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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 13th August, 2010/22nd Sravana, 1932 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair

OBSERVATION BY THE CHAIR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, it has been observed that during the Question Hour and while asking supplementary questions, attempts are made, at times, to raise matters that go beyond the scope of the admitted question. Members are reminded that supplementary questions should flow from the original question. The supplementary asked should be brief, specific, relevant and within the scope of the main question. Members should seek information rather than give information or make suggestions for action. They should avoid prefacing their supplementary with an introductory statement. Ministers are requested to give brief answers to supplementary questions and offer to provide details, if essential.

The Chair solicits cooperation of all Members and Ministers in this regard so that maximum number of questions could be covered during the Question Hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 281. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सभापति जी, आपने जो निर्देश दिए हैं, उनका हम लोग पालन करेंगे। श्रीमन्, हम लोगों को यह भरोसा रहता है कि हम सब को ...(**व्यवधान**)... आपसे न्याय मिलेगा। हम लोगों पर इतने हर्डल्स न लगा दिए जाएं कि हम लोगों को जवाब ही न मिले ...(**व्यवधान**)... इतने हर्डल्स लगा दिए हैं कि ...(**व्यवधान**)... अगर कोई हमारे अधिकारों का हनन करेगा, तो उसकी रक्षा आप नहीं करेंगे तो कौन करेगा? ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति : ये रूल्स आपके बनाए हुए हैं ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : सभापति जी, ...(**व्यवधान**)... आप हम लोगों के साथ लिबरल हो जाइए और मंत्रियों पर थोड़ा सख्त हो जाइए, तो हम समझेंगे कि हम लोगों को न्याय मिल गया। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Sahib, do you wish to say something on this?

DR. KARAN SINGH (NCT of Delhi): Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay.

DR. KARAN SINGH: Sir, from my long experience in this House and the other House, I would say, very often it happens that from the Minister's reply, certain new aspects emerge. If you shut that out and say you can only go to the original question, then, very often, my experience has been that from the replies given by the Minister, a lot of new aspects arise. Are you cutting those out totally? Because, if so, then, Sir, it would be an innovative procedure.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point of reference is the question, the original question. ...(*Interruptions*)... No; please, we are not having a discussion on this. Question No. 281, Prof. Kurien is not here. Any supplementaries? Yes, Mr. Prasanta Chatterjee.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*281 [The Questioner (Shri P.J. Kurien) was absent]

Train Accidents

*281. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of train accidents which occurred in the last one year;

(b) whether it is a fact that the number of accidents and casualties are higher during the last one year than the previous years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Railways have reduced the amount spent for railway safety over the years;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether any special steps are being taken to prevent such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) The number of consequential train accidents, i.e., collisions, derailments, manned level crossing gate accidents, fire in train and other miscellaneous accidents during 2009-10 and the current year from April to July 2010, is as under:

Type of Accident	2009-2010	2010-2011 (April - July 2010)
Collisions	9	2
Derailments	80	22
Manned Level Crossing Gate Accidents	5	1
Fire in Train	2	1
Miscellaneous	4	-
TOTAL	100	26

These figures do not include incidents of trespassing by road users at unmanned level crossings.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The number of consequential train accidents excluding the cases of trespassing by road users at unmanned level crossings has reduced from 115 in the year 2008-09 to 100 in the year 2009-10. The number of casualties has also reduced during the year 2009-10 as compared to the previous year 2008-09. The details of loss of human lives in consequential train accidents other than incidents of trespassing by road users at unmanned level crossings during 2008-09, 2009-10 and the current year from April to July 2010, are as under:-

Type of Accident	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11 (April to July, 2010)
Collisions	9	42	Nil*
Derailments	10	14	1*
Manned Level Crossing gate accidents	18	7	1
Fire in Train	31	Nil	Nil
Miscellaneous	12	1	Nil
TOTAL	80	64	2*

* 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. Ministry of Railways has also asked for an enquiry by Central Bureau of Investigation into this incident.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Expenditure on works related to safety has increased from Rs. 27,150 crore in 2008-09 to 30,656 crore in 2009-10 and in the Budget Estimates of 2010-11, a provision of Rs. 31,616 crore has been made for these works.

(f) 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.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, in the reply of the hon. Minister, it is said that the number of casualties during April-July, 2010 was 218 as compared to 80 and 64 during the previous years. Sir, there are 90,000 vacancies in safety category alone. Nowadays, there is the problem of detachment; sometime the engine getting detached or sometimes the bogies getting detached. Those figures are not here.

Sir, on 19th July, 65 persons lost their lives and 91 injured in an incident of rear-end collision of Uttar Banga Express with-Vananchal

Express. But, strangely, before any formal enquiry was ordered, the Chairman Railway Board at the accident site itself said "There was something definitely wrong with the driver." He also speculated and said "he may have been unconscious or fallen asleep and any conclusion must wait till the post-mortem report is arrived."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question, please.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, I am coming to the question. The post-mortem gave no indication, according to media, of such apprehension. Now, the Railway Minister on 6th August, 2010 said here that the cause of the accident is being enquired from all angles. My question is,

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is exactly what I was. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, my question is, whether the Chairman of the Railway Board will be cautioned or has been cautioned for making such unfounded, confusing and irresponsible statement blaming the driver who reportedly had unblemished track record and who died on the spot itself. So, this is my straight question to the Minister. I want to know whether the Chairman of the Railway Board will be cautioned for making such inhuman statement.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, the hon. Member must be aware that there was not one, but three such incidents; one, involving the Jnaneshwari Express, another involving the Uttarbanga Express and a third at Kokrajhar involving Guwahati-Kolkata Garib Rath. The hon. Member is referring to the incident that occurred at Sainthia station. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am coming to that. I have got with me all the facts and figures; I can read it out. But I don't agree with the hon. Member when he says that the Chairman of the Railway Board had exceeded his limits. It was also his duty to inform the Press and media, especially when the Ministers are not there, or even at the instruction of the Minister. But here, hon. Member talks about the accident and the subsequent steps taken. Even in the main question, I have already stated the steps that Government has taken. If the hon. Member so wishes, with your permission, Sir, I would like to give a little elaboration on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is mentioned in the reply need not be repeated.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, I would like to say that we have taken action. The first incident was due to sabotage; in the second incident also, sabotage was suspected; the third incident is under investigation by the

Railway Safety Commissioner, but the circumstances were quite mysterious, puzzling and intriguing. It is the duty of the Railways to make a thorough investigation into the incident. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. Please, no discussion on this topic.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, the question has not been answered.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Why was the driver. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute, please. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, how can he. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, the Minister had made that statement.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, it was said that the driver was drunk and that caused the accident. The post-mortem has nullified that statement.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, I have replied to the question that was asked.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: How could the Railway Board Chairman.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: How can he say. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: How can you intervene in this discussion? A supplementary question has been asked and it is being answered. You don't have a locus in the matter. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: When the Minister replies, it becomes the property of the whole House. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, I would like to say one thing here. Whatever the Chairman has observed has not been contradicted by the Railways. Therefore, whatever the Chairman has said, it is the view of the Railways. What is wrong?

The Chairman is also an authority competent to speak on behalf of the Railways. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: The question is, how could he make such a

statement? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: What is this? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Prasanta Chatterjee, please. Shri Shreegopal Vyas.

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास : सभापति जी, एक रेल दुर्घटना के बाद माननीय रेल मंत्री जी ने कहा था कि इसके पीछे कुछ संगठनों, जिसमें राजनीतिक दल का भी नाम लिया गया था, उसका हाथ है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उसकी जांच हुई है?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman, Sir, that is why I have said that the Railways wish to make a thorough enquiry into everything. The Chairman, Railway Board had made his observations on the basis of the information he had at that time. We are awaiting the report of the Safety Commissioner. If hon. Chairman permits me, I would like to give details. But it is already mentioned in reply to the first question and therefore, I am not going into that. If any hon. Member would like to know about the incident involving the Jnaneshwari Express or the Uttarbanga or any other incident, I am willing to give whatever information I have.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, the reply details the following possible steps being taken to enhance safety: 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 observation of safe practice. Sir, the CAG report on Railways has stated that maintenance and inspections were to be the cornerstones for ensuring efficient functioning of railway equipment. Studies have indicated that there was a need to review this aspect, as in all zones there was shortfall in inspections. Staff shortage was a commonly cited reason for this shortfall.

Contrary to the pronouncement of the Corporate Safety Plan, in all the 16 zones there are shortage of safety category staff. In the light of the CAG Report on Railways, what exactly does the Government intend to do to fill up the vacant posts related to railway safety? Will the Ministry come out with a time-frame for the same?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Member for mentioning what are the steps to be taken by the Railways for the railway safety. I would like to say that there is absolutely no compromise so far as safety of the railway is concerned. Regarding the CAG Report, I do not want to make any observation here because there is a procedure for it. It is presented in the

Parliament and then it is sent to the concerned Department. If it is the case of the Railways, it is sent to the Railway Ministry and then the Railways will give its official reply. But here I would like to say that Railways spent Rs.27,160 crore for railway safety in 2008-09, Rs.30,656 crore in 2009-10 and this year the allocation is Rs.31,616 crore. It shows that the Railways is providing more money for the safety, I would also like to add with your kind permission, Sir, that accidents due to failure of railway staffs have been reduced from 248 in 2001-02 to 75 in 2008-09 and 66 in 2009-10. Again, Sir, the Railways gives the highest priority to safety in train operation. Consequential train accidents excluding cases of trespassing unmanned level crossing in India have consistently declined from 269 in 2002-03 to 100 in 2009-10. Accidents in 2009-10 registered a decline of 13 per cent in comparison to previous year.

Price-rise of essential commodities

*282. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of essential commodities have been rising in the recent months;

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

(c) the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by Government to contain food inflation/prices of essential commodities?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) The retail prices of essential commodities are showing a declining or steady trend over the past 6 months in the case of rice, wheat, atta, sugar, pulses such as gram dal, tur dal, masoor dal, edible oils such as mustard oil, onion in 4 metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai. However the retail prices of pulses such as urad dal and moong dal, edible oils such as groundnut oil and vanaspati, milk and

potato had shown a marginal increase over the same period. The details of retail prices of essential commodities in 4 Metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai is given in Statement-I (See below).

Prices of certain pulses and edible oils, which are imported to bridge the gap in domestic availability, are rising on account of hardening of international prices. International prices of pulses and edible oils are given in Statement-II. (See below). The increase in cost of milk production is largely due to increase in prices of cattle feed and fodder in last one year, and higher consumption of milk in rural areas due to increase in disposable income of rural population as a result of implementation of income and employment generation schemes. Weather, apart from seasonal factors contributed to increase in prices of some vegetables.

(c) The corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by Government to contain food inflation/ prices of essential commodities are given in Statement-III.

Statement-I

Daily Retail Prices along with % variation of essential commodities

(Rs per kg)					
Commodity/ Centre	Current Date	6 Month Back	1 Year Back	% Variation	
	6/8/2010	6/2/2010	6/8/2009	over 6 Months	over 1 Year
1	2	3	4	5	6
Rice					
Delhi	22.00	23.00	20.00	-4.55	9.09
Mumbai	20.00	20.00	19.00	0.00	5.00
Kolkata	20.00	18.00	14.00	10.00	30.00
Chennai	20.00	22.00	19.00	-10.00	5.00
Wheat					
Delhi	14.00	16.00	13.00	-14.29	7.14
Mumbai	19.00	20.00	17.00	-5.26	10.53
Kolkata	NR	NT	NT	NT	NT
Chennai	22.00	22.00	19.00	0.00	13.64

1	2	3	4	5	6
Atta					
Delhi	16.00	18.00	14.50	-12.50	9.38
Mumbai	21.00	20.00	18.00	4.76	14.29
Kolkata	16.00	17.00	14.00	-6.25	12.50
Chennai	23.00	22.00	20.00	4.35	13.04
Gram Dal					
Delhi	34.00	37.00	39.00	-8.82	-14.71
Mumbai	35.00	34.00	38.00	2.86	-8.57
Kolkata	32.00	38.00	38.00	-18.75	-18.75
Chennai	34.00	35.00	38.00	-2.94	-11.76
Tur Dal					
Delhi	71.00	80.00	82.00	-12.68	-15.49
Mumbai	65.00	65.00	78.00	0.00	-20.00
Kolkata	60.00	85.00	75.00	-41.67	-25.00
Chennai	68.00	80.00	82.00	-17.65	-20.59
Urad Dal					
Delhi	73.00	70.00	60.50	4.11	17.12
Mumbai	76.00	61.00	63.00	19.74	17.11
Kolkata	66.00	62.00	52.00	6.06	21.21
Chennai	78.00	76.00	66.00	2.56	15.38
Moong Dal					
Delhi	83.00	80.00	60.50	3.61	27.11
Mumbai	84.00	82.00	67.00	2.38	20.24
Kolkata	84.00	88.00	56.00	-4.76	33.33
Chennai	78.00	82.00	68.00	-5.13	12.82

1	2	3	4	5	6
Masoor Dal					
Delhi	54.50	60.00	68.50	-10.09	-25.69
Mumbai	51.00	55.00	62.00	-7.84	-21.57
Kolkata	48.00	58.00	60.00	-20.83	-25.00
Chennai	48.00	NR	NR	NR	NR
Sugar					
Delhi	30.00	44.00	28.00	-46.67	6.67
Mumbai	30.00	42.00	27.00	-40.00	10.00
Kolkata	31.00	41.00	28.00	-32.26	9.68
Chennai	29.00	42.00	26.00	-44.83	10.34
Groundnut Oil					
Delhi	115.00	112.00	107.00	2.61	6.96
Mumbai	81.00	71.00	93.00	12.35	-14.81
Kolkata	100.00	95.00	92.00	5.00	8.00
Chennai	90.00	75.00	62.00	16.67	31.11
Mustard Oil					
Delhi	67.00	70.00	67.00	-4.48	0.00
Mumbai	68.00	67.00	75.00	1.47	-10.29
Kolkata	60.00	65.00	62.00	-8.33	-3.33
Chennai	70.00	73.00	68.00	-4.29	2.86
Vanaspati					
Delhi	57.00	57.00	55.00	0.00	3.51
Mumbai	56.00	50.00	55.00	10.71	1.79
Kolkata	50.00	40.00	45.00	20.00	10.00
Chennai	60.00	54.00	55.00	10.00	8.33

1	2	3	4	5	6
Tea (Loose)					
Delhi	148.00	160.00	140.00	-8.11	5.41
Mumbai	155.00	156.00	150.00	-0.65	3.23
Kolkata	100.00	110.00	100.00	-10.00	0.00
Chennai	240.00	340.00	290.00	-41.67	-20.83
Salt (Packed)					
Delhi	12.00	12.00	12.00	0.00	0.00
Mumbai	12.00	12.00	12.00	0.00	0.00
Kolkata	8.00	8.00	7.00	0.00	12.50
Chennai	12.00	12.00	12.00	0.00	0.00
Potato					
Delhi	12.00	9.00	18.00	25.00	-50.00
Mumbai	12.00	14.00	17.00	-16.67	-41.67
Kolkata	6.00	5.00	15.00	16.67	-150.00
Chennai	14.00	16.00	16.00	-14.29	-14.29
Onion					
Delhi	14.00	24.00	15.00	-71.43	-7.14
Mumbai	13.00	19.00	13.00	-46.15	0.00
Kolkata	13.00	22.00	14.00	-69.23	-7.69
Chennai	14.00	22.00	12.00	-57.14	14.29
Milk					
Delhi	24.00	22.00	21.00	8.33	12.50
Mumbai	26.00	24.00	21.00	7.69	19.23
Kolkata	21.00	21.00	20.00	0.00	4.76
Chennai	20.50	20.50	18.00	0.00	12.20

Source: State/UTs Civil Supplies Department

Statement-II

International prices of Pulses and edible oils

Item	Centre, Unit	Variety	International Prices of select commodities				
			Prices*	Prices 1 week ago	One month ago	Six months ago	one year ago
Chana	Australia \$	FAQ	485-490	490-500	450-460	520-530	470-480
Urad	US\$/PMT cnf	FAQ	1000-1100	1100-1135	1100-1120	885-985	650-750
Tur	US\$/PMT cnf	FAQ	780-850	925-950	930-950	925-940	900-970
Masoor	US \$/PMT cnf	FAQ medium	700-760	700-760	685-820	830-835	700-750
Moong	US\$/PMT cnf	FAQ	1255-1360	1255-1360	1320-1330	1200-1225	750-815
Yellow peas	US\$/PMT cnf/	FAQ	330-335	320-340	300-320	330-340	305-325
Crude PalmOil	Malaysia, US \$/PMT fob		860	805	747	740	670
RBD Palmolein	Malaysia, US \$/PMT fob		920	852	782	782	730
Soya oil	Brazil, US \$/PMT cif		895	850	772	810	780
Sunflower oil	Rotterdam, US \$/PMT cif		980	900	815	845	785

Source: SEA, NAFED NA - Not Available; *Prices of pulses as on 4.8.10 and those for edible oils as on 9/4/2010.

Statement-III

*Steps taken by Government to certain price rise of
essential commodities are briefly stated below:*

I Fiscal Measures

- (i) Reduced import duties to zero - for rice, wheat, pulses, edible oils (crude); and butter and ghee;
- (ii) Reduced import duties on refined & hydrogenated oils & vegetable oils to 7.5%;
- (iii) 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;
- (iv) 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, edible oils (except coconut oil and forest based oil) and pulses (except Kabuli chana).
- (iii) Export of edible oils has been allowed w.e.f 20th November, 2008 in small packs upto 5 kgs, subject to a limit of 10,000 tons upto 31.10.2009. EGoM in its meeting held on 20.11.2009 decided to further allow export of edible oils not exceeding 10,000 tons during the period from 01.11.2009 to 31.10.2010.
- (iv) 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.

- (v) Using Minimum Export Price (MEP) to regulate exports of onion (averaging at \$220 per tonne for August 2010) and basmati rice (\$900 PMT);
- (vi) 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.
- (vii) 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.
- (viii) Permitted sugar factories to sell processed raw sugar in the domestic market and fulfil export obligation on ton to ton basis.
- (ix) 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.
- (x) For the month of July, 2010, 14.50 lakh tons of non levy sugar have been made available which includes 10.15 lakh tons of normal non-levy sugar and 1.85 lakh tons of sugar processed from imported raw sugar during May, 2010. Estimated availability out of imported white/refined sugar during the month is about 0.50 lakh ton and estimated availability of carryover stock of June, 2010 non-levy quota is about 2 lakh tons. Besides, levy sugar quota of 2.15 lakh tons also been released. Thus, for the month of July, 2010, 16.65 lakh tons of sugar have been made available.

(xi) 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.

- (xii) Specific adhoc additional allocation of 30.66 lakh tonnes of foodgrains 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.
- (xiii) Recently, the Government has also decided on providing, an additional allocation of 4.57 lakh tonnes of foodgrains per month for APL families at the prevailing APL CIP. This is applicable initially for a period of six months to those States where APL allocations are below 15 kg per family per month.
- (xiv) OMSS interventions:
- (a) Allocation to State Governments under OMSS (Domestic) for release of 20.00 lakh tonnes 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 tonnes 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 tonnes 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 tonnes of wheat and 17000 tonnes of rice from the un-lifted quantity of OMSS allocations to state Governments. Similarly, NCCF was allocated 32684.21 tonnes wheat and 11000 tonnes rice for sale to retail consumers.
 - (e) On 16.2.2010, another allocation of 5 lakh tonnes 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.

(xv) The Government also contemplating bringing legislation on Food Security.

(xvi) Experimented with popularization of Yellow Peas through sale in the Retail Outlets of NAFED, Kendriya Bhandar, NCCF and Mother Dairy in Delhi.

III Other 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. In order to increase the production of food grains, the Government is implementing the following:

- (i) Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Food Security Mission (NFSM) in selected districts of 17 states for enhancing the food grain production of rice, wheat and pulses by 20 million tonnes during 11th plan.
- (ii) Crop production programmes of rice, wheat and coarse cereals are being encouraged under Macro Management Agriculture (MMA) scheme.
- (iii) Under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) additional Central assistance is provided to the states to achieve 4% growth in Agriculture and allied sectors and to reduce yield gaps of crops and maximizing returns to the farmers.
- (iv) New initiative of "Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India" in 6 eastern states is also focused towards enhancing agriculture production.
- (v) Similarly, new initiative of "organizing 60,000 pulses and Oilseed village" is being implemented in major pulses growing states to supplement the efforts of other schemes in enhancing the pulses production.
- (vi) Maize production is promoted through Integrated Scheme on Oilseed, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM).

श्री भरतसिंह प्रभातसिंह परमार : सभापति जी, मंत्री जी का जो जवाब मिला है, उसके आधार पर मैं उनसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने महंगाई कम होने के जो आंकड़े दिए हैं, मुद्रास्फीति कम हुई है, यह बताने के लिए जो आंकड़े दिए हैं, मेरा मानना है कि ये भ्रामक हैं। वास्तविक स्थिति यह है कि महंगाई बढ़ी है और दाल, सब्जी तथा चावल की कीमतें आसमान को छू रही हैं और कीमतों में कोई गिरावट नहीं आई है।

श्री सभापति : आप सवाल पूछिए।

श्री भरतसिंह प्रभातसिंह परमार : मैं पहले भूमिका रख रहा हूँ, फिर सवाल पूछूँगा। आज के अखबार में भी आया है कि ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask your supplementary.

श्री भरतसिंह प्रभातसिंह परमार : माननीय मंत्री जी बता रहे हैं कि मुद्रास्फीति एक अंक में पहुंच गई है, लेकिन आज के अखबार में आया है कि वह 11.40 तक पहुंच गई है। इसलिए मंत्री जी से मेरा पहला पूरक सवाल यह है कि खाद्यान्न के लिए मुद्रास्फीति के जो पैरामीटर्स हैं, इनका कौन सा आधार लिया जाता है और यदि वे गलत हैं, तो उनको सुधारने के लिए कौन से उपाय किए जा रहे हैं?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, in the statement which I have made here in reply, I have given comparison of six months - what was the position six months back and what is today's position. I accept that there are certain essential commodities the prices of which have been definitely showing a declining trend and there are few items where there is no improvement. I have also given this detail and reasons for this in the reply.

श्री भरतसिंह प्रभातसिंह परमार : मुद्रास्फीति तो दो अंकों में पहुंच गई है।

श्री सभापति : आप दूसरा सवाल पूछिए।

श्री भरतसिंह प्रभातसिंह परमार : सभापति जी, शरद जी स्वयं किसान भी हैं। मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि यह जो उत्पादकता कम हो रही है, इसके कारण ही खाद्यान्न की कीमतें बढ़ रही हैं। जब आप किसानों की उत्पादकता बढ़ायेंगे, तभी यह महंगाई कम होगी। इसलिए मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि किसानों की उत्पादकता को बढ़ाने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जा रहे हैं?

श्री शरद पवार : उत्पादकता कम हो रही है, यह general situation नहीं है। आप इसमें देखेंगे कि pulses के बारे में हमारा क्षेत्र बढ़ नहीं रहा है और इसमें एक तरह की stagnation की स्थिति है। बाकी अन्य फसलों के बारे में यह स्थिति नहीं है। Medium Term Measures जो लिए गए हैं, इनकी information reply में दी गई है। Production बढ़ाने के लिए हम कौन-सी स्कीम implement कर रहे हैं और क्या कर रहे हैं, इन सबकी details इसमें है।

डा. मनोहर जोशी : सर, मैं जो प्रश्न उठा रहा हूं, वह प्रश्न मैंने पहले भी इसी सदन में मंत्री जी से दो बार पूछा था, लेकिन मुझे उसका उत्तर नहीं मिला, इसलिए आज मैं प्रश्न उठा रहा हूं। मेरा प्रश्न जीवनावश्यक वस्तुओं के दाम नियंत्रित करने के संबंध में है। आपको तो मालूम है कि जब मैं महाराष्ट्र का मुख्य मंत्री था, तब मैंने यह उपाय योजना की थी और वही प्रश्न मैंने पूछा था कि जो पांच जीवनावश्यक वस्तुएं हैं - गेहूं, चावल, दाल, तेल और चीनी, क्या आप इनके भाव पांच साल के लिए या एक साल के लिए निर्धारित करेंगे, ताकि ये वस्तुएं कम से कम बीपीएल के लोगों को मिलें? यही मेरा प्रश्न है और मैं सोचता हूं कि गरीबों के लिए इस प्रश्न का उत्तर ठीक तरीके से आना आवश्यक है।

श्री शरद पवार : जहां तक बीपीएल population है और इससे भी जो गरीब वर्ग है, वह अंत्योदय में आता है, इन वर्गों के लिए गेहूं और चावल के दाम 2002 में तय किए गए और 2002 से आज तक इसके दाम में सुधार नहीं किया गया, परिवर्तन नहीं किया गया है। इससे यह बात साबित होती है कि एक साल के लिए नहीं, पांच साल के लिए नहीं, बल्कि इस सरकार ने इन दो वस्तुओं की कीमत आठ साल से एक ही रखी है और इस पर आज भी अमल हो रहा है।

जहां तक pulses की स्थिति है, इसके बारे में मैंने पहले भी कहा कि हमारे देश में pulses का उत्पादन कम हो रहा है, ऐसी बात नहीं है, लेकिन जो डिमांड है, उसके मुताबिक आज उत्पादन नहीं हो रहा है। इसमें gap है, इसलिए हमें इम्पोर्ट करना पड़ता है। International Market में इसके price ऊपर गए हैं, फिर भी भारत सरकार ने यहां के consumers को pulses ठीक तरह से available कराने के लिए Public Sector Organizations, MMTTC, STC वगैरह को इसका इम्पोर्ट करने के लिए कहा। इसके इम्पोर्ट में इनको जो नुकसान होता है, उसमें 15 प्रतिशत की जिम्मेदारी भारत सरकार ने ली। साथ-साथ जिन राज्यों ने Public Distribution System के माध्यम से pulses का distribution करने के लिए अपनी तैयारी दिखाई, भारत सरकार ने उनको distribution के लिए pulses 8-10 रुपए प्रति किलो कम पर available कराने का काम भी किया। जहां तक चीनी की स्थिति है, चीनी की स्थिति में बहुत फर्क आ रहा है। इसकी कीमत 45 रुपए प्रति किलो तक गई थी, आज इसकी कीमत 30 रुपए प्रति किलो के आसपास है। इसके दाम में पिछले कुछ महीनों में 15 रुपए प्रति किलो का फर्क आया है, decline आ रहा है और जैसा मैंने जवाब में कहा, वैसा ही declining trend है।

डा. मनोहर जोशी : सर, इन्होंने edible oil के बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा।

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सभापति महोदय, यह सवाल आम जरूरत की चीजों की कीमतों को लेकर है। दुर्भाग्य से यह मान लिया गया है कि आम जरूरत की चीजें केवल खाद्य वस्तुएं हैं। श्रीमन्, आज जरूरत की चीजें दो तरह की हैं, एक वे हैं, जो खेत में पैदा होती हैं और दूसरी आम जरूरत की वे चीजें भी हैं, जो कारखानों में या उद्योगों में पैदा होती हैं। श्रीमन्, हम सारी चर्चाएं इस बात पर कर रहे हैं कि खेतों में पैदा होने वाली आम जरूरत की चीजों की कीमतों में कितना बढ़ावा हुआ। यह जरूर करना चाहिए, लेकिन मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या सरकार ने इस बात की कोई जांच-पड़ताल की, कोई सर्वेक्षण किया कि खेतों में उत्पादित होने वाली आम जरूरत की चीजों और उद्योगों में उत्पादित होने वाली आम जरूरत की चीजों, जैसे पेंसिल, जूता, कलम, कपड़े, शर्ट, मोजा, आदि की कीमतों में इसी दौर में कितनी वृद्धि हुई है?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question please.

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : उनमें कितनी वृद्धि हुई है और उनके मूल्य कितने प्रतिशत बढ़े हैं?
...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question? Does it relate to the main question?

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सर, मेरा सवाल यह है कि क्या सरकार इस बात का सर्वेक्षण कराएगी कि आम जरूरत की वे चीजें, जो खेतों में पैदा होती हैं और जो कारखानों में पैदा होती हैं, इन दोनों के मूल्यों में तुलनात्मक रूप से इसी दौर में, इसी अंतराल में कितनी वृद्धि हुई है? क्या सरकार इस बात का सर्वेक्षण कराकर हमें सूचित करेगी?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: It is a very important question, Sir. यह बात सच है कि essential commodities के बारे में सरकार की तरफ से, Consumer Affairs Ministry की तरफ से जो ध्यान दिया जाता है, essential agricultural produce की तरफ ज्यादा दिया जाता है, मगर जो non-agricultural produce है, जो शायद इंडस्ट्री में पैदा होने वाली चीजें हैं, इन पर इस मिनिस्ट्री की तरफ से कोई सर्वे कराने का काम आज तक नहीं हुआ है। मगर यह जो सुझाव दिया गया है, इस बारे में सोचने के लिए सरकार तैयार है और यह बात सच है कि कई लोगों के लिए बाकी की अन्य चीजें भी उतनी ही important होती हैं, जिन पर इस मिनिस्ट्री की तरफ से शायद ध्यान नहीं जाता होगा, मगर अन्य मिनिस्ट्रीज़ की मदद से क्या हम ध्यान दे सकते हैं, इसकी हम जांच करेंगे।

श्री सभापति : थैंक यू। श्री महेन्द्र मोहन, सवाल पूछिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : श्रीमान्, इस देश में यह ...(व्यवधान)... जो केवल किसानों की ...(व्यवधान)... वस्तुओं के खिलाफ ...

श्री सभापति : नहीं, नहीं आपको जवाब मिल गया है। That is enough, please. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : क्या कारखानों में, उद्योगों में उत्पादित वस्तुओं के मूल्य ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, this is not the time for making a statement. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : तो हम चाहते हैं कि इस पर सर्वेक्षण हो और इस सदन को सूचित किया जाए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister has replied to the question raised.

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन : सभापति जी, आपके माध्यम से मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से सीधा प्रश्न करना चाहता हूँ कि यदि आज आवश्यक चीज़ों के मूल्य बढ़ रहे हैं, तो गोदामों में जो गेहूँ, चावल सड़ रहा है, उसका distribution तेज़ी से क्यों नहीं बढ़ा देते हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Does it relate to this question?

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन : मूल्य जो होता है, वह डिमांड एंड सप्लाई पर निर्भर करता है। किसी भी चीज़ का मूल्य डिमांड एंड सप्लाई पर होता है। अगर सप्लाई बढ़ा देंगे तो मूल्य कम हो जाएंगे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Does it relate to this question or not?

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन : आज भी सुप्रीम कोर्ट कह रहा है कि ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please don't make a statement. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: My very specific question, Sir ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not relevant to this question.

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन : सर, मैं कह रहा हूँ कि सप्लाई बढ़ाकर मूल्यों में कमी क्यों नहीं ला रहे हैं?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, I am sorry. This cannot be allowed.

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन : सर, बहुत specific question है कि सप्लाई बढ़ाकर मूल्यों में ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This cannot be allowed. ...**(Interruptions)**... We will now move to the next question. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन : सर, यह तो बहुत specific question है कि सप्लाई बढ़ाकर महंगाई को कम क्यों नहीं कर रहे हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: What is this, Sir? ...**(Interruptions)**... I want to put a question ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question number 283. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please resume your place. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: It is very much part of the question ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you wish to ...(Interruptions)... Read the question please. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री गंगा चरण : यह महंगाई का सवाल है, इसका जवाब आना चाहिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you please resume your place. ...(Interruptions)... आप बैठ जाइए आप बैठ जाइए।

Construction of modern godowns

*283. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared a master plan to construct modern FCI godowns on Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) basis to prevent the foodgrains from wastage to the tune of 50 metric tonnes every year;

(b) if so, whether there is any time schedule to complete the project; and

(c) if not, who will be held responsible/accountable for the loss of tax payers' money?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Government have prepared a comprehensive plan for construction of godowns for storage of foodgrains by FCI through private entrepreneurs and Central and State Warehousing Corporations. As per plan, 149.4 lakh tonnes of storage space is to be created.

(b) and (c) The time schedule prescribed for completion of godowns is 1 year from finalization of agreement with the entrepreneur. In case of godowns with railway sidings, this time limit will be 2 years from the date of agreement.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Sir, in the reply, it is shown that "The time schedule prescribed for completion of godowns is one year from finalization of agreement with the entrepreneur, in the case of godowns with railway sidings, this limit will be two years from the agreement". Sir, I would like to have a clarification that in the case of the first one, what is the timeframe for finalization of the agreement with the entrepreneurs? Whether it is one year more. If it is

so, Sir, in both the cases, the Supreme Court has already ordered that if the foodgrains are getting wasted like this because of non-providing the godowns, this should be distributed to the poor people. More than 14 million people will be benefited for a year. Whether that will be applied here.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Regarding the finalization of tender, as I said in the reply, we have introduced a new scheme. As per the new scheme, FCI is ready to take responsibility to hire for ten years.

We have also announced tenders in certain States. The FCI has undertaken exercise to reduce the time taken in finalising tenders. Originally, it was 92 days; now it is 62 days. Basically, we would like to expedite this work. As I said in the reply, we have kept a one-year period and for railway sidings it is a two-year period.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Sir, part (c) of my question is: if not, who will be held responsible/accountable for the loss of tax payers' money? No reply is given for this part of the question. There are three levels of accountability. One is implementing part. Another is middle-level management. And third is policy-making. Who will be held responsible for these damages which are to the tune of crores of rupees per year?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: There are two things in it. We have already finalised the capacity of 149 lakh tonnes of storage space. We have told the FCI that they have to complete this work in such and such period. They have already taken up this responsibility.

When question comes of damages, yes, there are certain cases of damages. We deputed teams to those places. They visited those places. They have gone into the detail of those cases. And they have taken action to suspend some of the officers also. And a detailed investigation is going on.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, in view of the criminal wastage of precious foodgrains in this country which is to the extent of millions of

tonnes, the urgency of the construction of godowns cannot be overemphasised.

My question, Sir, relates to the recommendation made by the National Commission on Farmers led by Prof. M.S. Swaminathan in which he has suggested that the spread of godowns all over the country is also very much required. And one of the important issues is the lack of godowns

in the entire North-East and the Eastern region specifically. Often private entrepreneurs don't see much profit in it. The recommendation specifically is for fifty godowns built by the Government for storage of one million tonnes of foodgrains each in different parts of India.

My question to the hon. Minister is this. What is the Government's understanding of this specific recommendation which will cost the exchequer only ten thousand crore rupees with the most modern silos for the protection of foodgrains?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: There are two things. The first statement, which the hon. Member made, that millions of tonnes of foodgrains has been wasted or damaged, is not factually correct. It is quite an exaggeration.

On the question of programme which the Government of India has taken, there are two types of schemes for construction of godowns which exist today. One is that from the Agriculture Ministry we have a Bhandaran Scheme where we support cooperative societies and even individuals through small warehouses at the village level. But it is very small. That is not available for storage of foodgrains of the FCI.

The FCI has one scheme where it is directly spending and that is essentially in the North-East. We have taken up the scheme for the North-East. We have requested certain State Governments to provide land, and construction has been started in certain places. In rest of the States, we are after the State Government.

There is another scheme. That is to construct or hire 149 lakh tonnes of space capacity through private people. The FCI has announced the places where our requirement is there. After the announcement, we are expecting some response from public. The FCI will finalise a proposal and it will give a guarantee to the entrepreneurs that for the next ten years we will use these godowns for storage purposes. Suppose for this or that reason we are not in a position to keep any material in that godown, still we will take the responsibility to pay rent. That scheme has been announced. Anybody can give silos. Anybody can give different types of warehouses. FCI has appointed a committee and that committee will take a

final view.

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Sir, the hon. Minister, in the answer, has mentioned "one year from finalisation of agreement with the entrepreneurs". But, what is the date for the entrepreneurs to finalise the agreement? That is not mentioned. ...(*Interruptions*)... Construction time is mentioned as one year from the date of finalisation of agreement with the entrepreneurs. But, what is the last date for finalising these agreements with the entrepreneurs?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, in fact, recently, we have issued an order that within 62 days, the FCI has to complete the entire procedure and they are already on this line.

MS. MABEL REBELLO: Sir, the Minister, in his reply, has said that space for almost 15 million tonnes capacity storage will be built over a period of one year. I would like to know from the hon. Minister: Will this capacity, which he is planning to create, be sufficient to store all our foodgrains? Will that capacity be spread all over the country so that not even a single grain of foodgrains is wasted? This is what I would like to know.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, generally, foodgrains are kept in two types of warehouses. One is covered and we keep about 40 to 41 million tonnes in them. And the other is CAP. We just construct a small platform, wooden platform, and then we covered it by tarpaulin. That caters to about 13 to 14 million tonnes. Whatever is required for that CAP, that is, for about 149 lakh tonnes, we are taking that up. Our desire is that we do not want to continue with CAP. We don't want to keep anything in open. Everything should be under cover. Whatever is the requirement as on today or whatever is the gap between availability and non-availability, that gap will be filled and that gap will be somewhat about 140 lakh tonnes. We are constructing for about 149 lakh tonnes.

लखनऊ और हरदोई के बीच लोकल रेलगाड़ी

***284. श्री नरेश चन्द्र अगवाल :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में लखनऊ और हरदोई के बीच रेल द्वारा प्रतिदिन लाखों

यात्री यात्रा करते हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार उन यात्रियों की सुविधा के लिए लखनऊ और हरदोई के बीच लोकल रेलगड़ी चलाएगी; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री ई. अहमद): (क) से (ग) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) जी, नहीं। लखनऊ और हरदोई के बीच रोजाना लगभग 6000 यात्री आते-जाते हैं।

(ख) और (ग) लखनऊ और हरदोई के बीच 28 जोड़ी रेलगाड़ियां उपलब्ध हैं। इस समय संसाधनों की तंगी और परिचालनिक कठिनाइयों के कारण लखनऊ और हरदोई के बीच नई लोकल गाड़ी चलाने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

Local train between Lucknow and Hardoi

†*284. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lakhs of daily passengers travel everyday by train between Lucknow and Hardoi in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether for the facility of those passengers, Government would run a local train between Lucknow and Hardoi; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) No, Sir. Around 6000 passengers travel daily to and fro between Lucknow and Hardoi.

(b) and (c) 28 pairs of trains are available between Lucknow and Hardoi. At present, there is no proposal to introduce any new local train between Lucknow and Hardoi due to operational and resource constraints.

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, आपकी अनुमति से मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से, थोड़ा सा रुक के मैंने इनको मंत्री जी इसलिए कहा, हो सकता है जो आश्वासन दें वे पूरा नहीं कर पाएं, क्योंकि वे पूरी पॉवर से लैस नहीं हैं।

श्री सभापति : आप सवाल पूछिए।

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ, यह तो हमें भी मालूम था, वैसे लखनऊ-हरदोई के बीच जो पैसेंजर संख्या छः हजार दी है, वह करीब बीस हजार है, जो डेली पैसेंजर चलते हैं। श्रीमन्, चूँकि जो ट्रेनें चलती हैं, इन्होंने कहा कि 28 ट्रेनें चलती हैं उनमें कोई अनरिजर्व्ड बोगी नहीं होती है और सभी पैसेंजर्स उन बोगियों में चलते हैं जो रिजर्व्ड होती हैं, जिससे अन्य यात्रियों को भी परेशानी होती है। तो मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने जो छः हजार की फिगर्स निकाली है उसका आधार क्या है, जबकि मेरा मानना है कि वहां बीस हजार से ज्यादा पैसेंजर्स रोज चलते हैं? दूसरा, आपने हमारे पहले सवाल के जवाब में यह कहा था कि जब रेल लाइन इलेक्ट्रिफाइड हो जाएगी तब इस पर ट्रेन चलाई जाएगी। चूँकि अब यह रेल लाइन इलेक्ट्रिफाइड हो गई है तो अब तक ट्रेन न चलाए जाने का क्या कारण है? आपने यह भी कहा कि हम नहीं चलाएंगे। तो इसका क्या कारण है, यह हमें बतला दें?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman, Sir, what I have given in my reply is that the Railways has been. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती वृंदा कारत : ये आवाज से लैस हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SHIVA: Mike is not working ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please switch on the mike. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : सर, आवाज नहीं आ रही है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : सर, आवाज नहीं आ रही है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, no sound is coming ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please let the Minister finish.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Anyway, it is not my fault. Sir, as per the assessment of the Railways, there are 6000 passengers to and fro for which 28 trains are running in this route, and according to the Railways, the provision of additional train services is an on-going process, subject to the operational feasibility and availability of demand, traffic, and resources. New train services which are to be introduced during the course of a financial year are announced every year in the Railway Budget speech. The services are introduced during the course of the financial year based on availability of

the rolling stock, completion of gauge conversion work, new lines and development of requisite facilities. According to the Railways, the present level of services is very much sufficient. Each of the 28 trains running between Hardoi and Lucknow has, at least, 2 general class and 2 second class-cum-guard-cum-luggage coaches for unreserved passengers and it is very much sufficient as per the assessment made by the Railways.

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : सभापति महोदय, मैंने बिल्कुल साफ पूछा है और माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने जवाब में कहा है कि छह हजार रेलवे के सर्वे के अनुसार हैं, इस पर मैंने माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछा था कि सर्वे का मानक क्या है, आखिर वह मानक तो बतायें कि इन्होंने छह हजार किस नीति से असेस किया है, जबकि मेरी अपनी निश्चित जानकारी है। उपसभापति महोदय, अगर सदन में कोई माननीय सदस्य निश्चित जानकारी देते हैं, तो उसको गंभीरता से माननीय मंत्री जी को लेना चाहिए। हम भी वहां के लोकल रहने वाले हैं। हम जो जानकारी देंगे, वह आफिशियल जानकारी से ज्यादा अच्छी देंगे। मेरी निश्चित जानकारी है कि बीस हजार से अधिक पैसंजर्स चलते हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी, खुद ही कह रहे हैं कि दो अनरिजर्व्ड बोगीज़ चलती हैं। वहां के लोगों को बहुत परेशानी होती है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से दो बातें पूछना चाहता हूं। एक तो आप यह बताइए कि आपने जो मानक बनाए हैं, इन मानकों के अनुसार उत्तर प्रदेश में कितने प्लेसिज़ आते हैं, जहां पर लोकल ट्रेनें चलनी चाहिए? जहां पर लोकल ट्रेनों की वेलेडिटी है, वहां पर आप कब लोकल ट्रेनें चलाने की घोषणा करेंगे? ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is outside the scope of this question.

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : सभापति महोदय, यह इसी से संबंधित है। सर, हमें आपका संरक्षण चाहिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : आप अपना सवाल पढ़िए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : सभापति महोदय, मैं अपने छोटे से तजुर्बे के आधार पर सवाल पढ़ रहा हूं। वहां तो लिखा हुआ मिल रहा है, यहां तो दिमाग से पढ़ रहा हूं। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : नहीं, देखिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : सभापति महोदय, हम तो सिर्फ अपना दिमाग लगा रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : नहीं-नहीं, देखिए। अगर आप जवाब को गलत समझते हैं, तो आप उसको चेलेज कीजिए। वह एक अलग चीज़ है। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : सभापति महोदय, आप भी यू.पी. के हैं, आप हमें थोड़ा-सा संरक्षण दे दीजिए। सभापति महोदय, हम इसी पर आते हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी, मैं आपसे इतना कहना चाहता हूं कि मेरी बात को सत्य मानते हुए, चूंकि हरदोई-लखनऊ लाइन इलेक्ट्रिफाइड हो गई है और वहां के लोगों को बहुत अधिक आवश्यकता

है, क्या आप दोबारा अपने विभाग को निर्देश देंगे कि इन चीजों का सर्वे कराकर, उसकी रिपोर्ट हमको भेजते, तो हम उसके आधार पर आपसे बात कर लेंगे? वहां पर रेल लाइन चल जाए, इसके लिए आप वहां पर ट्रायल की शुरुआत करवा दीजिए। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी, इसकी सदन में घोषणा करेंगे?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, on the basis of this assessment of the Railways, daily ticket and season ticket sold for the month of May 2010 to the passengers who travel specifically between Hardoi and Lucknow, this is the basis. On that basis, on each side, 3000 passengers travel. That is the basis. But all other issues that the hon. Members has raised here are matters to be looked into.

It is a matter to be looked into and I will assure him that his other lines and other things will definitely be looked into. But, at the same time, I would like to inform the hon. Member that there is a procedure for introduction of new trains or extra trains; that procedure has to be followed by the Railway, and according to that procedure, as I already mentioned, there are some more conditions which are to be fulfilled - availability of demand, availability of path, availability of stabling lines availability of railway infrastructure, availability of resources, availability of rolling stock, manpower requirement and impact on the freight traffic; these are the things which we will have to take into account before such a train is introduced, and there is also a procedure followed by three kinds of administrative levels. The first is the division level; the second is the zonal level; the third is the national level. At the national level, a Timetable Committee is there; that Committee looks into the things. Thereafter, a train can be introduced.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. ...(*Interruptions*)... Shri Selvaganpathi.

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : माननीय सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री सदन को गुमराह कर रहे हैं।
... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : अगर ऐसा है, तो आप लिखकर दे दीजिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : अगर सदन में उत्तर नहीं मिलेगा तो न्याय कहां से मिलेगा?
... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : नहीं, नहीं। ... (व्यवधान) ... देखिए, this is a serious matter.

...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : महोदय, हमारे क्षेत्र की बहुत बड़ी समस्या है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... तीन हजार टिकट बिके हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मंत्री जी बताएं कि बगौली, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : मलीहाबाद, रहीमाबाद कहीं तो उन्होंने जोड़ा नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सदन को तथ्यों से परे रखा जाएगा, तो हमें न्याय नहीं चाहिए? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : अगर आपको जवाब से कोई शिकायत है, तो आप इस सवाल को लिखकर दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : अगर सही जवाब है, तो हमें कोई शिकायत नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री कलराज मिश्र : श्रीमन्, जिसका नाम लिया गया है, उसका कहीं जिक्र नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : बीच वाले का कहीं जिक्र नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, लखनऊ और हरदोई ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You see ...*(Interruptions)*... Just one minute, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Just one minute, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... If the question is factually wrong or if the question is misleading, then there is a procedure for raising it with the Minister concerned. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please follow that procedure.

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, जितने प्रोसिजर हैं, ...*(व्यवधान)*... हमें नियमावली के अनुसार चलने में कोई दिक्कत नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप इसको स्थगित कर दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मंत्री जी तैयारी करके आएँ और इसका जवाब दे दें। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : ये * मिनिस्टर हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति : प्लीज़, नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल जी, आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, is the House run like this? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति : प्लीज़, नरेश अग्रवाल जी, आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : नहीं, श्रीमन्, मुझे न्याय नहीं मिल रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, I will never. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will never try to mislead. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will never mislead the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सर, ये किस तरह की बात कर रहे हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you interfering in the matter? ...*(Interruptions)*... आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सर, ये किस तरह की बात कर रहे हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you interfering in the matter? ...*(Interruptions)*... Precious time is wasted in these futile discussions. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, if the hon. Member has anything specific, he may just write to me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL: Who is she? ...*(Interruptions)*... Who is she trying to advise, me? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called another Member. Will you please resume your place? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सर, ये किस तरह की बात कर रहे हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी : यह बहुत गलत बात है, बहुत गलत बात है, * क्या होता है? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : अग्रवाल जी, आप सवाल पूछ चुके हैं, आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please resume your place. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please resume your place. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, how is he speaking? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Sir, I am asking on behalf of the Government that it needs expunction ...*(Interruptions)*... What is * ? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Why is he saying? ...*(Interruptions)*... The Minister for Health is saying that it needs expunction. Why is he asking?

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: I am asking on behalf of the Government. He said
* ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute, please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: He said * ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: I am talking on behalf of the Government.
...(*Interruptions*)... You cannot say * ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you, please, resume your places?
...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, what is this going on?
...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is not a wrestling arena. There are enough
arenas in this city. Here, this is the Question Hour. It will be
conducted according to the rules made by this House.
...(*Interruptions*)... If you get into extraneous discussions, time is
wasted; Members will suffer; nobody else. Thank you. Go ahead.

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : सर, माननीय मंत्री जी का उत्तर सही नहीं है, इसलिए मैं सदन का
बहिष्कार करता हूँ।

(तत्पश्चात् माननीय सदस्य सदन से उठकर बाहर चले गए)

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Sir, this question is pertaining to local
trains between Lucknow and Hardoi in Uttar Pradesh.

There are number of towns from where thousands of passengers travel
between one town to the other. They are all daily passengers or daily
travellers. Such type of passengers are garnered by private bus
operators. Has the Ministry done any survey on this? I would like to know
whether it has got any holistic plan to cater to the needs of these daily
passengers and whether it has got a list of towns, for example, in Tamil
Nadu. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Does it relate to this question? It is a general

question. ...(*Interruptions*)...

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI T. M. SELVAGANPATHI: It is related. ...(*Interruptions*)...

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

SHRI T. M. SELVAGANPATHI: It is related, Sir. I will explain. I will just take one minute. It is with regard to local trains between one town and the other.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Both the towns are named. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: I am just giving an example.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please.

SHRI T. M. SELVAGANPATHI: Sir, there are many no. of towns like these. I am not asking about those towns. I am asking whether the Ministry has got any plan to cater to the needs of such passengers who travel between one town and the other. There are many towns like these throughout the country. Has the Ministry got a plan? Is the Ministry going to implement any such plan? This is my question.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, if the hon. Member had given me notice of this, I would have come prepared on this.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: I am just asking whether you have got a plan. Have you done any survey on this?

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : सभापति जी, मेरा एक स्पेसिफिक सवाल है, क्योंकि आपने कहा है कि केवल प्रश्न से संबंधित बात ही पूछी जाए, तो मैं हरदोई के संबंध में माननीय मंत्री जी से प्रश्न पूछना चाहता हूँ कि अंग्रेजों के जमाने में हरदोई से चलकर सांडी, माधवगंज, बिल्लाग्राम, मल्लावा, गनमुरादाबाद, बांदरमऊ, शफीपुर, उन्नाव, कानपुर होते हुए ट्रेन चला करती थी। यह ट्रेन अंग्रेजों के जमाने में चला करती थी। इसकी पटरी आज भी क्षतिग्रस्त रूप से पड़ी हुई है। मेरा सीधा-साधा सवाल है कि क्या मंत्री जी उस रूट पर, जो हरदाई, मल्लावा, माधवगंज, बिल्लाग्राम, शफीपुर, उन्नाव, कानपुर होते हुए जाता है, वहां फिर से ट्रेन चलाने का प्रयास करेंगे?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, let the hon. Member write to me. I will reply to him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Shri Jesudasu Seelam. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : मान्यवर, ये आश्वासन दें कि मैं लिखूंगा कि यह ट्रेन चलाने का प्रयास किया

जाए। मेरा सवाल था, ट्रेन चलाने का प्रयास करेंगे कि नहीं, ये उस संबंध में हां या न में जवाब दें।
... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : यहां कैसे जवाब दिया जा सकता है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : हमको केवल हां या न में जवाब चाहिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... अगर आप हमसे स्पेसिफिक क्वेश्चन पूछने के लिए कहते हैं, तो उनसे भी कहिए कि वे हां या न में जवाब दें ...*(व्यवधान)*... किसी विस्तृत भूमिका की आवश्यकता नहीं है ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह कहिए कि प्रयास करेंगे ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: In these circumstances, I will not be able to do. ...*(Interruptions)*... But if the hon. Member writes to me, I will reply to him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : मेरी यह रिक्वेस्ट है ...*(व्यवधान)*... जवाब दें कि ...*(व्यवधान)*... प्रयास करेंगे कि नहीं करेंगे? ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप विचार करेंगे कि नहीं करेंगे? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: The Minister says, "You write to me. I will reply to you". What is this? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : सर, विचार करने के लिए तो कह दीजिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: You have to protect us. ...*(Interruptions)*... One hon. Member has walked out. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Another Member has been denied his right. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why has he been denied? ...*(Interruptions)*... The Minister has not replied. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everyone here is an unauthorised speaker. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please ...*(Interruptions)*... देखिए, आपने एक नया प्रपोजल दिया है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : मेरा प्रपोजल नहीं है ...*(व्यवधान)*... मेरा माननीय मंत्री जी से सीधा-साधा अनुरोध है कि जो ट्रेन अंग्रेजों के जमाने में चलती थी, क्या आजादी के बाद की वर्तमान सरकार उस जगह पर फिर से ट्रेन चलाने का प्रयास करेगी कि नहीं करेगी ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह मेरा स्पेसिफिक सवाल है ...*(व्यवधान)*... हमें हां या न में जवाब चाहिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, I would like to say that expansion, extension, new trains and everything is a continuous process. There is a procedure for that. When it comes through the procedure, it will definitely be considered. Wherever it is possible we will do it. How can I say that

this route or that route will be done? I am not able to say that. I don't have ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : सभापति जी, हमारा माननीय मंत्री जी से यही तो सवाल है ...(*व्यवधान*)... कुछ तो जवाब दिलवा दीजिए ...(*व्यवधान*)...

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

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : कम से कम उसका सर्वे भी करा दीजिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : सभापति जी, हमें कुछ तो जवाब दिला दीजिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... हां या न में कुछ तो जवाब दिला दीजिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह कह दीजिए कि हम विचार करेंगे ...*(व्यवधान)*... हम स्वीकार करेंगे ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह कहलवा दीजिए कि विचार करेंगे ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री जुगुल किशोर : सभापति जी, यही कह दें कि नहीं चलाऊंगा ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: He is obstructing me and taking my time.
...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please ask your supplementary?
...*(Interruptions)*...

आप उनको सवाल पूछने दीजिए ...*(व्यवधान)*....

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : सभापति जी, हां या न में यही बात कह दें कि ट्रेन चलाने के लिए विचार करूंगा ...*(व्यवधान)*... ये हां या न में बोल दें, मैं बैठ जाऊंगा ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you please ask your supplementary?
...*(Interruptions)*... This is not correct. You cannot hold
...*(Interruptions)*... This is all very improper. Please resume your place.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, as per the reply given, there are 28 pairs of trains between Hardoi and Lucknow. The hon. Member has mentioned that there is lack of accommodation. Despite these 28 trains running, there is lack of accommodation and there is a dispute regarding the number of passengers. I think the Minister has not counted the number of tickets issued. Many people get their tickets issued but not from the counter. Secondly, is there any proposal before the hon. Minister to increase the quota of pairs of trains between Hardoi and Lucknow to ease out the difficulties of the passengers?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, taking into account the position of the traffic, the needful is done.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q.No. 285. Shri B.S. Gnanadesikan is not here. Is there any supplementary?

*285. [The Questioner (Shri B.S. Gnanadesikan) was absent]

Guarding of unmanned railway level crossings by private firms

*285. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is exploring the possibilities of awarding the work of guarding the unmanned level crossings to private firms;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure that all 17,000 unmanned level crossings are manned in the next five years to reduce the number of accidents at railway crossings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (c) Railways has announced in the Budget 2010-11 that all unmanned level crossings shall be eliminated in next five years, through manning of unmanned level crossing gates qualifying as per relaxed criteria, provision of Road Under Bridges (RUBs) and Limited Height Subways, merger of traffic to nearby LCs, where feasible and closing of such unmanned level crossings, which have negligible road traffic. Accordingly, Railways has sanctioned manning of about 4,000 unmanned gates during the years 2009-10 and 2010-11, to accelerate works of manning. Recently, financial powers have been delegated to the General Managers to sanction subways costing up to Rs. 2.5 crore in lieu of unmanned level crossings. Under the Railway scheme, Hon'ble Members of Parliament can also sponsor conversion of unmanned level crossing to manned level crossing under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS).

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, there are 17,000 unmanned level crossings in the country. It is the most dangerous thing. Several accidents are taking place at unmanned level crossings. In the reply, the Minister says, "Railways has announced in the Budget 2010-11 that all unmanned level crossings shall be eliminated in next five years". The

Railways has sanctioned manning of 4,000 unmanned gates in 2009-10 and 2010-11. It is very small. I would like to know from the hon. Minister

how they are going to eliminate 17,000 unmanned level crossings in these five years. If they plan to eliminate 4,000 unmanned gates in two years, how will they eliminate 17,000 in five years?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, we have planned for 2010-11 when 4,000 unmanned gates would be converted into manned. This is a continuous process. We hope to complete it in time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, we need your protection. When they are planning to man 4,000 unmanned gates in two years, how will they complete 17,000 in five years? Please tell us. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री आर.सी. सिंह : सर, उन्होंने पूछा कि टोटल नम्बर कितना है? ...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is that the question in Arithmetic in a school?

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी : सर, मैं निरन्तर इस सदन में सवाल उठा रहा हूँ और प्रत्येक बार जब मैं सवाल उठाता हूँ, तो इस सरकार की इस मंशा को जाहिर करने का प्रयास करता हूँ कि सवाल कुछ किए जाते हैं और जवाब हमेशा इसके विपरीत आता है। सर, इस पूरे सवाल को आप स्वयं पढ़ कर देखें। इसमें पूछा गया है, "Possibilities of awarding the work of guarding the unmanned level crossings to private firms". सर, आप स्वयं इस सवाल के जवाब से पढ़ कर बता दें कि इस सवाल का जवाब कहाँ है। Where is it mentioned anywhere in the answer that it is going to be awarded to the private firms or it is not going to be awarded to the private firms? I would like the hon. Minister to answer this question. I would like every Member in the House to read this answer and find out the answer of this question which has been raised. For the last three times, I have been raising these questions relating to the answers and every time there is a hoodwinking. Today, I would again request the Minister to please answer whether in your written reply you have answered this or not. If you are not answering here, it is okay. But when you come back with a written reply, do you answer the specific questions? Here it has been asked, "Whether these unmanned crossings are to be privatized or not?", Is your answer to this question there in the reply or not?

Sir, you have to see this answer. This has happened a number of times

in this House. I would request every Member to read this answer and see whether the question has been answered or not.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: As regards the answer given to question (a) to (c), if you take the answer in its entirety, any hon. Member will be able to. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: I understand both English and Hindi. You read the answer. It says, "...through manning of unmanned level cross gates qualifying as per relaxed criteria." Now, what are these relaxed criteria? Is it going to be privatized or not?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: My hon. friend may kindly listen to me. I do admit that you have a right to put questions to me; you have a right to challenge me. I do not deny it. But I may be given the time to answer. What we have mentioned here, in the last part of the answer, we have said, "Under the Railway Scheme, the hon. Members of Parliament can also sponsor conversion of unmanned level crossing to manned level crossing under the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS). ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, you read the answer. I have been pointing it out every time in this House...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: There is no 'firm' which has been mentioned here. ...*(Interruptions)*... We did not say, 'any firm'. Therefore, the work on railway crossings will be done by the Railways or by Government institutions, and no private firm will be given. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is no question of any private firm. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, it is the privilege of the House. Where is the answer regarding privatization? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Therefore, in the answer, we have mentioned generally. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री कलराज मिश्र : सर, प्रश्न ठीक से पढ़ा नहीं जाता है, इसलिए उसका उत्तर भी ठीक से नहीं आता है।

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, you have to give a ruling on this. It is the privilege of the House...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chair has noted your point. ...(*Interruptions*)... I
have noted your point.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: As regards the point which has been raised by the hon. Member, Mr. Rudy, I will, specially, look into it. But I would say that the Railways is not entrusting the work to any firm. The Railways, or, even the local bodies, would accept the MPLADS Funds for this purpose. No private firm will be given the job because guarding these level crossings is a very sensitive issue, and we will not part it with any private company.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, as for Question No.285, the hon. Minister has tried to cover up my colleague, Mr. Rudy's point of supplementary. Mr. Rudy says, "He has not given an answer as to whether private parties are also being invited to man the unmanned level crossings." The Minister says, "The Railways will man the unmanned crossings on recommendations of Members of Parliament. ...(Interruptions)... There is the word 'also' ...(Interruptions)... Members of Parliament are not specialists in manning the unmanned level crossings. So, you have to get the professionals to do the job. ...(Interruptions)..."

