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सत्यमेव जयते

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

CONTENTS

Tuesday
20 August, 2010
29 Sravana, 1932 (Saka)

Oral Answers to Questions (pages 1-35)

Written Answers to Starred Questions (pages 35-49)

Written Answers to Unstarred Questions (pages 49-257)

Re: Assurance to give full protection to the Sikh Community in Jammu and Kashmir (pages 258-259, 273-278)

Papers laid on the Table (pages 260-368)

Messages from the Lok Sabha-

The Appropriation (Railways) No. 4 Bill, 2010 - *Laid on the Table* (page 269)

The Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2010 - *Laid on the Table* (page 410)

The Trade Marks (Amendment) Bill, 2010 - *Agreed by Lok Sabha* (pages 410-411)

Report of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development (page 269)

Report of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution- *Laid on the Table* (page 269)

Reports of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour - *Laid on the Table* (page 270)

[P.T.O.]

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Action Taken Statements of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour - *Laid on the Table* (pages 270-271)

Report of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources - *Laid on the Table* (page 271)

Motion for Election to the National Board for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (page 271)

Statements by Ministers-

Status of implementation of observations/recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture (page 272)

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second and Fourth Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (pages 272-273)

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the First Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemical and Fertilizers on Demand for Grants (2009-10) of the Department of Pharmaceuticals (pages 272-273)

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemical and Fertilizers on Demand for Grants (2009-10) of the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals (pages 272-273)

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fifth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemical and Fertilizers on 'Production and availability of medicines to deal with Swine Flu' (pages 272-273)

Matters raised with permission-

Implementation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, with special reference to the Khairlanji incident of Maharashtra (pages 278-280)

Denial of payment of salary to the railway employees in Kerala (pages 280)

Threat to Sikhs in the Kashmir Valley (pages 280-282)

Rehabilitation of the victims of Leh tragedy (pages 282-284)

Special Mentions-

Need for consolidation of public sector banks (page 284)

Concern over the threat to life and property of villagers in West Bengal due to subsidence of illegal coal mines (page 285)

Demand to take steps to ascertain the fees charged by the private medical practitioners and hospitals in the country (pages 285-286)

Need for establishing AIIMS/PGI, Chandigarh like medical institute in Himachal Pradesh (pages 286-287)

Demand for ban on use of GM seeds in the country (pages 287)

Demand for inquiry into irregularities being committed by private Haj tour operators (pages 287-289)

Demand to withhold environmental clearance to the proposed power project at Sompeta in Andhra Pradesh (pages 289-290)

Demand to restore the emergency quota in trains plying through Bihar (page 290)

Need for easy access to higher education for every citizen of the country (pages 290-291)

Demand for providing marketing and processing facilities to the potato growers in the country (pages 291)

Need to check the unsolicited phone calls in the country (pages 291-292)

Demand to supply adequate Urea and other fertilizers to the farmers of Andhra Pradesh (pages 292-295)

Government Bill - *Returned*

The Appropriation (Railways) No. 4 Bill, 2010 (pages 295-353)

Short Duration Discussion-

Large scale illegal mining in the country (pages 354-410)

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 20th August, 2010/ 29th Sravana, 1932 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

उपजाऊ भूमि को औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों में परिवर्तित किया जाना

*381. श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि उपजाऊ भूमि को औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों में परिवर्तित किए जाने के परिणामस्वरूप ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों से लोगों का पलायन हो रहा है तथा कृषि उत्पादन में गिरावट आ रही है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो अंतर-मंत्रालयीय बैठक में लिए गए निर्णय के अनुसार इसका विनियमन करने के लिए क्या-क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (प्रो. के.वी. थॉमस): (क) और (ख) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) और (ख) वर्षों से समूचे देश में कुल कृषि भूमि लगभग 182 मिलियन हैक्टे. रह गई है। तथापि, कृषि उत्पादन वर्ष 2005-06 में 2080.60 मिलियन मीट्रिक टन से बढ़कर वर्ष 2008-09 में 234.47 मिलियन मी. टन हो गया है। 2001 की जनगणना के अनुसार सभी समय के दौरान कुल 16.43 प्रतिशत पलायन हुआ जो ग्रामीण से शहरी क्षेत्रों की ओर था शेष पलायन अन्य स्थानों अर्थात् गांव से गांव, शहर से गांव, शहर से शहर तथा अवर्गीकृत क्षेत्रों के कारण हुआ। यद्यपि जनगणना आंकड़े विभिन्न पलायन क्षेत्रों और कारणों (अर्थात् कार्य/रोजगार, व्यवसाय, शिक्षा, विवाह, जन्म के पश्चात् चले जाना तथा अन्य) से संबंधित होते हैं। तथापि, कृषि भूमि के औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में बदलने के कारण लोगों के पलायन के संबंध में भारत सरकार द्वारा अलग से कोई आंकड़ा नहीं रखा जाता है।

भूमि राज्य सरकारों के अधिकार क्षेत्र में आती है। तथापि, कृषि भूमि के गैर-कृषि प्रयोजनों के लिए रूपांतरण को रोकने की दृष्टि से भारत सरकार ने राष्ट्रीय किसान नीति 2007 बनाई है जिसमें यह परिकल्पना की गई है कि मुख्य खेती की जमीन को, अपवादिक स्थितियों को छोड़कर, कृषि के लिए संरक्षित रखा जाए बशर्ते कि वे संस्थाएं जिन्हें कृष्य और गैर कृष्य परियोजनाएं प्रदान की गई हैं, वह अवकृत/बंजर भूमि के सुधार और सम्पूर्ण विकास के

लिए प्रतिपूर्ति करें। गैर-कृष्य उद्देश्यों के लिए, जहां तक संभव हो, कृषि के लिए कम जैविक क्षमता की भूमि को ही निर्धारित और आबंटित किया जाना चाहिए।

तदनुसार, राज्य सरकारों को गैर कृषि कार्यों के लिए औद्योगिक तथा निर्माण संबंधी क्रियाकलापों सहित गैर कृषि योग्य भूमि, क्षारीयता एवं अम्लीयता इत्यादि से प्रभावित भूमि जैसी कम जैवीय संभाव्यता वाली भूमि का निर्धारण करने की सलाह दी गई है। इसी प्रकार, राष्ट्रीय पुनर्वास एवं पुर्नस्थापना नीति, 2007 में यह प्रावधान है कि जहां तक संभव हो बंजर भूमि, अवक्रमित भूमि और गैर सिंचित भूमि पर ही परियोजनाएं स्थापित की जाएं। परियोजनाओं में गैर कृष्य उपयोग के लिए कृष्य भूमि का अधिग्रहण कम से कम होना चाहिए; परियोजनाओं में गैर कृषि उद्देश्यों के लिए कृषि भूमि का अधिग्रहण कम से कम किया जाए। बहुफसल वाली भूमि को ऐसे उद्देश्यों के लिए यथासंभव प्रयोग में न लाया जाए तथा यदि अपरिहार्य हो तो सिंचित भूमि का अधिग्रहण कम से कम किया जाए।

विशेष आर्थिक क्षेत्रों (एसईजेड) के बारे में राज्य सरकारों को सलाह दी गई है कि "सेज" के लिए भूमि अधिग्रहण के संबंध में बंजर और बेकार भूमि को प्राथमिकता दी जानी चाहिए। यदि आवश्यक हो तो "सेज" के लिए एक फसली कृष्य भूमि को लिया जा सकता है। यदि परिस्थितिवश दोहरी फसल कृष्य भूमि का क्षेत्र लेना आवश्यक हो, विशेषकर बहुतउत्पाद "सेज" के लिए तो यह कुल निर्धारित की गई भूमि का 10 प्रतिशत से अधिक नहीं होना चाहिए। "सेज" के लिए स्वीकृत बोर्ड उन्हीं प्रस्तावों पर विचार करता है, जो कि राज्य सरकारों द्वारा अनुमोदित की जाती है। भारत सरकार ने किसी भी ऐसे "सेज" को स्वीकृत नहीं करने का निश्चय किया है जहां भूमि के अनिवार्य अधिग्रहण को 5 अप्रैल, 2007 के बाद स्वीकृत किया है, अथवा इसे स्वीकृत करने का प्रस्ताव किया है।

Conversion of fertile land into industrial areas

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

(a) whether Government is aware that conversion of fertile land into industrial areas is resulting in migration of people from rural areas and decline in agricultural production; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to regulate it in accordance with the decision taken in the inter-ministerial meeting?

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

(a) and (b) Total agricultural land has remained around 182 million ha. across the country over the years. However, agricultural production has increased from 208.60 MTs in 2005-06 to 234.47 MTs in 2008-09. As per 2001 census, 16.43% of total migration during all times was from rural to urban areas and the remaining migration took place due to other migration streams viz. rural to rural, urban to rural, urban to urban and unclassified. Although the Census data captures various migration streams and reasons for migration (viz. work/employment, business, education, marriage, moved after birth and others), no separate data is maintained by Government of India regarding migration of people due to conversion of agricultural land to industrial area.

Land comes under the purview of the State Governments. However, with a view to prevent conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes, Government of India has in place the National Policy for Farmers, 2007, which envisages that prime farmland must be conserved for agriculture, except under exceptional circumstances, provided that the agencies that are provided with agricultural land for non-agricultural projects should compensate for treatment and full development of equivalent degraded/wastelands elsewhere. For non-agricultural purposes, as far as possible, land with low biological potential for farming should be earmarked and allocated. Accordingly, State Governments have been advised to earmark lands with low biological potential such as uncultivable land, land affected by salinity, acidity, etc., for non-agricultural development activities, including industrial and construction activities. Similarly, the National Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy, 2007 also provides that as far as possible projects may be set up on wasteland, degraded land or un-irrigated land. Acquisition of agricultural land for non-agricultural use in the projects may be kept to the minimum; multi-cropped land may be avoided to the extent possible for such purposes and acquisition of irrigated land, if unavoidable, may be kept to the minimum.

