Day	
		Primary	Upper Primary
1.	Foodgrains (Wheat/Rice)	100 gms	150 gms
2.	Pulses	20 gms	30 gms
3.	Vegetables (leafy & others)	50 gms	75 gms
4.	Oil & fat	5 gms	7.5 gms
5.	Salt & Condiments	As per need	As per need

Applications for grant of deemed university status

1434. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central and State universities in the country;

(b) the number of private universities in the country;

(c) the total financial assistance and grants made in the last five years; and

(d) the number of pending applications to declare institutions deemed-to-be universities?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) According to University Grants Commission (UGC), there are 42 Central Universities, 258 State Universities and 64 Private Universities in the country as on 31st July, 2010. An amount of Rs. 17,758.42 crore has been released as financial assistance and grants to Central Universities, State Universities and institutions deemed to be Universities in the last five years from 2005-2006 to 2009-2010. There are 234 pending applications from institutions as on 31st July, 2010 to declare such institutions as institutions deemed-to-be universities.

National Teachers Award

†1435. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for selection of teachers to give national teachers award on 5th September of every year;

(b) the number of teachers awarded with the national teachers award every year;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to give out-of-turn promotion to awardee teachers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the facility or encouragement being provided to awarded teachers?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The details of the criteria adopted for selection of teachers for the National Award are given in Statement (See below).

(b) At present, the number of awards is 374. However the actual number of teachers awarded in a year depends on the recommendations by the State Governments, Union Territories and other sponsoring Organizations. On 5th September, 2009, 301 teachers were awarded.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal with this Ministry.

(e) The following facilities are available to awardee teachers:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- i. Awardee Teachers are entitled to 50% concession in second class while traveling by rail.
- ii. They are eligible to receive travel grant for self and spouse to travel anywhere in India once in 5 years under a scheme of National Foundation of Teachers Welfare (NFTW).
- iii. Some States/UTs/Organisations provide for 2 years' extension in service beyond the age of superannuation for the awardee teachers.

Statement

Conditions of eligibility of teachers for consideration for the awards

1. Classroom teachers with atleast 15 years regular teaching experience and Headmasters with 20 years of regular teaching experience and who are actually working as teachers/headmasters in recognized primary/middle/high/ higher secondary schools only shall be considered. Teachers who are teaching upto class VIII should be considered in the category of Primary School Teachers and those teaching classes IX-XII, in the category of Secondary School Teachers. For teachers promoting Integrated Inclusive Education the eligibility will stand reduced from 15 years of classroom teaching experience to 10 years of service and from 20 years for Headmasters to 15 years if they are to be considered for awards in respect of Inclusive Education.
2. Normally retired teachers are not eligible for the award but those teachers who have served a part of the calendar year (atleast for four months i.e. upto 30th April in the year to which National Award relates) may be considered if they fulfill all other conditions. The service rendered on re-employment after attaining the age of superannuation will not count as eligible service.
3. Teachers whose names were recommended last year or before can be considered again if they are still otherwise eligible and are recommended by the State Government/Union Territories.
4. Educational Administrators, Inspectors of Education, and the staff of training colleges are not eligible for these awards.
5. Only those teachers, having requisite years of teaching experience,

as mentioned at Sl.No.1 above, on 31st December of the preceding year of the Award, will be, eligible to be considered for the award.

Development of cottage industry

†1436. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any new policy with regard to development of cottage industry on labour based technique;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the said policy is likely to be implemented; and

(d) the target for coverage under this policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) The Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) during 2008-09 and 2009-10 has approved the following six new schemes for development and promotion of the khadi and village industries sector through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) for implementation:

(i) "Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)" for creation of additional employment opportunities through establishment of micro enterprises. The Scheme is being implemented through the KVIC as the single nodal agency at the national level. At the State/Union Territories level, the scheme is implemented through field offices of KVIC, State/Union Territory Khadi and Village Industries Boards (KVIBs) and District Industries Centres (DICs) with involvement of Banks. Under this Programme, entrepreneurs can establish village industries, by availing margin money assistance from the KVIC/KVIBs of States & Union Territories/DICs and loans from implementing public sector scheduled commercial Banks, selected regional rural Banks and co-operative Banks, etc., for projects with a maximum cost of Rs. 10 lakh each in the service/business sector and up to Rs.25 lakh each in the manufacturing sector.

(ii) Scheme for "Enhancing Productivity and Competitiveness of Khadi Industry and Artisans" with the objective, inter alia, to make khadi industry more competitive with more market-driven, profitable production and sustained employment for khadi artisans and related service providers by replacement of obsolete and old machinery and equipment and repairs to/renovation of existing/operational machinery and equipment, extend an

evenly balanced and need-based support in all areas of Khadi activities
viz. production, distribution, promotion and capacity building.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(iii) Workshed Scheme for Khadi Artisans to provide financial assistance exclusively to khadi spinners and weavers belonging to below poverty line (BPL) category for construction of worksheds.

(iv) Scheme for Strengthening of Infrastructure of Existing weak Khadi Institutions and Assistance for Marketing Infrastructure' to assist identified weak khadi institutions so as to enable those institutions regain their status and revive their potential for re-employment, and improving marketing of khadi products through development of marketing infrastructure, including renovation of selected sales outlets of khadi institutions, on a limited basis.

(v) Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme on production of khadi for implementation with effect from 01.04.2010 by KVIC during 2010-11 and 2011-12, which envisages financial assistance @ 20% of production value on khadi and polyvastra which will be shared among artisans, producing institutions and selling institutions in the ratio 25:30:45. Under the new system of MDA, sales are expected to be evenly spread throughout the year, the institutions will have the flexibility to use the assistance in improving the outlets, products, giving incentive to customers, etc.

(vi) Khadi Reforms and Development Programme funded by the Asian Development Bank with provision for setting up of a marketing organization through private participation, including market development like market survey, design, inputs, brand building, khadi mark, promotion; etc., opening of 20 new sales outlets in metropolitan cities and State Capitals and renovation and modernization of around 1200 sales outlets.

The details of targets set by KVIC for these six schemes for year 2010-11, are given below:

Name of the Scheme	Budget Allocation	Target
1	2	3
PMEGP	Rs.906 crore	Generation of
additional		employment
opportunities		

		for 5.97 lakh persons
Workshed Scheme for Khadi	Rs.20 crore	8000 artisans would be
Artisans		covered during 2010-11.

1	2	3
Scheme for Enhancing Productivity and Competitiveness of Khadi Industry and Artisans	Rs.21 crore	60 projects are proposed for 2010-11.
Scheme for Strengthening of Infrastructure of Existing weak Khadi Institutions and development	Rs.5 crore	Assisting around 30 identified weak khadi institutions and
Assistance for Marketing infrastructure, Infrastructure		of marketing including renovation of 10 selected sales outlets.
MDA Scheme on Production institutions of Khadi and Polyvastra	Rs.159 crore	All the eligible engaged in production and marketing of khadi are proposed to extended MDA assistance.
Khadi Reforms and Development Programme proposed	Rs.192 crore	50 selected khadi institutions are to be extended assistance so as to become self reliant.

Cost overrun in certain railway projects

1437. DR. MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether execution of several ongoing railway projects are getting delayed resulting in huge cost overrun;

(b) if so, the details of such projects and the reasons for the delay in their execution, zone-wise;

(c) the details of funds spent so far on these projects;

(d) the details of the ongoing projects for which funds are not sanctioned since last two years; and

(e) the steps taken by Railways to expedite the execution of these projects to check any further cost escalation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (d) At present, Railways have about 327 ongoing projects under new lines, gauge conversions and doublings across the country with a huge throwforward of about Rs. 98,000 cr as on 01.04.2010. Due to limited availability of resources, projects have long gestation period. The targets for the projects are generally fixed on yearly basis based on the availability of resources and the progress made. Many of the projects get completed in phases. The main reasons for delay have been paucity of funds, delay in land acquisition and forestry clearance, failure of contracts and contractors, adverse law and order conditions and other market forces affecting the progress. Ongoing projects undergo cost escalation on account of delays as above and change in the standard of construction & technology, scope of work, inflation, etc. No fixed time frame for completion of all the projects is feasible in such a scenario. So far about Rs. 36,000 crores have been spent on these projects. There are no projects for which funds have not been sanctioned for the last two years.

(e) To expedite completion of projects, a number of initiatives have been taken to generate additional resources through non-budgetary measures like Public-Private Partnership, funding by State Governments and other beneficiaries. Besides, to reduce delays on account of land availability, security issues and forestry clearances, etc meetings with State Officials are held from time to time. Contract conditions have been modified to bring in efficiency in contract management, and field units have been further empowered.

Public Private Partnership for railway projects

†1438. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Passur Railway Station constructed with Public Private Partnership (PPP) of Mahendra World City and Southern Railway has proved to be a model station with regard to cleanliness and arrangements;

(b) whether Government is going to implement Public Private

Partnership in other parts of the country also; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Mahindra World City Developers Ltd have undertaken modernization of Parnur railway station on Southern Railway at their own cost for augmenting passenger amenities for rail users who are predominantly employees of various industries/organizations in the adjoining area developed by them. This work has not been undertaken under PPP. The arrangements and cleanliness at Parnur station are considered adequate.

(b) and (c) Appraisal and approval of PPP projects on Railways are done in accordance with the procedures laid down by Ministry of Finance. In addition, in certain areas such as operation of container trains, operation of special freight trains, liberalization of wagon investment scheme, investment in port connectivity and other works etc., Ministry of Railways have notified policies based on which potential investors can participate in these schemes.

Shortage of manpower in security wing

1439. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a serious manpower shortage in security wing of Railways;

(b) if so, whether it has become one of the reasons for the increasing number of train accidents; and

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to fill up these vacancies with a time bound programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Arising of vacancies and filling of posts is a continuous process. Vacancies arise due to normal retirement, voluntary retirement, deaths, promotions, etc. Recruitment process to fill up the vacancies in the RPF, as also the 5134 posts sanctioned recently, is already underway.

Expansion and modernization of railway stations in Maharashtra

1440. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of proposals were announced during the last two rail budgets for expansion and modernization of railway stations in Maharashtra under Model and Modern station schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when the work on the said projects is likely to be started and completed, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (c) No, Sir. However, 378 stations, including 50 stations in the State of Maharashtra were identified during 2009-10 for development as Adarsh stations. Further, 94 stations, including 6 stations in the State of Maharashtra, were announced during the Railway Budget 2010-11 for development as Adarsh stations.

Wagons for transportation of salt from Kutch region of Gujarat

1441. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Gujarat has represented to the Ministry to allot wagons two days in a week as ODR days for transportation of salt from Kutch region in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the decision of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Western Railway has nominated two days in a week i.e. Wednesday and Saturday for allotment of rakes as per oldest date of registration of indents at all stations on Western Railway which includes stations in Gujarat State.

Lack of railway network in North-Eastern states

1442. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that all the North-Eastern States have no railways; and

(b) if so, the plans Government has to link them with each other by railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. All State capitals of the North East Region are proposed to be connected by Railway Lines wherever feasible. Two State capitals are already connected by rail lines i.e. Guwahati (Dispur) and Agartala. Further works have been taken up for connecting State capitals of Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya. For Sikkim, new line upto Rangpo has been taken up and the proposal of Rangpo-Gangtok new line has been processed for necessary approvals.

Rail projects in Rajasthan

†1443. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA:

DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether demand to link Ajmer and Kota with other main cities by rail route is pending for many years;

(b) whether there is need of laying railway line and initiating rail facility immediately upto Kota via Nasirabad Kekri, Sarwad and Bundi;

(c) whether this rail route will be very useful and thousands of people deprived of rail facility on the above entire route will be benefited;

(d) if so, whether Government proposes for laying railway line and initiating rail facility immediately on this route; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (e) There have been demands to have a direct rail link between Ajmer and Kota. The survey for this new line was completed in 2007-08. However, the proposal was not considered. As announced in Railway Budget 2010-11, an updating survey for this new line project has been taken up. After updating survey, the proposal will be processed through Planning Commission for necessary approval.

Lack of passenger facilities in Durgam Cheruvu Express

†1444. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that 14 passengers on Duronto Express going from Delhi to Ernakulam had fallen ill after taking the morning breakfast;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is an arrangement of just 25 bed-roll for 72 passengers in sleeper class and there is no arrangement of blankets, bed sheets, pillows and towels in A.C. Coach of Duronto Express;

(c) whether it is necessary to mention about blanket, bed-roll etc. in Duronto train while booking for the ticket;

(d) whether passengers are facing difficulty for not having such provision in the reservation form; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to remove the difficulties of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) There was an incident of food poisoning in Nizamuddin-Ernakulam Duronto Express on 17.5.2010 at Kozhikode, 19 passengers were hospitalized and 11 required OPD treatment.

(b) No, Sir. All passengers of AC class coaches are provided with complete bed rolls. As far as sleeper class passengers are concerned, the bed rolls are supplied on demand. Space has been earmarked on the sleeper class coaches for stacking of bed rolls.

(c) Only sleeper class passengers of Duronto Express trains are required to indicate the requirement of bed rolls while booking their tickets. Bed roll includes blanket.

(d) No. Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Incidents of theft in trains

1445. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the instance of theft and drugging of passengers to rob them in the passenger trains have increased recently

particularly in the south bound long distance trains;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported in the months of May-June-July this year; and

(c) the measures being taken to ensure safety of passengers and their luggage in the moving passenger trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

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

(c) Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Police, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. As such the cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Govt. Railway Police.

However, to provide better security to the traveling passengers in trains and passenger areas, Railway Protection Force is deployed to escort important trains to effectively supplement the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways.

The following measures are being taken for the security of passengers:

1. 1275 trains are escorted by RPF daily on an average, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States.

2. An Integrated Security System consisting of electronic surveillance of vulnerable stations through CCTV Camera Network, access control, Anti-sabotage checks has been approved to strengthen surveillance mechanism over 202 vulnerable Railway stations.

3. Regular coordination meetings are held with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police (GRP).

4. Public awareness against crime like Drugging of passengers is done through regular announcements at stations and in trains.

5. An amendment is under examination in the RPF Act to enable RPF to deal with the passenger related offences more effectively.

Realisation of dues by IRCTC from food catering companies

†1446. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether IRCTC has received payment from all food catering companies;

(b) if not, the number of companies which have not yet made payment along with the amount due from each of them and the details of such trains;

(c) whether all the above mentioned matters have been investigated into; and

(d) if so, whether any action has been taken against the persons responsible for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Sabha.

Facilities for Physically challenged passengers

1447. SHRIMATI. NAZNIN FARUQUE:

PROF ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data regarding total number of physically challenged passengers travelled in long distanced trains during 2009-2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken to maintain the information henceforth;

(c) whether there is no provision for ramp etc. in railway coaches for easy ingress and egress for physically challenged passengers in trains;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the steps taken to change the coach design accordingly;
and

(e) whether there is any proposal to provide wheel chairs with attendant and ramps for physically challenged passengers to enable them to reach railway platform easily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) The number of orthopedically handicapped/paraplegic persons travelling on concession tickets in reserved segment during the year 2009-2010 is approximately 9.84 lakh.

(c) and (d) Indian Railways have been manufacturing passenger coaches with specially designed compartments & toilets for wheel chair borne passengers. Facilities for ramp etc. for ingress/egress are not available in the current designs of coaches.

Instructions already exist for provision of wheel chairs at stations. This facility is provided, duly escorted by coolies (on payment) as per present practice. Moreover, Zonal Railways have also been advised to provide free of cost 'Battery Operated Vehicles for Disabled and Old Age Passengers' at railway stations through commercial publicity route.

All major railway stations have been provided with ramps at exit/entry. Ramps and pathways have also been provided at the end of the platforms at all major railway stations to facilitate inter-platform transfer for physically challenged passengers. Provision of ramps at remaining stations is undertaken by Railways in a phased manner.

Train accidents

1448. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of train accidents occurred during last one year;

(b) the details of number of people killed/injured in these accidents along with the amount of compensation given to the dependents of deceased;

(c) whether any inquiry has been ordered into these accidents;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to prevent such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) During 2009-10, 100 consequential train accidents including 9 Collisions, 80 Derailments, 5 Manned Level Crossing accidents, 2 cases of Fire in train and 4 Miscellaneous accidents took place on Indian Railways. These figures do not include incidents of trespassing by road users at unmanned level crossings.

(b) 64 persons lost their lives in these accidents and 238 persons suffered injuries. An amount of Rs.265.81 lakh (approx.) has been paid as compensation to the victims of accidents during the year 2009-10.

(c) and (d) Each and every consequential train accident is enquired into either by the Commissioner of Railway Safety or Departmental Enquiry Committee depending upon the severity of the accident. Out of 100 consequential train accidents in 2009-10, 15 have been enquired into by the Commissioner of Railway Safety and the balance 85 by the Departmental Enquiry Committees. Findings of the Commissioner of Railway Safety and Departmental Committees are examined by the concerned departments of Indian Railways for compliance as deemed feasible, and necessary action is taken.

(e) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continuing basis by the Railways to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signaling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices introduced to prevent accidents include provision of Anti-collision Device (ACD), Train Protection and Warning System (TPWS), Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), LED Signals and Vigilance Control Device (VCD), etc.

Berths in trains allocated under various quotas

1449. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and percentage of berths out of total berths in trains allocated under various quotas like HOR/VIP, Parliament House, defence, foreign travellers etc., class-wise and zone-wise;

(b) the criteria for determining the HOR quota in a train in different divisions;

(c) whether Government has curtailed the HOR/VIP quota in some trains recently;

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

(e) the reasons for reduction in HOR quota by Railway Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Details indicating the class-wise and Zone-wise daily average total number and percentage of berths available on Indian Railways under different types of quota viz. General, Emergency, Defence, Foreign Tourists, Parliament House, etc. is given in Statement (See below).

(b) Allotment as well as review of various types of reservation quotas including Emergency Quota is done by Zonal Railways concerned depending upon the demand pattern and availability of accommodation.

(c) Adjustments in all types of reservation quota is a continuous exercise.

(d) Centralised data in this regard is not maintained.

(e) Adjustments in reservation quota are done by Zonal Railways and not by Railway Board.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Details of berths in trains allotted under various quotas

(Figure based on 1st quarter of Financial Year 2010-11)

Sl. Zonal		1A		2A		2S		3A		3E		CC		EC		FC		SL			
Total																					
No.	Railways	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1	Central	260	6.9	3971	8.3	17316	11.3	11367	8.7	120	15.4	3394	6.7	0	0	113	4.6	51826	9.3	88367	9.3
2	Eastern	149	4	2049	4.3	10813	7.1	5857	4.5	0	0	3122	6.2	48	2.4	123	5	28249	5.1	50410	5.3
3	East Central	176	4.7	2509	5.2	3855	2.5	6971	5.3	0	0	2074	4.1	0	0	0	0	31143	5.6	46728	4.9
4	East Coast	98	2.6	1420	3	5166	3.4	5657	4.3	0	0	1575	3.1	0	0	33	1.3	17875	3.2	31824	3.4
5	Konkan	28	0.7	201	0.4	1727	1.1	685	0.5	0	0	102	0.2	0	0	0	0	2029	0.4	4771	0.5
6	Northern	1204	32.1	12015	25.1	29285	19.1	32703	25	308	39.6	19539	38.6	1468	73.1	197	7.9	101529	18.2	198248	20.9
7	North Central	63	1.7	742	1.6	4552	3	1471	1.1	0	0	1272	2.5	61	3	0	0	8678	1.6	16839	1.8
8	North Eastern	126	3.4	1631	3.4	4582	3	3540	2.7	0	0	1015	2	48	2.4	104	4.2	21780	3.9	32827	3.5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9	Northeast Frontier 3	53	1.4	1330	2.8	4289	2.8	4127	3.2	0	0	701	1.4	0	0	124	5	17451	3.1	28073	
10	North Western	101	2.7	1767	3.7	2427	1.6	4917	3.8	0	0	1024	2	46	2.3	2	0.1	23564	4.2	33847	3.6
11	Southern	485	12.9	6233	13	23027	15	15639	12	0	0	4518	8.9	87	4.4	831	33.5	79196	14.2	130017	13.7
12	South Central	258	6.9	3406	7.1	9468	6.2	8096	6.2	0	0	2445	4.8	0	0	114	4.6	46576	8.4	70363	7.4
13	South Eastern	161	4.3	1938	4.1	12896	8.4	5807	4.4	0	0	2563	5.1	39	2	62	2.5	24012	4.3	47479	5
14	Southeast Central 2.1	31	0.8	1050	2.2	3095	2	2117	1.6	0	0	250	0.5	0	0	188	7.6	13005	2.3	19734	
15	South Western	161	4.3	2467	5.2	7301	4.8	6874	5.2	0	0	2082	4.1	87	4.4	86	3.5	30025	5.4	49083	5.2
16	Western	317	8.4	4324	9	7792	5.1	13075	10	350	45	4551	9	122	6.1	477	19.2	50544	9.1	81552	8.6
17	West Central	80	2.1	782	1.6	5499	3.6	1883	1.4	0	0	428	0.8	0	0	29	1.2	10205	1.8	18907	2
TOTAL :		3752	100	47833	100	153091	100	130784	100	778	100	50655	100	2008	100	2484	100	557687	100	949071	100

No. - Daily Average number of berths/seats.

% - Percentage of total berth/seat potential of that class.

Source: Data Ware House developed by Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS)

Train accidents

1450. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train accidents occurred since May, 2009 till date;

(b) the number of persons died in these accidents, accident-wise;

(c) whether Uttarbanga Express rammed Vananchal Express in West Bengal on 19th July, 2010;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amount of compensation paid to kins of victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) The number of consequential train accidents, i.e. collisions, derailments, manned level crossing accidents, fire in trains and other miscellaneous accidents during the period May, 2009 to July, 2010 and the number of persons died and injured in these accidents is given below:

Type of accident	Number of Accidents	Number of persons died
Collision	10	38*
Derailment	96	15*
Manned Level Crossing	4	3
Fire in trains	2	-
Miscellaneous	4	1
TOTAL :	116	57*

* This figure does not include deaths in following three unfortunate incidents: (i) In the incident of derailment and collision of Jnaneshwari Express on 28.05.2010 in Kharagpur Division due to sabotage, 150 persons lost their lives, (ii) One person died due to derailment of Guwahati -Kolkata Garib Rath on 08.07.2010 in Kokrajhar district of Assam due to sabotage, (iii) 65 persons lost their lives in the incident of rear-end collision of Uttar Banga Express with Vananchal Express on 19.07.2010 at Sainthia station, which is under investigation from all possible angles.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. On 19.07.2010 at 02.05 hrs., while the train

No.3404 Dn. (Bhagalpur-Ranchi) Vananchal Express was leaving from Platform No.4 of Sainthia station of Howrah Division of Eastern Railway, 3148 Dn. (New Cooch Behar-Sealdah) Uttar Banga Express collided with it from

the rear. In this incident, 65 persons lost their lives, 45 suffered grievous injuries and 46 others suffered simple injuries. Statutory inquiry into the above incident is being conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety, Eastern Circle and its report is awaited.

(e) Ministry of Railways has ordered payment of ex-gratia of Rs.5 lakh to the next of kin of each deceased, Rs. 1 lakh to each grievously injured and Rs. 50,000 to each simple injured. Employment to one member of the family of the deceased persons has also been announced. Compensation shall be additionally payable to the next of kin of each deceased and injured passenger on the basis of claims filed by them in the Railway Claims Tribunal and decree passed by the Tribunal.

Black-marketing in sale of tatkal tickets

1451. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that media in its sting operation in May-June, 2010 telecast, brought out bungling and black-marketing in sale of Tatkal tickets by touts in connivance with railway officials in Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has looked into and investigated the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon; and

(e) the steps taken to prevent recurrence of the incidence and to streamline the procedure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) One channel telecast a report in the last week of May 2010 that the tatkal rail tickets are being cornered by touts and that the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC) website is inaccessible to the normal users when the booking opens at 0800 hours.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Investigations made revealed that a substantial quantum of reserved accommodation in tatkal quota was being booked through the web agents of IRCTC. With a

view to easing the availability of Tatkal tickets to normal users through the internet, access to Travel

Agents/Web-Service Agents/Web Agents of IRCTC to tatkal booking through e-tickets has been withdrawn between 0800 hours and 0900 hours on all days. Apart from this, regular and surprise checks are conducted by Commercial and Vigilance Departments in association with Railway Protection Force at all reservation centers to curb illegal activities.

Commercial utilization of surplus railway land

1452. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the vacant land area available with the Railways as on date;

(b) whether it is a fact that Railways has identified 1.12 lakh acres of unused railway land for commercial purposes;

(c) if so, the names of the sites identified for the purpose;

(d) whether Railways has decided to develop that land through public-private-partnership (PPP) model; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (e) Indian Railways have approximately 10.65 lakh acre of land. About 90% of this land is under Railway's operational and allied usages. Total vacant land, which is approx. 1.13 lakh acre comprises the land bank. The first charge on utilization of this land bank is for Railways' own development works such as doubling, gauge conversions, yard re-modeling and traffic facility works, freight corridors as well as for servicing the track and other infrastructures. In addition, Railways plan to utilize its land bank, wherever feasible for setting up infrastructural works etc. Vacant railway land and air space not required by Railways for its immediate future operational needs is utilized for commercial development, wherever feasible. In this regard, Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) has been set up by Railways through the Railways (Amendment) Act, 2005 to undertake commercial development. RLDA follows lease models where railway land is leased on long term basis for 30-45 years on payment of upfront lease premium or spread over a period of time. So far, 135 sites measuring 3761 acres have been entrusted to RLDA for commercial development.

Details of sites entrusted to RLDA for commercial development is as under:

Adilabad, Aurangabad, Ajmer (2 sites), Amritsar (2 sites), Ballyghat, Bangalore City, Bangalore Cantonment Railway Station, Bansdroni Station, Bareilly City, Belgharia, site between Central Station and M.G. Road, sites between Shyambazar and Sovabazar & between Tollygunj Station & Rabindra Sarabor, Bhavnagar (7 sites), Bhilai (3 sites), site between Bidhannagar-DumDum, Bokaro (2 sites), Borabanda, Budge-Budge, Budhlada, Central Station (07 sites), Chandigarh (2 sites), Chandni Chowk station, Chennai, Clutterbuckganj, Delhi (5 sites), Gaya, Guntakal (2 sites), Guwahati (13 sites), Gwalior (2 sites), Kanpur (2 sites), Halishahar, Hingoli, Hyderabad (3 sites), Jamnagar, Jodhpur, Kanchrapara, Karimganj, Katra, Lucknow (3 sites), Maninagar (2sites), MTP(Chennai), Mudkhed, Mumbai, Nagapatinam, Naktala Station, New Alipurduar, New Cooch-behar, New Garia Station, New Jalpaiguri (5 sites), Pattukoti, Raipur (2 sites), Rajkot (10 sites), Raxaul, Salem, Secunderabad (6sites), Shahamatganj, Shyambazar (3 sites), Siliguri (6 sites), Tatanagar, Thane, Tolly gunj station, Vijaywada,Villipuram, Visakhapatnam (2 sites); Washim.

Rail projects in Rajasthan

1453. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ongoing and new railway projects and the surveys in Rajasthan during the last five years and the current year;

(b) the progress regarding the completion of said projects as on date;

(c) the details of the funds allocated for the said projects and spent till date, project-wise;

(d) the time by when the said projects are likely to be completed; and

(e) escalation in cost due to delay, project-wise and accountability thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED) :

(a) to (d) A. Status of ongoing and new Railway Projects in the State of

Rajasthan during the last Five years and the current year is given as
under:

Statement

Rail Projects in Rajasthan

S.No.	Name of the Project	Anticipated Cost 2010-11 (Rs. in crores)	Expenditure up to March, 2010 (Rs. in crores)	Outlay for 2010-11 (Rs in crores)	Progress and Target Date of Completion (TDC), wherever fixed
1	2	3	4	5	6
New lines					
1.	Ajmer-Pushkar (31.4 kms)	106.2	65.29	40	Overall physical progress-70%. TDC-2010-11
2.	Bangurgram-Ras (27.8 kms)	144.57	0.01	50	Overall physical progress-1%.
3.	Dausa-Gangapurcity (92.67 kms)	410.08	110.9	30	Overall Physical Progress-26%.
4.	Ramganjmandi-Bhopal (262 kms)	1225.9	126.3	40	Overall physical progress-25%.
	Ramganjmandi-				Jhalawar (26.5 kms) targeted for completion in 2010-11.

5.	Kolayat Phalodi (111.39 kms)	172.73	171.54	0.25	Completed & commissioned.
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1	2	3	4	5	6
Gauge Conversion					
6.	Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar-Udaipur (299.2 kms)	742.88	3.78	30	Final Location Survey for Himmatnagar-Udaipur completed. Detailed estimate prepared.
7.	Ajmer-Phulera-Ringus-Rewari 294.97 Kms.	770	713.82	51.40	Completed & commissioned.
8.	Bhildi-Samdari (223 kms)	490	461.64	24	Completed and inspection of Commissioner of Railway Safety completed.
9.	Dholpur-Sirmutra with ext. up to Gangapur City (144.6 kms)	622.41	-	2	New work included in Railway Budget 2010-11. Preliminary activities have been taken up.
10.	Gwalior-Sheopurkalan ext. up to Kota (284 kms)	1176.1	-	2	New work included in Railway Budget 2010-11. Preliminary activities have been taken up.
11.	Jaipur-Ringus-Churu & Sikar-Loharu (320.04 kms)	653.54	2.25	30	Detailed estimate sanctioned.
12.	Sadulpur-Bikaner & Ratangarh-Degana (394.35 kms)	695	579.7	100	Ratangarh-Bikaner (141.06 Km) - Overall physical progress-75%. TDC-2010-11.

Sadulpur-Ratangarh (100.65 km) &
Ratangarh-Degana (152.64 Km) completed.

13.	Shriganganagar-Sarupsar (116kms)	258.59	72.97	64.50	Overall physical progress-51%.
14.	Suratpura-Hanumangarh-Shriganganagar (240.95 kms)	449	0.5	30	Detailed Estimate sanctioned.
15.	Agra Fort-Bandikui (311 kms)	215.84	213.96	0.50	Completed & commissioned.
16.	Ajmer-Chittaurgarh-Udaipur incl. MM for extn. from Udaipur to been Umra (11 kms) (311 kms) 2010-	566	527	0.50	Ajmer-Udaipur Completed and Mavli-Nathdwara parallel BG line has approved as part of the project. TDC-11.
17.	Phulera-Jodhpur-Pipar Road-Bilara (41.14 kms)	47.2	46.95	0.25	Completed & commissioned.
18.	Rewari-Sadulpur (141 kms) & Sadulpur-Hissar (70 kms) (211 kms)	734	691.32	10	Completed & commissioned.
Doubling					
19.	Abu Road-Sarotra Road (23.12 kms) 2010-	103.94	0	4	New work included in Railway Budget 11. Preliminary activities taken up.
20.	Alwar-Harsauli (34.86 kms) 11.	90.79	65.75	15	Overall physical progress-80%. TDC 2010-

21.	Bhagat Ki Kothi-Luni (28.12 kms)	97.36	0	4	New work included in Railway Budget 2010-11. Detailed Estimate prepared.
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1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Dausa-Bandikui (29.04 kms)	85.34	80.25	5.09	Overall physical progress-90%. TDC-2010-11.
23.	Jaipur-Dausa (61.28 kms)	148.38	123.13	25	29 kms Completed. TDC-2010-11.
24.	Harsauli-Rewari (39.35 km).	110.95	72.28	37	Overall Physical Progress-57%. TDC-2010-11.
25.	Kesavganj-Swaroopganj (26.48 kms)	92.3	0	4	New work included in Railway Budget 2010-11. Preliminary activities taken up.
26.	Sarotra Road-Karjoda (23.59 kms)	115	0	4	New work included in Railway Budget 2010-11. Preliminary activities taken up.
27.	Swaroopganj-Abu Road (25.36 kms)	105.68	0	4	New work included in Railway Budget 2010-11 Preliminary activities taken up.
28.	Jaipur-Phulera (54.75 kms)	124.5	121.77	2	Completed & commissioned.
Railway Electrification					
29.	Bina-Kota (309 kms)	199.49	190.83	2.58	TDC: 2010-11

B.Surveys completed since 2005-06 and surveys in progress in Rajasthan are as under:

S.No.	Name of the Surveys	Length (in kms)	Cost (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3	4
Surveys completed			
1.	Phulera to Merta Road new line	153	283
2.	Bari Sadari-Nimach new line	50	130
3.	Loharu-Bhiwani new line	64	100
4.	Jaisalmer-Kandla new line	562	991
5.	Ajmer-Kota new line	145	587
6.	Tonk-Deoli new line	62	210
7.	Anupgarh-Kolayat via Khajuwala new line	200	441
8.	Ujjain -Jhalawar-Ramganjmandi new line	190	860
9.	Jhunjhunu-Pilani new line	20	55.01
10.	Amarpura (Jorasi)-Chirawa via Tathwari and Singhana new line	70	162.09
11.	Bilara-Bar new line	52	139

1	2	3	4
12.	Anupgarh-Khajuwala-Jaisalmer-Ramgarh new line	485	914
13.	Pushkar-Merta Road new line	59	234
14.	Mavli-Marwar gauge conversion	183	810
15.	Alwar-Bandikui doubling	60.37	202.83
16.	Mawali-Bari Sadri new line	82	132.53
17.	Bhiwadi-Rewari new line	27	163
18.	Ratlam-Banswara-Dungarpur new line	177	2083.97
19.	Ajmer-Palanpur doubling	354	1379.87
Surveys taken up			
1.	Rewari-Palwar-Khurja new line	115	
2.	Himmatnagar-Khedbrahma gauge conversion with extension up to Abu Road	120	
3.	Samdhari-Phalodi new line	137	
4.	Bilara-Bar new line	52	
5.	Ajmer-Sawaimadhopur via Tonk new line	180	

6.	Churu-Nauhar via Taranagar new line	70
7.	Bina-Kota doubling	283
8.	Ajmer-Kota new line	145
9.	Deoli-Tonk-Sakatpura new line	
10.	Sardarsahar-Ratangarh GC	45
11.	Bypass line at Rewari from Alwar-Sadulpur	
12.	Bharatpur-Deeg.-Kama-Kosi new line	90
13.	Jhansi-Sawai Madhopur via Shivpuri. Sheopurkalan new line	311
14.	Bhiwani-Loharu-Pilani-Churu new line	144
15.	Hanumangarh-Sardar Shahr new line	198
16.	Jaisalmer to Sanu via Hamira new line	55
17.	Jaisalmer-Barmer new line	144
18.	Nokha-Sikar new line	180
19.	Baran-Shivpuri new line	150
20.	Bari Sadri-Neemach new line	48

(e) Railways have a huge throwforward of ongoing projects with limited availability of resources, as a result of which projects take long time in completion. This results into increase in cost of projects due to escalation and other reasons including change in standards of construction and technology, scope of the work and conditions of the areas etc. during the intervening period.