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: He says, "it can be sponsored." It is not a recommendation. ...(Interruptions)... The MPLADS Fund can be sponsored for this...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Or, is it the case that the Railways will follow the policy of nepotism that nobody will be selected on merit, unless a Member of Parliament recommends it.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Leader of the Opposition. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: These are safety matters. These are not political recommendation matters.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: I would like to point out to the Leader of the Opposition that this Government has changed the criteria. Old criteria have been changed, and the new criteria have been announced. All unmanned level crossings gates where the Train Vehicle Unit is more than 3,000, it will be done by the Government, the Railways. This is one aspect. We have also changed the norms for participation of the hon. Members from their MPLADS Fund, for which we have said, "If one Member of Parliament gives the MPLADS Fund for this, in his constituency, then, the Railways will take another one for him. ...(Interruptions)... And this benefit has been

given to the hon. Members of Parliament.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Production of pulses

*286. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the downfall of cultivation of pulses day-by day;

(b) whether Government is also aware that most of the farmers have switched over to cultivation of wheat, rice and cash crops like soya and sugarcane as the prices of these essential food crops keep on rising in the market which are more beneficial to them;

(c) the quantity of pulses being imported from other countries to meet their shortage in the country; and

(d) whether Government proposes to announce some incentives to motivate farmers to cultivate pulses on a large scale in the country to reduce their import?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) There is no declining trend in the total area under pulses in the country, which has remained around 23 million hectares since 2004-05, and which indicates that there has not been any shift in the overall area under pulses to other crops.

(c) Details of quantity of pulses imported during the period 2007-08 to 2009-10 are as under:

Year	Import of pulses	
	Quantity (000 Tonnes)	Value (Rs. Crore)
2007-08	2835.05	5374.94
2008-09	2481.10	6246.40
2009-10 @	3509.58	9813.37

@ Provisional

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, D/o Commerce.

(d) Production and productivity of pulses in the country is being promoted through crop development schemes such as National Food Security Mission-Pulses, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Macro Management Mode of Agriculture, new initiatives of promoting production of pulses through 60,000 pulses & oilseeds villages and starting Green Revolution in Eastern India. Recently, the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) has been strengthened with enhanced scope for more intensive promotion of pulses crops. Pulses component of the Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) has been merged with NFSM and all the districts in the ISOPOM/NFSM States are now covered under NFSM-Pulses. In addition, 15 districts of Jharkhand and 10 districts of Assam have also been included under NFSM-Pulses based on their potential for pulses development. Besides, a new initiative viz. Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P) has also been launched as part of NFSM-Pulses from 2010-11. Under A3P, one million hectare of potential pulses areas for the major pulse crops viz. tur, urad, moong, gram and lentil have been taken up for large scale demonstration of technology in compact blocks. Further, in order to incentivise farmers for cultivation of pulses, the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Kharif pulses for 2010-11 has been substantially increased. The MSP of tur has been fixed at Rs.3000 per quintal, of moong at Rs.3170 per quintal and of urad at Rs.2900 per quintal marking an increase of Rs.700 per quintal, Rs.410 per quintal and Rs.380 per quintal respectively over last year's MSPs. An additional incentive at the rate of Rs.5 per kg of tur, urad and moong is admissible to the farmers for sale during the harvest/arrival period of two months to procurement agencies.

Unauthorised B.Ed, colleges

†*287. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the duration of B.Ed, course has been curtailed to two years from three years and whether State Teaching Eligibility Test (STET) has been made compulsory for admission to this course;

(b) if so, since when and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether unauthorized B.Ed, colleges were found at many places in the country; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(d) if so, the number thereof and the details of action taken against them, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Under the National Council for Teacher Education (Recognition Norms and Procedure) Regulations, 2009, the duration of B. Ed course is of one academic year. There is no proposal to reduce the duration of the B. Ed Course. Admission to the B. Ed course is in accordance with the process of selection followed by the affiliating Universities. There is no proposal of the Government to make State Teaching Eligibility Test (STET) compulsory for admission to the B. Ed course.

(c) and (d) Under the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993, no institution can offer a teacher education course without being granted recognition by the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE). The NCTE enquires into and inspects teacher education institutions which do not meet the minimum standards of infrastructural and instructional facilities specified by the NCTE. Since 1st January, 2009, the NCTE has withdrawn recognition of 585 institutions found to be violating the provisions of the NCTE Act and the Regulations made thereunder. The State-wise details are given in the Statement.

Statement

Recognition withdrawn since 1st January, 2009

Sl. No.	State	Total no. of recognition withdrawn
1	2	3
1	Bihar	04
2	West Bengal	02
3	Punjab	01
4	Himachal Pradesh	02
5	Uttaranchal	25
6	Delhi	02
7	Uttar Pradesh	31
8	Haryana	28

1	2	3
10	Pondicherry	01
11	Tamil Nadu	31
12	Andhra Pradesh	15
13	Kamataka	41
14	Kerala	24
15	Gujarat	103
16	Madhya Pradesh	217
17	Chhattisgarh	08
18	Maharashtra	09
TOTAL		585

Conservation of fertile Oil

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that fertile soil is gradually vanishing in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether any research, has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the results thereof;

(e) whether Government has taken any steps to conserve top soil in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The process of soil erosion and its formation is a natural process occurring simultaneously.

(c) and (d) As per studies conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), about 1 millimeter of top soil is being lost every year. Of the eroded soil, 61% gets deposited as alluvium, nearly 29% is lost permanently to the sea and remaining 10% is deposited

in reservoirs. Soil erosion leads to land degradation in upper reaches of the river system, whereas when deposited at various locations of river systems, it may increase the soil fertility.

(e) and (f) With a view to conserve top soil and to prevent soil erosion and land degradation, Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing various Watershed Development Programmes, namely; National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA), Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP&FPR), Reclamation and Development of Alkali & Acid Soils (RADA.S) and Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA) across the country. Ministry of Rural Development is also implementing a major Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) for restoring ecological balance by harnessing, conserving and developing degraded lands in the country.

Revival of public sector fertilizer plants

*289. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) the requirement of fertilizers, particularly urea, in the country this year;

(b) the production capacity of fertilizers from different plants in the country, plant-wise;

(c) the plan of Government to fill up the gaps;

(d) the number and details of fertilizer plants in public sector in the country which remained defunct;

(e) whether any plan has been chalked out to revive these plants; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The assessed requirement of major fertilizers for each Crop season is made Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) in consultation with the Agriculture Departments of State Governments. For the current Kharif season (April 10 to September'10), the DAC has assessed requirement of 136.64 LMT of Urea, 68.74 LMT of DAP. 22.98 LMT of MOP and 48.69 LMT of complex fertilizers. The requirement of fertilizers for ensuing Rabi' 2010-11 (October'10 to March'11) will be finalized by DAC shortly.

(b) Unit-wise/Product-wise installed capacity of Urea, DAP and NPK

(complex) fertilizers is given in Statement-I, II and III (See below).

(c) Urea is the only fertilizer under partial movement & distribution and statutory price control. It is imported for direct agriculture use on Government account through State Trading Enterprises (STEs) i.e. MMTC, STC and IPL. The gap between requirement and indigenous production of Urea is met through imports. All other fertilizers viz. DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled/ de-canalized since 1992 and are imported under Open General Licence (OGL). The companies import these fertilizers as per the requirement as projected by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. Government is paying subsidy on these fertilizers under Nutrient Based Subsidy policy. Union Government monitors availability of fertilizers at State level and State Governments are responsible for further distribution within the State. The information regarding cumulative requirement, planned indigenous production and imports of subsidized fertilizers for the current Kharif'10 season (from 1st April to 30th September) is furnished as under:

(Figures in lakh metric tonnes)

Name of during the period fertilizer	Cumulative	Estimated availability		
	requirement from			
	April'10 to September'10	Indigenous production	Imports	Total
Urea	136.64	105.72	32.00	137.72
DAP	68.69	21.72	48.28	70.00
MOP	22.98	-	32.41	32.41
NPK (complexes)	48.69	44.00	5.00	49.00

The cumulative requirement, availability and sales of Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK (complexes) fertilizers during the period from April'10 to July'10 of current Kharif is also given below:

(Figures in lakh metric tonnes)

Name of fertilizer	Requirement	Availability	Sales
Urea	86.48	84.81	79.47
DAP	45.34	42.29	40.38

MOP	13.70	11.27	9.65
NPK (complexes)	30.28	35.00	33.03

(d) Five Units of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) and three Units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) in the public sector are lying closed.

Unit-wise detail is as follows:

(i) FCIL

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

(ii) HFCL

Name of unit	Date of commissioning	Date of shutdown	Date of Govt. decision to close down
Barauni	1976	1999	5.9.2002
Durgapur	1974	1997	5.9.2002
Haldia	Never commissioned	Not applicable	18.7.2002

(e) and (f) The Government has decided to explore the feasibility of revival of these closed public sector fertilizer units 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. Further, the revival of Barauni unit of HFCL was proposed to be undertaken by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) viz. M/s Urvarak Videsh Ltd., promoted by two fertilizer PSUs viz. M/s National Fertilizers Ltd. and M/s Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd., and M/s KRIBHCO, a fertilizer cooperative. M/s UVL have expressed that revival of Barauni unit by UVL is not feasible under the present policy dispensation.

Recently proposals have been received in the Government via consortium of PSUs formed by Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL), Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and Rashtriya chemical and Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF) wherein the companies have expressed their intent to put up a fertilizer plant on coal based technology at Talcher (unit of FCIL). Similar proposal has also been received from Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) for Revival of Sindri and by Krishak Bharti Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) for Revival of Ramagundam.

The interests evinced by some PSUs in the revival and detailed report with recommendations submitted by Project Advisor, M/s Deloitte has been considered by Empowered Committee of Secretaries on 4.8.2010. The recommendation of ECOS is under consideration for decision by competent authority.

Statement-I

Plant-wise/Unit-wise annual Installed Capacity of Urea

(000' MT)

Name of Plants	Annual Installed capacity
1	2
Public Sector:	
NFL: Nangal-II	478.5
NFL Bhatinda	511.5
NFL Panipat	511.5
NFL: Vijaipur	864.6
NFL: Vijaipur Expn.	864.6
TOTAL (NFL):	3230.7

1	2
BVFCL Namrup-II	240.0
BVFCL: Namrup-III	315.0
TOTAL (BVFCL):	555.0
RCF: Trombay-V	330.0
RCF: Thal	1706.8
Total (RCF):	2036.8
MFL: Chennai	486.8
TOTAL Public Sector:	6309.3
Coop. Sector:	
IFFCO: Kalol	544.5
IFFCO: Phulpur	551.1
IFFCO Phulpur Expn.	864.6
IFFCO: Aonla	864.6
IFFCO: Aonla Expn.	864.6
TOTAL (IFFCO):	3689.4
KRIBHCO: Hazira	1729.2
Total Coop. Sector:	5418.6
TOTAL (Pub.+Coop.)	11727.9
Private Sector	
GSFC: Vadodara	370.6
SFC: Kota	379.0
DIL: Kanpur	0.0
ZIL: Goa	399.3

1	2
SPIC: Tuticorin	620.0
MCF: Mangalore	380.0
GNFC: Bharuch	636.0
IGF: Jagdishpur	864.6
NFCL: Kakinada-I	597.3
NFCL : Kakinada-II	597.3
CFCL: Gadepan-I	864.6
CFCL: Gadepan-II	864.6
TCL: Babrala	864.6
KSFL: Shahjhanpur	864.6
TOTAL Private Sector:	8302.5
TOTAL (Pub.+Coop.+Pvt.):	20030.4

Statement-II

Unit-wise/Plant-wise annual installed capacity of DAP

('000' MT)

Name of Plants	Annual Installed Capacity
1	2
Coop. Sector:	
IFFCO: Kandla	1200.0
IFFCO: Paradeep	1500.0
TOTAL Co-op Sector	2700.0
Private Sector:	
GSFC: Vadodara	165.0

1	2
ZIL: Goa	330.0
SPIC: Tuticorin	475.0
MCF: Mangalore	180.0
TCL: Haldia	675.0
GSFC: Sikka-I	588.0
GSFC: Sikka-II	396.0
TOTAL (Sikka-I&II):	984.0
CIL: Kakinada *	670.0
Hindalco Indus: Dahej	400.0
PPL: Paradeep	720.0
TOTAL Private Sector:	4599.0
TOTAL (Co-op. + Pvt.):	7299.0

*GFCL - Kakinada has been taken over by CIL w.e.f. 1.2.2008

Statement-III

Unit-wise/ product-wise annual installed capacity of complex fertilizers

('000' mt)

Name of company/unit	Product name	Installed capacity
1	2	3
Public Sector:		
FACT: Udyogmandal	20:20	148.5
FACT: Cochin-II	20:20	485.0
TOTAL		633.5
RCF: Trombay	15:15:15	300.0
	10:26:26	0.0

1	2	3
RCF: Trombay-IV	20.8:20.8	361.0
	20:20	
TOTAL		661.0
MFL: Chennai	17:17:17	840.0
	19:19:19	0.0
	20:20	0.0
TOTAL		840.0
Total (Pub. Sector)		2134.5
Cooperative Sector:		
IFFCO: kandla	10:26:26	515.4
	12:32:16	700.0
TOTAL		1215.4
IFFCO: Paradeep	20:20	100.0
	10:26:26	320.0
TOTAL		420.0
Total (Co-op.)		1635.4
Private Sector:		
GSFC: Vadodara	20:20	0.0
GSFC: Sikka-1	10:26:26	0.0
	12:32:16	0.0
GSFC: Sikka-II	12:32:16	0.0
TOTAL		0.0
CIL: Vizag	28:28	200.0
	14:35:14	200.0
	20:20	200.0
	10:26:26	0.0
TOTAL		600.0

1	2	3
ZIL: Goa	19:19:19	240.0
	10:26:26	0.0
	12:32:16	0.0
TOTAL		240.0
SPIC: Tuticorin	20:20	0.0
	17:17:17	0.0
TOTAL		0.0
MCF: Mangalore	20:20	0.0
	16:20	0.0
TOTAL		0.0
CIL: Ennore	16:20	170.0
	20:20	70.0
Total		240.0
GNFC: Bharuch	23:23	0.0
	20:20	142.5
TOTAL		142.5
TCL: Haldia	15:15:15	0.0
	12:32:16	0.0
	28:28	0.0
	10:26:26	0.0
	14:35:14	0.0
TOTAL		0.0
CIL: Kakinada	20:20	0.0
	14:35:14	0.0
	10:26:26	0.0
	12:32:16	0.0
TOTAL		0.0

1	2	3
Hindalco Ind: Dahej	10:26:26	0.0
	20:20	0.0
	12:32:16	0.0
TOTAL		0.0
DFPCL: Taloja	23:23	230.0
PPL: Paradeep*	20:20	0.0
	10:26:26	0.0
	14:35:14	0.0
	12:32:16	0.0
TOTAL		0.0
TOTAL (Private)		1452.5
GRAND TOTAL		5222.4

CBI raid at New Jalpaiguri railway hospital

*290. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CBI has recently conducted a raid at New Jalpaiguri Railway Hospital; and

(b) if so, the findings of the CBI?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There was no raid by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). A preventive check was carried out jointly by internal Railway Vigilance, Drug Control Regional Officer, Siliguri and officials of the CBI on 14th & 15th of May, 2010, at Railway Hospital, New Jalpaiguri.

A detailed report in this regard is awaited.

Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan

†*291. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(a) whether Government has recently launched Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA);

(b) if so, the details thereof and its aims and objectives;

(c) whether as per a World Bank report, secondary education is being neglected and investment therein has been reduced during the last few years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The centrally sponsored scheme "Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)" was launched in March, 2009 to enhance access to secondary education and to improve its quality. It seeks to ensure availability of secondary schools within reasonable distance of every habitation, improve quality of education imparted at secondary stage and reduce disparities related to gender, socio-economic status, geographical location and disability. The sharing pattern between the Centre and the States during the 11th Five Year Plan is 75:25, while for the north-eastern States, the ratio is 90:10. An amount of Rs. 20,120 crore has been allocated for the scheme during the 11th Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d) The World Bank Report titled 'Secondary Education in India: Universalizing Opportunity' (January, 2009) states that 'while India pursued the drive to universal elementary education, since 2000 the share of investment financing for secondary education has declined significantly'. As per the "Analysis of Budgeted Expenditure on Education" published by this Ministry, the "Plan" expenditure on secondary education for both Centre and the States together increased from Rs.2,200 crore in 2000-01 to Rs.3,288 crore in 2006-07, while the percentage share of secondary education declined from 22% in 2000-01 to 11% in 2006-07. The total expenditure on secondary education for both Centre and the States together went up from Rs. 19,743 crore in 2000-01 to Rs.31,675 crore in 2006-07, whereas the percentage share of secondary education declined from 32% to 29%.

(e) The total allocation for secondary education has been increased from Rs.4,325 crore in the 10th Plan to Rs.53,550 crore in the 11th Plan, and several

new centrally sponsored schemes

including RMSA, Model School, Girls' Hostel, National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship and Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education have been launched during the 11th Plan.

Powers vested with GoM on Bhopal Gas Tragedy

†*292. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the powers, apart from making recommendations, vested with the Group of Ministers (GoM) under the Chairmanship of Home Minister, constituted keeping in view the questions arising out of judgement by the court in the Bhopal gas tragedy;

(b) the steps taken so far by Government in the interest of the affected people of Bhopal gas tragedy; and

(c) whether it is a fact that on the directions of the then State Government, the prime accused was sent out of Bhopal by special plane after the tragedy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The Group of Ministers (GoM) regarding Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster was reconstituted on 26th May, 2010: The terms of reference of the GoM is to examine all the issues relating to Bhopal Gas including remediation measures and make appropriate recommendations regarding relief and rehabilitation of the Bhopal Gas Victims and their families. The GoM also deliberated in detail on the questions arising out of judgment by the Court in the Bhopal Gas Tragedy and made, amongst others, the following recommendations:-

(i) 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 304 A;

(ii) 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.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(iii) 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. The errors pertain to the term of imprisonment (Section 338), the amount of fine (Section 304 A), and the direction that the sentences shall run concurrently.

(iv) CBI with the assistance of the Ministry of Law, Ministry of External Affairs and the Attorney General 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.

(b) The following steps have been taken by the Government in the interest of the affected people of Bhopal Gas Tragedy:-

(1) The Office of the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas Victims, set up under the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Processing of Claims) Act, 1985 has awarded, up to 30.6.2010, a total of Rs.3058.44 crore in compensation including Rs. 1548.55 crore to 5,74,376 original claimants and an additional compensation of Rs. 1509.89 crore to 562,648 of these claimants on pro-rata basis, in the ratio of 1:1.

(2) In 1990, Government of India approved a Five Year Action Plan of the Govt. of MP with an outlay of Rs.163.10 crore for medical, economic, social and environmental rehabilitation of the Bhopal Gas Victims. The Outlay of the Action Plan was increased from Rs.163.10 crore to Rs.258.00 crore and the period extended upto July, 1999. The outlay was shared between the Central and the State Government in the 75:25 ratio. The major rehabilitation activities undertaken under the Action Plan were establishment of new hospitals/dispensaries, construction of houses for the families of deceased gas victims, grant of pension to the widows, supply of milk to the children and lactating mothers, construction of drains, planting trees etc.

(3) In April, 2006, Government of India sanctioned money under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) for a drinking water project, out of which Rs.14.18 crore was provided to Bhopal Municipal Corporation for providing safe drinking water to pipelines to 14 localities around UCIL plant site.

(4) On the recommendations of the GoM, the Government has taken following decisions for the relief, rehabilitation and welfare of the

people affected by the tragedy:-

(i) Ex-gratia to the following categories of claims of victims and their families will be paid as under:

Category	Ex-gratia
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 ex-gratia, an amount of Rs.669 crore is being provided by Government of India to the Welfare Commssissioner, Bhopal Gas Tragedy.

(ii) ICMR will establish a full-fledged Research Centre in Bhopal to 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.

(iii) Based on a New Plan of Action, an amount of Rs.272.75 crore has been sanctioned as Additional Central Assistance on 75: 25 basis for medical, social and economic rehabilitation of the gas victims and

also for providing safe drinking water by purification of contaminated groundwater and from other sources.

(c) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has replied that "As per available record, entry for 7th December, 1984 is 'Special flight ordered by CM.'

Vacancies in railways

*293. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Railways have huge vacancies which have not been filled up for a long time;

(b) if so, the details of the number of vacancies including loco running staff, category-wise; and

(c) the details of the steps taken to fill up these vacancies and the time-frame fixed for the purpose by Government?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) Any large organization like the Railways will have certain vacancies at any point of time. Arising and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process. Vacancies arise due to normal retirement, voluntary retirements, deaths, promotions or creation of posts etc. The details of the number of vacancies on the Zonal Railways as on 01.04.2009 is as under:-

(i) Loco Running Categories	13102
(ii) Other Safety Categories	75922
(iii) Other than Safety Categories	79085

(c) The steps already taken include streamlining of the working of Railway Recruitment Boards and also holding of examinations for a particular post on the same date simultaneously by all the Railway Recruitment Boards. Recruitment process are at various stages for filling up the vacancies in Group 'C and Group 'D' categories. This includes the backlog vacancies in respect of SC, ST and OBC as also vacancies reserved for the physically challenged persons.

Special package for farmers of Punjab

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

(a) whether the State Government of Punjab has recently urged the Central Government for a special package for farmers of Punjab who are cultivating their land along the international border; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Chief Minister of Punjab addressed a letter in 2009 to Ministry of Home Affairs proposing payment of compensation/hardship allowance for farmers of Punjab who are cultivating the land along the international border.

The matter was taken up in the meeting of Committee of Secretaries held on. 19.8.2009, where in it was agreed by the officials of the Government of Punjab that a detailed proposal would be submitted. The proposal is awaited from Government of Punjab.

Recommendations of GoM on Bhopal Gas Tragedy

*295. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has formed a Group of Ministers (GoM) on Bhopal Gas Tragedy;

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the GoM; and

(c) whether there is any time-frame by which Government will complete implementation of the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Group of Ministers (GoM) on Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster has been 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.

(b) The main recommendations made by the Group of Ministers are given in Statement-I (See below).

(c) The time frame decided by the Government for implementation of various decisions taken on the recommendations of the GoM is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

A Gist of the Recommendations of the Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted to examine all the matters related to Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster

(i) 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 with the assistance of the Ministry of Law, Ministry of External Affairs and the Attorney General 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 304 A;

(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. The errors

pertain to the term of imprisonment (Section 338), the amount of fine (Section 304 A), and the direction that the sentences shall run concurrently.

(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 and request the Courts, especially the High Court, to expeditiously decide the question of liability of Dow Chemicals Company and/or any other successor to UCC/UCIL. Once this question is decided, the various legal proceedings involving Dow Chemicals Company and any other person/company found liable can be taken forward.

(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. All other hospitals may continue to be managed and run by the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(ix) ICMR should establish a full-fledged Research Centre in Bhopal. It will be its 31st centre. It must be on par with the existing 30 centres. The Research Centre should be set up and commissioned within 90 days of Government's decision. The staff of the existing Centre for Rehabilitation Studies, to the extent they are qualified, should be taken over by ICMR.

(x) 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. To the extent necessary, GFRs and RRs may be suspended or relaxed as a one-time exceptional measure to enable the commissioning of ICMR Research Centre. The Committee will be notified by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(xi) ICMR should immediately identify suitable scientists and

doctors, through
fresh appointments, deputation etc., and appoint them to the new
Research Centre to 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. ICMR may also involve the World Health Organization and other Indian/international experts, as may be advised, to collaborate in the research activities.

(xii) 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.

(xiii) The course of action recommended by NEERI, NGRI and IICT with modifications, if any, made by the peer review, may be accepted by Government.

(xiv) The work on repairing/re-erecting the compound wall around the UCIL premises shall be completed expeditiously by the Government of Madhya Pradesh and the premises shall be secured to prevent entry and exit of unauthorized persons, children etc.

(xv) 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, including granting enhanced financial powers so that remediation and environmental clean up is completed in a time-bound manner. Officers appointed to that Department should have a tenure at least upto

31.12.2012.

(xvi) An Oversight Committee will be established at the level of the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment and Forests with representation of the Ministries/Departments concerned of the GoI and the Government of Madhya Pradesh. Minister for Environment, GoI will be the chair and the Minister for Gas Relief, GoMP, will be 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. Ministry of Environment and Forests will notify the Oversight Committee.

(xvii) The Government of Madhya Pradesh will invite global tenders to carry out the different remediation activities.

(xviii) 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".

(xix) 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.

(xx) The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals is advised to file an application before the High Court, Jabalpur, to discharge the Task Force appointed by the High Court in view of the recommendations of the GoM after they are approved by the Cabinet.

(xxi) In the first instance, the following components of the New Plan of Action amounting to Rs.272.75 crores be approved and funds provided to the Government of Madhya Pradesh as additional central assistance on 75:25

i)	Medical rehabilitation (all hospitals other than BMHT)	Rs.33.55 crore
ii)	Economic rehabilitation	Rs. 104.00 crore
iii)	Social rehabilitation	Rs.85.20 crore
iv)	Providing safe drinking water by	Rs.50.00 crore

Purification of contaminated ground

Water and from other sources.

Total	Rs.272.75 crore
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Statement-II

*Time frame for implementation of various decisions taken by the
Government on the recommendations of the GoM on Bhopal*

S.No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Timeline
1	2	3	4
1.	Disbursement of ex-gratia	Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal	As soon as possible
2.	Submission of additional material in support of extradition of Anderson	Ministry of Law, CBI and MEA on the advice of Attorney General	31.7.2010
3.	Filing of Curative Petition in the Supreme Court against judgement dated 13.9.1996	Ministry of Law and CBI on the advice of Attorney General	31.7.2010
4	Filing of Revision Application in the High Court against judgement of Trial Court	CBI on the advice of Solicitor General	31.7.2010
5	Filing of Appeal in the Sessions Court against Judgement of Trial Court	CBI on the advice of Solicitor General	31.7.2010
6	Filing of Curative Petition in the Supreme Court against judgements dated 14/15.2.1989, 4.5.1989 and 3.10.1991	Ministry of Law and Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals on the advice of Attorney General	14.8.2010

7	Filing of Application/Motion before High Court to decide the question of liability of Dow Chemicals Company and/or other persons/companies.	Ministry of Law and Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and CBI on the advice of Attorney General	14.8.2010
8	Filing of Application in Supreme Court to take over BMHRC	Department of Biotechnology and Department of Atomic Energy on the Advice of Solicitor General/Additional Solicitor General	31.7.2010
9	Establishment and Commissioning of ICMR's 31st Research Centre at Bhopal including appointment of suitable scientists, doctors, etc.	Department of Health Research and ICMR	30.9.2010
10	Notification of Empowered Committee to facilitate commissioning of ICMR's 31st Research Centre	Department of Health Research	1.7.2010
11	Submission of reports by NEERI, NGRI and IICT to GoI and GoMP	NEERI, NGRI and IICT	30.6.2010
12	Inviting suggestions/comments from selected NGOs on NEERI, NGRI and IICT reports	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and Ministry of Environment and Forests	14.8.2010

1	2	3	4
13	Peer review of NEERI, NGRI and IICT reports	Department of Science and Technology and Ministry of Environment and Forests	31.8.2010
14	Repairing/re-erecting compound wall around UCIL premises	Government of Madhya Pradesh	31.8.2010
15	Notification of Oversight Committee to provide oversight and support to remediation options	Ministry of Environment and Forests	15.7.2010
16	Filing of Application in High Court to discharge the Task force appointed by the High Court.	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals	15.7.2010
17	Incineration of stored hazardous wastes etc. (Approx 350 MT)	Government of Madhya Pradesh	31.12.2010
18	Inviting global tenders for different remediation activities	Government of Madhya Pradesh	31.12.2010
19	Selection and finalization of contractors to carry out different remediation activities	Government of Madhya Pradesh	31.3.2011
20	Completion of all remediation actions	Government of Madhya Pradesh	31.12.2012

21	Release of Rs.272.75 crore to Government of Madhya Pradesh as ACA for new Plan of Action on 75:25 basis	Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance and Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals	15.7.2010
22	Release of approx. Rs.310 crore for remediation and waste disposal works	Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Environment and Forests and Government of Madhya Pradesh	As and when specific project proposals for remediation and waste disposal work submitted by Govt. of Madhya Pradesh are endorsed by the Oversight Committee.

Accident of Gyaneshwari Express

*296. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the enquiry regarding the accident of Gyaneshwari Express near Midnapur has been completed;

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

(c) whether it was an accident or a blast by the naxals; and

(d) the action Government contemplates to avoid recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) to (c) Statutory inquiry into the unfortunate incident of derailment and collision of Jnaneshwari Express on 28.05.2010 between Khemasuli and Sardiha stations of Kharagpur Division of South Eastern Railway is being conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety, South Eastern Circle. The report of the Commission of Railway Safety is awaited. The criminal angle involved in the suspected sabotage leading to the above incident is being investigated by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Report of CBI is also awaited.

(d) Policing on Railways is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order are, therefore, the statutory responsibility of the State Police. However, following measures are being taken to ensure safe and secure journey of the passengers:

(i) Nominated trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Government Railway Police (GRP) on the vulnerable sections/areas.

(ii) An integrated security system has been approved to strengthen surveillance mechanism over 202 vulnerable stations of Indian Railways.

(iii) Co-ordination meetings with the State Home Secretaries, senior officials of Ministry of Home Affairs, Intelligence Bureau and Railways are held periodically to improve security on Railways.

Suicide by farmers

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the farmers are still committing suicide due to debt trap;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has conducted any evaluation of this situation and if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) As reported by State Governments and as revealed in some studies, 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 spate of suicides directly to any single cause would be erroneous. Suicide is strictly a personal decision and the post suicide inquiry into causes is based primarily on circumstantial evidence. Details of number of suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons in various States, as reported by the respective State Governments during the last four years, are given in Statement (See below).

(c) The Government of India had constituted an Expert Group in August 2006 under the Chairmanship of Dr. R. Radhakrishna to look into the problems of agricultural indebtedness in its totality and suggest measures to provide relief to farmers across the country. Major findings of the Report of the Expert Group submitted in July, 2007 are that suicide is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon and the risk factors can be either in the neurobiological or the socio-economic domain. It was further stated that indebtedness is an important factor associated with suicides, but it is not the only factor. In addition to this Expert Group constituted by the Government of India, some Committees have been set up at the State level to study the problem of suicides by farmers.

In order to address the problem of indebtedness, the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008 has been implemented in all districts of the country. As per provisional figures, 3.69 crore farmers have benefited from the Scheme involving debt waiver and debt relief of Rs. 65,318.33 crore. The Government of India has also approved a rehabilitation package of Rs. 16978.69 crore for 31 suicide prone Districts in the four States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala,

in 2006. The package was approved for implementation over a period of 3 years initially. The Government has decided to extend the period for implementation of the non credit components of the package up to September 30, 2011. An amount of Rs. 18138.73 crore has been released under this package till March 31, 2010.

Statement

Suicide by farmers during the last four years due to agrarian reasons as reported by State Governments

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Period (Date of report)	No. of suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2006	530
		2007	504
		2008	429
		2009 (03.08.2010)	246
2.	Karnataka	2006-07	176
		2007-08	182
		2008-09	154
		2009-10 (05.08.2010)	114
3.	Maharashtra	2006	1028
		2007	590
		2008	627
		2009	503
4.	Kerala	2006	112
		2007	68
		2008	22
		2009	03

1	2	3	4
5	Tamil Nadu	2006	01
		2007	01
		2008	01
		2009	Nil
6.	Punjab	2006	19
		2007	24
		2008	12
		2009	18
7.	Gujarat	2006	04
		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.	Chhatisgarh	21.07.2010	Nil
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

1	2	3	4
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

Funds for projects in Jharkhand

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

(a) the details of funds released for Jharkhand for the last three years for horticulture, dairying, goatery, piggery, poultry, vegetable cultivation, cold storages, etc., year-wise and project-wise; and

(b) the details of funds proposed to be released for the above mentioned projects for the next three years in Jharkhand, year-wise and project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Details of funds released to Jharkhand for horticulture, dairy, goatery, piggery, poultry, vegetable cultivation, cold storages and other major schemes being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture for last three years (2007-2010) are given in Statement (See below). Release of funds for 2010-11 will depend on receipt of proposals, progress of utilization of funds released in previous years, etc. State-wise allocation for the next three years is not decided in advance.

Statement

Funds released to the State of Jharkhand under horticulture, dairying, goatery, piggery, poultry, vegetable cultivation and cold storages for last three years

(Rs. in lakh)				
S.No.	Name of Schemes	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3	4	5
Department of Agriculture & Cooperation				
1.	National Horticulture Mission	781.00	5000.00	3084.00
2.	National Project on Management of Soil Health Fertility	0.00	0.00	255.80
3.	National Food Security Mission	0.00	980.00	493.00
4.	Macro Management of Agriculture	850.00	532.50	876.48
5.	Micro Irrigation	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	National Bamboo Mission	100.00	276.56	109.14
7.	Support to States for Extension Reforms (ATMA)	557.73	0.00	604.89
8.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)	5568.00	2931.00	7013.00
Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries				

1.	National Project for Cattle and	0.00	417.40	0.00
	Buffalo Breeding			

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Centrally Sponsored Fodder and Feed .Development Scheme	0.00	93.50	0.00
3.	Livestock Insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases	0.00	150.00	0.00
5.	National Project for Rinderpest Eradication	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Professional Efficiency Development	20.00	20.00	0.00
7.	Intensive Dairy Development Programme	107.64	0.00	19.76
8.	Strengthening Infrastructure for Clean Milk Production	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Assistance to Cooperatives	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Dairy Venture Capital Funds	23.60	1050.00	0.95
11.	Poultry Development	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Poultry Venture Capital Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Integrated Development of Small Ruminants and Rabbits	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Pig Development	0.00	0.00	0.00

Payment for foodgrains for Mid-Day-Meal Scheme

*299. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that supply of foodgrains for Mid-Day-Meal (MDM) scheme has been held up due to wrangling over the mode of payment to the Department of Food and Public Distribution; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government to see that the Mid-Day-Meal programme is not affected?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Foodgrains were allocated to the States/UTs on 5.3.2010 for the first two quarters of the year 2010-

11, that is from April to September, 2010. Inter-ministerial consultations have ensured that supply of foodgrains for MDM scheme is not adversely affected.

Dedicated Freight Corridor

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

(a) whether Railways have been urged to invest more in creating dedicated freight corridor;

(b) if so, whether Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has also observed that India's logistic challenges were very different and more complex than all other Asian countries;

(c) whether Railways had invested in improving its network and gauge conversion and had balked from investing/creating dedicated freight corridors;

(d) if so, to what extent Ministry has agreed to create more dedicated freight corridors to meet industrial needs also; and

(e) if so, the concrete steps and the measures Ministry has taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Indian Railway's investment strategy is decided keeping in view the overall requirement of capacity expansion.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. However, capacity expansion needs in recent past guided Indian Railway's investment strategy for developing Dedicated Freight Corridors. Eastern (Dankuni to Ludhiana) and Western (Jawaharlal Nehru Port Terminal to Tughlakabad/Dadri) Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) Projects are sanctioned and under implementation. The execution of Western & Eastern DFC Projects is being closely monitored to ensure commissioning in 2016-17. Four more DFCs along the busy network have been identified for development in future.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

MSP for Crops

2106. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices (CACP) has submitted its report regarding Minimum Support Price (MSP) for crops for the year 2010-11;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of decision taken thereon;

(d) the details of MSPs for various crops during last three years, year-wise and crop-wise;

(e) whether no increase in MSP of rice and wheat has been proposed this year; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of Kharif crops for 2010-11 season have been announced based on the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). The MSPs for various crops for the last three years are given in Statement (See below).

The MSP of all kharif crops for 2010-11 season are as recommended by the CACP, except for Arhar (Tur). In case of Arhar, the MSP is higher than the MSP recommended by CACP. In addition, for kharif pulses of 2010-11 season, an addition incentive is available at the rate of Rs. 5 per kg for tur, urad and moong sold to procurement agencies during the harvest/arrival period of two months.

(e) and (f) For 2010-11 season, the MSP of paddy has been raised by Rs.50 per quintal over its MSP of 2009-10 season. MSP of wheat is announced in the rabi season.

Statement

The MSP for crops given for the last three years

(Rs. Per quintal)

Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Kharif Crops						
1	Paddy	Common	645\$\$/850~	850\$	950#	1000
		Grade 'A'	675\$\$/880~	880\$	980#	1030
2	Jowar	Hybrid	600	840	840	880
		Maldandi	620	860	860	900
3	Bajra		600	840	840	880
4	Maize		620	840	840	880
5	Ragi		600	915	915	965
6	Arhar (Tur)		1550^	2000	2300	3000@
7	Moong		1700^	2520	2760	3170@
8	Urad		1700^	2520	2520	2900@

9	Cotton	Staple length (mm) of 24.5-25.5 and Micronaire value of 4.3-5.1	1800	2500	2500	2500
		Staple length (mm) of 29.5-30.5 and Micronaire value of 3.5-4.3	2030	3000	3000	3000
10	Groundnut in Shell		1550	2100	2100	2300
11	Sunflower seed		1510	2215	2215	2350
12	Soyabean	Black	910	1350	1350	1400
		Yellow	1050	1390	1390	1440
13	Sesamum		1580	2750	2850	2900
14	Nigerseed		1240	2405	2405	2450
	Rabi Crops					
15	Wheat		1000	1080	1100	-
16	Barley		650	680	750	-
17	Gram		1600	1730	1760	-
18	Masur (Lentil)		1700	1870	1870	-
19	Rapeseed/Mustard		1800	1830	1830	-

20	Safflower	1650	1650	1680	-
21	Toria	1735	1735	1735	-
	Other Crops				
22	Copra (Calender Year) Milling	3620	3660	4450	4450
	Ball	3870	3910	4700	4700
23	De-Husked Coconut (Calender Year)	-	988	1200	1200
24	Jute	1055	1250	1375	1575

\$\$ Additional incentive bonus of Rs. 100 per quintal was also payable.

~ From 12.06.2008.

^ Additional incentive bonus of Rs. 40 per quintal was also payable.

\$ Additional incentive bonus of Rs. 50 per quintal was also payable.

Additional incentive bonus of Rs. 50 per quintal is also payable.

@ Additional incentive at the rate of Rs.5 per kg. of tur, urad and moong sold to procurement agencies is payable during the harvest/arrival period of two months.

Management of agro-biodiversity

2107. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government outlined a road map for effective management of agro bio-diversity to maintain sustainable food security;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the implementation status thereof; and

(d) the views of the experts, State Governments, NGOs and farmers in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A seminar on "National Consultation on Biodiversity" was organized by * ICAR on May 26-27, 2010 with an objective to analyse the current status of agro-biodiversity in India and to develop a future road map for its conservation and sustainable utilization. The main theme of the seminar included: Current scenario, priorities and road map in relation to Plant Genetic Resources, Animals, Fish, Agriculturally Important Microbes and Insects genetic resources; emerging issues to Climate Change, Bio security, Policies and Regulatory Mechanism, access and Benefit Sharing including Traditional Knowledge; and role of farmers, NGOs, livestock keepers, Civil Society.

Technical experts from various organisations, State Governments, Farmers and NGOs have participated in the seminar and expressed their views. The recommendations / outcome of the seminar were circulated to all the stakeholders for initiating suitable action.

Damage to crops due to floods in Assam

2108. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the plight of farmers in Assam due to loss of crop and habitation on account of six months of continuous rain causing floods and thereby damaging crops and reducing the farmers

to hepless poverty; and

(b) if so, whether Government would give special package for giving relief to the affected farmers in Assam, on the basis of report submitted by the Government of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As per situation report received from the Govt. of Assam in the current monsoon season 0.72 lakh ha of cropped area have been affected in 1847 villages in the 17 districts in the State due to heavy rains and floods.

Relief as per the prescribed norms is admissible under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF)/State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) to the farmers. It is the responsibility of the State Government to extend relief to the affected area with the funds allocated and available under the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF)/State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).

In the event of calamity of a severe nature, financial assistance is extended from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF)/National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). The State Government has not submitted any memorandum or formal proposal seeking any additional Central financial assistance for relief to the affected farmers.

Contingent crop plan for three different scenario of the monsoon like less rainfall, normal rainfall and excessive rainfall has been prepared and issued to all State Governments including Assam State for implementation as per the requirement of the State.

Production of hybrid seeds

†2109. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Narendra Dev Agriculture University had produced Narendra hybrid seeds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Narendra Dev Agriculture University did not produce the hybrid seeds itself and instead got it produced by a private company; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) One hybrid of rice, Narendra Shanker Dhan-2, has been released for use.

(c) and (d) As reported by the university, seed of this rice hybrid is being produced and marketed by the Indo-Gulf Fertilizer, Jagdishpur Distt., Sultanpur (UP), under MoU signed on 12.7.2005, as the seed setting is very poor in Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Indo-Gulf Fertilizer is producing hybrid seed in collaboration with private seed agencies in south India where seed setting is not a problem.

New incentives in Kharif season

2110. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the high price of pulses, Government plans to give farmers any new incentives in the Kharif season;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the production of pulses in the past few years has declined considerably and to what extent Government's new Kharif strategy for cultivation of pulses is going to help in the sufficient production of pulses in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) A new initiative of Accelerated Pulses production programme (A3P) has been initiated under National Food Security Mission from Kharif 2010, where in, farmers of 1 million hectares of potential pulses areas would be involved in intensive promotion of pulses through village level block demonstration of production and protection technologies. This would enable the farmers of the A3P areas to avail Seed Minikits, Integrated nutrient Management, Integrated pest management components free of cost up to 2 hectares of area of individual farmers. In addition, Pulses farmers in selected watershed areas are provided incentives for purchase of tractor, rotavator and ridge furrow planters

etc. as a unit to be used on custom hiring basis under new initiative of
"organizing 60000

pulses and oilseed villages". Similarly, pulses promotion strategy has also been adopted under new initiative of bringing green revolution to eastern India.

In addition, the Minimum Support Price (MSPs) of Kharif Pulses for 2010-11 season have been increased over the respective MSPs for 2009-10 season. The MSPs of Kharif Pulses for 2009-10 and 2010-11 season are given in the Table below:

(Rs. per Qtls)		
Pulse	2009-10	2010-11
Arhar (Tur)	2300	3000
Moong	2760	3170
Urad	2520	2900

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

(c) The production of Pulses in the country from 2004-05 to 2009-10 is as under:

Year	Production (Million Tonnes)
2004-05	13.13
2005-06	13.39
2006-07	14.20
2007-08	14.76
2008-09	14.57
2009-10*	14.59

*IVth Advance Estimates

The new initiatives of Accelerated pulses production programme under NFSM; strengthening of NFSM-Pulses by merger of ISOPOM pulses components and areas with NFSM-Pulses; addition of new potential pulses areas in the states of Jharkhand, Assam under NFSM; organizing 60,000 pulses and

oilseed villages; and bringing green revolution in eastern India
would supplement the efforts

made through already existing pulses production programmes of the ministry like National Food Security Mission, Macro Management Mode of Agriculture, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana in enhancing production of pulses in the country.

Chinese green revolution model

2111. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

MS. MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has come forward with a proposal to replicate Chinese green revolution model in Eastern States and promote hybrid rice on mission mode in the region taking leaf from success stories in China;

(b) if so, whether a section of environmental activists in Kolkata have already raised their voice against plans for an Eastern India green revolution;

(c) if so, whether Government has agreed to implement proposal and to what extent it will be helpful and to what extent Government has been able to have a public-private partnership; and

(d) to what extent Government has got response from private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) In the consultative Workshop organized in Kolkata on 9-10 July, 2010 on new initiative "Bringing Green Revolution in the Eastern India", promotion of hybrid rice, based on Chinese model, was highlighted as one of the main interventions that need to be promoted to ensure increase in rice productivity. India is the second country next to China to have successfully commercialized hybrid rice technology. The initiative was highly appreciated by all stakeholders and so far no issues are raised against it.

Apart from the new initiative on "Bringing Green Revolution in the Eastern India", wherein states have planned to give thrust to hybrid rice promotion; Govt. of India has been promoting hybrid rice on a large scale under National Food Security Mission-Rice (NFSM-Rice), Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas under Macro

Management of Agriculture (MMA), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)
etc.

As a follow up of the Kolkata workshop, a Task Force at National level for promotion of Hybrid rice has been constituted to prepare a work plan for significantly increasing area under hybrid rice. Public and private agencies are involved in production of hybrid rice varieties in India; out of 43 hybrid rice varieties available till date, 15 hybrid rice varieties are from the private sector. Both Public and private sector agencies are eligible for availing incentives for production and distribution of quality hybrid seeds under National Food Security Mission and other schemes.

Allotment of funds for RKVY

2112. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked the Planning Commission to give agreed amount of total outlay earmarked for the Eleventh Year Plan period in respect of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) as this sector is suffering from paucity of funds;

(b) if so, the total outlay for the programme for entire plan period and the percentage of total amount allotted for agriculture purpose till-date; and

(c) by when the remaining amount is likely to be made available by Planning Commission to the Ministry during 2011- 2012 so that adequate attention could be paid for RKVY Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) A sum of Rs.25,000 crore was provided for RKVY for the Eleventh Plan, with an envisaged outlay of Rs.1500 crore for the first year of 2007-08 and 5875 crore per year for the remaining four years of the Eleventh Plan. Year to year outlays are allocated by the Planning Commission. Total releases made to the States/UTs for the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 has been Rs.7895.12 crore, against RE of Rs.7861.77 crore.

There has been substantial increase in the allocation under RKVY in 2010-11 with the BE outlay being Rs.6722 crore. Besides Rs.33 crore has been provided for UTs. Therefore, an amount of Rs.14616.77 crore (REs of

2007-10 & BE of 2010-11) has been made available for RKVY since its inception in August 2007. RKVY allocations have got stepped up from year to year after scheme commenced in August 2007. The scheme has not suffered on account of paucity of funds.

(c) Remaining amount of Rs. 10,383.23 crore will be requested for allocation for annual plan 2011-12.

Subsidy extended to farmers in NE States

2113. SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether subsidy has been extended to farmers on electricity Bill & diesel in North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details of total amount of subsidy given during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the total number of farmers being benefited by the subsidy in North-East?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Power have informed that as per the Power Finance Corporation (PFC)'s "Report on Performance of State Power Utilities", performance of State power utilities for the years 2006-07 to 2008-09 has been finalized and the data for 2009-10 is not available with PFC.

Based on information supplied by the Ministry of Power, details of subsidy booked by utilities selling directly to the consumers and released by the State Governments, in respect of North-Eastern (NE) States, are give in Statement (See below).

Further, a scheme of Diesel Subsidy was implemented during Kharif 2009 in the drought/deficit rainfall affected States for the period 15.7.2009 to 30 9.2009, to provide supplementary irrigation to save the standing crops. Under the scheme, the concerned States were required to provide total amount of subsidy to the farmers and subsequently claim reimbursement of Government of India's share. No claims for reimbursement of Government of India's share under the scheme were received from any of the NE States.

Distribution of relief / assistance at the ground level is the responsibility of the State Governments concerned and the details of number of farmers benefited by the scheme have not been reported by any

of the NE States. There is, at present, no proposal to implement similar Diesel Subsidy scheme during Kharif 2010.

Statement

Subsidy booked and released by State Governments regarding NE States

(Rs. in crores)

State	Utility	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
		Subsidy	Subsidy	Subsidy	Subsidy	Subsidy	Subsidy
		Booked	Received	Booked	Received	Booked	Received
Arunachal Pradesh*	Arunachal PD	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CAEDCL	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assam	LAEDCL	0	0	0	0	0	0
	UAEDCL	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assam		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total							
Manipur*	Manipur PD	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meghalaya"	MeSEB	24	24	33	33	12	12
Mizoram*	Mizoram PD	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nagaland*	Nagaland PD	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tripura*	TSECL	45	45	50	50	14	14
Total		69	69	83	83	26	26

Note: * Information as obtained from Resource Plan submitted to Planning Commission.

" Information as obtained from Annual Accounts.

Relief for drought in Andhra Pradesh

2114. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested Government to release additional financial assistance of Rs. 9747.42 crores under national Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) and under existing central scheme for relief and restoration of damaged infrastructure due to drought;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in fulfilling this request, and

(d) by when it is likely to be fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) In view of deficit rainfall during South-West Monsoon (June - September) 2009, the Government of Andhra Pradesh declared drought in 22 districts and submitted a Memorandum seeking assistance of Rs.9747.42 crores from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) (subsequently revised to Rs. 10106.77 crores), for drought relief.

Taking into account the recommendations of Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) which visited the State and the recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) thereon, the Government approved Rs. 575.30 crores from NCCF for drought relief, subject to adjustment of available balance in the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of the State, as determined by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Drip Irrigation Scheme

†2115. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of areas in the country brought under the drip irrigation scheme during last two years;

(b) the assistance offered by Government State-wise for such type of irrigation during the past two years; and

(c) the details of such assistance particularly for the districts of Rajasthan?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The details of State-wise area brought under drip irrigation system and assistance provided by the Government for last two years is given in Statement-I. (See below)

(c) The details of assistance provided by Government for drip irrigation system in the districts of Rajasthan for last two years is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of State-wise area brought under Drip Irrigation System and the Assistance provided by the Government for last two years.

S.No.	Name of State	Area Brought under Drip Irrigation System (ha)		Assistance provided for Drip System (Rs. in Lakh)	
		2008-09	2009-10	2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	87381.00	99890.00	8616.17	12419.83
2.	Bihar	111.00	37.55	0.00	0.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	2172.40	1224.14	228.72	322.25
4.	Goa	5.39	22.71	1.98	2.25
5.	Gujarat	34028.00	34017.84	4085.99	3386.94
6	Haryana	2141.52	2468.13	296.72	200.84
7.	Jharkhand	0.00	38.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Karnataka	22737.30	16661.17	3714.38	2521.26
9.	Kerala	967.08	740.24	0.00	0.00
10.	Madhya Pradesh	15971.50	19447.45	3715.42	2767.20
11.	Maharashtra	63985 00	66780.00	12316.63	8654.02
12.	Orissa	2100.00	5283.00	166.16	162.52
13.	Punjab	2767.48	4007.56	450.70	750.36

1	2	3	4	5	6
14.	Rajasthan	5097.00	8743.00	966.18	2911.67
15.	Tamil Nadu	10906.14	17569.14	0.00	0.00
16.	Uttar Pradesh	921.48	754.13	49.08	0.00
17.	West Bengal	55.60	113.18	0.00	0.00
Total		251347.89	277797.24	34608.13	34099.14

Statement-II

Details of district wise assistance in the State of Rajasthan provided by Government during the last two years.

(Rs in Lakh)

S.No.	Name of State	Assistance from Government	
		2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3	4
1.	Ajmer	55.63	126.25
2.	Alwar	41.38	24.93
3.	Banswara	15.48	7.44
4.	Baran	0.00	14.98
5.	Barmer	35.79	96.98
6.	Bharatpur	0.00	13.82
7.	Bhilwara	57.40	170.36
8.	Bikaner	83.26	89.77
9.	Bundi	0.00	13.78
10.	Chittorgarh	60.73	114.75
11.	Churu	14.18	16.41
12.	Dausa	0.00	23.00

1	2	3	4
13.	Dholpur	16.39	0.00
14.	Ganganagar	118.97	600.37
15.	Hanumangarh	66.23	227.98
16.	Jaisalmer	5.65	8.92
17.	Jaipur	0.00	265.21
18.	Jalore	42.37	78.25
19.	Jhalawar	13.96	119.51
20.	Jhunjhunu	14.69	79.45
21.	Jodhpur	75.56	145.18
22.	Kota	52.19	108.21
23.	Karauli	0.00	12.77
24.	Nagaur	30.88	89.65
25.	Pali	13.79	75.45
26.	Pratapgarh	0.00	48.84
27.	Rajsamand	26.59	58.07
28.	Sawai Madhopur	11.77	67.38
29.	Sikar	42.90	124.43
30.	Sirohi	35.83	43.73
31.	Tonk	0.00	45.82
32.	Udaipur	34.56	0.00
TOTAL		966.18	2911.69

Excess use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides

2116. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of dangers of excess use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in the country, including Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to check the excess use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides; and

(d) measures proposed to avoid using pesticides, insecticides, vermicides and other chemicals near heavily populated areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides helps increase agricultural productivity. However, the imbalanced and injudicious use of chemical fertilizers & pesticides adversely affects soil health, productivity and quality of agricultural produce.

Government has launched "National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility" w.e.f. 2008-09 to promote soil test based balanced and judicious use of fertilizers for improving soil health and productivity. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) also imparts training on Integrated Nutrient Management and organizes field demonstrations to educate farmers.

Government has launched a scheme entitled "Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India" w.e.f. 1991-92 to promote Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for control of pests and diseases through cultural, mechanical and biological methods, use of bio-pesticides and need based use of chemical pesticides.

Suicide by farmers

2117. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers commit suicide when they fail to get fair amount of money for cereals from their investments and toil;

(b) if so, whether Government has done something for farmers to save them from such a tendency;

(c) the reasons for not encouraging the farmers to deposit some amount in monthly income scheme of LIC, Post Offices, Banks after harvest to get a regular income in sowing period; and

(d) the other alternatives in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) 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, some study reports in this regard have 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 break down of family support, failure of social institutions, habits, alcoholism, lack of social security, introvert nature and intra family problems have affected the victims to take such an extreme step.

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 benefiting about 3.69 crore farmers involving an estimated amount of Rs. 65,318.33 crore. The Government has also enhanced interest subvention for timely repayment of crop loans up to Rs. 3 lakh 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 rainfed 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.

(c) and (d) The National Policy for Farmers, 2007 (NPF) envisages improvement in the income of farm families, not only to meet their consumption requirements but also to enhance their capacity to invest in farm related activities. Moreover, a major policy goal of NPF is to provide appropriate opportunities in adequate measure for non-farm employment for the farm households so that farmers supplement their income.

The operationalisation of NPF entails involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions in popularizing the insurance scheme among the farmers by various Banks and Insurance companies. It provides that ATMA scheme may incorporate training on credit and insurance aspects also. The Reserve Bank of India has instructed the State Level Bankers' Committee to set up financial literacy-cum-credit counselling centres on pilot basis.

The Central and State Governments take various measures from time to time to promote and popularise small saving schemes through print and electronic media as well as holding seminars, meetings and providing training to various agencies involved in mobilising deposits under the schemes. In order to make the Monthly Income Account schemes more attractive and investor friendly, with effect from 8.12.2007, payment of bonus at the rate of 5% of the Principal amount at the time of maturity was introduced in the Monthly Income Scheme Accounts. Moreover, the penalty on pre-mature withdrawal of deposits under the Post Office Monthly Income Account Scheme has been rationalised from 3.5% to 2% on withdrawal on or before expiry of three years and 1% on withdrawal after expiry of 3 years.

The Government has decided to provide appropriate banking facilities to habitations having population in excess of 2000 by March, 2012. It is also proposed to extend insurance and other services to the targeted beneficiaries. These services will be provided using the Business Correspondent and other models with appropriate technology back up. By this arrangement, it is proposed to cover 60,000 habitations. In 2007-08 the Government had set up a Financial Inclusion Fund and a Financial

Inclusion Technology Fund in NABARD to reach banking services to the unbanked areas. In order to give momentum to the pace of financial inclusion, an augmentation of

Rs. 100 crore for each of these funds, which shall be contributed by Government of India, RBI and NABARD, has been proposed in the Union Budget 2010-11.

Wheat mission in Jharkhand

2118. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not including Jharkhand in wheat mission despite its ideal climatic conditions to grow wheat; and

(b) whether Government intend to encourage tribal farmers particularly in Left Wing Extremists (LWE) districts to grow second crop-wheat so that the farmers may be kept engaged in agricultural activities and grow more grains which would keep them away from naxal activities in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The districts under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) have been selected on the basis of certain criteria. The districts in which irrigation coverage under wheat is more than 50% and productivity is less than State's average were identified under NFSM-Wheat. Since none of the districts of Jharkhand fulfilled the above criteria, Jharkhand was not covered under NFSM-Wheat.

(b) State can utilize the funds provided under other Crop Development schemes of the Ministry such as Macromanagement Mode of Agriculture Scheme, Rshtriya Krishi Vikash Yojana and recently launched programme of "Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern Indian States" that have the same funding pattern as that of National Food Security Mission, for benefiting wheat growing farmers in the state including the farmers in the naxal affected districts.

Seeds Village Scheme

2119. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposals for seeds village scheme and for the development of infrastructure under Central Area

Scheme from Gujarat;

(b) whether these proposals have been approved;

(c) if so, the amount released so far; and

(d) if not, by when sanction would be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Government has received proposals for seeds village scheme and for the development of infrastructure form Gujarat under the scheme "Development and strengthening of infrastructure facilities for production and distribution of quality seeds". An amount of Rs.1665.3621 lakhs has been approved and released for seed village scheme.

Revival plan for agriculture sector

2120. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is trying to corporatise agriculture sector as part of its revival plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would elaborate on the steps taken for land reforms and to provide land to landless; and

(d) the reasons for rise in the landless labourers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The Government is not trying to corporatize the agriculture sector. However, the National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007 recognizes the need for setting up Farmers' companies to benefit the small and marginal farmers for gaining efficiency and economies of scale in their farming operations. At the same time NPF, 2007 also suggests promotion of cooperative farming and service cooperatives, group farming by self help groups, small holders' estates, contract farming and sate farms for the same objective in the interest of small and marginal farmers.

Land and its management is a State subject and therefore the role of the Central Government in the field of Land Reforms is mainly of an advisory and coordinating nature. Even then keeping in mind the importance of land reforms and in order to get comprehensive

recommendations on the matter, a "Committee on State Agrarian Relations and the Unfinished Task in Land Reforms" under the chairmanship of Union Minister of Rural Development and a "National Council for Land Reforms"

under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister have been constituted in 2008. As per the information received from States/UTs, as on 31.12.2009, an area of 69.92 lakh acres has been declared surplus, of which 61.40 lakh acres taken possession off and 50.03 lakh acres of land distributed to 56.48 lakh beneficiaries.

The reasons for rise in agricultural labourers are the growing population and fragmentation of holdings which compels famers to sell their unviable land holdings and moving to alternative vocations including one of being agricultural labourer. Besides this, as pointed out by the "National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganized Sector", manual employment days per hectare have increased from 341 to 389 during the period from 1993-94 to 2004-05 despite enhanced mechanization, irrigation etc.