For Special Economic Zones (SEZs), State Governments have been advised that in case of land acquisition for SEZs, first priority should

be for acquisition of waste and barren land and if necessary, single crop agricultural land could be acquired for the SEZs. If perforce a portion of double cropped agricultural land has to be acquired to meet the minimum area requirements,

especially for multi-product SEZs, the same should not exceed 10% of the total land required for the SEZs. The Board of approval on SEZs, only considers those proposals which have been duly recommended by the State Government. Government of India has also decided not to approve any SEZs where the State Governments have carried out or propose to carry out compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs after 5th April, 2007.

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : धन्यवाद सभापति महोदय। उड़ीसा में कृषि योग्य भूमि बड़े पैमाने पर उद्योगों को दी जा रही है। मेरे आज के इस महत्वपूर्ण सवाल में यह बात थी कि कृषि योग्य भूमि को औद्योगिक घरानों को दिए जाने से गांवों से पलायन होता है। भले ही इस सरकार ने महात्मा गांधी NREGA योजना शुरू की है, लेकिन फिर भी अगर बड़े पैमाने पर औद्योगिक घरानों को, SEZs को कृषि योग्य भूमि दी जाती है, जिससे गांवों में जो उद्योग लगते हैं, उनमें रोजगार के अवसर बहुत कम होते हैं। फिर जो औद्योगिक घरानों का विकास होता है, जो उद्योगों का विकास होता है, उनके प्रदूषण का खेत पर प्रभाव पड़ता है, जिसके कारण आसपास की खेती में भी कोई काम नहीं होता है।

श्री सभापति : आप प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : सर, सरकार ने माना है कि पलायन का कारण अलग-अलग है, लेकिन फिर भी कृषि योग्य भूमि को औद्योगिक घरानों को दिए जाने से भी पलायन होता है, सरकार ने ऐसा माना है। मेरा specific सवाल है कि क्या केन्द्र सरकार को यह पता है, क्या केन्द्रीय कृषि मंत्रालय को यह पता है कि उड़ीसा में लगभग एक लाख हेक्टेयर भूमि औद्योगिक घरानों को दे दी गई है और किसान उद्योगों को जो जमीन देते हैं, सरकार की R&R Policy के तहत पर्याप्त रूप से उनको मुआवजा नहीं दिया जाता है?

श्री सभापति : पाणि जी, आपका सवाल हो गया।

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : सर, सवाल यह है कि पर्याप्त रूप से मुआवजा नहीं दिया जाता है। जब किसान आन्दोलन करते हैं, तो उन पर लाठी-डंडा बरसाया जाता है।

श्री सभापति : आपका सवाल क्या है?

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : सर, सवाल यह है कि औद्योगिक घरानों के कारण प्रदेश से पलायन हो रहा है, तो

क्या सरकार को यह पता है और क्या उड़ीसा के किसानों को राज्य सरकार से पर्याप्त रूप से कुछ मुआवजा दिलाने के लिए प्रयास कर रही है?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, according to our Constitution, the land management and agriculture are State subjects. But we have given some directives to all the States according to the National Policy for Farmers and according to the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy. So, it is for the State Governments to follow our guidelines, and, Sir, in Orissa, the land acquisition takes place as per the Orissa Land Acquisition Amendment Act and Orissa Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy. So, if there are some specific complaints, Sir, we will definitely look into them.

श्री उपसभापति : दूसरा सवाल पूछिए।

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : सभापति महोदय, केन्द्र सरकार ने माना कि उड़ीसा की R&R Policy में defect है और किसानों को ढंग से मुआवजा नहीं दिया जा रहा है ... (व्यवधान) ... मैं बता सकता हूँ ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : आप प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से भारत सरकार के कृषि मंत्रालय से यह प्रश्न पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार के पास सूचना है, तथ्य है कि वहां पर irrigated land को भी औद्योगिक घरानों को दिया जा रहा है? वहां पर एक "Rengali Irrigation Project" है, जिसका शिलान्यास श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी जी ने किया था और जिसका उद्घाटन डा. संजीव रेड्डी जी ने किया था। इस प्रोजेक्ट में जो प्रस्तावित सिंचाई योग्य भूमि है, उसको सरकार ने GMR Energy नामक कम्पनी को दिया है। मेरा specific सवाल है कि औद्योगिक घरानों को जो Irrigated land दिया जा रहा है, तो क्या भारत सरकार ने इसके बारे में राज्य सरकार से कुछ मामला उठाया है, बात की है? हम वर्ल्ड बैंक से करोड़ों रुपये लोन लेकर इरिगेशन के प्रोजेक्ट्स कर रहे हैं ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : पाणि जी, आप एक बात कहिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : सर, मेरा सवाल स्पेसिफिक है। हम हजार करोड़ रुपये लागत लगाकर, वर्ल्ड बैंक से लोन लेकर, इरिगेशन के प्रोजेक्ट्स करते हैं, लेकिन उसमें हमारी दूरदृष्टि नहीं होती कि उन इरिगेटेड लैंड्स को औद्योगिक घरानों को देने का सरकार का क्या उद्देश्य है। केन्द्र को राज्यों के साथ यह मामला उठाना चाहिए। क्या उसने इसे उठाया है?

श्री सभापति : प्लीज़। देखिए, आपका भाषण कहां शुरू होता है, सवाल कहां शुरू होता है, यह कोई नहीं समझ रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, similar problems were raised a few days back in the Lok Sabha and the hon. Finance Minister had given a clear answer, stating that a comprehensive land acquisition Bill is being considered by a Group of Ministers. This is an important issue. After consultation with all the political parties and concerned people connected with this issue and the State Governments, Government of India proposes to bring a comprehensive land acquisition Bill. As I have said, if there are any specific cases in Orissa, they may be brought to our notice and we would follow them up with the State.

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : सर, मैंने स्पेसिफिक क्वेश्चन पूछा था। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैंने इरिगेटेड लैंड के बारे में पूछा था। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; No more ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, Paniji, Shri Govindrao Wamanrao Adik.

SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK: Sir, as far as the land for SEZ is concerned, it has been said in the reply that the Government of India had issued certain guidelines or advice to the State Governments for acquiring certain types of land and not acquiring agricultural lands that are very productive. But I would like to know from the hon. Minister, when these guidelines are not strictly followed and advice is violated, what steps would the Government of India take against the States concerned?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, as I have said in reply to the first question, this is primarily a State subject; we can only issue guidelines. But, in certain cases, like the Special Economic Zones, Government of India has taken a very strong step. We have intimated the State Governments that for allocation of land, for multi-product SEZ, when they acquire land, the fertile land should not be more than ten per cent of the total land acquired, and even when this ten per cent land is taken, non-fertile land to the same extent should be converted into agricultural land. So, this is the stand taken by the Government of India where we can take some decisions, in the case of Special Economic Zones.

SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK: Sir, my question has not been answered; I seek your protection. My question has not been answered. I had specifically asked the hon. Minister, what steps Government of India would take against the State Governments when these guidelines are not accepted by them, or, are violated?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, as it is a federal system, we can only issue guidelines. It is for the State Governments to follow the guidelines.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, this is, indeed, a very important question and I have gone through the reply of the Government. It is a detailed reply, but, unfortunately, it does not address the real issue. The reply states that land has remained static and it has not increased, but agricultural production has increased; therefore, the fear that migration has led to decreased agricultural production is not true. The real issue is, over the years, land holdings have become fragmented. Agriculture, for marginal farm owners, has become economically unviable. That is why, there is need to establish industries that can generate employment. Take, for instance, the States of Punjab, Haryana, Kerala; there is not an inch of land with low biological potential, and, uncultivable, land affected by salinity or acidity or degraded land. What do we do? Our agriculturists feel that economic activity in these States is economically unviable. You need industries. The question for the hon. Minister is: What kind of a holistic policy prescription are you coming up with so that while fertile agriculture land is put to agricultural use yet States are not deprived of industrial activity because industry has to be set up on land? One-sided policy prescription is not going to reduce poverty.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, I am confined to the main question. The policy of the Government is that as far as possible the fertile land should be used only for agricultural purpose. If any State Government wants some fertile land for industrial purposes because of certain reasons, it has to find out equivalent non-fertile land for agricultural purpose. This is a confined policy of the Government of India. I understand that we need industries, but those industries should be on non-fertile land. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, my question is not answered.
...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No supplementaries on supplementaries.
...(Interruptions)...