Sale of expiry date eatables at railway stations

1454. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that cakes, biscuits, beverages of expiry dates are being sold at railway stations in U.P. and Bihar;

(b) whether 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) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Setting up of new divisional HQs at Surat

1455. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal for establishing and setting up some new divisional railway headquarters, during the current financial year, zone-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether new railway divisional headquarter to be set up at Surat in Western Railway will include Bharuch-Valsad Vapi Nandurbar railway stations; and

(d) if so, the time by when this proposal to be considered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no proposal to set up a new railway divisional headquarter at Surat in Western Railway.

(d) Does not arise.

Online railway examination

†1456. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the plight of all the railway stations and trains because of conduct of examination on the same day across the country, Government is exploring any other alternative to get the recruitment exam for various posts in the railways conducted at various centres across country; and

(b) whether Government has any proposal for conducting these examinations online in view of recent scandals in the railway recruitment examinations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However, after receipt of reports of leakage of question papers, it has been decided to carry out technical audit of the system of examination.

Forged tatkal tickets

†1457. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of exposure of a scam a few days ago involving railway personnel in Jodhpur and Pali districts of Rajasthan making forged Tatkal tickets;

(b) the number of such cases have come before the department and the number of employees arrested in this connection and the action taken against them; and

(c) whether Government is going to take any concrete step so that the common passenger may avail the facilities of Tatkal Scheme?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) No case of making of forged tatkal tickets involving railway personnel in Jodhpur and Pali districts of Rajasthan has come to notice.

(c) Regular and surprise checks are conducted by Commercial and Vigilance Departments in association with Railway Protection Force at all reservation centres to curb illegal activities. Besides, access to Travel Agents/Web-Service Agents/Web Agents of Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC) to Tatkal booking through e-tickets has been banned between 0800 hours and 0900 hours on all days to help the common passengers in booking tatkal tickets through the internet.

Medical facilities in long distance trains

1458. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up medical facilities in long distance trains as was announced earlier;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A doctor with a paramedic staff has been provided in each of the Duronto trains as a Pilot Project. In addition to this, all passenger carrying trains are provided with First Aid Boxes and Augmented First Aid Boxes have been provided with the Train Superintendents of Rajdhani/Shatabdi Express trains and Guards of nominated trains. The front line staff viz. Train Superintendents, Train Conductors, Traveling Train Ticket Examiners, etc. are also trained in rendering First Aid. Trains can also make unscheduled halts, if necessary, at the stations en-route, in emergencies. The Station Masters have details of doctors, clinics and hospitals, both Government and Private in the vicinity of the station, so that their services could also be availed, in emergencies.

(c) Does not arise.

Anti-Collision Device

1459. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite tall claims of modernizing its system to make rail travel safer, Railways has been dragging its feet on introducing anti-collision device; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by when railways is considering to provide this system to check collision of trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):
(a) and (b) The Anti-Collision Device (ACD), developed by Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) has been in service trials as pilot project on 1736 Route Kilometers of North East Frontier Railway (NFR). Based on experience on NFR, specifications for ACD have had to be revised to improve efficiency, reliability and availability of ACD. The improved version of the ACD to revised specification is now to be developed by KRCL for service trials on three zones, viz, Southern, South Central and South Western Railways, covering 1600 Route kilometers that include multiple line & electrified sections. KRCL is expected to finish the exercise by October 2010.

Further installation of ACD on Indian Railway will be planned, based on performance evaluation of equipment with improved specifications, on Southern, South Central and South Western Railways.

Doubling of Konkan railway track

1460. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Konkan Railway Corporation has any proposal to double the existing Konkan Railway track;

(b) if so, the cost involved in the project;

(c) whether the Corporation has approached Government for loan or financial assistance in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Increase in thefts and drugging in trains

1461. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is increase in instances of thefts and drugging of passengers in trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years; and

(c) the action Government is taking for safety of passengers and their baggage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

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

(c) Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Police, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. As such the cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Govt. Railway Police.

However, to provide better security to the traveling passengers in trains and passenger areas, Railway Protection Force is deployed to escort important trains to effectively supplement the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways.

The following measures are being taken for the security of passengers:

1. 1275 trains are escorted by RPF daily on an average, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States.

2. An Integrated Security System consisting of electronic surveillance of vulnerable stations through CCTV Camera Network, access control, Anti-sabotage checks has been approved to strengthen surveillance mechanism over 202 vulnerable Railway stations.

3. Regular coordination meetings are held with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police (GRP).

4. Public awareness against crime like Drugging of passengers is done through regular announcements at stations and in trains.

5. An amendment is under examination in the RPF Act to enable RPF to deal with the passenger related offences more effectively.

Development of railway stations as model stations

1462. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways declares some stations as model stations;

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

(c) how many stations have so far been declared as model stations;

(d) how many stations have actually been developed as model stations so far; and

(e) the names of those stations which were declared to be developed as model stations during the last year and have actually been developed as such?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (e) Model station scheme is an old scheme under which 594 stations were identified between 1999 and 2008 for the purpose of development as model stations. So far, 450 stations have been developed. No station has been identified during 2009-10 to be developed as model station. However, 378 stations were identified during 2009-10 for development as Adarsh stations.

Train accident at Sainthia

1463. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of persons killed and injured when the Sealdah-bound New Cooch Bihar-Sealdah Uttarbanga Express rammed into Bhagalpur-Ranchi Vananchal Express from behind at the Sainthia station on

19th July 2010;

(b) if so, whether the preliminary investigations into the causes of accident has since been ascertained;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any compensation to the next of the kin who killed and to the injured passengers has since been announced and given; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by Government to prevent such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Yes, Sir. On 19.07.2010 at 02.05 hrs., while the train No.3404 Dn. (Bhagalpur-Ranchi) Vananchal Express was leaving from Platform No.4 of Sainthia station of Howrah Division of Eastern Railway, 3148 Dn. (New Cooch Behar-Sealdah) Uttar Banga Express collided with it from the rear. In this incident, 65 persons lost their lives, 45 suffered grievous injuries and 46 others suffered simple injuries.

(b) and (c) The cause of the incident is under investigation from all possible angles. Statutory inquiry into the above incident is also being conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety, Eastern Circle and its preliminary report is awaited.

(d) and (e) Ministry of Railways has ordered payment of ex-gratia of Rs.5 lakh to the next of kin of each deceased, Rs. 1 lakh to each grievously injured and Rs. 50,000 to each simple injured. Employment to one member of the family of the deceased persons has also been announced. Compensation shall be additionally payable to the next of kin of each deceased and injured passenger on the basis of claims filed by them in the Railway Claims Tribunal and decree passed by the Tribunal.

Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continuing basis by the Railways to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signaling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices introduced to prevent accidents include provision of Anti-collision Device (ACD), Train Protection and Warning System (TPWS), Block

Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), LED Signals and Vigilance Control Device (VCD), etc.

Mancheswar compartment repairing factory

1464. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no substantial investment in Mancheswar compartment repairing factory till today; and

(b) considering the huge requirement of new compartments and goods wagons whether Railways has any proposal of new compartment building factory at Mancheswar, Bhubaneswar in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No, Sir. Modernization of workshop is an on going process. Over the last 10 years various works aggregating to about Rs. 38 crore have been approved for Mancheswar workshop.

(b) No, Sir.

Train running from Howrah to Indore

†1465. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a train has been running from Howrah to Indore in the name of 'Shipra Express' for years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that there has been a demand for years to make it run on daily basis;

(d) if so, by when this demand would be met; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. At present, 9305/9306 Shipra Express (tri-weekly) is running between Indore-Howrah.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) At present, there is no proposal to increase the frequency of 9305/9306 Indore-Howrah Shipra Express (tri-weekly) due to operational and resource constraints.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Insurance cover in railways

1466. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether insurance cover is taken by Railways for its immovable and movable assets, including for its goods and passenger traffic;

(b) if so, details of types of insurance taken indicating names of insurance companies, value of insurances and the amount of insurance premium paid annually in respective case since 2004-05, year-wise; and

(c) the details of cost incurred on account of compensation for loss/damage of goods and death and injury of passengers since 2004-05, year-wise, indicating the claims outstanding, if any, as on 30th June, 2010?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Insurance cover was taken by the railways for passenger traffic only.

(b) and (c) The details of names of the Insurance Companies and premium paid for Rail Passenger Insurance Scheme since 2004-05 and cost incurred on account of compensation for death/injury of passengers in train accidents & untoward incidents are as under:

Year	Name of Insurance Co.	Amount of Premium paid (Rs. in Crore)	Amount of Compensation paid for death/ injury to Passengers in train Accidents (Rs. in Crore)	Amount Paid for Compensation Claims for Loss of Booked goods (Rs. in Crore)	No. of Cases Pending Before RCT
1	2	3	4	5	6
2004-05	United India Insurance Co. Ltd.	37.93	30.44	12.39	25511
2005-06	-do-	42.23	28.02	15.83	25933

1	2	3	4	5	6
2006-07	Reliance General Insurance Co. Ltd.	39.11	43.05	13.50	27778
2007-08	ICICI Lombard General Insurance Co. Ltd.	34.72	66.51	9.92	31382
2008-09		-	112.15	6.40	33554
2009-10		-	140.73	13.99	33532
2010-11		-	59.21	2.73	35610
(Upto June'10)					

No insurance cover has been taken after 20.9.08. However, payment of compensation to the victims of train accidents or untoward incidents does not get affected whether insurance cover is there or not. The insurance cover bought from general insurers is an internal mechanism to get reimbursement of the compensation paid by the Railways.

Railway network in Andhra Pradesh

1467. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh has the railway network of 18.8 route kms. per 1000 sq. kms. and is thus the least rail connected State among other major States;

(b) the comparative State-wise details in this regard, indicating the total route kms., area (sq. kms.) and route kms. per 1000 sq. kms.;

(c) the reasons for not sanctioning any new line/train in Andhra Pradesh during the last five years; and

(d) the names of new lines/trains proposed for Andhra Pradesh during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) As on 31.3.2009, the railway route length (route kilometres) per 1000 square kilometres of area in Andhra Pradesh is 18.85 kilometres which is very close to the all Indian average of 19.47 route

kilometres per 1000 square kilometres. A comparative State-wise details indicating area in route kilometres, area (square kilometres) and route kilometres per 1000 square kilometres are given below:

S. No.	Name of State	Route Kilometres as on 31.3.2009	Area Square kilometres	Route Kilometres per 1000sq kms. of area
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	5184.85	275069	18.85
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1.26	83743	0.02
3	Assam	2283.71	78438	29.11
4	Bihar	3514.90	94163	37.33
5	Chhatisgarh	1185.76	136034	8.72
6	Delhi	182.48	1483	123.05
7	Goa	69.00	3702	18.64
8	Gujarat	5328.26	196024	27.18
9	Haryana	1553.05	44212	35.13
10	Himachal Pradesh	285.01	55673	5.12
11	Jammu & Kashmir	238.77	222236	1.07
12	Jharkhand	1967.98	79714	24.69
13	Karnataka	3006.86	191791	15.68
14	Kerala	1050.20	38863	27.02
15	Madhya Pradesh	4949.08	308000	16.07
16	Maharashtra	5601.71	307713	18.20
17	Manipur	1.35	22327	0.06

1	2	3	4	5
18	Meghalaya	0.00	22429	0.00
19	Mizoram	1.50	21081	0.07
20	Nagaland	12.85	16579	0.78
21	Orissa	2385.41	155707	15.32
22	Punjab	2133.41	50362	42.36
23	Rajasthan	5854.48	342239	17.11
24	Sikkim	0.00	7096	0.00
25	Tamil Nadu	4106.85	130058	31.58
26	Tripura	151.40	10492	14.43
27	Uttar Pradesh	8702.75	240928	36.12
28	Uttarakhand	344.91	53484	6.45
29	West Bengal	3890.29	88752	43.83
Union Territories				
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.00	8249	0.00
2	Chandigarh	15.70	114	137.72
3	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0.00	491	0.00
4	Daman & Diu	0.00	112	0.00
5	Lakshadweep	0.00	32	0.00
6	Pondicherry	11.10	479	23.17
All India		64014.88	3287869	19.47

(c) and (d) Introduction of trains is not done on the basis of State boundaries but on the basis of traffic pattern, operational feasibility and availability of resources.

During last 5 years i.e. from 2005-06 to 2009-10, 8 new line projects falling fully/partly in Andhra Pradesh have been taken up. During 2010-11, new line from Bhadrachalam Road to Sattupalli Mines has been included in the Budget.

Release of funds for rail projects

1468. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has been repeatedly requesting to release Rs. 150.00 crores for the year 2009-10 for Kotipalli-Narsapur (57.21 kms) railway project which had been sanctioned in 2000-01 and for which the Government of Andhra Pradesh has already agreed to share 25 per cent of the cost of project;

(b) if so, the latest position in this regard;

(c) by when the remaining Central share in this project is likely to be released; and

(d) the reasons for delay in releasing the Central share for this project which is mainly to improve connectivity with central DELTA while reducing distance between Kakinada and Narsapur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) Request from Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received for allotment of funds for the project. The Project is at initial stages and expenditure of Rs. 9.41 crore have been incurred upto March, 2010. An allocation of Rs. 15 crore has been provided for 2010-11.

(c) and (d) Funds would be released on yearly basis depending upon availability of resources and keeping in view the progress of the project.

Construction of rail over-bridge

1469. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the traffic coming from North Bihar to Patna on National Highway No.77 have to wait for hours at railway crossing at Hajipur to Ram Dayalu Nagar;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to construct rail over bridge at this crossing;

(c) if so, by when the same would be constructed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The work of the said Road Over Bridge (ROB) comes under National Highway Development Programme and is already sanctioned. NHAI (National Highway Authority of India) is constructing the complete ROB. The work is at planning stage. The Railways will only be doing the supervision work for the Railway portion.

Facility to senior citizens and pregnant women

†1470. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railway administration can allow senior citizens and pregnant women to use the coach meant for handicapped persons all time in a day in local trains of Mumbai;

(b) if so, whether Railways would issue notification concerning central, western and harbour local trains at the earliest; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Handicapped compartments are reserved only for persons with disability i.e. physically handicapped persons, total blind persons, total deaf and dumb persons, mentally retarded persons and cancer patients, etc. If senior citizens and pregnant women are permitted to travel in handicapped compartments, it will cause inconvenience to the handicapped and will be resented by them. Moreover, separate accommodation is already being earmarked for ladies in suburban trains. Accommodation is also being earmarked for senior citizens in suburban trains during non-peak hours.

Laying of new railway lines

†1471. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the length of new railway lines in kilometers to be laid during the year 2010-11;

(b) whether Government proposes to convert Udaipur-Ahmedabad line into broad gauge line; and

(c) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) 1021 kilometers of new line has been targeted for completion during 2010-11.

(b) and (c) The gauge conversion of Ahmedabad-Himmatangar-Udaipur (299.20 km) has already been included in the Budget 2008-09. Target for completion has not been fixed. ' Work will progress as per availability of resources.

Conversion of narrow gauge line into broad gauge

1472. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many narrow gauge railway lines in Gujarat have not been converted into broad gauge; and

(b) if so, whether these narrow gauge lines would be converted into broad gauge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) As on 1.4.2010, Gujarat has 784 Km. of narrow gauge lines out of which gauge conversion has been taken up for 161 Km. The conversion of metre gauge/narrow gauge line into broad gauge is being done in a progressive manner. Vision 2020 entails conversion of all metre gauge/narrow gauge lines except some of the heritage lines.

Train service between Kapurthala and Delhi

1473. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government knows that Rail Coach Factory is situated in district Kapurthala, Punjab;

(b) whether it is a fact that no train runs from Kapurthala to New Delhi, although railway track is already there;

(c) whether Government is planning to explore the possibility to start a direct train from Kapurthala to Delhi or to extend the route of train running from Jalandhar to Delhi to Kapurthala;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Yes, Sir. While there is no direct train service between New Delhi and Kapurthala, Delhi is well connected to Jalandhar by 36 pairs of trains. The distance between Kapurthala and Jalandhar is 21 km and convenient trains are available between them. Introduction of a direct train service between Delhi and Kapurthala or extension of the trains to Kapurthala is not feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.

Quality and quantity of food served in trains

1474. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that registered Indian Railway caterers and IRCTC are subletting their license to other small caterers whereby quality and quantity of food served in trains are becoming sub-standard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Railways has appointed Quality Control Inspectors to check the quality and quantity of food served in North Eastern region bound trains specially in Rajdhani Express;

(d) if so, the number of cases registered by them;

(e) whether disciplinary action has been taken against the guilty; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 260 cases has been registered in North Eastern region bound trains in 2009-10.

(e) Yes, Sir. In 140 cases the licensees were counseled and warning was issued in 110 and in 10 cases fines were imposed by IRCTC.

(f) Does not arise.

Railway projects running behind schedule

1475. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 145 Railway projects are running behind schedule by many years with a cost overrun of about Rs. 43,000 crores;

(b) if so, the details of projects running behind schedule for more than 20 years, 15 years and 10 years separately with cost overrun in each case;

(c) how Government proposes to accelerate completion of these projects; and

(d) the number of these 145 projects located in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (c) At present, Railways have about 327 ongoing projects under new lines, gauge conversions and doublings with a huge throwforward of about Rs. 98,000 cr as on 01.04.2010 across the country. Due to limited availability of resources, projects have long gestation period. The targets for the projects are generally fixed on yearly basis based on the availability of resources and the progress made. Many of the projects get completed in phases. The main reasons for delay have been paucity of funds, delay in land acquisition and forestry clearance, failure of contracts and contractors, adverse law and order conditions and other market forces affecting the progress. Ongoing projects undergo cost escalation on account of delays as above and change in the standard of construction & technology, scope of work, inflation, etc. No fixed time frame for completion of all the projects is feasible in such a scenario.

Out of 327 ongoing projects, 4 projects are more than 20 years old, 6 projects are more than 15 years old and 66 projects are more than 10 years old.

To expedite completion of projects, a number of initiatives have been taken to generate additional resources through non-budgetary measures like Public-Private Partnership, funding by State Governments and other beneficiaries. Besides, to reduce delays on account of land availability, security issues and forestry clearances, etc meetings with State Officials are held from time to time. Contract conditions have been modified to bring in efficiency in contract management, and field units have been further empowered.

(d) 7 new line, 1 gauge conversion and 10 doubling projects are in progress in the State of Jharkhand.

Construction of road over bridges in Karnataka

1476. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the road over bridges (ROBs) which are under construction in the State of Karnataka as on date;

(b) whether Railways proposes to construct more ROBs in the State of Karnataka;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when the pending proposals would be decided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Five road over bridge (ROB) are under construction in the State of Karnataka.

(b) and (c) Railways plan to construct 46 more ROBs in the State of Karnataka. These are at various stage of planning and tendering.

(d) No, Sir.

Increase in incidence of theft and robbery in trains

1477. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether frequent incidence of theft and robbery are taking place in the Southern Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases that have been reported;

(d) whether it is fact that passengers were harassed and suffered from food poisoning due to some anti-social people;

(e) if so, the number of cases of food poisoning reported in the train; and

(f) the steps taken by Government for the safety of the passengers?

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.

(f) Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Police, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. As such the cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Govt. Railway Police.

However, to provide better security to the travelling passengers in trains and passenger areas, Railway Protection Force is deployed to escort important trains to effectively supplement the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways.

The following measures are being taken for the security of passengers:

1. 1275 trains are escorted by RPF daily on an average, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States.

2. An Integrated Security System consisting of electronic surveillance of vulnerable stations through CCTV Camera Network, access control, Anti-sabotage checks has been approved to strengthen surveillance mechanism over 202 vulnerable Railway stations.

3. Regular coordination meetings are held with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police (GRP).

4. Public awareness against crime like Drugging of passengers is done through regular announcements at stations and in trains.

5. An amendment is under examination in the RPF Act to enable RPF to deal with the passenger related offences more effectively.

Setting up of women RPF unit

1478. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that cases of harassment of women in trains are getting increased;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government for the safety and security of women passengers; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to implement the budget proposal of setting up of separate women RPF unit and to increase the recruitment of women in RPF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):
(a) and (b) No Sir. However, to ensure safety of women passengers various measures have been taken:

(1) Important mail/express trains, ladies special trains are being escorted by RPF/GRP;

(2) train escorts staff are sensitized to give top priority to security of women passengers;

(3) surprise checks are conducted by senior Officers to ensure that instructions are followed diligently by train escort staff;

(4) special drives are conducted and action is taken as per provisions of the Railways Act against male passengers travelling in ladies compartments;

(5) wherever considered necessary, special all women teams have been constituted for ensuring security of women passengers.

(c) (1) 12 Mahila companies are being set up to cater to the security of women passengers. In all future recruitments for the posts of Constable and Sub-Inspector in RPF, 10% vacancies are being earmarked for ladies;

(2) To further strengthen RPF, 3 RPSF Battalions (including one Mahila Battalion) have been sanctioned.

MEMU train service for southern zone

1479. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed Ernakulam-Kollam-Ernakulam MEMU service which has figured in the railway time table for the southern zone would be extended to Thiruvananthapuram;

(b) if so, the time-frame for this to come into effect; and

(c) whether any time-frame is finalized for the commissioning of MEMU service at Kollam and the delivery of the rakes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Railway Budget announcement are given effect during the course of the financial year.

Permission for legal proceedings against corrupt officers

†1480. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Vigilance Commission and Central Bureau of Investigation have sought Ministry's permission for legal proceedings against corrupt officers;

(b) if so, the number of such officers against whom permission for action has been sought during last three years;

(c) the types of cases involving such officers, regarding which permission has been sought; and

(d) the reasons for delay in granting permission for legal proceedings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) The role of CVC is only advisory in nature. However, the Central Bureau of Investigation seeks the permission of Railways for sanction of prosecution of officers after investigating the case.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b)	2007	2008	2009
	09	17	16

These figures are for the period January to December i.e. Calendar year

(c) Types of cases involve demanding and accepting illegal gratification, disproportionate assets, and financial impropriety.

(d) Normally there is no delay in granting sanction of prosecution.

Bharuch-Dahej rail line

1481. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has agreed to include Bharuch-Dahej rail line into current Railway Budget of 2010-11 and made provisions of funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time limit fixed for the implementation of the project and gauge conversion of Bharuch-Dahej line on agreement between GMB-DAHEJ SEZ Limited, GNFC Adani and RVNL;

(d) if so, the time limit fixed for implementation of the project; and

(e) whether the project also covers the facility of double stack container agreement as part of the dedicated freight corridor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (d) Rs.125.01 crore has been provided for Bharuch-Samni-Dahej gauge conversion project in Railway Budget 2010-11. The project has been targeted for completion during 2010-11.

(e) Bharuch-Dahej rail line is not a part of Western Dedicated Freight Corridor Project. However, the line has been identified as a feeder route of Western Dedicated Freight Corridor. The section for the present will be for single stack container running.

Setting up of steel plants in H.P.

†1482. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to set up two new steel plants in Himachal Pradesh for which special committee members have been selected;

(b) if so, the details of the members along with the date by which these plants would be ready and become operational;

(c) whether the original and permanent residents of Himachal Pradesh "Himachali Bonafied" would get preference while providing employment in these plants; and

(d) if so, the extent of preference to be given to them and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP):

(a) to (d) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has planned to set up one TMT Bar Mill at Steel Processing Unit (SPU) at Kandrori District Kangra in Himachal Pradesh with a capacity of 1,00,000 tonnes per annum. The project is under execution and the expected date of completion is by first quarter of 2012. The possibility of setting up an additional SPU in Himachal Pradesh is being explored.

A three member Committee had been constituted comprising of representatives from SAIL, Government of Himachal Pradesh and Confederation of Indian Industry to examine *inter-alia* activities towards expanding the manufacturing base of steel products in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

As the Steel Processing Unit is at initial stage of execution, it is premature to comment upon the preference in employment to be given to any category.

Rehabilitation of indigenous and tribal people

1483. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any concrete steps have been taken for steel capacity expansion and achieving cost effectiveness so that in the coming decade substantial reduction in operating and raw material cost is achieved when the capacity is estimated to rise 110 mtpa by 2019-20;

(b) if so, whether the rehabilitation of indigenous and tribal

people, as iron ore mining is

done in economically backward States like Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Jharkhand etc., is adequately taken care of; and

(c) whether it is a fact that displaced tribals in Jharkhand mining operations had to resort to agitation to protect their rights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP):

(a) Based on the progress of steel expansion capacity projects, being undertaken by the major steel investors and as per the information furnished by the respective companies, the total steel production capacity in India is expected to be 120 million tonnes by December 2012. As far as the technology, operation methods and type of products is concerned, the details of these are decided by the individual companies based upon techno-commercial considerations.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected from the respective State Governments and will be laid on the table of the House.

Depletion of iron-ore reserve

1484. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our mineral reserves of iron-ore are depleting day-by-day due to heavy export from the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is tremendous increase seen in last ten years for export of iron-ore from the country; and

(c) the plans Government is formulating to protect reserves of iron-ore in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP):

(a) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that our mineral reserves of iron ore are depleting due to its heavy export from the country.

(b) Yes, Sir. The export of iron ore from the country has increased from a level of 37.49 million tonnes during 2000-01 to a level of 117.37 million tonnes during the year 2009-10.

(c) The Government has decided that conservation of iron ore resources of the country is of paramount importance and the same may be achieved by taking recourse to appropriate fiscal measures. Presently, an

export duty of 5% is leviable on iron ore fines whereas 15% export duty is leviable on other varieties of iron ore.

Decrease in demand of steel

1485. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a decline in demand for steel in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of demand and supply for last three years;
- (c) the reasons for the fall in the demand for steel;
- (d) whether this has an adverse effect on the working of steel industry;
- (e) the details of increase in import of steel during the quarter April-June 2010; and
- (f) the reasons for increase in imports inspite of decline in demand for steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP):
 (a) and (b) Demand for steel is denoted by consumption of finished steel. There has been no decline in consumption of finished steel in the country during the last three years. Data on consumption and production of finished steel in the country during the last three years are given below:

Finished Steel (in million tonnes)				
Year	Consumption		Production	
	Quantity	% change	Quantity	% change
2007-08	52.12	11.4	56.08	6.8
2008-09	52.35	0.4	57.16	1.9
2009-10*	56.48	7.9	59.69	4.4

Source: Joint Plant Committee (JPC); *=provisional

- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) The details of import of finished steel in the country during the quarter April -June, 2010 are given below:

Period	Finished Steel Import (in million tonnes)
April-June 2010*	2.76
April-June 2009*	1.52
% change	81.6

Source: Joint Plant Committee (JPC); * = provisional

(f) The reason for increase in imports of steel is that the growth in consumption of steel has been increasing at a much higher rate than the growth in production. In the quarter April - June, 2010, production has grown at a relatively lower rate of 3.7% than consumption which has grown at 12%.

12.00 Noon

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Reports and Accounts (2008-09) of HAL, Pune and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I lay on the Table:

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) Fifty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), Pune, 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.

(c) 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. 2834/15/10]

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the chair*)

I. Notification of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

II. Reports and Accounts (2004-05, 2007-08, 2008-09) of various Councils/Centre/Institutes/Authority/Educational organizations NIT's, SSA and Shiksha Mission and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I lay on the Table:

I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education) Notification No. A.U./Comm. Sec./Uni.Coll./1140/2008, dated the 13th September, 2008, amending the Statutes of University of Allahabad, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification, under sub-section (2) of Section 44 of the University of Allahabad Act, 2005. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3111/15/10]

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

(i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bihar Education Project Council (Bihar Shiksha Pariyojna Parishad), Patna, for the year 2004-05, 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 (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2733/15/10]

(ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), 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 (ii) (a) above. [Placed in

Library. See No. L.T. 2746/15/10]

- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), 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. 2744/15/10]
- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Studies in Civilizations for implementation of the Project of History of Indian Science, Philosophy and Culture, New Delhi, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iv) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2740/15/10]
- (v) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal, for the year 2008-09.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal, for the year 2008-09 and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (v) (a) and (b) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2745/15/10]
- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the North Eastern

Regional Institute of Science and Technology (NERIST),
Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, 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 (vi) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2741/15/10]
- (vii) (a) Annual Report of the National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai, for the year 2008-09.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai, for the year 2008-09 and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (vii) (a) and (b) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2742/15/10]
- (viii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology (SLIET), Longowal, Punjab, 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 (viii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2739/15/10]
- (ix) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Orissa Primary Education Programme Authority (OPEPA), Bhubaneswar, 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. 2738/15/10]

- (x) (a) Annual Report of the Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology, Surat, for the year 2007-08.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology, Surat, for the year 2007-08 and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 22 of the National Institute 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 (x) (a) and (b) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2825/15/10]
- (xi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar, 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 (xi) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3112/15/10]
- (xii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Agartala, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2826/15/10]

(xiii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Uttarakhand, Sabhi Ke Liye Shiksha Parishad, Dehradun, 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 (xiii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2834/15/10]
- (xiv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the School of Planning and Architecture (SPA), Bhopal, 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 (xiv) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2743/15/10]
- (xv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rajiv Gandhi Shiksha Mission, Chhattisgarh, Raipur, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xv) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2827/15/10]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

II. Report and Accounts (2007-08) of FCI, New Delhi and related papers.

III. Statement giving reasons for not laying Report and Accounts of J&K HPMC, Srinagar for the year 1994-95 to 2008-09.

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. (a) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Consumer

Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of
Consumer Affairs) Notification No. S.O. 1480

(E), dated the 18th June, 2010, amending Notification No. S.O. 3267 (E), dated the 22nd December, 2009, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2717/15/10]

- (b) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs) Notification No. G.S.R. 551 (E), dated the 23rd June, 2010, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 632 (E), dated 2nd September, 2009, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification, under sub-section (4) of Section 83 of the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2716/15/10]

II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (2) of Section 35 of the Food Corporation Act, 1964:

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Food Corporation of India (FCI), New Delhi, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

(c) 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. 2709/15/10]

III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the Statement giving reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited (J&K HPMC), Srinagar, for the years 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09, within the stipulated period. [Placed in

Library. See No. L.T. 2715/15/10]

Report of CAG for the year ended in March, 2009

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): Sir, I lay on the Table, under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports:

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2009: Report No.11 of 2010-11: Union Government (Indirect Taxes Central Excise) (Performance Audit) - Performance Audit on I Excise Duty on Pharmaceutical Products.
- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2009: Report No.12 of 2010-11: Union Government (Defence Services) Army and Ordnance Factories; and
- (iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2009: Report No.15 of 2009-10: Union Government (Indirect Taxes - Customs) (Performance Audit) - Performance Audit on natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof, imitation jewellery, coin (Chapter 71 of Customs Tariff Heading).