Impact of climate change

†2121. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study regarding changing nature of monsoon along with the impact of climate changes upon agricultural sector in the country and how for agricultural production/yield has been affected/likely to be affected;

(b) if so, the details thereof, crop-wise and region-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to resolve the issues pertaining to adaptation according to climate changes and low productivity in agricultural sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Long-term rainfall analysis has been done by India Meteorological Department (IMD), Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology(IITM) and under Network-Programme on Climate Change by Indian Council of Agricultural Research(ICAR). The analysis indicated no long-term changes in the mean annual rainfall of the country. However, spatial variability in rainfall has been noticed. A significant decreasing trend in monsoon rainfall was noticed in the sub-divisions of N.E. India, East Madhya Pradesh including Chhattisgarh. Monsoon rainfall increasing

trends were observed along

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

with west coast of India, North West India covering Haryana, Punjab, Chandigarh and Delhi. The winter monsoon rainfall has shown significant increase in trends in the sub-divisions of Marathwada, Telanagana, North Interior Karnataka, Central India and in Goa. Simulation analysis results project that wheat yields in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are likely to be affected because of increase in temperature due to climate change. The increase in minimum temperature by 1°C during reproductive stage may reduce the wheat yield by 7-10%.

(c) To resolve the issues related to adaptation and low productivity, strategic research on adaptation and mitigation in crops, livestock and fisheries has been strengthened. Besides, mid-term corrections in farm operations are effected through contingency plans and weather based agro advisories. Capacity building and awareness campaign are also launched to educate the farmers to adopt the measures like frequent irrigation, use of stress tolerant varieties etc. to mitigate the adverse effect of climatic variability including natural calamities like drought and floods.

Scheme to spread awareness on agriculture

2122. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched any scheme to spread awareness on agriculture to motivate the small farmers and apple growers of the Hilly States like Himachal Pradesh;

(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) Yes, Sir. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing the following schemes for spreading awareness on agriculture among the small marginal farmers in the country including Apple Growers of Himachal Pradesh:

(i) Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States.

(ii) Mass Media Support to Agriculture.

(iii) Information dissemination through Agri Fairs.

- (iv) Support to State Programmes for Extension Reforms.
- (v) Kisan Call Centers.
- (vi) Establishment of Agri-Clinic and AgriBusiness Centres.
- (vii) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana.
- (c) The question does not arise.

Hike in fee by IARI

2123. PROF. M.S. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fees for M.Sc, and Ph.D. students of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi have been raised from Rs.7200 per annum to Rs. 72,000 per annum for Ph.D. and Rs. 62,000 for M.Sc. students; and

(b) if so, whether Government considers this a prudent step in the context of the large number of vacancies in ICAR institutions and in view of the assurance contained in the National Policy for Farmers(2007) that steps will be taken to attract and retain youth in agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The proposal for revision of fee, as per the recommendations of the Agricultural Universities' Vice-Chancellors' Conference, 2007, has been withheld for the present.

In order to attract and retain talent in agricultural education each M.Sc. and Ph.D student of IARI is given a scholarship, which has been revised upwards thrice since 1998.

Promotion of floriculture

2124. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to promote and popularize floriculture in the country;

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

(c) the State-wise details of funds allocated for promotion of floriculture in the country including Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing following Schemes for development of Horticulture Sector including promotion and popularization of floriculture in the country:

(i) Horticulture Mission for North East & Himalayan States

(ii) National Horticulture Mission.

(c) A statement showing state-wise funds allocated for promotion of floriculture in the country including Himachal Pradesh is given in Statement.

Statement

*State-wise Financial Allocation for the promotion of
floriculture in the country during 2010-11.*

S.No.	States	(Rs. in Lakh)
1	2	3
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	119.18
2.	Assam	0.00
3.	Bihar	24.00
4.	Chhattisgarh	1240.30
5.	Gujarat	104.80
6.	Haryana	245.40
7.	Himachal Pradesh	33.42
8.	Jharkhand	67.90
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	299.63
10.	Karnataka	593.45
11.	Kerala	35.00

1	2	3
12.	Maharashtra	490.67
13.	Madhya Pradesh	342.85
14.	Manipur	230.63
15.	Meghalaya	204.95
16.	Mizoram	144.37
17.	Nagaland	404.25
18.	Orissa	428.98
19.	Punjab	169.75
20.	Rajasthan	33.96
21.	Sikkim	494.25
22.	Tamil Nadu	785.00
23.	Tripura	134.35
24.	U.P.	684.46
25.	Uttarakhand	59.87
26.	West Bengal	480.86
TOTAL		7852.28

Weather based Crops Insurance Scheme

2125. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce Weather based Crop Insurance Scheme to compensate farmers; and

(b) if so, the status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) A Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) on pilot basis is already under implementation in the country since Kharif 2007 season.

Post-harvest losses

2126. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated preventable post-harvest losses of foodgrains per year; and

(b) the preventive steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) A nation-wide assessment study of quantitative harvest and post harvest losses of major agricultural crops and livestock produce has been carried out by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) between 2005-2007. The extent of losses for different food grains is given in Statement (See below). However, no information is maintained on preventable post-harvest losses of food grains.

(b) The Government has introduced central sector scheme namely 'Post Harvest Technology and Management' with the objective to reduce the post harvest losses and promote value addition of the produce through creation of adequate infrastructure in the production areas.

A reform-linked central sector scheme of Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization has been launched with the objective of developing marketing infrastructure in the country to cater to the post harvest requirement of production and marketable surplus of various farm produce.

An Investment linked central sector scheme namely Construction/Renovation of Rural Godown has been launched with the objective of creation of scientific storage capacity with allied facilities in rural areas to meet out various requirements of farmers for storing farm produce, processed farm produce etc.

Food Corporation of India (FCI), which is engaged in procurement activities, has taken number of steps for proper storage, movement and safe upkeep of food grains to avoid storage and transit losses. FCI godowns are constructed as per specifications and food grains are stored by adopting scientific storage practices.

A large number of primary processing and value addition technology have been developed by ICAR and State Agricultural Universities, which are being promoted through entrepreneurs development programme and establishment of agro processing centers in different production catchments.

Statement

The losses for different food grains

Sl. No.	Food grains	Extent of loss (%)
1	Cereals	3.9-6.0
2	Paddy	5.2
3	Wheat	6.0
4	Maize	4.1
5	Bajra	4.8
6	Sorghum	3.9
7	Pulses	4.3-6.1
8	Pigeon Pea	5.4
9	Chick pea	4.3
10	Black gram	6.1
11	Green Gram	5.5

Note: Operations considered for assessment of losses are harvesting, collection, threshing, grading/sorting, winnowing/cleaning, drying, packaging, transportation and farm/retailer level storage.

Sale of medicines through Jan Aushadhi stores

2127. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the average monthly sale of medicines, etc. at each Jan Aushadhi store during last one year, month-wise;

(b) whether Government would consider developing distribution

network with public sector pharma units for procurement of medicines
for Jan Aushadhi stores from the small and medium

sector units in the country in order to enlarge the base of availability of quality medicines at affordable prices through internet purchase of medicines against scanned prescription on the pattern of Railways through efficient courier service; and

(c) the reaction of Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The average monthly sale of medicines at each Jan Aushadhi Store in respect of medicines supplied by Central Pharma Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) is given in Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) No such proposal is under consideration.

Statement

Monthly Average Sale of Jan Aushadhi Stores (JASs)

S.No.	Name of State/JAS/ Date of Opening	Average Monthly Sale in Rs.
1	2	3
Delhi		
1	Delhi/ Shastri Bhawan/ 05.02.09	28108
2	Delhi/ G.T.B Hospital/ 13.11.09	20299
3	Delhi/ DDU Hospital/ 11.02.2010	35270
Haryana		
4	Harayana/ Gurgoan/ 20.02.09	29355
5	Harayana/ Punchkula/ 23.02.09	27020
6	Harayana/ Yamunanagar/29.08.09	11922
Punjab		
7	Punjab/ Amritsar/ 25.11.08	114232
8	Punjab/ Mohali/ 23.02.09	45851
9	Punjab/ Bhatinda/ 02.03.09	101874

1	2	3
10	Punjab/ Ludhiana/ 17.06.09	31883
11	Punjab/ Jalandhar/17.06.09	67473
12	Punjab/ Patiala/ 29.06.09	25229
13	Punjab/ Moga/ 30.06.09	25539
14	Punjab/ Faridkot/ 30.06.09	19862
15	Punjab/ Ferozpur/ 04.09.09	40974
16	Punjab/Mansa/ 12.09.09	46693
17	Punjab/ Barnala/ 01.10.09	91775
18	Punjab/ Sangrur/ 01.10.09	85171
19	Punjab/ Fatehgarh Sahib/ 28.10.09	13520
20	Punjab/ Roop Nagar/ 03.12.09	14964
21	Punjab/ Nava Sahar/ 03.12.09	8087
22	Punjab/ Hoshiyarpur/ 11.12.09	82197
23	Punjab/ Taran Taran/ 13.12.09	12466
24	Punjab/ Muktsar/ 18.12.09	27596
25	Punjab/ Gurdaspur/ 29.12.09	56394
26	Punjab/ Kapurthala/ 31.12.09	24746
Uttranchal		
27	Uttranchal/ Dehradun/ 09.11.09	21996
28	Uttranchal/ Roorkee/ 27.11.09	17098
Chandigarh		
29	Chandigarh/ P.G.I.M.E.R./ 16.11.09	60700
Andhra Pradesh		
30	Andhra Pradesh/ Vizag Port Hos./ 12.12.09	81805
31	Andhra Pradesh/ NIMS/ 05.03.2010	3139

1	2	3
32	Andhra Pradesh/ Uppal Industrial Employees Healthcare Centre/ 29.07.2010	0
Orissa		
33	Orissa/Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar/ 06.03.2010	28627
34	Orissa/Red Cross Bhavan, Unit-IX, Bhubaneswar/ 06.03.2010	27405
35	Orissa/District HQ Hospital/ Khordha/ 06.03.2010	7700
36	Orissa/District Hospital/ Dhenkanal/ 25.03.2010	34200
37	Orissa/District Hospital/ Koraput/ 11.06.2010	25957
38	Orissa/District Hospital/ Angul/ 09.07.2010	7966

Apart from the above outlets, there are 27 outlets opened in the state of Rajasthan and being managed in partnership with the Cooperative Department of Government of Rajasthan, through their agency CONFED. Sales figures are not available since the stores are in the process of maintaining separate sales figure for Jan Aushadhi medicines. One more outlet opened in Civil Hospital, Faridabad, Haryana is presently closed.

Supply of fertilizers

2128. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirement of fertilizers pending with Government particularly for Haryana and Punjab, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the details of fertilizers supplied to these States during each crop season in the current year, particularly Haryana and Punjab;

(c) the reasons for short supply of fertilizers to these States; and

(d) the efforts made by Government to restore adequate supply of fertilizers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement

and distribution control of the Government. All other fertilizers viz.
DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are

decontrolled/de-canalized since 1992. The availability of decontrolled fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply. Union Government monitors availability of fertilizers at State level and State Governments are responsible for its tie-up with the manufacturers & importers and further distribution within the State. State-wise cumulative requirement (demand), availability and sale of fertilizers including Haryana and Punjab during 2010-11 (April'10 to July'10) is given in Statement (see below). As can be seen that the availability of fertilizers have been adequate.

(d) Further, the following steps are being taken to make adequate availability of fertilizers in the country:

(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) 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

(v) 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.

(vi) 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;

(vii) All possible steps are taken by the Department of Fertilisers to match the availability of fertilizers with the assessed requirement.

Statement

Cummulative requirement, availability and sales of fertilizers during Kharif '10 (April '10 to July '10)

States	Urea			DAP+NPK			MOP		
	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	655.00	753.12	678.33	865.00	1087.74	1042.57	125.00	111.23	89.24
Karnataka	405.00	468.29	460.02	897.10	964.97	923.19	166.00	142.37	127.84
Kerala	55.75	52.94	50.26	107.70	103.35	96.29	60.20	64.24	59.75
Tamil Nadu	275.00	236.90	236.03	239.00	245.40	237.75	182.00	107.44	102.70
Gujarat	565.00	590.14	585.79	499.50	509.61	479.21	70.00	59.62	56.33
Madhya Pradesh	417.60	419.58	409.14	490.40	506.52	466.89	37.10	60.14	47.17
Chhattisgarh	430.25	273.48	269.68	288.17	250.05	241.56	72.00	45.65	41.67
Maharashtra	880.00	913.08	905.93	1312.40	1309.42	1287.03	205.00	191.73	172.17
Rajasthan	327.00	301.76	271.18	234.30	240.19	234.02	17.50	18.23	11.97
Haryana	585.00	565.18	550.44	217.00	313.61	296.46	21.00	26.02	21.69

Punjab	950.00	1044.97	1036.08	350.00	313.05	298.78	36.00	38.15	24.67
Himachal Pradesh	30.00	29.07	28.88	8.00	6.52	6.47	0.35	0.00	0.00
Jammu & Kashmir	66.92	71.93	69.19	43.45	31.56	28.31	14.53	0.94	0.93
Uttar Pradesh	1810.00	1610.65	1363.52	1005.00	955.13	889.81	90.00	51.25	35.61
Uttarakhand	92.00	90.18	84.13	35.35	45.97	39.59	4.50	1.77	1.53
Bihar	490.00	424.26	384.47	260.00	195.29	171.76	65.00	48.01	37.71
Jharkhand	73.00	56.40	49.94	76.50	41.88	37.20	7.00	3.61	3.61
Orissa	155.00	129.44	110.49	215.00	221.39	198.73	62.00	50.36	42.46
West Bengal	240.10	307.34	267.97	369.59	359.64	337.81	80.97	68.25	61.35
Assam	79.20	123.23	118.04	15.16.	15.23	11.96	39.60	26.37	25.45
All India	8648.03	8480.74	7947.19	7561.45	7729.58	7341.69	1370.05	1126.60	965.26

Includes sales of 5.88 LMT of Urea stock pre-positioned during March'10 against requirement of Kharif '10

Includes sales of 8.78 LMT of DAP+NPK stock pre-positioned during March'10 against requirement of Kharif '10

Bringing down prices of drugs

2129. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many unbranded drugs are to be sold in the Jan Aushadhi Generic drug outlets;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps for bringing down the prices of branded and unbranded drugs;

(c) whether Government has failed to supply medicines for public; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir. The prices of drugs are regulated under the provisions contained in the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995.

(c) No Sir. In case of any shortage / stock out / delay in procurement, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has resorted to emergency procurement to tide over the crisis.

(d) Question does not arise.

Bhopal gas tragedy

2130. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the recent statement made by a member of the Investment Commission of India on the Union Carbide case, to the effect that just by putting a Chairman or CEO in jail is not going to solve the problem; and

(b) if so, whether the statement has any bearing on Government's position on the issue of Bhopal gas tragedy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. This Ministry is not in possession of any information pertaining to statement reportedly made by

a member of the Investment Commission of India, as referred to.

However, the Government has decided that the CBI will put together additional material in support of the request of extradition of Warren Anderson and the M/o External Affairs will press the request for his extradition with the US Government.

Agreement and payments between NIPER and IDPL

2131. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agreements, payments and adjustments that have been made by Government between National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Hyderabad with public sector unit Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL);

(b) how much non-income has been received by IDPL on account of non-core activities during last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether Government denies that whole exercise was done to raise funds for expenditure and rehabilitation of the chief of public bureau of pharma public sector units; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) At present, National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education & Research (NIPER), Hyderabad functions in the premises of Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL) at Hyderabad. The premises have been leased on rent by IDPL to NIPER. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was, therefore, signed between IDPL and NIPER. In terms of the MoU, IDPL received payment from NIPER, Hyderabad, during the last 3 years as follows:

Year	Item	Amount (Rs. in Crores)
2007-08	-Nil-	-Nil-
2008-09	(a) Cost of furniture, Instruments & Books.	1.09
	(b) Rent for building handed over to NIPER	5.59
	(c) Advance Rent for Building handed over to NIPER (01.04.09 to 31.03.2012)	11.55

2009-10	-Nil-	-Nil-
	Total	18.23

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Registration of death claims of Bhopal gas leak victims

2132. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the break-up of rejected death claims of Bhopal gas leak victims, Municipal ward-wise, age-wise (such as below 5 years; 6 to 18 years; 19 to 45 years; 46 to 60 years and above) and gender-wise;

(b) the reasons for stopping registration of death claims of Bhopal gas leak victims from April, 1997 onwards; and

(c) the steps contemplated for reopening the registration from April, 1997 onwards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The Welfare Commissioner's office has informed that the details of rejected death claims are not maintained ward wise, age wise and gender wise.

(b) and (c) The Office of the Welfare Commissioner had vide Gazette Notification dated 2nd December, 1996 invited applications for claims from persons affected by the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster within a period of 60 days commencing from 10th December, 1996. This was extendable by another 60 days. The registration of death claims was accordingly stopped from April, 1997.

Funds for R&D in pharmaceutical sector

2133. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has planned to set up a Rs. 10,000 crore Venture Capital (VC) fund to finance Research and Development (R&D) activities in the pharmaceutical sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP)

is in the process of

examining a proposal to set up a Venture Fund for promoting Pharma drug discovery and innovation. Details including size etc. are being worked out with the help of National Institute of Public Finance and Policy.

Responsibility for Bhopal Gas Tragedy and compensation for victims

†2134. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is making an effort to bring prime accused in Bhopal Gas case to the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the person who will be held responsible for Bhopal Gas Tragedy; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to provide maximum compensation and relief to gas victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Warren Anderson was accused No. 1 in the Criminal Case No.8460/1996 in the court of CJM, Bhopal and a non-bailable warrant of arrest was issued by CJM, Bhopal on 10.04.1992, against Anderson for enabling his extradition to India. But despite steps taken by the Government in 2003, the extradition could not take place on account of the fact that the US has maintained that the request does not meet the requirements of Articles 2(1) and 9(3)(c) of the Extradition treaty and that there was insufficient evidence of intent on the part of Anderson which was necessary to show probable cause under the US law. The subsequent requests in December, 2004, January, 2007 and July, 2008 also did not result in change in the decision of the US Government.

The Government has considered the recommendations of the GoM and decided that CBI with the assistance of the Ministry of Law, Ministry of External Affairs and the Attorney General will put together additional material in support of the request of extradition of Warren Anderson and M/o External Affairs will press the request for extradition with the US Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(d) It has been decided by the Government, based on recommendations of the Group of Ministers, that ex-gratia shall be provided to the following categories of the Bhopal Gas Victims at the rates indicated below:

Category	ex-gratia
Death	Rs.10 lakh (less amount of compensation already Received)
Permanent disability	Rs.5 lakh (less amount already received)
Cancer cases	Rs.2 lakh (less amount already received)
Total Renal Failure Cases	Rs. 2 lakh (less amount already received)
Temporary disability	Rs.1 lakh (less amount already received)

For making payment of ex-gratia by the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas Victims, a sum of Rs.669.00 crore is being provided by the Govt, of India.

In addition to payment of ex-gratia, it has been decided to provide further relief to the Bhopal Gas Victims as under:

(i) The Government of India will file an application in the Supreme Court seeking permission to take over the Bhopal Memorial Hospital and Research Centre (BMHRC) to be run through the Department of Bio-Technology and Department of Atomic Energy. The Hospital thereafter is to be strengthened, upgraded and run as a super speciality Hospital.

(ii) ICMR will establish a fullfledged centre in Bhopal which will be its 31st Centre to conduct epidemiological studies and clinical research in areas identified by the ICMR including following areas:

- a) Respiratory diseases;
- b) Eye related diseases;
- c) Cancer;
- d) Total Renal failure;
- e) Genetic disorders;

f) Congenital disorders;

g) Women related medical issues;

h) Second generation children related medical issues

(iii) Based on a New Plan of Action, an amount of Rs.272.75 crores has been approved for being provided to the Government of Madhya Pradesh, as Additional Central Assistance on 75:25 basis, for medical, economic and social rehabilitation of the Gas Victims and also for providing safe drinking water by purification of contaminated ground water and from other sources. Sanction for the Central Government's share of Rs. 204.56 crore comprising 75% of the approved amount has been communicated to the State Government on 9th July, 2010 for this purpose.

Fertilizer availability in LWE affected districts

2135. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) the fertilizer availability for consumption in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts of Jharkhand and other States for the last three years;

(b) whether he is aware that traders are selling spurious fertilizers in these districts; and

(c) the manner in which Government would ensure that fertilizers reach to the smallest farmers in States like Jharkhand at MRP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) 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 decontrolled fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply. Union Government monitors availability of fertilizers at State level and State Governments are responsible for its tie-up with the manufacturers & importers and further distribution within the State. State-wise Demand, availability and sale of fertilizers including Jharkhand during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 is given in Statement-I, II and III (See below).

(b) The sale, manufacturing etc. of fertilizers are regulated under

the provisions of Fertiliser (Control) Order, (FCO) 1985, an order under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The specifications of various fertilizers have been laid down in Schedule of FCO, 1985. The Order prohibits manufacture and sale of spurious fertilizers, which are not of prescribed standard. The

State Governments as the enforcement agencies are adequately empowered to take appropriate action against the offenders for violation of provisions contained in FCO, 1985.

(c) The Department of Fertilizers has initiated following steps in order to ensure fertilizer reaches all part of the country:

(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) 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;

(v) 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;

(vi) 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;

(vii) 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 to follow this. The State Governments have also been requested to ensure that the fertilizers are sold at the MRP printed on the bags; and

(viii) All possible steps are taken by the Department of Fertilisers to match the availability of fertilizers with the assessed requirement;

Statement-I

Statewise Availability & Sale of Urea, DAP & MOP

Name of State	Urea			DAP/MAP			MOP (LMTs)		
	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2007-08									
Andhra Pradesh	27.50	26.84	25.12	8.24	7.16	7.15	5.55	4.52	4.50
Karnataka	12.80	13.63	12.54	5.80	4.54	4.50	4.00	3.70	3.58
Kerala	1.40	1.44	1.34	0.28	0.18	0.18	1.40	1.19	1.16
Tamilnadu	9.85	9.68	9.16	4.25	3.35	3.35	4.90	4.85	4.77
Gujarat	17.25	18.37	17.93	5.80	6.76	6.47	1.70	1.82	1.79
Madhya Pradesh	13.75	14.76	14.31	7.50	6.82	6.34	1.10	0.76	0.74
Chhattisgarh	5.90	6.17	5.87	1.70	1.38	1.35	0.74	0.69	0.62
Maharashtra	21.20	23.05	21.39	7.05	6.45	6.29	3.05	3.46	3.23
Rajasthan	14.70	13.83	13.21	6.05	5.51	4.50	0.23	0.23	0.19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Haryana	18.75	19.30	18.47	5.85	6.80	5.36	0.50	0.34	0.29
Punjab	25.00	26.97	26.46	8.00	9.14	6.81	0.95	0.58	0.57
Uttar Pradesh	55.00	54.37	52.72	15.50	14.89	13.20	3.00	1.27	1.14
Uttaranchal	2.30	2.42	2.31	0.32	0.23	0.23	0.18	0.05	0.05
Himachal Pradesh	0.61	0.60	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.05
Jammu & Kashmir	1.40	1.19	1.15	0.84	0.33	0.33	0.28	0.07	0.07
Bihar	20.00	19.40	18.56	4.25	3.30	3.07	2.05	1.19	1.07
Jharkhand	2.10	1.67	1.58	0.90	0.75	0.74	0.13	0.08	0.08
Orissa	5.50	5.19	4.58	1.25	1.79	1.72	1.20	1.05	1.01
West Bengal	12.95	12.45	11.56	4.55	3.80	3.78	4.00	2.76	2.73
Assam	2.30	1.99	1.93	0.70	0.08	0.08	0.85	0.40	0.40
All India	271.70	274.26	261.71	89.21	83.40	75.55	36.13	29.28	28.28

Statement-II

Cumulative availability of fertilizers during the year 2008-09 (April '08 to March '09)

State	Urea			DAP			MOP			Complex		
	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Sale	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Sale	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Sale	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Sale
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
2008-09												
Andhra Pradesh	27.50	27.84	27.33	8.50	9.98	9.97	5.85	6.27	6.04	20.50	16.50	16.30
Karnataka	13.50	12.88	12.82	6.05	8.12	8.07	4.55	5.14	5.05	11.17	8.44	8.39
Kerala	1.49	1.68	1.63	0.31	0.24	0.24	1.33	1.53	1.51	1.72	1.85	1.81
Tamil Nadu	10.37	11.28	11.28	4.31	3.85	3.85	4.84	5.95	5.84	3.62	3.55	3.51
Gujarat	18.65	18.69	18.48	7.10	8.24	8.19	1.90	2.26	2.22	4.39	4.92	4.70
Madhya Pradesh	15.75	13.83	13.59	8.25	8.31	8.14	1.20	1.17	0.88	4.35	2.20	2.15
Chhattisgarh	5.40	5.23	5.06	1.75	2.31	2.28	0.77	0.95	0.92	1.31	1.23	1.22
Maharashtra	23.25	22.84	22.46	8.60	10.19	10.15	3.70	5.17	4.92	15.65	10.40	10.29
Rajasthan	15.10	13.21	12.97	5.60	5.90	5.77	0.33	0.32	0.24	1.42	0.67	0.66
Haryana	19.90	17.59	17.36	6.00	6.69	6.61	0.46	0.47	0.39	0.67	0.31	0.31

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Punjab	25.50	26.28	25.77	8.10	8.82	8.82	0.95	0.98	0.81	1.01	0.59	0.57
Himachal Pradesh	0.65	0.66	0.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.44	0.40	0.40
Jammu & Kashmir	1.35	1.28	1.26	0.80	0.59	0.59	0.33	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.01	0.01
Uttar Pradesh	55.00	55.74	54.83	15.50	15.12	14.93	2.50	2.79	2.47	10.50	7.44	7.32
Uttarakhand	2.30	2.22	2.20	0.35	0.31	0.31	0.18	0.08	0.08	0.45	0.51	0.51
Bihar	21.25	18.33	17.96	4.25	4.12	4.11	1.90	2.28	2.13	3.60	2.59	2.59
Jharkhand	2.00	1.57	1.54	1.05	0.80	0.80	0.13	0.16	0.14	0.40	0.38	0.38
Orissa	5.50	4.74	4.61	2.00	1.89	1.89	1.35	1.53	1.34	2.88	2.66	2.55
West Bengal	13.00	11.94	11.67	4.86	4.03	4.03	4.15	4.80	4.62	7.49	7.29	7.23
Assam	2.40	2.30	2.30	1.03	0.14	0.14	1.06	1.08	0.95	0.30	0.06	0.06
All India	281.34	270.88	266.51	94.83	99.78	99.03	37.86	43.34	40.95	92.32	72.26	71.22

\$ Excludes 10.4 LMT of urea extra sold in March, 2008

(March, 08 requirement 10.36 LMT, the sales was 22.76 LMT)

Note: DOF started monitoring of complex fertiliser w.e.f. Kharif. 2008.

Statement-III

Cumulative requirement, availability & sales of fertilisers during the year 2009-10 (April to March)

8-4-10											Qty. in LMT	
State	Urea			DAP			MOP			Complex		
	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Sale	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Sale	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Sale	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Sale
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
2009-10												
Andhra Pradesh	27.50	26.16	25.95	9.75	8.89	8.85	6.60	6.07	6.01	20.50	18.69	18.15
Karnataka	13.75	13.77	13.77	8.20	8.46	8.46	5.15	6.12	6.08	11.20	10.95	10.76
Kerala	1.63	1.53	1.53	0.35	0.30	0.30	1.54	1.57	1.54	1.90	2.12	2.05
Tamil Nadu	11.50	9.98	9.98	4.25	2.94	2.94	5.84	5.14	5.12	4.00	6.18	6.13
Gujarat	18.75	18.21	18.12	8.00	7.64	7.62	2.30	2.86	2.69	4.72	4.20	4.01
Madhya Pradesh	15.25	16.00	15.93	8.50	9.52	9.47	1.20	1.67	1.43	3.55	2.48	2.43
Chhattisgarh	5.48	5.27	5.27	1.77	2.65	2.65	0.84	0.96	0.90	1.42	1.04	1.04
Maharashtra	24.75	22.87	22.87	12.50	13.83	13.82	5.60	7.07	7.06	14.00	11.25	11.13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Rajasthan	15.10	13.37	13.15	6.50	5.86	5.85	0.35	0.55	0.42	1.37	0.78	0.78
Haryana	19.65	18.05	17.95	7.00	6.66	6.66	0.52	0.90	0.90	0.45	0.48	0.48
Punjab	25.50	24.65	24.46	8.50	8.08	8.06	0.91	1.00	1.08	0.55	0.57	0.55
Himachal Pradesh	0.67	0.54	0.54	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.07	0.05	0.05	0.50	0.38	0.38
Jammu & Kashmir	1.40	1.22	1.22	0.78	0.48	0.48	0.26	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	55.00	53.64	53.08	17.00	16.51	16.49	2.85	3.47	3.43	8.50	9.47	9.40
Uttarakhand	2.15	2.33	2.33	0.40	0.38	0.38	0.13	0.04	0.04	0.45	0.41	0.40
Bihar	19.00	17.04	17.03	4.50	3.98	3.97	2.10	2.26	2.26	3.10	2.68	2.68
Jharkhand	2.05	1.50	1.50	1.15	0.82	0.82	0.15	0.17	0.17	0.50	0.69	0.68
Orissa	5.75	4.61	4.59	2.25	2.24	2.21	1.70	1.31	1.27	3.00	2.28	2.24
West Bengal	13.00	11.71	11.71	4.80	4.56	4.55	4.15	4.97	4.97	7.50	8.39	8.39
Assam	2.60	2.56	2.56	0.35	0.22	0.22	1.26	0.97	0.97	0.06	0.06	0.06
All India	281.90	265.97	264.48	106.98	104.09	103.92	43.85	47.60	46.74	87.73	83.38	82.03

Restarting of closed fertilizer units

†2136. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that all productive units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCIL) and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd (HFCL) have been shut down due to sickness;

(b) if so, the source whereby demand for supply of fertilizers in the country is met;

(c) whether Government has any plan to revive these units;

(d) if so, by when it will be implemented; and

(e) the value of chemical fertilizers in thousand crore rupees being imported in the country every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Yes, Sir. Five Units of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) and three Units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) are lying closed.

(c) Domestic production of urea in the country is about 211.12 LMT. As a part of long time arrangement with Oman India Fertilizer Company (OMIFCO), about 20.62 LMT are being imported. In addition, the urea is being imported to bridge the gap between indigenous demand and production of fertilizers in the country.

(b) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to explore the feasibility of revival of the closed units of HFCL and FCIL subject to assured availability of natural gas and an Empowered Committee of Secretaries (ECOS) has been constituted with the mandate to evaluate all investment options for revival of the closed units of FCIL/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. Further, the revival of Barauni unit of HFCL was proposed to be undertaken by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) viz. M/s

Urvarak Videsh Ltd, promoted by two fertilizer PSUs viz. M/s National Fertilizers Ltd. and M/s Rashtriya Chemicals

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

& Fertilizers Ltd., and M/s KRIBHCO, a fertilizer cooperative. M/s UVL have expressed that revival of Barauni unit by UVL is not feasible under the present policy dispensation.

Recently proposals have been received in the Government via consortium of PSUs formed by Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL), Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and Rashtriya Chemical and Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF) wherein the companies have expressed their intent to put up a fertilizer plant on coal based technology at Talcher (unit of FCIL). Similar proposal has also been received from Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) for Revival of Sindri and by Krishak Bharti Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) for Revival of Ramagundam.

The interests evinced by some PSUs in the revival and detailed report with recommendations submitted by Project Advisor M/s Delloitte has been considered by ECOS on 4/8/2010. The recommendation of ECOS are under examination for decision of competent authority. At this stage, no firm time can be indicated for the implementation of revival plan of these units.

(e) The value of chemical fertilizers in thousand crore rupees being imported in the country for the last three years is given as under:-

(In Thousand Crore Rupees)	
Year	Amount
2007-08	19.300
2008-09	59.850
2009-10	28.160

Unique identification system for export of pharmaceuticals

2137. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to roll out a unique identification system for export of pharmaceuticals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Ministry of Commerce & Industry (Department of Commerce) has informed that, in the wake of motivated campaign in the international media about export of spurious drugs from India, consultations are being held with the industry to adopt suitable tracing and tracking technologies to establish genuineness of drugs manufactured in India. Many manufacturers/exporters are using such technologies.

Damage to foodgrains

2138. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

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

(a) whether Government has sent a central team to various States to ascertain the exact position of foodgrains which are lying in the open;

(b) if so, the reports of the central team;

(c) whether based on findings of the inspection team, Government has proposed action against several FCI officials; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and further steps proposed to protect the foodgrains from damage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, a team from Department of Food & Public Distribution was deputed to inspect storage situation of foodgrains in FCI Depots at Hapur (Ghaziabad), Orai (Jalaun) and Harduaganj (Aligarh) in Uttar Pradesh. The team has observed damage to wheat stocks at these depots.

Subsequently, Central teams have also inspected storage situation of wheat in two districts each in Punjab and Haryana. The teams noticed damages to foodgrain stocks due to flood/rains at Bani in Sirsa district and Ismaliabad in Kurukshetra district, Haryana and at four storage centres in Sangrur district and four storage centres in Ferozpur district of Punjab.

(c) and (d) Based on report of the team on Hapur, Orai and Harduaganj depots, FCI has been asked to take immediate further action. Exact quantities of all these damages are being worked out. After detailed enquiry in each case of damages, FCI and concerned State agencies are to fix responsibility and recover the losses. For the damages at Hapur, Orai and Harduaganj depots in U.P., FCI has initiated action including suspension of 8 officers.

FCI has reported that instructions for safe storage of foodgrains have been reiterated from time to time for strict compliance. The following steps are being taken for proper storage, movement and safe upkeep of foodgrains in FCI.

(i) All FCI godowns are to be constructed as per specifications and foodgrains stored by adopting scientific storage practices.

(ii) Adequate dunnage materials, fumigation covers and chemicals are to be provided in all the godowns.

(iii) Prophylactic and curative treatments are to be carried out regularly and timely for the control of stored grain insect pests and rodents.

(iv) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage are to 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 are to be undertaken by qualified and trained staff of FCI.

(vi) The principle of "First-In-First-Out" (FIFO) is to be adopted to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.

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

(viii) Proper weighment and accounting are to be ensured at the time of receipt and issue of foodgrains.

(ix) Insuring transit losses in rail movement of foodgrains by rail.

(x) Providing escorts while transporting foodgrains from Depot to Rail head & vice-versa.

Black-marketing of wheat

2139. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE:

PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:

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

(a) whether production of wheat is falling alarmingly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by Government to meet the shortage and to check the rise in price of wheat due to its black-marketing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir. The production of wheat during the past three years and the current year has been as under:

(in Million Tonnes)

Rabi Marketing Year	Production
2007-08	75.81
2008-09	78.57
2009-10	80.68
2010-11*	80.71

*Forth Advance Estimate of Deptt. of Agriculture and Cooperation released on 19.7.2010

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to improve the availability of wheat in the country as well as to check the rise in prices is given in Statement.

Statement

*Steps taken by the Government to improve the availability of wheat
in the country as well as to check the rise in prices*

The following steps have been taken to contain the rise in prices of wheat:

- (i) Wheat export on private account has been banned from 9.2.2007 till further orders.

- (ii) Import of wheat on private account at zero duty has been permitted till further orders.
- (iii) The Central Issue Prices (CIPs) of wheat have not been increased since 1.7.2002 in order to lessen the burden of inflation on the poor.
- (iv) The MSP for wheat was fixed at Rs.1000 per quintal for RMS 2008-09, Rs. 1080 per quintal for RMS 2009-10 and Rs.1100 per quintal for RMS 2010-11. These levels of MSP for wheat have ensured remunerative prices to farmers and comfortable procurement levels.
- (v) Additional allocations under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)
- (a) An additional monthly allocation of approx. 4.57 lakh tones of foodgrains (wheat and rice) have been allowed for a period of six months at APL CIPs for those States, where the present level of APL allocation is less than 15 kg per family per month.
- (b) Specific adhoc additional allocation of 30.66 lakh tonnes of foodgrains (wheat and rice) has been made for all cardholders w.e.f. 19.5.2010 with validity for lifting upto 20.11.2010 @ of Rs.8.45 per kg for wheat and Rs.11.85 per kg for rice.
- (c) An additional allocation of wheat/rice @ 10 kg/family/months of January & February 2010 has been made to the accepted numbers of AAY, BPL & APL ration cards. This is in addition to existing allocation while the wheat will be allocated at MSP price and rice will be allotted at MSP derived price.
- (vi) Allocation under Open Market Sales Scheme (OMSS):-
- 20.65 lakh tonnes of wheat and rice have been allocated to State Governments for retail sale. In addition, 20.81 lakh tonnes have been allotted for tender sale to bulk consumers and another 5 lakh tonnes have been allotted for sale to small users.
- (vii) Further, in order to prevent black-marketing, powers have been vested with State Governments for taking action under the provisions of Essential Commodities Act 1955 and Prevention of Blackmarketing

and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act 1980.

Black marketing by FPS owners

2140. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:

SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE:

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

(a) whether BPL, AAY and APL families are not getting subsidized foodgrains, edible oils and pulses through PDS;

(b) whether FPS owners are leaking and diverting these items into black market;

(c) if so, the steps taken to strengthen PDS and to check leakages and diversion of foodgrains etc. into black market;

(d) how many of the PDS and other people have been brought to book in regard to the above;

(e) whether there is any proposal to provide money to BPL, AAY and APL families in place of foodgrains to check black marketing; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Government provides foodgrains to State/UT Governments for distribution to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families @ 35 kg. per family per month at highly subsidized prices. Allocation to above Poverty Line (APL) families is made on the basis of availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and the past off-take. Presently, the allocation of foodgrains for APL Category ranges between 15 kg. and 35 kg. per family per month at subsidized prices. In order to cushion consumers against price rise in pulses and edible oils, the Central Government also allocates imported edible oil and pulses to the State/UT Governments as per the demand/requirements indicated by them for distribution to the ration card holders/consumers.

Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments. The

operational responsibilities for distribution of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration

cards to them and supervision and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops rest with the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations.

Complaints as and when received by the Central Government about malpractices in TPDS including diversion/leakages of foodgrains, are sent to the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations for inquiry and necessary action.

Government has issued directions to State Governments to streamline functioning of TPDS by enforcing provisions of PDS (Control) Order, 2001. Government has also issued instructions to States/Union Territories to strengthen functioning of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) by improving monitoring mechanism and vigilance, increased transparency in functioning of TPDS, use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools and improving the efficiency of Fair Price Shop operations.

In respect of malpractices detected under TPDS, the details of persons prosecuted under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (EC Act, 1955) and the persons detained under the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 (PBM Act, 1980) during 2007 to 2010 are as under:

S.No.	Year	Persons prosecuted under EC Act, 1955	Persons detained under PBM Act, 1980
1.	2007	4872	119
2.	2008	6425	162
3.	2009	5131	147
4.	2010	1106	99
(upto 30.06.10)			

For monitoring supplies and securing availability and distribution of essential commodities under TPDS, the Central Government has issued Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001. As provided under the said Order, the State and UT Governments are responsible for implementing TPDS, and competent to take action against those indulging in malpractices in TPDS by invoking provisions of clauses 8 & 9 of the said Order. During the period January, 2007 to June,

2010 the State Governments/UT Administrations have reported 91217 cases
of issue of show cause

notice/FIRs lodged/suspension/cancellation of FPS licences and arrest/prosecution/conviction of 17237 persons.

(e) and (f) State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Govt, of NCT of Delhi submitted proposals for direct disbursement of food subsidy in cash to Below Poverty Line (BPL)/Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families on pilot basis in five districts, namely, Lakhimpur Kheri and Hardoi in Uttar Pradesh, Panchkula and Jhajjar in Haryana and Central District in Delhi, instead of distribution of foodgrains to them under TPDS. Based on those proposals, a draft scheme has been prepared to test the feasibility of this alternative mode of transfer of food subsidy to BPL/AAY families under TPDS. It has been referred to Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) for the approval of Committee on Non-Plan Expenditure.

Implementation of food security system

†2141. 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 a decision has been taken to start the first phase of food security system in one fourth part of the country;

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

(c) the places selected for the first phase along with the basis fixed for this selection; and

(d) by when this system would be implemented throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Government is committed to enact a National Food Security Act which, inter-alia, envisages-entitling every below poverty line family in the country to a certain quantity of foodgrains every month at subsidized prices. At present, an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) constituted for the purpose is considering issues concerning the proposed law. Based on directions of EGoM, a draft Bill will be prepared and placed on the website of the Department of Food and Public Distribution for public

scrutiny and comments.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

Entitlement of foodgrains to BPL/APL category

2142. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

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

(a) the amount of foodgrains required to meet the total demand of BPL and APL cardholders in the country, assuming 100 per cent off-take;

(b) the actual off-take of foodgrains in the last three financial years by APL and BPL consumers; and

(c) the basis for fixing the entitlement at 35 kg. per month?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Estimated annual requirement of food grains for accepted number of BPL (including AAY) and APL families under TPDS for the year 2010-11 is about 47 million tons at the existing level of allocation.

(b) The details of offtake of foodgrains (rice and wheat) by the States/ Union Territories for BPL (including AAY) and APL families under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) during the last three years are as below:

(in lakh tons)

Year	BPL (including AAY)	APL
2007-2008	245.68	87.22
2008-2009	251.80	94.20
2009-2010	263.40	160.63

(c) Taking into consideration the availability of foodgrain stocks with the Government and the cereal requirement of the households, the per family entitlement of foodgrains under TPDS was fixed at 35kg per month from April, 2002.

Improvement in rationing system

†2143. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

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 Government is taking suggestions from States for improvement in rationing system;

(b) the levels on which the suggestions would be taken;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard; 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) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/Union Territory) UT Governments. The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over and monitoring of functioning of fair price shops rest with the concerned State/UT Government.

Reviewing of functioning of TPDS is a continuous ongoing process. For the smooth functioning of TPDS, Government has been periodically holding meetings/conferences with State/UT Ministers and Food Secretaries. A Conference to share the Best Practices and Reforms in TPDS was held on 12th and 13th July, 2010 with all Food Secretaries and other senior officials of the States/UTs and Government of India. At the end of the Conference, it was resolved to take several measures with a view to further streamline and strengthen TPDS.

In order to assess the functioning of TPDS, the Department got it evaluated with the help of Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of Planning Commission and ORG Marg, New Delhi who submitted their reports in the year 2005. Their reports pointed out certain shortcoming in functioning of TPDS. Their reports had been sent to State/UT Governments for necessary action.

A concurrent evaluation study was conducted by National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in 12 States. They submitted reports in respect of six States in November, 2007 and for six States in January, 2009. The study found that the delivery mechanism of TPDS was quite effective in nine of the twelve selected States where more than 80

percent of the Below Poverty Line households obtained their entitled quantity of cereals regularly. In the selected States, majority of the Antyodaya Anna Yojana households received close to the fixed entitlement of rice and wheat (35 kg)

except in the case of Assam, Bihar and Mizoram. These reports have been sent to the concerned State Governments for taking necessary remedial measures to streamline TPDS.

Setting-up of Central Food Security Fund

2144. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to set up a Central Food Security Fund to monetarily compensate the Below Poverty Line (BPL) beneficiaries of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) who fail to get 35 kilograms of wheat or rice per family per month at a subsidized rate of Rs. 3 per kg;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is being implemented in any State; 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) The details of the proposed National Food Security Act are being worked out by an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) constituted to consider the issues concerning the proposed law. Based on directions of EGoM, a draft Bill will be prepared and placed on the website of the Department of Food and Public Distribution for public scrutiny and comments.

Reforms in TPDS

2145. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has called for reforms to make the Targeted Public Distribution System more efficient and responsive to the changing "socio-economic milieu";

(b) if so, the details of drastic changes Government proposes to make in the Targeted Public Distribution System;

(c) whether views of the State Governments on the proposed TPDS has been examined; and

(d) if so, the manner in which the revised TPDS is likely to be implemented?

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 Government of India and State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations with sharing of responsibilities in this regard. Reviewing the functioning of TPDS is a continuous process. For the smooth functioning of TPDS, Government has been periodically holding consultations/conferences with State Governments/UT Administrations. A Conference to share the Best Practices and Reforms in TPDS was also held recently on 12th and 13th July 2010 wherein various issues were discussed. These issues relate among others to proper identification of beneficiaries, timely distribution of foodgrains, enhancing viability of fair price shops, enhancing storage capacities, use of technology based initiatives in TPDS and increasing public awareness.

Implementation of de-centralized procurement scheme

2146. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Decentralized Procurement Scheme (DCP) was introduced in 1997-98 for effecting savings, enhancing efficiency of procurement and encouraging local procurement for the benefit of farmers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that even after a gap of more than 13 years, the DCP scheme has been undertaken only by 6 States for wheat and 10 States for rice, respectively;

(c) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by Government to insist the remaining States to adopt DCP scheme; 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) Yes, Sir. The Scheme of Decentralised Procurement (DCP) of food grains was introduced in 1997-98 with a view to enhance the efficiency of procurement & PDS and to

encourage local procurement and reduce out go of food subsidy.
The DCP states undertake the responsibility of procurement of food
grains, its scientific storage and

distribution through Targeted Public Distribution (TPDS). The surplus food grains procured by DCP states, in excess of their TPDS requirement is handed over to FCI for the Central Pool stocks and deficit, if any, is met by FCI.

(b) to (d) For wheat, 6 states (Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat and West Bengal) and for rice, 10 states (Uttar Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Kerala, Karnataka, MP and A&Nicobar Islands) have adopted the DCP system of procurement. However, Uttar Pradesh has moved out of DCP for Rabi Marketing (RMS) 2010-11 and Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2010-11 onwards.

The decision to follow DCP lies with the State Governments. The determining factors are infrastructure and resources available with the respective State Government including manpower, storage and necessary logistics required for procurement and accordingly, State Government's readiness to undertake DCP procurement.

Demand and supply of foodgrains

2147. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE:

PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:

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

(a) whether population is growing faster than the production of foodgrains in India;

(b) if so, the steps taken to meet foodgrains demand besides keeping its prices in control; and

(c) the present status of production and consumption of foodgrains and measures taken to abridge the gap between demand and supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The details of annual rate of growth in the projected population and production foodgrains in the country during the last three years and the current year, as informed by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation are given

below:

Year	Annual growth rate (%)	
	Projected population	Production of foodgrains
2006-07	1.50	4.16
2007-08	1.47	6.21
2008-09	1.44	1.60
2009-10	1.40	-6.93

(c) Major schemes/programmes introduced by the Government during the last five years to increase the production of foodgrains are National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). As a result of these programmes and other initiative taken by the Government, the production of foodgrains in the country has increased from 198.36 million tonnes during 2004-05 to a record level of 234.47 million tonnes during 2008-09.

The steps taken by the Government to improve availability of wheat and rice in the country include additional allocations under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS), import of wheat and rice at zero duty on private account and ban on export of wheat and non-basmati rice till further orders.

Wastage of foodgrains

2148. SHRI P. RAJEEVE:

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that tonnes of foodgrains were lost due to the shortage of storage facilities;

(b) if so, how many tonnes of rice and wheat were lost during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to address this serious issue?

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

stocks get damaged due to various reasons such as rains, floods, pests, rodents and fungus infestation etc.

As on 01.07.2010 a total quantity of 11708 MTs (Wheat, Rice & Paddy) of damaged foodgrains is available in various FCI godowns in the country.

(b) The quantity of wheat and rice damaged during the last three years are as under:

(Figures in MTs)

Year	Wheat	Rice
2007-08	924	32615
2008-09	947	19163
2009-10	2010	3680

The Following steps have been taken for preventing damage to foodgrains and to increase storage capacity

1. FCI carries out regular prophylactic and curative measures for the control of insects and pets.

2. Fumigation is carried out at regular intervals.

3. The Government has formulated a Scheme for construction of godowns for FCI through private entrepreneurs. Under the Scheme FCI would give a guarantee of 10 years for the storage charges. About 149.04 lakh tonnes of additional capacity has been identified for construction in the country. CWC/SWCs have also been allowed to construct godowns where they have their own land under the scheme.

Non-release of levy sugar to Andhra Pradesh

2149. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government had complained to the Ministry about non-release of allotted levy sugar to the tune of 13,998.30 MTs by some sugar mills for March-September, 2009 period;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government for re-allotting the shortfall of levy sugar; and

(c) the quantum of sugar supplied to Andhra Pradesh by defaulting sugar mills to meet the shortfall in sugar supply to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) In September, 2009, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had reported shortfall of 13998.3 MT levy sugar against the allocations for the period March, 2009 to September, 2009. However, the Central Government had taken action to recoup levy shortfall of the State Government to the extent of 7664.9 MT by way of revalidation of a total quantity of 4130.5 MT and by reallocation of a total quantity of 3534.4 MT of levy sugar, after reviewing the cases of short supply/no supply allotment-wise. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has not been furnishing monthly information on lifting of levy sugar to the Government of India. As such, information on quantity of sugar supplied to Andhra Pradesh by defaulting sugar mills is not available with the Central Government.

Wastage of foodgrains

2150. SHRI H.K. DUA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the foodgrains India is losing every year because of lack of storage facilities, rodents and floods; and

(b) the steps Government is taking to avoid such wastage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Some quantity of foodgrains get damaged due to various reasons such as rains, floods, cyclones, pest, rodents and fungus infestation of stocks.

Total quantity of damaged foodgrains (wheat, rice and Paddy) as on 1.07.2010 in the godowns of FCI is 11,708 MTs.

Commodity	Quantity (in MTs)
Rice	9141
Wheat	2486
Paddy	81
Total	11708

(b) The following steps are being taken for proper storage, movement and safe upkeep of food grains in FCI:

(i) All FCI godowns are constructed as per specifications and food grains is 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.

Price-rise of foodgrains

2151. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that price of foodgrains are increasing very high;

(b) the steps taken by Government to control the price of foodgrains; and

(c) the total stock of rice, wheat, sugar available under PDS this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The retail prices of essential commodities are showing a declining or steady trend in the case of rice, wheat, atta, pulses such as gram dal, urad dal, moong dal, masoor dal, sugar, edible oils such as groundnut oil, mustard oil and vanaspati, milk and potato over 6 months in 4 metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkatta and Chennai. However the retail prices of pulses such as tur dal, onion had shown a marginal increase over the same period. The details of retail prices of essential commodities in 4 Metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai is given in Statement-I (See below).

(b) The Government had already taken several measures to contain price rise of food grains is given in Statement-II (See below).

(c) There are ample stocks of wheat and rice in the central pool.

The Central pool stock of wheat as on 1.7.2010 was 335.84 lakh tonnes and of rice was 242.66 lakh tonnes. The production of sugar in 2009-10 season is provisionally estimated at 185 lakh tones. As such, 37 lakh tonnes of stock would be available for PDS.

Statement-I

Retails prices of essential commodities in 4 metros

Centre	Daily Retail Price						% Variation				
	Current	Last	1 Month	3 Month	6 Month	1 Year	Last	1 Month	3 Month	6 Month	1 Year
	Date	Week	Back	Back	Back	Back	Week	Back	Back	Back	Back
	02/08/10	26/07/01	02/07/10	02/05/10	02/02/10	02/07/09	26/07/01	02/07/10	02/05/10	02/02/10	02/07/09
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Rice											
Delhi	22	22	22	24	23	20	0	0	-8.33	0	10
Mumbai	20	19	19	19	19	19	5.26	5.26	5.26	0	5.26
Kolkata	20	20	19	18	18	14	0	5.26	11.11	0	42.86
Chennai	20	20	20	20	22	19	0	0	0	0	5.26
Wheat											
Delhi	14	14	14	13	16	13	0	0	7.69	0	7.69
Mumbai	18	18	18	19	20	17	0	0	-5.26	-5.26	5.88
Kolkata	NR	NR	NR	NR	NT	NT	NR	NR	NR	NR	NT

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Chennai	22	22	21	21	22	19	0	4.76	4.76	0	15.79
Atta											
Delhi	16	16	16	16	18	15	0	0	0	0	6.67
Mumbai	19	18	18	18	20	18	5.56	5.56	5.56	0	5.56
Kolkata	16	15	16	15	17	14	6.67	0	6.67	0	14.29
Chennai	23	23	22	22	22	20	0	4.55	4.55	0	15
Gram Dal											
Delhi	35	34.5	34	33	38	39	1.45	2.94	6.06	1.45	-10.26
Mumbai	34	34	34	34	33	38	0	0	0	0	-10.53
Kolkata	32	32	32	32	38	38	0	0	0	0	-15.79
Chennai	34	34	32	32	35	36	0	6.25	6.25	0	-5.
Tur Dal											
Delhi	71	71	72	75	83	82	0	-1.39	-5.33	0	-13.41
Mumbai	66	67	66	66	70	.80	-1.49	0	0	1.54	-17.5

Kolkata	62	60	62	65	84	76	3.33	0	-4.62	3.33	-18.42
Chennai	68	70	72	72	80	80	-2.86	-5.56	-5.56	-2.86	-15
Urad Dal											
Delhi	74	74	72	68	71	61	0	2.78	8.82	0	21.31
Mumbai	78	76	78	71	66	63	2.63	0	9.86	1.30	23.81
Kolkata	68	68	67	62	62	50	0	1.49	9.68	0	36
Chennai	78	80	80	70	76	66	-2.5	-2.5	11.43	-2.5	18.18
Moong Dal											
Delhi	83.5	83.5	88	88	82	63	0	-5.11	-5.11	0	32.54
Mumbai	86	86	91	89	85	67	0	-5.49	-3.37	-1.15	28.36
Kolkata	85	85	90	85	90	56	0	-5.56	0	0	51.79
Chennai	78	80	86	90	82	68	-2.5	-9.30	-13.33	-2.5	14.71
Masoor Dal											
Delhi	55	55	57	58	61	66	0	-3.51	-5.17	0	-16.67
Mumbai	51	50	52	52	53	64	2	-1.92	-1.92	0	-20.31

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Kolkata	48	46	48	50	60	60	4.35	0	-4	4.35	-20
Chennai	48	50	50	50	NR	NR	-4	-4	-4	-4	NR
Sugar											
Delhi	31	30	30.5	33	44	28	3.33	1.64	-6.06	3.33	10.71
Mumbai	30	31	30	31	43	27	-3.23	0	-3.23	-3.23	11.11
Kolkata	31	31	31	30	41	28	0	0	3.33	0	10.71
Chennai	29	29	29	31	42	26	0	0	-6.45	0	11.54
Milk@											
Delhi	24	24	23	23	22	21	0	4.35	4.35	0	14.29
Mumbai	26	25	26	26	24	21	4	0	0	0	23.81
Kolkata	21	21	21	21	21	20	0	0	0	0	5
Chennai	20.5	20.5	20.5	20.5	20.5	18	0	0	0	0	13.89
Groundnut Oil											
Delhi	114	114	111	110	112	107	0	2.70	3.64	0	6.54

Mumbai	78	74	74	72	71	93	5.41	5.41	8.33	1.30	-16.13
Kolkata	100	100	100	85	95	92	0	0	17.65	0	8.70
Chennai	88	87	82	73	75	62	1.15	7.32	20.55	0	41.94
Mustard Oil											
Delhi	68	68	66	66	71	67	0	3.03	3.03	0	1.49
Mumbai	64	64	66	65	66	72	0	-3.03	-1.54	-5.88	-11.11
Kolkata	62	60	56	60	62	60	3.33	10.71	3.33	3.33	3.33
Chennai	68	68	66	68	73	68	0	3.03	0	0	0
Vanaspati											
Delhi	57	56	55	55	57	54	1.79	3.64	3.64	1.79	5.56
Mumbai	58	55	54	53	50	55	5.45	7.41	9.43	5.45	5.45
Kolkata	49	50	47	40	38	46	-2	4.26	22.5	-2	6.52
Chennai	58	58	58	55	54	55	0	0	5.45	0	5.45
Tea (Loose)											
Delhi	148	148	149	156	160	146	0	-0.67	-5.13	0	1.37

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mumbai	156	163	153	153	156	150	-4.29	1.96	1.96	1.96	4
Kolkata	100	100	100	100	112	100	0	0	0	0	0
Chennai	240	240	240	240	340	290	0	0	0	0	-17.24
Potato											
Delhi	11	11	14.5	9	9	18	0	-24.14	22.22	0	-38.89
Mumbai	12	12	11	11	15	17	0	9.09	9.09	0	-29.41
Kolkata	6	6	6	4	4	15	0	0	50	0	-60
Chennai	14	14	14	12	16	16	0	0	16.67	0	-12.5
Onion											
Delhi	14	13.5	12	14	23	15	3.70	16.67	0	3.70	-6.67
Mumbai	12	12	11	12	19	12	0	9.09	0	0	0
Kolkata	13	12	12	8	26	14	8.33	8.33	62.5	0	-7.14
Chennai	14	12	12	10	22	12	16.67	16.67	40	16.67	16.67

Source:State/ITs Civil Supplies Department

Statement-II

Steps taken to contain price rise in essential commodities

A. Short term Measures:

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.

- (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 fulfill 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 July, 2010, 14.50 lakh tons of non levy sugar have been made available which includes 10.15 lakh tons of normal non-levy sugar and 1.85 lakh tons of sugar processed from imported raw sugar during May, 2010. Estimated availability out of imported white/refined sugar during the month is about 0.50 lakh ton and estimated availability of carryover stock of June, 2010 non-levy quota is about 2 lakh tons. Besides, levy sugar quota of 2.15 lakh tons also been released. Thus, for the month of July, 2010, 16.65 lakh 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 adhoc additional allocation of 30.66 lakh tonnes of foodgrains 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.1 1.85 per kg for rice.

- (xii) Recently, the Government has also decided on providing, an additional allocation of 4.57 lakh tonnes of foodgrains per month for APL families at the prevailing APL CIP. This

is applicable initially for a period of six months to those States where APL allocations are below 15 kg per family per month.

(xiii) OMSS interventions:

- a. Allocation to State Governments under OMSS (Domestic) for release of 20.00 lakh tonnes 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 tonnes 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 tonnes 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 tonnes of wheat and 17000 tonnes of rice from the un-lifted quantity of OMSS allocations to state Governments. Similarly, NCCF was allocated 32684.21 tonnes wheat and 11000 tonnes rice for sale to retail consumers.
- e. On 16.2.2010, another allocation of 5 lakh tonnes 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 is 35 lakh tonnes, and total rice allocation is 10 lakh tonnes.

(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.

Allocation of foodgrains to Gujarat under BPL category

2152. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government allocates foodgrains to States on the basis of the information supplied by the State Governments regarding BPL cards; and

(b) if so, the reasons for allocating inadequate foodgrains to the State of Gujarat as per BPL cards decided by the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Allocations of foodgrains to States/Union Territories (UTs), under the Targeted Public Distribution System are made @ 35 kg. per family per month for accepted number of 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. Thus, for the 21.20 lakh Below Poverty Line (BPL) families including 8.128 lakh Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families in Gujarat, foodgrains are allocated in full quantity at the scale of 35 kg per family per month as per allocation norms.

Payment of sugarcane to farmers

†2153. SHRI VEER PAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the rate fixed for the sugarcane for payment to farmers during the next sugarcane crushing season 2010-2011;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to ensure that the sugarcanes of farmers reach to the mills in time;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(c) whether Government has plan to make timely payment to the farmers for their sugarcane;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) On the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the Government has determined the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) for sugarcane 2010-11 sugar season at Rs.139.12 per quintal linked to a basic recovery of rate of 9.5% for sugarcane delivered at the gate of the factory or at a sugarcane purchase unit subject to a premium of Rs.1.46 for every 0.1 percentage point increase in recovery above that level. The supply of sugarcane by farmers is as per their agreement with the mills and payment is made by the mills to the farmers for sugarcane purchased. Sub clause 3A of Clause 3 of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 provides for timely payment to the farmers for their sugarcane. Where a producer of sugar or his agent fails to make payment for the sugarcane purchased within 14 days of the date of delivery, he shall pay interest on the amount due at the rate of 15 per cent per annum for the period of such delay beyond 14 days. The State Governments have been empowered to recover the arrears of cane payment as arrears of land revenue as per sub-clause 8 to 14 of Clause 3 of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966.