श्री विनय कटियार : माननीय सभापति जी, यह बात ठीक है कि कृषि योग्य ज़मीन का सवाल किसी एक राज्य का नहीं है। पूरे देश के अंदर सरकारें मनमाने तरीके से उनका अधिग्रहण करती हैं और बड़े-बड़े उद्योगपतियों को लाभ पहुंचाने के लिए ये जमीनें दी जाती हैं। चाहे उड़ीसा हो, चाहे झारखंड हो या छत्तीसगढ़ हो, इन सभी राज्यों में आए दिन कई-कई हजार एकड़ जमीनें आप बड़े-बड़े उद्योगपतियों को दे देते हैं। उन पर कौन सा कानून लगता है? राज्य सरकार तो कभी वन विभाग के कानून का बहाना बनाकर या कोई और बहाना बनाकर इसे रोक भी सकती है, लेकिन आपकी केन्द्र सरकार तुरन्त रातों-रात उनको clearance दे देती है। क्या इसके कारण नक्सलवाद बढ़ रहा है? आज जो बेराज़गारी हो रही है, जंगलों का कटान हो रहा है, उसके कारण ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : आप सवाल पूछिए।

श्री विनय कटियार : उत्तर प्रदेश के गाजियाबाद में बहुत पहले पावर प्रोजेक्ट लगाने के लिए जमीन का अधिग्रहण हुआ था, लेकिन आज तक पावर प्रोजेक्ट नहीं लगा। क्या जमीन को आप किसानों को वापस दिलाएंगे?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, every State in the country has got its own land acquisition rules and amendments. In Orissa, there is Orissa Land Acquisition Amendment and in Kerala there is Kerala Land Utilisation Order. What we can do is that we can give guidelines. We can interfere when permissions are sought for multiple zones by the State Governments. There we can impose some restrictions. This is the only way by which the Government of India can interfere. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री विनय कटियार : क्या आप उत्तर प्रदेश की जमीन वापस कराएंगे? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

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

श्री विनय कटियार : सभापति जी, मैंने जो बेसिक प्रश्न पूछा है ...**(व्यवधान)**... जहां जमीनों का उपयोग ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not agitate in the House.
...(Interruptions)... आप बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान)... This is not going on
record. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विनय कटियार : *

MR. CHAIRMAN : Q.NO. 382

Stalling of Delhi Bound Shatabdi Express at Bhopal

*382. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on 13 July, 2010, Delhi bound Bhopal
Shatabdi Express was stalled at Bhopal; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) On 13th July 2010, 2001 Bhopal-New Delhi Shatabdi Express
had a late start of 5 minutes from Bhopal on account of delay in boarding
of the train by some passengers. There was, however, no stalling of the
train at Bhopal.

SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Sir, the reply given is "Bhopal-New Delhi
Shatabdi Express had a late start of 5 minutes from Bhopal on account of
delay in boarding of the train by some passengers." Who were those
passengers? Trains like Shatabdi and Rajdhani are prestigious trains. For
whom it was delayed should be known to the House. This august House has a
right to know that for whom prestigious trains like Shatabdi and Rajdhani
are being delayed. The delay may be of two minutes or five minutes. But,
there was delay. I want to know from the Minister for whom, this train
was delayed.

*Not recorded.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in this particular matter, the train took five minutes extra to start from Bhopal to help some last minute arrivals of foreign tourists to board the train. They arrived at the railway platform and the Railway staff had helped them to board the train. They were all foreign tourists. That was the reason for five-minute delay.

SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Sir, it has been reported in the media that the passengers were from America, and for those Americans, the train was delayed. But, I would like to mention that the train was delayed as per the directions given from the Railways Headquarters in New Delhi. I want to know whether it is true or not.

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: Sir, first of all, the hon. Member should appreciate that the country's prestige comes first. We always give hospitality to foreigners. They are our guests, whether they are from America, Russia, or, China. They had given the prior information that they were 15 minutes late because of some traffic jam or something like that. They crossed the foot over-bridge. So, they had taken permission not from the Railways Headquarters at New Delhi; it was from the Divisional Headquarters in consultation with the Station Master and the Divisional Control. They had requested for fifteen passengers. And, I would like to inform the House that this train was not delayed. It started five minutes late, but it reached Delhi only eight minutes late. In our official system, if it is a delay of less than fifteen minutes, it is considered punctual.

श्री नरेश चन्द अग्रवाल : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान भी दिलाना चाहता हूँ और उनसे पूछना भी चाहता हूँ कि बहुत सी ट्रेनें बहुत ज्यादा लेट हो रही हैं, जो ट्रेनें लेट हो रही हैं, उनको सही समय पर लाने के लिए आपने कौन सी नई योजना बनाई है और क्या निर्देश जारी किए हैं? दूसरी बात यह है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में बंगाल और बिहार से होकर जितनी भी ट्रेनें आती हैं, वे सारी ट्रेनें बहुत ज्यादा लेट आती हैं। जितनी भी ट्रेनें लखनऊ पहुंचती हैं, वे सारी ट्रेनें दो-तीन घंटे लेट पहुंचती हैं। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इसके लिए कोई ऐसा उपाय करेंगे, जिससे बंगाल और

बिहार से होकर उत्तर प्रदेश में आने वाली ट्रेनें समय पर पहुंचें, ताकि यात्रियों को असुविधा न हो? साथ ही साथ, रेलवे प्रणाली के सिस्टम में ट्रेनों के आने और जाने के समय के बारे में

जानकारी दी जाती है, उसमें हर समय कहा जाता है कि सही समय पर है ... (व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : देखिए, सवाल एक ट्रेन का है ... (व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, मैंने ट्रेन लेट पर ही सवाल पूछा है, कोई दूसरा सवाल नहीं पूछा है। ... (व्यवधान)...

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

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, मैंने पढ़ लिया है, मैंने पूरे सिस्टम पर पूछा है कि ट्रेनें जो लेट हो रही हैं, उसके लिए क्या उपाय सोचा है? ... (व्यवधान) ... मैंने वही पूछा है। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : आप इसके लिए दूसरा सवाल दीजिए। ... (व्यवधान)...

कुमारी ममता बनर्जी : सर, मैं Member की आभारी हूं कि उन्होंने एक अच्छा प्रश्न पूछा है। Though it is not related to this question, but in general interest, मैं जानकारी देना चाहूंगी और हाउस को भी इसकी जानकारी मिलनी चाहिए। सर, बहुत सारी ट्रेनें लेट होती हैं, क्योंकि "रास्ता रोको" किया जाता है, "रेल रोको" किया जाता है, Obstruction किया जाता है, रेल को रोक दिया जाता है ... (व्यवधान)...

एक माननीय सदस्य : कौन करता है?

कुमारी ममता बनर्जी : बहुत सारी political parties भी करती हैं ... (व्यवधान) ... Don't ask me and don't incite me; I am not going to name. ... (Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : उसको क्लीयर कर दीजिए। ... (व्यवधान)...

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: I may fight my battle politically outside the House, and not inside. I always maintain the dignity of this House. Sir, with your kind permission, I want to inform that sometimes, because of some flood, natural disaster, the trains may be late. But, Sir, nowadays, because of road blockade, rail blockade, delay of trains has increased like anything. In eleven per cent cases, delay of trains is due to these blockades. This is horrible thing. I will appeal to all my countrymen that don't delay the trains. अगर वह पश्चिमी बंगाल में रुकती है तो बिहार के लिए लेट हो जाती

है because train passes through one State to another. देखिए, बिहार से पश्चिमी बंगाल जाते हैं, पश्चिमी बंगाल से बिहार जाते हैं। जब दिल्ली से आते हैं, तो बिहार, पश्चिमी बंगाल, उत्तर प्रदेश, सब जगह घूमकर ट्रेन आती है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

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

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : महोदय, यह नहीं पता चला कि माननीय मंत्री महोदय किस पर आरोप लगा रही हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**... कौन ट्रेन रोक रहा है?

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: Because railway is the lifeline of the nation.
...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री सभापति : पाठक जी, प्लीज़...

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: One train passes throughout the country.
...**(Interruptions)**... If any problem arises in any State, it affects the whole system और whole system अगर affect होता है, तो उसमें controlling loss होता है। We are really sorry for that. This time we are maintaining record.
...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : कौन लोग जिम्मेदार हैं?

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

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: Sir, just one minute. We are maintaining the punctuality, which is 75 per cent. This time we are keeping actual, fool-proof record. Because of Railroko, obstruction, sabotage and all these things we are losing 11 per cent. Even then we are maintaining our level of punctuality, which is 75-80 per cent.

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : सर, मैं केवल इतना ही जानना चाहता हूँ कि ट्रेन तो स्टेशन के बाहर right time पर पहुंच जाती है, लेकिन स्टेशन पर पहुंचने में outer पर उसे आधा घंटा लग जाता है, तो यह ...**(व्यवधान)**... बोलने दीजिए, हमें बहुत कम चांस मिलता है। जब आधा-आधा घंटा ट्रेन वहां रुकती है, तो हमें बहुत तकलीफ होती है, तो क्या आप स्टेशन पर कोई ऐसा सिस्टम बनाएंगी कि जो गाड़ियां समय से आ रही हैं, वे समय से स्टेशन पर पहुंच जाएं?

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: Sir, though this question is not related to this question, यह जनरल क्वेश्चन है, लेकिन तब भी मैं कहना चाहूंगी कि earlier 1.8

crore passengers used to travel by the

Railway daily. अभी पैसेजर्स बहुत बढ़ गए हैं जो कि 2 करोड़ 20 लाख हो गए हैं। अब पैसेजर्स की संख्या बहुत बढ़ गई है, लगभग 2 करोड़ और हमारा infrastructure इतना नहीं बढ़ा लेकिन जो भी अपग्रेडेशन हमने किया है, congestion बहुत है। Everybody is asking for train. I think that if you observe it, you will realize that our infrastructure needs upgradation, modernization. We need more infrastructure. Sometimes it also affects the system. If you ask for more stoppage, we are willing to give it, but you have to see it from the operational point of view. There is some congestion. We are trying to increase more and more infrastructure so that people don't suffer.

श्री अनिल माधव दवे : सभापति जी, Union Carbide का Anderson हो या फिर शताब्दी में जाने वाले अमेरिकन हॉ, भोपाल में हम इन सबको विशेष privilege देते ही हैं और दिल्ली के आदेश पर देते हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : सवाल पूछिए।

श्री अनिल माधव दवे : सवाल में यह पूछ रहा हूँ, मेरा रेलवे से related एक प्रश्न है और वह भोपाल से है कि भोपाल की सेंट्रल रेलवे में जब भी कोई वेस्टर्न रेलवे से ट्रेन आती है, particularly उज्जैन और इंदौर की तरफ से, तो वह आउटर सिग्नल पर आधा-आधा घंटा रुक जाती है। जब वह वहां रोक दी जाती है, तो उसके दोनों ओर रेलवे की भूमि पर इतना अधिक्रमण है कि इसके कारण पैसेजर्स को अत्याधिक परेशानी होती है। लोग उसमें चढ़कर पानी भरते हैं और अंदर जो महिलाएं होती हैं, उनके साथ बदतमीजी भी होती है। तो इसको लेकर, रेलवे भूमि पर हुए अतिक्रमण के संबंध में, कोई इसकी सुरक्षा या चिंता है क्योंकि अगर आप वोटों की तरफ देखेंगे तो कभी भी इसका निर्णय नहीं हो सकता है?