NOMINATION TO PANEL OF VICE-CHAIRMEN

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform the House that Shri Tariq Anwar has been re-nominated to the Panel of Vice-Chairmen.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform the House that the Business Advisory Committee at its meeting held on the 5th August, 2010, has allocated time for Government Legislative and other Business as follows:

Sl. No. Business	Time Allotted
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1

2

3

1. Consideration and passing of the Mines and Minerals Four Hours
(Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2008.
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1	2	3
2.	Consideration and passing of the State Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 2010, as passed by Lok Sabha.	Three Hours
3.	Consideration and return of the following Appropriation Bills relating to the following Demands, after they are passed by Lok Sabha:-	
	(a) Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2010-11.	Two Hours
	(b) Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2010-11.	Two Hours
	(c) Supplementary Demands for Grants (Jharkhand) for 2010-11.	Two Hours
4.	Consideration and passing of the Jharkhand Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Bill, 2010 (to replace Ordinance), after it is passed by Lok Sabha.	Two Hours

**MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COURT OF THE
ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY**

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I move the following Motion:

That in pursuance of item (xxiv) of clause (1) read with clause (2) of Statute 14 of the Statutes of the Aligarh Muslim University appended to the Aligarh Muslim University (Amendment) Act, 1981, in terms of Section 28 thereof, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from amongst the Members of the House to be a member of the Court of the Aligarh Muslim University in the vacancy caused due to the retirement of Shrimati Mohsina Kidwai from the membership of Rajya Sabha on the 29th June, 2010."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the first report of department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture

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, on behalf of Shri Sharad Pawar, I make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the First Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the second report of department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on chemicals and fertilizers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers (2009-10) of the Department of Fertilizers.

STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): Sir, I rise to make a statement regarding Government Business in the Rajya Sabha during the week commencing Monday, the 9th August, 2010.

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
2. Consideration and passing of the following Bills, as passed by Lok

Sabha :-

- (i) The Land Ports Authority of India Bill, 2010.
 - (ii) The Security and Insurance Laws (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2010.
 - (iii) The State Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 2010; and
 - (iv) The Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2010.
3. Consideration and passing of the following Bills:-
- (i) The Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2009.
 - (ii) The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2008; and
 - (iii) The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Bill, 2006.
4. Consideration and return of the following Appropriation Bills, after they are passed by Lok Sabha:
- (i) The Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2010; and
 - (ii) The Jharkhand Appropriation Bill, 2010.
5. Consideration and passing of the New Delhi Municipal Council (Amendment) Bill, 2010, after it is passed by Lok Sabha.

GOVERNMENT BILL

The Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission)

Amendment Bill, 2010

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We now take up the Special Mentions.

SPECIAL MENTIONS*

Demand for naming any existing or upcoming airport as

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Airport

SHRI AMBETH RAJAN (Uttar Pradesh): Hon. Chairman, Sir, there are 17 international airports, including 3 JVCs, 8 customs airports and 81 domestic airports in our country. All these airports are named after many national leaders, State leaders and other historical figures. But, I am constrained to state that out of these airports, both international and domestic, none of them are yet to be named after an iconic figure of this country, Baba Saheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, who was the founding father of our Constitution.

It is important to mention here that Dr. Ambedkar was the first Law Minister of the Independent India and he is still a role model for many people belonging to all walks of life. Taking into account of his valuable service to the society and this country, he was awarded India's highest Civilian Award, Bharat Ratna in the year 1990.

Recently, a new terminal has been inaugurated in the Delhi International Airport. So also, so many new airports are coming up in various parts of the country.

So, it is my earnest appeal to the Government, through this august House, to keep the name of Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. Ambedkar to the newly inaugurated terminal in the Delhi International Airport or to a new upcoming airport at Mumbai which will be a befitting tribute to him.

Demand to take action for complete conversion of the

National Highway No.42 into a four-lane highway

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा) : महोदय, उड़ीसा के अंदर कटक के मंगुलि से ढैंकानाल, अंगुल से संबलपुर तक जाने वाले राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग संख्या 42, राज्य की एक जीवन रेखा है एवं सांस्कृतिक संयोगकारी राजपथ है। पश्चिम उड़ीसा के प्राणकेंद्र संबलपुर तथा उड़ीसा की सांस्कृतिक राजधानी कटक के बीच यह संयोगकारी है। इसके साथ-साथ इस राजमार्ग के दोनों पार्श्व में अब व्यापक रूप से औद्योगीकरण हो रहा है। राज्य के कई हिस्सों में नक्सलवाद की स्थिति भयंकर होने के कारण कई लोग घूमने जाने हेतु भी अब इस राजमार्ग का इस्तेमाल करते हैं। एक सर्वेक्षण के अनुसार इसमें अब दैनिक

20,000 से ज्यादा वाहनों का आवागमन होता है। दैनिक 5,000 से अधिक छः चक्के वाले, 5000 से अधिक दस अथवा अधिक चक्के वाले, 300 से अधिक भारीयान

*Laid on the Table of the House

एवं 100 से अधिक ट्रेलर चलने के कारण दोपहिया, तीन पहिया एवं चार पहिया वाहन, जिनमें आम आदमी सफर करते हैं, भयंकर रूप से प्रभावित होते हैं। प्रतिदिन कोई न कोई दुर्घटना घटती है। 2010 के प्रथम 180 दिनों के अंदर 178 बड़ी दुर्घटनाएं घटी हैं, जिनमें कुल 79 लोगों की मृत्यु हुई है, 133 लोग गंभीर रूप से আহत हुए हैं एवं 124 लोग আহत हुए हैं। 2003 से 2005 के बीच, दो साल के अंदर, दो विधायकों का इसी राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग में दुर्घटना से मृत्यु होने का इतिहास है। अतः वर्षों से इसको 4-लेन विशिष्ट बनाए जाने हेतु मांग की जा रही है। इस पवित्र सदन में भी कई बार इस मांग को उठाया जा चुका है। बीच में समाचार आया था कि "नेशनल हाईवे डेवलपमेंट प्रोजेक्ट" (एन.एच.डी.पी.) के चौथे चरण में इस परियोजना को लिया गया है और पहले पर्याय में मंगुलि से अंगुल के बीच 110 किलोमीटर के रास्ते को 4-लेन विशिष्ट किया जाएगा एवं अंगुल शहर के लिए एक बायपास भी बनाया जाएगा। इस कार्य हेतु "डीटेल्ड प्रोजेक्ट रिपोर्ट" (डी.पी.आर.) बनाई जा रही है, ऐसा भी कहा जा चुका है, लेकिन इसमें अनावश्यक देरी की जा रही है और अब कहा जा रहा है कि पहले दो लेन विशिष्ट इस राजमार्ग का उन्नयन करके 'paved shoulders' सम्पन्न किया जाएगा - यह अत्यंत दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है। अतः मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूं कि तुरंत राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग संख्या 42 के संपूर्ण 4-लेनीकरण का कार्य प्रारंभ किया जाए।

Demand to impose penalties on telecom operators not complying with the terms and conditions of the spectrum allocation in the country

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR (Karnataka): Sir, our vast nation is, presently, witnessing a revolution in telecommunication sector and new technologies are forthcoming every now and then. This sector is expanding very fast. However, I wish to draw the attention of the House to recent news reports about some telecom companies offering to return their licenses against a refund of license fees paid by them, which will be a setback to this revolution.

This is clearly unacceptable. These operators are under contractual obligations to invest and rollout services. Therefore, Government must impose a punitive fee/penalty on them for failure to discharge their obligations. Also, Government must allot surrendered spectrum to new operators through an auction process only, which will realize higher prices.

These operators got licenses in January, 2008 at far below market prices. The Government, while issuing these licenses without any tender/auction process, had cited "increase in competition" as the

rationale, to reduce tariffs and ensure that rural telephony objectives of the country were met.

However, subsequent Government decision to allow M&As across the board in the sector is in sharp contrast to this rationale, because it will lead to reduction in level of competition, eventually prices and take us back to the cartelization days.

These operators are clearly using this tactic to get a relaxation on these M&A norms, where they are not obligated to invest or roll out services.

This twin Government policy objectives of increasing competition and realizing the maximum value for the spectrum must be adhered to, with no compromise. The operators must pay penalty as per their contractual obligations, if they fail to invest and roll out services.

I urge the Government to take A serious note of this matter.

Demand to take effective steps for transfer of assets to the State of Himachal Pradesh under the State of Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966

श्री शान्ता कुमार (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : महोदय, सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा भारत सरकार को निर्देश दिया गया था कि वह पंजाब पुनर्गठन अधिनियम - 1966 के अनुसार हिमाचल प्रदेश को उसके अधिकार दिलाने के मामले में मध्यस्थता करे। केन्द्र सरकार इस संबंध में प्रभावित राज्यों - पंजाब, हरियाणा और राजस्थान से बातचीत कर रही है परन्तु अभी तक कोई निर्णय नहीं हो पाया है। माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा दिए गए समय की अवधि समाप्त हो चुकी है और हिमाचल प्रदेश की जनता चिंतित है। वस्तुतः हिमाचल प्रदेश को राज्य में स्थापित पंजाब राज्य की बिजली परियोजनाओं में बारह प्रतिशत मुफ्त बिजली, स्थानांतरित जनसंख्या के आधार पर परिसम्पत्तियों में 7.19 प्रतिशत का हिस्सा और पंजाब राज्य विद्युत बोर्ड में से 2.5 प्रतिशत की भागीदारी इस अधिनियम के अनुसार देय है। यह मामला प्रदेश सरकार ने विभिन्न मंचों पर समय-समय पर उठाया है लेकिन कोई आशाजनक परिणाम आज तक प्राप्त नहीं हुए हैं। प्रदेश सरकार ने इस मामले को सुलझाने के लिए उच्चतम न्यायालय में याचिका दर्ज की थी। न्यायालय ने गत 29 अप्रैल को एक निर्णय में केन्द्र सरकार को तीन सप्ताह में प्रभावित राज्यों की बैठक बुलाकर और तीन मास में इस मामले को बातचीत के माध्यम से हल करने का निर्देश दिया। पंजाब पुनर्गठन अधिनियम संसद द्वारा बनाया गया कानून है और इस कानून के हिसाब से हिमाचल को हक मिलना चाहिए। हिमाचल प्रदेश का पानी, प्रदेश की जमीन, प्रदेश के हजारों लोग उजड़े, बिजली पैदा हुई, पड़ोस के प्रदेशों में खुशहाली आई लेकिन वह हिस्सा, जो संसद ने कहा था कि हिमाचल प्रदेश को मिलना चाहिए, आज तक राज्य को नहीं मिला। केन्द्र सरकार के पास यह मामला विचाराधीन है। हिमाचल को उसके अधिकार मिलने का यह अंतिम अवसर है। अतः अनुरोध है कि निश्चित अवधि में केन्द्र सरकार हिमाचल को न्याय दिलाए।

Demand for laying of adequate railway network in Punjab

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब) : महोदय, पंजाब में रेलवेज का जितना विस्तार होना चाहिए था, उतना सरकार नहीं कर रही है। चिंता व दुख की बात है कि अमृतसर और श्री आनन्दपुर साहिब को रेलवे से जोड़ने की जो घोषणा रेलवे बजट में की गई थी, उसका एक सर्वे भी हो गया था परन्तु केन्द्र की पंजाब के प्रति जो रवैया रहा है, इस प्रोजेक्ट को मंजूर करने के बजाए पंजाब राज्य को पूरे प्रोजेक्ट का 50 प्रतिशत हिस्सा डालने का इशू बनाकर इस प्रोजेक्ट को ड्रॉप कर दिया। इसी प्रकार होशियारपुर जहां से आजादी के पहले पेशावर तक गाड़ी जाती थी, अब कोई भी गाड़ी होशियारपुर से अमृतसर, पठानकोट को नहीं जाती। यहां रेलवे लाइन भी बिछाने की जरूरत नहीं है, क्योंकि यह स्टेशन पहले ही रेलवे लाइन से जुड़े हुए हैं। पंजाब का यात्री रेल में यात्रा टिकट लेकर करता है, कभी भी किसी पंजाबी को बिना टिकट नहीं पकड़ा होगा। इसलिए उक्त मांगों पर सहानुभूति से विचार करते हुए इन मांगों को मान लेना चाहिए।

**Request to despute the RPF personnel on the trains from Patna junction to
Mocama and Patna junction to Gaya in Bihar**

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : महोदय, पटना जंक्शन से मोकामा एवं पटना जंक्शन से गया जो रेलवे का आवागमन होता है उसमें यात्रियों को बहुत परेशानी होती है। दिन में जितनी रेलगाड़ियां चलती हैं, उनमें कोई व्यक्ति किसी भी डिब्बे में बैठ जाता है और chain pulling करके ट्रेन को कहीं भी रोक देता है। उपरोक्त दो जगहों में किसी तरह के सुरक्षा बल की व्यवस्था नहीं रहती है। इसके संबंध में, मैं व्यक्तिगत रूप से डी.आर.एम. दानापुर एवं आर.पी.एफ. के महानिदेशक से मिला। उन्होंने इस पर किसी तरह का आश्वासन नहीं दिया और उन्होंने कहा कि हम लोग इस पर कड़ाई नहीं कर सकते हैं। अगर यही अव्यवस्था रही तो दिन में इन इलाकों में परिवार के साथ लोगों का सफर करना संभव नहीं होगा।

महोदय, डी.आर.एम. दानापुर का कहना था कि सभी आर.पी.एफ. को वहां से हटा लिया गया है। इन दोनों इलाकों में यात्री भगवान के भरोसे चलते हैं। इतना ही नहीं, आए दिन इन इलाकों में ट्रेन में लूट-पाट भी होती रहती है।

अतः मैं इस विशेष उल्लेख के जरिए रेल मंत्री से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि पटना जंक्शन से मोकामा एवं पटना जंक्शन से गया के रूट पर दिन की ट्रेन में विशेष तौर पर रेलवे सुरक्षा फोर्स की व्यवस्था की जाए ताकि लोग ठीक ढंग से यात्रा कर सकें।

**Concern over the danger posed to residents of Birsinhpur Pali in district
Umaria of Madhya Pradesh by the underground blasts being done
for mining of coal in the region**

सुश्री अनुसुइया उइके (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं इस विशेष उल्लेख के माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार का ध्यान दिलाना चाहती हूं कि मध्य प्रदेश के उमरिया जिले में बिरसिंपुर पाली तथा अन्य नगर कोयला खदाने आरंभ होने के पूर्व से बसे हुए हैं। कोयला कम्पनी द्वारा बाद में इन स्थानों पर भूमिगत कोयला

खदानें स्थापित की गई हैं।

भूमिगत कोयला खदानें कोयला उत्पादन के लिए विस्फोट कर कोयले की खुदाई की जाती है। नीति भूमिगत कोयला खदानें तथा ऊपर पहले से आबादी निवास कर रही है। खदानों में कोयला निकालने के लिए जो विस्फोट किया जाता है, वह इतना तीव्रवेग का होता है कि उससे ऊपर स्थित, मंदिर, मस्जिद, सड़क, पुल, तालाब इत्यादि अधोसंरचना बुरी तरह से प्रभावित हो रही हैं। घरों में बड़ी-बड़ी दरारें आ गई हैं, जिससे मकान गिरने की संभावना उत्पन्न हो गई है। किसी भी दिन कोयला खदान में कम्पनी द्वारा किए जा रहे विस्फोट से बड़ी जनहानि हो सकती है।

मध्य प्रदेश में स्थापित कोयला खदानों की कम्पनी का मुख्यालय महाराष्ट्र एवं छत्तीसगढ़ में है, जबकि कोल इंडिया की नीति के अनुसार जिस प्रदेश में कोयला खदानें हैं, उनका मुख्यालय उसी प्रदेश में होगा।

अतएव, मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से अनुरोध करना चाहती हूँ कि आबादी के नीचे स्थापित कोयला खदानों में विस्फोट प्रक्रिया को नियंत्रित अथवा समाप्त किया जाए, ताकि कोई बड़ी जनहानि न हो। इसी प्रकार से मध्य प्रदेश में स्थापित कोयला खदानों के लिए कोयला कम्पनी का मुख्यालय भी मध्य प्रदेश में प्रारंभ कराया जाए।

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Atrocities on An Adivasi Girl

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : सर, मैं आपकी अनुमति से एक विशेष मामला आपके सामने उठाना चाहता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री एस.एस. अहनुवालिया (झारखंड) : क्या राज्य का विषय यहां उठाया जा सकता है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... क्या आप राज्य का विषय यहां उठाने देंगे?

श्री उपसभापति : नहीं, वह किसी महिला का मामला उठा रहे हैं।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, मैं एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण सवाल आपके सामने उठाना चाह रहा हूँ। पश्चिमी बंगाल के बीरभूम क्षेत्र में 15 साल की एक आदिवासी लड़की ने जब गांव के एक आदमी के साथ शादी कर ली, तब वहां की पंचायत में यह फैसला हुआ कि इस आदिवासी लड़की को नंगा करके घुमाया जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... फिर नंगा करके उसे घुमाया गया ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण सवाल है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, can he authenticate it? ...**(Interruptions)**... I have also enquired it. No such incident has taken place. Without authenticating it, he cannot say it. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : आप ऐसा कैसे बोल रहे हैं? ... (व्यवधान)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, this cannot go on record.
...(Interruptions)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : यह क्यों नहीं रिकॉर्ड होगा? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : राजनीति प्रसाद जी, मैम्बर्स इस पर ऑब्जेक्ट कर रहे हैं। क्या आप इसे authenticate करेंगे?

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, मैं कह रहा हूँ कि कल "आज तक" में ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : नहीं, नहीं। आपका कहना अलग बात है, लेकिन क्या आप इसे authenticate करेंगे?

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : बिल्कुल सर, क्या मैं बिना authentication के बोल रहा हूँ?
...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : नहीं, authenticate करना अलग बात है, लेकिन आपको अपना signature करके देना पड़ेगा। ...(व्यवधान).... आप पहले इसे authenticate करके दे दीजिए, तब बोलिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

एक माननीय सदस्य : इस पर privilege हो जाएगा।

श्री उपसभापति : आप authenticate करके दे दीजिए।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : हमें कोई प्रिविलेज का डर नहीं है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप authenticate करके दे दीजिए, बाद में बोलिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, यह अखबार में आया है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : अखबार की बात नहीं है, Hon. Members from West Bengal has raised an objection that it has to be authenticated.
...(Interruptions)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : यहां जो इतनी बातें होती हैं, क्या सब authenticate करके देते हैं?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you authenticate it, I will allow it. If you don't authenticate it, I will not allow it. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, यह authenticated मामला है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आपको साइन करके देना है, आप authenticate करके दे दीजिए। आप जो विषय उठा रहे हैं, यह authenticated है, यह आप लिखकर दे दीजिए और फिर सोमवार को उठा लीजिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, आप मुझे यह मामला नहीं उठाने दे रहे हैं ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : आप लिखकर दे दीजिए और फिर सोमवार को उठा लीजिए।

Re: Cloud burst in Leh

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी (बिहार) : उपसभापति जी, आज सुबह लेह में एक भयंकर त्रासदी हुई है, उस समय तक नोटिस देने की संभावना नहीं थी। आज सुबह cloud burst के कारण लेह में एक भयंकर त्रासदी हुई है और 100 से अधिक लोग मर गए हैं और मलबे के नीचे सैकड़ों लोग दबे हुए हैं। लेह की हवाई पट्टी पर भी बड़ा नुकसान हुआ है। सरकार प्रयास कर रही है, लेकिन केन्द्र सरकार को चाहिए कि राहत कार्यों में पूरी तरह से मदद करे। आज इस cloud burst के कारण यह जो त्रासदी हुई है, इसमें जो लोग प्रभावित हुए हैं, हमारी पूरी संवेदना उनके साथ है। सरकार की तरफ से राहत कार्यों के लिए हर प्रकार का सहयोग दिया जाना चाहिए।

श्री विक्रम वर्मा (मध्य प्रदेश) : मैं अपने को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री कलराज मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैं अपने को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : उपसभापति जी, मैं एक सवाल उठाना चाहता हूँ ... (व्यवधान) ... आपके यहां जो भी मामला आता है, क्या सभी लोग लिखकर देते हैं ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : आप यह contentious issue यहां मत उठाइए। वहां जो बात होती है, उसे यहां नहीं उठाना चाहिए। आप मेरी बात सुनिए। आपको मामला उठाने की परमीशन दी गई थी, लेकिन पश्चिमी बंगाल के 2 मੈम्बर्स objection कर रहे हैं कि यह मामला authenticate नहीं हुआ है।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : किसका authentication नहीं हुआ है?

श्री उपसभापति : Authentication का मतलब यह है कि आपको इसकी पूरी जिम्मेदारी लेनी चाहिए, मैं जो विषय उठा रहा हूँ, यह सही है, मैं पूरी तरह से इसकी जिम्मेदारी लेता हूँ, इस तरह से आपको authenticate करके, लिखित रूप से सभापटल पर रखना पड़ेगा।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : मैं लिखूँ या बोलूँ?

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया (झारखंड) : इतना ही नहीं है। अगर अखबार में कुछ छपता है या टी.वी. पर कुछ बोला जाता है या दिखाया जाता है, तो उसकी कॉपी, along with the transcription, authenticate करके देनी होती है। ऐसा नहीं है कि आपने बोल दिया।

श्री उपसभापति : मैं वही कह रहा हूँ ... (व्यवधान) ... राजनीति प्रसाद जी, उस अखबार की कॉपी होनी चाहिए। अब आप बैठिए।

CLARIFICATIONS ON STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Violence in Jammu and Kashmir

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, the Hon. Home Minister has made a Statement before this House on 4th August, 2010. The Statement broadly gives a list of events and some very serious developments which have taken place since the 11th June this year. It does not reflect the enormity of the seriousness of the situation and what roadmap the Government has in mind for resolving the current impasse that is taking place.

Sir, we get an impression that the situation is slowly slipping out of control. And, it is clear from the Home Minister's statement, as also various pieces of information that we are getting from media organisations, as also the citizens of the Valley, that in the last few months, particularly in the last two years, there has been a significant change in the strategy by both, the ISI, various agencies across the border, as also the separatist forces who act at their behest in the Valley itself. Sir, earlier, the strategy used to be to have illegal infiltration into the Valley and other parts of the country to indulge in acts of sabotage, acts of terrorism, blasts, killings, destruction of public property, etc. I think, somewhere, in the strategic thinkers amongst those who are the handlers across the border and their friends within, there seems to be a realisation now that the global acceptability for these kind of events does not exist. Even domestic support, when incidents of this kind take place, starts reducing and vanishing. Also, Sir, in the last 20 years, two decades, our own security forces, our own intelligence network has also been considerably strengthened and we have dealt with large number of these incidents, and, therefore, if I may, without meaning to be arrogant about India's potential, say that the potential of Indian State itself was increasingly becoming more powerful in tackling these incidents of sabotage. The changed strategy, therefore, appears to be that instead of these individual acts of terror and violence, instigate people for the purposes of mob violence and this

entire strategy of mob violence, which has taken effect in the Valley since 11th of June, when some efforts were also made two years ago when they tried to create a controversy on the issue of pilgrim facilities in the Amarnath Yatra. But, gradually, it has been building up since then in the last two years.

From young children to women, youth, elderly people, are all being trained in acts of sabotage by way of stone pelting and mob violence wherein large crowds collect. Sir, women are organised by several separatist groups. The name of Dukhtaran-e-Millat is being regularly mentioned. Regarding school children, there have been incidents which have been reported that when they go to their schools, besides textbooks, their bags are also filled up, by some vested interests, with stones and the target is public property, the target is security forces. The Home Minister, in his statement, has mentioned that more than 1200 security personnel have already been injured. Now, the entire strategy appears to be that somehow indulge in these acts of mob violence and provoke the security forces, damage public property. Now, after all, public property has to be protected, human life has to be protected. And, every time, a defensive action is taken by our security forces, obviously, in a confrontation of this kind, lives will be lost. Even innocent lives will be lost. The Home Minister has rightly said that we sympathise with all those who have lost their lives even if they were a part of the agitating crowd because we do not want even a misled citizen of India to meet his end in this manner. Now, the entire strategy appears to be that through these acts of mob violence, instigate violence, create tension and then use the emotive content of that confrontation in order to spread it further.

Sir, today, we are faced with a situation where, as I said earlier, that our security forces, our local police, our CRPF, our other security forces, were actually, for the last two decades, tackling individual acts of terror and violence. This is a new situation which has emerged today. Unfortunately, and I say this with a sense of deep regret, even when efforts are being made by separatist groups to escalate the situation, and we had evidence of it which was broadcast by national television where handlers across the border are informing the so-called organizers of this mob violence, as to what the start point of the protest would be, as to what actions they are to take, they were even measuring the size of the crowd which was collecting for these particular purposes. Therefore,

how do we handle a situation of this kind? What has, unfortunately, happened is that the political parties, which operate in the Valley within the political framework of India's democratic polity, have, unfortunately, taken a back seat. Their ability to reach out to the people in a situation of this

kind has somehow suddenly got diluted. Also, Sir, there is a reasonable sense of worry that we have, as to what is the preparedness of both our intelligence agencies and our security agencies to deal with this new situation which is now emerging where mob violence as a substitute to the isolated terrorist attacks is now the strategy of the separatist groups. The biggest worry, Sir, is that today, the State Government within the Valley, and this is the information which we are getting, has increasingly got alienated from the people.

In the two other parts of the State, that is, Leh Ladakh and Jammu, there is a huge amount of anger as these two regions have a feeling that they suffer from having been discriminated against historically. And, today, these two are feeling helpless as the entire concentration of the State and the country is on the Valley, and within the Valley, where large parts of our national resources are spent, and this kind of a situation has taken place. I mean no personal disrespect to any individual, but I am given to understand that forget the State, the Home Minister has to ask his own party, the Chief Minister is getting alienated even from his own party and even from his own alliance partners, and that is one of the reasons that the activity of the mainstream political parties within the Valley, I can understand his opponents in the PDP, who at times are making contradictory statements, probably want the State Government to go. But, today, even within the ruling alliance, the activity of all these parties which function within the framework of India's democratic polity in reaching out to the people has somehow got diluted and they are not making conscious efforts to do that. Whereas we have to prepare our intelligence and our security network to face a situation of this kind, we have also to be prepared to get together all the nationalist forces within the Valley for their politics so that they don't themselves get alienated from the people and are able to reach out to the people directly. When all this was happening, and as I said, this has been gradually building up, there is a deep sense of disappointment also. What have we done, as far as the Government of India is concerned? We experimented with new ideas every

time without realizing whether those experiments will bring any return home or not. You had a political alliance with one group for six years. Then you switched over to a political alliance with a rival group. This kind of alliance hopping by a national party itself we thought perhaps is the political situation. But it has paid no dividends. The Prime Minister went there

around three years ago. He went recently also, just before the violence started. And, without considering the consequences of what he was going to do - there is no difficulty if you say that we stand for economic development, we stand for jobs, we stand for human rights - he thought that a round table conference and some working groups were a solution. Just consider what happened.

You constituted a Working Group to again work out a constitutional relationship between India and the State; the rest of the country and the State. The manner it went on was a complete farce. We got a retired judge of the Supreme Court for this. I say it with utmost respect for him. The Group hardly met. For twenty-two months, it did not meet. And suddenly without discussing it with the Group, without discussing it with the mainstream political parties, he produced a report. Who wrote the report nobody knows. Were these farcical experiments to be done with India's most sensitive area? Then we were told that this was a kind of autonomy document.

You then had a situation where the Home Minister has been maintaining what we have 'silent diplomacy,' which is on, for the last few months. What has the 'silent diplomacy' produced? Who are we talking to? I presume the kind of people we are talking to as a part of 'silent diplomacy' or 'quiet diplomacy.' The 'quiet diplomacy' has been going on for over a last few months. Because we are not finding the persons who are partners across the table in the quiet diplomacy. You are even going amongst the people in a situation of this kind which exists today.

Sir, before I come to the immediate issues involved in it, there are a few worrisome things. I would urge the Home Minister that while dealing with a situation of this kind, the Government of India certainly must not have a knee-jerk or panic reaction. We must realise this-my party has always believed it, and I have no hesitation in reasserting it even if many other parties don't agree-that our historical vision, or how the State's problems were to be resolved, was at fault. We started with a situation where we felt that, 'let us give them a separate status, it

will please the people.' Please, stand up and honestly analyse this. Sixty-three years after independence, is the separate status journey moving towards separatism? Or is it moving towards integration? Has your vision been historically proved right or wrong? Therefore, every time there is a problem of this kind, the solution

which is suggested is that let us make a few more concessions; as it is you have authority over security, defence, external affairs, telecommunications, currency, and four or five areas of this kind.

Political parties within the valley may have their own compulsions. They speak in terms of pre-1953 status; they speak in terms of self-rule; and they speak in terms of autonomy. They have the freedom to advocate what they honestly believe in. But at the end of the day, are we going to go back to a situation where the Supreme Court of India has no jurisdiction or where the Election Commission has no jurisdiction? Therefore, when you decide how to deal with this, let there be no knee-jerk reactions, because you have to find a long-term solution. What did the President Musharraf, the former head of Pakistan, say after he went to London? This was a worrisome statement. We want somebody in the Government of India to clarify that this was not correct. In London, he said on Track-II we had almost come to a settlement on Kashmir. Now Track-II can be a step away from Track-I, but it cannot be diametrically opposite to Track-I. Track-I has visible diplomacy. What was the settlement that he was talking about. I only hope what he said was not an accurate version of what transpired.

Therefore, Sir, in a situation of this kind my queries to the hon. Home Minister or clarifications on the statement are: Does the Government of India have specific information that this entire change of strategy is being engineered from across the border and the handlers of this changed strategy of the separatist are across the border?

Secondly, there also seems to be some churning out of leaders within the separatist groups. Therefore, as a part of this churning out within the separatist groups, you have new leaders, who have suddenly emerged, who are leading the current agitation. And, therefore, if some of them, who have been traditionally involved in pro-Pakistan and separatist activities in the Valley, suddenly start giving statements one day which seem to be more conciliatory, is it a case of change of heart? I am particularly referring to Ali Shah Gilani's statement made yesterday. Is

it a change of heart or is it part of a concerted strategy that these statements have been made?

Thirdly, Sir, would the Home Minister acquaint us with the extent to which violence has speared across the State and what steps the Government of India and our security forces are going to take to make sure that this mob violence comes to an end?

Finally, Sir, I hope, his answer is in the negative. When the situation is at such a sensitive point, no kind of political packages - and the kind of things which are mentioned in those political packages - be envisaged at this stage by the Government of India because packages of this kind will only indicate the weakness of the Indian State. Suggestions which are made are like dilute the border across the PoK which may become an option of legitimate infiltration; dilute the provisions of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act which will cripple the Armed Forces who are trying to save the sovereignty and integrity of India; take away the land meant for army cantonments. Your former partner, PDP, even goes to the extent of suggesting that allow both the currencies of both the States. And then, of course, there is the famous President Musharraf's suggestion that the Government of India has never accepted, irrespective of the party in power, to lose control of an area and go in for some kind of joint administration and control. Sir, I hope that there is no such proposal to make any concession of this kind because any concession made at this stage will further dilute the sovereignty and further make the separatists realise that their dreams are, at some point of time, realisable. Unless you give a clear strong signal from India that forget this being crystal-gazing or forget this being a distant dream, it's an impossibility. India will never compromise or bargain on its sovereign territory. It's only in that situation that you can go and negotiate from a position of strength rather than from a position of weakness. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, this is for clarifications on the statement. The Leader of Opposition has his own prerogative. But, don't take it as a discussion. ...(*Interruptions*)... It is not a sort of discussion.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): It is very important. Sir, this subject cannot be taken up in this session for discussion. So, this is a sort of discussion.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ahluwalia, already a statement has been made. Yes, it is an important subject. That is why, we are departing from the regular clarification rule. But, I want to remind the Members that don't take it as a discussion or debate. Now, Shri Saif-ud-Din Soz.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, I express my deep anguish on the situation that is prevailing in the Kashmir Valley. See the deaths that have occurred during the last 20 days including youngsters. It's a colossal waste of property. Education system is in a shambles, and people there have suffered great frustration in spells of curfew and strikes. This is no occasion to describe the misery that the people of Kashmir have suffered in detail. Now, while I stand to seek some clarifications from the hon. Home Minister, I will ask: Will it be too much to expect that this House responds to the miserable situation which prevails not only on the ground but also dangerously in the mind of the young generation who have seen nothing but violence all these years of turmoil? I would request the Leader of Opposition also to care to understand and appreciate the content of my appeal. If this august House cares for my appeal, then it could support my suggestion that a Group of Parliamentarians, from all parties, may visit Kashmir soon and talk to a cross section of society besides visiting the bereaved families. It is, then, possible to understand better the perception of the Chief Minister, His Excellency, the Governor, and different segments of civil society. The people of Kashmir - this august House will, certainly, try to agree with me - deserve a message of compassion more than any package for economic well-being. Around this time, we should all be feeling to send a powerful message of irreclusiveness and togetherness, cutting across party lines. That is my appeal. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Thank you, Sir. With a deep sense of anguish at the situation in Kashmir and with a sense of anger that we, somehow, seem to appear impotent in dealing and settling with this issue, I want to seek certain clarifications. It is very difficult, Sir, not to say something before I raise certain questions, and that is connected with the fact that the hon. Home Minister's statement begins from the

incidents that have taken place from the 11th of June. Now, the 11th of June incidents did not happen all of a sudden. There was a built-up to it, and in the built-up to it, various things were happening which were noticed by all of us and the fact that there

was no reaction to that and no anticipation that this is going to lead up to this. That itself is very worrisome. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, there are all sorts of information about cross-border support that they have received from the people who are not interested in the integration of Kashmir with India. The issue that needs to be addressed is, essentially, the capacity of people to enlarge the area of alienation between the people of Kashmir and India. How are we going to bridge that? The solution, Sir, does not - and that is apart from agreeing with the hon. Leader of the Opposition on many other things, but, on one aspect, I will have to disagree with him - lie in abrogating the provisions of Article 370. The solution lies, actually, in implementing it properly. The lack of its implementation has led to the alienation, and keeping that in mind, we have to understand, Sir, that it took nearly six months after the general indications that have come for an all-party meeting to be called in Kashmir. It is only after a month and 22 days, since these incidents began, that you have the Chief Minister issuing a statement! The political initiatives that we are all talking about and all that, at the moment, I think, can wait. What is actually required is to generate the confidence and remove that feeling of alienation. One important element of alienation is the role of our Army. I do not wish to undermine the role of our Army; they are doing a yeoman service in the integrity of our country. I mean, on that, there is no dispute. But whatever issues are whipping up the sentiments of alienation in Kashmir will have to be addressed, and, therefore, in this context, I think, the statement that the Army Commander - this is a clarification I would seek from the Home Minister - has made to declare the Armed Forces Special Powers Act, what is the reaction of the Central Government and how are we going to address this? At a time when there is a resentment building up saying that civilian deaths are increasing in the hands of Armed Forces, yes, there is utmost provocation; the strategic paradigm has shifted; the strategic paradigm is no longer the individual attacks of terror, but in order to incite mobs to violence; this has been happening; we have seen, this happened in the Amarnath Yatra period, two years ago; we have seen this

happening even today - in such a situation, the most important thing is to show restraint, but, at the same time, to gain the confidence of the people as well. My party has been seeking, Sir, for a long time, since all these disturbances began, a solution;

we want - I fully endorse Prof. Saif-ud-Din Soz's suggestion - an all party delegation to be sent to Kashmir immediately, as soon as possible. And, there, the clarification I want to have is....