Non-purchase of levy rice in Uttar Pradesh

†2154. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Food Corporation of India (FCI) is fully responsible to purchase the levy rice in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that rice mills and farmers both suffered a huge loss because of non-purchase of levy rice by FCI in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) if so, the officers responsible for this and the action taken against them; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(d) by when the purchase of levy rice for this year will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Uttar Pradesh adopted Decentralised procurement (DCP) during Kharif Marketing Season 2009-10 under which the state government procures and keeps the annual requirement under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes and surplus stocks is delivered to FCI. As informed by FCI, 7.54 lakh MTs levy rice is to be delivered to FCI during Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2009-10.

(b) and (c) The State Govt. imposed a levy of 75% on the millers / dealers according to which 21.29 lakh MTs of rice is leviable. So far, a total of 20.64 lakh MTs have been levied, out of which 13.83 lakh MTs have been delivered to state pool and FCI has taken delivery of 3.84 lakh MTs.

(d) The levy rice for KMS 2009-10 is to be delivered up to 30.9.10 in Uttar Pradesh. The levy rice conforming to the specifications pertaining to KMS 2009-10 will be accepted by FCI, if delivered, up to 30.9.10.

Recommendations of Tendulkar and Saxena Committee Report

†2155. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tendulkar and Saxena Committees have submitted their reports on actual figures of BPL families, etc. to Government;

(b) if so, whether Government has studied these recommendations; and

(c) if so, by when Government would take decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Planning Commission constituted an Expert Group to review the methodology of estimation of poverty under the chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar. The Expert Group submitted its report in December, 2009. As per Planning Commission, the Expert Group has, *inter-alia*, estimated all-India rural poverty

headcount ratio for 2004-05 at 41.8%, urban poverty headcount ratio at 25.7% and All India level at 37.2%.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

In the Mid Term Appraisal of the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12), it has been indicated that the revised poverty lines recommended by the Tendulkar Committee have been accepted by the Planning Commission for 2004-05.

Ministry of Rural Development constituted an Expert Group to suggest methodology for conducting the next BPL census in rural areas. The terms of reference of the Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. N.C. Saxena to advise the Ministry of Rural Development on the methodology for conducting the BPL Census for the 11th Five Year Plan does not include estimation of poverty. The Expert Group submitted its Report which has been considered by an inter-ministerial core group. Ministry of Rural Development is in process of conducting a pre-testing study to establish the final methodologies for identification of the rural poor.

Rottening of wheat

†2156. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received complaints regarding rottening/spoiling of wheat in Food Corporation of India's godowns situated in various parts, if so, the details thereof, godown-wise and quantum-wise;

(b) the steps being taken by Government for preventing this loss; and

(c) the action taken against the officers responsible for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir. Reports have been received about damage to FCI foodgrains stocks by rains and floods during July, 2010 in Uttar Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab as given below:

States	Depots	Damaged wheat (tons)
1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	Hapur	9.3

Harduaganj	90
Orai, Jalaun	0.5

1	2	3
	Saharanpur, CWC Bamanheri	29.2
	CWC,Saharanpur, Pilkhani	1.0
	Roza, Shahjahanpur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Chanderi, Kanpur	Damage yet to be quantified
Rajasthan	Udaipur, rail head	8.56
Haryana	HSWC, Bani	Damage yet to be quantified
Punjab	CAP complex Khonuri, Sangrur	Damage yet to be quantified
Uttrakhand	SWC Gadarpur, Udham Singh Nagar	Damage yet to be quantified

Above damages to foodgrains stocks have taken place due to failure in taking required precautionary measures by the concerned officers of FCI except at Bani in Haryana where the damage has been due to flood.

(b) Corrective steps being taken by FCI for proper storage, movement and safe upkeep of foodgrains are given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) FCI has initiated action including suspension of eight officers for dereliction at Hapur, Orai and Harduaganj. In Rajasthan Region, handling and transport contractor is responsible for damage of wheat at Railhead Udaipur and the loss will be recovered from the contractor by FCI. Damages at rest of the FCI depots are yet to be quantified based on which FCI has to fix responsibility.

Statement

Steps taken by FCI for proper storage, movement and upkeep of foodgrains

In order to prevent losses due to damage of foodgrains in FCI godowns, there are standing guidelines for proper handling and scientific storage of wheat and other stocks of foodgrains in FCI godowns. 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.

Comparative price of foodgrains

†2157. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of prices of food-items, edible oils, pulses, cereals before March, 2009 and in March, 2010 in the country; and
- (b) the break-up of prices, food-itemwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The break up of prices of food-item wise-edible oils, pulses, cereals, sugar and vegetables (potato and onion), before March, 2009 and in March, 2010 in the country in 4 Metros viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai is given in Statement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

Statement

*Retail Prices in Four Metros during January 2009 to
March 2009 and in March 2010*

(Unit: Rs./Kg)

Sl.No.	January, 2009	February, 2009	March, 2009	March, 2010
1	2	3	4	5
Rice				
Delhi	22	22	21.5	23
Mumbai	18.23	18	17.6	19.79
Kolkata	14	14	14	17.44
Chennai	18	18	18	20
Wheat				
Delhi	13	13	13.1	15.1
Mumbai	16	15.85	15.63	19.26
Kolkata	NT	NT	NT	NT
Chennai	18	18	18	21.37
Gram				
Delhi	35.38	35	34.13	34.31
Mumbai	33.95	33.85	33.45	33.95
Kolkata	35	36.2	33.1	34.11
Chennai	34.05	34.65	34	32
Tur Dal				
Delhi	49.9	51.4	53.73	68.38
Mumbai	49.2	51.4	50.85	64.21
Kolkata	43.35	49.05	45.25	63.11
Chennai	49.6	56.2	58	65.42

1	2	3	4	5
Urad Dal				
Delhi	46	46	45.1	64.67
Mumbai	47.25	47.05	47.85	67.32
Kolkata	36	37.1	36.3	59.89
Chennai	46.2	48.8	48	66.42
Moong Dal				
Delhi	45.08	45.5	45.75	76.1
Mumbai	47.55	48.55	51.1	85.97
Kolkata	44.7	49.2	45.7	86.17
Chennai	45.15	48.7	49.3	81.74
Masoor Dal				
Delhi	61.25	62	54.4	56.31
Mumbai	58.25	58.3	51.95	52.11
Kolkata	54.7	56.65	59.15	51.06
Chennai				50
Sugar				
Delhi	22.15	24.82	24.57	36.83
Mumbai	22.02	23.7	24.5	37.53
Kolkata	21.45	22.75	23.05	36.83
Chennai	21	21.35	21.85	34.68
Groundnut Oil				
Delhi	109.75	104.15	101.75	114.52
Mumbai	87.1	90.8	93.9	78.42

1	2	3	4	5
Kolkata	86	92	97.35	88.06
Chennai	65.9	63.95	61	73.79
Mustard Oil				
Delhi	77	74.45	67.8	67.48
Mumbai	84.3	80.9	73.55	68.21
Kolkata	78	75.4	67.15	61.33
Chennai	82.73	82.35	80.75	68.42
Vanaspati				
Delhi	54.8	52.65	51.35	55.52
Mumbai	55.05	55	54.45	51.68
Kolkata	43.35	44.4	45.2	39.28
Chennai	56.4	55.35	55.65	54.42
Potato				
Delhi	8.05	6	7.58	8.48
Mumbai	9.4	9	9.75	11.47
Kolkata	5	5.35	7.3	4
Chennai	12	10	10.4	10.53
Onion				
Delhi	21.3	18.23	17.55	17.38
Mumbai	19	14.93	14.95	13.58
Kolkata	18.7	16.95	15.45	11.78
Chennai	21.6	17.3	14.7	12.74

1	2	3	4	5
Salt (Packed)				
Delhi	11	11	11	12
Mumbai	11	11	11	12
Kolkata	7	7.55	8	8
Chennai	11	11	11	12

NB:

- 1) Prices at different centres may vary due to varietal differences.
- 2) Prices for the month are of average of daily reported prices.

Source: State/Uts civil supplies Department.

Proper use of foodgrains

†2158. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to shortage of foodgrains storage facilities in some States they are on the verge of rotting;

(b) whether States like Chhattisgarh, etc. are demanding foodgrains to save lower middle class families from the effect of cost escalation of foodgrains;

(c) whether the suggestion of making proper use of the foodgrains by giving them to such States is being implemented; 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) No, Sir. However, some stocks get damaged due to various reasons such as rains, floods, cyclone, pests, rodents and fungus infestation of stocks etc.

(b) to (d) The Government has received representations from some States including Chhattisgarh for increase in APL allocation of foodgrains over and above the normal Targetted Public Distribution System allocation. The Government has allocated 30.66 lakh tonnes of foodgrains

for all

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

accepted AAY/BPL/APL families in all the States/UTs @ Rs.8.45 per kg for wheat and Rs.11.85 per kg for rice. The State Government of Chhattisgarh was initially allocated 74,987 tons of foodgrains under this allocation. On its further request additional 74, 987 tons of foodgrains has been allocated to Chattisgarh on 22nd July, 2010.

The State Governments have been advised to make proper use of the foodgrains for the purpose for which it has been allocated to them.

E-governance in rationing

2159. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ration card system is available online in the country;

(b) if so, the name of the States where information regarding ration cards is available on the website of the State Government; and

(c) the efforts made by Government to introduce e-governance in ration card system 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) In order to make Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) work more efficiently, Government has approved a pilot scheme on computerization of TPDS operations. The scheme has been approved to be implemented in three districts each of four pilot States viz., Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh and Delhi. The Government has also approved implementation of a pilot scheme on Smart Card based delivery of essential commodities under TPDS in Chandigarh Union Territory (UT) and State of Haryana. Under it, eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families would be issued Smart Cards in place of existing ration cards which will have biometric features of the family members, based on which verification of genuineness of the BPL families will take place and only thereafter the essential commodities would be issued to them from the Fair Price Shops (FPSs). After getting results of the pilot implementation, the scheme will be rolled out in other States/UTs.

The Governments of Chhattisgarh and Andaman & Nicobar Island have reported that details of ration cards is available online.

Food inflation

2160. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether recent sharp fall in rate of food inflation shows that the advent of south-west monsoon is finally making a substantial difference in lowering prices;

(b) whether food inflation has come down by as much as 5.3 per cent points in the last three months from 17.9 per cent in end of March, to just 12.6 per cent in end of June; and

(c) if so, the latest position of food inflation and to what extent Government is confident that food inflation would be further reduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The WPI food inflation stood at 17.70% for the week ended 27th March 2010 which declined to 12.63% for the week ended 26th June 2010.

(c) WPI based inflation of food articles had declined to 9.53% for the week ending 24.7.2010 from the peak level of 21% prevailing during the week ending 28.11.2009. With a normal monsoon and a good kharif production, coupled with measures taken by the Government, food inflation is anticipated to decline further.

Poor functioning of PDS in North Eastern States

2161. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Public Distribution System (PDS) has failed to achieve its objectives due to poor functioning in North-Eastern region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number and nature of corruption cases reported in public distribution system during last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Central Vigilance Committee headed by

Justice D.P. Wadhwa and other evaluation studies by Programme Evaluation Organization (PEO) of Planning Commission, ORG MARG and National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER) got done by this Department have referred to certain deficiencies/shortcomings in the functioning of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). In these reports no specific distinction has been made in respect of the North-Eastern region.

(c) The nature of cases/complaints on TPDS include non-issuance of ration cards, alleged leakage and diversion of foodgrains, alleged non-distribution of foodgrains in time and irregular functioning of Fair Price Shops.

Details of the number of cases/complaints on TPDS received in the Department of Food & Public Distribution from individuals, organizations and through media reports etc. during the last three years are given in Statement.

Statement

Complaints on TPDS received in the department from individual, organisations and through media reports etc. during last three years

S.No.	State/UT	2007	2008	2009	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	1	-	1
2	Assam	2	4	6	12
3	Bihar	5	5	16	26
4	Chhattisgarh	1	1	4	6
5	Delhi	12	26	29	67
6	Gujarat	2	-	4	6
7	Haryana	3	6	5	14
8	Himachal Pradesh	-	1	-	1
9	J&K	-	-	1	1
10	Jharkhand	5	1	6	12

1	2	3	4	5	6
11	Karnataka	3	2	6	11
12	Kerala	-	4	1	5
13	Madhya Pradesh	3	2	9	14
14	Maharashtra	6	7	12	25
15	Manipur	-	2	-	2
16	Nagaland	-	-	1	1
17	Orissa	-	-	1	1
18	Punjab	-	1	1	2
19	Rajasthan	16	7	7	30
20	Sikkim	-	-	3	3
21	Tamil Nadu		2	6	8
22	Uttarakhand	-	-	1	1
23	Uttar Pradesh	38	17	46	101
24	West Bengal	3	4	4	11
25	Pondicherry	-	1	-	1
TOTAL		99	94	169	362

Main issues raised through press reports relates to alleged leakage/diversion of foodgrains and that of other complaints from individuals/organizations relates to non-issue of ration cards, alleged non-distribution/diversion of foodgrains, irregular functioning of FPSs etc.

Storage facility for foodgrains

2162. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lakhs of tonnes of foodgrains have been found rotting in the FCI godowns;

(b) if so, the action taken against erring officers in matters of negligence resulting in the wastage of foodgrains in the godowns;

(c) whether it is also a fact that our country lacks sufficient infrastructure to store the foodgrains; 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) No Sir. However, some quantity of foodgrains get damaged due to various reasons such as rains, floods, cyclones, pest, rodents and fungus infestation of stocks.

Total quantity of damage foodgrains (wheat, rice and Paddy) as on 1.07.2010 available in the godowns of FCI is 11,708 MTs.

(b) Whenever negligence is found resulting in the wastage of foodgrains responsibility is fixed on delinquent employees of FCI and disciplinary action has been initiated against them. The details of such actions during last three years is as under:

Year	No. of officials proceeded against for wastage of foodgrains	No. of vigilance cases finalised	Pending No. of vigilance cases
2007-08	31	26	5
2008-09	50	43	7
2009-10	28	25	3
Total	109	94	15

(c) and (d) The country has some shortage of covered capacity for storage of foodgrains. As on 1st July, 2010, the stocks of foodgrains in the Central Pool was 57.85 million tonnes. The total covered storage capacity available with FCI and State Govts. is a little over 42.5 million tonnes. As a consequence, about 16 million tonnes has been stored in Covered & Plinth (CAP) storage.

Apprehension of rotting of foodgrains

2163. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER
AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that about 10 million tonnes of foodgrains are at the risk of rotting in different parts of the country that will cost the country around Rs. 17,000 crores;

(b) whether Government is aware that this amount of foodgrains can feed 14 crore people for a month; and

(c) if so, who is responsible for this enormous loss to national exchequer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) As all Central Pool foodgrains cannot be stored in covered godowns by FCI and State Government agencies due to shortage of such covered storage space, some wheat stocks are also stored in Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage.

As per the report received from FCI, as on 15.7.2010, a quantity of 22.54 lakh tons of foodgrains were in CAP storage. There were 11,708 tons damaged/non-issuable foodgrains (wheat, rice and paddy) in FCI depots in various regions as on 1.7.2010. On that date 54260 and 1574 tons of non-issuable wheat were also there with State agencies in Punjab and Haryana, respectively.

FCI has reported further damage to wheat stocks during July, 2010 in U.P., Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Punjab and Haryana. Exact quantities of all these damages are being worked out.

After detailed inquiry in each case of damages, FCI and concerned State agencies are to fix responsibility and recover the losses. For the damages at Hapur, Orai and Harduaganj depots in U.P., FCI has initiated action including suspension of 8 officers.

Market intervention method to control price rise

2164. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would take steps to support State Governments financially to intervene in the market to control price rise;

(b) whether Government of Kerala has requested for financial support for the subsidized supply chain run by Governmental agencies;

(c) whether Government has evaluated Kerala's market intervention methods and whether it was successful; and

(d) the steps taken to address Kerala's request for Centre's support?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) There is no scheme at present under which financial assistance can be given for Market Intervention Operation Scheme to the State Government of Kerala. A scheme for giving financial assistance to State/Union Territory (UT) Governments for non-formal Public Distribution System through State Civil Supplies Corporations and Consumers Marketing Federations has been formulated for approval. The scheme aims at strengthening the capacity of the State Agencies i.e. State Civil Supplies Corporations and Consumers Marketing Federations through augmentation of their financial resources with one time financial assistance from the Government of India and thereby enabling them to intervene effectively in the market by augmenting availability of essential commodities at reasonable prices in time of scarcity and/or spurt in prices.

Production and MSP of pulses

†2165. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of pulses during the last three years in the country, yearwise;

(b) the average annual consumption of pulses in the country;

(c) the import price and minimum support price of pulses that was fixed;

(d) the steps taken or being taken by Government to increase the production of pulses; and

(e) whether it is a fact that either minimum support price was not declared or Government purchase centres were not opened in many years in the last 20 years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The details of the actual production of pulses and the estimated demand of pulses during the last three years in the country is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(c) The details of import price and minimum support price of pulses that was fixed is given in Statement-II (See below).

(d) Government has taken long term initiatives to improve production and productivity in pulses such as:

(i) Strengthening NFSM Pulses by Merger of ISOPOM for pulses with NFSM with allocation of about Rs 1000 crores in next two years.

(ii) The Government is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Food Security Mission (NFSM) in selected districts of 17 states for enhancing the food grain production of rice, wheat and pulses by 20 million tonnes during 11th plan. The NFSM-Pulses is being implemented in 458 identified districts in 16 States, i.e. Andhra Pradesh (22 districts), Assam (10 districts), Bihar (40 districts), Chattisgarh (16 districts), Gujarat (25 districts), Haryana (20 districts), Jharkhand (15 districts), Karnataka (27 districts), Madhya Pradesh (48 districts), Maharashtra (33 districts), Orissa (32 districts), Punjab (20 districts), Rajasthan (33 districts), Tamil Nadu (28 districts), Uttar Pradesh (70 districts) and West Bengal (19 districts).

(iii) A new initiative of "organizing 60,000 pulses and Oilseed village" is being implemented in major pulses growing states to supplement the efforts of other schemes in enhancing the pulses production.

(e) In the last twenty years the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Arhar, Moong, Urad and Gram has been declared continuously. The MSP of Masoor (Lentil) is being declared since 2000-01 season.

Statement-I

Table showing total Production, Estimated Demand of pulses during the last three years

(Qty in million tonnes)

Year	Productions	Demand@
2007-08	14.76	16.77
2008-09	14.66	17.51
2009-10	14.59	18.29

Source:

@ Estimates of the XIth Plan Working Group of Planning Commission

\$ Ministry of Agriculture.

Statement-II

MSP and Import Price of Pulses

Unit: Rs per Qtl.

Pulses	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
	MSP	Import Price	MSP	Import Price	MSP	Import Price
	(Rs per Qtl)	(Rs per Qtl)	(Rs per Qtl)	(Rs per Qtl)	(Rs per Qtl)	(Rs per Qtl)
Kharif						
Arhar	1550^^	2187	2000	2697	2300	4255
Moong	1700^^		2520		2760	
Urad	1700^^	2622*	2520	2864*	2520	4479*
Rabi						
Gram	1600	2317	1730	2359	1760	2510
Masur	1700	2184	1870	4279	1870	3756

^^A bonus of Rs. 40 per quintal is payable over & above the MSP.

* DGCIS reports the combined figures of urad and moong imports, their imported value is therefore common.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and DGCIS

Food crisis

2166. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is bringing all stake-holders together to achieve the Millennium Development Goal to avoid food crisis in future;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this direction in the Eleventh Five Year Plan; 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) As per the United Nations' Millennium Declaration 2000, there are 8 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Although there is no specific

MDG relating to food crisis, Goal -1 seeks to "Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger" and targets to halve by 2015 the proportion of people below national, poverty line and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger in comparison to the base year 1990.

As per mid-term statistical appraisal of India Country Report 2009 on MDGs (Central Statistical Organization), proportion of underweight children below 3 years of age came down to 46% by 2005-06 from estimated 53.5% in 1990.

In India, presently there are adequate stocks of foodgrains available. Their Central pool stocks are more than sufficient to meet requirements. As a medium term goal, Eleventh Plan has targeted agricultural growth rate of 4.1%. To achieve this, in consultation with stakeholders, initiatives like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil-palm & Maize (ISOPOM) and increased availability of Agricultural Credit have been taken to improve productivity and production of food crops. Thus there is no apprehension of any food crisis in the country.

In order to minimize malnutrition, especially among children and women in poor households, Government implements Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and many other food based welfare schemes such as Mid-Day-Meal (MDM) Scheme for school children, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme for children below 6 years of age and mothers, Annapoorna Scheme for indigent senior citizens of 65 years of age or above but not getting old age pension, Nutritional Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG), scheme for supply of subsidized foodgrains to hostels and Village Grain Banks Scheme.

Wastage of foodgrains

†2167. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether proper storage could not be done due to negligence of officers of Food Corporation of India owing to which grains were wasted especially during the rainy season;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has taken cognizance of this fact and has directed the Chairman and Managing Director of Food Corporation of India to take firm action in this matter; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(c) whether the directions issued also include suspension of guilty officers and registration of criminal cases against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Reports have been received about damage to FCI foodgrains stocks by rains and floods during July, 2010 in Uttar Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab as given below:

States	Depots	Damaged wheat(tons)
Uttar Pradesh	Hapur	9.3
	Harduaganj	90
	Orai, Jalaun	0.5
	Saharanpur, CWC Bamanheri	29.2
	CWC,Saharanpur, Pilkhani	1.0
	Roza, Shahjahanpur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Chanderi, Kanpur	Damage yet to be quantified
Rajasthan	Udaipur, rail head	8.56
Haryana	HSWC, Bani	Damage yet to be quantified
Punjab	CAP complex Khonuri,Sangrur	Damage yet to be quantified
Uttrakhand	SWC Gadarpur, Udham Singh Nagar	Damage yet to be quantified

In addition, damage of 8.8 tons of wheat has also been reported by FCI at Karad and Gondia in Maharashtra. Based on current economic cost to FCI, value of the so far quantified damaged wheat in U.P., Rajasthan and Maharashtra works out to Rs.22.75 lakh.

Above damage to foodgrains stocks have taken place due to failure in taking required precautionary measures by the concerned officers of FCI except at Bani in Haryana where the damage has been due to flood.

Based on report of the team on Hapur, Orai and Harduaganj depots, FCI has been asked to take immediate further action. As per the FCI's report, they have suspended 8 officers/officials against whom disciplinary proceedings have been launched.

Similarly, Central Teams were deputed to Haryana and Punjab. Exact quantities of all these damages are being worked out. After detailed enquiry in each case of damages, FCI and concerned State agencies are to fix responsibility and recover the losses.

Rottening of wheat

†2168. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wheat is rottening in godowns in many States;

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

(c) the reasons for rottening of wheat in godowns and steps taken by Government against guilty officials; and

(d) steps taken by Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) No Sir. However, some quantity of wheat gets damaged due to various reasons such as rains, floods, cyclones, pest, rodents and fungus infestation of stocks.

Total quantity of damaged wheat as on 1.07.2010 available in the godowns of FCI is 2,486 MTs. The State-wise damages are given in the Statement (See below).

Whenever negligence is found resulting in the wastage of foodgrains responsibility is fixed on delinquent employees of FCI and disciplinary action is initiated against them. The details of such actions during last three years is as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

Year	No. of officials proceeded against for wastage of foodgrains	No. of vigilance cases finalised	Pending No. of vigilance cases
2007-08	31	26	5
2008-09	50	43	7
2009-10	28	25	3
Total	109	94	15

(d) The following steps are taken for the safe storage of foodgrains in the godowns of FCI:

- (i) All FCI godowns are constructed as per specifications and foodgrains 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 insects, pests and rodents.
- (iv) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage are stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are used as dunnage material. Stacks are properly covered with polythene water proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.
- (v) Regular inspection of stocks are undertaken by qualified and trained staff of FCI.
- (vi) The principle of "First-In-First-Out" (FIFO) is adopted to the extent possible so as to avoid long storage of foodgrains in the godowns.

Statement

Quantity of State-wise Damaged wheat Stock in FCI godowns as on 1.07.2010

(Fig.in MT)

State	Quantity damaged
1	2
Bihar	360
Jharkhand	13
West Bengal	364

1	2
Punjab	52 -
Rajasthan	12
Uttar Pradesh	40
Kerala	8
Tamil Nadu	1
Gujarat	1396
Maharashtra	182
Madhya Pradesh	56
Chhattisgarh	2
GRAND TOTAL	2486

Cheaper foodgrains to BPL families

†2169. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of quantum of cheaper foodgrains made available by Government to the people living below poverty line in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to implement National Food Security Law in order to provide cheaper foodgrains to the people living below poverty line; and

(c) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The State-wise details of the allocation and offtake of foodgrains for the Below Poverty Line (BPL) & Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) categories during the last three years are given in Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) Government proposes to enact a National Food Security Act, which, inter alia, envisages entitling every BPL family to a certain quantity of foodgrains every month at subsidized prices. The provisions of the proposed law are under consideration of an Empowered group of Ministers (E-GoM) constituted for the purpose. Based on the decision of EGoM, a draft Bill will be prepared and placed on the web-site of the Department of Food and Public Distribution for public scrutiny and comments.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

Statement

*Allocation and Offtake of foodgrains under BPL (including AAY) category during the last three years
2007-08, 2008-09 & 2009-10*

(In thousand tons)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	1706.376	1802.933	1706.376	1680.226	1706.376	1650.443
2	Arunachal Pradesh	41.496	28.866	41.496	41.169	41.496	40.161
3	Assam	770.916	778.824	770.916	768.799	770.916	767.732
4	Bihar	2739.792	1617.367	2739.792	1511.293	2739.792	2046.389
5	Chhattisgarh	774.632	746.665	787.632	774.638	787.632	781.231
6	Delhi	171.78	168.067	171.78	141.52	171.780	134.758
7	Goa	11.568	10.468	11.568	10.816	11.568	11.045
8	Gujarat	856.648	779.734	826.549	786.101	890.448	745.96

9	Haryana	331.392	314.839	331.392	309.824	331.392	306.522
10	Himachal Pradesh	215.878	203.555	215.88	208.786	215.880	207.206
11	J&K	309.084	309.199	309.084	315.781	309.084	299.014
12	Jharkhand	1005.492	814.611	1005.492	872.709	1005.492	962.831
13	Karnataka	1274.276	1247.076	1302.756	1303.546	1314.276	1336.451
14	Kerala	652.608	653.293	652.608	653.043	652.608	651.541
15	Madhya Pradesh	1681.476	1653.407	1732.476	1803.04	1732.476	2069.26
16	Maharashtra	2704.304	2278.696	2744.304	2448.383	2744.304	2554.243
17	Manipur	69.732	66.712	69.732	60.177	69.732	77.015
18	Meghalaya	76.86	75.027	76.86	77.76	76.860	76.235
19	Mizoram	28.56	31.109	28.56	25.51	28.560	25.76
20	Nagaland	52.08	53.922	52.08	55.621	52.080	57.445
21	Orissa	1696.692	1462.028	1696.692	1691.215	1696.692	1702.484
22	Punjab	196.536	108.316	196.536	150.764	196.536	162.423
23	Rajasthan	984.02	903.454	1021.02	991.742	1021.020	1012.119

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24	Sikkim	18.24	18.24	18.24	19.059	18.240	18.301
25	Tamil Nadu	2042.376	2060.15	2042.376	2177.007	2042.376	1996.013
26	Tripura	123.9	122.837	123.9	126.676	123.900	122.241
27	U.P.	4485.18	4163.54	4485.18	4065.288	4485.180	4297.378
28	Uttarakhand	209.172	188.773	209.172	180.811	209.172	210.551
29	West Bengal	2175.264	1871.518	2175.264	1894.48	2175.264	1978.934
30	A&N Islands	6.84	4.622	6.84	5.459	6.840	4.364
31	Chandigarh	3.828	4.264	3.828	3.51	4.196	3.639
32	D&N Haveli	6.72	6.442	6.72	6.72	6.720	2.24
33	Daman & Diu	1.68	0.47	1.68	0.335	1.680	0.757
34	Lakshadweep	1.177	1.603	1.248	1.248	1.254	1.26
35	Puducherry	35.112	17.152	35.112	17.364	35.112	25.836
TOTAL		27461.69	24567.78	27601.14	25180.42	27676.934	26339.78

Reduction of subsidy on PDS foodgrains

2170. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Planning Commission has recommended measures aimed at substantial reduction of subsidies on foodgrains meant for public distribution;

(b) if so, the salient features of the recommendations; and

(c) the response of Government thereto?

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

Planning Commission has not recommended any such measures for reducing subsidies on foodgrains meant for public distribution.

Damage to wheat in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra

2171. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that due to utter negligence of the officials of Food Corporation of India (FCI), a wheat stock worth several crores have been damaged in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the estimated loss of wheat and its price; and

(c) the action taken so far against the erring officials for this damage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) FCI has reported (on 11.08.2010) damages to wheat stocks due to recent rains in Uttar Pradesh as follows:

State	Depots	Damaged wheat(tons)
1	2	3
	Hapur	9.3

Uttar	Harduaganj	90
Pradesh	Orai, Jalaun	0.5

1	2	3
	Saharanpur, CWC Bamanheri	29.2
	CWC, Saharanpur, Pilkhani	1.0
	Roza, Shahjahanpur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Chanderi, Kanpur	Damage yet to be quantified

In Maharashtra, damage of 8.8 tons wheat stock has been reported by FCI at Karad and Gondia.

Based on current economic cost to FCI, value of the so far quantified damaged wheat in U.P. and Maharashtra works out to Rs.21.4 lakh.

(c) FCI has initiated action against delinquent officers including suspension of eight officers for damages at Hapur, Orai and Harduaganj depots in U.P.

For the damages at rest depots in U.P. and Maharashtra exact quantities are being worked out based on which FCI has to fix responsibility.

Implementation of FSA

2172. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is engaged in reviewing BPL benchmark with better BPL identification methods as suggested by N.C. Saxena Committee;

(b) whether Government would strive towards making Food Security Act (FSA) work through a universal Public Distribution System at least in rural areas and urban slums;

(c) whether tentative estimates suggest a total outlay of Rs. 1,00,000 crores for the rollout of FSA every year which is just about 1.5 per cent of India's GDP; and

(d) whether the resources for FSA could be moped up by pruning existing food and fertilizer subsidies and also from a massive base of revenue foregone account on tax exemptions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development had appointed an

Expert Group for suggesting suitable framework and methodologies for identification of the rural poor. The Expert Group submitted its Report which has been considered by an inter-ministerial core group comprising the Ministry officials and eminent scholars on the subject. The core group has also held wide consultations on the subject including with the State Governments. As advised by the core group, the Ministry is in the process of conducting a pre-testing study to establish the final methodologies for identification of the rural poor.

(b) to (d) The details of the proposed National Food Security Act, including issues such as coverage, subsidy implications etc, are being considered by an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM). Based on directions of EGoM, a draft Bill will be prepared and placed on the website of the Department of Food and Public Distribution for public scrutiny and comments.

Rottening of foodgrains

2173. DR. BARUN MUKHERJI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a huge quantity of wheat has been damaged due to wrong handling by FCI, for which the Supreme Court has issued a strict stricture;

(b) if so, where and how it is damaged its total quantity and the cost involved;

(c) the details of other occasions during the last two years where such damage of foodgrains occurred; and

(d) the measures being taken to build requisite number of godowns to avoid such horrible rotting of the foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As reported by F.C.I., as on 01.07.2010 a total quantity of 11708 tons of damaged/non-issuable foodgrains including 2486 tons of wheat was in godowns of FCI. Further damage to FCI wheat stocks by rains and floods during July, 2010 in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab have been

reported by FCI as under:

States	Depots	Damaged wheat (tons)
Uttar Pradesh	Hapur	9.3
	Harduaganj	90
	Orai, Jalaun	0.5
	Saharanpur, CWC Bamanheri	29.2
	CWC, Saharanpur, Pilkhani	1.0
	Roza, Shahjahanpur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Chanderi, Kanpur	Damage yet to be quantified
Rajasthan	Udaipur, rail head	8.56
Haryana	HSWC, Bani	Damage yet to be quantified
Punjab	CAP complex Khonuri, Sangrur	Damage yet to be quantified
Uttarakhand	SWC Gadarpur, Udham	Damage yet to be quantified
	Singh Nagar	

In addition, damage of 8.8 tons of wheat has also been reported by FCI at Karad and Gondia in Maharashtra. Based on current economic cost to FCI, value of the so far quantified damaged wheat in U.P., Rajasthan and Maharashtra works out to Rs.22.75 lakh.

Reasons for the damages to wheat stock include negligence on the part of the concerned person in taking precautionary measures, storage pests attack, leakages in godowns, procurement of poor quality stocks, spillage during movement and handling of stocks, exposure to rains, floods, etc.

(c) The following quantity of wheat accrued as damaged/non-issuable in the godowns of FCI during the last two years:

Year	Wheat (tons)
2008-09	947
2009-10	2010
Total	2957

Out of above a quantity of 1339 tons were damaged in CAP/open storage in U.P. (32 tons), Gujarat (1262 tons) and Maharashtra (45 tons).

(d) Following steps have been taken by FCI to build additional storage capacity:

(i) Construction of 149.40 lakh tons capacity has been approved under Private Entrepreneur's Godown (PEG) scheme.

(ii) Increased utilization of capacity is being done beyond norms of optimum utilization of 75%.

(iii) Plinths of 3.70 lakh tons capacity have been constructed in its existing complexes in the last one year for CAP storage.

Foodgrains for homeless

2174. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has cut down foodgrains allocation for homeless;

(b) if so, the details thereof in the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to avoid such situation in future especially in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) No specific allocation of foodgrains for the homeless are made by the Government of India but they are covered within the Below Poverty Line (BPL)/Antyodaya Anna Yojna (AAY) categories under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Government of India has been making allocation of foodgrains at highly subsidized prices @ 35 kg. per family/month for BPL and AAY families under Targeted Public Distribution System. There is no reduction in allocation of foodgrains to these categories. The allocation of foodgrains for BPL including AAY category during the 11th Plan period is as under:

(in lakh tons)

Year	BPL/AAY allocation
2007-08	274.62
2008-09	276.01
2009-10	276.08
2010-11	276.78

In addition, Government has been making allocation of foodgrains to other Welfare Schemes such as Annapurna, Emergency Feeding Programme, Welfare Institutions, etc. through the State Governments/UT Administrations. TPDS is implemented jointly by the Government of India and State Governments/Union Territory Administrations sharing the responsibilities. The responsibilities for lifting of the foodgrains allocated by Government of India, identification of targeted beneficiaries under TPDS and other welfare schemes, and distribution of food grains to them through Fair Price Shops and other institutional mechanisms rests with the State Governments/UT Administrations.

Rottening of foodgrains

2175. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of tonnes of foodgrains had rotten in its granaries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that the State Governments concerned have failed to protect the foodgrains; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken against the guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) As on 01.07.2010 a total quantity of 11708 tons of damaged/non-issuable foodgrains was there in godowns of FCI. Further, damage to FCI wheat stocks by rains and floods during July, 2010 in Uttar Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Rajasthan, Haryana

and Punjab have been reported by FCI as under:

States	Depots	Damaged wheat (tons)
Uttar Pradesh	Hapur	9.3
	Harduaganj	90
	Orai, Jalaun	0.5
	Saharanpur, CWC Bamanheri	29.2
	CWC, Saharanpur, Pilkhani	1.0
	Roza, Shahjahanpur	Damage yet to be quantified.
	Chanderi, Kanpur	Damage yet to be quantified.
Rajasthan	Udaipur, rail head	8.56
Haryana	HSWC, Bani	Damage yet to be quantified.
Punjab	CAP complex Khonuri, Sangrur	Damage yet to be quantified.
Uttarakhand	SWC Gadarpur, Udham	Damage yet to be quantified.
	Singh Nagar	

In addition, damage of 8.8 tons of wheat has also been reported by FCI at Karad and Gondia in Maharashtra.

FCI has also reported that 54260 tons of damaged/non-issuable wheat stocks in Punjab and 1574 tons in Haryana were also there with the State agencies as on 1.7.2010.

Foodgrain stocks got damaged due to various reasons such as storage pests attack, leakages in godowns, procurement of poor quality stocks, spillage during movement and handling of stocks, exposure to rains, floods, negligence on the part of concerned persons, etc.

After inquiry in each case of damage to stocks of foodgrains of FCI and State agencies, responsibility is to be fixed and action taken for recovery of losses. Meanwhile, FCI has initiated action for damages at Hapur, Orai and Harduaganj depots, including suspension of eight officers.

Draft model rules under RTE Act for corporal punishment

2176. SHRI MP. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has asked the centre to draft model rules or guidelines for section 17 of the Right of the Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act that prohibits corporal punishment; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The matter regarding framing of guidelines for implementation of Section 17 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 is under consideration of the Government.

Anti-ragging law

†2177. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of success achieved so far in preventing ragging in schools and colleges by anti-ragging law;

(b) the number of persons punished out of the accused for ragging since the enactment of the law, till date; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) While no such law on anti-ragging has been enacted by Government, in accordance with the orders of the Supreme Court of India dated 8.5.2009 in civil appeal No.887/2009, 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 (DCI) have also notified anti-ragging regulations on 01-07-2009, 3-8-2009 and 13-08-2009 respectively. Pharmacy Council of India has issued guidelines to curb the menace of ragging in pharmacy colleges/institutions. UGC's regulations are binding on

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

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.

The regulations require higher educational institutions to take effective steps in order to sensitize students on the dehumanizing effects of ragging and generate awareness among all stakeholders regarding the penal laws applicable to incidents of ragging.

Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has advised the schools affiliated to it regarding prevention of ragging and the possibility of taking stringent action against defaulter. According to CBSE, it has not received any case of reported ragging in schools during last one year.

(b) and (c) 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), 447 complaints on ragging have been registered through the Helpline. Based on the information provided by UGC and other regulatory bodies, punitive action has been taken by the concerned institutions against students involved in 34 cases/complaints on ragging. The details of such cases are given in Statement.

Statement

Action taken against students involved in 34 cases/complaints on ragging

Sl. No.	Institutions/ Universities	Complaint received from	Name of complainant	Comments received
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Hindu College, Delhi	Anti-Ragging Helpline	Sh. Durgesh Pathak	Sh. Ashish Ku. And his father has submitted the
		Ed. CIL (I) Ltd.,		apology and has

assured

Noida

Sh. Durgesh Ku. as
well as the authority

of

the institute that such
acts will not be

repeated

by Sh. Ashish ku. in
future.

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Jalpaiguri Polytechnic Institute (W.B.)	Anti-Ragging Helpline Noida	Sh. Atanu Halda Ed. CIL(I) Ltd.,	All the students are rusticated.
3.	Biju Patnaik University of Technology, Orissa	Anti-Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Lokesh Kubehara	Committee has fined all the senior students involved Rs. 500 each.
4..	Biju Patnaik Technical University, Orissa expelled of	Anti-Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Shaswat	The disciplinary action committee of the institute has the student from the hostel till completion his course.
5.	Biju Patnaik Technical University, Orissa	Anti-Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd. Noida	Sh. Anurag Rai	Accused were suspended from the College.
6.	Biju Patnaik Technical University, Orissa	Anti-Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Suraj Kumar Sahu	Rusticated from the College, FIR lodged
7.	Jalpaiguri hostel Polytechnic Institute, students. West Bengal	Anti-Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Susmay Ghose	Expelled from the and a FIR was lodged against these 5
8.	Govt. Polytechnic College, the Madhya suspending class for	Anti-Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Vikesh Kumar Bairagi Pradesh	Disciplinary Committee has recommended the punishment; against three accused from the

15 days.

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Uttar Pradesh Technical University, Uttar Pradesh	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Shudir	Committees have imposed a fine on two students, Rs. 1,000 each.
10.	Uttar Pradesh Technical University, Uttar Pradesh	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Gaurav Gupta	Committee has imposed a fine on two students 1,000 each.
11.	SRM University, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Subham Chakrabarti	students from the College for one week.
12.	Rajiv Gandhi Vishwavidyalaya, Bhopal	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Amit Helpline Ed.	3 students suspend from Sharma hostel for incident.
13.	University of Kerala, Kerala	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Mahendea	Represented in the complaint that he had directly lodged a complaint with Crime Detachment Cell of the State Police U/S 4 of the Kerala Prohibition of Ragging Act 1998 on 24.7.09 itself. On it was known that the police had already registered a case.
14.	Bangalore University, Karnataka	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh C.V Isac	The second year student has been suspended from the institute for a period of one month.

1	2	3	4	5
15.	National Council for Hotel Management & Catering Technology, U.P	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Sameer Varughese	Students were expelled from Hostel immediately and suspended from the Institute.
16.	Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology, Sikkim	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Vivek Poddar	Suspended from the college for two weeks and warned not to repeat such act of indiscipline in future.
17.	KAU, Kerala hostel.	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Hrishikesh	Accused was expelled from the college
18.	Rajasthan Technical University, Rajasthan will	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Mukesh Kumar	All five students were suitably punished and case if they repeat the same in future, they will be expelled from the College.
19.	University of Pune, Omkar Maharashtra	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Prashant CLL Prabhakar Virajdar	One student involved in the incidence, Mr. Patil has been expelled from hostel.
20.	Dibrugarh action, University, Assam severely	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Saurav Swaroop Gupta	College has taken concerned students are expelled, fined, reprimanded and blacklisted.

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Sri Ramaswamy Memorial University, Kancheepuram	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Saorav	The institution has reported that the necessary action taken by the college viz. expulsion of student from college, debarred from taking one University exams and FIR was also lodged in the Police Station by the
	affected			students. However, the matter was settled in
	the			court of law.
22.	Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar University, U.P	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Akshit Srivastav	FIR has been lodged Kumar Student has
	been			suspended from the class. He was allowed
	to			sit in the exam as per the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court.
23.	Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. Noida	Ms. Saroj Dey CIL (I) Ltd.,	Suspended from attending classes and academic privileges- 15 days.
24.	Lovely Professional University, Punjab	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh. Sony Sharma	University informed the matter has also
	been			reported to the police authorities for further investigation and necessary action. DDR lodged with police authorities. It has
	been			decided that the matter be reported to the

and police authorities for
further investigation
necessary action.

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. Noida	Ms. Ganesh Yadav CIL (I) Ltd.,	They were being suspended temporarily from the college and they were warned stringently. The complainant and his parents are satisfied the action taken by the Anti-Ragging-Committee.
26.	Rajiv Gandhi Proudyogiki Vishwavidyalaya, Bhopal	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. Noida	Ms. Ravi Mishra CIL (I) Ltd.,	College informed that there was fighting in students and from the college.
27.	Kalasalingam University, Tamil Nadu	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Ms. Nand Kishore Mishra	5 students were from the college and also dismissed from the hostels for their involvement in group fight
29.	MATS University, Chhattisgarh	Anti Ragging Helpline Ed. CIL (I) Ltd., Noida	Sh.Arif Raza	The institution has reported that the following action has been taken-suspension two students for one week, fine of Rs. 2000 on each students, adverse entry on character roll for next three yrs, personal bond for good behavior.
30	People's Dental Academy, Bhanpur, Bhopal	-	-	Suspension/expulsion from the hostel.

1	2	3	4	5
31	Purvanchal Institute of Dental Sciences, Gorakhpur (U.P.)	-	-	Suspension/expulsion from the hostel.
32	Shree Bankey Bihari Dental College & Research Centre, Masuri, Ghaziabad (U.P.)	-	-	Suspension/expulsion from the hostel.
33	Sree Balaji Dental College & Hospital, Chennai	-	-	Suspension
34	Dr.S.M. Naqui Imam Dental College & Hospital, Behera, Darbhanga (Bihar)	-	-	Rustication from the institution.

Fees and donations being charged by private schools

†2178. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that many private schools realize arbitrary fees from guardians of the children and many schools also charge/take huge donations in the name of admission;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has formulated any effective policy to fix any limit on fees and donation being collected by private schools; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) receives sporadic complaints against its affiliated schools regarding charging of exorbitant fee and demand of capitation fee and donation for admission.

(c) and (d) Education is a concurrent subject and a majority of the schools come under the purview of the State Governments. The Affiliation Bye-Laws of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) inter-alia, prescribe the following:

"Fees charges should be commensurate with the facilities provided by the institution. Fees should normally be charged under the heads prescribed by the Department of Education of the State/U.T. for schools of different categories. No capitation fee or voluntary donations for gaining admission in the school or for any other purpose should be charged/collected in the name of the school. In case of such malpractices, the Board may take drastic action leading to disaffiliation of the school."

CBSE has issued circulars from time to time reiterating the above provisions for strict adherence. CBSE takes appropriate action on the complaints and in case of severe violation, drastic action leading to disaffiliation is also possible.

Setting up of Kendriya Vidyalaya at Amreli

2179. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Willi the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to set up Kendriya Vidyalaya at Amreli?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): The proposal for opening of a new Kendriya Vidyalaya (KV) under civil sector is considered by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) if the same is received from the concerned Ministry of Government of India or the State Government in the prescribed format committing thereby availability of requisite resources including land for construction of permanent building and suitable temporary accommodation

to start the school. After receiving a request from the State Government of Gujarat for opening of a KV in Amreli, KVS wrote to the State Government

requesting to send the proposal in the prescribed format. KVS has not received the proposal in the prescribed format from the State Government.

Attacks on Indian students

2180. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian students attacked in Australia in the last three years;

(b) the number of Indian students killed in these attacks;

(c) whether Australian Government has paid any compensation to the families of the students who have been killed or critically injured; and

(d) if so, the amount thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Number of Indian students in Australia attacked in the last three years and in the current year till date are given below:

2007	2008	2009	1 Jan - 09 August 2010
2	11	46	41

(b) Number of students killed in the above attacks are given below:

2007	2008	2009	1 Jan-09 August 2010
Nil	Nil	1*	2**

* Mr. Ranjodh Singh was murdered on 29 December 2009. Police have arrested 3 Indians; case in court.

** Mr. Navdeep Singh and Mr. Kawaldeep Singh in Perth were murdered on 12 February 2010 by fellow Indian student Jagdeep Singh, who has admitted the offence and is in the custody awaiting trial.

(c) and (d) All victims/their families who are eligible for compensation under the local laws are given compensation by the Australian Government as per entitlement. However, the Indian Mission in Australia does not have break-up of payments made to individual victims

or their families. Also, the medical treatment of students who are attacked and injured is taken care of by the concerned State Governments.

Centre-State ratio of funding of SSA

2181. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether changes have been made in the Central-State ratio of funding for the implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received representations from State Governments regarding raising of State's share in funding the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Framework for Implementation of SSA programme in 11th Plan had envisaged a funding pattern of 50:50 between the Central Govt. and States/UTs. However, there had been a demand from States/UTs for continuing with the funding pattern of 75:25 in vogue in the 10th Plan. The demand was considered and Government revised the funding pattern in the ratio of 65:35 during the first two years of 11th Plan, 60:40 in the third year, 55:45 in the fourth year and 50:50 thereafter. In respect of the NER States the funding is in the 90:10 ratio with the Central share sourced from the 10% earmarked funds for the NE States in the SSA's Central Budget.

(c) to (e) Several States including Karnataka, Kerala, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Bihar and Arunachal Pradesh have requested for allocation of adequate funds for implementation of RTE Act. The Government is considering a revised fund sharing pattern between the Central and State Government for implementation of the revised RTE-SSA programme.

Requirement of schools and teachers for Right to Education

2182. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether full and overall enforcement of Right to Education as a Fundamental Right requires establishment of more schools throughout the country as well as recruitment of more teachers in the existing schools as there are a huge number of vacancies; and

(b) if so, what does Government proposes to do to fulfil the deficiency of schools as well as teachers in order to truly enforce the Right to Education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 requires the appropriate Government and local authority to establish a school within such area or limits of neighbourhood, as prescribed by the appropriate Government, within a period of three years from the commencement of the Act. The actual number of schools required will therefore depend on the areas or limits of neighbourhood prescribed by the appropriate Governments.

The number of additional teachers required will be based on rational redeployment of existing teachers from schools where their numbers are surplus to schools where there is a shortage of teachers on the basis of the pupil teacher ratios prescribed in the Act. At the national level, it has been estimated that 5.08 lakh additional teachers would be required for implementation of the RTE Act, over and above the existing teacher vacancies in the State sector.

Vision 2020 Document for higher education

2183. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether to improve the quality of higher education in the country, the Union Government has asked State Governments to come forward with their 'Vision 2020 Document' on targets to be achieved in higher education;

(b) if so, the response of State Governments in this regard;

(c) whether Union Government proposes to take any steps to improve the quality of higher education provided by State bodies and to remove

the various malpractices in these educational institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) For the purposes of improving quality of higher education and preventing and prohibiting malpractices by all higher educational institutions in the country, except the institutions engaged mainly in agricultural education and research, Government has introduced two Bills in Parliament, namely, (i) The National Accreditation Regulatory Authority for Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010, and (ii) The Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill, 2010. These two Bills respectively provide for making accreditation mandatory for the purposes of improving quality and for prohibiting and punishing unfair practices by higher educational institutions.

Measures to check drop-out of students in schools

2184. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the drop-out rates at primary and secondary level schools as per latest information available with the Ministry;

(b) whether Government has carried out an exercise examining these causes, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government intends to take specific measures to deal with problem of teacher absenteeism in primary and secondary schools;

(d) whether Government thinks it appropriate to take specific measures to reduce drop-out rates among Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in primary and secondary schools, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government thinks it necessary to extend Mid-Day Meal Scheme to Madarsa schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As per information available with the Ministry, the dropout rates for the year 2007-08 at primary (classes

I-V) and secondary (classes I-X) levels are 25.55 and 56.81 per cent. The socio-economic and school related factors mainly affect dropouts.

(c) The MHRD conducted a Study on "Student and Teachers attendance" through Educational Consultant India Limited (Ed. CIL) in 2006-07 in 20 States. Findings of the study were shared with the States at various forums requesting them to take steps to monitor teachers' and students' attendance closely. Measures taken by the State governments, *inter-alia*, include close supervision of schools by block and cluster resource centers and Village Education Committees and by discouraging officers for using teachers for non-teaching work such as conducting survey for other Government departments.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 which has come into force with effect from 1st April, 2010 provides that no teacher shall be deployed for any non-educational purposes other than the decennial population census, disaster relief duties, or duties relating to elections to the local authority or the State Legislative Assemblies or Parliament.

(d) A multi-pronged approach has been adopted under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for reducing drop out rates. These include, *inter-alia*, strengthening of schools, improving the quality of education through improvement in school infrastructure, recruitment of additional teachers, provision of annual school grants, regular training of teachers and regular academic support of teachers etc. In addition, interventions under SSA aim at building community support, special provisions to promote education of girls through Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) and National Programme for Education of Girls for Elementary Level (NPEGEL) as well as children with special needs. The Mid-day-Meal programme also complements the strategy to reduce dropout rates.

Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) envisages *inter-alia*, opening of new schools in SC/ST/Minority concentration areas including upgradation of Ashram Schools to secondary schools, special focus on SC/ST/Minority during micro planning, etc. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Incentive to girls for Secondary Education" a sum of Rs. 3000/- is deposited in the name of all eligible girls belonging to SC/ST, who enroll in class IX in Government, Government aided or local bodies schools. Under the scheme of Girls' Hostel, 50 percent seats are meant

for girls belonging to SC/ST/OBC/minorities.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years. The Act came into

force from 1st April, 2010. Section 4 of the Act provides that unenrolled and drop out children shall be admitted in age appropriate class and provided Special Training. They shall have the right to free education till completion of elementary education even after fourteen years.

(e) The Mid-Day-Meal scheme presently covers children studying in Madarsas/Makhtabs supported under SSA as Government Aided Schools.

ICT in schools scheme

†2185. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in schools during last three years alongwith current year, year-wise;

(b) the funds out of above utilized by each State/Union Territory;

(c) the number of students who attained computer literacy under this programme during the said period, year-wise and State/Union Territory-wise;

(d) whether Government has received any complaint that funds allocated for the said purpose under this scheme are not being used; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The State/UT wise details of funds released and utilised under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Information & Communication Technology in Schools" during the last three years and the current year, are given in Statement (See below).

(c) The level of proficiency in computer literacy depends on the curriculum prescribed in each State or system of schools. All students of classes IX to XII in the schools covered under the scheme form the target group for computer literacy. However, since there is no common computer proficiency test, the exact number of students who have attained proficiency is not available.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

Statement

Details of funds released and utilised under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Information and Communication Technology in Schools" during the last three years alongwith current year

(Rs in lakh only)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Details of funds released and utilised							
		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11 (as on 10.8.2010)	
		Released	Utilised	Released	Utilised	Released	Utilised	Released	Utilised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	A & N Island	-	-	18.00*	NR	17.25*	-	35.00	NR
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3750.00	3750.00	5250.00	NR	-	NR	-	NR
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	67.38	67.38	105.52	105.52	165.82	NR
4.	Assam	1301.23	NR	-	NR	-	NR	-	NR
5.	Bihar	-	-	895.93	NR	-	NR	-	NR
6.	Chandigarh	100.00	100.00	-	-	182.75	182.75	-	-
7.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	2417.53	1217.53	-	NR	-	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8.	Daman and Diu	-	-	41.00	NR	-	NR	-	NR
9.	Goa	571.50	571.50	432.00	432.00	432.00	743200	-	-
10.	Gujarat	1022.15	1022.15	-	-	1871.78	-	6915.57	NR
11.	Haryana	1250.00	1250.00	1250.00	1250.00	1500.00	1500.00	-	-
12.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	772.44	NR	-	NR	-	NR
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	570.06	NR	-	NR	-	NR	-	NR
14.	Jharkhand	1074.00	NR	-	NR	-	NR	-	NR
15.	Karnataka	4558.00	4558.00	3150.00	NR	-	NR	-	NR
16.	Kerala	1016.00	1016.00	4071.00	4071.00	4071.00	4071.00	2600.00	NR
17.	Madhya Pradesh	807.50	NR	-	NR	-	NR	-	NR
18.	Maharashtra	500.00	NR	-	500.00	2250.00	NR	-	NR
19.	Manipur	195.9750	195.9750	195.98	195.98	391.95	NR	-	NR
20.	Meghalaya	-	-	428.88	226.12	-	NR	-	NR

21.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	301.50	301.50	-	-
22.	Nagaland	1299.46	1299.46	815.00	815.00	111.21	NR	-	NR
23.	Puducherry	259.53	NR	-	NR	-	NR	-	NR
24.	Punjab	91.24	91.24	3017.40	3017.40	4305.00	4305.00	-	-
25.	Rajasthan	400.00	400.00	1050.00	1050.00	2300.00	2300.00	4500.00	NR
26.	Tamil Nadu	1312.50	1312.50	2681.00	2681.00	318.72	NR	-	NR
27.	Tripura	209.00	NR	-	NR	-	NR	-	NR
28.	Uttar Pradesh	3115.47	NR	-	NR	-	3115.47	3750.00	NR
29.	Uttarakhand	377.25	377.25	150.00	150.00	151.50	NR	-	NR
30.	West Bengal	964.33	964.33	762.42	NR	-	762.42	3500.00	NR
Total:		24745.195	16908.405	27465.96	15673.41	18310.18	17075.66	21466.39	-

* UT Admn. has not drawn this amount

NR: Not received from State/UT.

Broadband connectivity in schools

2186. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to provide broadband connectivity to schools in next three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that by the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the country's colleges and universities will be fully connected with broadband; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Information and Communication Technology in Schools" there is a provision for internet connectivity including broadband in Government and Government aided secondary and higher secondary schools subject to availability of telecom infrastructure in the vicinity and based on viable proposals from the State Governments.

Under the Rural Wireline Broadband Scheme of Department of Telecommunication, there is provision for providing broadband connectivity to individual users and Government Institutions, including schools in rural and remote areas. Under the Scheme, BSNL plans to provide 8,88,832 wire-line broadband connections to individual users and Government Institutions, including schools, and will set up 28,672 kiosks over a period of 5 years i.e. by 2014. As of May 2010, a total of 1,42,906 broadband connections have been provided in rural and remote areas.

(c) and (d) Under the Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme "National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT)", there is a proposal to provide broadband connectivity to over 18000 colleges in the country including each of the Departments of 419 Universities/Institutions of higher learning by the end of the 11th Five Year Plan.

Study of regional languages in Kendriya Vidyalayas

2187. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in addition to English and Hindi Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) are also providing facilities for study of regional languages in different States;

(b) if not, whether it will affect the linguistic and cultural strength of the students; and

(c) whether Government would take steps to introduce/extend facilities for studying regional languages in KVs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) English and Hindi are taught in all Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs). Provision for teaching regional languages is made in KVs provided at least 20 students opt for the same.

Establishment of Central University at Surat

2188. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has taken a decision to establish a Central University at Surat, Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government of Gujarat has already submitted details of necessary land and other required by the Ministry; and

(d) if so, the time by when the University will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) While there is no proposal to establish a Central University at Surat, the Central University of Gujarat has already been established by the Central Universities Act, 2009 and has started functioning from temporary premises in Gandhinagar. The 'in-principle' approval of the Central Government to the establishment of the said University on the site offered by the

Government of Gujarat in Himmatnagar Taluka of Sabarkantha District has also been conveyed to the State Government.

Introduction of Semester System by Universities

†2189. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Universities which have introduced Semester System at Post-Graduation level;

(b) the names of the universities which have introduced it at Graduation level; and

(c) the details of (a) and (b) above, faculty-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) According to information furnished by University Grants Commission (UGC), 75 Universities/ Institutions have introduced Semester System out of 84 Universities/ Institutions which have supplied information. The information is being sought by UGC.

Legislation for reforms in education

2190. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the legislation aimed at initiating further reforms in the education sector of the country were cleared by the Cabinet;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry's proposal of prohibition of unfair practices in technical educational institutions and universities has been proposed; and

(c) if so, by what time this legislation would be introduced and to what extent this will help in checking errant and fake universities which are partying in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The following legislative proposals aiming at reforms in higher education sector have been approved by the Government and introduced in Parliament:

(i) The Educational Tribunals Bill, 2010;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(ii) The Foreign Educational Institutions (Regulation of Entry and Operations) Bill, 2010;

(iii) The National Accreditation Regulatory Authority for Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010; and

(iv) The Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill, 2010.

Subject to approval by Parliament, the last named Bill is expected to prohibit, prevent and punish unfair practices as defined in the proposal including unauthorized institutions offering programmes of study.

Minority character for universities

2191. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various organizations are spearheading agitations and movements for minority character of the Jamia Millia Islamia and Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Aligarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) Government's present policy in the matter; and

(d) Government's plan for restoring minority character of Jamia Millia Islamia and AMU, Aligarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Article 30(1) of the Constitution confers a special right on all minorities, whether based on religion or language, (and not on the Government) to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice. As such, the question as to whether or not an institution enjoys minority status is determined by the provisions of the Act/Statutes/Memorandum of Association establishing that institution. The minority character of statutorily established Universities is presently before the Supreme Court in respect of Aligarh Muslim University, while that of Jamia Millia Islamia is pending before the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions.

Protection of interests of students of deemed universities

2192. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to not allow any further expansion of the deemed universities which have been black listed by the Central review panel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such deemed universities are luring the aspirant students to enroll themselves and hurting the interests of students; and

(d) if so, the steps Government proposes to protect the interests of students from such dubious institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In view of public perception regarding dilution in academic standards in certain institutions which were declared as 'deemed-to-be-universities', Government ordered a review of the functioning of such institutions by eminent academics. The Review Committee found 44 institutions unfit to continue as 'deemed-to-be-universities'. The matter is currently *sub judice* in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Viplav Sharma vs. Union of India [WP (C) No. 142 of 2006].