कुमारी ममता बनर्जी : सर, क्या होता है कि अभी कोई ट्रेन time पर चलती है, लेकिन अगर road blockade हो गया और मान लीजिए कि एक ट्रेन को 10.10 बजे cross करना है लेकिन वह लेट हो गई और दो trains एक साथ आ गई तो यह तो ऑपरेशनल कंडिशन होती है। इसी वजह से ऐसी परिस्थिति होती है। If it is running as per normal schedule, then there is no problem. From the operational point of view, the problem is because of delay due to some blockade and when some problem is being created. अगर यह होता है, आप जब प्लेन में जाते हैं तो क्या होता है? आसमान में प्लेन आधा घंटा चक्कर लगाता है। They are not getting the permission from air traffic control, तो क्या करें?

*383. The Questioner, (Shri Bhartsinh Prabhatsinh Parmar) was absent.

Grants to States for SSA

*383. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2554 given in the Rajya Sabha on 11 December, 2009 and state:

(a) the amount Government has spent towards grants to States under the sharing pattern of SSA in the years of which figures are available during the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) the ratio of (a) to GDP in terms of percentage?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) In response to Unstarred Question No. 2554 given in the Rajya Sabha on 11th December 2009, Government had provided information on the fund sharing pattern for implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme, as comprising 65:35 sharing ratio between the Centre and States in 2007-08 and 2008-09, 60:40 ratio in 2009-10, 55:45 ratio in 2010-11 and 50:50 ratio in 2011-12 and thereafter. In respect of the States in the North Eastern Region (NER), the reply had indicated that the sharing pattern between the Centre and the States is in the 90:10 ratio. Government had also indicated at that time that there was no proposal to revise the fund sharing pattern between the Centre and State Governments. Since then, however, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has become operative and a proposal to revise the fund sharing pattern between the Centre and the States to implement the combined RTE-SSA programme is under consideration of the Government.

Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (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, taking into account the fund sharing pattern between Central and State Governments applicable for that year. The Central funds are released after verification of the release of

State share applicable for the year and the unspent balances of the total funds released in the previous year. The total year-

wise Central grants released to States/ Union Territories for implementation of SSA in the 11th Plan and their percentage in relation to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at factor cost at current prices are:

Year	Central Releases	GDP#	% age value between
	(Rs. in crore)	(Rs. in crore)	Central releases and GDP
2007-08	11426.26	4540987	0.2516
2008-09	12604.81	5228650@	0.2411
2009-10	12781.07	5791268*	0.2207

@ quick estimates

* advance estimates

#Source: National Accounts Statistics, 2010

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Sir, in view of the fact that 19.8 per cent of the total resources of the Eleventh Five Year Plan have been allocated to the education sector as a whole which is unprecedented in the history of India after independence the hon. Prime Minister described the Eleventh Five Year Plan as the Education Plan. Sir, through you, I want to ask from the hon. Minister that as reported in one section of the Press, this is the fourth year of the Eleventh Five Year Plan and the speed of spending the resources earmarked for HRD is not keeping pace. As a result, some of the resources are likely to be under-utilised. Is it true that the resources are likely to be under-utilised? If so, what is the plan of the HRD Ministry to speed up the expenditure?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Member to have asked this general question outside the main question that has been put. But, be that as it may, I am willing to answer it. Yes, Sir, there have been allocations which were given to us under the Eleventh Plan and yes, in terms of those allocations that were considered, the actual Budgetary allocations are much less. And, that's

due to several factors and not just one factor. One of the factors, for example, is, we announced establishment of 14 innovation universities. Plans for those innovation universities have not yet taken off for the simple reason that the concept of an innovation university is not yet clear. We have to come to Parliament. We have set up a task force. So, in the absence of a plan or roadmap ahead, we can't spend that money. Same is the case with the Central Universities. Now, we had set up about 16 Central Universities. But, again, as far as those Central Universities are concerned, the architectural plans for building those universities are not yet complete. They are left to the university councils. Possession has been taken in some cases; in some cases, not even boundary walls have been constructed. So, a lot of money, for example, Rs.84943 crore which was set apart for higher education sector has not been spent. But, as far as elementary education and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan are concerned, because these are on-going schemes, the allocations that have been made for them have been spent more or less, over 90 per cent. So, where there are new schemes, the allocations are yet to be spent. Therefore, for the allocations conceived in the Eleventh Plan, there is no Budgetary support because we are not ready on the ground. But, for the on-going schemes, in fact, the allocations have been spent wherever made.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Sir, the norms of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, which is straight-jacket one, are applicable to all States irrespective of specific conditions prevailing in a State. In Kerala, we have got the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya scheme. Kerala is not getting any assistance under this scheme because the enrolment of girl child is very high in Kerala. In the same way, there is the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan for secondary schools. In Kerala, the problem is not of enrolment but of improving and enhancing the quality of education. So, my question is: Will the hon. Minister be kind enough to take into consideration the specific conditions of States and change the norms accordingly?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, it's very difficult to have a Centrally-sponsored scheme to suit specific conditions of different States. It's very, very difficult to do that. In fact, we must congratulate Kerala because Kerala has done very well in certain areas, especially education of girl child. Now, if you

have done well and we all believe in inclusive development, then, we should actually be asking - the hon. Member should be asking - how much we are doing for the States which are not doing so well. As you know, once we have an inclusive agenda on which everybody has agreed, the question should not be that those States which are doing well should get more. The question should, in fact, be that please give more to the States which are not doing well because that is how we will take the nation forward.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहती हूँ कि जो एसएसए के फंड्स हैं, जैसे मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि North-East Region में 90 और 10 परसेंट का ratio है, क्या हिमाचल प्रदेश भी इसमें आता है क्योंकि उसे स्पेशल स्टेट माना गया था? दूसरा, मैं यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या एसएसए के फंड्स केवल हमारी सरकार के हैं या बाहर के देशों से भी इसमें फंड्स आते हैं?

श्री कपिल सिब्बल : सर, माननीय सदस्या ने दो सवाल पूछे हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please answer one.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सर, दोनों का ही जवाब देने दीजिए।

श्री कपिल सिब्बल : सर, जहां तक हिमाचल प्रदेश का सवाल है, यह केबिनेट का decision है, सरकार का decision है कि नॉर्थ ईस्ट में जो हमारा, यानी सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट का योगदान होगा, वह 90 प्रतिशत होगा और 10 प्रतिशत स्टेट का होगा। इसलिए ऐसी कोई नीति हिमाचल प्रदेश के बारे में हमने तय नहीं की है। जहां तक फॉरेन फंडिंग का सवाल है, सर्व शिक्षा अभियान में फॉरेन फंडिंग आती है, लेकिन वह लगभग 6 प्रतिशत है, बाकी हम अपना spend करते हैं। अगर हम 100 प्रतिशत spend करते हैं तो 6 प्रतिशत बाहर से आता है।

GPS in railways

*384. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trial of pilot project for setting up of Global Positioning System (GPS) for giving real time information to the railway passengers carried out jointly by the Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO) and the IIT, Kanpur has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds allocated for the said purpose and the details of expenditure so far incurred for the trial of the pilot

project;

(d) whether decision to implement this system in Indian Railways has been finalized by the Railway authorities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A system as a pilot project named Satellite Imaging for Rail Navigation (SIMRAN) has been developed jointly by Research Designs & Standards Organisation (RDSO) & Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur, funded jointly by Ministry of Railways & Ministry of Human Resource & Development (MHRD) and is capable of monitoring trains' location and movement in real time. The system can also provide real time information to public through Internet, SMS and station display boards. The system can also be exploited for alerting railwaymen working on the tracks and alerting road users at level crossing gates when a train is approaching.

(c) Expenditure Rs. 1.4 crores by Ministry of Railways and Rs. 2.1. crores by Ministry of Human Resource & Development (MHRD) has been incurred.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The security implications in communication of the train location information directly on the internet and through SMS are being assessed and decision will be taken shortly.

श्री नंद कुमार साय : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैंने माननीय रेल मंत्री जी से जीपीएस के संबंध में पूछा था। यह परियोजना रेल सुरक्षा के लिए तकनीकी मिशन के तहत 2003 में स्वीकृत की गई थी और इसको 2008 तक पूरा करने का लक्ष्य था। किन्तु राजधानी या शताब्दी जैसी कुछ ट्रेन्स हैं, 40-50 ट्रेनों में ही यह सिस्टम लगाया जा सका है। मैं माननीय रेल मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूं कि वर्ष 2003 से 2010 तक सात वर्षों में इतनी कम ट्रेनों में इसको लगाया गया है, इसमें विलम्ब बहुत हुआ है, उसके क्या कारण हैं? क्या इसको और भी जगह लगाने के लिए कोई योजना रेल मंत्रालय के पास है?

कुमारी ममता बनर्जी : सर, जीपीएस सिस्टम को यू.एस. में इस्तेमाल किया जाता है। हमारी जो रेलवे की एक्सपर्ट्स कमेटी Sam Pitroda की है, उन्होंने रिकमंडेशन दी, for SIMRAN and

its is under consideration.