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : आप वहां जाओगे, तो वहां बंद होगा।

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : नहीं, मैं इसलिए कह रहा हूँ, we are not going; you are right. I understand. You are absolutely right. At the time of Amarnath Yatra also we all went there if you remember. Then the people came to talk to us. Now the point is to tell them that India is with them. We have to tell the people of Kashmir, "We are with you and you are with us". The whole political spectrum in India, not just the Government, all of us, is there together to solve this problem, to overcome this alienation and to give them the confidence, "Yes, you have this future there and we are all there to support you". We will all go there; we will sit there; we will tell them that whoever wants to come and meet us, please come. We will listen to everyone and we will generate that confidence. It is not as though we are going to come out with any great proposal. The proposals are there. The question is to create confidence among the people.

My last clarification is this. The Home Minister, in the concluding para 9, has stated and I quote:

"Once peace and order are restored, I am confident that we can explore the possibility of reactivating the political process that holds the key to solutions".

My point is that the process of restoring peace and order required the political process to go along simultaneously. It can't be one after the other. Therefore, in order to restore peace and order, it is necessary for the political process to begin and that should begin with an all-party delegation visiting Kashmir, and from there you start the political process and then your process of restoration of peace and law and order. I think that both must go simultaneously. That is what I urge upon him. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him seek clarifications. When the Minister replies, he will definitely consider it.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: On the last occasion, when we went at the time of the Amarnath Yatra, it was the then Home Minister who carried the all-party delegation. That could work. You

could work out your strategy, what could be the best. There is merit in first Members of Parliament going and subsequently the Government stepping in. There is also merit in the Government taking the lead and the Members of Parliament going later. I would suggest that first let the political process begin without the Government. Let Members of Parliament from all parties go first and generate the confidence amongst the people, and then the Government could step in on the basis of that. I think that would be a better strategy. So, that is what I will, therefore, suggest. Thank you.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the whole country is anguished at the situation that is prevalent in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The Home Minister's statement makes very clear the dimension of the crisis in the State.

Sir, as far as my party is concerned, we believe in the political process that can bring a solution to the problems of Jammu and Kashmir State. I hope the Government should reassure that everything possible will be done under article 370 of the Constitution. The question of full autonomy needs to be addressed and also regional autonomy to the three regions, Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh can be considered in this process.

Having said that, I would like to ask the Home Minister and the Government, with due respect to the security forces: What is our attitude in applying the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act? In the case of Manipur, the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act is not applied in Imphal city, if I am correct. It is not applied in Imphal city, but it was applied outside Imphal city. Why can't you think of such a thing in the case of Srinagar City? The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act need not be applied in the State of Jammu and Kashmir for experiment because the security forces need not be in the streets of Jammu and Kashmir State. Sir, the situation is grave. Women are pelting stones. I don't draw any parallel from the history of the world. It definitely reminds me of the situation once prevailed in West Asia. The Palestinian women and children pelted stones at the tanks of Israelis. Now the children are being

killed; the women are being killed. As Prof. Soz has pointed out, there is colossal loss to the property. We should think radically to change the situation. I think the Armed

Forces can vacate the streets of Srinagar. There are many ways to control the people. I do not want to call them as mob. I differ from some of my colleagues calling them mob. They are people of Jammu and Kashmir. There are several methods to control the people when they agitate. Water cannons can be used; rubber bullets can be used. Now straightaway firing at the people, I do not think that can bring the people with us and it will help us to build confidence measures with the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

So, Sir, I think, the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act will have to be relooked. Should it apply to the entire State? I think the Srinagar City can be kept out of the purview of this Act, as has been done in the case of Imphal. Then, Sir, negotiations will have to continue. Under article 370, the State must be reassured full autonomy. And there we can consider the regional autonomy to three regions. Finally, I tend to agree with what Prof. Soz has said. An all-party delegation can go there in order to win the confidence of the people of Jammu and Kashmir and to identify with them and they should also identify with us. When Shri Shivraj Patil was Home Minister, there was a Delegation to Jammu and Kashmir and there was a good response. I think there is a need for political process and the people of Jammu and Kashmir should understand that the whole country is concerned with their problems and is willing to address their problems and the whole country is with them. There, I think, the political process is must and the political process should begin by reassuring that the problems of Jammu and Kashmir will be addressed under article 370. Thank you.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, we share the concern of the Government towards the escalating unrest in the Valley and also understand the restraint it has to adhere in restoring the issue. The Minister's statement says, "The Central Government initiated a 'quiet dialogue' with key political groups and individuals. I had hoped that the dialogue would open a window of opportunity to activate the political process in order to find solutions. However, that dialogue was interrupted on 4th December, 2009, when there was an attempt on the life

of Shri Fazl-ul-Haq, a leader who favoured dialogue, and he was seriously injured." The problem now which is going on is not by militants for the statements says, "There is reliable intelligence that some armed

militants may have mingled with the crowds". So it is 'by the people' means, only a quiet dialogue could resolve the issue. What is the Government doing? Whether the atmosphere is congenial or not, you should have a quiet dialogue. Why has it not been restarted after December, in these eight months? Is it not the right time to initiate a quiet dialogue? I would like to know from the hon. Minister, before mooted the idea of sending an all-party delegation, whether it is on the Government's agenda to convene an all-party meeting to discuss and resolve the issue. I would also like to know the composition of the Unified Command in Srinagar. I would like to know whether it is similar to that one in Naxal affected areas, which comprises a retired Major General or it is different one. Thank you.

श्री रामविलास पासवान (बिहार) : उपसभापति जी, अभी तक जो बातें चली हैं, मैं उनसे थोड़ा differ करता हूँ। कश्मीर एक समय जन्नत कहा जाता था। वहाँ के लोग तलवार की बात तो दूर रही, रूमाल से तलवार खेला करते थे। आज वह कश्मीर खून से खेल रहा है। हम यहाँ फौज का experiment कर रहे हैं। हम जानना चाहते हैं कि सरकार के मुताबिक वहाँ कितने terrorists हैं? वह संख्या हजार में भी नहीं होगी, सैंकड़े में होगी और वहाँ कितने लाख फौज है। हम फौज के बल पर वहाँ शान्ति-व्यवस्था कायम करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। फौज का दो काम होता है। एक यह होता है कि जो civilian है, उसकी रक्षा करना और दूसरा यह होता है कि जो terrorists हैं, उनसे लड़ना। लोगों का विश्वास सबसे बड़ा विश्वास होता है। आज लोगों का विश्वास हिल गया है। जो कार्रवाई हो रही है, उस कार्रवाई से अलगाववादी तत्वों को बल मिल रहा है। जेटली साहब ने ठीक कहा कि इसके पीछे अलगाववादी तत्वों का हाथ हो सकता है। अलगाववादी तत्वों का हाथ हो सकता है, लेकिन क्या हम ऐसी कार्रवाई करें, जिससे अलगाववादी तत्वों को और बल मिलता जाए?

पिछली बार श्राइन बोर्ड का मामला था, तो एक issue था, जिस issue के ऊपर वहाँ घटनाएं घटीं। आज कौन सा issue है? सबसे बड़ा basic प्रश्न है कि हम गृह मंत्री जी से जानना चाहते हैं कि जो इतने निर्दोष लोग मारे जा रहे हैं, बच्चे मारे जा रहे हैं, वहाँ issue क्या है? Issue सिर्फ इतना ही है कि एक civilian को फेक encounter में मार दिया गया। जब एक निर्दोष को मारा गया, तो उसके खिलाफ लोग सड़क पर उतरे। जब वे सड़क पर उतरे, तो बजाय इसके कि आप उन्हें सांत्वना देने का काम करते, बजाय इसके कि आप उसके परिवार के लोगों से मिलने का काम करते, आपने फौज का सहारा लिया और निर्दोष लोगों के मरने का सिलसिला जारी किया। मुझे नहीं मालूम कि यह सिलसिला कितने दिनों तक चलेगा। ये जो 39 लोग मारे गए हैं, ये 39 लोग आपके कथनानुसार civilian हैं। इनमें कोई terrorist नहीं है। सर, हम उन लोगों में से हैं, जो हर साल कश्मीर जाते हैं। हम उन लोगों में से हैं, जो

कश्मीर के डाऊन टाऊन एरिया में जाकर इफ्तार पार्टी करते हैं। जितना कश्मीर के terrorists के बारे में बताया जाता है, यह vested interests के लोगों का काम है। Terrorists के नाम पर बहुत लोगों की रोजी-रोटी चलती है। जिस दिन वहां terrorists खत्म हो जाएंगे, उस दिन बहुत से लोगों की रोजी-रोटी खत्म हो जाएगी। हमें इस बात को भी समझने की आवश्यकता है।

श्री उपसभापति : रामविलास जी, आप खत्म कीजिए।

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, मैं खत्म करता हूं।

इसलिए मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूं कि हमें इसे सेना के दृष्टिकोण से नहीं देखना चाहिए। हमें इसे humanitarian point of view से देखना चाहिए। आज भी अमरनाथ की बस की यात्रा हो रही है। हजारों की संख्या में लोग जा रहे हैं। सैकड़ों की संख्या में बसें जा रही हैं। कहां attack हो रहा है? हमारे परिवार का कोई आदमी मारा जाएगा और हम उसके funeral में जाएंगे, तो क्या हमें जाने का अधिकार नहीं है? आप वहां जाकर उनके ऊपर गोली चलाएंगे! 4 आदमियों ने पत्थर फेंक दिया, तो क्या इसके जवाब में आपके पास प्लास्टिक की गोली नहीं है या और दूसरी चीजें नहीं हैं? क्या आपके पास सीधे firing करके लोगों को मारने का सिर्फ एक ही हथियार है? यदि इस तरह की कार्रवाई होती रहेगी, तो कभी घाटी में अमन-चैन होने वाला नहीं है।

इसलिए एक political will, इच्छा शक्ति की आवश्यकता होती है। नेता के पास दिल होना चाहिए। दिग्गम bureaucrats के पास रहता है, लेकिन नेता के पास दिल होना चाहिए। जब तक हम दिल से काम नहीं लेंगे, तब तक कश्मीर की समस्या solve होने वाली नहीं है और न ही यह आन्दोलन रुकने वाला है। इसलिए हम चाहेंगे कि इस पर सरकार ने जिस तरह से संवेदना व्यक्त की है, उसी लहजे में सरकार, जो लोग मारे गए हैं, उनके आंसू पोंछने का भी काम करे और देखे कि भविष्य में किसी मां का बेटा या बच्चा उसकी गोद से नहीं छीना जाए और निर्दोष लोगों की हत्या नहीं हो, इसकी गारंटी सदन में देनी चाहिए।

श्री राशिद अल्वी (आन्ध्र प्रदेश) : सर, पर्शियन का एक शेर है -

गर फिरदौस बररुए जमीनस्तो

हमीनस्तो हमीनस्तो हमीनस्तो

अगर इस दुनिया में जन्मत है, तो यही कश्मीर है, यही कश्मीर है। लेकिन सर, आज वह जन्मत जहन्नुम बनी हुई है। आज जिन हालात से कश्मीर गुजर रहा है, शायद पिछले 63 साल में उन हालात से नहीं गुजरा। एक महीने में 40-45 लोग मारे गए, जिनमें 17 बच्चे हैं और जिनकी उम्र सात, आठ या दस साल की है। यह चिन्ता का विषय है।

सर, मैं बड़े अदब से होम मिनिस्टर साहब से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इसका जो इम्पैक्ट हमारे यहां हो रहा है, वह तो हो ही रहा है, लेकिन इसका इंटरनेशनल इम्पैक्ट क्या हो रहा है? वह और भी ज्यादा खराब हो रहा है। सर, अभी यूनाइटेड नेशंस के सेक्रेटरी जनरल का स्टेटमेंट आया है, Ban ki-moon ने कहा है। The Home Minister would have definitely gone through this statement. He has voiced concern about the prevailing situation in the 'Indian Occupied Kashmir'. He does not consider Kashmir to be a part of India. So, he has talked about the prevailing situation in the 'Indian Occupied Kashmir' and called for further resumption of Indo-Pak composite dialogue. We are unable to resolve whatever is happening in Kashmir, according to the Secretary-General of United Nations. He says that we cannot do it without the consent of Pakistan. हमें पाकिस्तान के साथ बात करनी पड़ेगी, तभी हम कश्मीर की समस्या का समाधान कर सकते हैं। यह बहुत सीरियस बात है। हम अपने घर में बैठकर कहते रहें कि कश्मीर हिन्दुस्तान का हिस्सा है, इससे क्या फर्क पड़ेगा, जब तक बाहर के लोगों को हम यह यकीन नहीं दिलाएंगे। पाकिस्तान के एम्बेसेडर ने अभी तीन दिन पहले ही बोला है कि कश्मीर की सिचुएशन तब तक ठीक नहीं हो सकती, जब तक पाकिस्तान के साथ बातचीत नहीं होगी। यह बात वहां का एम्बेसेडर बोल रहा है। अमरीका के अन्दर ह्यूमेन राइट्स ऑर्गनाइजेशन कॉन्फरेंसिज़ कर रही है; the Home Minister must know this कि उन कॉन्फरेंसिज़ के अन्दर रैज़ोल्यूशंस पास हो रहे हैं ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : आप क्लैरिफिकेशन पूछिए ... (व्यवधान) ... क्लैरिफिकेशन पूछिए ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री राशिद अल्वी : सर, होम मिनिस्टर से मेरा पहला क्वेश्चन यह है कि: what shall be the impact internationally?

और मेरा सैकंड क्लैरिफिकेशन है: The Home Minister has said in his statement that the Government of Jammu and Kashmir is actively considering a number of political and administrative measures that would help restore normalcy. The Chief Minister, while affirming his commitment to take certain political and affirmative measures, has made it clear that the current cycle of violence would have to end before he can take the initiative. Sir, my question is: what kind of initiative are you taking? Are you sure that these initiatives will help resolve the situation? The primary concern is that there should be peace in Kashmir. This is not the time to blame any political party. The party that is ruling Kashmir

today, was ruling Kashmir in yesteryears with your help. Today, it is ruling with our help. It is not the question of who is responsible. The basic thing is, peace should be there in Kashmir.

1.00 P.M.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri H. K. Dua. I request all Members to be brief.

SHRI H. K. DUA (Nominated): Sir, there is, certainly a sensitive situation in the valley and the Home Minister's statement has a welcome hint of starting a political dialogue with "political groups and individuals". The dialogue was disrupted, unfortunately, last December.

It is just not a law and order situation. There is an urgent need for political dialogue with various elements in the State across the broad spectrum. I would like to know who is going to talk and when the dialogue is going to start. I am asking this also in the context of the previous promises we have made to the people of Kashmir, P.V. Narasimha Rao onwards. He had said sky is the limit for giving autonomy to Kashmir. Mr. Vajpayee, when he was the Prime Minister, said that there will be talks but "इन्सानियत के दायरे में"। Dr. Manmohan Singh has been repeating the promise of autonomy and the talks. The last time that he spoke about the dialogue, and a quiet dialogue, the Home Minister did not rule out the question of autonomy. Will the political dialogue he has in mind pick up the threads from where it had been left last time?

श्री मोहम्मद अदीब (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, होम मिनिस्टर साहब की रिप्लाय के बाद और अखबारों में पढ़ने के बाद यह अंदाजा हुआ कि कश्मीर के जो हालात हैं, ऐसे कभी नहीं हुए। लेकिन, अगर तसफिया किया जाए, अपने गिरेबान में मुंह डाला जाए, तो कहीं-न-कहीं हम भी कुसुरवार पाए जाएंगे...

श्री उपसभापति : आप क्लैरिफिकेशन ही पूछिए।

श्री मोहम्मद अदीब : मैं सिर्फ क्लैरिफिकेशन दे रहा हूँ, सर। जब यह मुल्क आजाद हुआ था तो ... (व्यवधान) ... यह तय हुआ था कि ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : क्लैरिफिकेशन देना नहीं, लेना है।

श्री मोहम्मद अदीब : कौन हिस्सा किधर जाएगा तथा कौन पाकिस्तान होगा और कौन हिन्दुस्तान होगा? कश्मीर की अवाम ने खुद यह फैसला किया था कि वे हिन्दुस्तान में आएंगे। शेख अब्दुल्ला ने सन 1966 में अलीगढ़ में यह कहा था कि मैं अपनी कौम की लाशों पर से गुजरकर यहां गांधी और नेहरू से यह कहने आया था कि मुझे जिन्ना के तास्सुब से बचा लो। हमने उन शेख अब्दुल्ला को

दसियों साल जेल में रखा। यह बुनियाद पहले पड़ी। आज तक कश्मीर के साथ यह हो रहा है कि वहां के बच्चों को आज भी यहां शक और शुबहे की नजर से देखा जा रहा है। मैं सिर्फ तीन सजेशंस के साथ यह कहना चाहता हूं कि ...

श्री उपसभापति : आप सजेशंस नहीं दीजिए, क्लैरिफिकेशन पूछिए।

श्री मोहम्मद अदीब : सर, कश्मीर के बच्चों को हिन्दुस्तान में, यहां की मेन स्ट्रीम में, नौकरियों के लिए स्पेशल मराआत दिए जाएं, ताकि वे लोगों के साथ interact कर सकें, लोगों से मिलें और यहां वे यह समझें कि वे हिन्दुस्तान का ही एक हिस्सा हैं। यह एक बुनियाद हुकूमत को बनानी चाहिए।

दूसरी बात, पाकिस्तान को यह बाआवर कर देना चाहिए कि वह अगर इसमें मुदाखलत करेगा तो हम उसको बर्दाश्त नहीं करेंगे।

तीसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि Human Rights Activists को भी कश्मीर भेजना चाहिए। जैसा अभी हमारे सोज़ भाई ने कहा, यह एक बहुत अच्छा कदम है, लेकिन हमको शक और शुबहात के दायरे से निकलकर किसी न किसी सूरत से कश्मीर के लोगों को यहां लाना पड़ेगा, फौज पर पाबंदी लगानी पड़ेगी और यहां के जो एक्टिविस्ट्स हैं उनको वहां भेजना पड़ेगा।

मैं होम मिनिस्टर साहब से कहना चाहता हूं कि जैसा हमारे राजा डा. कर्ण सिंह साहब ने एक शेर पढ़ा था कि "नफरत से न देखो दुश्मन को, शायद वह मुहब्बत कर बैठे", तो यह वक्त है कि वह मुहब्बत करेंगे, वे हमारे हैं और हमारे रहेंगे। हमारे पड़ोसी को कहीं-न-कहीं सोचना पड़ेगा। हमने कहीं-न-कहीं गलती जरूर की है।

جناب محمد ادیب (اٹر پردیشن) : سر، بوم منسٹر صاحب کی ریپلانی کے بعد اور اخباروں میں پڑھنے کے بعد یہ اندازہ ہوا کہ کشمیر کے جو حالات ہیں، ایسے کبھی نہیں ہوئے، لیکن اگر تصفیہ کیا جائے، اپنے گریبان میں منہ ڈالا جائے، تو کہیں نہ کہیں ہم بھی قصور وار پاتے جائیں گے۔

جناب اپ سبھا پتی : اپ کلیرفیکیشن ہی پوچھئے۔

جناب محمد ادیب : میں صرف کلیرفیکیشن دے رہا ہوں، سر۔ جب یہ ملک آزاد ہوا تھا تو --- (مداخلت)۔۔۔ یہ طے ہوا تھا کہ --- (مداخلت)۔۔۔

جناب اپ سبھا پتی : کلیرفیکیشن دینا نہیں ہے، لینا ہے۔

جناب محمد ادیب : کہ کون حصہ کدھر جائے گا کون پاکستان ہوگا اور کون ہندوستان ہوگا؟ کشمیر کی عوام نے خود یہ فیصلہ کیا تھا کہ وہ ہندوستان ائیں گے۔ شیخ عبداللہ نے سن 1966 میں علی گڑھ میں یہ کہا تھا کہ "میں اپنی قوم کی لاشوں پر سے گزر کر یہاں گاندھی اور نہرو سے یہ کہنے آیا تھا کہ مجھے جناح کے تعصب سے بچا لو"۔ ہم نے ان شیخ عبداللہ کو دسیوں سال جیل میں رکھا۔ یہ بنیاد

† Transliteration in Urdu script.

پہلے پڑی۔ آج تک کشمیر کے ساتھ یہ ہو رہا ہے کہ وہاں کے بچوں کو یہاں آج بھی شک و شبہ کی نظر سے دیکھا جا رہا ہے۔ میں صرف تین سرجیشنز کے ساتھ یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ

جناب اپ سیہا پتی : آپ سرجیشنز نہیں دیجئے، کلیر فکیشن پوچھئے۔

جناب محمد ادیب : سر، کشمیر کے بچوں کو ہندوستان میں، یہاں کی مین اسٹریم میں نوکریوں کے لئے اسپیشل مراعات دئے جائیں، جس میں وہ انٹریکٹ ہوں، لوگوں سے ملیں اور یہاں وہ یہ سمجھیں کہ ہندوستان کا ایک حصہ ہیں۔ یہ ایک بنیاد حکومت کو بنانی چاہئے۔

دوسری بات، پاکستان کو یہ باآور کر دینا چاہئے کہ اگر وہ اس میں مداخلت کرے گا تو ہم اس کو برداشت نہیں کریں گے۔

تیسری بات میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ Human Rights Activists کو بھی کشمیر بھیجنا چاہئے۔ جیسا ابھی ہمارے سوز بھائی نے کہا، یہ ایک بہت اچھا قدم ہے، لیکن ہم کو نہ شک و شبہات کے دائرے سے نکل کر کسی نہ کسی صورت سے کشمیر کے لوگوں کو یہاں لانا پڑے گا، فوج پر پابندی کرنی پڑے گی اور یہاں کے جو activists ہیں ان کو وہاں بھیجنا پڑے گا۔

میں ہوم منسٹر صاحب سے کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ جیسا ہمارے راجہ ڈاکٹر کرن سنگھ صاحب نے ایک شعر پڑھا تھا کہ "نفرت سے نہ دیکھو دشمن کو، شاید وہ محبت کر بیٹھے"۔ یہ وقت ہے کہ وہ محبت کریں گے، وہ ہمارے ہیں اور ہمارے رہیں گے۔ ہمارے پڑوسی کو کہیں نہ کہیں سوچنا پڑے گا۔ ہم نے کہیں نہ کہیں غلطی ضرور کی ہے۔

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : सर, कश्मीर वादियों का एक खूबसूरत स्थान है और हम लोग उसको...

श्री उपसभापति : आप क्लैरिफिकेशन पूछिए। ... (व्यवधान) ... कश्मीर बहुत अच्छी जगह है, यह सब को मालूम है। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, कश्मीर वादियों का एक खूबसूरत स्थान है। वह जहाँ मैं सबसे सुन्दर जगह है। वहाँ की एक साधारण-सी घटना पर इतना एजिटेशन हो गया कि वहाँ इनकाउंटर में एक बच्चे को मार दिया गया और उसके बाद ये घटनाएं घटी हैं। मैं गृह मंत्री जी से क्या यह पूछ सकता हूँ कि क्या इस समस्या का कोई और समाधान नहीं था या यह केवल मिनिस्ट्री भेजने का ही मामला था?

सर, दूसरी बात यह है कि हमारे एल.ओ.पी. साहब ने कहा कि वहाँ बच्चे स्कूल के बैग में पत्थर रखते हैं, तब यह तो अच्छा हुआ कि वे पत्थर ही रखते हैं, उन्होंने यह नहीं कहा कि वे उसमें बम रखते हैं। खैर, मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस समस्या का बंदूक के अलावा क्या और कोई दूसरा समाधान नहीं था कि चार वर्ष के, सात वर्ष के बच्चों को मार-मार के वहाँ सुला दिया गया? उसके बाद आप खुद कहते हैं कि हमें दुख है। यह * जो आपने वहाँ बच्चों को मारने के लिए, innocent लोगों को मारने के लिए किया और राम विलास जी ने सही कहा कि उसमें कोई आतंकवादी नहीं मारा गया, कश्मीर बॉर्डर को क्रॉस करने में कोई नहीं मारा गया। तो आप जरा इस पर विचार कीजिए कि क्या गोली के अलावा कोई दूसरा भी यंत्र था जिससे आप वहाँ की स्थिति को काबू में कर सकते थे या नहीं कर सकते थे? यही मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ।

श्री जी.एन. रतनपुरी (जम्मू और कश्मीर) : सर, मुझे थोड़ा-सा टाइम दीजिए because I represent Jammu & Kashmir.

श्री उपसभापति : आप clarifications पूछिए।

श्री जी.एन. रतनपुरी : सर, मैं clarifications ही मांग रहा हूँ। होम मिनिस्टर ने कहा है कि हम कश्मीर में political process शुरू करेंगे और यह मसला हमें सियासी तौर पर तय करना है। 1947 से यह political process चल रहा है। Between the States and Centre, कई agreements हुए हैं। पहले हमें यह देखना है कि उन agreements का क्या हश्र हुआ, उनका क्या अंजाम हुआ, ये दूरियां क्यों पैदा हो गईं और यह mistrust क्यों पैदा हो गया। अगर वहाँ कोई Parliamentary Delegation, कोई भी टीम या मिनिस्टर्स जाएं, तो पाएंगे कि वहाँ credibility नहीं है, लोग एतबार नहीं करेंगे। You have to offer something other than talks. 1947 से बात चल रही है, लेकिन बात में से कुछ निकलना चाहिए। 9 अगस्त, 1953 को, जब शेख अब्दुल्ला वज़ीर-ए-आज़म थे, उन्हें depose किया गया। शायद कश्मीर उनसे बड़े stature या उनसे बड़े following का लीडर future में नहीं देखेगा, लेकिन अगर Govt. of India को लगा कि उनकी वजह से security of India किसी तरह से, चाहे यह गलतफहमी हो ... (व्यवधान) ...

*Not recorded

श्री उपसभापति : देखिए, आप clarifications पूछिए। There is no time for all this.

श्री जी.एन. रतनपुरी : आप मुझे दो मिनट अपनी बात कहने दीजिए, प्लीज मैं ज्यादा बोलता नहीं हूँ, लेकिन यह एक ऐसा issue है कि इस पर हमें बोलना है, क्योंकि इस पर लोग हमें यह कहते हैं कि आप बात क्यों नहीं करते, जब आप हिन्दुस्तान के सबसे बड़े ऐवान में हैं तो आप वहां बैठकर क्या करते हैं? हमें वहां भी जवाब देना है। तो अगर उस autonomy के बावजूद उस वक्त इतने बड़े लीडर को हटाया जा सकता था तो मेरे खयाल में आज सबसे पहला स्टेप यह होगा कि आप autonomy को बहाल कीजिए। सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से over the last 57 years जो भी ईख्तियारात लिये हैं, उनको लौटाने की बात कीजिए तो शायद आपकी बात पर वहां कोई ध्यान देगा।

दूसरी बात यह है कि Govt. of India सिर्फ पुलिस, security agencies और intelligence agencies पर बहुत ज्यादा rely करती है। जब political process की बात हो तो आप अवाम के नुमाइंदों से बात करें। हम यहां दिल्ली में हैं, कभी हमें भी बुलाएं और हमसे भी जानने की कोशिश करें। Security Forces में सभी फरिश्ते नहीं हैं। यह प्रॉब्लम सिर्फ कश्मीर में नहीं है, अब यह पूरे मुल्क में हो रहा है। Security Forces या पुलिस के खिलाफ कोई criticism बर्दाश्त नहीं की जाती, यह बिल्कुल blasphemy के बराबर माना जाता है। वहां भी ऐसे लोग हैं जो points score करने के लिए, अपने ACR को बढ़ाने के लिए या किसी और मकसद के लिए गलतबयानी से काम लेते हैं। कल मेरी constituency में हालात खराब थे। मैंने बात की तो मुझे बताया गया कि crowd में militants हैं, उन्होंने फायर किया। होम मिनिस्टर साहब ने भी यह कहा है कि crowd में militants होते हैं। स्टेट पुलिस जो हर शाम को briefing या handout देती है, उसमें उन्होंने आज तक यह mention नहीं किया है। मैंने कल शाम को उस incident के बारे में mention किया और independent sources से पता करने की कोशिश की। I am inclined to presume, क्योंकि आजकल आर्मी हेल्प को नहीं आती है, लेकिन अगर militancy का जिक्र करें कि militant है तो शायद आर्मी निकल आये। वहां हालात ज्यादा खराब थे और वहां security forces and Police इतनी नहीं थी कि वे उस situation को tackle कर पातीं। इसके लिए District Magistrate और District Superintendent of Police ने रिक्वेस्ट की थी। आज कश्मीर में आर्मी बुलाने का यह मकसद नहीं है कि उनको cantonment से निकलना है। तकरीबन हर टाउन में आर्मी मौजूद है और normally वह निकलती है और इसका हल करती रहती है। मेरी समझ में यह नहीं आता कि पिछली बार चीफ मिनिस्टर को क्यों रिक्वेस्ट करनी पड़ी। Normally, District Magistrate की रिक्वेस्ट पर आर्मी निकल आती है और law and order situation में भी हेल्प करती है। जब खुद होम मिनिस्टर साहब यह कहते हैं कि crowd में militants होते हैं, it becomes a sort of their duty. Armed Forces Special Power Act के तहत हेड कान्स्टेबल से ऊपर के लेवल के किसी भी ऑफिसर को वहां जाने और intervene करने

का इख्तियार है। यह समझ में नहीं आता कि जब जरूरत पड़ी और आज जब सूरत-ए-हाल बहुत ज्यादा गम्भीर है तो चीफ मिनिस्टर को क्यों लिखना पड़ता है। आज वहां हर गांव में सूरत-ए-हाल खराब है और अगर local administration request करती है, तो इसमें आर्मी को हेल्प करनी चाहिए थी। ऐसा हर कहीं होता है, मुल्क के किसी भी हिस्से में होता है, तो यह क्यों नहीं हो रहा है? मैं होम मिनिस्टर साहब से एक तो यह जानना चाहूंगा कि उन्होंने किस आधार पर यह कहा कि crowd में militants हैं? क्या कहीं फायर हुआ है या कहीं यह रिपोर्ट हुआ है? दूसरे, यह कि अगर Parliamentarians या politicians का कोई delegation जाता है तो वे क्या offer करेंगे? सिर्फ talks से कुछ नहीं चलेगा, यह उन्होंने clear कर दिया है। हम 1947 से अब तक talks करते रहे हैं, agreements का तो बुरा हश्म कर दिया, talks की तो बात ही नहीं है। थैंक यू।

SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI (Maharashtra): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on this issue. The situation in Kashmir seems to be perennial. There are times when there is peace, but some incident takes place, and suddenly, there is violence, largely inflamed by forces from across the border. The situation, if not alarming, is certainly quite serious. What is the need of the hour is that the entire House, the entire country is behind the Government cutting across all the party lines. We believe that the Governments hand should be strengthened. What should be attitude of the Government, what should be the policy of the Government, political solution is one thing, but the first and the primary duty of any Government is to maintain law and order. What is the need of the hour, according to me, is twin-fold. We need action of the sturdiness of Abraham Lincoln who said that 'in spite of violence we will see to it that there is no further division or there is no further bifurcation.' Attitude of Abraham Lincoln should be adopted in the first instance. The second thing which is the need of the hour is what Mahatma Gandhi did when he went to Noakhali. A delegation from all of us, from this House should go there, should sit there, talk with people, inspire confidence in their minds and whatever is the problem, you should try to understand that. For all this, I think, the Home Minister should be assured that the entire House cutting across all the party lines is behind his action. Thank you.