Accordingly, Government has decided not to allow any further expansion of the institutions deemed to be universities referred to above on consideration *inter alia* of quality/standards of education till the outcome of the above Writ Petition, and *status quo* is being maintained.

Non-lapsable fund to finance secondary and higher education

2193. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to set up a non-lapsable fund to finance secondary and higher education;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the fund sources planned by Government for creation of this fund;

(c) whether Government has already imposed secondary and higher education cess to finance elementary, secondary and higher education; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A cess @ 1% on central taxes, called the "Secondary and Higher Education Cess", was levied through the Finance Act. 2007 to fund secondary and higher education. The proceeds of this cess will be kept in the non-lapsable pool in the Public Account.

Existing and proposed universities and colleges in Rajasthan

2194. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of existing universities and colleges and new ones which Central Government is planning to open in Rajasthan;

(b) the time by when they would be opened; and

(c) the details of their locations, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) According to University Grants Commission (UGC), there are 37 universities & 260 colleges recognized under section 2(f) and 12-B of the UGC Act, 1956 in Rajasthan as on 31.7.2010 which includes one Central University at Jaipur set up in 2009. Under the Ministry's scheme of setting up of model degree college's in each of 374 identified higher educationally backward districts (EBDs) having Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) less than national GER, 30 such districts have been identified in Rajasthan, which are Ajmer, Alwar, Banswara, Baran, Barmer, Bharatpur, Bhilwara, Bikaner, Bundi, Chittaurgarh, Churu, Dausa, Dhaulpur, Dungarpur, Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Jaisalmer, Jalor, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunun, Jodhpur, Karauli, Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamand, Sawai Madhopur, Sikar, Sirohi, Tonk and Udaipur.

CBI inquiry into malpractices in AICTE

2195. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE

DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI inquiry into malpractices in AICTE has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government proposes to overhaul the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) AICTE has introduced e-Governance in Approval Process for greater transparency, clarity and swiftness in decision making.

Mid-day-Meal Scheme

†2196. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ratio of expenditure on ordering foodgrain, making meal, and its monitoring is higher than the cost of foodgrain under Mid-Day-Meal Scheme;

(b) whether it would not be in the interest of this scheme to follow the points suggested by policy-making institutes, including World Bank, for operation of this scheme; and

(c) the amounts spent on foodgrain, making foodgrains edible, transportation and other equipments during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Mid-Day Meal Scheme provides hot cooked meal to children studying in classes I-VIII in eligible institutions. Food norm has been prescribed by nutritional experts. Under the MDM Scheme, the Government provides Central Assistance under following components:

i) Foodgrain (wheat/rice) @ 100 gram and 150 gram per child per school day at Primary stage and Upper Primary stage respectively.

ii) Cooking cost, which includes the cost of pulses, vegetables, oils, spices and fuel @ Rs. 2.69 per child per day for primary and @ Rs. 4.03 per child per day for upper primary children from 1.4.2010.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

iii) Honorarium to Cook-cum-helpers @ Rs. 1000/- per month.

iv) Transportation assistance in the 11 Special Category States (viz. Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and Tripura) at par with the Public Distribution System and in other States/UTs @ Rs. 750/- MT.

v) Assistance for Monitoring, Management & Evaluation (MME) of the Scheme @ 2% of the total assistance for (a) foodgrain, (b) transportation cost and (c) cooking cost (including honorarium to cooks-cum-helpers).

vi) Cost of construction of kitchen-cum-store at the State Schedule of Rates and the prescribed plinth area norm as one time grant.

vii) Kitchen devices @ Rs.5000/- per school as one time grant.

The expenditure on foodgrains, transportation, MME and kitchen devices is borne entirely by the Government of India. Cooking cost, honorarium to cook-cum-helper and cost of construction of kitchen-cum-store are shared between the Central Government and North-Eastern Region States on 90:10 basis and between other States/UTs on 75:25 basis. The details of expenditure incurred by the Central Government during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in crore)								
Year	Cost of food-grain	Cooking cost	MME	Trans- portation cost	Hono- rarium to Cook- cum- helpers*	Kitchen Sheds	Kitchen Devices	Total
2007-08	785.21	3323.32	69.81	211.32	0	1337.09	106.78	5833.53
2008-09	1462.06	3121.10	67.38	203.26	0	1771.64	60.61	6686.05
2009-10	1427.92	3609.05	78.24	131.31	513.35	1044.29	135.05	6939.21

* Prior to 1.12.2009, the honorarium of cooks-cum-helpers was included in cooking cost.

Proposal of Madhya Pradesh under National Literacy Mission

†2197. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the action, taken so far by the Ministry on the proposal sent to the National Literacy Mission (NLM) in connection with the districts selected for literacy plan by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the reasons for the pendency of the proposal received from the State Government even till date;

(c) whether there is any time-frame for disposal of the proposals; and

(d) whether development-related activities do not get hindered on account of delay in proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Saakshar Bharat is required to be implemented during the period 2009-10 to 2011-12 in a phased manner. In the first year (2009-10), such proposals in respect of non-Continuing Education Programme (CEP) Districts in North Eastern Region (NER) and CEP Districts in non-NER, that had been submitted within the stipulated date for submission of proposals, were considered and the Programme rolled out in 167 districts in 19 States. The remaining districts, including those in the State of Madhya Pradesh, may be considered during the remaining two years of the Current Plan period.

Establishment of model schools

2198. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of model schools Government proposes to set up, State-wise;

(b) the model schools set up, so far, if any, State-wise;

(c) the financial pattern adopted for such schools;

(d) whether schools are proposed to be established without Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) model; and

(e) if so, how many schools are proposed to be established without PPP model?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) The Central Government has decided to set up 6,000 Model Schools at the block level, at the rate of one school per block, as benchmarks of excellence. 3500 of these schools are to be set up in Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) through State Governments and the remaining 2500 schools are to be set up through Public- Private Partnership (PPP). The first component of the scheme in EBBs is already operational. The sharing pattern for both recurring and non-recurring expenditure of these schools is 75:25 between the Central Government and the State Governments except for the special category States, for which the sharing pattern is 90:10. So far, 434 Model Schools in 12 States have been sanctioned. The State-wise break-up of model schools sanctioned so far is given in Statement.

Statement

Number of Model Schools Sanctioned

S. No.	State	No. of schools
1	Bihar	105
2	Chhattisgarh	72
3	Himachal Pradesh	5
4	Jammu & Kashmir	19
	Karnataka	74
6	Madhya Pradesh	33
7	Mizoram	1
8	Nagaland	11
9	Punjab	21
10	Tamil Nadu	18
11	West Bengal	20
12	Gujarat	55
	TOTAL	434

Research/Science Park in IIT, Bhubaneswar

2199. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed Research/Science Park in IIT, Bhubaneswar campus has been approved;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is a proposal to take up construction of the main campus of IIT and the Research/Science Park simultaneously; and

(d) if not, whether Government will consider it for harmonious development of the Institution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The proposal for setting up of a Research Park at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bhubaneswar could be considered only after the setting up of the main campus of the Institute.

Sikkim University

2200. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sikkim University is a wholly owned Central University;

(b) if so, the details of infrastructure, faculty, courses, staff and students in the Sikkim University;

(c) whether the university is fully functional and on expected lines; and

(d) whether the university is having all the facilities and infrastructure available to any other Central University?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Sikkim University is a statutory autonomous body established by an Act of Parliament.

(b) to (d) According to the information furnished by the University, pending allotment of land

and development of its permanent campus, it has been functioning from rented buildings. It has, however, developed the necessary facilities, like class rooms, laboratories, library and hostels, and has 300 students enrolled for 17 courses/programmes. The number of teachers and non-teaching staff presently working in the University is 49 and 25, respectively.

Playgrounds of colleges of Delhi University

2201. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that colleges affiliated to Delhi University have their own playgrounds to promote sports but many colleges have rented there grounds to private individuals/clubs to run commercial activities;

(b) if so, the details of such grounds;

(c) the consideration behind the decision of college authorities to rent/sub let playgrounds to private parties; and

(d) whether alternate arrangements have been made for students/sports persons of the colleges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The University of Delhi is a statutory autonomous body and the colleges affiliated thereto are governed by the Delhi University Act, 1922, the Statutes and Ordinances framed thereunder. According to the information furnished by the University, it has, vide its circular dated 22nd November, 2006, advised the colleges not to lend their premises for commercial purposes. No centralized information in regard to misuse of the playgrounds, if any, is maintained by the Central Government.

Installation of Satellite Interactive Terminals for EDUSAT

2202. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has requested for

the financial assistance for installation of Satellite Interactive Terminals (SITs) in Maharashtra for EDUSAT under ICT scheme or any other scheme deemed fit;

(b) if so, Government's response thereto; and

(c) the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Ministry of Human Resource Development is mainly implementing: (i) National Mission on Education through ICT which primarily focuses on higher education institutions; and (ii) the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in schools" with the objective of establishing an enabling environment to promote the usage of ICT in Government and Government aided Secondary and Higher Secondary schools for imparting computer literacy and computer aided learning. The proposal of the State of Maharashtra for financial assistance for installation of Satellite Interactive Terminals (SITs) in Maharashtra for EDUSAT received in this Ministry in August, 2008, is not covered under the two Schemes.

Standard of primary education in rural areas

2203. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the standard of education in rural areas is poor and only 38 per cent Class V students can solve division sums;

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the standard of primary education in rural areas;

(c) the quantum of funds allocated for primary education and how much of this fund was diverted for other purposes; and

(d) the steps taken to check misuse of funds meant for primary education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) conducts National Learners' Achievement Survey for classes 3, 5 and 8 periodically. Till now two rounds of achievement surveys have been conducted. In the case of class 5 Mathematics, there has been an improvement in learning levels from 46.51%

in the 1st round to 48.46% in the 2nd round of achievement survey. In language, there has been an improvement from 58.57% in the 1st round to 60.31% in the 2nd round, and in Environmental studies the improvement

has been from 50.30% in the 1st round to 52.19% in the 2nd round. Under SSA, several steps have been taken to improve the standard of primary education. These include, inter-alia, recruitment of 10.30 lakh additional teachers to improve Pupil-Teacher Ratio, regular In-service Training of Teachers, distribution of Free Textbooks for children in Primary and Upper Primary classes, Learning Enhancement Programmes for Mathematics and Language, School and Teacher grants, Academic support to Primary and Upper Primary schools through Block Resource Centres (BRCs) and Cluster Resource Centres (CRCs) etc.

(c) and (d) The Central funds allocated for the SSA programme during the 9th Plan, 10th Plan and 11th Plan (up to 2010-11) are Rs.500.00 crore, Rs.27,896.25 crore and Rs.54,371.00 crore respectively. The Performance Audit report on SSA for the period 2001-02 to 2004-05, submitted by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in August, 2006, indicates that an amount of Rs.53 crore can be classified as expenditure, not covered under the SSA guidelines. The Government of India has directed the States/UTs to recoup the inadmissible expenditure to the State SSA programmes. The State/UTs have also been strictly instructed to avoid recurrence of such instances in future. The Financial and Procurement Manual for SSA lays down detailed procedures on accounting, fund flow arrangements, financial reporting, internal controls, external audit and procurement procedures, etc. Concurrent financial reviews are undertaken by a professional body of auditors, and field monitoring is undertaken by Social Science Institutions.

Funds and foreign assistance to States for SSA

†2204. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress in the implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether States have been given adequate funds for this purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has sought any kind of foreign assistance for providing primary education to children in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(f) the action being taken to ensure universalisation of primary education in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) State-wise details of progress since inception of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in the country is given in Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Under SSA, the Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B), submitted by each State/UT is considered and approved by the Project Approval Board (PAB) every year as per norms. Funds are released to States/UTs on the basis of the approved fund sharing pattern after verification of the State shares released, and after deduction of unspent balances, if any, of the funds released in the previous year.

(d) and (e) Three external funding agencies, namely the World Bank, Department for International Development (DFID) and European Commission (EC) provide partial support for implementation of the SSA programme. External assistance is provided through a reimbursement system, under which expenditure is first incurred by the Government of India through the State Implementation Societies for SSA, and thereafter reimbursed by the external agency as per a pre-defined annual ceiling. The external agencies have provided support in two phases, namely Phase-I for the period 2004-07 during which the World Bank, DFID & EC reimbursed Rs.2233.18 crore, 1554.75 crore & 942.94 crore respectively, and Phase-II for the period 2007-10 during which the three external agencies reimbursed Rs. 2736.16 crore, 962.47 crore & 314.79 crore respectively. For 2010-12 the World Bank has signed an agreement for US\$ 750 million and DFID has committed £149 million.

(f) The SSA programme aims at universalisation of elementary education amongst children in the age group 6-14 years in a time bound manner. Till 31.3.2010, 3,03,002 new schools have been opened, 2,49,542 school buildings, 10,77,727 additional classrooms have been constructed, 1,92,486 drinking water facilities and 3,19,607 toilets have been provided. In addition, 10.30 lakh teachers have been recruited.

Statement

Statewise details of progress since inception of SSA

S.No.	State	Cumulative Achievements upto 2009-10			
		New schools opened	School buildings constructed	Additional classrooms constructed	Teachers recruited
		3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	7995	9646	46870	39766
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1126	1789	3124	5226
3	Assam	1521	8650	44038	0
4	Bihar	31253	13052	137990	160145
5	Chhattisgarh	16802	18367	34989	53148
6	Goa	5	0	177	169
7	Gujarat	0	797	20341	0
8	Haryana	2301	1948	17752	8936
9	Himachal Pradesh	1151	0	9837	3453
10	Jammu & Kashmir	12038	8829	7193	30421
11	Jharkhand	27270	26212	43164	83459
12	Karnataka	10858	3604	43098	22882
13	Kerala	0	397	6944	0
14	Madhya Pradesh	52991	42341	77520	78672
15	Maharashtra	7662	15921	46107	12158
16	Manipur	0	457	163	0
17	Meghalaya	4255	2468	5112	11081
18	Mizoram	314	1201	1206	1886

1	2	3	4	5	6
19	Nagaland	236	333	4188	590
20	Orissa	16605	15346	38780	68752
21	Punjab	1901	1198	18391	4843
22	Rajasthan	47890	8340	72722	93119
23	Sikkim	84	64	580	185
24	Tamil Nadu	6813	7957	27956	27559
25	Tripura	1556	1713	1964	5341
26	Uttar Pradesh	43647	49843	233677	249481
27	Uttarakhand	2440	3676	6402	5998
28	West Bengal	4135	5278	124819	61605
29	Andaman Nicobar	10	1	118	67
30	Chandigarh	18	14	220	749
31	Dadra Nagar Haveli	92	61	373	377
32	Daman and Diu	8	12	75	63
33	Delhi	6	10	1399	36
34	Lakshadweep	9	5	16	28
35	Pondicherry	10	12	422	36
Total SSA		303002	249542	1077727	1030201

Admission of poor children in schools

†2205. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether various High Courts in the country along with Government have made admission of 10 per cent poor children in convent schools compulsory; if so, whether any rules have been formulated for the compliance of these guidelines;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) whether any report of Auditor General regarding convent schools of Delhi has been received; if so, the step taken by Government in this context; and

(c) whether any law regarding compulsory admission to 10 per cent poor children in all convent schools of the country is under consideration; if so, by when this law will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The High Court of Delhi in its interim order dated 30.5.2007 in WP No 3156/2002 had directed that the private schools of the capital, which have been allotted land by the government agencies, shall earmark at least 10 per cent of seats for admission of students belonging to the economically weaker sections and 5 per cent for wards of the staff of the schools. The matter at present is sub judice.

(b) Govt. of NCT of Delhi has informed that an audit report on "Regulation of School Education by Directorate of Education and Financial Management in unaided recognized schools' has been received from Accountant General (Audit), Delhi. It is for the Govt. of NCT of Delhi to take appropriate action on the report.

(c) The Government has enacted the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 w.e.f. 1.4.2010. As per the Section 12 (1) (c) of the Act, all recognized schools imparting elementary education shall admit in class-I, to the extent of at least twenty-five per cent of the strength of that class, children belonging to weaker section and disadvantaged group in the neighborhood and provide free and compulsory elementary education till its completion.

Kendriya Vidyalayas running without buildings

†2206. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas presently running all over the country and the number of the schools not having their own buildings;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas being run in tents, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated expenditure on the construction of buildings; and

(d) by when Government would take necessary action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) There are 979 functional Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) in the country. 194 of these do not have their own building and are functioning in temporary buildings.

(b) No Kendriya Vidyalaya is being run in tents.

(c) The cost of construction of the building of a school having 2 sections each from classes I to XII alongwith necessary staff quarters, is estimated to be Rs.6.53 crore.

(d) Construction of school building for any KV is taken up only after suitable and adequate land is transferred to Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan by the sponsoring agency.

Irregularities in Mid-Day-Meal Scheme

2207. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of complaints have been received regarding irregularities in Mid-Day-Meal Scheme during last one year;

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

(c) whether Government is aware that on a large scale Mid-Day-Meal is being diverted in open market or inferior quality is being supplied in schools;

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether any enquiry will be conducted in this regard; and

(e) the details of irregularities reported from the State of Uttar Pradesh and action taken thereon, during last one year, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) During the year 2009-10, 16

complaints were received

by the Government alleging irregularities such as misappropriation of Mid-Day-Meal funds, fake enrollment of children, corruption, providing less quantity of foodgrains, not providing Mid Day Meals regularly, serving sub-standard/unhygienic food. State-wise details are given below:

Name of State	Number of Complaints
Uttar Pradesh	9
Rajasthan	2
Haryana	1
Chhattisgarh	1
Punjab	1
Bihar	1
Uttarakhand	1

(d) All such complaints have been referred to the concerned State Governments for conducting suitable enquiry and taking appropriate action against the responsible persons and also to initiate corrective measures to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future.

(e) The details of irregularities reported and action taken thereon in last one year by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh is given below:

Sl.No. by UP Government	Nature of Complaint	Action taken
1	2	3
1.	Irregularity in MDM in Khajuri, Distt. Deoria	Recovery orders issued against concerned Gram Pradhan.
2.	Regarding MDM and scholarship in PS Dixitpurwa, Mangupur, Distt. Sitapur.	Concerned Head Mistress suspended and show cause notice issued to the concerned Gram Pradhan.
3.	Irregularity in MDM in Gonda Distt.	The news of irregularity was not found true.
4.	Poor quality of food being served in schools in Tulsipur Education Area in Distt. Balrampur.	The task of supplying MDM was taken away from the Gram Panchayat and entrusted to NGO.

1	2	3
5.	Corruption in MDM in Primary School, Basaudha, Distt Azamgarh	Inquiry by Divisional Commissioner, Azamgarh has been set up.
6.	Corruption in implementing Mid Day Meal Scheme and inferior quality of meal in Distt. Allahabad.	The complaint was found wrong.
7.	Complaint against Smt. Iffat Zaidi, Gram Pradhan, Gram Sabha Paschim Belaaw Vikas Khand, Distt. Barabanki reg irregularities in the Mid Day Meal scheme.	It was found that normally the Mid-Day Meal has been prepared regularly and according to prescribed menu.
8.	Serving of sub-standard/unhygienic food in Pry. School, Agra.	The NGO has been found guilty and notice has been served to it. Now the food is being served as per prescribed quality.
9.	Diversion of MDM foodgrains in market and using inferior quality foodgrains for cooking MDM in Distt. Ghaziabad.	The NGO was found guilty. The contract of NGO has been terminated and FIR lodged.

Promotion of Khadi

2208. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been carried out by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission to ascertain various aspects of Khadi in the country, including Research and Development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what efforts Government is making to promote Khadi in the country with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh;

(d) whether Government is proposing to set up Khadi Research Centres in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) A fairly comprehensive study of the khadi sector was carried out in 2008 by 'PriceWaterHouse Coopers' with a view to suggesting measures for restructuring, development and suitable reforms of the khadi sector under the purview of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). Various aspects of khadi, namely, raw material procurement and production, market-linked pricing, marketing reforms, introduction of Public Private Partnership (PPP) in marketing of khadi, etc. have been studied in detail with a view to repositioning of khadi with a new niche that fits well into the contemporary socio-economic context of a highly competitive consumer market. To overcome various shortcomings and weakness of the khadi sector pointed out during the study, a programme named Khadi Reforms and Development Programme (KRDP) has been approved by the Government with loan assistance of US\$150 million from Asian Development Bank (ADB) to be implemented in 300 khadi institutions, nine of whom are tentatively taken up from Andhra Pradesh, over a period of three years. KRDP aims to revitalize KVI sector through enhanced sustainability of khadi, increased income and employment, enhanced artisans' welfare and their empowerment through improved equipments and capacity building.

Besides the above, evaluation studies of various schemes for the development and promotion of khadi sector, namely, Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate Scheme, Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging Scheme, Khadi Karigar Janashree Bima Yojana, Consortium Bank Credit Funding to Implementing Agencies of KVIC, etc., have been got conducted from time to time by KVIC engaging various independent agencies with a view to assess the shortcomings/deficiencies, if any, in these schemes, assessment of impact, suggestions for further improvement, etc., of these schemes, as a mandatory requirement for their continuation to successive five year plans.

(c) To promote the use of khadi throughout the country, including

Andhra Pradesh, the Government, through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), has taken several initiatives, viz., (i) organising exhibitions at National/Zonal/District levels, (ii) providing financial

assistance to khadi institutions for participation in national and international exhibitions, (iii) providing financial assistance under Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) Scheme for improved designs and packaging of khadi products, (iv) launching 'Ready to Use Mission' to convert the Khadi fabric into ready-made garments of latest designs, (v) launching brand name "Khadi India" for khadi products, (vi) launching Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) for implementation in 25 khadi clusters for their holistic development over five years beginning 2005-06, (vii) launching Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme on production of khadi and polyvastra beginning 2010-11, etc.

In addition, the Government, through KVIC, has launched several other new schemes, namely, 'Workshed Scheme for Khadi Artisans' for providing assistance for construction of worksheds for better work environment and the 'Scheme for enhancing productivity & competitiveness of Khadi Industries and Artisans' to assist 200 khadi institutions to make khadi industry competitive with more market driven and profitable production by replacement of obsolete and old machinery and equipment and 'Strengthening of Infrastructure of existing Weak Khadi Institutions and Assistance for Marketing Infrastructure' which includes strengthening of infrastructure of existing 100 weak selected khadi institutions.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has revamped the erstwhile Jamnalal Bajaj Central Research Institute as Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialization (MGIRI) to inter alia promote research and development (R & D) in khadi in the country.

Welfare schemes through MSMEs

2209. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of promotional/welfare schemes launched by Government for providing employment through MSME for people living in rural, tribal and backward areas including women in NER;

(b) the total estimates and funds allocated for the said schemes in last three years; and

(c) the manner in which the schemes would be beneficial to the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) Government is implementing the Scheme, 'Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)' for generating direct employment, through setting up micro enterprises. In addition, the Government has also been implementing various schemes viz, Mahila Coir Yojana, Trade Related Entrepreneurial Assistance and Development (TREAD), Micro and Small Enterprises - Cluster Development Programme, Credit Guarantee Scheme, Augmentation of Portfolio Risk Fund under Micro Finance Programme, etc. for supporting the existing entrepreneurs and establishment of new enterprises. Such enterprises provide employment to the people living in rural, tribal and backward areas including women throughout the country. The budget allocations during the last three years for the aforesaid schemes are as follows:

Sl. No.	Scheme	2007-08 (in Rs.Cr)	2008-09 (in Rs.Cr)	2009-10 (in Rs.Cr)
1	PMEGP (launched in Aug-2008)	-	823.00	823.00
2	Training extension, quality improvement including Mahila Coir Yojana, and welfare measures.	23.00	23.00	27.00
3	Trade Related Entrepreneurial Assistance and Development (TREAD)	1.00	1.00	1.80
4	Micro and Small Enterprises- Cluster Development Programme	68.00	52.00	39.00
5	Credit Guarantee Scheme	190.0	122.10	122.0
6	Augmentation of Portfolio Risk Fund	17.00	17.00	20.20

Crisis in coir production sector

2210. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the crisis in the coir production sector due to the non-availability of coir fibre;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a sudden jump in the export of coir fibre while Indian coir industries are facing serious shortage of the same; and

(c) if so, whether Government has taken any steps to ward off the crisis in the production of coir products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) There was a temporary and seasonal shortage of coir fibre in the export oriented production sector of the coir industry in Kerala during the second half of 2009 which had affected the functioning of small scale coir units in the export oriented production sector of Alleppey in Kerala.

The shortage of white fibre used in the export oriented sector in Kerala was mainly due to non availability of green coconut husk in the market caused by a fall in coconut price. In addition there has been a slow down in the fibre production activities in Kerala due to drudgery in operation, increasing awareness of pollution aspects of the environment due to retting, increased use of coconut husk for firewood purpose, etc. The non-existence of adequate number of functioning fibre extraction units and husk collection mechanism in Kerala are also causes for shortage of coir fibre. The export of coir fibre which was 1553 tonnes valued at Rs. 196 lakh during 2005-06 increased to the level of 73075 tonnes valued at Rs. 9742 lakh during 2009-10.

(c) The Coir Board, a statutory body under the administrative control of Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, in association with the Government of Kerala has initiated several steps to improve the supply position of coir fibre in Kerala. The Board has taken up a project for revival of two defibering units, established by the Govt. of Kerala, by modernizing the machinery so that the State Government could take up the work of revival of remaining units. The Coir Board has also facilitated the COIRFED, an apex federation of Government of Kerala to source coir fibre from Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh in addition to Tamil Nadu. The Central Coir Research Institute (CCRI), Kalavoor (Coir Board) has developed a mobile defibering machine which can be taken to the interior villages where the small quantities of husks

collected can be converted into coir fibre. The technology of this new machine developed by the CCRI has been transferred to the Government of Kerala for popularization. It is expected that with the popularization of this machine, production of coir fibre will increase considerably.

Irregularities in HOR/VIP quota for waitlisted ticket confirmation

2211. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received representations from different quarters including Members of Parliament regarding irregularities in HOR/VIP quota for waitlisted ticket confirmation;

(b) if so, the details of grievances of Members of Parliament since last three months; and

(c) the details of action taken thereon, representation-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

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

Providing of dirty blankets, bed sheets and pillows in trains

†2212. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that dirty blankets, bed sheets and pillows are being provided to the passengers in majority of the trains;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this direction and when such steps have been taken; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Indian Railways always endeavor to provide good quality linen to the passengers in trains.

(b) Some references and suggestions are received regarding quality of blankets, bed sheets and pillows provided to the passengers in trains and acted upon appropriately by Indian Railways.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

To further improve upon the quality of linen, Indian Railways have decided to set up state of the art Mechanized Laundries at important stations. Results obtained from the Pilot Laundry set up by Central Railway have been encouraging.

(c) Does not arise.

Operation of trains on the line of road transport

†2213. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken to operate trains on the line of road transport operation in the country;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the railway routes selected for the first phase; and

(d) the modalities chalked out for the operation of railway routes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Stampede at New Delhi railway station

†2214. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government did not take adequate security measures after loss of lives and property in stampede took place at New Delhi Railway Station on 13 November, 2004;

(b) whether it would have been possible to prevent stampede occurred on 16 May, 2010 if adequate security measures have had in place after the above said incident and people may not have died untimely;

(c) the people found responsible for this accident by Railways and the action taken against them;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(d) the assistance given by Railways to families of people died in these accidents; and

(e) the details of security measures taken by Railways after these accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):
(a) to (c) No, Sir. Adequate security measures were adopted at New Delhi Railway station after the incident of 13 November, 2004.

There was a melee at New Delhi Railway station recently on 16.05.2010 arising out of an incident of stumbling of a lady passenger due to falling of luggage, in which 03 persons died and 08 persons sustained minor injuries.

The incident was enquired into by a High Level Committee. The inquiry committee in its interim report has observed that it was an incident of stumbling of a lady passenger due to falling of luggage. The final report is awaited.

(d) In the incident of 13 November, 2004, payment of ex-gratia of Rs. 4,00,000/- to 4 deceased persons at the rate of Rs. 1,00,000/- each, Rs. 30,000/- to 2 two persons having grievous injury at the rate of Rs. 15,000/- each and Rs. 40,000/- to 8 persons having simple injury at the rate of Rs. 5,000/- each has already been made by the Railways. An amount of Rs. 5,66,460/- as compensation has also been paid by the Railways in two cases decided by the Railway Claims Tribunal in favour of the claimants so far.

In the incident of 16 May, 2010, payment of ex-gratia of Rs. 6,00,000/- to 3 dead persons at the rate of Rs. 2,00,000/- each and Rs. 1,20,000/- to 8 persons injured at the rate of Rs. 15,000/- each has already been made by the Railways.

(e) Following steps are being taken to prevent such accidents at Railway platforms:

i) Running of special trains from different stations especially in Metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai etc. to clear extra rush during holidays and festive seasons to decongest major stations.

ii) Better crowd management through effective use of Public Address System and Electronic Surveillance System at important Railway stations.

iii) Restriction of issuing platform tickets in specific periods

especially during summer rush / festive seasons.

iv) Increasing the number of platforms to decongest the existing platforms.

v) Deployment of additional staff during peak rush periods.

Model railway stations

2215. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways has taken a decision to improve some railway stations into model stations;

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

(c) if so, the number of stations already improved, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) by when this programme would be completed; and

(e) the type of facilities that would be provided in these stations to common passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (d) The scheme for identification of Model Stations for the purpose of providing upgraded passenger amenities was introduced in the year 1999 and continued till November, 2008. During this period, 594 stations were selected for development as model stations and 450 stations have already been developed. State-wise details of number of stations identified and developed as model stations are given in Statement (See below). From 2009-10, the upgradation of stations is being undertaken under Adarsh station scheme.

(e) Model Stations are to be provided with additional amenities depending upon the category of the station such as retiring room, waiting room, public address system/computer based announcement system, electronic train indicator board, public phone booths, water coolers, standardized signages etc.

Statement

State-wise details of stations identified and developed as model stations

S.No.	Name of State/Union Territory	Number of Stations identified as Model stations	Number of Stations developed as Model stations
1	2	3	4
1	Assam	15	03
2	Andhra Pradesh	57	55

3	Bihar	55	25
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1	2	3	4
4	Chandigarh	01	01
5	Chhattisgarh	08	06
6	Delhi	09	05
7	Gujarat	29	29
8	Goa	02	02
9	Himachal Pradesh	01	01
10	Haryana	18	11
11	Jammu & Kashmir	02	02
12	Jharkhand	16	10
13	Karnataka	26	26
14	Kerala	19	19
15	Madhya Pradesh	34	25
16	Maharashtra	45	42
17	Nagaland	01	00
18	Orissa	23	22
19	Puducherry	01	01
20	Punjab	18	16
21	Rajasthan	27	27
22	Tamilnadu	27	27
23	Tripura	01	01
24	Uttar Pradesh	82	60
25	Uttarakhand	07	07
26	West Bengal	70	27
TOTAL		594	450

Rail projects in Gujarat

2216. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the response of the Ministry on the demands from Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and various Passenger Associations viz. the broad-gauge trains in between Patan (NG)-Ahmedabad, revival of 26 closed railway services due to gauge-conversion, extension of Haridwar-Ahmedabad train upto Veraval-Somnath, extension of Rajkot-Sikandrabad train upto Veraval-Somnath, conversion of Taranga-Mehsana and connecting Ambaji with Mehnsana-Palanpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): At present, one pair of Passenger train between Ahmedabad-Mahesana-Patan and 4 pairs of Passenger trains between Mahesana-Patan are available on Broad Gauge route.

Broad Gauge trains have been introduced over sections, which have got opened for passenger traffic after guage conversion.

Extension of 9105/9106 Ahmedabad-Haridwar Mail and 7017/7018 Secunderabad-Raikot Express upto Veraval/Somnath is not feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints.

A survey for gauge conversion of Mahesana-Taranga Hill with extension to Ambaji has been completed recently.

No survey has been sanctioned for connecting Ambaji with Mahesana-Palanpur.

Railway line between Lucknow and Moradabad

†2217. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the electrification work on railway line between Lucknow and Moradabad has been completed;

(b) whether it is a fact that electric trains are not running on that line because it has not been tested; and

(c) if so, by when electric trains would start running on this line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) Yes, Sir. Electrification work is in progress on Lucknow-Moradabad section.

(c) Trains hauled by electric traction will be planned on Lucknow-Moradabad section in 2011-12 after its electrification is completed.

Janta meals

2218. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways proposes to start good quality Janta Meals at affordable rates in the trains and platforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the food provided in the trains presently is not of standard quality; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures taken/to be taken by the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):
(a) and (b) Sale of Janata Meals priced at Rs. 10/- is accorded priority on Indian Railways, to meet the catering requirement of common passengers. On an average of 1.4 lakh Janta Meals are sold everyday on Indian Railways through refreshment rooms, food plazas and other catering stalls.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. It is the endeavour of the Indian Railways to provide good quality food to passengers on trains and in railway premises. To ensure the quality of food, monitoring of catering services is carried out intensively and appropriate action including termination of contract is taken against errant licensees. To effect significant improvement in Railway catering, a new Catering Policy 2010 has been issued which seeks to address interalia improving the quality of meals.

Rescue and relief operations

2219. DR. MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the preparedness of Railways to quickly access the sites with rescue and relief operations in co-ordination with Non-Governmental

Organisations (NGOs) within the initial hours of the accidents;

(b) whether Railway's disaster management plan presently lacks cohesiveness and is ill-prepared to handle disasters;

(c) if so, the reaction of Railways thereto alongwith the corrective measures taken in this regard;

(d) whether Railways is considering to improve its emergency services; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Railways are fully prepared to quickly access the sites for conducting rescue and relief operations in co-ordination with other governmental and non-governmental organizations within the initial hours of the accident. On receiving the information of the accident, not only the railways resources like Accident Relief Medical Vans, Accident Relief Trains, but resources from other government and non-government organizations are also requisitioned as per the need. For this purpose, contact details of such non-railway resources are kept at the Railway Stations and in Railway hospitals as well as in the Divisional and Headquarter Control Rooms of the Railways. These resources are mainly of medical facilities of private hospitals, medical units located near to each Railway Station, Blood Banks, Ambulances etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Vacant posts in railways

2220. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the safety mechanism in Railways is being compromised;

(b) whether any posts relating to safety and security lying vacant in Railways;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government has any plan to fill up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No. Sir.

(b) to (c) Following No. of vacancies are lying vacant in Railways:

Safety related vacancies	-	89024 (As on 01.04.2009)
Security related vacancies	-	8114 (As on 01.04.2009)

(d) While recruitment in Railways is a continuous process, it is now at various stages for filling up the vacancies in Group 'C and Group 'D' categories. This includes the backlog vacancies in respect of SC, ST and OBC, as also vacancies reserved for the physically challenged persons.

Facilities at Tapri railway station

†2221. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Tapri near Saharanpur has been accorded status of a Junction;

(b) if so, the facilities provided there;

(c) the reasons for having only one platform at Tapri railway station; and

(d) by when drinking water facility, waiting hall for passengers and platforms at Tapri would be ready?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Yes Sir, as two routes are meeting at Tapri.

(b) to (d) Tapri already has two platforms, one high level and one rail level. Drinking water and waiting hall facilities are also available.

Train accidents

2222. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the slain driver of the Uttarbanga Express which met with an accident on 19 July, 2010 had been driving the train for four successive nights;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) if so, whether it was as per the rules of Railways; and

(c) the number of posts of driver vacant in Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) The driver of Uttar Banga Express had worked only for two nights and had been fully rested as per Railway rules. However, the unfortunate incident involving Uttar Banga Express and Vananchal Express, including the cause of death of the driver in question, is under investigation at present, and, therefore, whether the driver was 'slain' or not will be known after the investigation is complete.

(c) The total number of vacancies of Train Driver on Indian Railways, as on 01.04.2009, are 7190.

Doubling of railway track between New Alipurduar to Dibrugarh

2223. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal for the doubling the railway track between New Alipurduar and Dibrugarh;

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

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (c) Double line already exists between Samuktala Road (near New Alipurduar)-New Bongaigaon. Beyond New Bongaigaon to Guwahati, there are two separate lines, one via Jogighopa and other via Rangia.

A survey for doubling of Guwahati-Dibrugarh has been taken up. Meanwhile, patch doubling of New Guwahati-Digarua (30 km) has been taken up at a cost of Rs.110.94 crore which is targeted for completion during 2010-11.

Investment in Subsidiary Corporations

2224. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have invested Rs. 6366.32 crores in Seven Railway Subsidiary Corporations;

(b) if so, the capital support from General Budgetary support for these seven corporations; and

(c) the return in shape of dividends in 2008-09 and 2009-10?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Railways have invested Rs.6366.32 crores upto 2008-09 in fourteen railway subsidiary corporations/undertakings, of which Rs. 3931.55 crores are through capital obtained from General Budgetary support.

(c) Dividend received from the undertakings during the year 2008-09 and 2009-10 was Rs.268.46 crores and Rs.299.61 crores respectively.

Annual growth rate

2225. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the annual growth rate in monetary value achieved from 2005-06 to 2009-10; and

(b) whether it is due to growth of load or upward revision of classification of certain commodities and levy of supplementary charges such as terminal charges, busy season charges, Congestion charges and development charges etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) The annual growth rate in earnings in monetary value achieved from 2005-06 to 2009-10 is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Total Earnings	Growth	%age growth
1	2	3	4
2004-05	47038.25	-	-

2005-06	54404.56	7366.31	15.66
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1	2	3	4
2006-07	62370.49	7965.93	14.64
2007-08	71644.66	9274.17	14.87
2008-09	79837.07	8192.41	11.43
2009-10 (Provisional)	87104.65	7267.58	9.10

(b) Annual growth rate is basically sustained by increase in loading and number of passengers, as well as the average distance that the goods and passengers move. It is also affected by dynamic, differential and market responsive freight tariff policies, as also the general state of growth of the Indian economy.

Non-supply of Rail Neer

†2226. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of stations along with New Delhi Railway station where 'Rail Neer' was not supplied between May-June, 2010;

(b) the reasons for non-supply of 'Rail Neer' and the authority by whose order the supply was discontinued; and

(c) the arrangement made by Government to ensure non-occurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):
(a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Railway infrastructure projects for Orissa

2227. SHRI KISHORE KUMAR MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway infrastructure projects announced by Government for Orissa in 2009;

(b) the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(c) the current status of these projects; and

(d) the reasons for delay and by when these projects are likely to be approved and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (d) 5 new lines, 1 gauge conversion and 16 doubling projects are in progress falling fully/partly in Orissa. Out of these projects, 4 have been included in Budget 2009-10 and 2010-11. The status of these projects is as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Latest Anticipated Cost	Anticipated Expenditure incurred upto 31/03/2010	Targets wherever fixed
1	2	3	4	5
New Line				
1.	Lanjigarh Road-Junagarh(56 kms)	170.00	109.31	2010-11.
2.	Khurda Road-Bolangir (289 kms)	700.00	105.8	Khurda Road-Begunia section is targeted for 2010-11.
3.	Haridaspur-Paradeep (82 kms)	594.34	193.51	-
4.	Angul-Sukinda Road (98.7 kms)	638.50	34.38	-
5.	Talcher-Bimlagarh (154 kms)	810.78	37.98	-
Gauge Conversion				
1.	Naupada-Gunupur (90 Kms)	168.88	163.09	Naupada-Parlakhimindi completed. Balance in 2010-11.

1	2	3	4	5
Doubling				
1.	Rajathgarh-Barang (20 kms)	243.35	213.65	2010-11.
2.	Sambalpur- Rengali (22.7 kms)	106.54	93.42	Sambalpur-Sasan completed. Balance targeted for 2010- 11.
3.	Jharsuguda-Rengali (25.6 kms)	150	65.45	-
4.	Cuttack-Barang (12 kms)	170.07	130.48	2010-11.
5.	Khurda Road-Barang 3rd line(35 kms)	211.91	142.44	2010-11.
6.	Sambalpur-Titlagarh (182 kms)	762.74	76.2	-
7.	Raipur-Titlagarh (203 kms)	691.67	67.05	-
8.	Bimlagarh-Dumitra (18.3 Kms)	99.00	31.97	2011-12.
9.	Banspani-Joruli (9 Kms)	90.88	1.06	2011-12
10.	Banspani-Daitari- Tomka-Jakhapura (180 km)	1142.6	0	
11.	Barbil-Barajamda (10 km)	51.21	34.71	2010-11
12.	Padapahar-Banspani (32 km)	144.36	133.36	18 km completed and balance targeted for 2010-11.

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Champajharan- Bimlagarh (21 km)	149.9	0	-
14.	Delang-Puri (29 km)	133.71	0	-
15.	Sambalpur-Talcher (174.11 km)	679.27	0	-
16.	Brundamal-Jharsuguda	38.44	0	-

The targets for the projects are generally fixed on yearly basis. While some projects are in progress, some others are lagging to some extent due to procedural formalities and resource constraints.

Corruption and vigilance cases in railways

2228. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of corruption and vigilance cases registered/pending in different Railway zones during the last three years, year-wise and as on date;

(b) whether it is a fact that North-Eastern Railway is most prone to corruption;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in terms of percentage, the works and projects of North-Eastern Railway running behind schedule are more compared to North, Central and Western zones; and

(d) if so, the strategy being prepared to tone up the North-Eastern Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) A total of 24135, 24626, 22157 and 12534 corruption/vigilance cases were registered in different Railway zones during the years 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 (upto 31.07.2010) respectively. Out of the 83452 cases registered, as on 31.07.2010, 5966 cases (i.e. 7%) were pending.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, Railways have a huge throwforward of

ongoing projects with limited availability of resources, as a result of which, projects take relatively long time in completion.

A number of initiatives have been taken to generate additional fund to expedite completion of ongoing projects, in all Zonal Railways including North-Eastern Railway.

Lack of facilities at Kapurthala and Hoshiarpur railway station

2229. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the railway stations of Kapurthala and Hoshiarpur do not have proper light, water and platform facility, where the goods trains are parked for unloading;

(b) if so, whether Government is going to provide these facilities to these railway stations for the convenience of the labourers who are engaged to deload the train; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No, Sir. Facilities already exists at Kapurthala and Hoshiarpur Railway Stations in the area where goods trains are dealt.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Rail projects in Jharkhand

2230. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway projects under implementation in Jharkhand;

(b) whether any targets have been fixed for their completion;

(c) if so, the targets vis-a-vis present status of each project;

(d) whether a majority of projects are beyond schedule; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (c) 7 New Lines, 1 Gauge Conversion and 8 Doubling projects are in progress in the State of Jharkhand. The works are progressing as per availability of resources. Details of Projects are as under:

S.No.	Name of Project	Approx length in Km	Status of Project & Targets 2010-11 wherever fixed
1	2	3	4
New Lines			
1	Deogarh-Dumka	72	Jasidih-Ghoramara (26.27 Kms)- work completed. Ghoramara- Dhumka (46 km) targeted for completion 2010-11.
2	Deogarh-Sultanganj, completed. Banka-Barahat and Banka-Bihtiah Road	151	Banka-Barhat (15.5km.) Deogarh-Chandan (15km.) targeted for completion 2010- 11.
3	Gaya-Chatra	97	Preliminary works taken up.
4	Giridih-Koderma	102	Koderma-Nawadih(34 km) completed. Nawadih-Dhanwar (11km.) targeted for completion 2010-11.
5	Koderma-Ranchi	202	Land acquisition, earthwork, minor bridges, Road over bridges and Road under bridges has been taken up. Hazaribagh- Shivpur-Tori has also been taken up as a part of project.
6	Koderma-Tilaiya	65	Land acquisition, Earthwork, minor bridges etc. have been taken up.
7	Mandarhill-Rampurhat major via Dumka has	130	Earthwork, minor bridges, bridges & track linking etc. been taken up. Mandarhill- Hansdia (26.25 Km.) and

are

Rampurhat-Pirargaria (19Km.)

targeted for completion during

2010-11.

1	2	3	4
Gauge Conversion			
1	Ranchi-Lohardaga with extension to Tori track taken	111	Ranchi-Bargichampi - (84 Kms) completed. Earthwork, major bridges, minor bridge & linking in balance portion up.
Doubling			
1	Barharwa-Tinpahar	16.49	Completed.
2	Bimalgarh-Dumitra	18.3	Earthwork, bridges etc. taken up.
3	Chandrapuri-Rajabera- Chandrapura-Bhandaridah	10.6	Preliminary works taken up.
4	Goelkera-Manoharpur 3rd line(Chakradharpur- Bondamunda section)	40	Work executed by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL). Final Location Survey completed.
5	Muri-North Outer Cabin/Muri-Doubling of section with provision of 2nd bridge over Subarnarekha.	1	Final Location Survey completed. Tender for Civil Engineering works awarded.
6	Padapahar-Banspani	32	Padapahar-Deojhar (12.2 Kms) completed. Balance work is targeted for completion 2010- 11.
7	Rajkharsawan-Sini- 3rd line	15	Preliminary works, tendering taken up.
8	Tinpahar-Sahibganj as	37.81	Final Location Survey completed.

PH-I of doubling of

Preliminary works taken up.

Tinpahar-Bhagalpur.

(d) and (e) The targets for the projects are generally fixed on yearly basis. While some projects are in progress, some others are lagging to some extent due to procedural formalities and resource constraints.

Identification of sites for commercial development

2231. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of vacant sites identified by Rail Land Development Authority for commercial development, Zone-wise;

(b) the details of developmental plans with regard to the above sites;

(c) whether any private participation is taken for this;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (e) So far, 135 sites measuring 3761 acres have been entrusted to Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) for commercial development. Zone-wise details of the sites entrusted to RLDA are given in Statement (See below).

Commercial development is done through private participation for which Developers are engaged through an open and transparent bidding process. RLDA follows lease models where railway land is leased on long term basis on payment of upfront lease premium or spread over a period of time.

Statement

Details of sites entrusted to rail land development authority

S.No.	Zonal Railway	No of sites
1	2	3
1	Central	1
2	East-Central	2
3	East-Coast	2
4	Eastern	6
5	Kolkata Metro	18

6	North East	4
7	North Western	3

1	2	3
8	North Central	3
9	Northeast Frontier	27
10	Northern	14
11	South Central	18
12	South-East Central	5
13	South-Eastern	3
14	Southern	6
15	South-Western	2
16	Western	21
TOTAL :		135

Cleaning of general and sleeper class compartments

†2232. SHRI VEER PAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision for cleaning the general class and sleeper class train compartments like that of air conditioned coaches;

(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) and (b) Indian Railways endeavor to maintain high standards of cleanliness and hygiene in our trains, irrespective of the type of coaches.

All the coaches of a train (including General class and Sleeper class coaches) are intensively cleaned during the scheduled maintenance in the depots.

Limited Mechanized cleaning attention is also provided to identified trains (including General class and Sleeper class coaches) during their scheduled stoppage at nominated en route 'Clean Train Stations', with

focus on cleaning and disinfecting of toilets, doorways and aisles.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

Frequent cleaning of coach toilets, doorways, aisles & compartments is carried out in all the reserved coaches (including Sleeper class coaches) of nominated trains during their run, under the On Board House Keeping Service (OBHS) scheme.

(c) Does not arise.

Development of Jharsuguda railway station

2233. SHRI KISHORE KUMAR MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Jharsuguda railway station in Orissa comes under three railway divisions; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not taking up development work of Jharsuguda railway station which is the first railway station of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) The Jharsuguda railway station, in the state of Orissa, comes under the jurisdictional control of Chakradharpur division of South Eastern Railway only. However, Jharsuguda is a Model/Modern station and it has also been identified as Adarsh Station for development work.

Building of over-bridge

2234. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether in view of the two halves of Mayiladuturai in Nagapattinam district of Tamil Nadu having been cut off as a consequence of the broad gauging of the main line between Mayiladuturai Junction and Chennai and the addition of platforms the railways would build an over-bridge or underpass to enable people living on either side of the railway tracks to cross safely over to the other side?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

The old Metre Gauge alignment at Mayiladuturai was passing through Mayiladuturai town and the same alignment has been retained during gauge conversion.

A Road Over Bridge (No. 785 A) already exists at a distance of 300 metres from Mayiladuturai Railway station on the Tiruvarur end, to enable people living on either side of the railway tracks to cross over safely

to the other side.

A manned level crossing (LC No.229-a Class) already exists at a distance of 900 metres from Mayiladuturai Railway station on the Chennai end. This level crossing also enables people living on either side of the railway tracks to safely cross over to the other side.

Agency for advertising campaign

2235. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to appoint an agency for its advertising campaign;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any road map for enhancing the image of Railways has been drawn;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of funds allocated by Government for its campaign during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) Railways use the empanelled advertising agencies for various advertising campaigns. The agencies are chosen for each campaign on case to case basis.

(c) and (d) Enhancing of image of Indian Railways is a continuous process and it is undertaken by the Railways depending upon the publicity requirements and the availability of funds.

(e) Funds are allocated for each advertising campaign on case to case basis depending upon the publicity requirements. Funds spent on Railway Advertisements are debited against the departments/projects to which the contents of a particular advertisement pertain.

Schools on railway land

2236. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway is setting up schools, colleges and Kendriya Vidyalayas on railway land;

(b) if so, the specifics of this policy;

(c) the number of such schools and institutions that would be set up in 2010-11;

(d) whether such institutions would be open to the public; and

(e) if not, the reasons for not allowing public to get benefits from such institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) Ministry of Railways have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Ministry of Human Resource Development for development of educational facilities on Railway premises. A High Powered Working Group consisting of Senior Official from both the Ministries has been constituted for achievement of the objectives of MOU.

(c) Five new Kendriya Vidyalayas to be set up on Railway land have been sanctioned so far by Ministry of Human Resource Development.

(d) Educational facilities would be open to the wards of Railway employees as also for common citizens living in the vicinity.

(e) Does not arise.

Dedicated freight corridor

2237. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work of Dedicated Freight Corridor is running much behind schedule;

(b) whether it is also a fact that revised estimated expenditure on this account has shot up to hundred per cent at present over the original estimate; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No, Sir. Western and Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridors are targeted

for commissioning in 2016-2017.

Project activities are being carried out in line with this target.

(b) and (c) The base cost of Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) from Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, near Mumbai to Dadri near Delhi and Eastern DFC from Dankuni to Ludhiana is now estimated at Rs. 42,231 Crores. This excludes escalation, contingency, Public Private Partnership (PPP) element, taxes and interest during construction.

Labour working in railways on contract basis

2238. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of contract labourers working in Railway, Zone-wise;

(b) the number of them who are inter-state migrant workers; and

(c) whether the inter-state migrant workers are getting all benefits according to Inter-State Migrant Workers Act, 1979?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) Indian Railways are not directly connected with the engagement of persons by the contractors. Therefore, such figures are not maintained in Railways.

(c) Conditions of Contract in Railways stipulate that the contractor shall comply with all the existing provisions of the applicable labour laws.

Cancellation of trains

2239. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number with details of train cancelled during 1st July, 2009 to 30th June, 2010 and the reasons for cancellation;

(b) the Railways' policy to help passengers having reserved/confirmed tickets for the cancelled trains;

(c) whether such passengers are given preference for journeys in other trains over the wait listed passengers of other trains; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Total 6830 trains were cancelled from 1st July, 2009 to 30th June, 2010 due to reasons such as bandhs/agitations/bomb blasts/suspension of night running/security reasons, cyclone/flood/breaches, water logging, fog, accident/derailment, failures, late arrival of link rakes etc.

(b) to (d) Reservation of passengers is class and train specific. In the event of cancellation of a train due to unforeseen circumstances, passengers already booked on their approaching the Railways, are provided accommodation, if available in other trains, on first come first served basis. However, they are not provided accommodation in other trains with overriding priority over waitlisted passenger of that train. All the passengers of the cancelled train are given full refund of the fare.

Summer special trains

2240. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is introducing special trains to south to clear the extra rush in summers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the demands of States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) to (b) Special trains are run on various sectors for clearance of extra passenger rush keeping in view the pattern of traffic, operational feasibility and availability of resources. These special trains are not run on the basis of State or any region. During Summer this year about 7922 trips of special trains including to South were run to clear extra rush of passengers.

(c) Demand for special trains are received at various levels i.e. Station, Division, Zonal and Railway Board and necessary action as per requirement and operational feasibility, is taken.

Vacant posts in railways

2241. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are more than 85,000 safety related posts lying vacant in Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that railways is expressing difficulties due to shortage of staff in almost all sections concerning safety; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) The details of safety related posts lying vacant on Zonal Railways as on 01.04.09, is as under:

Railway	Total
Central	5994
Eastern	4887
East Central	9137
East Coast	6805
Northern	6965
North Central	4119
North Eastern	2428
North East Frontier	2265
North Western	3058
Southern	5676
South Central	6854
South Eastern	7042
South East Central	6825
South Western	5090
Western	6292
West Central	5587
TOTAL	89024

(c) and (d) Railways are managing and maintaining train operation services effectively which is evident from efficiency parameters for train operations like wagon utilization and wagon turn around, which have shown continuous improvement over the years. Further, the productivity of employees, measured in terms of net tonne kilometers (NTKMs) and passenger kilometers (PKMs) per employee has also shown continuous improvement over the years. The number of consequential train accidents have also declined. While recruitment in Railways is a continuous process, it is now at various stages for filling up the vacancies in Group 'C' and Group 'D' categories. This includes the backlog vacancies in respect of SC, ST and OBC, as also vacancies reserved for the physically challenged persons.

Rail projects in Gujarat

2242. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several major railway projects pertaining to Gujarat which were announced by the predecessor Minister have been stalled till date including new divisional Railway Office at Surat;

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

(c) whether the State Government of Gujarat has recently urged Government to revive such projects and complete them in time bound manner; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No, Sir. Further, no announcement was made for Divisional Railway Manager's Office at Surat.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Setting up of new technology at RDSO

2243. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be

pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways has set up modern and versatile engineering softwares and computer work stations at the Research Designs and Standards Organization (RDSO) Directorate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the training to handle the new technology for the officials of RDSO has been undertaken;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which officials will be able to handle the new technology smoothly; and

(e) the details of the expenditure incurred in setting up of new technology at RDSO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of hardware & software are given below:

(I) Details of Software

Sl.No.	Name of Software	Purpose
1	2	3
1.	SAS	Statistical Analysis of Failure Pattern of different components.
2.	LS-DYNA	Simulation of behaviour of coaches under crash
3.	NUCARS	Simulation of riding behaviour of vehicle under design
4.	AutoCAD	Drafting tool for drawings in 2D and 3D by computers
5.	Fire Simulation Software	For optimizing layout of coaches to minimize risk of life.
6.	TLAXIS	Formation design and Tunnel design.
7.	Nastran	Finite Element Analysis Tool

1	2	3
8.	MS Project Professional 2007	Project Management Tool
9.	SPSS 16	Statistical Analysis for Development of Psychological Tests
10.	Systat-12	Statistical Analysis for development of Psychological Tests
11.	X-caliber	Item Response Theory
12.	UGNX	Finite Element Analysis Tool
13.	Hypermesh Software	FEM Simulation
14.	CFD Software	Computational Fluid Dynamics Software
15.	Fatigue Analysis Software	To assess the fatigue life of the component
16.	ADAMS RAIL Software	Simulation of riding behaviour of vehicle under design
17.	LIBSYS	Library Management Software
18.	STAAD PRO Software	Analysis of Structures
19.	GEOSLOPE	Slope Stability Analysis for Track Formation.

(II) Details of Hardware

- High Performance Computing Cluster - 1 No.
- Servers - 14 Nos.
- Workstations - 20 Nos.
- Computer - 1130 Nos.

LAN connectivity has been given for effective use of above software & hardware.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Number of staff trained on these specialised softwares is 250. Some of the staff are trained by the software & hardware providers and others are trained in-house. The trained officials are handling new technology smoothly.

(e) Approximate expenditure incurred for developing these technologies is Rs. 15 Crore.

Inconvenience to physically handicapped persons

†2244. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the four seats reserved for physically handicapped in the guard compartment in express and mail trains are given to the general public by railway officials, as it has been seen many times, due to which physically handicapped persons have to face inconvenience;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No, Sir. All four berths in the specially designed disabled friendly coaches (SLRD) in all Mail and Express trains are earmarked for physically handicapped persons and their escorts only.

However, in the case of fully reserved Express trains, the unutilized accommodation in the coaches meant for handicapped persons, if any, is released to RAG/Wait listed passengers at the time of preparation of reservation charts.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

New railway projects in Maharashtra

†2245. SHRI Y. P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has sent a new proposal to Government by deciding projects on eight new places;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal, when it was sent and whether Government has sanctioned it; and

(c) the share of the Centre and the State therein; the complete details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) A reference was received from Chief Minister, Maharashtra in December, 2009 regarding 12 new

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

lines, 2 gauge conversion and 4 doubling projects. Out of these, Miraj-Latur gauge conversion has already been completed. The works are in progress on 7 other projects as per the availability of resources. Out of the remaining works, surveys have been completed for 5 proposals and have been taken up for 3 proposals.

(c) State Government is sharing the cost of two ongoing new line projects. The cost of Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli-Vaijnath (250 km) is being shared by the State Government to the extent of 50% and Wardha-Nanded new line (270 km) to the extent of 40%.

Expansion of rail network

2246. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has expanded its rail network by only 10,000 kms. in the last 62 years;

(b) if so, the reasons for this slow growth;

(c) whether it is also a fact that roads are given more preference than rail; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) As on 01.04.1950, railways had 53,596 route kilometres which increased to 64,015 route kilometres as on 31.03.2009. The expansion of Broad Gauge network has been done by way of laying new lines, gauge conversion, laying double/multiple lines and since 1951, about 47,500 kilometres of Broad Gauge line has been laid.

(c) and (d) Due to advantage of door to door service, particularly in respect of short and medium lead and non-bulk traffic, road is the preferred mode. To capture such traffic, Container Corporation of India (CONCOR) and 15 other Private Container Operators have been permitted by Indian Railways to operate container trains with facilities for door to door service. Besides, Parcel leasing policy has been implemented to capture small volumes of non-bulk traffic by providing end to end logistics.

Web-based tatkal booking by ticket agents

2247. SHRI B. S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had decided to bar web-based ticket agents of IRCTC from getting access to tatkal bookings from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. as it has caused difficulties to the individuals;

(b) if so, whether Government would propose to stop web-based tatkal bookings by ticket agents permanently;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The agents are meant to facilitate ticket-booking to those individuals who do not have access to internet.

Tatkal reservation scheme

2248. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tatkal Reservation Scheme was commenced in late 1990s with additional coaches however they were slowly withdrawn and 10 per cent of all berths were moved into Tatkal Quota;

(b) whether this decision had a huge impact on the availability of tickets under the general normal quota; and

(c) whether the number of berths under the tatkal scheme increased from 5.6 per cent in 2005-06 to 14.60 per cent in 2008-09 thereby encroaching upon the general quota without investment in any additional coaches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Yes, Sir. In the initial Tatkal Reservation Scheme introduced in

December 1997, accommodation was to be earmarked by adding an additional coach.

As per the revised Tatkal Scheme of August 2004, around 10% of the accommodation was to be earmarked in different classes. The additional coaches earlier earmarked for Tatkal Quota were made part of the normal composition of the train.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The number of berths under Tatkal Quota has increased from 6.22% in 2005-06 to 14.22% in 2008-09, yet it has not resulted in reduction of availability of general accommodation as daily average berth/seat potential has increased during this period from approximately 7.67 lakhs to 9.49 lakhs. Investment in additional coaches and augmentation of trains is a continuous process.