We will do it as early as possible. From the safety point of view, हम लोगों ने जो pilot projects किया था, उसको हमने 3.5 करोड़ रुपये में किया था और अब यह complete हो गया है, यह successful हुआ है, and SIMRAN will be helpful in preventing the accidents even from the unmanned level crossings. So, we have decided to do it immediately and it will be completed within two years, Sir.

श्री सभापति : आप दूसरा प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री नंद कुमार साय : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न है कि RDSO और IIT कानपुर SIMRAN के माध्यम से दो नये उपाय रेल पथों पर गैंगमेन और ट्रैकमेन की चेतावनी देने के हैं और दूसरे में चौकीदार रहित, सहित समपारों पर सड़क उपयोगकर्ताओं को चेतावनी देने के लिए परीक्षण कर रहे हैं। क्या इन उपायों को लागू करने के लिए कोई समय-सीमा तय की गई है? यदि कोई समय-सीमा तय की गई है, तो उसको पूरा करने के लिए कब तक समय-सीमा है?

कुमारी ममता बनर्जी : सर, मैंने बताया था कि दो साल में यह कम्पलीट हो जाएगा। जो क्वेश्चन SIMRAN के बारे में है, जो कानपुर IIT ने किया था, जिस पर रेलवे मिनिस्ट्री ने और HRD मिनिस्ट्री ने काम किया था, वह सक्सैसफुल हो गया है और वह दो साल में कम्पलीट हो जाएगा।

श्री सभापति : श्री मोहम्मद अमीन।

SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN: Sir, there are a large number of vacancies in the Railways. Connected with the question of railway safety, I want to know from the hon. Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is on GPS in railways.

श्री मोहम्मद अमीन : सर, रेलवे का ही तो मामला है।

श्री सभापति : नहीं, यह जीपीएस के संबंध में है।

श्री मोहम्मद अमीन : सर, इसमें एक्सीडेंट का सवाल है और एक्सीडेंट का रेलवे सेफ्टी के साथ कनेक्शन है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no; railway safety is a much wider subject. Let us confine the supplementary to the main question, please.

श्री मोहम्मद अमीन : सर, हम माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहते हैं कि जो वेकेंसीज़ खाली हैं, इनके लिए पिछले छह महीने में कितने लोगों को लिया गया है and by what time these vacancies will be filled up.

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: This is, absolutely, a different question, Sir. This is about equipment. The main question relates to GPS. But, for my friend, I want to say that already, we have started. We have started the work; the process is on. Because for ten years it was not done, the vacancy was there. This time, we have started the process of filling the vacancies, and we are giving the special focus for SCs/STs, Physically Handicapped and the Minorities,-and we are giving them the priority. As for OBCs and Disabled Persons, I have already covered. Then, for the Sports quota.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: And the drive is on. We have done as per the new recruitment policy, and the process is on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Shrimati Shobhana Bhartia.

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Thank you, Sir. About the GPRS System, that would give real time information, there are certain concerns about the security, that this information can be used and misused by those who want to get the actual position and those who want to destroy and sabotage the railway tracks, and all that. In view of the fact that there have been certain suspected sabotage incidents and the consequent loss of life, what inbuilt checks and balances would the Ministry propose to keep so that this flow of information is not misused to actually damage the railway tracks?

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: Sir, I am really obliged because Shobhana Bhartiya has raised a very valid question. Yes, there is a concern, and we are examining it in detail; that is why some time more we are taking. But let me assure the House that we have to do it very quietly because the country matters; if there is a matter of security, it is a concern for each and every one. For that, we are trying to do something. We will talk to the other Ministries, and also to the concerned Ministry, and we will take full precautions. Nowadays, in the Railways, sabotage and terrorism are so much. They were not there earlier. The Railways is for the people. Earlier it was-only protesting, अब तो सबोटेज के लिए भी हो गया, इसीलिए प्रॉब्लम भी हो गई है। She has raised a very valid point. We will get the

details. We will examine the case very seriously. If there is any need for some foolproof security system, we will consider it and then we will do it.

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी : सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि हम GPS सिस्टम ला रहे हैं, बहुत अच्छी बात है और मंत्री जी इसके लिए बधाई के पात्र भी हैं। रेलवे की जो लाइनें हैं और उनके ऊपर जो फ्लाई ओवर बनते हैं, उनमें से काफी फ्लाई ओवर बनकर तैयार हैं। रेलवे लाइन के ऊपर जो पोर्शन होता है, उसको रेलवे को तैयार करना होता है तथा यह उसकी जिम्मेदारी भी है, लेकिन वह अधूरा पड़ा हुआ है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : यह GPS का सवाल है।

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी : सर, यह इन्फोर्मेशन ही है। GPS के माध्यम से रेल की इन्फोर्मेशन देनी है, तो हम ऑनरेबल मिनिस्टर के माध्यम से पुल की इन्फोर्मेशन ले लेंगे।

कुमारी ममती बनर्जी : सर, मैं कोई A to Z dictionary नहीं हूँ। यदि माननीय सदस्य स्पेसिफिक क्वेश्चन पूछेंगे तो मैं उत्तर दूंगी। स्टेट गवर्नमेंट फ्लाई ओवर के लिए 50 परसेंट देती है और रेलवे भी 50 परसेंट देती है। इस बारे में हमारा जो काम था, वह हमने पूरा कर दिया है। अगर आपकी कोई स्पेसिफिक कम्प्लेंट है, तो you can write to me, and I will give you the details.

Khurda-Bolangir Railway Line

*385. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Khurda-Bolangir railway line sanctioned two decades ago has not progressed much due to differing stand of Railways from time to time and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the sanction of funds for the project and expenditure incurred against those sanctions, year-wise, and the reasons for shortfall if any;

(c) the reasons for changing the criteria of the project from a socially useful project for opening up backward areas to one with economic viability; and

(d) the reasons for shifting the project to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) and the revised schedule of its completion?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Khurda Road - Bolangir new line (289 km) project was included in the Budget 1994-95. The work on the project is progressing as per the availability of resources. In the first phase, Khurda Road - Begunia (36 km) has been taken up and is targeted for completion during 2010-11. In Phase-II, Begunia-Daspala (36-112 km) long lead items of major bridges have been taken up.

(b) The year-wise details of the allocation and expenditure is as under:

(Figures in crore of Rs.)

Year	Allocation	Expenditure
1994-95	1.00	0.82
1995-96	2.00	0.93
1996-97	1.50	1.50
1997-98	2.00	0.23
1998-99	2.00	0.28
1999-00	10.00	3.77
2000-01	14.50	2.19
2001-02	5.00	1.86
2002-03	5.00	6.27
2003-04	15.00	10.29
2004-05	15.38	8.40
2005-06	10.00	8.33
2006-07	23.00	23.03
2007-08	20.00	6.34
2008-09	32.43	3.50
2009-10	28.07	13.90

During 2010-11, an outlay of Rs 120 crore has been provided for the project. There has been delay in forestry clearance, handing over of Government land free of encumbrances and failure of contracts.

(c) and (d) It has been decided not to transfer this project to RVNL. The line is passing through backward areas of Orissa State and is a socially desirable project. Railways has huge throwforward of ongoing projects with limited availability of resources, as a result projects take long time in completion. However, the project is being progressed as per the available resources.

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Sir, my first supplementary is this. This is a 16-year project which is seeking to link very backward areas of Orissa. The hon. Minister has stated in her reply that it is a socially desirable project. An amount of Rs. 186 crores was allocated in the last 16 years. Out of that, an amount of Rs.95 crores was diverted and in the last three years an amount of Rs.58 crores was not spent. Is the Minister aware that the ongoing bridges could have been completed, a lot of work could have been done and the entire money could have been spent without going into the questions of forest clearance, handing over Government land free of encumbrances and failure of contracts? Why were they not completed?

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: Sir, Khurda-Bolangir railway line is a very important railway line for Orissa. There are many other lines also. There are many pending projects worth more than Rs.1 lakh crores throughout the country. It is not that I am responsible for this. This is an ongoing process and the projects are pending. It is a fact that in our country there are socially desirable areas. People are staying in those backward areas. They need railway lines. They lack railways. Paucity of funds is also a problem. But Khurda-Bolangir line is very important. That is why we have given more than Rs.120 crores for this line. Previously it was given Rs.5 crores, Rs.10 crores, Rs.15 crores, like that. We try to do our best. Let us complete the first phase. I can assure the hon. Member that, whatever is the fund provided, it will be implemented.

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Sir, while thanking the Minister for continuing this as a socially desirable project, not transferring it to

the RVNL, allocating Rs.120 crores this year and

saying that this Rs.120 crores will be spent this year, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether she is aware of the fact that as a result of the efforts of the State Government to persuade power plants and industries to come to the hinterland of the railway lines, two power plants have agreed to establish power plants in the hinterland. Therefore, would the hon. Minister consider directing the Railway Board to fix a firm schedule for the completion of the line, at least, up to Daspalla, which is the second phase so that these power plants or industries do not shy away again from their decision?

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: Our Department is encouraging private parties also to connect the port, the coal mines, and even the college areas, university areas and other important areas. We have already announced our RCH policy, where we say, we are willing to give them the economic share, if the people are interested. So, we are giving importance to this project. The first phase will be completed before March, 2011, and then, we will take up the second phase. I can assure the hon. Member that whatever we have said, we will do our best to complete the first phase, and, then, we will go in for the second phase. About RVNL, we are not in for it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Rudra Narayan Pany. You put your supplementary, without a speech.