सरदार सुखदेव सिंह ढिंढसा (पंजाब) : उपसभापति जी, जैसा कि हमारे साथियों ने कहा कि कश्मीर का मसला आज से नहीं, बल्कि 1947 से ही चल रहा है और आज जो हालात हैं, बहुत बुरे हो

गए हैं, बद से बदतर हो

गए हैं। सारे देश में इस पर चिंता है और सारा देश इस पर एकजुबान है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि पहले तो बहुत देर तक पाकिस्तान और हिंदुस्तान के बीच में कोई बातचीत नहीं हुई। जैसा हमारे साथी ने कहा कि श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी, प्रधान मंत्री होते हुए खुद बस लेकर गए और उन्होंने कहा कि मैं हर विषय पर बात करना चाहता हूँ, लेकिन उसके बाद कुछ नहीं हुआ। फिर डा. मनमोहन सिंह आए हैं, इन्होंने कोशिश की है, लेकिन अभी तक कुछ नहीं हुआ, बल्कि वहां के लोग और ज्यादा खलल डाल रहे हैं। मेरा यह सुझाव है कि इन हालात को सुधारने के लिए एक ऑल पार्टी मीटिंग बुलाई जाए। मैं सोज़ साहब के सजेशन के साथ हूँ कि वहां पर सभी पार्टियों के एम.पीज़ का एक डेलीगेशन जाना चाहिए। पहले एक ऑल पार्टी मीटिंग होनी चाहिए, उसके बाद कोई फैसला होना चाहिए।

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि कश्मीर के पंडित तो पहले ही आ गए हैं, लेकिन अभी सिख लोग वहां पर हैं। पहले एक दफा उन पर हमला किया गया, ताकि वे वहां से चले जाएं, जिसमें बहुत से सिख मारे गए। अभी हाल ही में उनके बाल काट दिए गए। इस पर बहुत एजीटेशन हो रहा है। हो सकता है कि वे यह चाहते हों कि सिख भी यहां से चले जाएं। सिख लोग हमेशा भाईचारे और एकता में विश्वास करते हैं और किसी के खिलाफ नहीं हैं, उनको भी वहां से निकालने की कोशिश हो रही है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि ऑनरेबल होम मिनिस्टर क्या इस पर कोई ऐक्शन लेंगे?

मैं यह भी निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि पंजाब में मिलिटेंसी की गतिविधियां बहुत बढ़ गई हैं और यह बात होम मिनिस्टर साहब जानते हैं। क्या उनका कश्मीर के militants से कोई नाता है, क्या उनको वहां से कोई सपोर्ट मिलती है, क्योंकि दोनों की बात पाकिस्तान से चलती है। मैं एक क्लैरिफिकेशन यह भी चाहता हूँ कि पंजाब के सी.एम. हमारे होम मिनिस्टर साहब से मिले थे और उन्होंने कहा था कि अभी इस स्टेज को संभाल लो और हमारी जो para military forces हैं, उनको आप modernize करो, यदि आप इनको modernize नहीं करोगे, तो स्थिति और खराब होगी। पाकिस्तान से पंजाब में और कश्मीर में terrorists आ ही रहे हैं। इसलिए मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या पुलिस को modernize करने का सरकार का कोई विचार है?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I have only one point to make. I want the hon. Home Minister to keep in mind that the holy month of Ramadan is coming. So, before that whatever initiative is to be taken should be taken.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have heard the hon. Members, who have sought clarifications on my Statement that was made day before yesterday, very carefully. I am grateful to the hon. Leader of the Opposition as well as all other

leaders who have joined me in expressing our deep sense of regret and anguish at the loss of lives in Jammu and Kashmir. Sir, the problems of Jammu and Kashmir are problems that have remained with us since 1947. It was not my intention when making a Statement to lay out a road map to the solution of those problems. It could not have been done in a Statement that describes the current situation nor is it possible to deal with those problems while replying to clarifications on that Statement. The statement was intended to capture the current situation, how we intend to deal with the current situation and, therefore, with your permission, Sir, I should be very happy to answer questions that pertain to the current situation. Sir, it is often forgotten that beginning 2004 and up to the middle of this year, except the year 2008, Jammu and Kashmir has not witnessed serious civilian strikes. I underline the word 'civilian'. We have had incidents involving terrorists and infiltrators on the border, maybe even inside the border, but, if you leave that out, the State has been largely peaceful and there has been no civilian unrest since 2004. Sir, 2008 was an exception when the Amarnath Yatra triggered a controversy and lives were lost. In fact, a hundred lives were lost that year. But, otherwise, I think, it is well to remember that very, very few lives were lost in those years. In 2005, it was actually one, in 2006 it was six, in 2007 it was two and in 2009 it was only seven. I think, in large measure or at least in substantial measure the fact that there was no civilian unrest in Jammu and Kashmir is owing to the policy pursued by the UPA-I Government and the ' policy that was pursued by UPA-II beginning May 2009.

The Amarnath strife was a separate issue and I don't wish to go into that now. I do not think raising issues like abrogate Article like 370, do not offer a political solution to the Jammu and Kashmir issue or send more paramilitary forces, send in the Army, I think, this is not the policy of the UPA Government and with great respect to the Leader of the Opposition, some of these demands were articulated in a memorandum submitted by the principal opposition party to the Prime Minister yesterday, we beg to differ. This is not the approach that we should

adopt for Jammu and Kashmir. Jammu and Kashmir acceded to India under very unique circumstances. That is why on my first visit to Jammu and Kashmir after I took over as Home Minister I said, 'this is a unique problem. There is a unique history to the problem and therefore, we must put our heads together to find a solution, a

unique solution to this unique problem'. That is what I said. Be that as it may, I think, it is important to win hearts and minds in Jammu and Kashmir. The fact that there is no civilian strife for five out of six years gave me a lot of encouragement when I embarked upon the path of quiet dialogue. The quiet dialogue did yield results. Between May and December 4, 2009, there was hardly any civilian strife. I am not attributing it entirely to the quiet dialogue. But, certainly, the quiet dialogue contributed to the fact that there was, largely, peace and order in Jammu and Kashmir. The dialogue was interrupted on December 4, as I said in my statement, when Fazal-ul-Haq Quereshi, a moderate leader who favoured dialogue, was very seriously injured. Since then, I confess, we have not been able to resume the quiet dialogue. But, it is my intention to do everything possible to resume the quiet dialogue.

Sir, it is true that Pakistan appears to have altered its strategy in influencing events in Jammu and Kashmir. I do not think there is any let up, as such, in infiltration nor is there any let up in sending militants into the Valley. But, as the hon. Leader of the Opposition pointed out, our capacity to deal with infiltration and militancy is, certainly, much higher today than what it was a few years ago. Our intelligence is, certainly, better equipped. And, therefore, we have been able to foil these designs. Sir, it is possible that there is an altered strategy. It is possible that they believe that relying upon civilian unrest will pay them better dividends. But, I am confident, if we are able to win the hearts and minds of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, even those designs can be foiled.

Sir, there are a number of issues which deserved to be addressed. The most important is, our own pronouncements and our own promises to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The larger issue of solving the problem of Jammu and Kashmir, the problems that are raised by Pakistan, is a larger issue. We will keep that aside for the time being. But, there are our Government's pronouncements and our own promises to the people of Jammu and Kashmir in that part of Kashmir which is with India. And, I think, it is important that we deliver on our promises and we follow-up on our own

pronouncements. There is intense debate on these issues, as they should be. There is an intense debate in the country. There is an intense debate in many fora, including Parliament. There is intense debate within the Government too and that is only to be expected. In a coalition Government, intense

debate is to be expected. But, I have not yielded on the argument that Government must deliver on the promises that were made, the Government must follow-up on the pronouncements that were made. One amongst them is the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act. I cannot brush aside other points of view. But, it will be my endeavour to work with everyone else and find a way in which we can deliver on our promise on the AFSP. Likewise, we have said that we would like to reduce the presence of security forces if conditions improve. In fact, we did it in 2009. A significant number of armed forces personnel were moved out of the valley. A significant number of paramilitary forces personnel were also moved out of the valley. When the situation warrants, we may have to send more forces. But, when the situation warrants, we may have to withdraw the forces too. And, that is the policy of the Government of India.

Sir, the UN Secretary General did not make the statement attributed to him. In fact, it was made by one of his staffs who happens to be a national of Pakistan. The UN Secretary General's office has flatly denied any such statement. In the immediate short-term, this is an area in which I agree with the Leader of the Opposition and many others, we must bring to an end the violence on the streets of Jammu and Kashmir. I think it requires firm action by the security forces as well as the Government of Jammu and Kashmir reaching out to the people. It is not my purpose to find fault, to apportion blame, but I think some lessons have been learnt. I think the Government of Jammu and Kashmir is now reaching out to the people. The Chief Minister has visited the injured people in the hospitals. Ministerial delegations have been sent to various district headquarters. We have advised the Government to ensure that the District Magistrates and other civilian officials are more visible, more present and more accessible to the people. In the last 48 hours, there has been a declining trend of incidents. I am not saying that this is the beginning of the end of violence, I hope it is sincerely. There is, certainly, a declining trend, but there is no comfort in the fact that there is only one death a day. Even loss of one life diminishes all of us. The loss of one life diminishes the credibility of governance in this country, but it

is my sincere hope that our appeal, the appeal made by all the hon.
Members belonging to all sections will be heeded by the people of Jammu
and

Kashmir. Sir, there was a period in 2004-05 when the streets of Jammu and Kashmir did not hear the word 'azadi'. On the contrary, youth came and said, "we want an MBA programme in the University. We want an IIT to be established here. We want an IIM to be established in Jammu and in Sri Nagar." It is unfortunate that those voices have been muted and the voices of azadi or Quit India have been raised. But I sincerely hope that this is only a passing phase and we will hear the voices of young Kashmiris saying that their destiny lies with India and that they want to be part of India. I am sure that the voices that we heard in 2004, 2005 and 2006 will be heard once again on the streets of Jammu and Kashmir. The immediate task is to restore law and order. No Government can allow the law and order to collapse. That means, the Government has collapsed. So, we have to restore law and order. The Security Forces have acted, as I said in my Statement, with a great degree of restraint. Over a thousand security personnel have been injured. And, they have been injured in the eye; they have been injured in the head; they have been injured in other sensitive parts of the body.

Stones have been thrown by crowds running into a few thousands and if a few thousand stones are raining on police post or a platoon, you can imagine the kind of injury which they will suffer. I think they have acted with restraint. They have used lathis, they have used tear gas; then, they have used rubber bullets. In fact, some of the deaths have occurred because the rubber bullets can also kill if they hit a wrong spot in the body. Pushed to the bitter end, they have used the regular bullets too and they have killed. We continue to advise our security forces to act with restraint, but security forces, as I said in my Statement, have to act not only in self-defence but also to protect police stations, police outposts and Government offices. So, we will resume the political process. The answer to the problem of Jammu and Kashmir lies only through the political process and only through dialogue with all sections of the people.

Sir, we will resume the political process. Yesterday, we received a message that an All Party Delegation from Jammu and Kashmir wishes to

call on the Prime Minister and I am happy to say that the Prime Minister has agreed to receive the All Party Delegation. We hope the delegation will come soon. In fact, we will be very happy to receive the delegation even as early as Monday.

Secondly, we are contemplating convening a meeting of leaders of political parties in Parliament. The date and time will be fixed by the Prime Minister's Office. We will let you know. So, let us meet here first, and, certainly, we will take on board your suggestion that a Parliamentary Delegation should visit Jammu and Kashmir. All this is part of reactivating the political process. Simultaneously, I have once again pressed upon all our interlocutors in Jammu and Kashmir that I am willing to resume the quiet dialogue. What happened on December 4 was indeed a rude interruption but we have to get over that. We have to pick ourselves up, we have to find the courage that allowed us to hold a dialogue earlier, and I sincerely hope that moderate leaders will resume their dialogue with the Government of India.

If Mr. Gilani's statement of day-before-yesterday marks a shift in his position, I do not know, but if it marks a shift in his position, I think, we should welcome that shift in his position. I think we should accept at face value his statement until the contrary is proved. I don't think there is any reason to doubt people's statement. If it is a shift in his position, I would welcome that shift in position and I would be very happy if Mr. Gilani also joins the group of leaders that wishes to hold a dialogue with the Government of India in one form or the other.

Sir, there are some good signs. This year up to the 3rd of August, we have had 5,10,781 tourists visiting the State. That is a larger number than last year. This year until the 3rd of August, 4,11,407 yatris had darshan at Amarnath shrine. Last year the total number until the end of the yatra was 3,92,000 and we still have another 17 days for the yatra to conclude, and I think that the number will cross 5 lakhs. So, there is something else happening in Jammu and Kashmir also that, the people of that State are welcoming the yatris, are welcoming tourists, people who depend upon tourism for their livelihood, people who depend upon the yatra period for earning their income for the rest of the year, those who supply ponies, those who supply food and those who carry the dollies. I think there is something else also happening in Jammu and Kashmir, a story that is somehow not reflected in our discourse or in our media. So,

while, unfortunate events have happened on the streets of Jammu and Kashmir, something else is also happening in Jammu and Kashmir.

It is important that the cycle of violence must come to an end, and, let me conclude, Sir, by once again warmly thanking all hon. Members and appealing to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, especially, young men and women, especially parents. Please work with us and put an end to this current cycle of violence so that we will pick up the threads, we will reactivate the political process and we will through dialogue find solutions that will bring equity, justice and honour to all sections of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA

The Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2010

THE SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:

"in accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2010, as passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 5th August, 2010.

The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India."

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned till 2.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at thirty-five minutes past one of the clock.

The House re-assembled after lunch at thirty-nine minutes past two of the clock,

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA) in the Chair.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Resolution to constitute an environment adaptation and mitigation fund

SHRI N.K. SINGH (Bihar): Thank you, Sir. I had, while making an intervention on the last occasion on this subject, made some suggestions for the constitution of a fund for mitigation and adaptation on

environmental challenges. In that first intervention of mine, I had given
an overall global

framework of why we needed such a fund, what the costs are likely to be and what are the various dimensions on account of adaptation and mitigation problems. And, in addition to financing a technology, we needed to take a holistic view of the entire issue. In today's intervention of mine, Sir, I wish to concentrate on two basic problems. First, how to raise the money? From what sources? And, to recall that, one of the principal objectives of the Environmental Adaptation and Mitigation Fund is to move away from inefficient highly polluting energy intensive industries. Second, how to spend the money? This goes beyond merely the normal question of expenditure, but into the deeper question of how to make the governance of this fund multi-disciplinary, complementary and catalyst to the efforts of the private sector which is capable of keeping pace with the emerging science and technology on this issue.

I want to be clear about the scope of what I am discussing here today, Sir. This is not a fund to address every challenge of environment. It is not, because those challenges are far more complex. What I am focusing on today is how we can best use innovative public finance mechanisms to both push people away from unsustainable practices and pull new technologies and practices that are more sustainable and support the adaptation effort of the Government.

Let me also say that while making the suggestions, I am conscious of the broad inequalities of the economy, namely, the large parts of the country don't have access to energy at all, and, therefore, there must be a floor level of minimum energy availability in any effort which we design. Let me also just remind your, Sir, that estimates which have been made, globally speaking, on what it would cost for mitigation and adaptation efforts to bring the green house emission to levels which are considered safe on current scientific estimates, they would require an investment of two hundred billion dollars to one trillion dollars per annum. These estimates can increase if, for instance, the scientific community comes to the conclusion that the present levels of projected reduction in green house emission should be more aggressive in order to really deal with the environmental challenges.

Let me now directly go to the important question which I had raised:
How to raise the money for the Environmental Adaptation and
Mitigation Fund in India? Clearly, Sir, the first and the one

obvious source is to have a carbon tax in order to promote low carbon intensive activity. This creates a push for cleaner technology. We already have energy cess on coal to start with. So, what I will discuss is how to complement and supplement this broad measure of cess on coal in other dimensions. This Environment Adaptation and Mitigation Fund would complement the coal tax by focusing more on downstream fuel use, specially highly-polluting fuels as well as fuel use for upper income groups. Some other revenue streams to tap these, which are consistent with this approach, are these. First, a diversion of cess on aviation turbine fuel. We clearly harmonise this across the States to reduce distortions, but one option is to keep the level the same while diverting some part of their accrual of this aviation turbine fuel cess towards the Environmental Adaptation and Mitigation Fund. This, Sir, is also quite consistent with the recommendations of the global discussion of tax on air travel. Second, taxing small fossil-fuel power generation, including smaller captive power plants. This is actually inefficient power generation and is, unfortunately, encouraged by the current electricity policy scenario. Raising the cost of substitutes for an efficient public network would create more pressure for faster improvement in the electricity sector. Third, a surcharge on per capita energy usage above a certain level. This would only hurt the more elite class, and, therefore, it would protect the poor. This would preserve the access to electricity, such as it is, for essential needs, but would also encourage those who can afford to trim their electricity bills by investing in more efficient electricity appliances.

The modalities of applying this need to be worked out, given the concurrent jurisdiction over electricity policy and state dominance in setting electricity prices.

Fourth, increase taxes on lower-grade (higher emissions) fuel. This would also encourage the introduction of higher-grade fuels, which in turn opens up possibilities for increased use of existing cost-effective technologies to reduce emissions from mobile sources. India cannot currently take advantage of advances in automobile engine filters and

emission-reducing parts since low-grade fuel damages these components.

The funds from these sources, cesses, also need to be supplemented by general budgetary support for "pulling" greener technologies and practices and for accelerating adaptation. Fortunately, this year, the Finance Minister's Budget had a whole chapter on what additional budgetary support the Government proposes to give which can supplement the garnering of resources from these special sources.

Overall, faster development is the best adaptation to climate change. We all know that includes investing in skills, knowledge, better infrastructure, etc., which can really alter the economy's present pattern. Funds can be further leveraged by ring-fencing and creating a non-lapsable fund of a corpus to enable borrowing against the future revenue stream from these special sources which I have proposed here.

I will give just two examples of such non-lapsable funds. One is the Central Road Fund. Another is the International Finance Facility. It enables Government and enables borrowers to hypothecate and borrow against future revenue stream to meet current expenditure. The fund should also have legal clearances to accept international funds. Setting up of this fund could help attract more external funds by providing funders with some assurance of the purposes for which monies would be used.

Sir, I now come to my second question. It is: How to spend the money? What is the best way in which this corpus, which is thus created, can be put to the most efficient use? In this context, I first propose setting up of a Public Sector Challenge Fund to support the additional costs of making current infrastructure more sustainable.

This initiative would allow Ministries and other bodies to apply for additional funding, resources additional to what the budget has allocated, to convert standard projects to state-of-the-art projects. It will be a kind of incentivising existing projects.

Additional fiscal resources are necessary for public infrastructure investment both for retrofitting – most of them have been retrofitted, you know that – and new ones, agriculture research and development and

extension, health care (dealing with new disease vectors arising out

of climate change), and protecting public goods such as ecosystem linked with conflict and social tensions connected with climate change.

With this structure, in which "additionality" is built into the application process, it may also be possible to garner revenues from carbon markets. As we know, the state of carbon markets is uncertain given pending revision in 2012, but it seems that any new regime will certainly continue these kinds of "above-and-beyond-business-as-usual" initiatives. This Fund, which I have proposed today, would play an important role in channeling these funds for projects in India.

This institutional design will help us leverage large infrastructure funds rather than just replace them, and the application process will ensure that the projects have 'owners' and are more likely to succeed.

Secondly, I propose a programme of Publicly Backed Guarantees (PBGs) to support research, development, and deployment of technologies or develop new ones in the energy, water supply, agricultural, forestry, and livestock. You will notice that I am requesting Publicly Backed Guarantees instead of subsidies. The advantage of Publicly Backed Guarantees is that they can be designed to keep the strength of market incentives and entrepreneurial insight while at the same time leveraging public funds to jumpstart the market. Basically, the public sector has to play an important role given the fact of risk of private investment. But we require synergy between both public and private efforts. There are, therefore, several kinds of initiatives from Publicly Backed Guarantees which are especially relevant. First, Publicly Backed Guarantees for asset finance to encourage financial institutions to lend to small businesses for upgrading them to cleaner technology. Right now, access to finance is a barrier for many small businesses and their efforts to upgrade, and we want to remove this barrier because the significant impact for many of these small businesses could be large. The initiative could include public guarantees for loans for, say, auto conversion kits, technology upgrades for brick makers, bakers, laundries, etc. - reducing emissions from the millions of high-emissions small industry sources and

mobile sources.

Second is, Publicly Backed Guarantees for international technology transfer ventures. This fund that I am proposing could work with existing multilateral agencies and export finance agencies in

countries with technologies relevant to India to create a floor on the risk of deploying and adapting a technology. A committee of technology, financial sector and governance experts should be formed to design an initial set of such mechanisms.

Sir, I also propose for the consideration of the Government the launch of something that I call an 'inducement prize' outlined in the National Action Plan on Climate Change. We need to be creative in supporting innovation for new energy sources and energy efficiency. One cutting-edge mechanism for funding innovation is inducement prizes. We all know that. It sets target specifications for technology, invites competitors to produce it and competes for a prize of Government-led scaling or Government contract. The National Programme on Improved Biomass Cookstoves, for example, is contemplating running an inducement prize for improved stoves as a public health measure which could have climate co-benefits by reducing black carbon and methane emissions.

I also propose to allocate a part of this proposed fund to be set aside for further inducement prizes. Sir, we must invest in creating monitoring and measurement infrastructure to effectively implement incentives for efficiency. Pricing policies that encourage efficient use of energy, water, agriculture and other natural resources, for example, will be essential for encouraging, adaptation, and, as a consequence, of course, mitigation. But, these require investments - in better documenting hydrology for being able to assign and price water rights, in metering and redesign of electricity supply to ensure a politically sustainable shift to a new equilibrium of higher payment for better services, etc.

Building institutions for greenhouse gas accounting that enables more efficient and targeted policies to efficiently reduce carbon house gas emissions is imperative to deal with this challenge. In this way, the fund invests in its own future, in the institutional underpinnings for becoming more effective. Carbon taxes and the variants which I have described are generally seen as an easier and cheaper form of regulating

greenhouse emissions than cap and trade mechanisms because of relative ease of implementation and monitoring. This is important in a developing country like India in which carbon house gas accounting process is still nascent, and it can be difficult to track both actions and outcomes.

However, Sir, market-based mechanisms like cap and trade are generally more effective at ensuring that mitigation is undertaken in the most cost-efficient way. Carbon tax is also vulnerable to political manipulation. It raises revenues from a source chosen by policy makers and to be given to a source chosen by policy makers. There are, therefore, the opportunities for manipulation - choosing what to tax, choosing how to spend and choosing on what to spend.

So, we need to build up the underpinnings for being able to credibly implement market-based mechanisms. This means strengthening the ability and incentives to measure and account for carbon gas emissions. This proposed Environment and Adaptation Mitigation Fund will, therefore, support the development of three important objectives. First is, development of emission factors customised to the Indian context, to improve accuracy of accounting and reporting following global standards. Second is, development of a common registry and reporting mechanisms to encourage companies that are already accounting to contribute this information to public databases. Third and the most important is, capacity building for greenhouse emission accounting. Sir, I also propose to set apart a portion of the Fund, once it is created, for supporting the ongoing efforts of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the Pollution Control Boards to upgrade their environmental monitoring networks.

Overall, the Environment Adaptation and Mitigation Fund governance has to be built in potential for new mechanisms to be proposed over time.

I propose that the Fund to be overseen by a Board of Governors from public and private sectors, with a rotating membership, clear criteria for joining and a transparent selection process.

This will enable the Fund to be nimble as an incentive mechanism. It can add programmes as needed as science and technology evolves.

In conclusion, Sir, for the reasons which I mentioned, I beg to move this Resolution for the constitution of an Environment Adaptation and Mitigation Fund.

The key features of the Fund, in short, are that the funding sources include proceeds from targeted cesses that also create incentives to reduce emissions; general budgetary resources, which

can then be leveraged through creative public finance; external resources flow related to global sustainability.

The initial Fund activities are designed to ensure the use of the Fund to activate public sector activity by offering funds to support moving beyond business as usual, activate private innovation through innovative public finance and build the institutional capacity to track outcomes and target incentives more effectively in future.

The Environment Adaptation and Mitigation Fund governance is designed to allow the Fund to evolve as a coordinating force over time, which is essential for a fast-changing and wide-ranging policy action.

This, Sir, is an inescapable necessity to finance the huge cost that individual and society will inevitably have to bear both for adaptation in short term and mitigation where outcomes inevitably have a long gestation period. In the absence of an innovative financing mechanism, mere reliance on traditional sources is inadequate and unpredictable. Adaptation activities are necessary to enable an orderly transition to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change facing the communities and sectors and enable adaptive response. Mitigation, of course, involves a whole slew of measures affecting different facets of life and enabling gainful economic activity to continue while reducing carbon emission. I would urge the Government to accept this Resolution in the hope and belief that based on best international practices and given the enormous repercussions it has on the present and future generation we need to move away from business as usual and traditional approach.

Small boutique funds from incremental sources are well behind the compelling necessity curve. We need an integrated approach. I have given some ideas on the necessity, the sources of financing, the deployment of the resources, monitoring outcomes and the governance structure for the Fund.

Let us, Sir, make a reasonable beginning. I very much hope and expect that the Government would rise to the challenge, the challenge of our time, the compelling challenge in our face, and constitute an Environment

Adaptation and Mitigation Fund for the reasons and objectives which I have outlined for the consideration of this House both today and in an intervention which I had an opportunity to make on an earlier occasion. Thank you.

3.00 P.M.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA): Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. He is not there. Shri E. M. Sudarsana Natchiappan.

DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. I rise to speak on the Resolution moved by a very reputed former Revenue Secretary of Government of India and present Rajya Sabha Member, Shri N. K. Singh. After his presentation in the last session and also in this session, we can easily expect that he is going to come out with a very good literary work which can be followed by the developing and underdeveloped countries so that they can meet the requirements of the renewal energy and also learn how to promote research and technology development. At the same time, they can know how to mobilize the financial resources for meeting the situation. I hope, Mr. Singh is having the experience of being a Consultant in IMF also. Therefore, his suggestion, with all his experience, is very useful for us to meet the situation. Sir, I would like to suggest that the Indian situation is much different from the Vedic days. We are people who loved the nature, who lived with the nature and who never hurt the nature. Our life was like that.

But it is only subsequently, when the other countries started to invade India and tried to change the culture of Indian people, that we started to deviate from our Hindu culture and, in the name of development, we sacrificed many things of the nature and also hurt the nature. Now, we are really suffering due to that. We have got polluted water; the mineral water, which was once a rich man's property, has now become a normal usage of the middle class people too. Even it has gone down to the level of villages where you cannot get water other than the bottled water. Similarly, even our vegetables were, earlier, based on natural manures. With the propagation of pesticides and fertilisers, we started deviating from getting it from our own natural manures. We have started using fertilisers only. Today, we have reached a new situation that has compelled to go back to the old method of using the natural

manures. We can go away from using the fertilisers. We have to create a balanced situation. That is why I feel that if we empower the local people in villages and urban areas too, they will know how to solve their own problem, but we are not giving them their own powers which were taken away from them. We are not ready to give constitutionally-accepted new powers

to them. We want to show that as a carrot and stick policy; since you are getting a Panchayat Raj, you have got the rights to decide yourself; you will get it; you will get it, but wait for some time! Similarly, in urban areas, we are not following certain things which are happening in western countries where they have got their own accounting system of managing their resources and having the community discipline and other things. But even, here, we want to follow the colonial system of administration, rather than the management, or we want to allow the people to decide their own fate by their own democratic process. Sir, we are going on reducing the power of a common man; we are going on taking away their powers and the community powers in the name of development.

Now, we have reached a situation from where nobody can save us from any natural catastrophe. Naturally, we are losing all our natural wealth, including the minerals. We are losing the forests; we are losing the environment; we are losing our health. Everybody, from an ordinary person to a rich man, is spending more of his money not on food, but on the medicines. There used to be a situation where educational institutions used to come up very well. On health aspects, institutions used to come. Now, only the nursing homes and hospitals are coming. A huge industry of medicine is coming. A huge sum of money is stolen from the ordinary person's pocket. Not only that; they are selling their own property to save themselves and their children from the environment catastrophe. This is the situation. In such a situation, we have to think how much we can extract from our own natural resources; more so, we have also got renewable resources. I would like to concentrate on the solar energy. 'Surya Namaskaram' is the system of praying to the almighty by the Hindus. The Sun God is going to protect me the whole day; the Sun God is the super most power to my eyes, and, therefore, it is going to protect me, this is how every Indian starts his day. But are we utilizing the sun fully? Are we utilizing the solar power fully? There is the very wonderful UPA-II Government which has propagated the Jawaharlal Nehru Solar Mission. It is a very successful programme, which has been mooted. Sir, they started thinking about one megawatt or five megawatts, but they

have not started working on whether a consumer can be made a producer.

We should borrow ideas which are good. Mahakavi Bharathi used to say: wherever there is knowledge, you bring that here and utilize it for the welfare of the people. The Germans are utilizing it. They have done it in a big way. They have installed solar panels in every house. The Government is subsidizing it. The energy produced in every house there is taken to the National Grid. Whatever energy is produced through solar panels in every house, that is taken to the National Grid every day. They are paid six times more than the normal price. At the same time, they can utilize that energy for their own purpose also. They are benefited in two ways. Firstly, in this way, the consumer becomes the producer. That is what should be done in India. In India, people live in remote villages. For going from one village to another village, we need to travel a minimum of 25 kilometres. If we lay electricity wires from one village to another village, the transmission cost and the loss itself will come to more than 40 to 45 per cent. This is simply for putting up some lamps at certain places. That is not for providing electricity for 24 hours a day. The farmers are not able to plough their fields because there is no electricity. Electricity is available for only five to six hours. Our poor villagers are not getting that benefit. So the solar energy needs to be utilized properly. Even our own science and research institute at Jodhpur has developed a project. I have also seen a presentation made by a Government agency where it was shown that by putting up even a small panel, half-horse power to one-horse power, at places where wells are available, power can be generated and it can be utilized for 24 hours. Why shouldn't we make it fully subsidized for agriculturists and farmers? Instead of putting up electricity lines for taking electricity to villages and incurring a loss of 40 to 45 per cent in transmission cost itself, these power panels can be provided to them. If you produce panels in large number, it would cost you less. These panels can be prepared with the help of the private sector and the public sector and then they can be distributed to every household. They can produce electricity by utilizing these panels. They can utilize it for the community and they can utilize it for the neighbourhood also. If we are able to do it, then

the money that we are spending in the name of making available electricity to the ordinary citizen, that can be easily saved. Shri N.K. Singh, was talking about it theoretically. I have a very ordinary way of looking at the issue. We need to promote research. It is not that if you have good buildings and instruments then only you can promote research.

Sir, we are also following the system of the Western countries, where you have to formulate things logically and data-wise. But poor villagers of our country are having a lot of research-oriented minds, and they are doing it. We are having our own Departments to develop these research minds at the village level, and we are also awarding them annually. But many of the research-minded people are not educated enough to suit the modern society. When I was a Member of the Standing Committee on Environment and Forests, I had the opportunity to visit many of the laboratories throughout India. We have to praise Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru; how visionary he was! He made a huge investment on these laboratories. But the Directors of these laboratories and scientists say that these laboratories are being utilized only for presentation of Papers in the Western countries and for getting better posts there, rather than serving the local people, whose tax money is set apart for these laboratories in every Budget. I asked them: How many patents have they got registered in each and every laboratory when we are spending so much of money? They only say, it is only one or two. Otherwise, they say, "We are presenting Papers in the international fora. They are utilizing our services and getting awarded for themselves." We are not coming forward with more and more patents, when we are, otherwise, spending so much money on our centres. The time has come when they are made accountable. When we are giving them the Budget grant of Rs.20 crores every year, they have to at least earn Rs.25 crores by way of patent registration and from other proceeds. Otherwise, that grant has to be stopped, and the same can be utilized for betterment of the ordinary people. We are only spending more and more money of the Exchequer for betterment of research work in these laboratories. Instead we can encourage the private sector which is doing a good amount of research and capturing new markets because they are market-driven. They want to bring new research materials so that they can meet the growing needs. Even, the small cell phone, which was started as a tool to transmit voices, has now become a full-fledged internet-facilitated computer in the hands. It can transmit pictures immediately; it can transmit videos; it has got several other features which can be

very easily passed on to other people. This was all done within a period of five years because of continuous research by the private sector. When Apple comes with a 1-phone, then, Nokia starts its research and Siemens also start its research. They are competitive because

they want to improve their market share. Therefore, Sir, we have to think about diverting our money to villages, to those people who are getting the minimum of education, but who are research-minded. That research mind has to be tapped. The human potentiality, which is available in the remote parts of the country, is not at all tapped.