Train accidents

2249. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been made to find out the reasons for train accidents despite installation of Anti Collision Devices in the railway zones;

(b) whether human failure/negligence has contributed a lot to the increasing number of train accidents;

(c) whether Government proposes to get all those responsible for running the trains medically examined to find out their fitness for the job assigned; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) No survey has been done as the coverage of Anti Collision Device (ACD) installed on North-East Frontier Railway (1736 Route Kilometers) and Konkan Railway (738 Route Kilometers) is a very small proportion of Indian Railway Network (64000 Route Kilometers Approx.). Based on experience on North-East Frontier Railway, specifications for ACD have had to be revised to improve efficacy, reliability and availability of ACD.

(b) No, Sir. Consequential train accidents attributed to 'Failure of

railway staff have come down from 186 in 2002-03 to 66 in 2009-10. In the current year also during April to July, 2010 accidents attributed to failure of railway staff have come down to 16 from 20 during the corresponding period of last year.

(c) and (d) System is in place for periodic medical examination of all running staff to ascertain their fitness for assigned jobs.

Anti Collision Devices

2250. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the rail accidents occurred during the current year so far along with the details of loss of men and material and the compensation paid;

(b) whether Anti Collision Devices (ACDs) have been installed in all railway zones, if not, the details of the zones where ACDs have not been installed;

(c) whether the reliability of the ACDs wherever installed have been ensured, if so, the reasons for not preventing timely rail accidents by the installed ACDs; and

(d) the corrective measures proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) In the current year from April to July 2010, 26 consequential train accidents excluding cases of trespassing by road users at unmanned level crossings took place on Indian Railways. Two persons lost their lives and 19 suffered injuries in these accidents. This figure does not include casualties in following three unfortunate accidents:

(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.

Loss of railway property in the consequential train accidents excluding cases of trespassing by road users at unmanned level crossings in the current year from April to July, 2010 has been estimated to be Rs. 29.88 crore approximately.

The compensation paid by the railways in train accidents during the current year from April to July, 2010 is Rs. 47.87 lakh approximately. In addition, an amount of Rs. 370.80 lakh has also been paid as ex-gratia during this period. Employment to one member of the family of the deceased persons has also been announced in some cases.

(b) to (d) 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 Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR). Based on experience on NFR, specification for ACD have had to be revised to improve efficacy, 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 and automatic signalling sections.

Encroachment of railway land

2251. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that eight hectare railway land at Yavatmal narrow gauge Railway Station had been encroached upon twice by anti-social elements and was got vacated through persistent efforts of a sitting Member of Parliament with the help of railway police and local administration; and

(b) if so, whether this land is being converted into a 'Rail Udyan', with jogging track, etc. for meeting the multi-purpose requirements of ensuring unauthorized and anti-social elements not again resorting to encroachment, beautification/fencing, and gifting this Rail Udyan to local citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) There were about 185 encroachments on Railway land near Yavatmal station area and the same were removed in December 2006 with the help of local Civil Police. Presently there is no encroachment on railway land at Yavatmal station.

To prevent future encroachments, Railways have undertaken mass

plantation and fencing of Railway land. Development of Rail Udyan is not contemplated at present.

Train facilities to Gandhinagar

2252. 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 since long been requesting Central Government for providing more train facilities to Gandhinagar, Gujarat;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government on the request of the State Government;

(c) whether Gandhinagar is the only capital city of the State which is served by negligible train frequency; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not providing elevated frequency of trains to Gandhinagar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) and (b) Representations have been received for diversion of trains via Gandhinagar and extension of trains upto Gandhinagar.

9105/9106 Ahmedabad-Haridwar Mail and 2215/2216 Bandra (T)-Jaipur-Delhi Sarai Rohilla Express have been diverted to run via Gandhinagar from 19.2.2008 and 1.7.2008 respectively. A new MEMU 731/732 Ahmedabad-Gandhinagar has been introduced from 1.7.2008 by extending MEMU 715/702 Vadodara-Ahmedabad. In addition, 9309/9310 Shanti Express is available between Indore and Gandhinagar.

(c) and (d) Gandhinagar is 34 kms. away from Ahmedabad, which is very well connected to all parts of the country.

Extension of further additional trains upto Gandhinagar or diversion of additional trains via Gandhinagar have not been found operationally feasible at present.

Construction of rail over bridges in Gujarat

2253. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State of Gujarat has submitted a proposal for construction of 15 Rail Over Bridges (ROBs) at the busy

level crossing; and

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal and by when the proposal would likely be cleared by Government for the construction of 15 ROBs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):
(a) and (b) No, Sir. Only nine proposals have been received and are under examination for consideration during Railway Works Programme 2011-12.

Delayed railway projects in Rajasthan

2254. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are Railway projects, which were announced ten years, fifteen years and twenty years ago, but are still incomplete in Rajasthan;

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

(c) the extra amount spent by Railways, project-wise, besides the cost of the original project due to the above delay;

(d) by when these delayed projects are likely to be completed, project-wise; and

(e) for delay and cost escalation, was anyone held accountable and punished, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):
(a) to (e) There are no projects which were announced 15 years & 20 years ago in Rajasthan & still incomplete. Following two projects which were taken up more than 10 years back are still incomplete in Rajasthan;

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Original Cost at the time of inclusion in Budget (Rs. in crore)	Latest anticipated Cost (Rs. in crore)
1	Dausa-Gangapur City new line	151.84	410.08
2	Sriganganagar-Sarupsar Canal loop gauge conversion	47	258.59

Railways have a huge throwforward of ongoing projects with resources constraints, as a result of which the projects take relatively longer time for completion. This coupled with other reasons e.g. escalation, change in standards of construction and technology, scope of the work and conditions of the areas etc. during the intervening period, lead to increase in cost of projects. The aforesaid projects would be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

New Business Model through Public Private Partnership (PPP)

2255. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is stressing to develop new business models through Public Private Partnership (PPP) in various rail projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the projects which are running under PPP in Railways; and

(c) the help Government is providing in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of areas such as development of world-class railway stations, setting up of SPVs for manufacturing of locomotives, coaches and rolling stock components, operation of container trains and special freight trains, investment in port and other connectivity works, private freight terminals and automobiles and ancillary hubs, bottling plants for clean drinking water, etc. have been identified for execution through private participation. These projects broadly fall under the following categories:

(i) Licensing model around standardized policies like operation of container trains, Liberalized Wagon Investment Scheme, Private freight terminals and operation of special freight trains, automobile and Freight train operation etc.

(ii) Infrastructure projects like port and other connectivity works through strategic investors in some cases involving Special-Purpose

Vehicles (SPVs).

(iii) Joint Ventures (JVs)/SPVs for manufacturing of locomotives, coaches and components on the basis of competitive selection and guaranteed demand for a number of limited years.

(iv) Competitively bid out Infrastructure Projects such as world-class railway stations.

So far Ministry of Railways has completed three rail-connectivity projects under Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) mode and four more SPVs have started taking up projects. The details are:

(a) Completed projects:

- (1) Surendra Nagar-Pipavav gauge conversion;
- (2) Hassan-Mangalore gauge conversion;
- (3) Gandhidham-Palanpur gauge conversion;

(b) Under-construction projects:

- (1) Haridaspur-Paradip new Railway line;
- (2) Obullavaripalli-Krishnapatnam new Railway line;
- (3) Bharuch -Dahej gauge conversion and
- (4) Angul-Sukinda new line.

Bidding process under Joint Venture (JV)/ Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode for locomotives factories at Madhepura and Marhowra, EMU/MEMU/Metro/Coach Factory at Kancharapara and ancillary unit of Chitrangan Locomotive Works at Dankuni has already been initiated. Development of world-class stations is at a preparatory stage.

(c) The help provided by Government varies according to the requirement of the project/scheme.

Extension of railway line upto Sikkim

2256. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made toward extension of railway line to Sikkim;

(b) whether the pace of work is going on as per the schedule or there is any delay and cost over run;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):
(a) to (d) New BG line from Sivok to Rangpo (50.87 km) has been entrusted to M/s IRCON for execution and work has commenced on 20.02.2010. Work is in preliminary stage and project details are being firmed up. Sivok-Rangpo new line is targeted for completion by December, 2015.

Khurda-Bolangir railway line

2257. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for shifting the Khurda-Bolangir railway line under construction for nearly two decades into the hands of RVNL; and

(b) whether Government would give a firm revised time schedule for completion of this line which is crucial to Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):
(a) and (b) Khurda Road - Bolangir new line (289 km) project was included in the Budget 1994-95. In the first phase, work has been taken up in 36 km length and is targeted for completion during 2010-11. The work is progressing as per the availability of resources. To explore alternate funding sources, Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) has been advised to conduct bankability studies.

Bringing down rising prices of steel

2258. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether bringing mines of 'iron ore' and that of "metal" under Steel Ministry would help in bringing down rising prices of steel because of better functional efficiency, thereby achieving enhancement in productivity and lowering the production cost;

(b) if so, whether this will also give fillip to expansion of existing steel plants, especially in the private sector; and

(c) whether State Governments are giving full co-operation towards setting up of new steel plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP):

(a) and (b) Steel prices are deregulated and at any point of time the prices of steel in the domestic market depend upon the demand-supply scenario, prices of similar products in international market and cost of raw materials.

The items to be looked after by each of the administrative 'Ministries/Departments' under Government of India are allocated in terms of 'Allocation of Business Rules' and the decision thereof on any matter is the decision of the Government of India, irrespective of the Ministry to which the subject is allocated. However, it is important while allocating raw material resources claims of steel producers should be kept in mind.

Bringing the subject of 'iron ore' under Ministry of Steel may not have any direct impact on the steel prices, as both the prices of steel as well as iron ore are in the deregulated market.

(c) The role of the State Governments in facilitating the steel investment projects is in the areas of land allotments rehabilitation, iron ore mines, water resources and maintenance of law and order. The issues are directly dealt by the steel investors with the concerned state governments. On its part, Ministry of Steel is also coordinating the major issues through the forum of Inter-Ministerial group meetings.

Setting up of steel plant at Surat

2259. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Gujarat to set up gas based steel plant at Surat on joint venture with Steel Authority of India Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the proposal; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to expedite the process of setting

up of new modern gas based steel plant unit at Surat, Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Performance of SAIL

2260. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that profits of SAIL has come down this year compared to 2009-10; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During April - June 2010 the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) earned a profit after tax (PAT) of Rs.1177 crore, which is lower as compared to PAT of Rs.1330 crore earned during corresponding period of last year. The profits registered a decline mainly due to adverse impact of input prices of imported coal, increase in royalty on minerals, impact of wage revision, adverse foreign exchange rates, lower sales volume and higher interest & depreciation and reduction in interest earnings.

The adverse impact in profitability was, however, partially offset by increase in net sales realization of saleable steel, improved production of value added products, better product-mix and improvement in Blast Furnace productivity.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

12.00 NOON

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Human Resource Development

II. Reports and Accounts (2008-09) of various universities/(Institute and related papers)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Sir, I lay on the Table:

I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of School Education and Literacy), under sub-section (3) of Section 38 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009:

- (1) G.S.R. 301 (E), dated the 9th April, 2010, publishing the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2010.

(2) G.S.R. 750 (E), dated the 5th April, 2010, authorizing the National Council for Teacher Education as the academic authority to lay down the minimum qualifications for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2747/15/10]

(ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education) Notification F.No. 450/2009-UI(A), dated the 20th February, 2010, publishing the UGC [Affiliation of Colleges by Universities] Regulations, 2009, under Section 28 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3159/15/10]

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

(i) (a) Annual Accounts of the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Aligarh, for the year 2008-09, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 35 of the Aligarh Muslim University (Amendment) Act, 1981.

(b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3119/15/10]

(ii) (a) Annual Accounts of the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, for the year 2008-09, and the Audit Report thereon, under Section 30 of the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University Act, 1994.

(b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2828/15/10]

(iii) (a) Annual Report of the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, under sub-section (4) of Section 29 of the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2824/15/10]

(iv) (a) Annual Report of the Malaviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur, for the year 2008-09.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iv) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2823/15/10]

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair)

I. Notification of Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

II. Report and Accounts (2006-07) of Orissa Agro Industries Corporation Ltd., Bhubaneswar.

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 copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public distribution) Notification No. 13(1)/2009-BC, dated the 6th November, 2009, publishing Corrigendum to Notification No. 98, dated the 9th September, 2009. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2814/15/10]

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

(a) Forty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Orissa Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Bhubaneswar, for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above 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. 2877/15/10]

**Various reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General
of India for 2009 and 2010**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S.
PALANIMANICKAM): Sir, I lay on the Table, under clause (2) of article 151
of the Constitution of India, 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: Government of Jharkhand - Audit Report on Civil and Commercial, Revenue Receipts and State Finances for the year 2008-2009;
- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2009: Report No.20 of 2009-2010: Union Government (Direct Taxes) - The Appeal Process; [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2844/15/10]
- (iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2010: Report No.13 of 2010-11: Union Government Scientific Departments (Performance Audit) Performance Audit of Procurement of Stores and Inventory Management, Department of Atomic Energy;
- (iv) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2010: Report No.14 of 2010-11: Union Government (Defence Services) (Performance Audit) Performance Audit of Canteen Stores Department (Ministry of Defence). [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2842/15/10]

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2010

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 Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2010, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th August, 2010."

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Motion for election to the Committee on the welfare of
Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform the House that the Business Advisory Committee in its meeting held on the 12th August, 2010, has allotted time for Government Legislative Business as follows:

Business	Time allotted
1. Consideration and passing of the following Bills:-	
(a) The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Bill, 2006.	Three hours
(b) The Personal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2010.	Two hours
(c) The Nalanda University Bill, 2010.	Two hours
2. Consideration and passing of the following Bills after they are passed by Lok Sabha:-	
(a) The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2010.	Two hours
(b) The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2010.	Two hours
(c) The Salary, Allowances and Pensions of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2010.	Three hours

The Committee recommended that the Private Member's Business scheduled for Friday, the 20th of August, 2010, may be dispensed with in favour of Government Legislative Business.

The Committee also recommended that the House may sit on Saturday, the 21st of August, 2010, for transaction of the Private Member's Business scheduled for Friday, the 20th of August, 2010, and that there will be no Question Hour on that day.

The Committee further recommended that there would be no sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Monday, the 23rd of August, 2010.

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 move the following Motion:-

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate one Member from Rajya Sabha, to associate with the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the unexpired portion of the term of the Committee vice Shri Nand Kumar Sai, who retired from the Rajya Sabha on the 29th June, 2010 and do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from amongst the Members of the House to serve on the said Committee".

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

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 beg to announce that the Government Business in this House for the week commencing Monday, the 16th of August, 2010, will consist of:

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
2. Consideration and passing of the following Bills:-
 - (a) The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Bill, 2006;
 - (b) The Personal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2010;
 - (c) The Nalanda University Bill, 2010; and
 - (d) The Pesticides Management Bill., 2008.

3. Consideration and passing of the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2010, as passed by Lok Sabha.
4. Discussion on the issue of Population Stabilization in the country.
5. Consideration and passing of the following Bills, after they are passed by Lok Sabha:
 - (a) The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2010;
 - (b) The Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2010;
 - (c) The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2010; and
 - (d) The Jharkhand Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Bill, 2010.
6. Consideration and return of the Appropriation (Railways) No.4 Bill, 2010, after it is passed by Lok Sabha.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Incident of a girl paraded nude in three villages of Birbhum district in West Bengal

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : सर, शून्य काल में मैं एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय उठाना चाहता हूँ। पश्चिमी बंगाल के बीरभूम जिले के मथुरा गांव में चार महीने पहले 17 वर्ष की एक युवती को तीन गांवों में 10 किलोमीटर तक पैदल घुमाया गया। पुलिस के अनुसार, उस युवती का दोष मात्र इतना था कि वह दूसरी जाति के एक लड़के से प्रेम करती थी। पुलिस का यह भी कहना है कि युवती को निर्वस्त्र घुमाने के दौरान उसकी तस्वीर ली गई और विडियोग्राफी भी की गई। पंचायत को इस बात की जानकारी थी, लेकिन पुलिस को सूचित नहीं किया गया। यह मामला तब सामने आया जब उस लड़की का एम.एम.एस. स्थानीय प्रशासन तक पहुंचा।

सर, यह केवल एक समय की घटना नहीं है, बल्कि इससे पहले भी पश्चिमी बंगाल में 22 साल की एक आदिवासी लड़की को, जो दूसरी जाति के लड़के से प्रेम करती थी, उसको 10 किलोमीटर तक नंगा घुमाया गया और उसकी विडियोग्राफी कराई गई। सर, इस घटना के बारे में यह भी कहना है कि जब तक वह औरत पूरे मजमे के साथ जा रही थी, फिर भी पुलिस ने उस मजमे पर कोई कार्रवाई नहीं की। यह एक बहुत ही गम्भीर मामला है, लेकिन पता नहीं पश्चिमी बंगाल सरकार ने इस पर नोटिस क्यों नहीं लिया। आज तक इस घटना के संबंध में बहुधा कोई कार्रवाई नहीं हुई। इसलिए मैं आपसे आग्रह करना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो भयानक घटना घटी है, उस पर हम लोगों का ध्यान जरूर जाना चाहिए।

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue. It is a shameful incident. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Only the names and association, please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्रीमती माया सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं इस विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री भरतकुमार राऊत (महाराष्ट्र) : सर, मैं इस विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, मैं इस विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नंद कुमार साय (छत्तीसगढ़) : सर, मैं इस विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, मैं इस विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, मैं इस विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, मैं इस विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI H.K. DUA (Nominated): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The whole House associates itself with it.

Recent outbreak of Malaria in Mumbai

DR. MANOHAR JOSHI (Maharashtra): Sir, the issue which I am raising today is most important not only from the point of view of the Mumbai city but also other parts of Maharashtra. Sir, there is dengue malaria outbreak all over the State and mainly this outbreak is caused because of water stagnation and also for the reason that a number of new constructions are being done and there also no proper care is being taken. Sir, it will be very surprising to the entire House to know that 45,000 people have been admitted to various hospitals because of malaria in Mumbai and other parts of Maharashtra. Out of this 45,000, 45 people have died. Somebody may raise a question whether this issue is for the State of Maharashtra or to the city of Mumbai.

Sir, I must make it clear that there is some responsibility of the Central Government too which it has not carried out. Firstly, Sir, the Central Government is supposed to give a grant for stopping the spread of such diseases. The grant is known as anti-VPP. This grant is Rs.16 crores every year. I am very sorry to mention here that the last two years this grant has not been given by the Central Government to the State of Maharashtra. Naturally, it did not go to the city of Mumbai. Therefore, my first request is that this grant of Rs.16 crores should be given forthwith so that it can be used for medicines. Unfortunately, whatever medicines prescribed by the Central Government are not being supplied. There is a medicine known as Tempose. 5,000 litres of medicine is sent but the remaining medicine is not being sent by the Central Government. Pumps are required there. There are only 25 pumps which have been sent for a population of more than one crore in Mumbai. Sir, the Central Government is, unfortunately, not doing its duty properly. Sir, there is a medicine which is known as chloroquine.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Joshiji, the time is over. The mike is gone. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri.

DR. MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, this medicine is also not being sent by the Government. I request that new medicine should be ordered by the Government, and malaria should be controlled immediately. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA (Maharashtra): Sir, I associate myself with this subject. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with it.

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with it.

श्री कलराज मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैं अपने को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes; all Members from Maharashtra associate themselves with it. Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri.

Killings and atrocities on dalits in Punjab

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, मैं सदन में आज पंजाब में दलितों पर हो रहे अत्याचारों के संबंध में एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा उठाना चाहता हूं। जालंधर जिले में एक ढिलवां गांव है, जहां

विजय कुमार की हत्या हुई और FIR में रूलिंग पार्टी के म्युनिसिपल काउंसलर का नाम शामिल हुआ, लेकिन आज तक उस दलित के हत्यारे की गिरफ्तारी पंजाब सरकार ने नहीं की है। यह 26 मई का incident है। इसके अलावा राजिन्दर कुमार की फिलौर में हत्या हुई, तेलूराम की हुसैनपुर में हत्या हुई, बलकार सिंह की होशियारपुर में हत्या हुई और 2 दलितों की हत्या पटियाला आयुर्वेदिक कालेज में हुई, लेकिन इन सब केसेज़ में FIR तक lodge नहीं हुई, दोषी पकड़े नहीं गए। कहा जाता है कि पंजाब में सरबत के भले की सरकार चल रही है, सरबत के भले का मतलब है कि हम सभी का betterment चाहते हैं। क्या सरबत में दलित नहीं आते हैं? दलितों के ऊपर इतना बड़ा अन्याय, अत्याचार, कत्ले-आम हो रहा है, यह बहुत ही निंदनीय घटनाक्रम है। इसके साथ ही मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि दलितों के ऊपर अत्याचार का दौर तब से शुरू हुआ, जब वियना में संत रामा नंद की हत्या हुई और संत निरंजन दास जी को गोलियां मारकर जखमी कर दिया गया तथा 5 दोषी वियना में गिरफ्तार किए गए। मैं इस हाऊस के माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन संतों के हत्यारों को भारत लाकर सज़ा दी जाए और वियना में जांच के लिए एक टीम भेजी जाए, जो यह जांच करे कि इन संतों के कत्ल का उद्देश्य क्या था, उनकी हत्या की साजिश कहां रची गई और इसके लिए धन और हथियार किसने दिए? यह सब पता लगाकर दोषियों को सज़ा दी जाए। इसके अलावा जिन दलितों की हत्याएं हुई हैं, उनके दोषियों को गिरफ्तार किया जाए। इसके अलावा पीड़ित परिवारों को कंपनसेशन दिया जाए, उनके परिवार के लोगों को नौकरी दी जाए। इन घटनाओं में 176 दलित injured हुए हैं, 69 बोगस FIR दर्ज हुई हैं और उनमें 1,720 दलितों को involve किया गया है, ये सब झूठे केस रद्द किए जाएं। राधास्वामी संत की हत्या की जो साजिश वियना में रची गई, उसकी भी जांच हो। आज पंजाब में संत भी सुरक्षित नहीं हैं। इन साजिशों के पीछे क्या कारण है, इसको जानने के लिए वहां एक टीम भेजी जाए और तथ्यों को उजागर किया जाए। धन्यवाद।

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैं अपने को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नंद कुमार साय (छत्तीसगढ़) : मैं अपने को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री बृजलाल खाबरी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैं अपने को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

Demonstration against terrorists in Kerala

श्री बलवंत उर्फ बाल आपटे (महाराष्ट्र) : उपसभापति जी, केरल में छात्रों के एक प्रदर्शन पर जो निर्मम अत्याचार हुआ, उसका मैं यहां इसलिए उल्लेख करना चाहता हूँ क्योंकि इसमें केन्द्र सरकार को दखल देने की आवश्यकता है। पापुलर फ्रंट ऑफ इंडिया के लोगों ने एक क्रिश्चियन कालेज के लेक्चरर का हाथ काट दिया, इसलिए छात्र यह मांग कर रहे थे कि उस पर प्रतिबंध लगाया जाए। मदनी, *
... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, this is objectionable. What does he mean by it? ... (Interruptions) ...

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

श्री बलवंत उर्फ बाल आपटे : मैं बता रहा हूँ ...*(व्यवधान)*... उनको अरेस्ट करने के लिए बंगलुरु से लोग आए हैं, ...*(व्यवधान)*... जब छात्रों पर अत्याचार हो रहा था, वहां से 70 किलोमीटर पर यह मदनी 15 पुलिस वालों के सामने बंगलुरु पुलिस को उसको पकड़ने के लिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT : What is this, Sir? ...*(Interruptions)*... यह बिल्कुल गलत बात है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): This is not fair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री बलवंत उर्फ बाल आपटे : यह केरल सरकार की जिम्मेदारी थी ...*(व्यवधान)*... मदनी को पकड़ने में इन्होंने सहायता नहीं की। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, what is this? This is totally wrong. Sir, that has to be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, this is ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will examine it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: I am making a request. How can they say that * ? This is not allowed. Sir, please expunge that sentence. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री बलवंत उर्फ बाल आपटे : सर, यह एक मुद्दा है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I will do it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री बलवंत उर्फ बाल आपटे : सर, जो आतंकवाद के खिलाफ आंदोलन कर रहे थे, उन पर न केवल पुलिस का अत्याचार हुआ, बल्कि होमगार्ड ने भी अत्याचार किया। होमगार्ड को यह पावर नहीं है। पुलिस ने लाठीचार्ज किया और होमगार्ड ने भी लाठीचार्ज किया, जबकि होमगार्ड को यह पावर नहीं है। क्या होमगार्ड इनका कैडर था? मुझे इस पर शक है। इनके कैडर ने होमगार्ड के ड्रेस में छात्रों को मारा। छात्र घायल हुए और चार लोगों की हड्डियां टूटी। उनको hospitalise किया और दूसरे दिन उनको forcefully discharge किया।

सर, इस प्रकार से यह जो हो रहा है, इसके बारे में केन्द्र में सोचने की जरूरत है कि यदि कोई एक अपराधी है, उस पर पुलिस का वारंट है और उसको पकड़ा जाना है, तो इसमें सरकार की क्या जिम्मेदारी बनती है? वह उसको पकड़ने में सहायक हो या बाधा बने? प्रश्न यह है, इसलिए इसमें केन्द्र को दखल देने की जरूरत है। केरल सरकार उसको पकड़ने में ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : नहीं, नहीं, सरकार की बात ... (व्यवधान)...

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT : Sir, how can you sit so liberally as far as his comments are concerned? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I will examine it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया (झारखंड) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती माया सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री नंद कुमार साय (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT : Sir, this is ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Some evidence has to be given. ...(*Interruptions*)... I told you that I will examine it in the light of the rules. We will now take up The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2008.

GOVERNMENT BILL

The mines and minerals (Development and Regulation)

Amendment Bill, 2008

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND THE MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Sir, I move:

That the Bill further to amend the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation Act, 1957, be taken into consideration.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, as you may be aware, with increasing industrialization in the country, demand for coal is at an all time high. Mining of coal is presently allowed for specified end-use to private sector through allocation of coal blocks. This allocation is done based on recommendations of a Screening Committee set up in the Ministry of Coal. But as the number of applicants from the private sector per block are too many, selection of an applicant in respect of a block is difficult. The process is also vulnerable to criticism on the ground of lack of transparency and objectivity. The Government is making steady efforts to increase its exploration to increase the availability of coal blocks. However, it is also necessary to bring in a process of

selection that is not

only objective but also transparent. Hence, a selection process by auction through competitive bidding for allocation of coal blocks to private companies, replacing the Screening Committee approach is sought to be introduced through an amendment in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. At the same time, realizing the importance of coal minerals to the nation, competitive bidding shall not be applicable in respect of allocation of coal blocks to Government company or public sector undertaking, and power projects selection on the basis of competitive bids for tariffs. The Bill was introduced in this House on 17.12.2008 and was considered by the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel. In its Report dated 19.2.2009, the Committee recommended that further consultation should be held with States and other stakeholders before any further action is taken on the Bill.

Further consultations have been held accordingly on 10th August, 2009, by the Ministry of Coal. The matter was accordingly considered and it was decided that the Bill, as introduced, may be moved for consideration.

The proposed amendment will improve the efficient utilization of our coal resources. Thank you.

The question was proposed.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Sir, normally, we do not take any legislative business on Friday. But, today, you have slated this legislation for which the BAC has allotted four hours time. The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2008, is an important Bill. Time allocated for consideration of this Bill is four hours. We want to discuss this and I am speaking on this subject.

Sir, most of the major coal mines in the country nationalized in 1972 and 1973, except those which were with the producers of iron and steel. The private lease-holders are still exploring those coal fields i.e., those which are linked to steel manufacturing.

In 1976, the Coal Mines (Nationalization) Amendment Act was enacted

and terminated all the mining leases of private lease-holders. This Act was enacted during the Emergency and it terminated all mining leases, except those of iron and steel producers who were allowed by the Act to carry on local mining. But, in June, 1993, the Coal Mines (Nationalization) Amendment Act passed by

Parliament allowed, again, and certain areas - generation of power, coal washaries, for captive use by iron and steel producers, cement production, production of sim gas obtained through coal gasification (underground and surface), coal liquification - were notified in 2007. In the light of these developments, after 1993, the Government of India took liberalization policy and undertook a lot of reforms. In that process, it started again to de-notify these and give lease or allot blocks for captive power units, captive gas units, coal washaries, etc.

Sir, comments from the stakeholder States were called in which only Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and West Bengal gave their response. They have expressed their apprehension. Their apprehension was that through this the price of coal will go up. If you calculate, the inflation and other things, what was the rate of coal per tone at the time of nationalization and what is today? The moment the coal prices go up, the cost of production of product produced where coal is used will also go up. So, Sir, Assam, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Orissa and Tamil Nadu are also stakeholders. Sir, high-sulphur coal is available in Assam. In Jharkhand a good low-ash coal is available.

In Maharashtra also good low ash coal is available, and in Orissa and Tamil Nadu, the lignite coal is available. So, they are also the stakeholders, but they have not responded to this Bill, till today. I don't know whether the Ministry has separately dealt with them and has discussed this matter with them or not because when the Standing Committee of Parliament was examining this Bill, these were not there at that point of time. It is not only that, there is a normal complaint that the thermal power plants, which are not in the pit and get supplies through the railways, get stalls instead of coal, and the ash percentage is high. If the ash percentage is high, the calorific value of the coal goes down; and, if the calorific value goes down, it does not create much impact to produce better quality of steam, or, ultimately, power generation. And, thus, the cost of power, generated through thermal power plants, gets affected. That is the reason the country is spending a lot of foreign exchange in importing metallurgical coal or low-ash coal to

run the power plants. Now, the Government, in order to save the foreign exchange, decided to allot coal to power plants at the pitheads so that they can take coal from there and produce power. But if you see the list, I don't know whether the Minister has seen the list or not because the power Ministry is not with him. I don't know whether he has examined those who got, after the 1993 amendment, the blocks to produce power or not. If you see the profile of those companies, you will be surprised they have taken birth

overnight. They do not have any power-generation background, but they have taken to it because they would get a pit, they would get the leasehold of coal blocks. Till today, we do not have any data of classification of coal. We only deal with the coal in the sense that this is a steam coal, this is a non-steam coal, this is a slack coal, this is a low-ash coal, this is a high-sulphur coal, and so on and so forth. But there is good quality coal in Jharkhand. As far as I know, there is a type of coal, available in the country, which is known as semi-anthracite coal. 'Semi-anthracite' means, you produce anthracite through electric calcinations. Anthracite can be a good conductor for making cathodes and anodes, which we need for aluminum smelters and copper smelters. And, today, we are importing this. I have raised this question many, many times in the Parliament. And, I have got information from the field also that the semi-anthracite coal was being exported from India to Japan, Canada and Australia because they were calcinating it as, in India, there is no electric calcinations plants in our country that can calcinate semi-anthracite. And, to make semi-anthracite into anthracite, after calcinations, they mix the green anthracite coke that is having 99 per cent purity, which make cathodes. That is of high value. But, today, we are selling that coal also in the name of steam coal and that is going to the power plants. The Parliamentary Standing Committee also observed, in paragraph 1.27 of its report, that every coal block is different in terms of geological formation, coal reserves, quality and quantity of the coal. The quality is the main thing. There are certain research laboratories in our country, which are looking into the quality of the coal. But, I don't know whether they have created any data or not; whether they have identified this or not.

On the basis of the quality, the price should be fixed. As such, each coal block will have different financial value. I don't know whether they have created that or not. They were supposed to do it before bringing the Bill to the Parliament. I am not aware whether they have done it or not. Sir, to assess the correct value of a particular coal block, the Ministry of Coal should engage the services of a reputed consultant besides the

services of CMPDIL, that is, Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited for the entire process of competitive bidding. I am not talking of commercial type because CMPDIL is there; I am talking of the coal, petroleum and natural minerals research laboratory in Jealgora, Dhanbad. I don't know whether it still exists or not. It was started during the British time. I don't know how much money you have given to develop it because a lot of development has taken place and a lot of new areas have started. Satellite analysis can also give us

the quantity and even the quality of the coal, which we can analyse. I don't know whether this facility is available with us or not. The point is that there should be a feasibility study report. Mine valuation and financial modeling needs to be done in advance for each coal block proposed to be auctioned. I don't know whether the Government is prepared for this or not. The process of selection of coal blocks through auction, should be documented in detail and deliberated beforehand to avoid any ambiguity and manipulation during the implementation. The mapping and the area distribution, everything, should be done in a proper way. Then the most important thing is that coal blocks in reserve forests, protected forests should not be allotted to safe forest environment and local population. I want to know whether you have identified these areas and whether you have segregated your coal blocks from the reserve forests and protected forests or not. Sir, it is again a matter of concern.

The Standing Committee also suggested that before you go for the auctioning of the coal blocks, you will come out with a White Paper on the assets. But till today, we don't know about it. I remember, Sir, when the CSIR was celebrating its Golden Jubilee in 1978, it produced a voluminous document which was known as the 'Wealth of India', i.e., 'Bhartiya Sampada'. I don't know whether on the same line, the Coal Department has prepared any document on the coal wealth of India; the coal wealth of India vis-a-vis the quality. How is it quality-wise? What is the quality? The reason why I am saying it is because everywhere, the quality is different. Our hon. Minister, Mr. Handique is from Assam. In his neighbourhood, there is gas and oil, and, in his neighbourhood, there is coal also. But that gas and oil are crude; though that is not sweet crude, it is high sulphur crude and high sulphur coal. That is not useful for the foundries and other purposes. That may be useful for packing and for some other purposes. That can be used for brick-kilns. But, Sir, in his own State and in his neighbouring State, Meghalaya, everyday, about a minimum of thousand trucks and about 400-500 rakes of coal are supplied from that area to the rest of the country. I do not know whether that is regularized or not and whether those coals are categorized quality-wise

or not. I am concerned about that.

If you could categorise coal, that would increase the value of the coal and increase the wealth of the country. That is my point of concern. Otherwise, I support the Bill.

श्री आर.सी. सिंह (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : सर, धन्यवाद। आपने खान और खनिज (विकास और विनियमन) संशोधन विधेयक, 2009 पर मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया। मैं संक्षेप में अपनी बात कहना चाहूंगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : आप खुलकर अपनी बात कहिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री आर.सी. सिंह : मेरी पार्टी का समय कम है। ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA : Sir, he is a labour leader. He knows much more than us about coal mines. He may be given a little more time.

श्री उपसभापति : अहलुवालिया जी, उन्होंने कहा था कि वह Monday को नहीं रहेंगे, इसीलिए मैंने सभी को रिक्वेस्ट करके उन्हें पहले बोलने का मौका दिया है। ... (व्यवधान) ... सिंह साहब, आपकी पार्टी का समय सिर्फ चार मिनट का है। ... (व्यवधान) ... आप एक बजे तक बोलिए।

श्री आर.सी. सिंह : सर, धन्यवाद। ... (व्यवधान) ... सर, सबसे पहली बात मैं यह बोलना चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय को इस बिल को लाने की इतनी जल्दी क्यों है? वह काफी दिनों से कोशिश कर रहे हैं। 1971 में coaking coal का और 31 जनवरी, 1973 में non-coaking coal नेशनलाइजेशन हुआ। उस समय यह बात कही गई थी कि देश की जरूरतों को प्राईवेट मालिकों द्वारा पूरा नहीं किया जा सकता है। जिस तरह से देश में कोयले की जरूरत है, कोयले का डेवलपमेंट हो रहा है, जिस तरीके से प्राईवेट ओनर्स कोयले को बर्बाद कर रहे हैं, इनके पास टेक्नालोजी नहीं है, इनके पास मशीनरी नहीं है, इसलिए देश की जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी जी ने कोयला खदानों का राष्ट्रीयकरण करवाया था। उस समय 19 मिलियन टन कोयले का उत्पादन होता था। अभी, आज की तारीख में हम लोग साढ़े पांच सौ मिलियन टन कोयले का उत्पादन कर रहे हैं। इसके अलावा भी coaking coal जो हायर स्टैंडर्ड का है, हम करीब-करीब 60 मिलियन टन कोयला बाहर से मंगाते हैं, जो स्टील प्लांट्स वगैरह के काम में लगाया जाता है। इसको हमारे यहां खुद डेवलप करने की जरूरत है। सर, अभी तक 215 माइन्स, जो इन्होंने प्राईवेट आनर्स को दी हैं, लीज होल्ड माइन्स को, उसमें से 15 माइन्स को 20 साल से लेकर ब्लॉक करके रखा हुआ है, उसमें उन्होंने काम शुरू नहीं किया है। 17 माइन्स को 15 से 20 साल हो गये, जिनको लीज दी हुई है, लेकिन उन्होंने काम शुरू नहीं किया है। 38 माइन्स को 10 से 15 साल हो गए, जिनको लीज दी हुई है, लेकिन उन्होंने काम शुरू नहीं किया है। 65 माइन्स को लगभग 10 साल के भीतर का लीज दिया हुआ है, उन्होंने काम शुरू नहीं किया है। 80 माइन्स ऐसी हैं, जो पांच साल से लीज लेकर, ब्लॉक को घेरकर बैठी हुई हैं, उन्होंने काम शुरू नहीं किया है। जो 228 माइन्स हैं, उनमें से सिर्फ 7 या 8 माइन्स में काम शुरू हुआ है और ये सारी माइन्स को रिजर्व करके बैठे हुए हैं।

सर, मेरा दूसरा सवाल है। सबसे बड़ा दुर्भाग्य है कि हमारे जो माइन्स टेक्नीकल हैं, जो हायर पोस्ट पर हैं, वे चेयरमैन होते हैं, वे डायरेक्टर्स होते हैं, सीएमडीज़ होते हैं, ये रिटायरमेंट से पहले कोल इंडिया में काम करते हैं और उसके सारे डाटा लेकर प्राईवेट कंसर्न में चले जा रहे हैं। जो हायली पेड लोग हैं, ये हायली टेक्नीकल तो हैं ही,

लेकिन ये हायली पेड भी हैं और ये सारे डाटाज़ उनको फीड-अप करते हैं। सर, एक बात है। हमारा Geological Survey of India अभी तक ठीक नहीं कर पाया है कि टोटल हमारे यहां माइनेबल कोल कितना है?

जो देश की जरूरत है, उसके लिए mineable coal कितना है, उसे आज तक ठीक नहीं किया गया है। एक आंकड़े के अनुसार अभी तक हमारे देश में 257 बिलियन टन कोयला उपस्थित है। हम 257 बिलियन टन कोयले का उत्पादन नहीं कर सकते हैं, क्योंकि जिस method से हम काम करते हैं, उसे Bord & Pillar method कहते हैं और यह पुरानी टेक्नॉलोजी है। अभी मंत्री महोदय ने एक्सेप्ट किया था हम इस Bord & Pillar method में 27 से 30 परसेंट तक ही कोयला निकाल पाते हैं, बाकी कोयला नहीं निकाल पाते हैं। अभी हमारा टेक्निकल development इतना नहीं हुआ कि हम 100 परसेंट कोयला निकाल सकें। हम जिस रफ़्तार से कोयला निकालते हैं और अभी तक जो एवलेबल है, इससे हम चालीस से पचास बरस तक ही कोयला निकाल पाएंगे और उसके बाद हमारा देश अंधेरे में डूब जाएगा। हमारे देश में 80 परसेंट विद्युत का उत्पादन कोयले से होता है और उस कोयले को यह सरकार ख़ैरात में बांटने की कोशिश कर रही है। जो हमारी अपनी टेक्नॉलोजी है, उसको डेवलेप नहीं किया जा रहा है। हमारी पुरानी टेक्नॉलोजी के कारण झरिया कोल, जिसको BCCL कहते हैं और Eastern Coalfields, दोनों में जो infrastructure develop हुआ है और दोनों में जो फायर लगा हुआ है, दोनों पानी के ऊपर बसे हुए हैं, इनको खतरा है। इनको कई हजार करोड़ रुपया देने के बाद भी शिफ्ट नहीं किया जा सकता। झरिया कोल को भी शिफ्ट नहीं किया जा सकता है, धनबाद को बचाया नहीं जा सकता है, आसनसोल और रानीगंज को बचाया नहीं जा सकता है। जहां Coal mining है, वहां पर उनकी अवस्था खराब है और सभी owners ने illegal mining की थी और अब दोबारा उन्हीं को देने की कोशिश हो रही है। सर, ये कहते हैं कि हम auction करेंगे, जिससे गवर्नमेंट को ज्यादा पैसा मिलेगा। यह ठीक है कि auction करके ज्यादा पैसा मिल सकता है, लेकिन इस auction के माध्यम से जो नॉन टेक्नीकल लोग आ रहे हैं और वे जिस तरीके से कोयले का दोहन करेंगे, उससे हमारा पूरे का पूरा इलाका बर्बाद हो जाएगा, विशेषकर आदिवासी इलाका। क्या आदिवासी इलाके में इनकी कोई जिम्मेवारी नहीं है? क्या उनके development के लिए आप कोई काम नहीं करेंगे? इससे उन लोगों की जमीन जाएगी, जंगल जाएगा और उनका जल जाएगा। वहां पर सबसे बड़ा संकट तो जल का होता है। जब माइनिंग का काम करते हैं और जब strata को तोड़ देते हैं, तो पानी का बहाव किसी और तरफ मुड़ जाता है, इसलिए उनको उस इलाके में पीने का पानी तक नहीं मिलता है। वहां पर जो प्राइवेट लोग आएंगे, तो वे इसकी रेस्पॉन्सिबिलिटी नहीं ले सकते हैं।

सर, अभी तक सरकार ने यह तय नहीं किया है कि हम कौन-कौन से ब्लॉक चलाएंगे और कौन से ब्लॉक्स का auction करना है। ऐसा कोई सर्वे नहीं किया गया है। Coal India ने कहा कि आपने जो प्राइवेट कन्सर्न्ड को अलॉट कर दिए हैं और जो 15 से 20 साल तक से काम नहीं कर रहे हैं, उनमें से 128 ब्लॉक्स Coal India को लौटा दिए जाएं, क्योंकि देश की जरूरत के लिए इन ब्लॉक्स का काम करना जरूरी है। इसके बावजूद भी ये ऑक्सन और कोयले की खैरात बांटने पर तुले हुए हैं। सर, ऐसे-ऐसे लोग कोयले के ब्लॉक्स की खैरात लेकर बैठे हुए हैं, जो इंडू फार्मसी चलाते हैं। जो लोग Chyawanprash बनाते हैं, वे भी वे भी ब्लॉक्स लेकर बैठे हुए हैं कि हमें Chyawanprash बनाने के लिए कोयले की जरूरत पड़ेगी, इसलिए हमें कोयले का ब्लाक दे दिया जाए।
... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : कोयला मिलाकर काला किया जाएगा।

श्री आर.सी. सिंह : बिना किसी नीतिगत तरीके से ब्लॉक को औने-पौने तरीके से दोबारा खैरात बांटने की कोशिश की जा रही है। जिनके पास e-auction में टैक्नीक है, वे नहीं आ सकते हैं। सरकार का जो Coal India है, वह e-auction में प्राइवेट कन्सर्न्ड के सामने खड़ा नहीं हो सकता है। इसके बहुत से कारण हो सकते हैं। जितने कोयले के ब्लॉक्स हैं, उनको गवर्नमेंट e-auction के माध्यम से दोबारा प्राइवेट करना चाहती है। इस नीति के चलते इंदिरा गांधी जी ने जिन कोयले के ब्लॉक्स को सरकारी करवाया था, वे दोबारा प्राइवेटाइजेशन की तरफ चले जाएंगे। कभी दस परसेंट शेयर बेचने की बात करते हैं और कभी कहते हैं कि जिन ब्लॉक्स में हम काम नहीं कर पा रहे हैं, उन ब्लॉक्स को दे देंगे। अभी तक ये उन ब्लॉक्स को आइडेंटिफाई भी नहीं कर सके हैं कि जिनमें Coal India या SECL काम नहीं करेगा।

इनके पास अभी तक इस तरह का कोई आंकड़ा नहीं है, इसलिए इसको रोकने की कोशिश की जाए। उपसभापति जी, सबसे बड़ी बात यह है कि जो ब्लॉक्स लेने वाले हैं, वे डीप माइनिंग नहीं करेंगे। अभी हमें तीन सौ मीटर नीचे तक deep mining करने की जरूरत पड़ेगी, लेकिन जो ब्लॉक्स लेने वाले हैं, वे डीप माइनिंग नहीं करेंगे, वे surface mining करेंगे, open-cast mining करेंगे। वे open-cast mining करके, तमाम सरफेस को बर्बाद कर देंगे, जंगल को बर्बाद कर देंगे। हमारे माननीय मंत्री श्री जयराम रमेश जी यहां पर बैठे हुए हैं, इन्होंने एक जगह पर कहा है, मैं आपको बताता हूँ कि उन्होंने क्या कहा है, ऑनरेबल मिनिस्टर श्री जयराम जी ने कहा है, "In respect of Vedanta, वेदांता, जो लैंड यूज कर रहा है, I can say that they have violated Forest Rights Act without taking consideration of the tribal rights. मैंने उन्हें देखा कि वे बैठे हुए हैं, तो मुझे याद आ गया कि माननीय मंत्री जी देश को, दुनिया को बचाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं और ये प्राइवेट कंसर्न्स यहां आकर के इनको किस तरह से बर्बाद कर रही हैं। सर, हम लोग कोल बेल्ट को देखते हैं, इसीलिए मेरा कहना है कि मंत्री महोदय इस बिल को लाने के लिए इतनी जल्दी नहीं करें। कोल के अलावा और भी मिनरल्स हैं। हमारे यहां टोटल 2729

मिनरल्स माइन्स हैं, इनमें पेट्रोलियम और छोटे मिनरल्स को छोड़कर छत्तीसगढ़ में 6 हैं। मैं उनकी बात कह रहा हूँ जो नक्सलाइट एरिया में हैं। इनमें छत्तीसगढ़ में 6, झारखंड में 6, महाराष्ट्र में 1, उड़ीसा में 1 और वेस्ट बंगाल में 1 है। इन नक्सलाइट एरिया में 15 माइन्स काम कर रही हैं। सर, आपने अभी देखा कि Anjan Hill mine में accident हुआ था। हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी बैठे हैं, वहां पर फॉरेस्ट डिपार्टमेंट न जाने इजाजत क्यों नहीं दे रहा था। वहां से, जिसको हम लोग पॉट होल बोलते हैं, ऊपर से लिंक हो गया था। माइनिंग में, जहां काम किया था, लिंक हुआ था। वहां से डायरेक्ट एयर मिलती थी, जिसके चलते जब मिथेन गैस का ब्लास्ट हुआ, तो उस ब्लास्ट में, जहां पर coal dust थे, जिसके चलते 14 लोग अपनी जान गंवा बैठे थे, उनमें एक सीनियर माइनिंग इंजीनियर था, उसमें जूनियर माइनिंग इंजीनियर्स, सीनियर माइनिंग इंजीनियर्स और सेफ्टी से रिलेटेड लोग थे, जिनकी जान चली गई थी। चूंकि फॉरेस्ट डिपार्टमेंट को वहां जाने की इजाजत नहीं थी, वह नक्सलाइट एरिया था, उधर कोई जाता भी नहीं था, इस तरह की बातें हुई थीं। उपसभापति जी, मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमारा जी.डी.पी. का जो डोमेस्टिक प्रोडक्शन है, वह 1.91% है। इसको कोल इंडिया दे रहा है। सारे डिविडेंड्स वगैरह देने के बाद कोल इंडिया ने सरकार को ढाई हजार करोड़ रुपए दिए हैं। इसके बावजूद भी यह चाहते हैं कि हम इसको सेल कर दें। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि प्राइवेट से सारा का सारा पैसा आने वाला नहीं है, किसी भी सूरत में आने वाला नहीं है। सर, मैं नंबर ऑफ माइन्स की बात बताता हूँ, जो कि पेट्रोलियम, स्मॉल मिनरल्स, नेचुरल गैस और एटॉमिक एनर्जी वाली माइन्स को छोड़कर है। आंध्र प्रदेश में 404, गुजरात में 398, झारखंड में 284, मध्य प्रदेश में 250, राजस्थान में 236, उड़ीसा में 220, कर्नाटक में 209, महाराष्ट्र में 145, तमिलनाडु में 138, छत्तीसगढ़ में 126 और वेस्ट बंगाल में 111 माइन्स हैं। इस तरह से ये 2729 माइन्स हैं। हमारे देश का जो टोटल आउटपुट है, उसमें इसका 17.98% शेयर है। मंत्री महोदय इसको दुबारा प्राइवेटाइजेशन की तरफ ले जाना चाहते हैं। सर, जो नेचुरल गैस है, कोल में जो मिथेन गैस मिलती है, कोल का लिक्विटाइजेशन करने की जो बात है, जिसमें प्रोसेस शुरू हुआ है, मिनिस्ट्री ने उस तरफ अभी तक अपना हाथ नहीं बढ़ाया है। नेचुरल गैस का काम दो जगह शुरू हुआ है। यह जो मिथेन गैस निकालने का काम शुरू हुआ है, जो हमारी एक बहुत बड़ी आमदनी है, यह एक नया रिसर्च आ रहा है कि अगर हम कोल को लिक्विड फॉर्म में लेकर चले आते हैं, तो सैंकड़ों बरस के लिए हम कोयले का उपयोग कर सकते हैं, देश को एनर्जी दे सकते हैं, स्टील प्लांट या दूसरी जगह पर जो कोयले की जरूरत है, उसको दे सकते हैं।

इसमें हमारी कोल इंडिया और ई.सी.सी.एल. सक्षम हैं। इसलिए मेरा यह कहना है कि इसे प्राइवेट हाथों में जाने से रोकना चाहिए।

सर, जब हम लोगों की स्टैंडिंग कमेटी की एक मीटिंग हो रही थी, उसमें कहा गया था कि illegal mining को रोकने के लिए एक दूसरा बिल आ रहा है, उस पर चर्चा होगी। किस तरह से धड़ल्ले से illegal mining हो रही है, इसका नमूना स्टैंडिंग कमेटी ने जाकर लिया है। अगर आप कहेंगे, तो वह कागज मैं आपके सामने बाद में पेश कर दूंगा, आज मेरे पास वह नहीं है। इसलिए मेरा कहना है कि प्राइवेट ऑनर्स को जो 138 blocks allot किये गए हैं, जहां काम शुरू नहीं हुआ है, उनको de-allocate करके कोल इंडिया को देना चाहिए।

सर, इसके optimum utilization के लिए हमारे सामने एक नई थ्योरी आ रही है। जैसा पोलैंड में आया है कि पूरा कोयला काटने के लिए वहां की पूरी बस्ती को खाली करा कर दूसरी जगह बसाते हैं, पूरे शहर को दूसरी जगह ले जाते हैं और वहां का पूरा कोयला लेकर, एक साथ stabilize करके दोबारा उनको वहां वापस कर देते हैं। हमारे पास इतने संसाधन नहीं हैं और सरकार इतना पैसा भी खर्च नहीं कर सकती या ऐसा करने की मंशा नहीं बना रही है, जिससे हम लोग 100 परसेंट कोयले का उपयोग कर सकें।

सर, अब infrastructure बढ़ता जा रहा है। अभी देश में जो कोयला है, उसके surface पर infrastructure बढ़ रहा है, फैक्टरियां लग रही हैं, दूसरे कारखाने आ रहे हैं, बस्तियां बस रही हैं, बाजार लग रहे हैं, जिसके चलते हम उसका utilization नहीं कर सकते हैं। देश के सामने एक बहुत बड़ा खतरा है। सर, देश के पास energy का इतना बड़ा source नहीं है। इसलिए मेरा कहना है कि धड़ल्ले से जो privatization हो रहा है और illegal mining हो रही है, इनको रोकने की जरूरत है।

सर, मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारा Geological Survey बहुत कमजोर है। मंत्री महोदय भी नहीं बता सकते कि हमारे पास total actual reserve कितना है। केवल estimate है और वह estimate जब mine-able होता है और अगर एक-तिहाई से ज्यादा निकालते हैं, तो देश के सामने एक बहुत बड़ा खतरा आ जाएगा। इसलिए इसका misuse नहीं करना चाहिए। इसलिए मैं कहता हूं कि इसको public sector में रखना चाहिए। इसके लिए मिनिस्ट्री ने 31.3.2009 को एक recommendation दिया था। उसको follow-up करना चाहिए था कि हम इस method को कैसे लागू करें।

सर, हम पॉवर बनाने में ज्यादा कोयला use कर रहे हैं। पॉवर बनाने के लिए नई टेक्नोलॉजी आई है, जिससे हम low grade कोयले से भी energy generate कर सकते हैं। सर, low grade कोयले में ash content ज्यादा होता है, इसलिए लोग उसको कम use करते हैं। नई टेक्नोलॉजी से low grade कोयले से, जिसे हम use नहीं कर पा रहे हैं, उस कोयले को भी use करके हम power generate कर सकते हैं। जब हम power generation की बात करते हैं, तो हमें इस पर भी ध्यान देना चाहिए, लेकिन मंत्री महोदय तो कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि पॉवर प्लांट्स को कोयला ही न मिले। Eastern Coal Fields में उसके हेड ऑफिस के सामने दीसरगढ़ पॉवर सप्लाई

प्लांट है। उसके

साथ agreement था कि पिट हेड से कोयला ले लेंगे। अब वे कहते हैं कि हम आपको पिट हेड से कोयला नहीं देंगे। दीसरगढ़ पॉवर सप्लाई को धेमोइन कोइलियरी से पिट हेड से कोयला मिलता था, जिसे बंद कर दिया गया है। वह पॉवर सप्लाई कम्पनी हजारों वर्क्स को लेकर त्राहीमाम त्राहीमाम कर रही है कि उसको कोयला कहां से मिलेगा। मंत्री महोदय जरूर इस बात को नोट करेंगे और वे उस प्लांट को कोयला देने की बात सोचेंगे।

सर, मैंने नेचुरल गैस और मीथेन की बात कही तथा ब्लॉक के auction की बात कही। Auction करने से पहले यह पता होना चाहिए कि हमारे पास total reserve कितना है, जिसे हमें auction करना है और उसकी आज के बाजार में total value कितनी है, हमारा कोयला किस ग्रेड का है और आज की तारीख में उसकी total value कितनी है, हम उस कोयले को निकालने के लिए किस रेट पर और कैसे दे रहे हैं, सरकार को या देश को उससे क्या लाभ हो सकता है, क्योंकि वह व्यक्तिगत use के लिए नहीं, बल्कि देश के लिए है, प्रकृति ने हमें दिया है, उसे व्यक्ति ने हमें नहीं दिया है। इसलिए हमें कितना मिल सकता है, इसके बारे में हमें जानकारी मिलनी चाहिए।

सर, मैं ज्यादा नहीं बोलूंगा, मुझे एक बात और कहनी है। इस बिल के पास होने के बाद who will monitor? हमारा जो DGMS System है, वह काफी कमजोर है। केवल 25-30 लोग ही हैं, जो 2500 माइन्स की देखभाल करते हैं, वही उनकी सेफ्टी की बात सोचते हैं या देखते हैं। इस संबंध में भी हमें सोचना चाहिए।

मैं एक बात और मंत्री महोदय के संज्ञान में लाना चाहता हूं, हालांकि वह आज के सब्जेक्ट से रिलेटिव नहीं है। चार जो स्थान हैं - झरिया, रानीगंज इत्यादि, जहां पर इल्लीगल माइनिंग हुई थी, वहां के लोगों को एक जगह से हटाकर दूसरी जगह बसाने की बात की जा रही थी। अगर यह पब्लिक सैक्टर के अंडर रहता, शायद तब वहां पर इल्लीगल माइनिंग होती ही नहीं। उन लोगों को दूसरी जगह बसाने के लिए 8000 करोड़ रुपये देने की बात थी, जिसमें से शायद 3255 करोड़ रुपये ही ऐलॉट किए हैं। अभी तक उसमें क्या डेवलपमेंट हुई है, उसके बारे में भी कृपया मंत्री महोदय बताएं। इस संबंध में मेरा कहना यह है कि इस ब्लॉक को आगे दिया नहीं जाना चाहिए, देने से पहले ब्लॉक्स को आइडेंटिफाई करना चाहिए।

सर, इसी संदर्भ में मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हूं। जब ब्लॉक्स दिए जाते हैं और जब उसके लिए प्राइवेट कन्सर्न्स आगे आते हैं, तो कोल इंडिया की एक वेतन कमेटी होती है, जो वर्क्स का वेतन निर्धारित करती है। ऑफिसर लोगों का वेतन वह नहीं बनाती है। वहां bipartite कमेटियां हैं, जो रेट्स निर्धारित करती हैं। ये लोग

प्राइवेट ब्लॉक्स के नज़दीक भी नहीं जाते हैं, केवल अपनी मनमानी करते हैं। वहां पर अगर मिनिमम वर्क के लिए 500 रुपये मिलते हैं, तो ये उसके लिए केवल 100 रुपये या उससे भी कम देकर काम चलाते हैं। हमने कई बार इस सवाल को उठाया है, लेकिन कभी भी इस पर ध्यान नहीं दिया गया।

सर, मैंने लिक्विडेशन की बात भी कही है, Coal bed methane और coal liquidation की जो नई टेक्नोलॉजी आई है, इसे आप ऐडॉप्ट करें। नई टेक्नोलॉजी के लिए हमारे यहां रिसर्च डिपार्टमेंट का अभाव है। आप कह रहे थे कि धनबाद, रांची और आसनसोल में यह है, लेकिन मैं कहूंगा कि रिसर्च डिपार्टमेंट एक तरह से निग्लेक्टेड डिपार्टमेंट है।

सर, एक बार मैंने यहां पर एक क्वेश्चन रज़ किया था। सृष्टिनगर नाम से एक जगह है जहां multi-storied buildings बन रही है, जहां के लिए पहले एक डिप्टी डायरेक्टर ने यह कहा कि यह कंस्ट्रक्शन के लिए अनसेफ है, क्योंकि वहां पर इल्लीगल माइनिंग हुई है। लेकिन बाद में डायरेक्टर ने यह कह दिया कि नहीं, यह सेफ है और आज वहां पर 16 मंजिल की बिल्डिंग खड़ी हो रही है। अगर वह सेफ है, तब यह डिजीज़न गलत हुआ। अगर कभी वहां पर डिज़ास्टर हो जाए, तो कितना नुकसान हो जाएगा, इसका कोई हिसाब नहीं है। अवश्य ही इसे देखने की जरूरत है। कौन इसे रैगुलेट करेगा, उसके लिए रैगुलेटरी बॉडी को और अधिक स्ट्रेंथन करने की जरूरत है।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ अंत में मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि इस बिल पर इतनी जल्दी न की जाए। पास करने से पहले इसे कमेटी में डाला जाए और विचार-विमर्श किया जाए, उसके बाद ही इसे यहां पर पेश किया जाए। धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Further discussion on the Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2008 will be taken up on Monday. The House is adjourned for lunch till 2.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at fifty nine minutes
past twelve of the clock

The House re-assembled after lunch at thirty-seven minutes
past two of the clock,

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA) in the Chair.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS

The Hindu Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2010

SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA (Haryana): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Dalit, Backward and Oppressed Youth (Development and Welfare) Bill, 2010

डा. अखिलेश दास गुप्ता (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि मुझे अनुसूचित जातियों, अनुसूचित जनजातियों से संबंधित दलित युवाओं और अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों तथा धार्मिक और भाषायी अल्पसंख्यकों के दमित वर्गों के युवाओं का समग्र विकास सुनिश्चित करने के लिए एक व्यापक राष्ट्रीय नीति बनाने और उसे कार्यान्वित करने तथा राज्य द्वारा उनके कल्याण और तत्संसक्त तथा उसके आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करने के लिए एक विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

डा. अखिलेश दास गुप्ता : महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

The Removal of Unemployment Amongst the Youth Bill, 2010

DR. AKHILESH DAS GUPTA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the removal of unemployment amongst the youth by way of making right to work mandatory so that the State generates employment opportunities for them and failing to do so the State will have to pay unemployment allowance and for measures to promote self employment amongst the unemployed youth and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DR. AKHILESH DAS GUPTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Agricultural and Other Workers in Rural Areas (Protection, Incentives and Welfare) Bill, 2010

डा. अखिलेश दास गुप्ता (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि मुझे कृषि और अन्य ग्रामीण कर्मकारों को शोषण किए जाने से संरक्षण प्रदान करने वाले उपायों और राज्य द्वारा न्यूनतम मजदूरी, पेंशन, भविष्य निधि सुविधाएं और दुर्घटनाओं की स्थिति में सवेतन छुट्टी सहित वित्तीय मुआवजा, महिला कर्मकारों को चिकित्सा, प्रसूति और शिशुसदन सुविधाएं, बच्चों के लिए शिक्षा एवं पोषण और ऐसे अन्य कल्याणकारी उपायों को सुनिश्चित करने और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के ऐसे कर्मकारों के लिए कल्याण प्राधिकरण तथा कल्याण निधि की स्थापना करने और तत्संसक्त तथा उसके आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करने के लिए एक विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

डा. अखिलेश दास गुप्ता : महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री कलराज मिश्र) : मुझे अपना एक निजी विधेयक प्रस्तुत करना है, इसलिए अगर सदन की अनुमति हो तो मैं डा. नाचचीयप्पन से निवेदन करूंगा कि वे चेयर पर आ जाए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. ई.एम. सुदर्शन नाचचीयप्पन) पीठासीन हुए

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2010
(To amend article 75, 80 and 164 etc.)