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : I will, specifically, put my supplementary. क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदया यह बताएंगी कि इस महत्वपूर्ण परियोजना के विलंब का कारण यह कहा जा सकता है कि राज्य सरकार द्वारा भूमि अधिग्रहण करके रेलवे को देने में कहीं कोई प्रॉब्लम रह गई है?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: It will be better if I give him a written reply.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Sir, the hon. Minister, in her answer to this question, has said, "However, the project is progressing as per available resources." But, from the records of allotment which she has given, it is clear that in the previous years, that is, in 2008-09, Rs.32.33 crores

were allotted, but only Rs.3.5 crores were spent; in 2009-10, Rs.28.07 crores were allotted, out of which

only Rs.13.90 crores were spent." So, the resources are there. But why is the Ministry not spending this money on such an important line, which is considered as the lifeline of Orissa?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, when this project was announced, there was a decision that the State Government would acquire land. Now, there are some problems relating to land acquisition. That is why the Railways are not able to do it. But, this time, we have decided that we will pursue the matter with the State Government too. So, whatever is required to be done, we will take action accordingly.

SHRI RUDRA NAYARAN PANY: That was my supplementary. वे नहीं कर रहे हैं।

कुमारी ममता बनर्जी : पाणि जी, मैंने बोल दिया है।

रेल दुर्घटनाएं

***386. श्री गंगा चरण :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वर्ष 2009-2010 के दौरान कुल कितनी रेल-दुर्घटनाएं हुई हैं और उनमें जान-माल का कुल कितना नुकसान हुआ है;

(ख) आतंकवादियों द्वारा किए गए बम-विस्फोटों तथा रेल पटरी उड़ाने की वजह से कितनी रेल-दुर्घटनाएं हुई हैं; और

(ग) इन दुर्घटनाओं के कारणों का ब्यौरा क्या है और भविष्य में इस तरह की दुर्घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए क्या-क्या उपाय किए जा रहे हैं?

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

विवरण

(क) वर्ष 2009-10 के दौरान भारतीय रेल पर कुल 100 परिणामी रेलगाड़ी दुर्घटनाएं (बिना चौकीदार वाले समपारों पर सड़क उपयोगकर्ताओं द्वारा अनाधिकार प्रवेश की घटनाओं को छोड़कर) हुई। इन दुर्घटनाओं में 64 व्यक्ति मारे गए हैं और 54.29 करोड़ रुपये (लगभग) की रेल संपत्ति का नुकसान होने का अनुमान है। यद्यपि परिणामी गाड़ी दुर्घटनाओं की संख्या में कमी आई है जो 2002-03 की 269 की तुलना में घटकर पिछले वर्ष 100 हो गई, फिर भी प्रत्येक घटना दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण होती है और रेलें ऐसी पुनरावृत्ति को रोकने के लिए सभी प्रयास करती हैं।

(ख) 2009-10 में हुई 100 परिणामी दुर्घटनाओं में से 7 दुर्घटनाएं (सभी रेलगाड़ी के पटरी से उतरने की दुर्घटनाएं) बम विस्फोटों के कारण हुई।

(ग) रेलपथ पर बम विस्फोट अथवा रेलपथ को उड़ाने का कृत्य रेलगाड़ी संचालन में बाधा उत्पन्न करने के लिए असामाजिक तत्वों/शराती तत्वों द्वारा किए गए। रेलवे पर पुलिस व्यवस्था राज्य का विषय है और अपराधों की रोकथाम, मामलों को दर्ज करना, उनकी छानबीन करना तथा कानून एवं व्यवस्था बनाए रखना राज्य पुलिस का सांविधिक उत्तरदायित्व है जिसका वह संबंधित राज्य की राजकीय रेल पुलिस (रारेपु) के माध्यम से निर्वहन करती हैं। बहरहाल, शराती तत्वों द्वारा की जाने वाली तोड़फोड़ की रोकथाम करने तथा यात्रियों की संरक्षित एवं सुरक्षित यात्रा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए निम्नलिखित उपाय किए जा रहे हैं:

- I. खंडों/क्षेत्रों में रेल सुरक्षा बल (रेसुब) और राजकीय रेल पुलिस (रारेपु) द्वारा नामित रेलगाड़ियों का मार्गरक्षण किया जा रहा है।
- II. रेल के 202 भेद्य स्टेशनों पर निगरानी तंत्र को सुदृढ़ बनाने के लिए एक एकीकृत सुरक्षा प्रणाली अनुमोदित की गई है।
- III. रेल स्तर पर महाप्रबंधकों और मुख्य सुरक्षा आयुक्त/रेल सुरक्षा बल (रेसुब) द्वारा और मंडल स्तर पर मंडल रेल प्रबंधक और वरिष्ठ मंडल सुरक्षा आयुक्त/ रेसुब द्वारा क्रमशः राज्य सरकारों और जिला प्रशासनों के साथ समन्वय बैठकें की जाती हैं।
- IV. बोर्ड गृह मंत्रालय के साथ गहन समन्वय भी कर रहा है।

Train accidents

*386. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of train accidents which took place during the year 2009-10 and the total loss of lives and property occurred therein;

(b) the number of rail accidents which occurred due to bomb blasts or blowing up of railway lines by terrorists; and

(c) the details of reasons behind these accidents and the measures being taken to check such accidents in future?

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

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

Statement

(a) During the year 2009-10, a total of 100 consequential train accidents (excluding incidents of trespassing by road users at unmanned level crossings) took place on Indian Railways. 64 persons lost their lives in these accidents and railway property worth Rs. 54.29 crore (approx.) has been estimated to be lost. While there has been a decline in the number of consequential train accidents from 269 in 2002-03 to 100 last year, every accident is unfortunate and Railways make all efforts to prevent such occurrences.

(b) Out of 100 consequential train accidents in 2009-10, 7 accidents (all derailments) were caused due to bomb blasts.

(c) The bomb blasts on the track, or blowing off the track had been done by anti-social elements/miscreants to cause disruption to train movement. Policing on Railways is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order is the statutory responsibility of the State Police, which they discharge through the Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. However, following measures are being taken to prevent sabotage by miscreants and 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 are held by the General Managers and Chief Security Commissioners/Railway Protection Force (RPF) at Zonal level and Divisional Railway Managers and Senior Divisional Security Commissioners/RPF at Divisional level with the State Governments and Districts Administrations, respectively.

(iv) Railway Board is also keeping close coordination with the Ministry of Home Affairs.

श्री गंगा चरण : सभापति जी, मैंने माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जो ट्रेन दुर्घटनाओं का सवाल किया था, उस संबंध में मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि दुर्घटनाओं के बाद जो जांच होती है और जो अधिकारी दोषी पाए जाते हैं, उनमें से

अभी तक कितने अधिकारियों के खिलाफ दंडात्मक कार्यवाही की गई है? दुर्घटना में जो विकलांग हुए हैं या मारे गए हैं, उनके आश्रितों में से कितने लोगों को रेलवे ने अभी तक नौकरी दी है? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : एक सवाल पूछिए।

श्री गंगा चरण : एक ही सवाल है, इसी से जुड़ा हुआ है। यह इसी का पार्ट है।

श्री सभापति : इसका पार्ट नहीं है। आप दो सवाल पूछ रहे हैं, वन क्वेश्चन प्लीज।

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, whenever the Railways find an officer at fault or guilty, action is taken. During the last five years, from 2005-06 to 2009-10, 976 defaulting railway employees have been awarded various penalties, ranging from removal, dismissal, minor punishment and their. ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : सर, इन्होंने अधिकारियों के बारे में पूछा है, कर्मचारियों के बारे में नहीं।

श्री गंगा चरण : मान्यवर, मैंने DRM और GM level के अधिकारियों के बारे में पूछा है। मैं कर्मचारियों के बारे में नहीं जानना चाहता हूँ। जो अधिकारी जिम्मेदार हैं, उनमें से कितने लोगों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई की गई है?

कुमारी ममता बनर्जी : सर, रेलवे में जब कोई accident होता है, तो इसके लिए एक सिस्टम होता है। जैसे अभी एक accident हुआ और उसे हम लोगों ने सीबीआई को दिया। एक तो हमने जानेश्वरी एक्सप्रेस की दुर्घटना को सीबीआई को देने के लिए हमने request किया है। इसमें एक तो रेलवे की सेफ्टी कमीशन है, वह एक रिपोर्ट देती है, हम उस पर भी कार्रवाई करते हैं। साथ-साथ अगर कोई दूसरी बात बाती है, तो हम लोग सीबीआई को भी देते हैं। जब तक रिपोर्ट नहीं मिलती है, तब तक हम लोगों का जो internally एक सिस्टम है, उसे हम अपने डिपार्टमेंट से करते हैं। रिपोर्ट आने के बाद, उसकी recommendation के मुताबिक हम लोग action लेते हैं। लेकिन हमें इसको और भी stringent करना है। Law would take its own course. यह सब हमको देखना है। इसको हमें ठीक तरीके से भी करना है। Law and order is not with the Railways. लेकिन जैसा केस होता है, उसके मुताबिक हम केस file करते हैं।

आपने DRM के बारे में बताया, ऐसे बहुत सारे DRMs पहले भी suspend हुए हैं, इधर-उधर उनका transfer हुआ और उनके खिलाफ action लिया गया। जैसे खन्ना कमेटी ने गाईसाल incident के बाद हम लोगों को 278 recommendations दिए थे, इनमें से हम लोगों ने 236 recommendations accept किए। ऐसे ही आपकी Standing Committee ने रेलवे के बारे में जो recommendations दिए we have accepted all the recommendations. अगर आपके पास किसी के खिलाफ ऐसी कोई specific सूचना है, जिसमें किसी की कोई गलती है और उसके खिलाफ action नहीं लिया गया, you can send it to me; I would get it examined and give you details.