The Chinese are tapping that energy in the fullest possible way. On the one hand, they are modernizing their country and, on the other hand, they are fully utilizing human resources in every aspect. That is why they are now becoming a super power. But the Americans could not tap that resource properly. Even for their military, they are borrowing from other countries. I recall having read in some news journal of the U.S. that they are spending huge sums of money for lobbying. Like, to make a rogue State an acceptable State, lobbying goes on with the Congress people and other legislators. For everything, they need lobbying. But here, we need a lobbying for making solar energy as a part of man's existence. Similarly, we have to see to it that fertilizer is replaced by manures. But then what will happen? Big industries, which are manufacturing fertilizers and pesticides, would lobby against it, and they will say that this is not the correct way to increase production.

Sir, I would also like to stress upon the developmental aspect. Here again, I would only have to argue on the basis of the potentiality of the people, who have only studied up to XII standard in their own vernacular languages, be it Tamil, Telugu or Malayalam. When they come to higher studies or professional courses, they have to pay huge amounts. In Tamil Nadu, during Shri Kamraj's period, it was made free. Subsequently, Dr. Kalam has also made it free up to the college level. In Andhra Pradesh, students are reimbursed the fees that they pay in professional colleges. This had been done by Shri Y. S. Reddy. Subsequently, Shri N.T. Rama Rao has also done it. So, if we want to have development, we should see to it that students in rural area are given free education, especially in research. They are so intelligent that they adapt themselves to every situation very easily. But we are not encouraging them to come up to that level. We are utilizing only their physical

energy. We are utilizing them only for manual work. They keep going to countries in the Gulf, in Arab countries and in Europe, even to Malaysia and Singapore, mainly for manual work, but not for mental work. Now, of

late, we have been seeing the phenomenon of USA and many European countries outsourcing their work to companies in India, companies in south India which are providing their services at very cheap rates. The young boys and girls who graduate from colleges are able to adapt themselves, just after a month's training, to various jobs including software development and so on. Such is the energy of the common man. That energy is now being tapped again.

Previously, our professionals used to go to foreign countries. Now, people even at the Bachelor degree level are going abroad. They are going to foreign countries as very, very cheap labour wherein they are paid a minimum of 2000 dollars monthly; here, we give them just Rs.2000. Even if they give Rs.20000, even then, there is a profit of Rs.25,000 per head. That is the situation in India. Therefore, we may not adopt their development model, but we have to have this type of a situation. Give power at the local level. Help them. Give more aid to them. Give them more guidance. Show the world how it is working. For example, we enacted one of the best laws for utilizing research and whatever patent or copyright is created at the village level, the community would share the profit. I would like to know how many villages are being benefited by that. At the international level, it has been one of the best laws enacted by this Parliament. But are we utilizing it? Do we have the time to see whether this particular provision is being properly utilized at the village level? How many community people were being benefited by taking away such natural herbs which were available. Our findings on herbs have been utilized by multi-national companies. They give them different names, different colours and then sell them back to us again. The same thing happened during the colonial rule of the British. They took away all our knowledge, our raw materials, put it in the lanka charan and brought it here to the same market and sold everything to the same Indians. Similar things are happening here. The Government should think that we must concentrate on the masses rather than the people who have already been lured by money to invest in foreign countries. We are very happy that huge amounts of money are being diverted from public

sector undertakings in different names and our own people are purchasing many of the companies. Even today, I saw some US gas company was bought. We are very happy and proud that now Indian corporates are buying UK companies, European and American companies. We are very proud of that. But, at the same time,

are we doing the same thing for our own Indians? They are starving. They are going out of the country. There is an assessment that from Tamil Nadu alone, every year, ten lakh people are migrating to foreign countries in search of jobs. Such is the situation. How are we going to solve this problem? Therefore, when we talk about environment, it means we are talking about carbon accounting and everything else, which is the creation of the western knowledge, the creation of the western culture. No doubt we are benefited for some time; at the same time, we should not forget our own culture, our own nature which brought us to this level.

India is a very, very great country. It has got natural resources and human resources which can be utilised for hundreds of years if we get a proper leadership at the district-level and at the national level. I used to say that every Member of Parliament should feel proud to be in the highest position in India. People cannot even dream to be a Member and sitting here, which is one of the highest positions in India. We must constantly inquire whether we are doing our jobs as a Member of Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha so that the same situations available in Mumbai or Delhi or Kolkata are created for our own villages. Are we planning like that? Are we bringing money in their hands? Are we showing a path to them? Some Ministers have occupied the seat of Lok Sabha Membership for fifteen years, twenty years. But, they have not done even a small thing in their constituencies. Here is our Member, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar. I can quote him. He is a man who has done a lot in his constituency. He was defeated in the recent Lok Sabha elections. But, he has done many things even sitting in the opposition or in the ruling benches. In whichever Ministry he was, he has done something in his constituency. That is the greatness about him.

Similarly, Sir, whatever programmes we are making at the national level should go to the people. We need not boast ourselves being very resourceful people at the international fora. But, finally, what is the national development we have attained? In which way are our resources utilised? Are they utilised properly? That is the question that we need to answer ourselves.

The Resolution aims to create a situation by which we can address the challenges. Though the modern terminology is used, 'environment adaptation and mitigation fund', I would like to suggest that we have got a huge money as sovereign fund. We are not utilizing it. Now, I am told that some

funds may be utilised for the corporate needs and other needs. But, at the same time, Sir, I request that sovereign fund needs to be utilised to see to it that the villages are developed, the Gandhian dream or Rajiv Gandhi's dream comes true, they become self-sufficient villages, they really attain the Rama-Rajya, the real Swaraj or the Grama-Rajya where there would be researches in place, where the environment is looked after, where there would be comprehensive development, where the scientific knowledge is taught, where something new comes out. If we make the small units become vibrant, one day we would realise the entire India developed. Then, internationally the world would project India as the super-power in every aspect.

श्री अनिल माधव दवे (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, Environment Adaptation and Mitigation Fund की जो बात आयी है और उसको खड़ा करने के लिए आज जिस प्रस्ताव पर चर्चा हो रही है, मुझे लगता है कि उसे कैसे खड़ा करना है, कितना फंड करना है और उसे कैसे खर्च करना है, इन सब बातों पर बहुत गहराई से विचार करने की जरूरत है क्योंकि सोर्स, रिसोर्सेज या फंड, हम जो कुछ भी कहें, उसका मिलना जितना महत्वपूर्ण है, उससे ज्यादा महत्वपूर्ण उसको खर्च करने का तरीका है क्योंकि हम जानते हैं, हम कॉमन वेल्थ को देख रहे हैं, हम साठ साल से कश्मीर को पैकेज पर पैकेज दे रहे हैं, हम देश के सड़क निर्माण से लेकर बाकी सब संसाधनों के अंदर करोड़ों-अरबों नहीं, कितना ही पैसा खर्च कर चुके हैं, लेकिन इन सब पैसों का कोई परिणाम नहीं निकला। यह केवल इसलिए है क्योंकि खर्च करने के तरीके के साथ हमने न्याय नहीं किया है और यहां पर चूंकि ग्लोबल वार्मिंग, क्लाइमेट चेंज फैशन हो गया है, यह एक ऐसा विषय है जिसके ऊपर हर कोई बात करना चाहता है, जबकि यह सर्वाधिक तकनीकी विषय है और इसके ऊपर जो चर्चा होनी चाहिए, जो गंभीरता होनी चाहिए, इसलिए यह जो विषय आज उठा है वह बहुत गंभीर है।

उसके अंदर मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूं कि इस समय पूरा विश्व दो हिस्सों में बंटा हुआ है, एक और जहां विकासशील देश हैं और दूसरी तरफ विकसित देश हैं। विकसित देशों का अपना एजेंडा है, उनकी अपनी एक जीवन पद्धति है, उनकी अपनी एक लाइफ स्टाइल है, वे अपने तरीके से जीना चाहते हैं, वे भोग करना चाहते हैं, वे पृथ्वी का तापमान बढ़ाना चाहते हैं और बढ़ा रहे हैं और वे हमसे कह रहे हैं कि आप त्याग करते रहिए। ये जिन देशों को कह रहे हैं उनके अंदर अन्डर डवलप्ड कन्ट्रीज हैं, डवलपिंग कन्ट्रीज हैं और छोटे-छोटे देश हैं और वे उनकी छोटी-छोटी गलतियों को भी निकालते रहते हैं। इसलिए मैं यहां पर एक विषय को जरूर उठाना चाहता हूं। मुझे यह कहीं न कहीं कोपनहेगन में दीखा था कि क्लाइमेट चेंज के गणना करने के तरीकों को भारत में विकसित करना होगा। वे अपने ढंग से आंकड़े लेते हैं, अपने ढंग से उसकी गणना करते हैं, अपने ढंग से वे एक आखिरी कन्क्लूजन

पर पहुंच जाते हैं और अपने ढंग से आखिर में वे एक धाराप्रवाह भाषण देते हुए हम पर चिपका देते हैं कि गाय के घास चबाने से कार्बन उत्सर्जन होता है, गाय के गोबर से कार्बन उत्सर्जन होता है। चूंकि हमारे पास कोई आर.एड.डी. नहीं है इसलिए हम मान लेते हैं कि हां, होता है। जब वे हमसे कहते हैं कि यहां चूल्हा जलने से इतना कार्बन उत्सर्जन हो रहा है, तो हम मान लेते हैं कि हां हो रहा है, भारत के अंदर बहुत ज्यादा हो रहा है। ऐसा केवल भारत के साथ ही नहीं है, सारे विश्व के विकासशील देशों के साथ है। चूंकि हमारे पास गणना करने का कोई मकेन्जिम नहीं है। इसलिए मैं मंत्री जी से आग्रह करूंगा कि भारत के अंदर इस पूरे कार्बन वर्ल्ड को समझने के लिए इसकी एक गणना करने की वैज्ञानिक पद्धति भारत में विकसित करनी चाहिए। विश्व को गणित हमने सिखाया। इसलिए अगर हम इस पूरी व्यवस्था के एक-एक पक्ष के ऊपर किस चीज से कार्बन उत्सर्जन हो रहा है, किस चीज से ऑक्सिजन आ रहा है, किससे कितना मिल रहा है और किससे कितना नहीं मिल रहा है और ऐसा करते समय मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि इसके अंदर कृपा करके जो सरकारी ढांचा है उसकी व्यवस्था में इनको न लगाया जाए। अगर हमें इसके अंदर लगाना है तो IIM, IIT और बाकी जो सारी संस्थाएं हैं - IIFM जितने भी संस्थान हैं, जो ऐसे संस्थान हैं, जिनमें उस विषय के अंदर ऊर्जावान नौजवान हैं उनको लगाएं और अगर उन्हें सही तरीका दिया तो वे निश्चित ही गणना कर सकेंगे। हम भारत में ऐसी व्यवस्था खड़ी करें कि जब हम 2010 के आखिर में मेक्सिको जाएं या आगे विश्व में अलग-अलग जगहों पर जाएं तो हम उनके आंकड़ों को काउंटर कर सकें और हम कह सकें कि आपकी गणना गलत है, सही गणना का तरीका यह है, हमने कच्चे आंकड़ों का संग्रह यह किया, इसकी गणना इस पद्धति से की है, इस पद्धति से गणना करने के बाद यह निष्कर्ष निकलता है, क्योंकि सारी पॉलिसीज का जो बेसिक है वह बेसिक निष्कर्षों के ऊपर निकला हुआ है।

आप देखिए, देखते ही देखते भारत को डम्पिंग यार्ड बना दिया गया। कहा जाता है कि आप हमारे यहां से कम्प्यूटर ले जाइए, क्योंकि आपके स्कूलों में कम्प्यूटर नहीं हैं। ऐसे कम्प्यूटर अब जिनकी एक साल, डेढ़ साल या दो साल की लाइफ बची है, जो आज से 20-30 साल पहले विकसित देशों के अंदर प्रयोग होते थे, वे सब हमारे यहां लाकर के रख दिए जाते हैं और देश के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के अंदर अलग-अलग प्रकार से एन.जी.ओज. और बाकी संस्थाएं जो योजनाएं चलाती और सारे कम्प्यूटर लग जाते हैं और बड़ी मुश्किल से भी वहां बिजली नहीं पहुंच रही है तो वहां कम्प्यूटर क्या लगाये जा रहे हैं। इस कारण वे सारे कम्प्यूटर कचरा घर बन जाते हैं, वे ठीक वैसे ही बन जाते हैं, क्योंकि भोपाल में मैं देखता हूं कि चाहे इज्जतिमा हो रहा हो या दुर्गा पूजा हो रही हो, करोड़ों की संख्या में लाखों कपड़े विदेशों से भारत आते हैं और बिक जाते हैं। भारत कपड़ों का डम्पिंग यार्ड बन रहा है, भारत ई-प्रोडक्ट का डम्पिंग यार्ड बन रहा है। डिस्मैंटल होने वाले सारे जहाज भारत के अंदर लाकर के डिस्मैंटल किए जाते हैं। मैं

खुद जाकर के एक-दो डिस्मैटलिंग यार्ड्स को देख चुका हूं, लोग गाड़ियां ले-लेकर आते हैं, वे पुरानी टाइप की कुर्सियां, पुराने टाइप की गद्दियां, पुराने टाइप के वाश बेसिन जो-जो उस जहाज में से निकलते हैं, वे सब निकाल-निकाल कर ले जाते हैं और वे कहीं प्रयुक्त नहीं होते हैं। मेरे कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि जो बहुत गहरा दिमाग लगा करके डवलप्ड नेशन के लोग पॉलिसी बनाते हैं, वे अपने इस प्रकार के सारे वेस्ट को भारत के अंदर डाल रहे हैं और केवल भारत में ही नहीं डाल रहे हैं, हमारे अतिरिक्त सारे विकासशील देश जहां इसकी आवश्यकता हो सकती है, वे इससे प्रभावित हो रहे हैं, इसलिए हमको इससे बचना चाहिए। कहीं न कहीं हमें पॉलिसी और गणना के अंदर परिवर्तन करने की जरूरत है, वरना हम धीरे-धीरे डम्पिंग यार्ड बनते जाएंगे और आज से पांच-सात साल बाद ये सारे लोग हमसे कहेंगे कि आप के यहां पर इतना waste है। हर दर्जे का मेडिकल waste आज शहरों के अतिरिक्त, नगरों व गांवों में विकसित होने लग गया है। यह केवल इसलिए हो रहा है कि हमने एक लाइन अडॉप्ट कर ली, हमको लगता है allopathy ही pathy है rest no pathy. हमको लगता ही नहीं है कि कोई होम्योपैथी भी है। हम हर दूसरी पैथी के डॉक्टर को कहते हैं कि वह झोलछाप डाक्टर है। अजीब तमाशा लगा रखा है। जो देश पांच सौ साल पहले ब्रश नहीं करते थे, ठीक से जीभ साफ नहीं कर रहे थे और हमको बोल रहे हैं कि आयुर्वेदिक ठीक पैथी नहीं है, होम्योपैथी ठीक पैथी नहीं है, नेचुरोपैथी ठीक पैथी नहीं है, लेकिन ठीक है, I disagree यानी जब कोई यह कहता है कि एलोपैथी की आलोचना हो रही है। इमरजेंसी में एलोपैथी से अच्छी कोई पैथी नहीं है, कुछ मामलों में इसके अलावा कोई substitute नहीं है, लेकिन अजीब पागलपन है, सारे अस्पतालों में से waste निकल रहा है, उस waste को ठीक से सम्भालने का कोई मैकेनिज्म नहीं है। उसी के कारण सारी नदियां प्रदूषित हो रही हैं, सारे तालाब प्रदूषित हो रहे हैं, सारा अंडरग्राउंड वाटर का रिसोर्स प्रभावित हो रहा है। ये सब पॉलिसी के अंदर परिवर्तन के कारण हो रहा है और जब तक हम पॉलिसी में परिवर्तन नहीं करेंगे, ग्लोबल वार्मिंग को भारत अकेला सम्भाल नहीं पाएगा। हमें इस पॉलिसी को सभी देशों के सामने लाना पड़ेगा, यानी हमें उनको अंतर्वोगत्वा समझाना पड़ेगा कि भैया हम जो मार्ग बता रहे हैं, यही रास्ता काम करने का है। होता यह है कि दो सौ, ढाई सौ साल हम लोग गुलाम रहे, तो हमें गोरी-गोरी चमड़ी और वैसी ही भाषा हमको इतना प्रभावित करती है कि हमको लगता है कि ये जो बोल रहे हैं, ये सत्य बोल रहे हैं और यह जो तेलगु में बोल रहा है यह ठीक नहीं बोल रहा है, यह जो असमिया में बोल रहा है यह ठीक नहीं बोल रहा है, यह जो हिन्दी में बोल रहा है यह ठीक नहीं बोल रहा है। भाषा के माध्यम से कंटेंट की गुणवत्ता नहीं बदलती है। कोई अपराध कर देने पर दुनिया की किसी भी भाषा में बोलिए, उससे अपराध का अर्थ नहीं बदलता। सत्य और अच्छी बात दुनिया की किसी भी भाषा में बोल देने से उसका अर्थ नहीं बदलता है।

मेरे कहने का तात्पर्य इतना ही है कि कितना असंवेदनशील विश्व का नेतृत्व करने वाला समाज है, उसका मैं एक ही उदाहरण आपके सामने देता हूँ। कोपनहेगन के अंदर टुआलू से आए हुए वनवासी दर-दर भटक रहे थे, एक-एक काउंटर पर जाकर कह रहे थे कि हमें बचाओ, हमें बचाओ। टुआलू न्यूजीलैंड के ईस्ट में और फिलीपींस के साउथ में टापुओं का एक छोटा-सा समूह है। वहां मुश्किल से तीन या साढ़े तीन हजार वनवासी रहते हैं। उनकी सोलह अक्षरों की भाषा है और वह चीख-चीख कर कह रहे थे कि भाई साहब 1.5 डिग्री टेम्परेचर अगर इस पृथ्वी पर बढ़ेगा, तो हम इस पृथ्वी पर ग्लोबल वार्मिंग के कारण विस्थापित होने वाले पहला समाज हैं। लेकिन कोई उनको सुनने को तैयार नहीं था। लोग बिना बताए एक दूसरे के कमरे में घुस रहे हैं और बातचीत करने के लिए जा रहे हैं और वहां वे लोग चिल्ला-चिल्ला कर कह रहे हैं कि साहब हमको सुन लो, हमको सुन लो, लेकिन कोई उनको सुन नहीं रहा है। ऐसे असंवेदनशील लोग इकट्ठा होकर कह रहे हैं, अरे संवेदना होनी चाहिए। जो टापू 1.5 डिग्री पर डूब जाएगा, जिसके लोगों को विस्थापित करके कहीं और ले जाना पड़ेगा, उनकी संवेदना को न समझते हुए, लोग दो डिग्री टेम्परेचर के ऊपर समझौता कर रहे हैं। कोपनहेगन समझौता 2.0 डिग्री पर है। यह अनिवार्य नहीं है, ऐच्छिक है, लेकिन वह समझौता 1.5 पर नहीं है, वह समझौता 2.0 डिग्री पर है। मेरे कहने का तात्पर्य इतना ही है कि जो ग्लोबल वार्मिंग की समस्या को समझने का सिस्टम है, इस सिस्टम के अंदर भारत को लीड लेनी चाहिए। क्योंकि बाकी जो लीड देने वाले देश हैं, वे असंवेदनशील हैं, वे आत्मकेन्द्रित हैं, उनको अपने अलावा कुछ सूझता ही नहीं है। उनको दिन भर यही लगता है कि मेरे लिए खाने का हो जाए, मेरे लिए पहनने का हो जाए, मेरे लिए नहाने का हो जाए, उनकी वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम् की कल्पना है ही नहीं। उन्होंने जब आंख खोली और उनकी सिविलाइजेशन ने जब जन्म लिया, तो उन्होंने सबसे पहले यह कहा कि देख भाई आदम और हौवा यह संसार जो है तेरे भोग के लिए बना है, तुम दोनों ऐश करो और अपने संसार में वृद्धि करो। यह बकरी तेरे खाने के लिए, यह पेड़ तेरे खाने के लिए, यह जंगल तेरे लिए है, ये नदियां तेरे लिए हैं, इन सब को तू उजाड़ दे, तेरे लिए सब कुछ है। हमने कहा,

'तेन त्यक्तेन भुंजीथा' लेकिन इसको जब तक आप भारत की गलियों में गायेंगे, तब तक इसका महत्व नहीं है।

शिकागो के धर्म सम्मेलन में एक सन्यासी खड़ा होकर जब दस मिनट का भाषण देता है, तो हजारों की संख्या में लोग उनके पीछे दौड़ने लगते हैं। मेरे कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि भारत के लोगों को ही विश्व के रंगमंच पर ग्लोबल वार्मिंग और कार्बन के सारे विषयों को लेकर नेतृत्व करना पड़ेगा और हमें उसमें अपनी बेसिक लाइन को

नहीं छोड़ना है। अगर यह फंड खड़ा करने वाला विषय आता है, तो इसके अंदर भी मुझे लगता है कि इसमें दो-तीन चीजें मेरे विवेक से जोड़ी जानी चाहिए, हम सारी चीजें जोड़ते हैं। हर प्रोडक्ट के साथ Pre and post environment cost जोड़ी जानी चाहिए। एक बार प्रोड्यूस करने के लिए आप कितना कार्बन उत्सर्जन कर रहे हैं, उसे कार की manufacturing cost में नहीं जोड़ेंगे। आप कार के अंदर मेटल की cost जोड़ रहे हैं, labour जोड़ रहे हैं और इंवेस्टमेंट की बाकी चीजें जोड़ रहे हैं, लेकिन environment cost नहीं जोड़ रहे हैं, pre-production environment cost किसी भी प्रोडक्ट के साथ जोड़ी जानी चाहिए। एक पेन को पैदा करने में कितना कार्बन उत्सर्जन हो रहा है, आपको लग रहा है कि तीस पैसे का हो रहा है, तो उसमें तीस पैसे जोड़ दीजिए। उसकी MRP के अंदर उसे आने दीजिए और उसी तरह post production cost भी जोड़ी जानी चाहिए। आपने एक कार बनाकर सड़क पर चला दी। वह कार दस साल या बीस साल तक कार्बन उत्सर्जन कर रही है, वह कार्बन उत्सर्जन कैसे मिटिगेट होगा, कैसे उसका समझौता होगा, उसका कोई माध्यम नहीं है, कोई तरीका नहीं है। इसका यही तरीका है कि हमें उपभोग को कम करना है, क्योंकि पूरी civilization भोग वाली हो गई है, मैं कभी-कभी सोचता हूँ कि हम कितने ज्यादा AC में रहने के आदी हो गए हैं और हमारी Non-AC life की कल्पना खत्म हो गई है। आज भारत का कितना ऐसा हिस्सा है, जो Non-AC में रहता है। अगर सारे विश्व के लोग AC में रहने लग जाएंगे, इतनी विद्युत पैदा करने के लिए कितनी कार्बन उत्सर्जन होने लग जाएगा, तो कुछ करने की जरूरत नहीं है और दो डिग्री या दस डिग्री तक टेम्प्रेचर बढ़ जाएगा। क्योंकि वहां इस समय लीड करने वाला आदमी नहीं है, बल्कि एक गरीब आदमी है, एक पिछड़ा है, वनवासी है और वह झुग्गी बस्ती में रह रहा है तथा वह अपनी बात को कह नहीं सकता है, बस इतनी-सी बात है। अगर हमारे यहां रात को लाइट चली जाए और AC बंद हो जाए, तो दूसरे दिन ही हल्ला मच जाता है। वह इसलिए हो रहा है। सब मामलों में Pre and post production cost जोड़ी जानी चाहिए, चाहे environment cost कहिए या चाहे जिस किसी cost base पर हो। यह फंड कलैक्शन एक बहुत ही नायाब तरीका हो सकता है, क्योंकि ऐसा करके हम consumerism को कम कर सकते हैं, उपभोक्ताओं को अपने आप कष्ट होगा। जैसे tobacco का consumption है, cigarettes की consumption है, आप इसकी cost बढ़ाकर consumption कम करिए। हमें कोई चिंता नहीं है, जिनको पीना है, पीजिए। यदि पांच रुपए की cigarette 12 रुपए में मिलती है, फिर भी पीजिए, एटोमेटिकली वह धीरे-धीरे कम होने लगती है। मेरे कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि इसमें कहीं न कहीं Pre and post production cost जोड़ी जानी चाहिए।

मेरा दूसरा प्वाइंट यह है कि जैसे हम फाइनेंस के अंदर balance sheet बनाते हैं, वैसे ही environment की भी balance sheet बननी चाहिए। यह हर व्यवस्था, व्यक्ति, संस्था का होना चाहिए। एक ऑफिस है, यह संगठनात्मक स्ट्रक्चर है, उसका 12 मंजिला भवन है। इसकी balance sheet क्यों नहीं बननी चाहिए? इसके अंदर

जो power consumption हो रहा है और हम power को प्रोड्यूस करने के लिए जितना मुझे कार्बन उत्सर्जन करना पड़ रहा है, मैं उस कार्बन उत्सर्जन को उसके अंदर जोड़ दूँ, तो अंततोगत्वा यह मालूम पड़ेगा कि इस बिल्डिंग की, इस साल की environment balance sheet क्या है। अगर मान लीजिए मैंने उस बिल्डिंग के ओनर होने के नाते कहीं पर जाकर दो हजार पेड़ लगाए हैं, तो मैं उसको compensate करूँगा, अपने उससे उसको बैलेंस करूँगा। मैं carbon trading मार्ग के विपरीत हूँ। carbon trading एक महापाप जैसा काम है। मैं पहले भी कह चुका हूँ कि मैं पाप करूँगा, आप पुण्य करिए। साल के आखिर में, मैं अपने पाप आपके पुण्य से खरीद लूँगा और दोनों मिल जाएंगे।

आज विकसित और विकासशील देशों के अंदर एक हौवा खड़ा हुआ है कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा पैसे ले लो। अरे भाई, आप समझ नहीं रहे हैं कि विकसित देश आपको carbon trading के नाम पर अपने यहां का सारा कचरा भेज रहे हैं। वे आपसे कह रहे हैं कि आप पेड़ लगाओ। अरे, तुम क्यों नहीं पेड़ लगाते, तुम्हें क्या हो गया है, G-7 nations तुम करो इस काम को। कल यहां पर जो स्वाभिमान से सशक्त, सम्पन्न बात चल रही थी, मैं उस पर नहीं जाना चाहता हूँ, लेकिन हम जिस ढंग से foreign delegation से बात करते हैं, तो ऐसे झुक जाते हैं, ऐसे गिर जाते हैं, हमें ऐसा लगता है कि जैसे हम अभी गिरने वाले हैं। अरे भाई, ऐसा क्या आसमान उलट गया है। आखिर China प्रमुख चौराहे के ऊपर टैंक चला लेता है, लेकिन विश्व का सबसे बड़ा शासक उससे बात करने जाता है ताकत के सामने दुनिया झुकती है। ताकतवर हो जाएंगे, तो सब कुछ हो जाएगा। कहने का तात्पर्य इतना ही है कि हमें ई-बैलेंस शीट बनानी चाहिए। ई-प्रोफिट एंड लॉस अकाउंट हर व्यवस्था में खड़ा होना चाहिए, हर संस्था में होना चाहिए, चाहे वह सोशल संस्था हो, चाहे नॉन प्रोफिट मेकिंग ऑर्गेनाइजेशन हो, चाहे प्रोफिट मेकिंग ऑर्गेनाइजेशन हो, अगर वह पॉवर कंजप्शन कर रहा है, अगर वह कहीं पर पॉल्यूशन खड़ा कर रहा है, एक्सेप्ट ह्यूमन बींग, मनुष्य है, उसको मत काउंट कीजिए, क्योंकि वह अनिवार्य है, वैसे ही जानवर है, आप उनको कैसे काउंट करेंगे, लेकिन अपने लाइफ स्टाइल के कारण यदि उसके अंदर पॉवर कंजप्शन हो रहा है, अगर कहीं पर लाइफ स्टाइल के कारण कार्बन उत्सर्जन हो रहा है, तो मुझे लगता है कि धीरे-धीरे उसकी बैलेंस शीट बनाने की एक व्यवस्था खड़ी होनी चाहिए। कार्बन की एकाउंटिंग नहीं होने से ही यह झंझट है। पूरी व्यवस्था के अंदर हिसाब ही नहीं है कि फाइल चल क्यों नहीं रही है। जो देखो वह यही कारण बताता रहता है कि फलाने सेक्रेट्री ने उसको लिख दिया, उसने दूसरे को लिख दिया, उसने उसको लिख दिया। 63 साल हो गए हैं, अगर इस देश के अंदर स्कूल नहीं हैं, तो इसके लिए कौन जवाबदेह है? व्यवस्था ठीक नहीं है तो कौन जवाबदेह है? अगर स्वर्ण चतुर्भुज नहीं बनता है और ईस्ट-वेस्ट, नॉर्थ-वेस्ट कॉरीडोर और गांव की सड़कें आजादी के साथ बन जाती तो मुझे बताइए कि पचास साल के अंदर

टोटल वियर एंड टियर कितना बचता? पचास साल के अंदर अनावश्यक फ्यूल जला-जलाकर आपने टोटल कितना कार्बन उत्सर्जन कर दिया? यह केवल इसलिए कर दिया, क्योंकि उस विषय के अंदर हमारी पॉलीसीज गलत थीं। यदि हर मामले में बैलेंस शीट बनेगी तो हम बहुत जल्दी किसी चीज को चैक कर लेंगे। हर साल के अंत में ही चैक कर लेंगे कि देखिए, आपका कार्बन उत्सर्जन ज्यादा हो रहा है, लॉस ज्यादा हो रहा है, अब आप प्रोफिट (आक्सीजन) पैदा करने के लिए कुछ न कुछ कीजिए। मुझे लगता है कि इसके अंदर कुछ करने की जरूरत है। इसी के आधार पर ई-टैक्स और ई-बोनस भी लगाया जाना चाहिए। ई-टैक्स और ई-बोनस अंततोगत्वा कभी न कभी हमारी टैक्सेशन प्रणाली का हिस्सा बनेगा। आज नहीं बनेगा, दो साल बाद बनेगा, चार साल बाद बनेगा। ई-टैक्स जरूर लगना चाहिए, क्योंकि जब तक हम टैक्स को महत्वपूर्ण नहीं बनाएंगे, तब तक व्यवस्था ठीक नहीं होगी।

अंत में इतना ही कहता हूँ कि अगर इस ग्लोबल वार्मिंग का कोई आन्सर है, अगर इस कार्बन उत्सर्जन से विश्व लड़ रहा है और इसका कोई अंतिम उत्तर है और किसी एक के पास है, वह यह है कि यदि किसी को आपत्ति हो कि इसे वैदिक वे कहने में, तो मैं कह दूंगा कि हिंदू वे कह दो - वह कहेगा कि हिंदू वे कहने में आपत्ति है, सांप्रदायिक है, तो मैं कह दूंगा कि गांधियन वे कह दो, वह कहेगा कि मुझे गांधियन वे कहने में आपत्ति है, तो मैं कहूंगा भैया, लोहिया वे कह दो, वह कहेगा इसमें भी आपत्ति है, तो मैं कहूंगा कि दीनदयाल वे कह दो, वह कहेगा कि नहीं, मैं इसको तिलक वे कहूंगा, तो मैं कहूंगा कि आप यह कह दो, कोई भी नाम दे दो, इस देश की जो वे ऑफ लाइफ है, वही इस विश्व को कार्बन उत्सर्जन से बचा सकती है। हमने कहा है, तेन त्यक्तेन भुंजीथा, हम उस विचार के प्रतिनिधि हैं जो कहते हैं ॐ द्यौः शांति, अंतरिक्ष शांति। ऐसा कौन कहता है? भारत का सिपाही कारगिल में लड़ता है तो उसका हृदय और उसकी जांघ काटने में लोगों को मजा आता है। यह सिविलाइजेशन है और हम कह रहे हैं ॐ द्यौः शांति, अंतरिक्ष शांति, वनस्पतयः शांति। यह सिविलाइजेशन है। यह सिविलाइजेशन आगे जाकर इस देश को नहीं, विश्व को ग्लोबल वार्मिंग से बचा सकती है। इसलिए हमें इसको विकसित करना पड़ेगा और विश्व के धरातल पर जाकर लोगों को समझाना पड़ेगा कि *This is the right way, follow this*. आप विश्व के रंगमंच पर लीडर के रूप में कहिए, रेंगते और मिमियाते हुए मत कहिए। हम सोना बेच रहे हैं, धूल नहीं बेच रहे हैं। जब सोना बेच रहे हैं, तो हम टाइम टैस्टिड सिविलाइजेशन की बात कर रहे हैं, विश्व की कई दूसरी सिविलाइजेशन को अभी पांच सौ, सात सौ, हजार, दो हजार साल से ज्यादा नहीं हुए हैं। हम टाइम टैस्टिड सिविलाइजेशन हैं। हम कह रहे हैं कि हम जो कह रहे हैं, वह सही है, हम इसके अंदर रहेंगे। हमें छोटी-छोटी चीजों को उठाना चाहिए, बहुत बड़ी बातों का महत्व नहीं है। जैसे जब मैं कॉलेजों के अंदर जाता हूँ तो छात्रों से कहता हूँ कि आप एक साल तक जींस पर