श्री कलराज मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ:

"कि भारत के संविधान का और संशोधन करने के लिए एक विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।"

The question was put and the motion was adopted..

श्री कलराज मिश्र : मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2010
(Substitution of New Article 130)

श्री कलराज मिश्र (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ:

"कि भारत के संविधान का और संशोधन करने के लिए एक विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।"

The Question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री कलराज मिश्र : मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Shri Prabhat Jha - not present. Shri Shantaram Laxman Naik - not present. Now, we will take up further consideration of the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2009 moved by Shrimati Viplove Thakur on the 4th December, 2009. Now, Shri Silvius Condpan to continue his speech from the earlier date, 4th December, 2009.

The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2009

SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN (Assam): Sir, at the earlier occasion when this Bill was introduced by the hon. Member, Shrimati Viplove Thakur, I was one of the speakers, and when I was speaking, because of the paucity of time, the Chair was kind enough to tell me to rise up again when the Bill

comes up again, and today, that situation has come. With your permission, Sir, I would like to submit that this Bill is very simple, and according to me, Sir, there should be no difficulty for the Government to accept this Bill as it has been prepared by the hon. Member, Shrimati Viplove Thakur, who has come to the floor to seek the mandate of the House.

Sir, 'Tarkhan' and 'Lohar' are two castes in Himachal Pradesh while 'Lohar' caste has been included in the 'Scheduled Castes List' in the Scheduled Castes Order 1950, the 'Tarkhan' caste has been kept in the 'OBC List' of the State. In fact, the two castes are one and the same for all social and matrimonial purposes, the anomaly of placing these castes in different lists took place after the reorganization of the State of Himachal Pradesh and later on, in 1977 and 1978, when the Government of Himachal Pradesh decided to merge the 'Lohar' caste into Scheduled Caste on the basis of the Gazette of Bilaspur. The Kangra Castes Gazette clearly mentioned that the 'Lohar' and 'Tarkhans' are one and the same caste except that one was doing the profession of iron and the other one was doing the work of wood. Even socially, economically and educationally also, 'Tarkhans' are much backward than the other castes of Himachal Pradesh. In view of this inadvertent discrimination, the 'Tarkhan' community, for quite some time, is demanding its inclusion in the 'Scheduled Castes List'. Therefore, it is high time, Sir, that this anomaly, as has been stated in the Statement of Objects & Reasons of the Bill, should be removed. The case is very simple and it has got no other legal impediments when they are treated as Scheduled Castes. It is a misfortune that the reorganization of Himachal Pradesh started; otherwise, till before that date, they were enjoying the 'Schedule Caste' privilege. Please see what these communities are to pay for it and why they have to pay for it. It was the Government's administrative arrangement that they were making and while reorganizing the State as a New Himachal State, they have been put in to such kind of a misfortune. So, Sir, I support this Bill with what I have submitted now, referring to the Statement of Objects SC. Reasons, for bringing in this Bill, and I hope, this House will accept the purpose of the Bill while passing it in the House, and, in course of time, it will take the shape of an

enactment. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Now, Shri Mangala Kisan. He is not present. The next one is Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

श्री राम विलास पासवान (बिहार) : महोदय, जो Private Member's Bill आया है, इसको मैं सपोर्ट करता हूँ और यह भी मांग करता हूँ कि इस तरह की जो विसंगतियाँ पूरे देश में हैं, उनको ठीक किया जाए। इसमें दो जातियाँ - लोहार और तरखान का उल्लेख किया गया है और जैसा कि अभी मेरे से पूर्ववक्ता ने बताया कि दोनों मूलतः एक ही category के हैं, लेकिन लोहार को अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल कर लिया गया है और किसी कारणवश तरखान को अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल नहीं किया गया है। इसको भी अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल किया जाना चाहिए।

इसी तरीके से हमारे यहां बिहार में भी है। जब बिहार, बंगाल, उड़ीसा और झारखंड एक थे, तब लोहार जाति अनुसूचित जनजाति में था, लेकिन जब ये अलग हो गए, तब लोहार जाति झारखंड वगैरह में अनुसूचित जनजाति में है, लेकिन बिहार में 'Backward Class' में है।

उसके कारण क्या हुआ, अंग्रेजी-हिंदी का मामला चला। जैसा कि आप जानते हैं कि अंग्रेजी भाषा में नाम के बाद 'a' लगा दिया जाता है, "राम" को "रामा" लिख दिया जाता है, "कृष्ण" को "कृष्णा" लिख दिया जाता है, उसी तरीके से "लोहार" को "लोहरा" लिख दिया गया। उसके कारण बिहार में लगातार आंदोलन हो रहे हैं, लेकिन उसके बावजूद अभी तक उसको ठीक नहीं किया गया है। जिस समय मैं मिनिस्टर था, उस समय ट्राइबल विभाग के जो मिनिस्टर थे, मैं उनसे मिला था और उनसे आग्रह किया था। उन्होंने बिहार सरकार को लिखा भी था और बिहार सरकार से तीन साल पहले ethnography report भी मांगी गई थी, लेकिन अभी तक वहां से रिपोर्ट नहीं आई और इसको लेकर काफी रोष है, क्योंकि उनका रहन-सहन, सारी की सारी चीज़ ट्राइबल जैसी है, उनका कल्चर है, इसलिए बिहार में जो "लोहार" है, जिनको अंग्रेजी में "लोहरा" कहा जाता है, उनको शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स में जोड़ा जाए।

दूसरे मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब यह संविधान संशोधन होगा, तो उसमें ये जो विसंगतियाँ हैं, इनको दूर करना चाहिए। यह एक कानून बनना चाहिए कि एक स्टेट में जो शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट या शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स में है, जब वह देश के किसी भी कोने में जाए, तो उसको शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट या शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब माना जाए, क्योंकि एक स्टेट में यदि कोई शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट है और दूसरे स्टेट में अगर वह चला जाता है, तो उसकी कास्ट बदल नहीं जाती है। इस देश में आप धर्म बदल सकते हैं, सरकार बदली जा सकती है, अमीर गरीब हो सकता है, गरीब अमीर हो सकता है, लेकिन जाति बदली नहीं जाती है, कास्ट वही रहती है। तो देश के किसी भी कोने में कोई आदमी रहता है, कोई स्वीपर रहता है, यदि मान लेते हैं कि कोई स्वीपर दिल्ली से तमिलनाडु चला जाए, तो उसकी कास्ट बदल नहीं जाती है, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य से क्या हो रहा है कि एक स्टेट में जो शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट में है, वह दूसरे स्टेट में शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट में नहीं है। मान लीजिए "पासवान" है, तो "पासवान" यदि बिहार में शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट में है, तो दिल्ली में वह

शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट में नहीं है। उसी तरीके से "महार" जाति है। मान लीजिए कि महाराष्ट्र में "महार" जाति शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट में है, तो वह जाति दूसरे स्टेट में शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट में नहीं है। हमने प्रयास किया था, जिस समय मैं 1989 में मिनिस्टर था, वी.पी. सिंह जी की सरकार थी, उस समय हमने एक ड्राफ्ट बिल बनाया था, लेकिन चूंकि वह कम समय की सरकार थी, इसलिए वह नहीं हो सका। उसमें हमने यह प्रोविजन रखा था कि एक uniformity होनी चाहिए कि एक स्टेट में जो शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट में है, उस जाति का आदमी देश के किसी भी कोने में जाए, तो उसे शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट माना जाए और जो शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब है, उसको शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब ही माना जाए। Union Services में यह है, जैसे केन्द्र सरकार की सेवाओं में है कि यदि एक व्यक्ति एक स्टेट में शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट में है और वह देश के किसी भी कोने में जाएगा, तो उसको शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट माना जाएगा, लेकिन राज्य सरकार की जो सेवाएं हैं, वहां ऐसा नहीं है। इसलिए हमारी यह मांग है कि एक स्टेट में जो शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स एंड शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स हैं, उनको पूरे देश में, राज्य और केंद्र सरकार की सेवाओं में, शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स एंड शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स की facilities दी जाएं।

तीसरी एक बात है कि संविधान की धारा 338, उप-धारा 9 को यदि देखें, तो इसमें लिखा है -

"The Union and every State Government shall consult the Commission on all major policy matters affecting Scheduled Castes". संघ और प्रत्येक राज्य सरकार, शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट और उसकी जातियों को प्रभावित करने वाले सभी महत्वपूर्ण नीतिगत विषयों पर आयोग से परामर्श करेगी। इसीलिए शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स एंड शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स कमिशन बनाया गया, लेकिन ऐसा कहीं नहीं हो रहा है और नतीजा हो रहा है कि शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के बीच में "फूट डालो और राज करो" की नीति अपनाई जा रही है। आप संविधान को देखेंगे तो जो संविधान की धारा 341 है, उसमें शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स और शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स अलग नहीं हैं, केवल शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट हैं। जब बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर जी ने संविधान लिखा, तो उन्होंने भी शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट कहा। तो अब कौन शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट होंगे, वह संविधान के शेड्यूल में रखा गया है कि ये जातियां हैं। अब स्टेट्स में क्या हो रहा है? जैसे हमारे यहां बिहार में शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट के बदले क्या कर दिया गया? वहां "दलित" और "महादलित" कर दिया गया और इसमें किसी से कंसल्ट नहीं किया गया, एस.सी./एस.टी. कमिशन से कोई कंसल्ट नहीं किया गया।

केन्द्र सरकार से कोई परामर्श नहीं किया गया। पॉलिटिकल डिसीज़न लेकर 'दलित' और 'महादलित' कर दिया। सर, वहां पर 'महा दलित' शब्द बहुत ही गंदा शब्द है। जिस शब्द में 'महा' जुड़ जाता है - जैसे 'महाचंडाल' होता है, 'महापापी' होता है, 'महाराक्षस' होता है, उसी तरीके से 'महादलित' है। 'दलित' शब्द जो है, वह शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट का substitute नहीं है। शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट का substitute है - अनुसूचित जाति। दलित तो हम लोग साधारण भाषा में बोलते रहते हैं। दलित का मतलब होता है - oppressed. Oppressed तो कोई भी हो सकता है। वहां पर जो इस प्रकार का भेदभाव किया जा रहा है, यह बहुत ही खतरनाक है। सर, 30.08.2009 को बिहार सरकार ने एक resolution के माध्यम से - जो बिल्कुल unconstitutional है - महादलित आयोग बना दिया।

आपको यह जानकर आश्चर्य होगा कि उसने क्या किया। वहां बिहार में 23 जातियां हैं जो शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट की सूची में हैं। पहले बिहार सरकार ने 23 में से 19 जातियों को महादलित में रख दिया और चार जातियाँ - धोबी, पासी, रविदास और पासवान - को दलित में रखा। फिर बाद में क्या किया - क्योंकि रामविलास से झगड़ा है इसलिए पासवान को 'दलित' कर दिया और बाकी सबको 'महादलित' कर दिया। हमने कहा कि यदि पासवान forward हो गया है तो तुम उसको forward में कर दो, सबको तुमने महादलित क्यों बना दिया? इस प्रकार यह बिल्कुल unconstitutional है, पूर्वाग्रह से ग्रसित है। वहां नारा लगाकर क्या कहा जा रहा है? वहां कहा जा रहा है कि हम तीन डिसमिल जमीन देंगे, टीवी देंगे, ट्रांजिस्टर देंगे। जबकि किसी को एक धूर, एक डिसमिल जमीन नहीं मिली। हम लोग अभी दलित अफेयर्स के ग्रुप ऑफ मिनिस्टर्स में थे, उसमें हमने कहा कि पूरे देश में जो दलित वर्ग के लोग हैं, भूमिहीन हैं, आदिवासी हैं, उनको कम से कम एक एकड़ जमीन सरकार खरीदकर दे जिससे वे यह महसूस कर सकें कि हम इस देश के नागरिक हैं। यहां कहा गया कि तीन डिसमिल जमीन देंगे, यह देंगे, वह देंगे। सर, जब हम लोग गांव में थे तो बाईस्कोप देखते थे, उस समय टीवी नहीं होता था। उसमें दिखलाया जाता था, अस्सी मन की रानी देखो, नौमन बुलाकी देखो, हावड़ा का पुल देखो, कुतुब मीनार देखो, रेलगाड़ी को चलते देखो। बिहार इसी तरह से दिखलाया जा रहा है कि तीन डिसमिल जमीन देखो, रेडियो देखो, ट्रांजिस्टर देखो। दलित को गाली का शब्द भी मिल गया बाकी कुछ नहीं मिल रहा है। इस प्रकार उनके नाम पर जो खर्चा हो रहा है, उसमें पब्लिक मनी का भ्रयंकर मिसयूज हो रहा है, एक महादलित विकास मिशन बना दिया गया। हम चाहते हैं कि जो शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट में गरीब लोग हैं, उनको निश्चित रूप से प्राथमिकता मिलनी चाहिए। जैसे रामविलास पासवान है, हमारा बेटा सिनेमा में चला गया, वह actor बन गया तो उसको कौन से रिजर्वेशन की जरूरत है? मेरिट होगा तो जाएगा, नहीं होगा तो नहीं जाएगा। लेकिन इस तरीके से शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट के बीच में वोट के point of view से डिवीज़न करना और एक कास्ट को इसलिए छोड़ देना कि वह रामविलास पासवान की है, फिर उसके कारण पूरे समुदाय को दंडित करना, ठीक नहीं है। मैं समझता हूं कि भारत सरकार को इसमें interfere करना चाहिए। मैंने बूटा सिंह जी से अनुसूचित जाति आयोग के चेयरमैन की हैसियत से आग्रह किया था - मुकुल वासनिक जी यहां पर हैं - कि इस तरह की परम्परा यदि चलेगी तो जो शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट की यूनिटी है, जो हम कहते हैं कि 16 परसेंट शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट की आबादी है, उसमें फिर कोई एक परसेंट, कोई आधार परसेंट तो कोई डेढ़ परसेंट रह जाएगा और फूट डालो और राज करो की नीति शुरू हो जाएगी। इसलिए वहां बिहार में दलित और महादलित के नाम पर जो unconstitutional काम हुआ है, राजनीति से प्रेरित काम हुआ है, इसको तुरंत खत्म करना चाहिए। बिहार सरकार

से इस संबंध में पूछना चाहिए और दलित और महादलित के नाम पर जो पैसे का मिसयूज वहां हुआ है, उसका भारत सरकार हिसाब ले क्योंकि जो पैसा गया है, वह पैसा divert कर दिया गया, दूसरी चीजों में खर्चा किया गया। प्राइवेट सेक्टर में रिजर्वेशन का मामला हो, उसके लिए हम लोग लड़ रहे हैं। प्राइवेट सेक्टर में, जुडिशियरी में रिजर्वेशन का मामला है, सर एक जुडिशियरी है, एक कार्यपालिका है, एक विधायिका है, जो हम लोगों की विधायिका है। चूंकि लोक सभा में, राज्य सभा में, विधान सभा में जनता के प्रतिनिधि आते हैं, यहां हम लोग कानून बना देते हैं, लेकिन जब वह कानून कोर्ट में जाता है तो उसको गलत तरीके से इंटरप्रीट किया जाता है। जैसे हम लोगों ने 1990 में मंडल कमीशन लागू किया था। मंडल कमीशन में शैड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट का मुद्दा नहीं था, ओ.बी.सी. का मुद्दा था। लेकिन जब कोर्ट में मामला चला गया तो कोर्ट ने कहा कि प्रमोशन में रिजर्वेशन नहीं होगा। जब बैकवर्ड क्लास में प्रमोशन में रिजर्वेशन था ही नहीं तो प्रमोशन का मामला कहां से आ गया। नतीजा हुआ कि सीधे रूप में शैड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट और शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के लोग अफेक्टेड हो गए। बाद में फिर संशोधन करके उसको दूर करने का काम किया गया। जो न्यायपालिका है वह सबसे बड़ा हथियार है। संविधान की धारा 312 के अनुसार देखेंगे तो जैसे यूनियन पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन है, उसके नीचे इंडियन एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव सर्विस है, इंडियन फॉरेन सर्विस है, उसी तरीके से धारा-312 के तहत लिखा गया है कि यूनियन पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन के नीचे इंडियन जुडिशियल सर्विस भी होगा। 1971 में संविधान संशोधन किया गया आज जो जजेज़ की नियुक्ति होती है उसमें कोई क्राइटेरिया नहीं है, कोई क्वालिफिकेशन नहीं है, कोई कम्पीटीशन नहीं है। एक ही परिवार के 5-5 लोग जज हो जाते हैं, पॉलिटिशियन को गाली दी जाती है कि पॉलिटिशियन के यहां यह चलता है, वह चलता है। यदि न्यायपालिका में भी कम्पीटीशन हो जाए, जैसे इंडियन एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव सर्विस है, इंडियन फॉरेन सर्विस है उस मुताबिक हो जाए तो दोनों चीज हो जाएंगी, एक तो कम्पटीशन हो जाएगा, उससे मेरिटोरियस लोग आएंगे और दूसरा, जो समाज के हर वर्ग के लोग हैं, शैड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट हैं, शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स हैं, बैकवर्ड क्लासेज के लोग हैं उनको भी उसमें रिप्रजेंटेशन मिल जाएगा। हमारी मांग है कि न्यायपालिका में आरक्षण होना चाहिए।

जो पब्लिक सेक्टर है All the public sector units are being converted to private sector. पहले मारुति पब्लिक सैक्टर में था, आज चला गया प्राइवेट सैक्टर में। तो पब्लिक सैक्टर में तो रिजर्वेशन है लेकिन प्राइवेट सैक्टर में रिजर्वेशन नहीं है। अब उसके कारण से क्या हो रहा है कि प्राइवेट सैक्टर में जॉब की जो आपच्युनिटी है उससे शैड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट, शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स और बैकवर्ड क्लासेज के लोग वंचित हो रहे हैं। पहले कॉमन मिनिमम प्रोग्राम था, उस समय प्राइवेट सैक्टर में रिजर्वेशन की बात कही गई थी। लेकिन अब कोई कॉमन मिनिमम प्रोग्राम

नहीं है, सी.एम.पी. नहीं है हम मांग करेंगे कि वह मामला बंद नहीं होना चाहिए जो निजी क्षेत्र में आरक्षण का मुद्दा है वह सरकार को आज या कल अवश्य देना पड़ेगा, क्योंकि आप निजी क्षेत्र के उद्योग को सब्सडाइज्ड रेट पर सब कुछ देते हैं। हमारा भारत वेलफेयर स्टेट है आज अमीर अमीर हो रहा है, गरीब गरीब हो रहा है। तो जब तक अमीरी का कैलाश टूटेगा नहीं, तब तक गरीबी का पाताल पटने वाला नहीं है। इसलिए जो वीकर सैक्शन के लोग हैं, उनका प्राइवेट सैक्टर में रिजर्वेशन होना चाहिए, न्यायपालिका में, जुडिशियरी में रिजर्वेशन होना चाहिए और पूरे देश में एक तरह का समानान्तर कानून बने कि एक स्टेट में जो शैड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट में है, शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स में है, पूरे देश में उसको शैड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट और शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स में माना जाए। सर, इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं आपको, चेयर को, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि आपने बोलने के लिए समय दिया।

सुश्री सुशीला तिरिया (उड़ीसा) : सर, मैं आपको सबसे पहले congratulate करना चाहती हूँ कि आपकी पहली Chairpersonship में मुझे बोलने का मौका मिला है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. ई.एम. सुदर्शन नाचचीयप्पन) : थैंक्यु।

सुश्री सुशीला तिरिया : सर, यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बिल है। श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर जी इसको लेकर आई हैं। हिमाचल प्रदेश बहुत छोटा राज्य है। जो आपस में असमानता है, जो विषमता है, उसको लोगों के सामने उन्होंने लाने की कोशिश की है, इसलिए मैं उनको भी धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगी। मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगी कि इस तरह के बहुत सारे लोग हैं, मेम्बर हैं, वे अगर आदिवासी, दलितों के लिए सोचना शुरू कर देंगे, तो मैं सोचती हूँ कि जो देश में डिप्राइव क्लास है, आदिवासी दलित हैं, उन लोगों की थोड़ी तरक्की होगी। इतने लम्बे समय के रिजर्वेशन के बाद भी, वे लोग आज विकास के लिए आवाज उठा रहे हैं, उनको किसी जगह पर नक्सलाइट के नाम से, किसी जगह किसी नाम से, माओवादी के नाम से बोला जा रहा है, इससे उन्हें मेन स्ट्रीम में ला पायेंगे, इसलिए भी मैं उनको धन्यवाद देना चाहती हूँ।

सर, विप्लव जी बरखान और लुहार के लिए बिल लाई हैं। मैं उनसे बात कर रही थी, मैं पहले हिमाचल प्रदेश गई थी, मुझे भी थोड़ी-बहुत जानकारी है, एक ही स्टेट्स के लोग होने के बावजूद भी एक भाई को शैड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट का सर्टिफिकेट मिलता है और दूसरे भाई को शैड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट का सर्टिफिकेट नहीं मिलता है। जो स्टूडेंट्स होते हैं, जब वे स्कूल में जाते हैं, स्कूल के कैरियर में ही उनकी आपस में वैमनस्य बच्चे-बच्चे में, भाई-भाई में, रिलेशन-रिलेशन में स्टार्ट हो जाती है, इसी को हम लोगों को पहले दूर करना चाहिए। यह मेरा आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से अनुरोध है। मैं मंत्री जी को यह भी निवेदन करना चाहूंगी कि हिमाचल में छोटा राज्य होने के नाते एकाध शैड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट और शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब रह गये होंगे। भारत में ऐसे राज्य हैं, जैसे नार्थ-ईस्ट में त्रिपुरा है, असम है, बंगाल है, उड़ीसा है, झारखंड है, बिहार है, जहां पर लोगों के दिलों में आज भी कुछ तकलीफ है। सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह कहना चाहूंगी कि उड़ीसा में एक कॉस्ट KESURI and KESURIA है। सर, KESURI and KESURIA में जो

स्पेलिंग मिस्टेक है, इसकी वजह से एक भाई शैड्यूल्ड काॅस्ट में है और दूसरा भाई शैड्यूल्ड काॅस्ट में नहीं है। जिस वक्त इनका सर्वे हो रहा था, जिस वक्त इनको इन्क्लूड किया जा रहा था, उस वक्त आजादी के बाद कुछ जाति एस.सी. इन्क्लूड हुई और कुछ जाति एस.टी. में इन्क्लूड हुई। मैं पासवान जी की बात का समर्थन करती हूँ। जैसे गुजरात में जो कास्ट एस.सी. में है, वह उड़ीसा में एस.टी. है। मेरा कहना है कि आपस में जातिवाद का जो भोग है, उसी में कोई इधर है, कोई उधर है, फिर भी, हम रिजर्व क्लास में हैं, इसका हम अपने आप में गर्व महसूस करते हैं, चाहे एस.टी. में हों, चाहे एस.टी. में हों।

सर, हमको दूसरी तकलीफ यह महसूस होती है कि KESURI and KESURIA को मेरे जिले मयूरभंज में रिप्रजेंटेशन दिया था, स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से केवल स्पेलिंग मिस्टेक है, उनका शादी-ब्याह का रिश्ता है, ट्रेडिशनली वे एक हैं, वे बाई-कास्ट सब एक ही हैं, बच्चे एक हैं, परिवार एक है, लेकिन स्पेलिंग मिस्टेक है। जिस वक्त सर्वे हुआ था, उस वक्त की स्पेलिंग मिस्टेक की वजह से मयूरभंज में KESURIA एस.सी. की लिस्ट में नहीं हैं और बालेश्वर, जलेश्वर में ये लोग एस.सी. की लिस्ट में हैं। मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से यह अनुरोध करना चाहूंगी कि यह जो डिफरेंस हैं, उसको ठीक किया जाए। एक राज्य में, एक जिले में, एक कास्ट, एक जाति शैड्यूल्ड काॅस्ट में आती है और दूसरी जगह पर, वह जाति शैड्यूल्ड काॅस्ट में नहीं आती है।

सर, बहुत पहले एक Keota जाति थी। जब मैं लोक सभा में थी, तो मैंने Keota जाति के बारे में मामला उठाया था। उड़ीसा में Dhoba और Pano जातियां हैं। उस समय Keota जाति शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट में इन्क्लूड हो गई थी। उससे पहले वह न शैड्यूल्ड काॅस्ट में थी, न एस.टी. में थी और न ओ.बी.सी. में थी। जो जाति इनमें नहीं आती है, वह आटोमैटिकली जनरल में आ जाती है। जिनको कोस्टल बेल्ट में मछुआरा कहते हैं, हमारे पहाड़ी क्षेत्र में उनको Keota बोला जाता है। जो कोस्टल क्षेत्र में रहते हैं, उन्हें मछुआरा कहते हैं, क्योंकि वे मछली पकड़ने जाते हैं और जो जंगलों में रहते हैं, जो जंगल के आस-पास रहते हैं, जो रूरल में रहते हैं, उनको Keota बोला जाता था। Keota एस.सी. में इन्क्लूड नहीं होते थे, लेकिन मछुआरा एस.सी. में इन्क्लूड थे। जब इस तरह से सर्वे होने के बाद, स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के जरिए से यह रिकमंडेशन होकर भारत सरकार के पास आई, तो रि-सर्वे होने के बाद वे लोग Keota में इन्क्लूड हुए हैं। मैं इस सब्जेक्ट पर ज्यादा न बोलकर मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगी कि आजादी के इतने साल बाद भी, बहुत सारे राज्य हैं, जहां पर लोग आपकी तरफ मदद के लिए देख रहे हैं। आपने

हमेशा आदिवासी, दलितों के लिए काम किया है। आपने इस देश के नवयुवकों के लिए भी बहुत काम किया है। आपकी हमेशा यह आदत रही है कि जो नेगलेक्ट होते हैं, जो डिप्राइव होते हैं, उनके लिए कुछ सोच-समझकर, उनके बीच में रहकर कुछ काम करना, यह आपके जीवन का एक हिस्सा रहा है।

इस देश के युवाओं के लिए भी काम किया है। आपकी हमेशा यह आदत रही है कि जो neglected and deprived लोग होते हैं, उनके अंदर जाकर, उनको समझकर, उनके लिए काम करना, यह आपके जीवन का एक हिस्सा रहा है।

महोदय, आपके माध्यम से मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगी कि पूरे देश में SC, ST व दलितों में समानता लाने के लिए, आप समय निकालकर गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से Re-survey करें। दलितों के बीच में आज जो छोटी-मोटी विषमताएं हैं, आपस में परिवारों के बीच में जो difference पैदा हो रहे हैं, बच्चों में जो difference पैदा हो रहे हैं, उनको ठीक करने के लिए, सबको एकता में पिरोने के लिए, आप Re-survey करवाइए।

आपको उड़ीसा सरकार ने KESURI और KESURIA को शैड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट लिस्ट में इंकलूड करने के लिए Letter No.31786 dt. 18.11.1978 द्वारा रेकमेंडेशन दी है, जो उन लोगों का ethnic status है, उसका सर्वे हो चुका है और गवर्नमेंट ऑफ उड़ीसा उसको रेकमेंड कर चुकी है। उनको इंकलूड करने के लिए, ethnic status, एक ही समानता, सब एक ही तरफ आ रहा है, इसलिए मैं नहीं समझती कि इसको कंसिडर करने में आपको कोई दिक्कत होगी। मैं आप से तथा गवर्नमेंट ऑफ इंडिया से यही निवेदन करना चाहती हूं।

मैं अंत में यह कहना चाहूंगी कि हम भारत के चाहे किसी भी राज्य में, किसी भी जिले में रहते हों, चाहे दलित हों या आदिवासी हों, सभी केवल हिन्दू ही नहीं हैं, हम दलित आदिवासी क्रिश्चियन भी हैं, मुसलमान भी हैं, जैन भी हैं और सिख भी हैं। हमारे आदिवासी दलित बौद्धिस्ट, क्रिश्चियन्स और मुस्लिमों में भी हैं। इसलिए मैं यह कहना चाहूंगी कि इनको केवल एक झंडे के नीचे, हिन्दुइज्म की तरह, सिखिइज्म की तरह, सबको एक ही किस्म का नहीं समझना चाहिए। जब ये लोग सब रिलिजन्स में विश्वास करते हैं, मानते हैं, तो मैं समझती हूं कि इन लोगों से महान इंसान कोई नहीं है, इसलिए इन सबको इकट्ठा करके कुछ बेनिफिट देने की कोशिश करनी चाहिए।

SHRI A.A. JINNAH (Tamil Nadu) Sir, there is a grammer in which a literature has been created by our beloved leader of Tamil Nadu, the Chief Minister, Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi. About the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, our great leader Shri Paswan spoke some time before me. I am a small man from the DMK. I would like to convey my thoughts here. Even in 1974 itself, our leader Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi was the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. He requested Babu Jagjivan

Ram to come to Tamil Nadu to start a free housing scheme, to give houses made of concrete, to the people from the Scheduled Castes. There is a ratio of 18+1; 18 in the Scheduled Castes and 1 in the Scheduled Tribes. They have to be felicitated and facilitated with all benefits coming out of the Government. That is what our leader thought and he started separate schools for the Harijan children and the children got gold medals and other awards.

In this 19 per cent, 3 per cent share is given to one caste Arundhatiyar, who used to clean latrines, lavatories and other things. They had been removed from the society, so to say. They were not at all enjoying any benefit. At that time, our leader, Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi, came to understand their difficulties and he gave 3 per cent within this 19 per cent. Whatever the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes enjoyed, out of that 3 per cent was given to the caste Arundhatiyar.

And, now they are also getting all the benefits of different schemes, like housing, employment, etc., of the Tamil Nadu Government. In colleges and in jobs, all opportunities are being given to the children coming from the Scheduled Caste families. Even in medical and engineering colleges, our Government under the leadership of our beloved leader, Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi is giving all sorts of benefits to them. Even though they are scoring low marks, but they are getting admissions in these institutions. But, nowadays, these children are also scoring high marks and getting gold medals in education. So, this Bill is really going to help the Scheduled Caste. Therefore, on behalf of the DMK Party, I wholeheartedly support this Bill. Sir, I thank you very much for having given me the opportunity to speak on this Bill.

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद (बिहार) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपका बहुत कृतज्ञ हूँ कि आपने मुझे अवसर दिया है। मैं बोलने के लिए चिंतित नहीं था, लेकिन माननीय सदस्या विप्लव ठाकुर जी यह जो विधेयक लाई हैं, मैं इसकी भावना को समझता हूँ। उन्होंने बताया है कि ये जो दोनों कॉस्ट हैं, लोहार और तरखान, ये दोनों सामाजिक रूप से एक प्रकार की हैं। ऐसा कई जगह होता है। हमारे बिहार में एक जाति है चौपाल, वह कहीं-कहीं खत में लिखी जाती है। इस तरह की बहुत लंबी चर्चा चली है

कि दोनों को एक साथ होना चाहिए। आज माननीय मंत्री जी यहां उपस्थित हैं, तो मैं विप्लव ठाकुर जी के इस विधेयक के माध्यम से कुछ बड़े बुनियादी सवाल उठाना चाहता हूं, अच्छा होगा कि आप उस पर अपने तरीके से प्रकाश डालने की कोशिश करें। हमारे देश को आजाद हुए साठ साल

हो गए हैं। कई जगह ऐसी चिंता आती है कि एक जाति समूह या सामुदायिक समूह, जो मूल रूप से अनुसूचित जाति है, उसको किसी ऐतिहासिक कारण से लाभ नहीं मिल पाया। मेरे ख्याल में विप्लव ठाकुर जी का जो विधेयक है, वह आज इसी चिंता के कारण आया है। यह समुदाय छूट गया था। उनके इस प्रयास को मेरा समर्थन है। आपके विभाग में इस प्रकार की क्या मशीनरी है कि अगर इस तरह की जो चीजें आती हैं, उनके लिए क्या निदान होना चाहिए? मेरे ख्याल में इस देश में अनुसूचित जाति के लोगों के साथ बहुत अन्याय हुआ है। कई बार लोग परंपराओं का जिक्र करते हैं। हमने संविधान में उनको हटाया है, उनके साथ होने वाली छुआछूत को हटाया है, लेकिन यह सवाल जरूर उठाना चाहिए कि क्या जिसको लोग पीड़ा कहते हैं, हम जमीन पर उस अभिशाप को मिटा पाए हैं? अभी जो एक हिंदू समाज की, गैर हिंदू समाज की चर्चा हुई, उस संदर्भ में मैं भारत के संविधान के छात्र के रूप में एक बात बताना चाहूंगा कि जब भारत का संविधान बन रहा था तो संविधान की धारा 340, 341, 342 जिनसे आप सभी परिचित होंगे, के बाद शेड्यूलड कॉस्ट ऑर्डर बना और काफी लंबी बहस हुई। भारत के संविधान में चर्चा के बाद यह सर्वानुमति बनी कि अनुसूचित भाइयों के साथ हजारों वर्षों से जो अन्याय हुआ है, वह हिंदू समाज के अंदर हुआ है, इसीलिए शेड्यूलड कॉस्ट ऑर्डर 1960 आया। यह ऑर्डर 26 जनवरी, 1950 में जो संविधान बना उसके तहत आया। जब माननीय सदस्या ने एक बात कही तो मुझे लगा कि मैं संविधान के इस दृष्टिकोण को सामने रखूं। वहां पर चर्चा करके यह बात आई कि यह जो अभिशाप है, यह गलत कारणों से, लेकिन ऐतिहासिक कारणों से हिंदू समाज के अंदर आया है। आज जब भारत आजाद हुआ है, तो हमें आजाद भारत में अनुसूचित भाइयों के साथ, हिंदू समाज के अंदर जो ऐतिहासिक अन्याय हुआ है, उसका परिमार्जन हिंदू समाज के अंतर्गत करना पड़ेगा। यह बात एक बहुत सही सोच थी। यह अंबेडकर की सोच थी, यह गांधी जी की भी सोच थी। मुझे इस बात की बहुत पीड़ा होती है कि मुझे हिंदू होने पर गर्व है। आज जब मैं रायदास को पढ़ता हूं, जो कि बहुत बड़े संत थे...।

उन पर हमको बहुत गर्व है। लेकिन कभी-कभी जब लोग उनके साथ अन्याय की बात करते हैं, तो मुझे बहुत पीड़ा होती है। क्योंकि अगर मैं पिछले 6-7 सौ साल में हिंदू समाज के कुछ ऋषियों की चर्चा करूं, जिनको ईश्वर का साक्षात्कार था, तो रैदास उनमें नम्बर एक-दो रहेंगे। उनमें रामकृष्ण परमहंस रहेंगे, कबीर रहेंगे। जिस रैदास की ईश्वर में श्रद्धा थी, उनके साथ उस समय के लोगों ने दोहरा व्यवहार किया, क्योंकि वे अनुसूचित जाति से आते थे। हमारे संविधान के बनाने वाले इन चिन्ताओं को समझते थे। माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आप बहुत अनुभवी सांसद हैं। इसलिए जो शेड्यूलड कॉस्ट ऑर्डर, 1950 बना, जिसके अंतर्गत सभी जातियों का inclusion होता है और चूंकि उस जाति का नहीं हुआ, इसलिए विप्लव ठाकुर जी यह विधेयक लाई हैं। उसमें साफ लिखा हुआ है, "Those, who are Hindus." बाद में इसमें बौद्धों को जोड़ा गया, इसके बाद इसमें सिखों को जोड़ा गया। क्योंकि भारत के संविधान की धारा 25 के अंतर्गत जो हिन्दू शब्द की व्याख्या है, हिन्दू मंदिर में किसी भी अनुसूचित जाति को प्रवेश करने से रोका नहीं जाएगा। हिन्दू का मतलब क्या? संविधान के निर्माताओं ने इसको स्पष्ट किया कि हिन्दू का मतलब सिख भी है और बौद्ध भी हैं।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, सदन में चर्चा अच्छी हो रही है, तो मैं आपसे एक और रोचक बात share करना चाहता हूँ। 1986 का एक सुप्रीम कोर्ट का केस है - Soosai Vs State of Tamil Nadu. उसमें जो applicant था, उसको आरक्षित कारणों से सरकारी नौकरी नहीं मिली, तो उन्होंने केस कर दिया, क्योंकि वे हिन्दू के रूप में पैदा हुए थे और बाद में क्रिश्चियन हो गए थे। मद्रास हाई कोर्ट ने उनके उस आवेदन को यह कह कर reject कर दिया कि चूंकि अब आप हिन्दू नहीं हैं, अतः आप अनुसूचित जाति से नहीं आते। मामला सुप्रीम कोर्ट में आया। माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, वह फैसला बहुत ही रोचक है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा है कि भारत के संविधान निर्माताओं ने 1950 में अनुसूचित जाति के नाम पर जो आरक्षण दिया, वह एक मुआवजा था, जो हजारों वर्षों के ऐतिहासिक शोषण के कारण हिन्दू समाज में उनको दिया गया। जब तक आप यह नहीं स्थापित करते कि अपने धर्म को परिवर्तन करने के बाद आप भी उसी शोषण के शिकार हैं, तब तक यह आपको नहीं मिलेगा।

अभी निजाम साहब तमिलनाडु की बात कर रहे थे। मैं तमिलनाडु की बात सुनता हूँ, तो मेरे अन्दर पीड़ा होती है। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, ज्यादा नहीं, आज से 80-90 साल पहले वहां पर अनुसूचित भाइयों को घंटी बजा कर चलना पड़ता था, ताकि जो उच्च वर्ग के लोग हैं, वे उनकी छाया से बच सकें। जब मैं मानवाधिकार आयोग में काम करता था, तो मैंने बिहार में बहुत काम किया है। मैंने गांवों में देखा है। आज मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ, मुझे इस बात की बहुत पीड़ा है कि बिहार के एक गांव में अगड़ी जाति के लोगों ने गोली चलाई, जिसमें तीन दलित मारे गए। मैं इसकी जांच करने गया था। आज मैं सदन के सामने इस बात को रखना चाहता हूँ कि अभी भी हमारे अन्दर किस प्रकार के विद्वेष का भाव है, जिसको उत्तर हमें संसद के अन्दर देना पड़ेगा। हमने कहा कि लड़ाई किस बात पर हुई थी, तो उन्होंने कहा कि लड़ाई इस बात पर हुई थी कि विजयदशमी के दिन उस गांव के अनुसूचित जाति के लोग बड़े वर्गों के यहां ढोल पीटने का काम करते थे। रामविलास जी हमारे बिहार के हैं, वे जानते होंगे कि वहां दुर्गा पूजा बहुत बड़ी होती है। आनन्द शर्मा जी, आप भी काफी सोचते-समझते हैं, मैं आज आपको food for thought दे रहा हूँ। अनुसूचित जाति के लोग काफी पढ़-लिख गए हैं। विजयदशमी के दिन दुर्गा पूजा की मूर्ति गंगा में भसाई जाती है, तो उसके आगे ढोल बजता है। उसने कहा कि आप हमसे नौवीं को ढोल बजवा दीजिए, क्योंकि विजयदशमी को हमें कई जगह दुर्गा पूजा की प्रतिमा के आगे ढोल बजाना है। इस पर बहस चल गई। बड़े जमींदारों ने कहा कि तुम्हारे पिताजी ने विजयदशमी के दिन बजाया, तुम्हारे दादाजी ने विजयदशमी के दिन बजाया, तो तुम क्यों नहीं बजाओगे? बहस चली, गोली चली, मारे गए। बाद में वे लड़े, उन लोगों को सजा हुई। यह शोषण का भाव 80 के दशक में है। आज मैं घूमता हूँ, कभी-कभी मैं रामविलास जी की पीड़ा देखता हूँ, मैं उनका बहुत सम्मान करता हूँ, तो मुझे पीड़ा में वह दर्द दिखाई पड़ता है। अनुसूचित भाइयों के साथ जो शोषण हुआ है, वह ऐतिहासिक दर्द है।

हम यहां पर जो संसद में बैठे हैं, उनको इस दर्द को समझना पड़ेगा। आपको इस बात पर भी विचार करना पड़ेगा कि भारत के संविधान के निर्माताओं ने जब भारत का संविधान बनाया, उस समय उन्होंने आपको किस प्रकार से देखा। ये बड़े सवाल हैं, जिन पर कभी खुल कर चर्चा करेंगे। आज जब मैं श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर जी की टिप्पणियां सुन रहा था, तो मुझे लगा कि मेरे मन के अन्दर के जो भाव हैं, उन्हें मैं भी शेयर करूं।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आज इस विधेयक का समर्थन करते हुए मुझे सिर्फ तीन बातें कहनी हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी, अगर आपको उचित लगे तो इन्हें आप नोट कर लें। विधेयक पर आपका जो उत्तर होगा, उसे मैं जानता हूं, लेकिन अगर कहीं आप इसके दूरगामी परिणाम के बारे में कुछ सोच बना सकें, तो हमें बहुत अच्छा लगेगा।

मेरी पहली बात यह है, देश भर में ऐसी जातियां हैं, जो सही रूप से अनुसूचित जातियां हैं, जो किन्हीं ऐतिहासिक, सामाजिक या राजनीतिक कारणों से छूट गई, क्या उनके बारे में आप कोई मानक तैयार करने वाले हैं, ताकि उनका इन्क्लूजन सही प्रकार से हो, ऑब्जेक्टिव तरीके से हो? मैं यह कभी नहीं चाहता कि जिनको अनुसूचित जाति का लाभ नहीं मिलना चाहिए, वे इसका लाभ ले लें, क्योंकि कई जगह ऐसा भी हुआ है। जिनको लाभ मिलना चाहिए और जो इससे वंचित रह गए हैं, उनका deprivation समाप्त होना चाहिए। इसके बारे में आपकी सरकार क्या सोचती है? क्या इसका कोई मैकेनिज्म है?

दूसरा, हमारी माननीय सदस्या ने भी यह बात उठाई, मैं भी बिल्कुल इसी पक्ष में हूं कि कॉस्ट सर्टिफिकेट ईमानदारी से मिलना चाहिए, उसमें ट्रांसपेरेंसी होनी चाहिए, ताकि गलत लोग उसका लाभ न उठा लें। लेकिन लोगों को कॉस्ट सर्टिफिकेट लेने में बहुत कठिनाई होती है, फिर चाहे मेरा प्रदेश बिहार हो, उत्तर प्रदेश हो, मध्य प्रदेश हो या आन्ध्र प्रदेश हो। यह केवल राज्यों का विषय नहीं है, यह राष्ट्रीय विषय है। इसके बारे में क्या हम कोई ट्रांसपेरेंट ऑब्जेक्टिव पॉलिसी बना सकते हैं? मैंने कई बार अपने पेशे के अनुभव से भी देखा है कि लोगों ने कॉस्ट सर्टिफिकेट के लिए चार-चार साल गंवाए हैं।

महोदय, अभी श्रीमती ठाकुर जी ने लोहार शब्द का प्रयोग किया, उससे मुझे एक बहुत रोचक अनुभव याद आ रहा है। हमारे बिहार में एक लोहार जाति है, जो अति पिछड़ा में आती है, वे लोहे का काम करते हैं। आनन्द शर्मा जी, लेकिन एक लोहरा जाति होती है, जो शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब में आती है। रामविलास जी को याद होगा, वे भूमिया, किशनगंज के क्षेत्र में होते हैं।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैंने एक केस किया था, बहुत रोचक केस था कि एक लड़के के पिता जी के सामने लोहार दिखाया गया था, लेकिन वह था लोहरा। मुझे याद है कि मुझे पटना हाईकोर्ट में तीन साल केस लड़ना पड़ा, क्योंकि आपका मैकेनिज्म इतना टाइट है कि लोहरा के एक 'अकार' के लिए मुझे तीन साल केस लड़ना पड़ा। अंत में मैंने कोर्ट में बहुत इन्सिस्ट किया और रांची की जो एक इंडिपेंडेंट ट्राइबल वेल्फेयर बॉडी है,

उसने इक्वायरी की और कहा कि यह बिल्कुल ट्राइबल है, इनके एन्सेस्टर्स यहां-यहां से आए हैं। वह एक शिक्षक की नियुक्ति का मामला था, तो लोहार और लोहरा के एक 'अकार' के लिए उसे तीन साल लड़ना पड़ा, इसीलिए मैंने कहा था कि कास्ट सर्टिफिकेट के बारे में थोड़ा ईमानदारी से कोशिश होनी चाहिए।

महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं हृदय से कृतज्ञ हूं और श्रीमती ठाकुर जी का अभिनन्दन करता हूं। मैं आपको श्रद्धामना ठाकुर जी कह कर आदर दे रहा हूं। आज मुझे बहुत खुशी होती है, जब मैं देखता हूं कि अनुसूचित जाति की महिलाएं पढ़-लिख कर पायलेट बनने की कोशिश कर रही हैं, एयर होस्टेस बनने की कोशिश कर रही हैं। सफलता उनमें से कितनों को मिलती है, वह मुझे नहीं मालूम, लेकिन विकास की जो नई भूख जगी है, उस भूख को हमें आगे बढ़ाना है। उस भूख को आगे बढ़ाने में ऐतिहासिक परम्पराओं का ध्यान भी रखना है, आधुनिक चिन्ताओं का समाधान भी निकालना है और आशाओं के भविष्य की चिन्ता भी करनी है। अगर इस प्रकार का बड़ा लक्ष्य हमारे सामने रहेगा, तो शायद आपके द्वारा जो बिल लाया गया है, वह जरूर सफल होगा। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री ईश्वर सिंह (हरियाणा) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैडम श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर जी यह बिल लेकर आई हैं कि लोहार और तरखान एक ही जाति के हैं, उनका एक ही पेशा है, एक ही समुदाय के लोग हैं और उसके अंतर्गत आकर यह बंटवारा नहीं होना चाहिए।

सर, मैं इससे भी आगे यह कहता हूं कि डॉ. भीमराव अम्बेडकर जी ने कहा था कि हमने राजनीतिक आजादी तो ले ली, परन्तु सामाजिक आजादी अभी अधूरी है और जब तक सामाजिक आजादी पूरी नहीं होती तब तक इस राजनीतिक आजादी के कोई मायने नहीं हैं। इसमें कोई दो राय नहीं कि आज हमारी राजनीतिक पार्टियां अपने मुफाद के लिए, अपने हितों के लिए और अपने लाभ के लिए अनुसूचित जातियों को बहुत ज्यादा preference देकर, बढ़ा-चढ़ा कर उनकी पब्लिसिटी करके यह तो बता देती हैं कि हम इनके हमदर्द हैं। वे यह भी जताते हैं कि हम इनके well wisher हैं। मैं इससे आगे यह कहना चाहता हूं कि इसका जो प्रैक्टिकल रूप आता है, तो आज भी समाज के अंदर वही वितकरा है, वही अन्तर है। इनमें मेल-मिलाप भी है, उठ-बैठ भी है और हर आदमी यह भी दर्शाता है कि नहीं, सब इंसान एक समान हैं, परन्तु मानसिकता नहीं बदली। जब तक मानसिकता नहीं बदलती, तो इन चीजों के कोई मायने ही नहीं हैं।

माननीय महोदय, आपको एक बहुत आश्चर्य की बात बताता हूं। मैं अपने जीवन की आपबीती बताता हूं। मुझे आज वह बात इसलिए बतानी पड़ रही है क्योंकि उसका अन्तर आज भी वहीं खड़ा है जहां पर वह पहले था। मैं जब छोटा था, जब मैं चौथी क्लास में पढ़ता था, उस समय की एक बात मुझे याद है। किसी बड़ी बिरादरी का एक किसान था, उसके बरतन से मेरा हाथ लग गया। उस पर यह बवेला खड़ा हो गया कि यह बरतन खराब हो गया, भेंट दिया। उसने उसको आग में तपाया, तब उसको साफ किया, उसके बाद उसको शुद्ध करके उससे पानी पिया।

हमने वह जमाना भी देखा है और एक जमाना यह भी है, लेकिन आज भी यह मानसिकता उसी आधार पर है जहां पर पहले थी। बात यह है कि सिर्फ लेबल बदलने से कोई फायदा ही नहीं। अगर किसी बोटल के अन्दर वही पानी है या वही शराब है तो सिर्फ उसका लेबल बदलना कोई मायने नहीं रखता।

मैं एक बात कहता हूं कि हर राजनीतिक पार्टी, चाहे वह कोई समुदाय हो, कोई राजनीतिक पार्टी हो या कोई संस्था हो, हरेक को यह सोचकर चलना चाहिए कि वह किसी के वश का काम नहीं कि कौन कहां पैदा होता है। यह काम किसी के वश का नहीं है। आज मैं किस बिरादरी में हूं? यह तो इंसान ने बनाई है, यह हमारे द्वारा बनाई हुई एक प्रक्रिया है। कुदरत ने तो सब इंसानों को एक समान बनाकर भेजा है। हम एक जैसे इंसान हैं। इंसान का सिर्फ एक ही धर्म है कि वह मानवता की पूजा करे। परन्तु यहां पर बनावटी चीजें बनाकर आपस में बहुत मतभेद पैदा कर दिया गया, लोगों में बहुत घृणा पैदा कर दी गई। कहीं रंग का, कहीं जाति का, कहीं धर्म का और कहीं पर क्षेत्र का अंतर पैदा हो गया। जब तक ये अन्तर नहीं मिटेंगे, तब तक बात नहीं बन सकती। यह अन्तर कैसे मिटेगा? सिर्फ कहने से यह नहीं मिटेगा। हमें उसकी शुरुआत पहली क्लास से नहीं, बल्कि जब बच्चे को घुड़ी दी जाती है तभी यह करनी होगी, क्योंकि कभी उसके अन्दर जाति की घुड़ी दी जाती है कि वह क्षत्रिय है, वैश्य है, ब्राह्मण है, ऊंची जाति का है या महाजन है। जब तक यह परम्परा खत्म नहीं होती, तब तक यह बात बन ही नहीं सकती। पहली क्लास में ही सिर्फ यह बात सिखाई जाए कि एक वर्दी हो, एक खाना हो और एक स्टेज हो। अब तो यह अन्तर बढ़ता ही जा रहा है। अब तो राजनीतिक पार्टियां भी उसी आदमी को टिकट देती हैं जिसकी बिरादरी ज्यादा बड़ी हो, यह कहकर कि इसकी बिरादरी के यहां ज्यादा लोग हैं, इसलिए इसको टिकट दो ताकि यहां पर हमें जीत हासिल हो सके। तो हमारी मानसिकता बदली कहां से? गरीब का एक बच्चा जब ऊंचे स्कूल में पहुंच कर यह देखता है कि कोई बस में बैठकर जा रहा है या कोई टाई बांध कर जा रहा है, तो वह सोचता है कि शायद मेरा कोई कुसूर होगा, इस बात का कोई अर्थ होगा या इसका कोई मतलब होगा कि जिस जगह पैदा हुआ हूं, उसमें मेरा यह हक नहीं है। किसी गांव के प्राइमरी क्लास का एक बच्चा, जो बेचारा अनुसूचित जाति का है, यह सब देखकर वहीं खूब तड़पता है और सोचता है कि यह मेरा हक नहीं है, मुझे तो इसीलिए पैदा किया गया है।

सर, यह सदन हिन्दुस्तान का सबसे ऊंचा सदन है। मैं आपको एक आश्चर्य की बात बताता हूं। आज भी आप किसी बड़े नगर में जाकर देख लें, रामविलास पासवान जी ने भी ठीक कहा, मैं उनसे आगे जाकर कहता हूं कि हर गांव में या जितने बड़े नगर बसे हुए हैं, उन सब में रहने वाले जितने भी दलित वर्ग के लोगों के घर हैं, वे दक्षिण दिशा में ही बने हुए मिलेंगे। उसका कारण यह है कि उसके अंदर धूप, छाया और हवा का प्रवेश न हो, तब इतनी नफरत थी, इसलिए हर जगह गांव के अंदर दक्षिण दिशा में उनके घर हैं। आप भी गांव के रहने वाले हैं, अगर आप नजर उठाकर देखेंगे तो आपको यहां भी यही स्थिति मिलेगी।

तो हमारे बीच का यह अंतर कब मिटेगा? इसके लिए स्कूल या हमारी जो संस्थाएं हैं, वे काम करें, सरकार काम करे और एक ऐसा वातावरण पैदा करे कि इंसान, इंसान और इंसानियत को समझे। यह चीज़ हमारे संविधान के अंदर भी अपनायी गई है। आज गांवों के अंदर कौन है? गांवों के अंदर भूमिहीन लोग हैं। गांवों में पहले छः महीने के अंदर ही फसल आती थी और तब वह आदमी खेती-बाड़ी के काम में हिस्सा लेकर अपना गुजारा करता था, लेकिन आज उसकी जगह बड़ी मशीनों ने ले ली और वह आदमी नीचे जाते-जाते और भी नीचे चला गया। आज उसकी दशा इतनी खराब है कि वह अपनी हालत को खुद भी बयान नहीं कर सकता।

मैं आपके माध्यम से यह कहना चाहता हूं कि सबसे पहले हमें शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में पहल करनी चाहिए। हमें यह पहल करनी चाहिए कि सबका एकसमान बंटवारा हो। जैसे, गुरुगोविन्द सिंह जी ने कहा था, छोट-बड़ा कोई नहीं। एक थाली में बैठकर हर आदमी खाना खाये और रंग, जात एवं धर्म का कोई भेद न रहे, तब जाकर सही मायने में डेमोक्रेसी आयेगी और तभी उस स्वतंत्रता के मायने होंगे।

आप आज भी अखबारों में पढ़ते हैं कि किसी गांव में ऊंची जाति के लोगों ने किसी नीची जाति के आदमी का मर्डर कर दिया और उन्होंने इसलिए ऐसा किया कि उसने उनके हुक्म को नहीं माना। आज वहां जब बारात में घोड़ी और बाजे बजाते हुए आदमी जाते हैं, तो वहां अब भी ऐसी भावना है कि अगर आप लोगों ने यह जगह ले ली तो हम क्या करेंगे? जब तक यह बात दिमाग से नहीं निकलती और हमें सामाजिक आजादी नहीं मिलती, तब तक इस राजनीतिक आजादी के कोई मायने नहीं हैं। मैं तो यह कहता हूं कि हमें खुद भी त्याग करना पड़ेगा। जो मेरे से छोटी जाति के हैं, यदि मैं उनसे नफरत करूं तो अगर दूसरे भी नफरत करें तो इसमें उनका कोई दोष नहीं है। पहले हमें ही अपने गिरेबान में झांकना होगा कि जो मेरे से अपने आपको नीचा कहलवाता है, वह मेरा भाई है, वह मेरे बराबर का है। इस बात पर आकर ही समता और समानता का अधिकार मिलेगा, यह मैं आपसे कहता हूं। आपने मुझे समय दिया, इसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : सर, मैं दिनकर की इस कविता से अपनी बात शुरू करता हूं,

सच कहता हूं, अगर विधाता नर को

मुड़ी में भर कर कहीं फेंक देता भूमंडल पर,

तो विविध जातियों में ही मनुज यहां आ सकता है,

नीचे बनी हैं क्यारियां, तो बीज और कहां जा सकता है?