श्री सभापति : आप दूसरा सवाल पूछिए।

श्री गंगा चरण : सर, मेरा प्रश्न यह था कि आतंकवादियों द्वारा किए गए बम विस्फोटों तथा रेल पटरियों को उजाड़ने की वजह से कितनी रेल दुर्घटनाएं हुईं। मैं माननीया मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जो माओवादी हमले हुए हैं, उन माओवादी हमलों पर अपने बयान दिया कि इसमें कोई राजनीतिक साजिश है, तो मैं आज जानना चाहता हूं, सदन जानना चाहता है कि आपन जांच करा ली होगी, आज आप उस साजिश का भंडाफोड़ सदन के सामने करें कि यह किसकी साजिश थी? आजकल आपकी ट्रेनों पर माओवादी हमले हो रहे हैं, जबकि आप उनके ऊपर बड़ी कृपा और सहानुभूति रखती हैं, तो इस साजिश का ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : One question, please.

कुमारी ममता बनर्जी : यह बहुत बड़ा क्वेश्चन है, sensitive question भी है। Investigation अभी चल रही है। Investigation खत्म होने के बाद मैं पूरी बात हाउस को बता पाऊंगी, लेकिन यह बात ठीक है कि maoist attacks, bandhs, अवरोध and sabotage, 2009-10 से लेकर 15 July 2010 तक, ये सब मिला कर 217 disruptions हुई हैं। हमारी रेलवे का एक हजार करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान हुआ है। इसकी वजह से June और July में हर एक बंध के दिन 416 पैसंजर ट्रेनें cancel हुई हैं, हमारी 70 मेल ट्रेनों की punctuality affect हुई है। Sir, can you imagine, July 2010 तक Bandh had been called on 75 occasions. तो ट्रेन कैसे चलेगी? अगर यह बंगाल में रुकेगी, तो बिहार में भी रुकेगी, अगर आंध्र प्रदेश में रुकेगी, तो automatically चेन्नई में रुकेगी और महाराष्ट्र में रुकेगी? ऐसा क्यों हो रहा है? हम अपील करते हैं कि ऐसा नहीं करना चाहिए।

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, the CAG Report, which comes in the wake of a series of train accidents, has revealed not only the under-utilization of funds allocated for safety purposes, but also alleged that the Railways

could still not fill up vacancies on the safety side. The audit carried out by

CAG on the performance of the Railways in the first phase of Corporate Safety Plan between 2003 and 2008 shows that more than 50 per cent of the Rs.4600 crores allocated for safety works has remained unutilized. The Report found huge gaps between the Railways' promise and execution of safety-related projects, including upgradation of training centres to step up competence.

Additionally, there are 86,108 vacancies in safety category posts, posing risk operations. Sir, 20 per cent of wagons run on railways was overloaded and those wagons were allowed to run even after detection of the overload endangering track conditions. Sir, I would like to know the response of the Minister towards this report; I would also like to know when would the over 86,000 vacancies in the safety category be filled up.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, the corporate safety fund was about Rs.17,000 crores and it was given to the Department in 2003. This was part of the Rs.31,000 crores which was the allotted money for the corporate safety plan; out of that Rs. 29,376 crores have already been spent. Only less than Rs. 2,000 crores are left out; the corporate safety fund would be fully spent within 2013. We are left with only less than Rs.2,000 crores and this money would be spent within 2013. We have almost spent all the money. If you see the report of the mid-term review of the corporate safety plan done by Railway board after 2007-08, you would find that the situation has changed.

About vacancies, I have already said. The House would be happy to know about filling up of safety-related vacancies. There are some categories like gangmen. Now, we have decided; in consultation with the union people, the safety-related people, there is a safety-related employment guarantee scheme; and we are doing it where gangmen and other safety-related employees, if they offer their voluntary retirement in favour of their son/daughter, then the Railways would give them the priority. In the Railways we give provision for the employees son/daughter so that the gangmen who have put in 20 years of permanent service, if they are ready, if they apply saying that they are unable to do the gangman's work and that their son/daughter may be allowed to do

the job, then we allow this. So, this scheme is already allowed. About other safety-related vacancies, they are in the process and we are doing everything to fill them up.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we all know about the Gyaneshwari Train accident which left about 160 people dead and many people injured. My question, through you, Sir, to the hon. Minister is: What are the findings of the cause of the accident? Who are these persons? Is it not a fact that many of the people who are accused of causing this accident were found to be attending a rally addressed by the hon. Railway Minister in Lalgarh?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I have said in the House that let me deal with this question impartially and not politically though you have connected it politically. The question is related politically.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: It is a crime. ...(Interruptions)... People were attending a rally, Madam. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, Mr. Punj, you have asked your question, listen to the answer. ...(Interruptions)...

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: You have asked your question, please let me reply, it is my prerogative now. Sir, about the first part of the question on the Gyaneshwari Express train, yes, *prima facie*, the accident is a sabotage bomb-blast; we have handed over this case to the CBI; they are investigating it. After they submit a report, you can get the details. Secondly, about the rally, it is your political question; it is politically fabricated. Nothing, not even a single thing is related to my rally.

SHRI RAASHID ALVI: The Railways had appointed a commission to find out the reasons of the accidents. According to the report of the commission, more than 40 per cent accidents have taken place because of human error. It is because of the human error. About 25 per cent accidents are taking place because of unmanned crossings. It means, these accidents can be avoided. अगर ये एक्सिडेंट्स इंसानी गलतियों की वजह से हुए तो अवॉयड किये जा सकते थे। अगर अनमैन्ड क्रॉसिंग की वजह से ये एक्सिडेंट्स हुए तो अवॉयड किये जा सकते थे। मेरा मंत्री जी से सवाल है कि आपने उन लोगों के खिलाफ क्या कार्रवाई की जो इसके लिए जिम्मेदार थे? What precautions are you taking in future that no accident takes place because of human error?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, there are so many projects on various things and unmanned level crossing is also a part of it. At that time, 25,000 unmanned railway crossings were there. But, during these years, it is now only 16,000. It is because funds are being spent on it from the Safety Fund. When, I again became the Railway Minister, I found that there were about 16,000 unmanned railway crossings. You will be happy to know that we have already taken up 4,000 unmanned railway crossings. So, right now, there are only 12,000 unmanned railway crossings. According to our Vision Document, these 12,000 unmanned railway crossings would also be completed in three-four years. And, we will complete the signaling of these unmanned level crossings within two years.

Incidence of dacoity in running trains

*387. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether dacoits in police uniforms and equipped with arms etc. are looting commuters in running trains;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents which have come to the notice of Railways;

(c) whether Railway Protection Force has completely failed to protect commuters from dacoits and anti-national elements in running trains; and

(d) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to prevent such crimes on running trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) and (b) No, Sir. No such incident has been reported.

(c) and (d) 'Policing on Railways' is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases and their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments concerned which they

discharge through the Government Railway Police (GRP) and Civil Police. Railways bear 50% cost of expenditure on the Government Railway Police. As such Railway has to depend largely on the State Governments. RPF does not have any legal power to prosecute the offenders involved in criminal offences like dacoity/ robbery/ theft of passengers' belongings, drugging etc.

However, to provide better security to the travelling passengers in trains and passenger areas, the RPF Act, 1957 and the Railways Act, 1989 have been amended in the year 2003 to enable the Railways through the Railway Protection Force, to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways and for maintenance of law and order. RPF have been empowered to deal with 29 minor offences such as roof travelling, alarm chain pulling, toutting, ticket less travel, unauthorized entry in ladies compartment etc. after modifying the Railways Act 1989, so that GRP can spare more time and manpower to prevent and detect heinous offences like Murder, Dacoity/ Robbery, Rape etc.

In addition to the above, the following measures are being taken by the Railways for the security of passengers:-

1. 1275 trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force daily on an average, in addition to escorting of 2200 trains by Government Railway Police of different States.
2. The Ministry of Railways has been closely coordinating with the State Governments for prevention and detection of crimes on Railways and maintenance of law and order.
3. A coordination meeting with the State Home Secretaries, officials of Ministry of Home Affairs, Intelligence Bureau and Railways was held on 20.01.2010 at Rail Bhavan, New Delhi.
4. Regular coordination meetings are being conducted with GRP and Civil Police by Railways at Zonal and Divisional level to review the crime position in Railways.
5. Regular announcements at important stations are made to create awareness among the travelling public about passenger offences,

especially about cases of drugging.

6. An amendment in the RPF Act is under examination to enable RPF to deal with the passenger related offences more effectively.

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन : धन्यवाद सभापति महोदय। माननीय मंत्री जी के द्वारा जो उत्तर दिया गया है उसमें लिखा है कि डकैती की कोई भी घटना नहीं हुई है और उनकी जानकारी में भी नहीं है। अभी हाल ही में 6 अगस्त को कलकत्ता-दिल्ली एक्सप्रेस-3111 अप में बिहार में डकैती पड़ी, 21 आदमी घायल हुए जिसमें जी.आर.पी.एफ. का स्टाफ भी था। 8 अगस्त को हावड़ा-अमृतसर एक्सप्रेस-3049 अप में जेसीडी और झाड़ा रूट पर डकैती पड़ी, जिसमें 3 पैसंजर्स को मारा व लूटा गया और डेढ़ लाख रुपये की लूट हुई। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि आए दिन रेलगाड़ियों में डकैतियां पड़ रही हैं, लूटमार हो रही है और उसके बाद अगर यह उत्तर दिया जाता है कि ऐसी कोई घटनाएं नहीं हो रही हैं, तो मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि यात्रियों को लूटने, ठगने, जहर खुरानी, स्नेचिंग तथा अन्य जो भी घटनाएं होती हैं उनकी एफ.आई.आर. क्यों नहीं दर्ज होती है और अगर एफ.आई.आर. दर्ज नहीं की जा रही हैं तो इसके क्या कारण हैं और सरकार किस प्रकार से जो रेलवे पुलिस फोर्स है उसको यह अधिकार देने जा रही है कि इन डकैतियों की, इन लूटमार की समाप्ति हो? क्योंकि, आजकल यह पाया जा रहा है कि रेलवे में चलना बहुत ही जोखिम भरा होता चला जा रहा है। मैं सरकार से जानना चाहूंगा कि इसमें वह क्या सुधार करने जा रही है और कानून में क्या परिवर्तन ला रही है?