प्रेस मत करो। क्या आप बिना प्रैस किया हुआ जींस पहन सकते हो? यूं भी जींस पर प्रैस नहीं करनी पड़ती है। एक कॉलेज की छात्रा पूछती है कि इससे क्या होगा? मैंने कहा कि इससे यह होगा कि अगर तुम एक साल तक जींस पर प्रैस किये बिना पहनोगे, ऐसे ही अच्छे से नीटली सुखा दोगे या मां से कहोगे की ठीक से सुखा दीजिए, तो अठारह किलो कार्बन उत्सर्जन नहीं होगा। एक व्यक्ति के रूप में तो तुम इतना कर ही सकते हो। मेरे हिसाब से इस देश के अंदर जो अठारह किलो कार्बन उत्सर्जन होना है, वह नहीं होगा। इसके लिए हर आदमी को कंटीव्यूट करना होगा। यह गोवर्द्धन का पर्वत है। कृष्ण की छोटी उंगली लगी थी, लेकिन इसमें सारे लोगों की ताकत लगेगी, वरना वही होगा, जो भारत के साथ हो रहा है कि जो करेगी, सरकार करेगी, सड़क सरकार बनाएगी, कश्मीर में शांति सरकार लाएगी, दुनिया में सारी झंझटों का निबटारा सरकार करेगी, देश की सीमाएं सरकार सुरक्षित रखेगी और हम क्या करेंगे? हमारी मुंह पर कपड़ा बांधते हुए फोटो छपेगी। जब गाजा पट्टी के अन्दर फोटो छपते थे, तो मैं कहता था कि इसे मत छापो, इसका spread effect होने वाला है। कालान्तर में हमें spread effect देखने को मिल रहा है। आज कश्मीर में और आगे कश्मीर के बाद हिन्दुस्तान के कोने-कोने में देखने को मिलेगा। यह spread effect अच्छी बातों का भी होता है और बुरी बातों का भी होता है। गांधी जी गलत नहीं थे। गांधी जी खाने-पीने, रहने-जीने की जो life बताते थे, वे गलत नहीं कहते थे। मेरे कहने का तात्पर्य इतना ही है कि अगर हम इन सब बातों के ऊपर ध्यान देंगे और इन सब बातों को आगे ले जाएंगे, तो मुझे लगता है कि ग्लोबल वार्मिंग को लेकर हम जो फंड develop करने जा रहे हैं, हम उसको खड़ा भी कर पाएंगे और उसे खड़ा करके ठीक से utilize भी कर पाएंगे। आपने मुझे बोलने का समय दिया, इसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक (उत्तर प्रदेश) : धन्यवाद उपसभापति महोदय। आज सदन में बहुत गम्भीर विषय पर, जो भारत ही नहीं, पूरी दुनिया के लिए गम्भीर चिन्ता का विषय है, हम चर्चा कर रहे हैं। हमारे विद्वान साथी, जो अर्थशास्त्री रहे हैं, धीरे-धीरे उनका दूसरा रूप भी पर्यावरणविद् के रूप में सामने आ रहा है। ऐसे साथी, श्री एन.के. सिंह जी, को भी हम इस सदन में धन्यवाद ज्ञापित करना चाहेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जयराम रमेश साहब तो इस समय लीडर हैं ही। सभी लोग इनसे खुश हैं, इनके साथी, जो बाईं तरफ बेंचों पर बैठते हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री कलराज मिश्र) : दोनों पर्यावरणविद् हैं।

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : आज मैं "पर्यावरण अनुकूलन एवं राहत कोष (EAMF)" के बारे में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूं। कार्बन उत्सर्जन से भारत सहित पूरी दुनिया में पर्यावरण के लिए जो चुनौती उत्पन्न हुई है, उसके लिए इसके द्वारा एक ऐसी निधि की व्यवस्था करना है, जिससे हम पर्यावरण को संरक्षित कर सकें और मानव जीवन एवं मानव सभ्यता को सुरक्षित रख सकें। लेकिन इसके परिप्रेक्ष्य में कार्बन उत्सर्जन के बारे में, पर्यावरण से छेड़छाड़ के

बारे में ज्यादा न बात कहते हुए, क्योंकि हमारे साथी इस पर बहुत कुछ कह चुके हैं, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मानव सभ्यता ने जैसे-जैसे विकास किया, जैसे-जैसे विज्ञान के चमत्कार हमारे बीच आए, हमने प्रकृति से छेड़छाड़ करना शुरू किया। मौसम को उलटने के लिए हमने मशीनें बना डालीं। आज कितनी भी गर्मी हो, अगर 48 डिग्री temperature हो, तो भी भड़िया कम्बल ओढ़ते हैं। कुदरत ने, भगवान ने, प्राकृतिक व्यवस्था ने जाड़ा, गर्मी और बरसात बनाए, लेकिन हमने उनको उलटने का काम किया। धीरे-धीरे इसका प्रचलन इतना अधिक हुआ कि गर्मी है, तो ठंड होगी और ठंड है तो हीटर चलेगा, तो हमारा कमरा गर्म रहेगा। उसका परिणाम यह हुआ कि प्राकृतिक व्यवस्थाएं छिन्न-भिन्न होने लगीं। चूंकि भारत विकासशील देश है, हमने इस ओर सोचना शुरू किया। लेकिन हमारे सोचने के साथ ही वे देश, जो पूरी दुनिया में अपनी दादागिरी चला रहे हैं, जो पूरी दुनिया में स्थापित हो चुके हैं, जो पूरी दुनिया में अपने को साबित कर चुके हैं कि सबसे बड़े संत वे ही हैं, उन्होंने पूरी दुनिया का सम्मेलन बुलाकर यह साबित करना शुरू किया कि जो लोग पर्यावरण से छेड़छाड़ कर रहे हैं, वे लोग उसमें अपनी हिस्सेदारी दें और बराबर-बराबर का खर्च हो। हमने अखबारों में पढ़ा, प्रायः निकलता रहता है कि दूसरी दुनिया के देश, जिनके पास क्षमताएं अधिक हैं, वे छोटे देशों के ऊपर, विकासशील देशों के ऊपर यह दबाव बनाते हैं कि आप पर उतनी ही जिम्मेदारी है, जितनी हमारी है। लेकिन जहां तक मेरी समझ में आता है, भारत को इस बात को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलनों में दमदार तरीके से रखना चाहिए कि भारत चुनौतियों से निबटने के लिए तैयार रहा है और इस मुद्दे पर भी हमेशा तैयार रहेगा। हमारे साथी, दवे साहब अभी बता रहे थे कि भारत में जो भी उत्पादन की जाने वाली वस्तुएं हैं, जो कार्बन उत्सर्जन करती हैं, उन पर हम कोई ऐसे टैक्स लगाएं कि उनके प्रयोग के बाद टैक्स न लेना पड़े। उत्पादन के साथ ही, क्रय करने के साथ ही, हम उन पर permanent रूप से कोई ऐसा टैक्स लगा दें कि जो जितना कार्बन उत्सर्जन करेगा, उसी मात्रा में उसे कर अदायगी करनी पड़ेगी। और हम एक ऐसा फंड का निर्माण करें, ऐसे कर ढांचे का निर्माण करें कि आने वाली चुनौतियों से निपट सकें और अपने पर्यावरण को अपनी प्रकृति को बचा सकें। साथ ही साथ मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा, जब भी विश्व में ऐसे सम्मेलन आयोजित होते हैं, तो भारत को अपनी बात मज़बूती से रखनी चाहिए कि हम तो पर्यावरण से लड़ने के लिए तैयार हैं, आप बताइए, सबसे ज्यादा कार्बन का उत्सर्जन तो आपने ही किया है, आपने ही सबसे ज्यादा प्रकृति के साथ छेड़छाड़ की है, प्राकृतिक व्यवस्थाओं को सबसे ज्यादा आपने ही तोड़ा-मरोड़ा है, तो आप हमें कितना टैक्स देने जा रहे हैं? अगर आप योगदान करोगे तो भारत योगदान में किसी भी कदम पर आपसे पीछे नहीं रहेगा।

ज्यादा वक्त न लेते हुए, मैं एक ऐसे बिल का समर्थन करना चाहूंगा, जो वास्तव में पूरे भारत ही नहीं पूरी दुनिया में मानवता के लिए लाया गया है। मैं एक ऐसे बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ और श्री एन.के. सिंह जी का आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ कि वह एक ऐसे प्रस्ताव को लेकर आए हैं, जो पूरे भारत ही नहीं पूरी दुनिया के लिए चुनौती बन चुका है। जय हिन्द, जय भारत।

श्री समन पाठक (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, धन्यवाद। माननीय सदस्य जो रैज़ोल्यूशन लेकर आए हैं, मैं उसका पुरजोर समर्थन करता हूँ। मेरे माननीय पूर्ववक्ता ने विस्तार से सभी बातें बताई हैं कि एक ऐसा सेंट्रल फंडिंग सिस्टम हो, जिसके तहत हम लोग पर्यावरण से सही ढंग से निपट सकें। यह जो प्रस्ताव लाया गया है, मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूँ। प्रस्तावक ने अपना रैज़ोल्यूशन रखते वक्त जो भी बात कही है, वह बिल्कुल सही है कि आज की परिस्थिति में पर्यावरण की समस्या बहुत गंभीर रूप धारण कर रही है। दुनिया के कई विकसित देश (डेवलप्ड कंट्रीज़) बाकी देशों पर दबाव बनाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। पूरे विश्व में जलवायु परिवर्तन के लिए जिम्मेवार ग्रीन हाउस गैस का आज के पर्यावरण के ऊपर जो प्रभाव पड़ रहा है, मुख्य रूप से इसकी जिम्मेवार डेवलप्ड कंट्रीज़ हैं। आज अगर हम ग्रीन हाउस गैस के आंकड़ों को देखें तो हम लोग ग्रीन हाउस गैस का जितना उत्पादन करते हैं, वह मिनिमम है। जो देश ग्रीन हाउस गैस का ज्यादातर उत्पादन कर रहे हैं, और जिसके कारण आज पूरी पृथ्वी को संकटमय स्थिति का सामना करना पड़ रहा है, वही देश दूसरे देशों को मँडेट कर रहे हैं कि आप अपने पर्यावरण में अमुक-अमुक सुधार करें। पर्यावरण के विषय पर जब भी कोई अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन होता है, वही देश इस बात पर सबसे अधिक प्रेशर डालते हैं, जो स्वयं इसके लिए जिम्मेवार हैं। जिन डेवलप्ड कंट्रीज़ के कारण दुनिया भयावह परिस्थिति की ओर जा रही है, वही रैज़ोल्यूशन हमें लाकर बोलते हैं कि तुम यह करो, वह करो। लेकिन दुःख की बात यह है कि हम भी अपनी सार्वभौमिकता को तिलांजलि देकर उनके एजेंडा को मान लेते हैं और उस पर साइन करके आ जाते हैं कि ठीक है, हम G.D.P. का 2% से अधिक नहीं बढ़ाएंगे अथवा यह करेंगे, वह करेंगे। यह बड़े दुर्भाग्य की बात है।

माननीय पाठक जी सही कह रहे थे कि आज दुनिया के सामने हमारा देश एक कृषि प्रधान देश है। हमारे भारत में जो हरियाली है, पर्यावरण को किस तरह से बचाना है, वह जानते हैं और हम लोग परम्परा से ही इसका रख-रखाव करते आ रहे हैं। हम लोग हमेशा ही पर्यावरण संबंधी जो भी विषय हैं, उसमें यह हरियाली है, नदी-नाले आदि हैं, इन सबके साथ भारतवर्ष की जो भौगोलिक स्थिति है, यहां का जो ट्रेडिशन है और यहां का जो कल्चर है, ये सब हम लोगों के नेचर से मिले-जुले हैं। अपने नेचर के साथ मिलकर ही हम लोग आगे बढ़ते हैं, इसलिए यदि आज पर्यावरण संरक्षण के लिए अगर कोई सबसे ज्यादा गंभीर है, सबसे ज्यादा कंसर्न्ड है तो हमारा देश है। इसलिए हमें विश्व के दूसरे देशों को बताना चाहिए कि इस पर्यावरण का संरक्षण कैसे किया जाए, वे आज हमारे एजेंडे पर बात करें। कोई भी इंटरनेशनल सेमिनार में हम किसी के, यू.एस. के या किसी अन्य डेवलप्ड कंट्री के, एजेंडे पर हम क्या बात करें, हम अपने एजेंडे पर बोलेंगे कि आप हमसे सीखो, हमारे देश से यह सीखें कि इसमें क्या करना है और पर्यावरण को कैसे बचाना है।

4.00 P.M.

सर, माननीय सदस्य जो रिजोल्यूशन लाये हैं, उसमें इस वक्त यह सबसे सही होगा। आगे पर्यावरण के संरक्षण के लिए हमारा अपना एक फंडिंग सिस्टम का जो उन्होंने सुझाव दिया, मुझे लगता है कि सरकार को इसे मान लेना चाहिए। आने वाले दिनों में इस रिजोल्यूशन को, हालांकि आज यह एक व्यक्तिगत या प्राइवेट रिजोल्यूशन है, सरकारी रिजोल्यूशन के हिसाब से मान लिया जाए। मैं इसका पुरजोर समर्थन करते हुए अपना वक्तव्य समाप्त करता हूँ। धन्यवाद।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री कलराज मिश्र) : श्री आर.सी. सिंह। ...उपस्थित नहीं हैं। श्री राजनीति प्रसाद।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : महोदय, सबसे पहले तो मैं श्री एन.के. सिंह जी को, जो पहले एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन में भी थे और अभी हमारे यहां सदस्य हैं, धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने एक बहुत गम्भीर रिजोल्यूशन यहां दिया है। Apart from other considerations, मैं उसका समर्थन करता हूँ।

सर, यह पर्यावरण का जो विषय है वह आदमी के जीवन से जुड़ा हुआ है। कभी-कभी मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि हम जिस जगह में जी रहे हैं, अगर वहां का पर्यावरण स्वच्छ नहीं है तो वह आदमी के अन्दर डिजीज़ पैदा करता है, बीमारियां पैदा कर देता है। वह ऐसी बीमारियां पैदा करता है कि फिर उसका कोई उपाय नहीं निकलता है, इसलिए पर्यावरण के लिए हम लोगों को अलग से कुछ करना चाहिए। जैसा श्री एन.के. सिंह जी ने कहा, सर, गांवों में आप जाकर देखिए। हमारा देश गांवों का देश है, यह शहरों का देश ज्यादा नहीं है। वहां लोग मॉर्निंग में शौच के लिए बाहर जाते हैं। एक बार हम कहीं दौरे पर गए थे, तो वहां हमें एक वैज्ञानिक मिले। उन्होंने कहा कि अगर किसी गांव में एक आदमी भी खुले में शौच करता है तो वहां का पर्यावरण प्रदूषित हो जाता है। आप कोई ऐसा गांव बताइए जहां पर ऐसा नहीं होता है। अभी जैसा इन्होंने कहा कि इसके बारे में गांवों में पंचायत लेवल पर हम लोगों को कुछ ऐसा करना चाहिए कि पर्यावरण के संरक्षण के लिए उनको भी कुछ अधिकार देना चाहिए, उनको भी फंडिंग देनी चाहिए, ताकि अगर कहीं शौचालय बनना है तो वहां शौचालय बनाएं, लोग खुले में शौच नहीं करें। इसके बारे में हमें विचार करना पड़ेगा। वहां यह एक समस्या है। उन्होंने कहा था कि अगर एक भी गांव में एक भी जगह पर इस तरह से खुले में शौच होता है, तो उससे पूरा पर्यावरण प्रदूषित हो जाता है।

तो क्या हम 63 सालों में भी ऐसी व्यवस्था नहीं कर पाये? आज भी गांवों में हमारी जो माताएं और बहनें हैं या हमारे जो लोग हैं, वे पर्यावरण का क्या खयाल करते हैं? रमेश जी वहां चले गये और वहां क्या-क्या करके आ गये, लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान में पर्यावरण की जो समस्या है, उसके बारे में इन्होंने क्या किया? हिन्दुस्तान में आप कर सकते

हैं। आप एक दिन में कानून बना सकते हैं। गांवों में महिलाओं, बुजुर्गों और लोगों के लिए आप पर्यावरण का निर्देश कर सकते हैं। आपने किया, लेकिन करने के बाद क्या हुआ? आपने तो पैसा शौचालय बनाने के लिए भेजा, वह शौचालय बनाने में यूज नहीं हुआ। अगर बनाया भी गया तो घटिया तरीके का बना दिया गया। अगर बनाया भी तो उसका ठीक ढंग से इस्तेमाल नहीं हुआ।

सर, मैं एक दौरे पर गया था। मैं मंत्री जी से कहना चाहूंगा कि बिहार में एक जगह है, लखीसराय, आपने नाम सुना होगा। मैं जब वहां मीटिंग कर रहा था तो लोगों ने कहा कि बगल में किउल नदी बहती है। उन्होंने कहा कि वह बहुत बढ़िया नदी है, लेकिन 50 वर्षों से हमें मीठा पानी नहीं मिला है। यानी, चापाकल से भी मीठा पानी नहीं आता है। यह क्या होगा? हम लोगों को तो मिनरल वॉटर पीने की आदत हो गई है। यहां भी हम लोग मिनरल वॉटर पीते हैं और ट्रेन में भी मिनरल वॉटर ही पीते हैं। पहले ट्रेनों में "पानी पॉड" होते थे, जो बाल्टी में पानी लाकर पिलाते थे। वे कहते थे, "लीजिए, पानी पीजो, पानी पीजो।" अब तो कोई भी मिनरल वॉटर 10-12 रुपए से कम में मिलता ही नहीं है। जो मिनरल वॉटर होता है, उसमें तो कोई जाता ही नहीं है। सर, समस्या यह है कि पहले तो जंगल को उखाड़ो और उसके बाद जंगल लगाओ। सारे जंगल उखड़ गए, खत्म हो गए। ये जंगल उखड़ जाते हैं और लगते हैं, तो पर्यावरण की यह एक समस्या है। मैंने जो बात कही है, वह remote village में जाकर कहा है। इसके बारे में जरूर विचार करना चाहिए।

मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हूं कि आप इस पर ध्यान नहीं देंगे तो पर्यावरण को आप चाहे कितना भी खूबसूरत बना लें, आप चाहे कितना भी फंडिंग कर लें, लेकिन अगर यह समस्या नहीं सुधरेगी तो हमारे खयाल से बहुत कुछ नहीं हो पाएगा। इसलिए पर्यावरण की जो समस्या है और इसके लिए एन.के. सिंह साहब ने जो बिल लाया है, मैं चाहता हूं कि ऐसा इंतजाम किया जाए जिससे लोगों को राहत मिले और फिर हम लोग पर्यावरण के लिए आगे अच्छा सोच सकें। धन्यवाद।

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Nominated): Sir, I rise to broadly endorse the approach indicated in the Resolution moved by my old college friend and present Rajya Sabha companion, Shri N.K. Singh. But, as has been indicated by earlier speakers, we will be able to operationalise such a resolution only if the Government were to accept it in principle and convert it into a Government resolution. I am a bit concerned as to whether the concerns of the present Government and the immediately preceding one, totally match the requirement of what needs to be done to operationalise the broad approach indicated by Shri N.K. Singh. We are very fortunate that at this moment, we

have with us here in the House two key Ministers who have been concerned with this issue - one, the former Minister of Science and Technology who was responsible for the National Policy on Climate Change, and, second, the present Minister for Environment and Forests. Sir, it is only if we are able to bring the proposals made by Shri N.K. Singh within the framework of the National Policy on Climate Change and adapt that policy in accordance with the realities of our country, plus ensure that the endeavours of present Minister of Environment and Forests to access the third source of funds that was mentioned by Shri N.K. Singh, namely, external financing, meet the requirements of our country, that the intentions that are expressed in this Resolution will be translated into effective action on the ground. And, on both these considerations, I think, a great deal more needs to be done. First and the foremost, Sir, the National Policy on Climate Change does not give adequate space for the point that was being stressed by Shri Sudarsana Natchiappan that there is not an adequate involvement of local communities in ensuring that action is taken in communities, in villages, at the grassroots to combat (a) climate change itself, and (b) the consequences of climate change. This inadequate attention to the delivery mechanism for any fund, including the fund proposed by Shri Nand Kishore Singh, is really at the root of all the problems that our country faces.

To illustrate how serious is this issue, may I draw the attention of the House to the fact that in 1994, when the total Central Government outlay on social sector and anti-poverty programmes was no more than Rs. 7,600 crore, India's position on the UN Human Development Index was 134. Over the next 15 years, at least in nominal terms, the Central Government outlays on social sector and poverty alleviation programmes rose by a factor of 15 and, is today of the order of Rs. 1,35,000 crore compared to Rs. 7,600 crore just fifteen or sixteen years ago. And, yet, what is India's position on the UN Human Development Index. Tragically, exactly the same as it was fifteen years ago, it is 134. And, indeed, the immediate consequence of economic reforms resulting in larger Government revenues, and, therefore, larger outlays on social sector and anti-

poverty programmes, was that in 1997, we actually sank from position 134 to position 138. So, in these circumstances, it is abundantly clear to me, as it should be to the House and to the country and it should be the central concern of our nation, that outcomes bear no relationship whatsoever to outlays, and, that is simply because we

continue to be governed by a totally colonial mentality which believes that the service to which Shri N.K. Singh belonged, the Indian Administrative Service, and the one to which I too belonged, that is, the Indian Foreign Service, that these are models for the delivery of development. They are simply not. They were inventions of the colonial authority for collecting revenue and maintaining law and order, not for the delivery of development. Although at the start of Independence, we believed that we could adapt that steel frame to be able to deliver development, the ugly truth is that the steel frame is rusted. It has proved itself to be an iron frame, totally incapable of doing the job of development. And, therefore, the only way of delivering any kind of development, including the fund that is referred to in this Resolution, would be to shift away from bureaucratic delivery mechanisms to relying entirely on communities which are empowered with functions, finances and functionaries to do the job for themselves.

The present National Policy on Climate Change vaguely acknowledges that this might be so but is not adequately elaborated in this regard. And the excuse always made is - and I stress that it is an excuse because I have heard that excuse again this morning during the Question Hour - that Panchayati Raj is the responsibility of States; so beyond reminding them that there is a Constitutional obligation, there is nothing further that we can do.

I don't accept this at all, for one, all Centrally-Sponsored Schemes, including the guidelines that will be drawn up when Shri N.K. Singh's proposal becomes a reality, are drawn up by the Central Government. And, why, if we can impose a series of guidelines on the States, can we not also ensure the centrality of the local bodies, which are elected, for the implementation of these programmes? In any case, as against a few hundred civil servants, we have 32 lakh elected representatives in all these local bodies. If only we empower them, if only we ensure that moneys being sent from this fund proposed by Shri N.K. Singh or any other fund were to directly or indirectly reach the treasury accounts and the bank accounts of these elected local bodies, we would be able to, at

least, ensure a measure of success instead of finding that Shri N.K. Singh's money for this fund suffers exactly the same fate as all other money sent from Delhi, which is 85 paise on

administrative costs and perhaps 15 paise reaching the intended beneficiaries. So, first and foremost, I would say is that as Government converts the good intentions of Shri N.K. Singh into a really lively Centrally-sponsored scheme, there must be an absolute insistence that the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution, and in so far as tribal areas are concerned, the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 are strictly conformed to. Without such attention to the delivery mechanism, any kind of fund, including the fund now proposed, will simply not serve a constructive purpose. So, I would urge, Sir, the present Minister for Environment and Forest to revisit along with his current colleague, the Minister of Science and Technology, the policy that was elaborated by the previous Government and try to see how it can be given teeth by making the local communities, through the Gram Sabhas and local institutions of governance, through the Panchayats and in the urban areas, the municipalities and other urban local bodies, responsible within the community itself as also capable within the community itself to deal with these questions of environmental degradation which are so intimately connected to development issues.

The second lacuna, if I may say so, in Shri N.K. Singh's proposal is that while it does recognize the need for external financing, it has not, I think, adequately explained how such external financing might be made available globally in an equitable manner. There is reference in the remarks made by Shri N.K. Singh while moving this Resolution as to the scale on which funding would be required. It runs into billions of dollars; it runs, indeed, into hundreds of billions of dollars, but hundred of billions of dollars over a period of time. What is immediately required is the means to ensure that any form of development that takes place henceforth is based on the most environment-friendly technology that is available. Twenty one years ago, Sir, I stress this, almost a generation ago, one of the more enlightened Prime Ministers of India, a young man called Rajiv Gandhi, led the Indian Delegation to the Tenth Non Aligned Summit in Belgrade and in September 1989 made a proposal which the Government of India appears to have totally forgotten ever since.

Since the talks in the Climate Change negotiations are in many ways
deadlocked, I do believe that even though over

the last decades ever since the Earth Summit, there has been no particular reference to the proposal made by the then Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi, except in a glancing manner at the Earth Summit in 1992, where our delegation was led by the then Minister of State for Environment and Forests, Shri Kamal Nath.

It is still possible to revive the essence of the idea. And I believe it is our national duty to promote it, partly to give teeth to the proposal made by Shri N.K. Singh but much more than that to ensure on the ground that whether it is the fund proposed by Shri N.K. Singh or any other mechanism that is devised by the Government, we do have the kind of international support necessary to ensure that in addition to whatever is the domestic Indian effort, which is really the focus of Shri N.K. Singh's proposal, whatever is the best environment-friendly technology available anywhere in the world or which has been made available through the history of the development of technology, is made available to our industrialists, to our workers, to our farmers, and to our khet mazdoor. And it was this that Rajiv Gandhi reflected on when he went to Belgrade in September of 1989.

Sir, with your permission, I would like to read into the record of the Rajya Sabha. It is a speech, or a part of speech, which has been allowed to simply gather dust for the last 21 years. What Shri Rajiv Gandhi said I am quoting from that speech.

"We need a global effort to bring within the easy reach of all, developing and developed, the technologies that exist and are yet to be developed to combat pollution and environmental degradation. We cannot leave these matters to the mere play of market forces. Those with inadequate capacity to pay for environmentally-sound technologies would then be left with no alternative but to let development proceed without due regard for the environment. Equally, those who are denied access to such technologies would have no option but to fall into the same trap. It is not only these countries that will pay the price of environmental neglect, it is a price that will probably have to be paid by the world as

a whole and by future generations. The international community has a common stake in sustainable development. We need a global effort to ensure access to environment-friendly technologies and the funding of research and development into such technologies."

I am sure Shri N.K. Singh will acknowledge that what Rajivji said in Belgrade supplements and expands the fundamental point that he is trying to make. So, Rajiv Gandhi came to this conclusion by saying this.

With these ends in view, I propose the establishment of a Planet Protection Fund (PPF), under the aegis of the United Nations. The Fund will be used to protect the environment by developing or purchasing conservation-compatible technologies in critical areas which can then be brought into the public domain for the benefit of both developing and developed countries."

I now request the House to pay particular attention to the next sentence.

"All technologies over which the Fund acquires rights will be made available gratis, and without restriction, to all constituent members of the Fund. I would wish to stress that contributors to and beneficiaries of the Fund would include not only developing countries but also the industrialized countries. We would wish to work towards universal membership of the Fund."

He further said, "We propose that all constituent members of the Fund, developed and developing, contribute a fixed percentage of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to the Fund with exemption but full access granted to the least developed countries. The annual contribution to the corpus of the Fund would be around \$18 billion at as low an average contribution as of 0.1 per cent of GDP."

Now I need, at this point, to mention to the hon. Minister for Environment and Forests that in response to Starred Question No.1 posed by me on 26th of July... which, unfortunately, the House could not take up because we were expressing sorrow on the death of serving Member by mistake, it is done, I presume, it is a typographical error, it says '18 million dollars'. It wasn't. It is '18 billion dollars'. That was calculated 21 years ago. But, today, that amount would be much, much more than 18 billion dollars. We were talking of 0.1 per cent contribution of GDP. It is not beyond human ingenuity to

negotiate this percentage to a much higher figure than 0.1 per cent. Why not 0.7 per cent? That would, automatically, increase by seven times the figure, what it was, that was broadly calculated, at the back of an envelope, by Shri Rajiv Gandhi 21 years ago.

Then he says:

"That is, for environment-related work, the international community would have, at its disposal, as significant a sum as eighteen billion dollars a year if only each country were willing to part with but a one-thousandth part of its GDP."

"Such a Fund would become the fulcrum for a truly co-operative global endeavour to measure up to a problem of global dimensions and global implications. Such a Fund would be a proof of our commitment to saving all creation and our planet Earth."

Here is a complete suggestion which we have just put to one side. There is an endless discussion going on between the developing and the developed countries on how to deal with the issue of Climate Change. The negotiations, despite the best efforts of our Minister of State for Environment and Forests to create a China-India Block and to extend it to other developing countries, while noble in itself, is running into impossible difficulties. I suggest that as it is part and parcel of breaking the deadlock in which we find ourselves. We try to float an idea promoted by a Congress Prime Minister of India 21 years ago instead of letting it wither on the vine as has been happening all this time. I would particularly wish to draw the hon. Minister's attention to the basic principle on which this proposal was based. That basic principle came a few paragraphs before he made the proposal, in which Shri Rajiv Gandhi said:

"Much of the blame for the depletion of the ozone layer, for global warming, for the dumping of hazardous wastes, and for deforestation lies at the door of the industrialized countries. Their high levels of consumption and production not only strain available natural resources but also lead to an alarming emission of pollutants into the atmosphere. The main responsibility and burden for combating pollution and environment degradation must necessarily be theirs. The Polluter Pays Principle must apply."

So, there is no contradiction, Sir, in maintaining the Polluter Pays

Principle, which is at the heart of the stand taken by India, and other countries, noble countries, at these International Climate Change Negotiations, but is, in fact, totally in conformity with the completely practical way of giving an international dimension within which the domestic dimension, addressed by Shri N.K. Singh,

would fit in perfectly like a hand into a well-knit glove. I don't think we have the resources. I just don't think we have the resources, because we have to run the Commonwealth Games and other such important international events, to be able to fund this. There would be a serious danger if we had this kind of a fund. It may suffer the same fate as the Special Component Plan for the Scheduled Castes, which has now found its way into the Commonwealth Games. All these dangers are there. But if you have a programme which meshes into an international programme of totally practical dimensions, where everybody is contributing, everybody except the least developing countries, the same share of GDP, but not the same amount of money because quite clearly the share, in absolute terms, of developed countries like the United States or a country more advanced than us like China will be much more than what we are contributing, but in terms of securing an equitable outcome rather than equity, which is the point being constantly stressed by the Government of India representatives in these climate change negotiations, it is perfectly okay to say that we will give the same share of our lower GDP as somebody else who has a much higher GDP. So, we are not abandoning the Polluter Pays Principle and we are not abandoning the principle of equitable treatment. We are not shirking our international obligations. We are bringing in those with international obligations too, such as the developed countries, into the exercise. There is a suggestion here which seems to me to be eminently practical that we make available a huge bag of environmental technologies gratis to everybody around the country and we take as much of this as required down to the communities where they live so that these get adapted and implemented at the grassroots. If you mesh in all these, and if you don't get stuck in merely the scientific aspects of climate change, but take into account the governance realities of our country, and ensure a form of funding which will provide the resources that are required to be able to meet the huge global challenge, the worst effects of which will be on countries like ours, there I see a way forward.

So, I urge the hon. Minister of State for Environment and Forests to

kindly take a re-look at the National Policy on Climate Change, adapt it to the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution and the Provisions of the Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, and just revisit the Planet

Protection Fund proposed 21 years ago by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Then, you marry it with what has been proposed by Shri N. K. Singh and, I think, we will find an India-friendly answer to the menace of climate change as it affects our country. Thank you.

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE (Rajasthan): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, undoubtedly, the subject under discussion and the Resolution put forth by Shri N. K. Singh is of immense importance. Before I go into the details let me say that if we go word by word we will be able to really see what the Resolution is focussing on and what Shri N. K. Singh wants. Sir, firstly, the Resolution says, "Let this House resolve to constitute an Environment Adaptation and Mitigation Fund". Basically, we are talking about Environment Adaptation and Mitigation Fund. For what purpose? It further says, "by innovative fiscal policies to finance". It goes into the finance part, the funding part and how we are really going to get it to meet the cost of technology. Now the technology can be indigenous, R & D in our own country, also what the technology is as per the international best practices and the cutting edge technology which is being proposed by the international community. Then we go into the renewable energy.