सर, मैं ईश्वर सिंह जी का सर्वधर्म समान और सर्वजाति समान भाषण सुन रहा था, लेकिन स्थिति यह नहीं है। आज से 50-60 साल पहले हम लोगों के यहां, हमारे परिवार में या किसी और ब्राह्मण के परिवार में या किसी और

छुआछूत को मानने वाले परिवार में जब कपड़ा धोबी से धुल कर आता था, तो उस धोबी से धुले हुए कपड़े को भी लोग धोकर पहनते थे कि धोबी से छुआछूत हो जाएगा। ... (व्यवधान) ... वे उसे पानी में भिगोकर दोबारा साफ करते थे। जैसा इन्होंने भी कहा कि जो अछूत लोग थे, उनको घंटी बजाकर चलना पड़ता था, ताकि उनका साया किसी पर न पड़ जाए। पहले यह परम्परा थी। जब तक धीरे-धीरे हमारी सोच नहीं बदलेगी, तब तक हम या आप इसमें कुछ भी नहीं कर सकते हैं।

सर, मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमने बिहार में देखा है कि वहाँ जो गरीब लोग थे, जो अनुसूचित जाति के लोग थे, जो मेहतर या उनसे भी नीची जाति के लोग थे, उनको जो सरकारी मकान दिया जाता था, वह सुअर के बखौल में दिया जाता था। वह गांव से बाहर एकदम अलग होता था। यह मैंने अपनी आंखों से देखा है। सर, इसको अतिशयोक्ति न माना जाए और न ही मैं किसी के बारे में कह रहा हूँ। लेकिन, जब 1990 में वहाँ श्री लालू प्रसाद की सरकार आई तो लालू प्रसाद जी ने राजेन्द्र नगर में, जज की कोठी और बड़े लोगों की जमीन के बगल में जो सरकारी जमीन थी, जिस पर बड़े लोग रहना चाहते थे, बड़े लोग उस जमीन को खरीदना चाहते थे, लेकिन लालू यादव ने उस जमीन पर तीन मंजिला, चार मंजिला मकान बनाए। जो सफाई कर्मचारी हैं, जो डोम हैं, मेहतर हैं, जो मैला ढोने का काम करते हैं, उनसे उन्होंने कहा कि तुम इनमें रहो, ये मकान किसी दूसरे को नहीं जाएंगे, यह जमीन किसी दूसरे को नहीं जाएगी। इस काम में उन्हें बहुत सारी दिक्कतों का सामना करना पड़ा। आप लोग जानते हैं कि वे दिक्कतें क्या थीं। उन्होंने बेली रोड़ में बढ़िया जमीन पर अनुसूचित जाति के लोगों के लिए, मेहतर के लिए, डोम के लिए मकान बनाए और उनसे कहा कि तुम लोग इनमें रहो। इतना ही नहीं, उन्होंने वहाँ पर स्कूल भी बनाया।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, देश को आजाद हुए आज इतने साल हो गए हैं, मुझे कभी-कभी शर्म आती है कि अभी भी हम किसी खास जाति के लोगों के लिए कहते हैं कि ये अलग हैं। मैं भी पिछड़ी जाति से आता हूँ। हम लोगों में से कोई भी कभी यूनिवर्सिटी में, सिंडिकेट और सीनेट में नहीं गया था, बिहार सरकार ने कानून बनाया कि वहाँ पिछड़ी जाति के लोगों की एक सीट होगी। इस तरह मैं 15 सालों तक वहाँ सीनेट का मेंबर हो गया, किसी ने आज तक मुझे नहीं रोका।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, सामान्य धर्म तो मुझे अच्छा लगता है, अच्छा लगता है यह कहना कि सभी मनुष्य एक हैं, लेकिन काश सभी मनुष्य एक होते। यदि सभी मनुष्य एक होते, तो रामविलास जी को इतनी पीड़ा नहीं होती, सब सामान्य होता, तो डा. राममनोहर लोहिया को इतनी पीड़ा नहीं होती, सब सामान्य होता, तो लालू प्रसाद यादव जी को इतनी पीड़ा नहीं होती। गरीबों की पीड़ा देखकर उन्होंने कहा कि इन मकानों में तुम रहो। उन्होंने वहाँ पर पंखे

लगवा दिए, बिजली लगवा दी कि तुम इन मकानों में रहो। आज क्या स्थिति है? इन्होंने तो कुछ नहीं बोला, लेकिन हम जानते हैं कि आज भी अगर किसी के बारे में मालूम हो जाए कि यह आदमी डोम है, यह आदमी दुसाध है, यह आदमी * है, तो उसको मंदिर में प्रवेश नहीं करने दिया जाता है, बड़े लोगों का पानी नहीं पीने दिया जाता है, उसको चापाकल से ही पानी नहीं लेने देते हैं। जब मैं गांवों में घूमता हूं, तो * के टोले में जाता हूं। वे लोग कहते हैं कि एक चापाकल दिलवा दीजिए, मैं कहता हूं कि एक चापाकल है तो है इधर। इस पर वे कहते हैं कि हम लोगों को वहां जाने नहीं देते हैं, वहां से पानी नहीं लेने देते हैं, इसलिए आप हमारे लिए एक चापाकल दिलवा दीजिए। हमारा चापाकल अलग है, उनका चापाकल अलग है। जिस देश में कुएं का पानी पीने के लिए यह झंझट होगा, तो हमें कोई नया कानून बनाना पड़ेगा। अगर हम नया कानून नहीं बनाएंगे तो यही हालत रहेगी।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं पेशे से वकील हूं। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं कि जहां तक Atrocities on * का सवाल है, आज तक एक भी बड़ा आदमी जेल नहीं गया है। वे सब anticipatory bail ले लेते हैं, हालांकि कानून में लिखा है कि anticipatory bail is not permissible, लेकिन वे कहते हैं कि * पर यह लागू ही नहीं होता है और इस कारण एक भी बड़ा आदमी जेल नहीं गया है। इसको आपको देखना पड़ेगा, समझना पड़ेगा। आपने कानून तो बना दिया, लेकिन वहां कौन बैठा है? वहां कानून की interpretation करने वाला दूसरा आदमी बैठा है। वहां रामविलास जी नहीं बैठे हैं, लालू यादव जी नहीं बैठे हैं। इसलिए हमने कहा कि आपको न्यायालय में भी आरक्षण देना पड़ेगा। हिंदुस्तान के न्यायालय में डोम का बेटा, चमार का बेटा कहां जाता है, कितना जाता है, एकाध अंधों में काना राजा होता है, इसलिए वह चला जाता है, लेकिन क्या उतने से काम चलेगा?

इसलिए मैं आपसे अनुरोध करता हूं कि इस पर जरूर विचार करना चाहिए विप्लव ठाकुर जी जो बिल लाई हैं, मैं उसका पुरजोर समर्थन करता हूं और कहता हूं कि दलितों और पिछड़ों का जो अंधकारमय जीवन है, उसमें खुशहाली लाने के लिए हमारा यह कर्तव्य है कि हम एक नया कानून लाएं। मैं अंतिम बात कह कर अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं, जो इस प्रकार है:

"समर शेष है, नहीं पाप का भागी केवल व्याध,

जो तटस्थ है, समय लिखेगा उसका भी अपराध।"

धन्यवाद।

DR. ASHOK S. GANGULY (Nominated): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I will be very brief. I had not intended to speak on this Bill but I am deeply touched and inspired. First of all, I would like to pay my humble compliments to Shrimati Viplove Thakur for bringing this subject to our attention and for introducing this Bill. I have lived a very long time in this country and one thing I am ashamed of is that

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

caste continues to dominate our thinking, our behaviour, our Aachar-vichar and the way we behave with our fellow beings. It is indeed a great shame. We talk about economic progress; we talk about scientific progress, we talk about ourselves as the world power and yet even today in our villages and hamlets caste is well and alive and certain castes continue to be humiliated, humbled and ignored. Laws are not going to change this country; only individual attitude will change this country. I was born in Patna. I remember, night soil used to be carried by people on head. The people who carried night soil had to come at night. They had to enter the toilets from the rear to carry it away. Nobody knew who was doing it because according to the Brahmanical culture as long as you don't see it, it's not a sin. When my grandparents used to live in Banaras, our neighbours were very friendly with my grandmother. When we were children we noticed that they would not visit our house other than exactly at 12 o'clock so that their shadow may not pollute the higher caste. I asked - I think I was three or four years old; I can't remember- why do they come only at 12 o'clock. Nobody could give me a reply for they were ashamed. This Bill is going to be passed and we are going to be very proud of it. But now when the enumerators for the Census visit our house, I don't know which caste I belong to, but we have to mention our caste. Instead of going forward, Mr. Vice-Chairman, we are going backward. We all can give the lectures in this hallowed hall; we can tell each other how ashamed we are, but as a nation we are not going to change unless there are penal provisions for the use of caste for either benefit or for treating the downtrodden badly. I was not going to get up and speak, but I am deeply touched. I think those who are not in the House are missing one of finest debates I have heard in this House since joining this august Rajya Sabha. All I want to say is that our greatness will never be acknowledged in our hearts until the caste system and oppression are abolished. Recently, in Khairlanji village of Maharashtra, a whole dalit family was wiped out. There was only one survival, Mr. Bhotmange. It was a clear-cut case of Murder and yet the High Court gave accused life imprisonment where they should have received death sentence.

I agree with our hon. Members that our legal system is blind and is not seeing what is happening. I think we, as the representatives of people, are also half-blind.

But, my resolution, my request to all my fellow Members is : continue the struggle; don't give up; keep on shouting; keep on protesting. I thank you for this impromptu permission that you have given to me.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA (Orissa): Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this most important issue on a system which has been practised for thousands of years in this

country in the name of casteism. So far I remember, in India, starting from Buddha, Chaitanya and many other saints, reformers, they all tried to fight against caste discrimination. But, the Hindu religion is so rigid and the caste system is so much synchronised with this religious practice that these great saints failed to remove it. Again and again, the caste system was strengthened. And, there are some Shastras like Manusmṛiti and other Puranas of this great land which helped to maintain and contain this inhuman practice in different forms throughout the country. Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar tried to fight this inhuman practice through his movements, through his deep analysis and intellectual works. He awakened the Indian society told the intellectuals and the thinkers that unless this practice was removed from this land, equality and democracy would remain as dreams. He was opposed to this caste system. In Poona Pact, you had seen how Gandhiji went on fasting and ultimately the Poona Pact was signed. The Pact was signed but the practice of untouchability, the caste discrimination remained as it was. In the Constitution, we tried to remove it. My learned friend was mentioning in this august House that we have been discussing such a serious problem. In the Constituent Assembly, this debate was very much there, and because of Gandhiji, because of Dr. Ambedkar, main architects of our Constitution, the provisions were included in the Constitutions to remove caste discrimination and untouchability. In Indian system, you will see in every village, at the end of every village, there is graveyard. And very nearer to this, you will find the settlement of untouchables. It is still there even after 63 years of our independence. In every village, in rural areas, untouchability is rampant. The dalits are not allowed to enter into the temples.

Wherever they tried, they were beaten up, they were tortured, and, they were segregated from the villages. In our political system, we feel proud of our heritage, of our great Indian freedom struggle, we claim ourselves to be the disciples of Mahatma Gandhi but, today, because of this vote bank system, we are not talking against the untouchability; we are not condemning the discrimination or the torture perpetrated on the

dalits.

Adivasis were very much with the Congress but they were used as vote banks. Nothing was done for them, and, some of the Adivasis joined Jharkhand movement. They thought this Jharkhand movement will lead them to liberation, give them prestige, give them economic rights and their land, but that could not happen. Now, where have they gone? They have gone to the naxals. They could

4.00 P.M.

not get justice from our Constitution. Our democratic system failed to give them justice, and, it also failed to redress their grievances and give them human dignity. We failed miserably. We need to introspect to know the reasons of ineffectiveness. We are the masters in speaking or delivering lectures. In our Indian system, we always talk about वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्! What is that "वसुधैव" what is that "कुटुम्बकम्" if some people remain untouchables.

I went to America. Many people go there to see their prosperity, but I preferred to go to meet the blacks and the red Indians to see how those people were living in Chicago, in New York. The Red Indians were massacred by the Europeans at some point of time in the history. We talk of racial discrimination being practised in America or Africa but in every village of India, we are practising this racial discrimination, caste discrimination. How will democracy prosper; how social equality will come. After adoption of the Constitution, Baba Saheb said, we have come to a point where we have adopted in our Constitution so many ambitious things, like, equality, democratic rights or human rights. But in practice, at the grassroot level, everywhere, there is discrimination. It was the responsibility of the political parties, the intellectuals, the social reformers to practice the Constitutional provisions in a democratic way to remove all these social evils but we could not do much.

Baba Saheb asked the dalits to become educated, become united and struggle for their rights. Gandhiji, during his time, also did the same things. Gandhiji employed his followers, who were the upper caste people, to remove untouchability without creating any social tension. The Brahmins, the Kshatriyas, the Thakurs, all those who claimed to belong to the higher castes, those who were the followers of Gandhiji, went to villages, cleaned the bastis, educated them, and, involved them in the freedom struggle. Gandhiji did it. Gandhiji also practised another thing and induced his followers. He declared that he would attend all marriages solemnized between the Hindu savarnas caste Hindu and dalits.

He used to attend these marriages to encourage the mixed marriage between the Suvarnas and the Dalits. But, after independence, everything was forgotten. In some of the States, there is a provision, there is a law that after the mixed marriage between a Savarna and a Dalit, the couple is

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

given an award of 50,000 rupees. It may be more in some other States. But, no political party, no leader is encouraging that practice. So, this is an old discrimination which has been continuing. We are talking of the poverty; we are talking of the poor people, who are poverty stricken people. These Dalits, these Adivasis are most backwards. We are not talking about them. We were talking about the Bhopal tragedy, but none of my friends here asked the Minister what was the percentage of the Dalits who died in one of the greatest human tragedy. That is why I say that the ruling class did not take interest for those victims as it was required. History will ask us this in future. We are now discussing this after 20-25 years. Our new generation will ask us what we did for them. I was asking some of my friends, those who are sitting on my left side, why don't you ask this? ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, this is the greatest shame for our country. So, unless we remove this stigma, this inhuman practice from our society, we cannot achieve democracy. Time will come when they will go on neglecting the Dalits and other backwards. If you fail to solve their problem through democratic method, they will also join the Adivasis. Sir, we should not be very greedy. Gandhiji said that nature has given enough to fulfil our necessity but nature could not fulfil our greed. We, the upper caste people, are so greedy that we don't understand or realise how they are living in such inhuman conditions. I must express my heart-felt thanks to Shrimati Viplove Thakur. Her name indicates the feelings of her heart. We cannot solve this problem by amending the Constitution. As per Ms. Sushila Tiriya's proposal, same categories of one single caste should be included as Adivasis or as Dalits. That should be done on a national scale. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission should move throughout the country and collect these names and put them in proper category. I support this. In Orissa, there are many such castes other than what she talked about. There is Kesara in Mayurbhanj. Another caste, Pana, is a caste included in the Scheduled Castes list. But Pana Baishnab is not included in that list. Same is the case of Bauri and Bauri Baishnab. There are so many such cases in Orissa.

Sir, my prayer, through you, to the Minister concerned is that it is

a very serious issue, we should not neglect it. If we neglect it, the country, the society will pay for it in future.

With these words, I conclude my speech. Thank you.

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान): सर, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। मैंने अभी आपसे रिक्वेस्ट की और आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया। मेरी साथी, सहयोगी सदस्या श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर जी द्वारा प्रस्तुत प्राइवेट बिल के समर्थन में, मैं बोलने के लिए खड़ी हुई हूँ। उन्होंने उसमें, विशेष रूप से हिमाचल प्रदेश की दो जातियाँ हैं, जो एक ही प्रकार की होते हुए भी, उनमें वहाँ भेदभाव करके भिन्नता की गई है। उन्होंने बताया है कि तरखान और लोहार, जो एक ही श्रेणी में, एक ही कैटेगरी में रखे जाने चाहिए, उनमें से लोहार समाज को एस.सी. में लिया गया है, जबकि तरखान समाज को छोड़ दिया गया है, जबकि वह अधिक बैकवर्ड है।

महोदय, ऐसी असमानताएँ और भी राज्यों में हैं। आवश्यकता है कि राज्य सरकारें इस मामले में, फिर से पूरे एहतियात के साथ सर्वे करायें और इस तरह से कहीं भी कोई जाति छूट गई हो, जो कि शोषित रहे हैं, जो कि वंचित रहे हैं, उन्हें एस.सी. और एस.टी. श्रेणी के अंतर्गत जो लाभ मिलते हैं, जो उनको शैक्षिक, सामाजिक, आर्थिक लाभ मिलते हैं, उनसे वे वंचित न रहें।

महोदय, डा. बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर, जो संविधान के रचियता हैं, वह स्वयं उसी समाज से जुड़े रहे, जिसे वंचित समाज कहते हैं, जो एस.सी. समाज से थे, लेकिन वह आज राष्ट्र के गौरव हैं। महोदय, प्रधानमंत्री पंडित नेहरू जी की सरकार थी, कांग्रेस की सरकार थी। उस कांग्रेस सरकार ने, नेहरू जी ने और उनके तमाम साथियों ने, चाहे वे पटेल रहे हों, चाहे मौलाना अबुल कलाम आजाद रहे हों, चाहे डा. लोहिया रहे हों, चाहे बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर रहे हों, सबने यह विचार किया कि यह आजादी तब तक अधूरी है जब तक कि समाज का जो वंचित, शोषित और दबा-कुचला वर्ग है, अगर वह आजाद भारत में भी गुलामी की स्थिति में रहता है, तो फिर उस आजादी के कोई मायने नहीं हैं और फिर भारत पूरी तरह से आजाद नहीं है। इस बात को महसूस करते हुए महात्मा गांधी इस बात पर जोर देते रहे कि जो लोग समाज की सेवा करते हैं, जो हर स्तर पर समाज की इतनी सेवा करते हैं कि जिनके बिना समाज का काम चल नहीं सकता, ऐसी सेवा करने वालों को अछूत क्यों कहा जाता है, इसका उन्हें बहुत दुख था। उन्होंने कहा कि ये तो * हैं, प्रभु के लोग ही ऐसी सेवा कर सकते हैं, जो सेवा ये कर रहे हैं। इसको महात्मा गांधी जी ने महसूस किया, नेहरू जी ने महसूस किया, यह कांग्रेस सरकार की देन है। आज कई लोग एस.सी., एस.टी., ओ.बी.सी. के नाम पर, पिछड़े और शोषितों के नाम पर आंसू बहा लेते हैं। अगर सचमुच में इनके लिए किसी ने काम किया है, तो वह कांग्रेस ने किया है। आर्थिक, सामाजिक, शैक्षिक, राजनैतिक, हर स्तर पर आरक्षण के द्वारा एस.सी. और एस.टी. समाज को मूल धारा से जोड़ने का, उनको ऊपर उठाने का, उनको बराबरी में लाने का, उनके लिए आरक्षण की व्यवस्था करने का काम कांग्रेस सरकार ने किया है, यह पंडित नेहरू जी की देन है। यह डा. बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर जी की देन है। वे एक बहुत ही विद्वान संविधान रचियता रहे हैं। आज पूरा देश उनको नमन करता है। महात्मा गांधी जी, अम्बेडकर जी जैसे लोग चाहे किसी भी समाज में जन्म लें... (व्यवधान)...

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि * शब्द पर बैन

है।... (व्यवधान) ... * शब्द का इस्तेमाल न किया जाए।... (व्यवधान) ...

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर: मैंने * शब्द बोला ही नहीं है।... (व्यवधान)...

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी: बोला गया है।... (व्यवधान)...

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर: नहीं बोला है। मैंने कहा है कि ... (व्यवधान) ... मेरी बात सुनिए।... (व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. ई.एम. सुदर्शन नाचचीयप्पन): बैठिए, बैठिए।... (व्यवधान)...

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर: सुनिए, मैंने * नहीं कहा है। आप बैठिए, मैं बोलती हूँ कि महात्मा गांधी जी ने उन्हें कहा कि ये तो * हैं।... (व्यवधान)...

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी: महात्मा गांधी जी के शब्द पर बैन लगाओ।... (व्यवधान) ... महात्मा गांधी जी के शब्द को असंवैधानिक घोषित किया जाए।... (व्यवधान)...

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर: आप बैठ जाइए, मैं क्या बोल सकती हूँ, यह चेयर डिसाइड करेगी।... (व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (Dr. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIPPAN): Your point is recorded. ... (Interruptions) ... Yes, Prabha Thakur is already recorded.

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर: इसके पीछे महात्मा गांधी जी की यह भावना थी कि इन पर ईश्वर की विशेष कृपा है।... (व्यवधान)...

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी: सर, यह शब्द Expunge होना चाहिए।... (व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (Dr. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIPPAN): Please don't interfere. ... (Interruptions)...

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर: उनकी यह भावना थी और आप तो सिर्फ बोलते हैं। उन्होंने इस समाज के लिए संघर्ष किया, लड़ाई लड़ी और उन लोगों को समाज की मूल धारा में लाने का काम किया। आप यह तो देखिए कि उन्होंने अपनी भावना के अनुरूप काम किया, खाली मगरमच्छ के आंसू नहीं बहाये, खाली झूठी बातें नहीं कीं। अम्बेडकर साहब ने जो भी प्रस्ताव रखे, उनको उन्होंने वाजिब माना, पंडित नेहरू ने वाजिब माना और कहा कि यह बिल्कुल जरूरी है और भारत आजाद हो गया है। इसमें वह राजशाही नहीं चलनी चाहिए, जो पहले चला करती थी। जो दबे कुचले लोग थे और समाज की सेवा करते थे, उन्हें कोई अधिकार नहीं था और उन्हें एक नीची नजर से देखा जाता था। उन लोगों को ऊपर उठाने के लिए, उनको समाज में बराबरी के स्तर पर लाने के लिए, उन्होंने इस तरह के आरक्षण की व्यवस्था की। हम सभी लोग इसका स्वागत करते हैं। मुझे इस पर इसलिए फख है, क्योंकि मैं भी कांग्रेस की एक सदस्य हूँ और उन्होंने इसकी शुरुआत की थी।

महोदय, आज बातें तो बहुत लोग करते हैं, लेकिन बातें करना और काम करना दो अलग-अलग बातें हैं। महात्मा गौतम बुद्ध ने 2500 वर्ष पहले एक आवाज उठाई थी। उनके पर मित्र का नाम चन्ना था और वे एक दलित समाज से संबंध रखते थे। गौतम बुद्ध का नाम पहले सिद्धार्थ था। सिद्धार्थ ने स्वयं युवराज होते हुए भी मानवता को

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

महसूस किया, इसलिए आज गौतम बुद्ध को लोग पूजते हैं, सारा हिन्दुस्तान पूजता है और लगभग आधी दुनिया पूजती है। उन्होंने महसूस किया था कि जो समाज के उपेक्षित और दबे लोग हैं, उन्हें आखिर इसी नजर से क्यों देखा जाता है, इसीलिए उन्होंने उनको गले लगाया। उसी समाज का चन्ना, उनका परम मित्र था। कई लोगों को उन पर आपत्ति भी होती थी कि वे सामाजिक व्यवस्था के खिलाफ चलते हैं, लेकिन गौतम बुद्ध ने उसको महसूस किया। उन्होंने सबसे पहले गणराज्य की परिकल्पना की थी कि एक लोकतंत्र होना चाहिए और किसी प्रकार का छुआछूत नहीं होनी चाहिए, ये तो ऐसे लोग हैं कि इनको गले लगाना चाहिए।

महोदय, उसी विचारधारा को महात्मा गांधी ने, कांग्रेस पार्टी ने और आगे बढ़ाया। जो बरसों से गुलामी ढो रहे थे, ऐसे समाज के वंचित लोगों को गुलामी से, बंधुआ मजदूरी से मुक्त करवाया। उनको हर जगह ऊंचे से ऊंचे आसन पर बिठाने की व्यवस्था की। आज आप यह जो विषय लाई हैं, जिस विषय में ये सब बातें आती हैं, उसके लिए मैं विप्लव ठाकुर जी को बहुत बधाई देना चाहूंगी कि वे एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय को इस सदन में लेकर आई हैं। मैं आज यह भी कहना चाहूंगी कि हमारे मंत्री महोदय, श्री मुकुल वासनिक जी, जो यहां पर बैठे हैं, वे भी उसी समाज से आते हैं। वे सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री हैं। उनके दिल में भी, वाकई में, एक सच्ची भावना है। यह भावना संगठन के अलावा अपने उस समाज के प्रति भी है कि कैसे सबको सामाजिक न्याय मिले। हमारे बड़े लीडर्स जो चाहते थे, आज सोनिया जी जो चाहती हैं कि समाज में समरसता हो, एकरूपता हो, उसको बनाए रखने में आपका भी एक निरन्तर योगदान है, आप भी उसके लिए निरन्तर प्रयत्नशील हैं। महोदय, कांग्रेस आज भी उसी भावना को लेकर चल रही है। आज भी कांग्रेस महात्मा गांधी जी, बाबा साहेब डा. अंबेडकर जी की विचारधारा को लेकर चल रही है, इस पर सोनिया जी चल रही हैं, राहुल जी चल रहे हैं। वे एक युवा नेता के रूप में हैं। जब वे उत्तर प्रदेश में जाते हैं, तो अमीरों के घर पर नहीं ठहरते हैं... (व्यवधान)... वे दलित समाज के लोगों से पहले मिलते हैं, जो शोषित और पिछड़े लोग हैं, उनसे पहले मिलते हैं, उनका हाल-चाल जानते हैं, उनके दुख-सुख को समझने की कोशिश करते हैं। उन्हें सत्ता का चार्म नहीं है, लेकिन जब वे वहां जाते हैं तो हमारी बहन मायावती जी पता नहीं क्यों नाराज हो जाती हैं और कई बार तो पता नहीं क्या-क्या कहती हैं। दरअसल उनके दिल में भी जो भावना है, वहां जो शोषित समाज है, वह भी उस भावना की कद्र करता है, पूरे देश का समाज कद्र करता है कि हां, यह एक ऐसा परिवार है, उसके लोग हैं, जिनके दिल में सच्ची मानवता है और सचमुच में जिनकी कथनी और करनी में अंतर नहीं है। समाज में पिछड़े, शोषित, वंचित, एस.सी., एस.टी. का जो वर्ग है, जो अल्पसंख्यक समाज है, जो छोटे-छोटे समाज हैं, उन सबके विकास के लिए, उन सबको ऊपर उठाने के लिए अगर कोई प्रयत्नशील है तो यह कांग्रेस पार्टी और इसके नेतागण ही हैं। आपने मुझे इतना बोलने का अवसर दिया है, इसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद और बहन विप्लव ठाकुर जी को बहुत-बहुत बधाई।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (Dr. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIPPAN): Thank you very much. Now, if the word * is used, it is unparliamentary. It can be expunged.

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी: थैंक यू सर। सर, आज बहुत ही गंभीर मुद्दे पर डिस्कशन चल रहा है। ऑनरेबल मैम्बर विप्लव ठाकुर जी ने बिल के माध्यम से चाहा है कि जिस तरह से हिमाचल प्रदेश में लोहार को शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट में रखा गया है, उसी तरह से तरखान को भी शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट की लिस्ट में इंकलूड किया जाना चाहिए। ऑनरेबल मैम्बर की तरखान के लिए जो चिंता है, हम उसके लिए उनका आभार प्रकट करते हैं। यह केन्द्र के अधिकार क्षेत्र में है, इसलिए हम भी चाहते हैं कि शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट की लिस्ट में तरखान को इंकलूड कर लिया जाए। तरखान और लोहार में कोई अंतर नहीं है। उनके आपस में रिश्ते-नाते भी होते हैं। हमने जो एक सोशल बैरकेडिंग बना रखी है कि एक जाति को दूसरी जाति से कोई रिश्ता-नाता नहीं जोड़ना है, ऐसा कांस्टीट्यूशन में नहीं है, ऐसी समाज में एक परंपरा चली आ रही है, उस संदर्भ में मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि तरखान और लोहार का आपसी रिश्ता-नाता भी होता है। रोटी के साथ बेटा की भी सांझ है। महोदय, अगर हम यह सोचते हैं कि शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट की श्रेणी में यदि तरखान आ जाएगा तो उसका बड़ा प्रमोशन हो जाएगा...। उसकी social and economic emancipation हो जाएगी, transformation हो जाएगा, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि हम बहुत गलतफहमी में हैं। इस देश के अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति को इस देश के अन्दर 4 हजार साल तक human rights से वंचित रखा गया, मनुष्य के अधिकारों से वंचित रखा गया, उनके स्कूल में entry पर ban रखा गया, उनको मंदिर से बाहर रखा गया।

बाबा साहब डा. अम्बेडकर जी ने अपने जीवन में बड़ी जद्दोजहद की। महोदय, 1924 की एक घटना है। वायकोम मन्दिर, जिस मन्दिर के चारों तरफ सड़क के ऊपर जानवर चल सकता था, उस मन्दिर में अछूत, आज जिसको दलित कहते हैं, वह नहीं जा सकता था। एक अछूत लड़के ने उस मन्दिर में entry ली, तो उसकी दोनों आंखें निकाल दी गईं और आंखों में मसाला भर दिया गया। उस वक्त पेरियार ई.वी. रामास्वामी नायकर तमिलनाडु कांग्रेस के प्रेसिडेंट थे। उस वक्त गांधी जी और पेरियार में struggle हुआ। पेरियार ने stand लिया कि यह जो अछूत की आंखें निकाली गई हैं, आंखों में मसाला भरा गया है, यह गैर-मानवीय है, मनुष्य के अधिकारों के विरुद्ध है। गांधी जी उनके पास गए और कहा कि पेरियार जी, कांग्रेस का प्रोग्राम social transformation का नहीं है, if you are interested in social transformation, then you must resign from the Presidentship of Congress. पेरियार ने कांग्रेस पार्टी की अध्यक्षता को छोड़ा, क्योंकि उनको, एक अछूत जिसकी आंखें निकाली गई थीं, अछूतपन के विरुद्ध संघर्ष की इजाजत नहीं मिली। उन्होंने कांग्रेस पार्टी की अध्यक्षता को छोड़ा और फिर उसके अधिकारों की लड़ाई लड़ी। यह कांग्रेस के दलित प्रेम का इतिहास है। यही यह बात खत्म नहीं होती है। इसके बाद निरन्तर यह काम जारी रहा। डा. अम्बेडकर ने एक किताब लिखी है कि What Congress and Gandhi have done for untouchables. महाराष्ट्र गवर्नमेंट ने छापी है, President of India का उसके मुखपृष्ठ पर

संदेश लगा है। अब उस पर कोई sign of interrogation नहीं रहा है। कांग्रेस और गांधी ने
अछूतों के लिए क्या किया, उस किताब में डा.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

अम्बेडकर साहब ने कांग्रेस पार्टी का अछूतों के प्रति जो रोल था, उसको बेनकाब करके रख दिया है, अब कोई शंका नहीं रही। अगर बाबा साहब डा. अम्बेडकर को अछूतों के लिए संघर्ष करना पड़ा, तो अंग्रेजों से नहीं। जब अंग्रेज हुक्मत ने Round Table Conference बुलाई, तो उस Round Table Conference में डा. अम्बेडकर को किससे जद्दोजहद करनी पड़ी? गांधी जी से, कांग्रेस पार्टी से करनी पड़ी। डा. अम्बेडकर साहब ने बहुत ही अपमान सहा, डा. अम्बेडकर का बहुत अपमान हुआ। उन्होंने संविधान लिखा, संविधान में उन्होंने अछूतों के लिए अलग से प्रबंध किया। अगर आज हम देखते हैं कि तरखान पिछड़े से दलित हो जाएगा, तो शायद उसका उत्थान हो जाएगा, तो हमारे इस देश में जो दलित हैं, अनुसूचित जाति हैं, अनुसूचित कबीले हैं, उनकी दशा क्या है? मैं पंजाब की बात करता हूँ। हमारे पंजाब में आज की तारीख में एक भी जिला पुलिस कप्तान (एस.एच.ओ.) अछूत नहीं है, दलित नहीं है। मैं अछूत शब्द क्यों बोलता हूँ, क्योंकि उन्हें अछूत समझ कर पुलिस कप्तान की कुर्सी से दूर रखा जाता है। मैं जिस होशियारपुर जिले में रहता हूँ, वहां पर पुलिस के 16 एसएचओ हैं, लेकिन उनमें से एक भी दलित नहीं है। तरखान भी अगर दलित हो जाएगा, तो उसका क्या भला हो जाएगा?

गांधी जी बोलते थे कि हमारे ऊपर ईश्वर की कृपा है। जब हम देखते हैं कि क्या सचमुच ईश्वर की कृपा है, तो महोदय, इस देश के आंकड़े बताते हैं कि देश की 94% लैंड उनके पास है, जिनके ऊपर ईश्वर की कृपा नहीं है। बाकी के 6% में दलित आते हैं, पिछड़े वर्ग के लोग आते हैं और अल्पसंख्यक आते हैं, जिनके ऊपर ईश्वर की कृपा है। इस देश में 97% इंडस्ट्री उनके पास है, जिनके ऊपर ईश्वर की कृपा नहीं है और 3% में दलित हैं, पिछड़े हैं और माइनॉरिटी है। यह कैसी ईश्वर की कृपा है? इस देश की 87% सर्विसिज उनके पास हैं, जिनके ऊपर ईश्वर की कृपा नहीं है और हम, जिनके ऊपर ईश्वर की कृपा है, 13% में दलित, पिछड़ा और माइनॉरिटी के लोग हैं।

महोदय, यह एक बहुत सैसिटिव इश्यू है, बहुत गंभीर मुद्दा है। यह मसला सिर्फ चाय-पानी पीने से हल होने वाला नहीं है। अगर दलितों की झोंपड़ी में जा करके हमारे कोई नेता चाय पीते हैं, उसमें हमें कोई ऐतराज नहीं है, लेकिन अगर दलितों की झोंपड़ी की चाय आपको स्वादिष्ट लगती है, तो झोंपड़ियां दिल्ली में भी बहुत हैं। क्या आपको सिर्फ यू.पी. की झोंपड़ियों की चाय मीठी लगती है, दिल्ली की झोंपड़ियों की चाय कड़वी लगती है? पहले भी अकेले कांग्रेस ने 50 साल देश पर राज किया है। 50 साल में दलितों को हमने सिर्फ झुग्गी दी और अब झुग्गी को भी पॉलिटिकली एक्सप्लॉइट करना चाहते हैं कि हम तो आपकी चाय पी रहे हैं, आप पर बड़ा एहसान कर रहे हैं। हम कहते हैं कि दिल्ली में भी चाय है।

महोदय, देश के अन्दर अगर सबसे ज्यादा कहीं पर झुग्गिया हैं, तो दिल्ली में हैं। अगर हम ईमानदार हैं, जानवान हैं, सचमुच उन वर्गों का उत्थान करना चाहते हैं, तो गुरुवाणी में फरीद साहब ने एक बात कही है -

फरीदा जे तू अकल लतीफ, तां काले लिख न लेख

अपनड़े गिरिबान में सिर नीवां कर देख

पहले हमें अपने पैरों की तरफ सिर झुका कर देखना होगा कि इनको झुगियों में लाने के लिए जिम्मेदार कौन है। यहां पर कोई ओबामा या बुश जिम्मेदार नहीं हैं अथवा पाकिस्तान की किसी एजेंसी का इसमें हाथ नहीं है। इसमें भारत के हुक्मरानों का हाथ है और भारत के हुक्मरानों को इस बात को अपने सिर पर लेना होगा, इसके लिए अपने आप को गुनहगार मान कर इस समस्या के समाधान के बारे में सोचना होगा। आज हमारे देश में नक्सलवाद की समस्या है। आज हम कई बार देखते हैं कि जब हाउस में चर्चा होती है तो नक्सलवाद के लिए इशारा शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब की तरफ किया जाता है। शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब कहीं और तथा नक्सलवाद के लिए इशारा! मैं कहता हूं कि आप जो कहते हैं कि दलितों के उत्थान के लिए बड़े जी-जान से हम लोग लगे हुए हैं, तो मैंने आपको जो आंकड़ा दिया है, वह बिल्कुल परफैक्ट है और यह कोई मनगढ़त आंकड़ा नहीं है। अगर उनका यही उत्थान है तो फिर पिछड़ापन हम किसको मानेंगे, शोषण किसको मानेंगे?

डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर जी ने जब कानून बनाकर दिया तब उसी दिन उन्होंने कहा था कि मैंने यह कानून बड़ी मेहनत से बनाया है, मैंने इसमें अपना खून स्याही की जगह लगाया है और इसके लिए मैंने अपनी सेहत को भी नहीं देखा, लेकिन यदि इसको लागू करने वाले लोग इसको ईमानदारी से लागू नहीं करेंगे तो यह अच्छा कानून भी दुखी लोगों के दुखों का अंत नहीं कर पाएगा। महोदय, आज हमारे पास कोई कमी नहीं है। कानून में कोई कमी नहीं है, बल्कि उसके implementation में कमी है, हम यह कहना चाहते हैं।

जब सरकारी स्कूलों में लेक्चरर से प्रिंसिपल प्रमोट होते हैं तो उसमें भी एस.सी. का कत्तेआम हो जाता है। वहां जो जूनियर होता है वह उसका सीनियर बन कर बैठता है। हम यह कहते हैं कि इस देश के अंदर एक ऐसा प्रावधान किया जाए दलितों के लिए, जो कि देश की पैदावार के साधन हैं, जो देश के संसाधन हैं, वे किसी के बाप की जागीर नहीं होते हैं, लेकिन हमारे देश में, इस देश की बहुगिनती, इस देश की मेजॉरिटी इस देश की पैदावार के साधनों से दूर बैठी है। जब petrol pumps allot होते हैं, तो उनमें बोला जाता है कि दलितों का कोटा है। मैं इस हाउस के माध्यम से सरकार से बहुत जिम्मेवारी के साथ यह कहता हूं, आदरणीय मंत्री जी यहां बैठे हैं जो शायद मेरी बातें सुन रहे हों, कि यह पूरे देश की एक रिपोर्ट मंगवा लें, आज की, कांग्रेस की सरकार की, जो पिछले 6 सालों से केन्द्र में हैं, छः साल की रिपोर्ट मंगवा लें कि कितने petrol pumps अनुसूचित जाति के लोगों को allot हुए हैं और उनमें से कितने execute हुए हैं। यह पहले ही identify कर दिया जाता है कि यहां पर दलितों के लिए रिजर्व रखना है, तो कहां रखना है, जहां पर 10-20 किलोमीटर में कोई जमीन बेचता ही न हो, किसी को जमीन मिले ही नहीं। महोदय, इसीलिए हम यह कहना चाहते हैं कि आज हर क्षेत्र में, हर फील्ड में और हर इदारे में अनुसूचित जाति को जान-बूझ कर एक साजिश के तहत पीछे धकेला जा रहा है।

आज हमने पंजाब की बात भी की थी कि वहां पर कैसे दलितों का कत्लेआम हुआ। इससे पहले हमने हरियाणा का मुद्दा भी हाउस में रखा था। हरियाणा में दलितों का कैसे कत्लेआम हुआ? वहां बाप-बेटी को जिन्दा जलाया गया, यह अभी की बात है। अभी इलेक्शन के बाद एक और दलित को छः किलोमीटर तक घसीट कर मार दिया गया। अरे भाई, अगर दलितों को ऐसे जिन्दा जलाना है तो मैं आपके सामने हाथ जोड़ता हूँ कि कम-से-कम तरखान को तो बचा रहने दो, उसको क्यों मारना चाहते हो? मैंने आज बताया कि हमारे पंजाब में चार लोग मारे गए हैं, उस मामले में कोई गिरफ्तारी नहीं हुई है। इसलिए हम यह आपको कहना चाहते हैं कि दलितों के लिए, *depressed classes* के लिए, दलितों के साथ-साथ बैकवर्ड के लिए, अगर आप तरखान का भला चाहते हो, तो उसका भला तो बैकवर्ड में रहते हुए भी हो सकता था। मंडल कमीशन की जो रिपोर्ट है, उसको बहुत से प्रदेशों ने लागू नहीं किया है। बहुत-से स्टेट्स में रिजर्वेशन के संबंध में एक्ट नहीं है। जब तक इस संबंध में एक्ट नहीं बनता है, तब तक इसके *violation* के लिए जो लोग *responsible* हैं, उनके लिए कोई *punishment* तय नहीं होगी। इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से यह कहना चाहूंगा कि बाबा साहेब डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर और गांधी जी में यही टकराव रहा था। जब डा. अम्बेडकर साहब से पूछा गया कि गांधी जी भी अछूतों की बात करते हैं और आप भी करते हैं, तो आपमें और गांधी जी में क्या अंतर है, तो उन्होंने कहा कि जितना अंतर मां और नर्स में है। नर्स एक बच्चे की देखभाल इसलिए करती है कि इसके लिए उसको तनखाह मिलती है और मां एक बच्चे का देखभाल इसलिए करती है कि वह उसको जन्म देती है। डा. अम्बेडकर और गांधी जी के दरम्यान बड़ा स्ट्रगल हुआ। हम जो कहते हैं, वह इतिहास के पन्नों पर डा. अम्बेडकर की कलम से लिखा हुआ कहते हैं। इसलिए हम आपके माध्यम से इस सरकार से यह कहना चाहेंगे कि सरकार दलितों के प्रति ईमानदार रवैया अख्तियार करे, क्योंकि केवल चाय-पानी से बात चलने वाली नहीं है। अब दलित भी इतना बुद्धि नहीं रहा है कि हम चाय से उसका शिकार कर लेंगे। अब वह शिकारी को पहचानता है और जानता है। अब वह सावधान और सतर्क है। उनकी समस्याओं का, दुःख का और उनके दर्द का जो *solution* है, उसे डा. अम्बेडकर साहब ने बताया था। उन्होंने कहा था कि इस देश के दलित और पिछड़े आपस में भाईचारा बनाएं। इसका मतलब यह है कि दलित और पिछड़े, जो इस सिस्टम के शोषित हैं, वे खुद इस देश की सत्ता को संभालें और इस देश की सामाजिक तथा आर्थिक व्यवस्था को बदलें।

अगर आप गांधी जी और अम्बेडकर, दोनों की *ideology* में सोचेंगे तो आप *confused* रहेंगे और कोई *clarity* नहीं रहेगी। इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से यह कहना चाहूंगा कि अगर आप सचमुच दलितों के लिए कोई नीति बनाना चाहते हैं, दलितों का उत्थान, दलितों की *betterment*, उनकी *social and economic upliftment* चाहते हैं, तो डा. अम्बेडकर की बातों को ध्यान में रख कर और उनकी सोच को ध्यान में रख कर नीति बनाइये। *It is only possible through Dr. Ambedkar's ideology.* इसलिए हम यह *suggest* करना चाहते हैं कि मात्र डा. अम्बेडकर साहब से प्रेरणा लेकर ही अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के लिए कोई नीति बनायी जाए, ताकि जो सदियों से शोषित हैं, उनके शोषण में कमी हो सके और उस शोषण का अन्त हो सके। धन्यवाद।

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK):

Sir, the Bill under consideration, moved by Shrimati Viplove Thakur, deals with a specific subject for a particular area. And this subject, this proposal, is for inclusion of a particular community, that is, the Tarkhan community of Himachal Pradesh, in the list of the Scheduled Castes. Fifteen hon. Members have participated in this discussion. The first time, it came up for consideration in the first week of December last year. Seven months have passed, and today, hopefully, we will be culminating the discussion on the Constitution (Amendment) Bill. I join the hon. Members in their agony, their pain, their concern, their sentiment as well as their commitment towards the cause of the Scheduled Castes. How we are going to deal with issues concerning the Scheduled Caste community, how we are going to ameliorate their conditions, how we are able to provide justice to this section of the society, which had been deprived for generations and centuries I do join the hon. Members on these issues. But, at the very outset, I would like to mention that though there have been a large number of suggestions which definitely need to be considered and some action taken on those suggestions, unfortunately, on important issues concerning the Scheduled Castes community, sometimes we try to make it a political debate, as to who has done more and who has done less; we try to score politically. I think that may be the root cause of the defeat of very purpose which we have tried to espouse.

I will try to restrict myself to this Constitutional Amendment Bill moved by Shrimati Viplove Thakur, because this particular issue has been going on and on for several years, or, rather, for more than three decades. For the first time, the Registrar General of India, in the year 1978, had taken a position that the Tarkhan community could be included in the list of Scheduled Castes as a synonym of Badhai and Nagalu communities. Today, the proposal is a little different. It is not as a synonym of the Badhai and Nagalu communities of Himachal Pradesh. Now, the proposal in this Bill moved by Shrimati Viplove Thakur is that this community should be included as a synonym of the Lohar community. There

is this basic difference. But, for the first time, the Registrar General of India has rather agreed to the proposal to include them as a synonym of the Badhai and Nagalu community. Then, the Government in the year 1981, when preparing a draft legislation to include certain communities in the List of Scheduled Castes, had asked for the comments of the Government of Himachal Pradesh and the Government of Himachal Pradesh, in early 1981, had informed the Union Government not to include the Tarkhan community in the List of Scheduled Castes because the

Tarkhan community was not an untouchable community. They said, it did not stand the test of untouchability and, therefore, it should not be included.

Now, the hon. Member, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, had mentioned a number of things but he had particularly asked as to what mechanism should be there to give justice and to include in the List those communities which had been deprived for a long period of time and which deserved to be in the List of Scheduled Castes. During the last 63-64 years, a number of communities have been included and the number today stands at a little more than 1200 and there are several proposals which are still being considered at different levels.

I would like to mention here that in the year 1999, there were certain modalities decided by the Union Government according to which any proposal to include communities in the List of Scheduled Castes will have to go through. The criteria was, references will be made to the Registrar General of India; their comments would be invited. After the initial proposal, a complete proposal with ethnographic details, are received from the State Government and, if the Registrar General does agree with the proposal, it goes to the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and, if the National Commission also agrees with the proposal, then, we move to the Cabinet, come to Parliament and amend the Constitutional Scheduled Caste Order. Now, over the years, there have been several representations that certain communities have been left out and there is a need to include those communities. In order to ensure that no community, which does not deserve to be in the List of Scheduled Castes should wrongfully get into the List of Scheduled Castes, then, this rigid procedure has been laid down and I think, all the hon. Members would agree that reservation provided for the Scheduled Castes should be meant only for Scheduled Caste and only for those people who need to be given justice.

And none who does not deserve should get into that. With this, I would like to emphasise here that the procedure laid down is rigid. But,

if all the material supporting ethnographic details are in favour, then I do hope that those communities will definitely get included and we, as the Government, stand committed to include all those communities who had been deprived and who stand the test as provided in the modalities to be included in the list of Scheduled Castes. Now, hon. Members would be aware of the term Scheduled Castes as defined in article 366 of the Constitution in clause 24, but the criteria to determine who will be considered to be a Scheduled Caste, that

highlights inclusion of a community in the list of Scheduled Caste, is extreme social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of the traditional practice of untouchability. And, I do hope, all the hon. Members would agree that this rigidity should be there to ensure that nothing wrong happens when we take up any proposal for inclusion in the list of Scheduled Castes.

Now, the present situation as far as this Tarkhan community is concerned, after that initial rejection in the year 1981, on a message from the Government of Himachal Pradesh, there was not much movement to follow up on the proposal. But, then, in 1999, the Himachal Pradesh Assembly passed a unanimous resolution saying that Tarkhan should be included. The hon. Chief Minister took it up with the Union Government and again the process of going to the RGI and going to the National Commission for Scheduled Castes has started. In the year 2001, again the RGI supported the idea of including Tarkhan but when the National Commission for Scheduled Castes wanted to know more details about the social standing of the community, based on that when Himachal Pradesh Government informed the National Commission for Scheduled Castes about the status that a study revealed that the community is not standing up to the test of untouchability and, therefore, that proposal was rejected.

The matter went to the High Court, the High Court gave certain directions; it called for the comments from RGI through the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and had also said that fresh proposals can be submitted by the Government of Himachal Pradesh. So, this thing has been going on for a number of years. As of now, the Government of Himachal Pradesh has again recommended. The proposal now says to include Tarkhan community, Dhiman, Badhai, Thani, Kangeri and Chitori. This is the present proposal and when we received the proposal on 17th February this year, within 48 hours, we again referred the proposal to the RGI and that is under the consideration of the RGI. Therefore, I would like the hon. Members to be aware of where the proposals stand today. There has been no delay on the part of the Government of India. The procedure is being strictly followed. The hon. Members should be confident that

wherever any community should be included, that community definitely will be included in the list of Scheduled Castes.

Today, we have another 21 proposals at different stages of consideration. Certain proposals were received in this Ministry way back in the year 1980, that is, 30 years back. But, going through the entire exercise a thing has come to our notice now that the delay has been to such an extent that things have undergone a lot of change and we are seeking fresh comments from the respective State

Governments so that we are able to take a final view as to what needs to be done on those proposals.

Several hon. Members, going beyond the scope of the present Bill under consideration, pointed out towards the affirmative action, reservation in the private sector, in the Judiciary. Some talked about the Special Component Plan; some talked about the preferential purchase, educational empowerment, atrocities, caste certificates, manual scavenging, and a number of things have been said. On each one of them, we have focused our attention, but I think that today it may not be the right occasion where on each of those things I will be able to express my views. But, we are attending to each one of these issues. In a country like ours, after a legislation was passed in the year 1989 to curb atrocities, today also the situation is that almost 35,000 to 36,000 cases of atrocities are getting registered. Sir, 35,000 to 36,000 cases are registered, and what is the conviction rate? If the national average is 32 per cent conviction, there are States with 2.5 per cent conviction, and there are States which have higher conviction rate than the national average. So, we will have to persuade our own respective State Governments which have to implement the law in letter and spirit, and see that what is provided in the law is really implemented in the same manner.

On the corporate social responsibility in regard to affirmative action, way back in the year 2006 itself the Prime Minister had taken up the issue and urged upon the private sector that they should respond to this particular issue as their corporate social responsibility and see that whatever aspirations are there, those are reflected. On the Special Component Plan, where the guidelines...

श्री रामविलास पासवान (बिहार) : कॉर्पोरेट जगत का क्या जवाब मिला?

श्री मुकुल वासनिक : कभी उसके ऊपर विस्तार से चर्चा होगी, तो वह जवाब भी पूरा दे देंगे कि क्या वास्तविकता है, क्या वहां पर हो रहा है, क्या नहीं हो रहा है, लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि आज की सरकार और कल तो इसी सरकार में आप भी थे। तो इसी सरकार के रहते हुए निजी क्षेत्र के साथ यह dialogue शुरू हुआ है, जो इससे पहले कभी हुआ नहीं था और यह कोशिश की जा रही है, उनका

सामाजिक दायित्व बनता है कि उनकी अलग-अलग नीतियों के ज़रिए वह reflect हो। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस सदन को इस बात की जानकारी देना भी आवश्यक बनता है कि प्लानिंग कमिशन की गाइडलाइन्स के तहत Special Component Plan पर अनुपात के आधार पर जितनी अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति की आबादी है, उसके अनुपात में प्रावधान होना चाहिए, allocation

होनी चाहिए। पिछले दिनों में मैम्बर, प्लानिंग कमिशन, डा. नरेन्द्र जाधव की अध्यक्षता में एक कमेटी का गठन हुआ है, जो इस विषय में पूरा ध्यान देने की कोशिश कर रही है और जो गाइडलाइन्स बनी थीं, उन पर किस तरह से हम अमल कर सकते हैं, उस पर भी ध्यान देने की कोशिश करेंगे। हम उम्मीद करते हैं कि सितम्बर महीने के अंत तक उनकी रिपोर्ट सामने आएगी, तो आने वाले दिनों में हम उस दिशा में और क्या पहल कर सकते हैं, यह भी रिपोर्ट आने के बाद तय करने की कोशिश होगी।

सर, जाति प्रमाण-पत्र के बारे में रवि शंकर प्रसाद जी ने जिक्र किया था। जाति प्रमाण-पत्र पर भी यहां से गृह मंत्रालय के ज़रिए प्रदेश की सरकारों को सूचित किया गया है कि वे इस पर पूरा ध्यान दें, क्योंकि आप जानते हैं कि जाति प्रमाण पत्र देने की जिम्मेदारी प्रदेश सरकारों की होती है। यहां से Home Ministry के ज़रिए प्रदेश की सरकारों को जो लिखा गया है, उसमें यही कहा है कि: "that it should be verified that the person and his parents actually belong to the community claimed; that this community is included in the Presidential Orders specifying the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in relation to the concerned State; that the person belongs to that State and to the area within the State in respect of which the community has been scheduled." So, there are these things which already the Home Ministry has taken up with the respective State Governments. I think, you are also aware that caste certificates, fake documents, forgery, all these types of things do happen.

When we talk about the Scheduled Castes it is our concern because historically they have been deprived. Therefore, today it will be our commitment that whatever we are going to do should actually go to them and if there is going to be any attempt to forge documents, to have fake certificates, it will deprive and eat into whatever opportunities the real Scheduled Castes are to get. That care we will have to take. Therefore, the process is rigid and I think, you will understand that this rigidity is purposely built into the mechanism so that wrongful actions are curtailed to whatever best possible level it can be dealt with. I think, there have been some mention about manual scavenging and all that. I think, just a few minutes remain for the House to get adjourned but, I would like to share this important development because the Government between 2004 and 2009 had decided that by 31st March, 2009 all those who want to be rehabilitated and had been in manual scavenging

will be rehabilitated by providing concessional loans so that they are self-employed. This was decided as a national priority. Unfortunately, the target could not be met. But, subsequently, after this Government was formed, we decided that what we could not do in March 31st, 2009 we should try to do it now. We focused our efforts and by 31st March, 2009, the State Government reported to us

5.00 P.M.

that all those who wanted to be rehabilitated have been rehabilitated. But the problem is such that we want this to be verified. We want this to be scrutinized. We want that this should be in the public domain. We want that everybody should be aware about what is being done. Therefore, 1,17,000 manual scavengers who were reported to us earlier by the State Government and subsequently, a large number had been dropped from the list saying someone is dead, someone has migrated, someone is minor, someone is married, someone is defaulter. For whatever reasons, we have told the State Government that you put all this information on your website. Let it be scrutinized and I think, that the hon. Members in their respective areas can also join this effort of scrutinizing as to how best we have been able to rehabilitate the manual scavengers because if this practice, in any form and in any measure continues today that is going to be a shame for us and therefore, each of us will have to join in this mission. I would not like to take more time on this occasion. But, to Shrimati Viplove Thakur because I have already mentioned that the fresh proposal received from the State Government in regard to Tarkhan Community and several other communities to be included in the Scheduled Castes have been referred to the office of the RGI, that matter is under consideration and it will be considered according to the modalities laid down by Government and in view of this, I will urge Shrimati Thakur, through you, Sir, that she may kindly withdraw because this is the position as of now.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Now, the mover can make her reply.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, एक तो मैं मंत्री महोदय को यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि जो यह कह रहे हैं कि तो तरखान है, वे untouchables में नहीं आते। हम यही तो कह रहे हैं कि तरखान को ओबीसी माना जाता है। मैंने पहले भी कहा और अब भी कहने जा रही हूँ कि एक बाप के दो बच्चे हैं। जो लुहार का काम करता है, उसको शेड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट कर दिया और जो दूसरा बच्चा लकड़ी का काम करता है, उसको ओबीसी कर दिया। जब वह ओबीसी है, तो वह untouchables में कैसे आएगा? इसलिए इन्हें रजिस्ट्रार जनरल को कहना पड़ेगा कि इस बात को वह

न लें। उनके यहां जब शादियां होती हैं, जब लुहार की बेटी तरखान के घर जाती है तो वह शेड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट नहीं रहती और जब तरखान की बेटी लुहार के घर जाती है तो वह शेड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट हो जाती है, उसके बच्चे शेड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट स्टेटस में आ जाते हैं इसलिए इससे उन भाइयों में जो फर्क है, इस चीज़ को

लिया जाए। इसलिए मैं यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि मैं चाहती हूँ कि इस बिल को पास करें, क्योंकि यह हमारे हिमाचल की एक बहुत बड़ी समस्या है। लेकिन मैं इनसे दोबारा यह चाहूंगी कि इस चीज़ को देखकर मुझे एश्युरेंस दें कि इसके ऊपर पूरा गौर किया जाएगा और जल्दी ही इस पर फैसला किया जाएगा, तभी मैं सोचूंगी कि मैं इसको विदड़ा करूँ या नहीं? मैं इनसे यह बात कहलाना चाहती हूँ कि यह इसका एक टाइम फ्रेम देंगे कि कब तक इसका फैसला हो जाएगा और हिमाचल के तरखानों के हक में फैसला करेंगे, उसके बाद मैं विदड़ा कर लूंगी, यह जरा मुझे बतला देंगे।

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Sir, I appreciate the sentiments with which Smt. Viplove Thakur has taken up this particular issue. But, at the same time, I think, Smt. Viplove Thakur do appreciate that the Registrar General of India is an autonomous organization. We should allow it to function and gives us an objective and independent view. After the RGI gives its view and after it is vetted by the National Commission for the Scheduled Castes, as provided under the Constitution, based on those objective inputs, the Government should arrive at some decision. Instead, if we, as Government, try and influence the decisions and views of autonomous organization, I don't think, that will be agreeable to the House and to the hon. Members. I agree with her sentiments and I can say that the RGI will do a fair exercise, will do an objective exercise as per the laid down modalities and as provided under the Constitution.

I, once again, request, through you, that Smt. Viplove Thakur should prove to be as generous as she has always been and withdraw the Bill. Thank you.

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, आपने कहा कि आर.जी.आई. इंडिपेंडेंट बॉडी है उसमें इंटरफियर नहीं करना चाहिए। हम भी कहेंगे कि इंटरफियर नहीं करना चाहिए। लेकिन जो हाउस की भावना है, क्योंकि यह काफी दिन से आर.जी.आई. के यहां पड़ा हुआ है, तो जो हाउस की भावना है उसको कम्युनिकेट किया जा सकता है और वे डिसीजन जो लेना चाहें, वे लें, लेकिन तत्काल डिसीजन लें, कमीशन को भी तत्काल डिसीजन लेना चाहिए, जिससे जस्टिस डिलेड जस्टिस डिनाइड नहीं होना चाहिए। अतः उन तक यह भावना पहुंचाने का काम करें। सर, एक बात और कहनी है। अभी उड़ीसा में एक गलत चीज हुई है कि शैड्यूलड कॉस्ट और शैड्यूलड ट्राइब्स के लोगों को कॉस्ट सर्टिफिकेट का काम एम.एल.ए. और एम.पी. को भी दे दिया गया है। इसमें यह एक अच्छी बात है कि उनको यह सर्टिफिकेट एम.एल.ए. व एम.पी. से जल्दी मिल जाता है। लेकिन इसमें इस बात की भी दिक्कत है कि एम.एल.ए., एम.पी. किसी को जल्दी रिफ्यूज नहीं करता है और अगर फिर गलत सर्टिफिकेट दे दिया और किसी ने कोर्ट में जाकर के केस कर दिया तो इस कारण से एम.एल.ए., एम.पी. जेल भी चला जाएगा। एम.एल.ए., एम.पी. के पास कोई इस तरह का ऑफिस नहीं है, सरपंच के पास में

अपना ऑफिस है, बी.डी.ओ. के पास भी ऑफिस है, सबके पास में है लेकिन एम.एल.ए., एम.पी. के पास इस चीज की स्कूटनी करने के लिए कोई ऑफिस नहीं है इसलिए इस बात का पता लगा लीजिए और वैसे यह एम.एल.ए., एम.पी. के इंटरेस्ट में भी नहीं है कि वह इसकी सहमति दें। इस बात का आप अपने यहां से पता लगा लीजिएगा।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Are you withdrawing the Bill, Mrs. Thakur?

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जो पासवान जी ने कहा है, हाउस की पूरी सेंटिमेंट उन तक पहुंचाएंगे। मैं उनके कहने पर विदग्ध करती हूँ। लेकिन मुझे उम्मीद है कि ये हमारी सेंटिमेंट को वहां तक जरूर पहुंचाएंगे और हमारी मदद करेंगे। इसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

The Bill was, by leave withdrawn.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2006 (Insertion of new article 371J)

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA (Karnataka): Sir, I move:

That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration.

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस सदन में आर्टिकल-371 के बारे में मुझे कुछ कहना है। मैं जिस भाग से आया हूँ, जिसे हैदराबाद, कर्नाटक कहते हैं, जो पिछड़ा हुआ एरिया कहलाता है, उनकी समस्याओं को इस ऑगस्ट हाउस में रखते हुए सविस्तार इस हाउस को बतलाना चाहता हूँ।

मैं इस सदन को बताना चाहता हूँ, यह ultimately वह जगह है, जो किसी जमाने में निजाम की dynasty में था। बीदर, गुलबर्गा, रायचूर, कोपल और यादगीर। बेल्तारी जो है, वह मद्रास प्रेसिडेंसी में था। सन् 1956 में फजल अली कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के बाद में जो रि-आर्गनाइजेशन स्टेटों का हुआ, उसके बाद की गाथा मैं इस हाउस को बताना चाहता हूँ। Linguistic States की शुरुआत 1953 में हुई। जब श्री राम लूलू जी ने विशाल आन्ध्र का मुद्दा उठाया और 52 दिन की हंगर स्ट्राइक की और उसके बाद मैं उनका देहांत हुआ, बहुत हंगामा हुआ। देश में एक बात सामने आ गई कि बहुत से States में Linguistic की प्राबल्य है। मराठी बोलने वाला कर्नाटक में है...।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Hon. Member can continue on the next Private Member's day.

The House stands adjourned to meet at 11.00 a.m. on Monday, the 16th August, 2010.

The House then adjourned at seven minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 16th August, 2010.