Then we go into the renewable energy. What I feel here, the crux of the whole thing is the renewable energy. Because it is not just a subject of the MoS of Environment and Forest who is present here, it is more on the power, renewable energy and how best we can, with the indigenous and the technology that we can get from abroad, go forward to really see that we power the hundreds and thousands of villages even in the 65th year of our Independence, which still do not have electricity or still do not have access to electricity. This is exactly what we are talking about. If we go into other things also, then we can go to adaptation arising from global warming and climate change. If we really have to talk about global warming, climate change, then all this is a very, very large subject. It is a subject which we have been talking about for very many decades now, from the Kyoto Protocol, all the way to Copenhagen and now the Minister will be going to Mexico to really talk about it. I will put some of my

suggestions here and I will concentrate on the renewable energy part

of it because if I go and start with what funding, how much funding is required, what we can do about it and also if I start talking about the commercial angles that these advanced countries have; one of the things that is being proposed is that the orthodox, the conventional energy that we are putting forth through thermal energy power plants, which have very little PLF, is that, we do not have the best coal available. We can go into details of it. But I will just concentrate on the renewable energy and also the commercial angle of the CCS that they are proposing - Carbon Capture and Storage. Now this has never been tried in even their countries and they are proposing that the Third World and the countries like India and China must adapt the CCS which is 20 to 25 per cent higher than the state-of-the-art new technologies of thermal generation. Sir, when we talk about the renewable energy, have we really looked at the potential that this country has, the potential that the neighbouring countries have? Have we really tapped them? If we really look into that, the potential is enormous. There is hundreds of thousand megawatt potential from our neighbouring countries, from our country from the States that we have like in Himachal, Uttarakhand, Kashmir, Jammu, Leh, Ladakh and if we even tap those, I think all the hundreds and thousands of villages which are still not electrified, can be electrified. I have a small suggestion. I don't know if we have talked also because we do not really have many perennial rivers. Also, like in Rajasthan, we have the IGMP - Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojna. Have we really looked into the technology of the low head hydel small little power plants that can be really put there in numbers which can be in thousands and thousands, and with very low head they can be functioning and we can really get energy out of it. Sir, there was a time when Germany had done away with lignite energy. But they have revisited that, and they have been able to develop a new technology. Now we have abundance of lignite in our country. That lignite research, made by countries like Germany can be used here, and we can have a lot of energy from that. That is still untapped.

Now, when I talk about solar energy, it is a fact that the Western countries do not have the sunlight that we have in our country. And, I

think, the Third World Countries, that have sunlight, are not interested in giving it to us because they fear that if we generate electricity through solar energy, then, they will not be able to put their commercial agenda on things like the CCS, which they propose, and on which they want to make lots and lots of money. I have another very small

suggestion; of course, the Power Minister is not here. For a large country like India, why should we not have two sets of timings zones? We can have winter timing and summer timing. Now, if we have two timings zones, say, one particular time in Delhi and a different time in Kolkata, then, the peaking hour will be different and we can save electricity in the country. We will have two peaking time, and that can, really, help us save the daylight. That is my suggestion.

Sir, we have talked about carbon credit. We have also talked about this fund. But I would want to know from the Minister of Environment and Forests, that when there is also the CAMPA Fund, which is huge in amount, whether we have really utilized that. What was this fund collected for? This is the problem. If we have a new fund, then, its implementation, that is, how it is going to be utilized and where it is going to be utilized, should also be looked into. Otherwise, even when we have the fund, we do not know whether it is really going in the direction that we are talking about, that this legislation is talking about. Most importantly, I feel that when our Minister goes to Mexico, we should lead the Third World Countries, the developing countries. We should have a policy of our own. We can also talk to China because problems, which China and our country, are facing are similar. And the Minister has been talking about it. But whenever the Minister talks about something different, there are people who jump at him. They feel that he is talking something which is not his subject, which is not good for the country. I feel that we should give him an opportunity. When we look at the amount of work that he has done for the conservation of tiger and afforestation, I think, no other Minister, in the last many decades, has been able to do it. And, I congratulate him. Thank you very much.

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सदन के माननीय विद्वान सदस्य श्री एन. के. सिंह द्वारा प्रस्तुत यह जो रिजोलूशन है, यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। ग्लोबल वार्मिंग, मौसम के परिवर्तन, पर्यावरण पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव और प्रदूषण ये ऐसे विषय हैं, जिन पर आज पूरा विश्व चिंतित है। जो कई पर्यावरणविद् विद्वान हैं, वे इस पर बराबर चिंतन-मनन कर रहे हैं, मौसम के हालात की समीक्षा कर रहे हैं, उससे बचने के उपाय खोज रहे हैं। ऐसे समय में भारत एक बहुत बड़ा विकासशील और चिंतनशील देश है। हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी भी स्वयं पर्यावरण के प्रति काफी जागरूक हैं। वे बड़ी

जागरूकता के साथ इस दिशा में अपने पूरे प्रयासों से अनवरत कार्य कर रहे हैं। इस दिशा में, अपने रेजोल्यूशन में जो सुझाव दिया है, "to constitute an Environment Adaptation and

Mitigation Fund by innovative fiscal policies to finance the cost of technology, promote research and development of renewable energy and lower the burden to meet the inevitable costs of adaptation arising from Global Warming and Climate Change".

यह जो क्लाइमेट चेंज और ग्लोबल वार्मिंग की चिंता है, इसके समाधान के लिए कुछ रिसर्च किया जाए और कुछ ऐसे प्राकृतिक संसाधन हमारे वैज्ञानिकों द्वारा विकसित किए जाएं, जोकि प्रकृति के ज्यादा नजदीक हों, प्राकृतिक हों, जिनसे कम लागत पर इस तरह के परिणाम निकल सकें कि हमें इस ग्लोबल वार्मिंग और प्रदूषण से किस तरह से रिलीफ मिल सके, राहत मिल सके। मैं उनकी इस भावना की प्रशंसा करती हूँ, समर्थन करती हूँ। मेरे विद्वान साथियों, माननीय संसद सदस्यों ने अनुभव के आधार पर अपने जो विचार रखे हैं, मैं उन सबका स्वागत करते हुए, इस विषय में अपने कुछ विचार सदन में प्रस्तुत कर रही हूँ। महोदय, इस विषय में चिंता करते हुए कई बार, पूरे विश्व के पर्यावरणविद् विद्वानों ने कई सम्मेलन किए, कई मीट्स हुईं, अर्थ समिट्स हुए, लेकिन पर्यावरण और इस ग्लोबल वार्मिंग के बढ़ते हुए खतरे से फिलहाल कोई पुख्ता निष्कर्ष नहीं निकल सका। सर, यह बरसों के विकास की देन है। जो पश्चिमी विकसित देश हैं, जिन्होंने बहुत ज्यादा तकनीकी विकास, बहुत ज्यादा मशीनी विकास पर जोर दिया और इस दिशा में बड़े जोरों से कार्य भी किया। उन्होंने बहुत बड़े-बड़े सराहनीय कार्य किए, लेकिन उसके दूरगामी प्राकृतिक दुष्परिणामों की चिंता नहीं की, जिसके कारण ही आज पूरे विश्व को इस ग्लोबल वार्मिंग से जूझना पड़ रहा है। जो ओजोन लेयर थी, वह छिन्न-भिन्न हो गई है। यह इसी तरह है, जैसेकि विश्व में अगर कोई देश सोचे कि जब यह खतरा बढ़ेगा, क्योंकि ग्लोबल वार्मिंग से बर्फ पिघल रही है, ग्लेशियर्स पिघल रहे हैं, समुद्री जल स्तर ऊंचा उठ रहा है, यह विश्व के लिए एक चेतावनी है, खतरा है, अगर समुद्र में किसी जहाज में छेद हो जाता है, तो उसमें बैठने से कोई यह सोचे कि चूंकि, हमने यह जहाज बनाया है, इसलिए हम लोग बच जाएंगे, तो ऐसा नहीं होता है, पूरा जहाज डूबता है। यह चिंता पूरे विश्व की है। इसमें जिन पाश्चात्य देशों को ज्यादा योगदान रहा है, जिनके कारण यह ग्लोबल वार्मिंग बढ़ी है, ये खतरे बढ़े हैं, उनकी जिम्मेदारी भी ज्यादा है कि इसे कम करने में वे अपना ज्यादा योगदान दें, इसके लिए ज्यादा प्रयत्नशील रहें और इस पर पूरे रिसर्च के कार्य करें। हमें भी आवश्यकता है कि एक ऐसा fund generate किया जाए, जिससे इस तरह के रिसर्च हों कि किस प्रकार इन बढ़ते हुए खतरों से हम मुक्त हों सकें और उनसे बचाव कर सकें।

महोदय, अगर अप्राकृतिक संसाधनों से कुछ सुविधाएं मिलती हैं, तो उनके कुछ प्रतिकूल प्रभाव भी निश्चित रूप से होते हैं। जब भी हम प्रकृति के विपरीत कोई कार्य करते हैं, कोई विकास करते हैं, जो प्रकृति के मिजाज के

अनुकूल नहीं होता, तो हमें उसका दुष्परिणाम भुगतने के लिए भी तैयार रहना चाहिए। यह वैसी ही स्थिति है, क्योंकि विकास के नाम पर यह ध्यान नहीं रखा गया कि हमें प्रकृति को कहीं disturb नहीं करना है। जब हम कोई भी विकास करते हैं, तो उससे पहले मनुष्य जाति के विकास का ध्यान रखना चाहिए कि मनुष्य जाति, यह विश्व, ये जीव-जीवन, यह प्रकृति अगर सुरक्षित रहेगी, तो सब सुरक्षित रहेंगे। अन्यथा इस तरह के विकास से अंततः उसके दुष्परिणाम ही हो सकते हैं।

आज carbon trading जैसा एक funny शब्द, जो बड़ा ही अमानवीय और असंवेदनशील शब्द है, सामने आया है। अगर कोई मुल्क carbon trading की बात कहता है, तो हैरानी होती है कि यह कितनी अमानवीयता की बात है। उन्हें इसका कोई तोड़ निकालना चाहिए। वे developed nations हैं, उनके पास बहुत पैसा है। उन्हें कोई ऐसी रिसर्च करनी चाहिए कि क्या कार्बन को किसी प्रकार से clean करके इसके प्रदूषण के प्रभाव को कुछ कम किया जा सकता है और क्या कोई ऐसी प्रक्रिया बनाई जा सकती है। लेकिन carbon trading जैसी बात असंवेदनशील है, जो शायद किसी के गले उतरने वाली बात नहीं है।

महोदय, अप्राकृतिक संसाधनों से हमें एयर कंडीशनर्स की, रेफ्रिजरेटर्स की सुविधाएं मिलीं। परमाणु परीक्षण हुए, सुरक्षा के नाम पर, विकास के नाम पर। ये भी प्रकृति पर कुछ प्रतिकूल प्रभाव तो डालते ही हैं, क्योंकि ये अप्राकृतिक हैं। पूरे विश्व में करोड़ों की तादाद में गाड़ियां चल रही हैं। भारत में भी पिछले 10-15 वर्षों में कितनी गाड़ियां बढ़ गई हैं। जितनी आबादी नहीं बढ़ी है, उससे ज्यादा गाड़ियां बढ़ी हैं। इतना डीजल-पेट्रोल, इतना धुआं, इनसे इतना प्रदूषण हो रहा है। इन पर कैसे रोक लगेगी? अगर चंद सीएनजी की किट्स लगाकर कुछ गाड़ियां चला दी जाएंगी, तो उनसे समाधान नहीं हो जाएगा। ये जो ट्रक चलते हैं, जो इतनी गाड़ियां चलती हैं, जब तक ऐसी कुछ व्यवस्था नहीं हो कि डीजल का कोई सीएनजी जैसा alternative हो, तब तक इसका समाधान नहीं हो सकता। क्योंकि बढ़ती गाड़ियों पर कैसे नियंत्रण लगाएंगे? जितनी सड़कें नहीं बनती हैं, उतनी गाड़ियां बन जाती हैं। जितनी पुलियां नहीं बनती, उतनी गाड़ियां बढ़ जाती हैं। अभी और सस्ती गाड़ी लाने की होड़ मची हुई है, तो जो कोई अभी दुपहिया वाहन चला रहा होगा, वह भी गाड़ी लेकर चलेगा। सड़कों पर चलने की जगह ही नहीं बचेगी। सर, ऐसे में कोई substitute होनी चाहिए, ऐसी कोई रिसर्च होनी चाहिए, जिससे प्रदूषण न हो और प्रदूषण में कमी हो। ओजोन लेयर, जो सूरज की भयंकर गर्मी से बचाने के लिए, प्रदूषण के दुष्परिणामों से बचाने के लिए, रोकने के लिए पूरे विश्व की ढाल थी, उस ढाल में दरार आ गई है। इसलिए सूरज का सीधा ताप उन देशों को ज्यादा सहना पड़ रहा है, जो पहले से ही गर्म देश हैं, जैसे भारत। इन देशों में इतनी भयंकर गर्मी है।

महोदय, कई गांवों में तो स्थिति यह है कि बिजली कट जाती है, लेकिन उनके पास ऊर्जा का कोई प्राकृतिक संसाधन नहीं है, जैसे सोलर एनर्जी या विंड एनर्जी। आगे हम उम्मीद कर रहे हैं कि परमाणु एनर्जी भी आ जाएगी। परमाणु करार के बाद इस देश को और इसके देशवासियों को एक बड़ी उम्मीद हुई है। जब ये संसाधन मिलेंगे तो गांव के लोगों को भयंकर गर्मियों में कुछ राहत मिलेगी। मैं कहती हूँ कि आज कूलर जैसी चीज़ सुविधा का साधन नहीं रह गई है। एयरकंडिशनर भले ही सुविधा का साधन हो सकते हैं, लेकिन गर्मी इस कदर बढ़ गई है कि कूलर आज एक जरूरत बन गया है। कई शहरों और गांवों में बिजली की कटौती के कारण घंटों-घंटों तक पंखा भी नसीब नहीं होता है। वे किस तरह जी सकते हैं? इसलिए ऊर्जा के जितने भी प्राकृतिक संसाधन विकसित होंगे, उतना ही मनुष्य जाति को, जीव-जन्तुओं को एवं वनस्पतियों को, सभी को लाभ मिलेगा।

महोदय, प्रदूषण से वायु, जल और कृषि अथवा वनस्पति सभी प्रदूषित हुए हैं। इन तीनों पर ही जीव-जन्तुओं और मनुष्यों का जीवन आधारित है। यही उनकी प्राथमिक आवश्यकताएं हैं। ऑक्सीजन अथवा हवा, पानी और कृषि अथवा वनस्पति पर ही हम सभी का जीवन निर्भर करता है। पेड़-पौधों पर मानसून भी निर्भर करता है। अगर यही स्वच्छ नहीं रहेंगे, प्रदूषित हो जाएंगे, तब आखिर हम कैसे जीएंगे? आज लोग तरह-तरह की सैंकड़ों बीमारियों से ग्रस्त हो करके तकलीफें भुगत रहे हैं। इलाज भी इतना महंगा है, तो आखिर वे कहां जाएं? सरकारी अस्पतालों में भी लम्बी-लम्बी लाइनें हुआ करती हैं, आखिर वे कितने दिन तक इंतजार करें? महंगा इलाज करवाने के लिए पैसा कहां से लाएं? ये सब इस पर्यावरण पर पड़ रहे प्रतिकूल प्रभाव के कारण ही हो रहा है।

पर्यावरण क्या है - वायु, जल, कृषि एवं वनस्पति, लेकिन ये सभी प्रदूषित हो गए। मनुष्यों और जीव-जन्तुओं का जीवन इनसे ही चलता है। अगर सभी प्रदूषित पानी पी रहे हैं, प्रदूषित अन्न खा रहे हैं, प्रदूषित हवा में सांस ले रहे हैं, तो बीमारियां तो होंगी ही। इसलिए अपने जीवन के अस्तित्व के लिए, विश्व के सारे जीवन के लिए, वनस्पतियों के लिए, इससे बचना बहुत जरूरी है।

महोदय, बिना सोचे समझे पहाड़ के पहाड़ वीरान कर दिए गए हैं। जहां पर किसी जमाने में बहुत-से पेड़ हुआ करते थे, सघन पेड़ हुआ करते थे, लोगों ने अथवा माफियाज़ ने उन पेड़ों को काट दिया। लेकिन पेड़ लगाने की जिम्मेदारी वे क्यों समझेंगे? बरसों पहले सरकार ने भी इसे कभी गंभीरता से नहीं लिया। कभी-कभी तो ऐसा भी किया गया है लीकॉप्टर से बीज डाले गए कि साहब, हैलीकॉप्टर से बीज गिराए जा रहे हैं और पेड़ लग जाएंगे। पेड़ लगाने के लिए आन्दोलन भी चलाए गए। अरे भई, पेड़ आप कैसे लगाएंगे? इतना बड़ा पेड़ कैसे लग सकता है? पौधे लग सकते हैं। अभियान कुछ इस तरह से होना चाहिए - "पौधे लगाओ और पेड़ बचाओ"। लेकिन पौधे लगा दिए

गिनती के, टारगेट दे दिया कि इतने लगेंगे और कागजों में बता दिया कि इतने पेड़ लगा दिए गए हैं। आखिर उनमें से विकसित कितने हुए और पेड़ कितने बने, इसकी मॉनिटरिंग होनी चाहिए।

महोदय, जंगल के पेड़ों की मॉनिटरिंग जवाबदेही के साथ होनी चाहिए। हमारे यहां जल-बल की कोई कमी नहीं है, मैन पॉवर की कोई कमी नहीं है, अधिकारियों की कोई कमी नहीं है, हर विभाग में लोग भरे हुए हैं। अगर वे अपनी-अपनी जिम्मेदारी को समझ लें तो यह समस्या ही न पैदा हो। आज इतने वन्य जीव - अभयारण्यों में ही मार दिए जाते हैं। वे क्यों मार दिए जाएं? वे क्यों मर जाएंगे, क्योंकि उनके लिए कोई जवाबदेही नहीं है। कोई अधिकारी इसकी जवाबदेही किसी दूसरे पर डाल देता है और वह किसी अन्य पर डाल देता है। तब कहा जाता है कि इसके लिए कोई नया कानून ले आइए, नया विधेयक ले आइए। सर, नए कानूनों से क्या होगा? आज इतने सारे जो कानून हैं, वे पर्याप्त हैं, लेकिन, ये तब तक प्रभावशाली नहीं हो सकते जब तक पहले लोगों की जवाबदेही निर्धारित न हो कि वहीं-की-वहीं सजा और वहीं-का-वहीं निस्तारण। अगर ऐसा हो जाए, तो इस तरह की तमाम चीजों में अपने आप कमी आ जाएगी। कौन आगे जाए? कोर्ट तक जाओ, वकील करो, महंगी कानून की लड़ाई लड़ो, लम्बी कानून की लड़ाई लड़ो, कितने वर्षों तक इंतजार करो। इतनी महंगी कानून की लड़ाई, इतने लम्बे समय का इंतजार। इन कानूनों से क्या होगा? महोदय, इसलिए हर विभाग की जवाबदेही सुनिश्चित हो। चाहे वह वन विभाग हो, पर्यावरण विभाग हो या जल विभाग हो, इन सबकी जवाबदेही सुनिश्चित नहीं होगी और जब तक उन पर कड़ी कार्रवाई नहीं होगी, तब तक इस पर काबू नहीं पाया जा सकता, क्योंकि जब तक किसी को अपने पेट पर लात नहीं पड़ेगी तब तक उसे किसी दूसरे का दर्द समझ में नहीं आएगा। इसलिए मैं बार-बार कहती हूँ कि अधिकारी अपने अधिकारों के प्रति तो सजग रहें कि ये उनके अधिकार हैं, लेकिन उनके कर्तव्य क्या हैं, उनकी ड्यूटीज़ क्या हैं, अगर उनके लिए वे जिम्मेदार नहीं हैं, तो फिर कौन जिम्मेदार हैं? फिर उसके लिए आप कोर्ट में जाएंगे। उसके बाद आप कितने दिनों तक इंतजार करेंगे और कितना पैसा लगाएंगे? इस तरह यह भी एक अच्छा उपाय है, जिससे कई चीजों पर काबू पाया जा सकता है।

महोदय, आज मैं आपसे यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि मैंने जैसा देखा कि काले-काले प्लास्टिक के बड़े-बड़े बैग्स में कचरा भरकर समुद्र में डम्प कर दिया जाता है। आखिर उसके क्या दुष्परिणाम होंगे? क्या किसी रिसर्च से ऐसी कोई प्रक्रिया बन सकती है कि उस कचरे को रिसाइकिल करके उससे कहीं किसी तरह का खाद बनाया जा सके, क्योंकि अगर उसको जलाते हैं, तब धुआं उत्पन्न होता है और इस पर लोग कहेंगे कि इससे प्रकृति में प्रदूषण फैलेगा। प्लास्टिक की जो थैली है, अगर उसे पानी में डुबोते हैं तो प्लास्टिक पानी में गलता ही नहीं, पता नहीं, सौ वर्षों तक यूँ ही बना रहता है, तो इससे पर्यावरण का क्या हाल होगा?? इस दिशा में प्लास्टिक की थैलियों पर रोक एक बहुत आवश्यक कदम है। कई जगह लोग कहते हैं कि बड़ी थैलियों पर रोक लगा दी गई है, लेकिन छोटी

5.00 P.M.

थैलियों पर नहीं। सब्जी वाले के पास प्लास्टिक की थैलियां हैं, खाद प्लास्टिक की थैलियों में आ रहा है और पेस्टिसाइड्स भी प्लास्टिक की थैलियों में आती हैं। सर, अगर प्लास्टिक की थैलियां किसी उपजाऊ जमीन में डाल दी जाएं तो वह जमीन बंजर हो जाती है, इसका इतना बुरा असर है। हम फ्रिज में पानी भी प्लास्टिक की बोतलों में रखते हैं, जो कि स्वास्थ्य के लिए अच्छा नहीं है। जब ये प्लास्टिक की थैलियां नहीं थीं, तब भी लोग थैला लेकर सब्जी मंडी से सब्जियां लाने जाते थे। जब इन पर रोक लग जाएगी, जब प्लास्टिक पर रोक लग जाएगी, तब उनको वही अभ्यास दोबारा हो जाएगा। जब तक इस पर रोक नहीं लगेगी, तब तक उसका सबस्टिट्यूट कैसे आएगा? वह आ ही नहीं सकता, क्योंकि वह एक आसान-सी सुविधाजनक चीज है। प्लास्टिक के निर्माण पर सख्ती होनी चाहिए। यह नहीं कि थैलियां क्यों मिल रही हैं, लोगों को पुलिस वाले पकड़ रहे हैं, बल्कि जहां इनका निर्माण हो रहा है, वहां रोक लगनी चाहिए, ताकि ये निर्मित ही न हों और इससे वे बाजार में ही न आए। क्या पहले प्लास्टिक के बिना दुनिया नहीं चल रही थी? जब प्लास्टिक की थैलियां ही नहीं थीं, तब क्या लोग बाजार नहीं जाते थे और क्या वे वहां से सामान लेकर नहीं आते थे? तब ऐसी कई चीजें थीं, जैसे जूट के कट्टे थे, जूट के बैग्स थे और कई तरह के थैले भी लोग अपने घरों से ले जाते थे और सामान ले आते थे। पर्यावरण के लिए प्लास्टिक भी एक बड़ी दुश्मन है, इसलिए इस पर भी विचार करने की जरूरत है। जगह-जगह पर जो कचड़े के ढेर हैं और जिन्हें नष्ट करने के लिए पानी में डुबोया जा रहा है, उसका कोई उपाय खोजा जाए।

महोदय, पूर्व प्रधान मंत्री स्वर्गीय राजीव गांधी जी स्वयं पर्यावरण के प्रति बहुत चिंतित थे। उनका यह एक प्रिय विषय था और इसको लेकर वे बहुत ज्यादा concerned रहे। इस विषय में उन्होंने कई बातें कहीं और नीतियां बनाईं। गंगा जल को स्वच्छ करने की योजना उन्होंने ही बनायी ताकि गंगा जल साफ हो जाए, लेकिन 500 करोड़ रुपए साफ हो गये और गंगा का जल वहीं का वहीं रह गया। सर, यह जिम्मेदारी किसकी है? इतना-इतना रुपया दिया जाता है, लेकिन होता कुछ नहीं है। इतनी जगहों पर पौधे लगाने के लिए रुपये दिए जाते हैं, लेकिन पेड़ नजर नहीं आते हैं। इसकी जवाबदेही तय होनी चाहिए। इसमें मॉनिटरिंग और जवाबदेही दोनों साथ चले और उसके लिए सजा का कोई प्रावधान हो। ऐसा नहीं हो कि सब अधिकारी मिलकर एक-दूसरे को बचाने में लग जाते हैं, क्योंकि उन्हें लगता है कि एक पर आंच आई, अब दूसरे पर न आये। इस तरह से उनका नेटवर्क इस देश में चलता है और बदनाम कौन होता है, जब देखो तब ले-देकर एक नेता होता है। जैसे "नेता" शब्द नेता नहीं रहा, गाली हो गया। लोग इस तरह से समझने लगते हैं। एक अकेला सांसद क्या करेगा? एक कलैक्टर के पास जितने स्टाफ होते हैं, एक जिले से संबंधित विभागों के इतने अधिकारी होते हैं, लेकिन हर बात की गाली एक एम.पी. या एम.एल.ए. को

पड़ती है। अगर वहां उसकी सरकार न हो तो प्रशासन में कई बार उसकी सुनवाई तक नहीं होती है जबकि जिम्मेदार उसे बनाया जाता है। महोदय, जो जिम्मेदार हैं, उनकी जिम्मेदारी होनी चाहिए और उनको जिम्मेवार ठहराने की कुछ व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए।

महोदय, आज छोटी-छोटी जगहों पर, मैंने देखा है कि हमारे यहां किशनगढ़ और पाली में, जहां छपाई और रंगाई के कारखाने हैं, जो कि उस शहर या गांव के एकदम पास हैं, वहां का रंगीन गंदा पानी उस तालाब में जा रहा है, जिसका पानी लोग पीते रहे हैं। इसकी कोई सुनवाई नहीं है। ऐसे कारखाने, जिनसे इतना प्रदूषण होता हो, जिनसे पानी प्रदूषित हो रहा हो या वायु प्रदूषित हो रही हो, उन्हें कम से कम उन बस्तियों, आबादियों या गांवों से कहीं दूर ले जाने की जरूरत है। इस बात को देखने की जरूरत है।

आज कीटनाशकों को जरूरी समझा गया है। हमारे जो कृषि संबंधी उपज हैं, उनमें कीड़े न लगें, इसके लिए pesticides को जरूरी समझा गया है। अब ये pesticides भी पर्यावरण के लिए ऐसे घातक बन गये हैं कि वे agriculture को प्रदूषित कर देते हैं। आज हालत यह हो गई है कि चिड़ियों की संख्या कम हो गई है। आप इसका सर्वे करवा लीजिए कि कितने जीव-जन्तु कम होते जा रहे हैं। जब फसल लहलहाती है तो उसे चिड़िया और किस्म-किस्म के जीव-जन्तु खाते हैं और ये pesticides उनके अंदर slow poison की तरह जाते हैं, इसलिए उनकी संख्या कम होती जा रही है। उनसे मनुष्यों को भी कई तरह की बीमारियां होती जा रही हैं। जब उनसे चिड़िया और अन्य पक्षी मर जाते हैं तो मनुष्य के अंदर जाकर वे न जाने किस किस्म की बीमारियां पैदा करते हैं। ये pesticides प्राकृतिक कैसे हों? पहले यह कहा जाता था कि नीम के खाद और pesticides हों। प्राकृतिक चीजों के ऐसे pesticides बनें, जिनके विषैले दुष्परिणाम न हों और जो मनुष्य या जीव-जन्तुओं के जीवन को नुकसान न पहुंचाए या कई रोगों के कारण न बनें। मुझे उम्मीद है कि हमारे साइंटिस्ट्स इस तरफ भी कुछ कर पाएंगे और वे ध्यान देंगे।

महोदय, प्रदूषित पेयजल एक बहुत बड़ी समस्या है। मिनरल वाटर, जो दूध से भी महंगा है और जो इस देश में बिक रहा है, क्या किसी ने कभी ऐसा सोचा भी था? 20 साल पहले अगर कोई यह कहता तो लोग हंसते कि मजाक करते हो क्या, कहीं 20 रुपये का एक लीटर शुद्ध पानी मिलेगा? शुद्ध पानी जीवन की पहली जरूरत है। आज हम फूड सिक्योरिटी बिल ला रहे हैं, लेकिन फूड सिक्योरिटी तभी होगी, जब पहले पानी की सिक्योरिटी होगी। हवा के बाद स्वच्छ पेयजल जिंदगी के लिए पहली जरूरत है, जब तक वह आदमी को नहीं मिलेगा, जब तक drinking water की सिक्योरिटी नहीं होगी, तब तक यह समस्या हल नहीं होगी। आज इस दूषित पेयजल की वजह से कितने किस्म की बीमारियां फैल रही हैं। गांवों में कभी फ्लोराइड वाला पानी मिलता है, अस्वच्छ पानी मिलता है और गांवों के लोग मैला पानी पीने के लिए मजबूर हैं। वे मिनरल वाटर खरीदने के लिए कहां से पैसा लाएं या कितनी दूर से स्वच्छ पेयजल लाएं?

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, एक नदी जल लिंक करने की योजना है कि नदियों को जोड़ा जाएगा, जिससे पानी की समस्या हल होगी। जब मैं Ministry of Science & Technology and Ocean Development की Standing Committee की सदस्य थी, तब मुझे जानकारी हुई और अभी कुछ दिनों पहले एक प्रश्न के जवाब में मुझे यह जानकारी मिली कि समुद्री जल को पीने योग्य बनाने में 10 पैसे प्रति लीटर की लागत आती है। मैं नहीं समझती कि मनुष्य के जीवन के लिए यह कोई बहुत बड़ी लागत है, जहां हमें हजारों रुपए दवाइयों पर बर्बाद करने पड़ते हैं। नदी जल लिंक में फिर वही स्टेट्स का झगड़ा आएगा कि यह हमारी नदी है, हम इसमें नहीं जोड़ने देंगे। कुछ वैज्ञानिक भी कह रहे हैं कि नदियों को जोड़ने के दुष्परिणाम भी हो सकते हैं, क्योंकि वह अप्राकृतिक होगा, unnatural होगा। जैसी मुझे जानकारी है कि अंडमान और चेन्नई जैसी जगहों में ऐसे प्लांट्स लगाए गए हैं, जो समुद्री जल को फिल्टर करके पीने योग्य बना रहे हैं। प्रक्रिया वही है। जैसे सूरज से समुद्र तपता है, फिर बादल बनते हैं, फिर मानसून आता है और बारिश होती है। इसी प्रकार की प्रक्रिया को अपनाकर समुद्री जल से भाप बनाते हैं, उससे मीठा और स्वच्छ पानी आता है। हमारी बहुत सी स्टेट्स हैं, जहां पर समुद्री जल है। अगर गुजरात के समुद्री जल को वहीं स्वच्छ किया जाए और पाइपलाइन के जरिए या नहरों के जरिए उसको राजस्थान तक पहुंचाया जाए, तो राजस्थान में पीने के पानी की बहुत बड़ी समस्या हल हो जाएगी। इसकी लागत सिर्फ 10 पैसे प्रति लीटर आ रही है। अगर आप subsidies दें, तो ऐसी चीजों पर दें, जो जीवन से जुड़ी हुई हैं, जो बीमारियों से, स्वास्थ्य से जुड़ी हुई हैं। कितनी ही स्टेट्स हैं, जहां पर यह समाधान हो सकता है। इनमें न नदी जल का झगड़ा पड़ेगा, न यह राज्यों का विषय है। मैं समझती हूं कि इस पर भी एक रिसर्च होनी चाहिए कि किस प्रकार से इसको व्यावहारिक बनाकर इस्तेमाल किया जाए। दुर्बई में लोग इस तरह से पानी पी रहे हैं। आखिर हम लोग उस प्रक्रिया को क्यों नहीं अपना सकते? हम लोग नाक को सीधा पकड़ने के बजाय उल्टा क्यों पकड़ते हैं? कई लोग ऐसे-ऐसे नुस्खे बताते हैं, जो कि संभव नहीं है या उनमें बहुत पैसा लगता है। अधिकारी लोग इस तरह की स्कीमों बनाकर भिजवाते रहते हैं। राज्यों को अगर इंसेंटिव दिया जाए कि जो राज्य प्रदूषण को कंट्रोल करने में, कार्बन को कंट्रोल करने में, पेड़ लगाने में और प्लास्टिक की थैलियां नष्ट करने में प्रथम रहेगा, तो उसका नाम प्रथम धोषित किया जाएगा और उसे पर्यावरण को सुरक्षित करने के लिए भारत सरकार और फंड देगी। इसलिए स्टेट्स को अगर इस तरह के फंड्स दिए जाएंगे, तो मैं समझती हूं कि कुछ अच्छा काम हो सकता है। इसके अलावा जनजागरण बहुत जरूरी है। लोगों में अवेयरनेस कैसे आए, जागरूकता कैसे आए, इस ओर ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। टी.वी. और दूरदर्शन ऐसा सशक्त माध्यम है कि उसके द्वारा गांव-गांव तक यह जागरण किया जा सकता है ... (व्यवधान) ...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री कलराज मिश्र) : प्रभा ठाकुर जी, चर्चा आगे जारी रहेगी। गैर-सरकारी प्रस्ताव पर चर्चा के लिए जो समय निश्चित किया गया है, उस समय तक चर्चा आगे जारी रहेगी। सोमवार 11 बजे तक के लिए सदन स्थगित होता है।

The House then adjourned at ten minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 9th August, 2010.