कुमारी ममता बनर्जी : सर, माननीय सदस्य का क्वेश्चन था कि क्या पुलिस यूनिफार्म पहनकर डकैती की जा रही है या नहीं? तो हम लोगों ने कहा कि नहीं, ऐसी कोई इंफार्मेशन हमारे पास नहीं है। अगर जी.आर.पी.एफ. ने कुछ किया हो तो स्टेट पुलिस है। जी.आर.पी.एफ. जो रेलवे में पुलिस प्रोटेक्शन फोर्स है, RPF is different from the GRPF. लेकिन आपने जी.आर.पी.एफ. का नाम लिया है, जी.आर.पी.एफ. तो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट का होता है, लेकिन The Railways give 50% salary to them. The State Government also gives 50%. So, they take care of it. हमारे पास ऐसी कोई जानकारी नहीं है कि पुलिस ड्रेस पहनकर कोई डकैती हुई है। क्योंकि यह सेंसेटिव सब्जेक्ट भी है अगर पुलिस की ड्रेस पहनकर कोई चीज होती है तो यह अनकांस्टीट्यूशनल है। अगर आपके पास कोई जानकारी है तो हमको दीजिए।

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन : सभापति जी, जो जानकारी मिली है, जो अखबारों में सूचनाएं मिलती हैं उसमें तो यही जानकारी है कि पुलिस वर्दी वगैरह में लोग जाते हैं। जो माननीय मंत्री जी कह रही हैं, वही मैं भी कह रहा हूं कि उसकी एफ.आई.आर. दर्ज नहीं की जाती है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में और भी कहा है कि यात्रियों से

जुड़ी वारदातों में अधिक कारगर कार्रवाई करने में रेल सुरक्षा बल को समर्थ बनाने के लिए आर.पी.एफ. एक्ट में संशोधन करने की जांच की जा रही है। यह जानकर प्रसन्नता है कि जांच की जा रही है। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि यह प्रक्रिया कब तक पूरी होगी, आर.पी.एफ. को कब यह अधिकारी मिलेंगे और इतनी जो घटनाएं डकैती आदि की हुई हैं उसमें जो कोऑर्डिनेशन स्टेट पुलिस के साथ होता है, उसमें क्या घटनाएं हुई हैं और स्टेट पुलिस से क्या कोई रिपोर्ट मिली है कि उन घटनाओं में क्या प्रगति हुई है, कोई अपराधी पकड़े गए हैं अथवा नहीं?

कुमारी ममता बनर्जी : हम लोग स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के साथ कंटीन्यूअस परस्यू करते हैं कि लॉ एंड आर्डर को प्रोटेक्शन दीजिए, Law and order is a State subject. आप प्रोटेक्शन दीजिए। हम इसको परस्यू करते हैं। लेकिन आपने बोला है कि पुलिस के खिलाफ क्या कार्रवाई हुई है? हम स्टेट गवर्नमेंट नहीं हैं, हम कैसे कार्रवाई करेंगे, स्टेट पुलिस के खिलाफ कार्रवाई तो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट करेगी, हम कैसे कर सकते हैं। उनके खिलाफ एफ.आई.आर. दर्ज करने की अथॉरिटी रेल की नहीं है। दूसरी बात, आर.पी.एल. के बारे में आपने जो पूछा है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : लगातार बिहार में डकैतियां हो रही हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : बैठ जाइए, जवाब तो सुन लीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE : If Parliament allows the RPF to do it. ...**(Interruptions)**... because it is a law and order problem, then, we will be happy to do it. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : मैडम को तो पता ही होगा कि वहां पर कितनी घटनाएं हुई हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Structural framework for national food security

†388. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: 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 a discussion was held with regard to National Food Security in the recent meeting of the National Development Council;

(b) if so, the efforts made or proposed to be made for creating structural framework in this regard; and

(c) the details of action taken with regard to implementation of this National Policy?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) During the meeting of the National Development Council on 24th July, 2010, mid-term appraisal of the 11th Plan was discussed. Many aspects of the National Food Security were discussed highlighting the fact that better agricultural performance, especially performance in food production is crucial for food security. Efforts being made in many States to increase agricultural productivity were also discussed and adoption of better technologies was emphasized. Several Chief Ministers emphasized the need for strengthening of Public Distribution System and early operationalization of the Food Security Act.

Government has been working on various aspects of the proposed National Food Security Act. The Empowered Group of Ministers constituted for considering various issues related to the proposed law, has been deliberating on issues like better estimation of poverty levels, methodology for identification of poor families/individuals, entitlements for distribution of subsidized foodgrains, reforming Targeted Public Distribution System, linking of TPDS entitlements to Unique Identification numbers of citizens, etc. On conclusion of these deliberations, Government will come out with a draft of the National Food Security Act for inviting views/suggestions.

Achievement of targets of railway safety plan

*389. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that not a single zone of Railways has achieved the target of Ten Years Railway Safety Plan which started from 2003;

(b) whether there is a shortage of 85,100 staff in all sections concerning safety, including operating, electrical, mechanical and civil operations;

(c) whether it is a fact that the observations of CAG in this regard have not yet been complied;

(d) the total amount collected from the special railway safety surcharge, which was ranging from Rs. 2/- to Rs. 100/- from the travellers; and

(e) whether it is still being charged?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) The currency of Corporate Safety Plan (CSP) will come to an end only on 31.03.2013. Upto 31.3.2010, there has been 92.27% financial progress on works under Corporate Safety Plan, which is more than pro-rata progress.

(b) Arising and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process. As on 01.04.2009, there were 89,024 vacancies in safety categories.

(c) The CAG Report was presented in the Parliament on 03.08.2010. Action has already been initiated on the Highlights and Recommendations mentioned in the Report.

(d) During the year from 2001 to 2007, the total amount collected from passengers by way of levying safety surcharge on passengers tickets was Rs. 3784 crores.

(e) With effect from 31.03.2007, the surcharge has been subsumed in passenger fares.

Maintenance and preservation of HOR/VIP quota

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

(a) whether there is a standing order of Railway Board regarding maintenance and preservation of requisitions received under High Official Requisition(HOR)/VIP quota since 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this order is not being followed properly by Railways on the pretext of voluminous work involved in maintenance and preservation thereof;

(d) if so, the reasons and the justification therefor;

(e) whether non-preservation and maintenance of HOR is a boon for corrupt officials who confirm the tickets as per their choice and not according to needs; and

(f) whether an enquiry would be conducted and fresh guidelines would be issued?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per instructions issued in April, 1998 the requisitions pertaining to release of emergency quota are to be preserved for a period of at least three months from the date of journey.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Do not arise, since records are preserved.

Construction of new railway lines

*391. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has submitted a proposal for construction of new railway lines namely, Dhrangadhra-Santalpur, Palanpur-Ambaji-Abu Road, Dhanera-Goradu, Nadiad-Dholka and Tharad-Vas-Suigam border; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) As per available records, no such proposal has been received from the State Government of Gujarat.

School buildings occupied by security forces in Jharkhand

*392. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the wake of Green Hunt Military Operation in Jharkhand, the forces have occupied some schools in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, how many school buildings have been taken over by the

CRPF in Jharkhand on a permanent basis and how many school buildings on an 'off-and-on' basis; and

(c) whether this has denied the children in Jharkhand the right to education apart from mid-day-meal which is the only full meal most children get?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Government of Jharkhand has reported that four elementary school buildings are being used by Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and para military forces.

(c) The State Government has reported that it has started the process of having the school buildings vacated by the forces. It has also reported that alternative arrangements have been made to run classes in the vicinity of the schools, and that the children are getting mid-day-meal.

Survey of Bhopal gas tragedy

*393. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the only comprehensive survey of Bhopal Gas Tragedy victims undertaken by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), two-and-half decades ago, is now untraceable;

(b) whether the survey, commenced just two weeks after the gas leak in 1984, involved a total of 478 students, 41 faculty members and 13 staff members covering more than 25,250 households in the vicinity of the gas plant and it was conducted over a period of 6 weeks; and

(c) whether the survey was funded by Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, since the then State Government refused to sponsor or finance it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has informed that the survey was conducted 26 years back and the relevant documents are not readily available.

Quality of higher education

*394. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there exists paucity of quality colleges and universities in the country with the result that growing demand for quality higher education cannot be fully met;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Deemed University status granted to colleges/universities on a large-scale, without making an in depth study of their infrastructure, has further scale down the quality of education; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the corrective measures proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) While norms have been prescribed by University Grants Commission (UGC), and other regulatory authorities in respect of quality of faculty and physical and academic infrastructure, in the absence of any law for mandatory accreditation of institutions, it is difficult to estimate paucity of quality colleges and universities in the country. The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Higher Education was 12.4% at the beginning of XI Plan and is expected to be increased by 5 percentage points by the end of the current Plan and, thereafter, to 30% by 2020 in order to match the world average GER. It is estimated that achievement of the targeted GER would require near doubling of the number of colleges from the present, approximately, 26000. The National Knowledge Commission has estimated the requirement of university level institutions to be 1500 against the present strength of 504.

(b) and (c) Under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, the Central Government may, on the advice of the Commission, declare an institution for higher education as deemed to be university for the purposes of the said Act. As on date, 130 institutions have been declared as institutions deemed to be universities. As the process of declaring of institutions as deemed to be universities under the extant Guidelines of the UGC were challenged before the Supreme Court [WP (C) No. 142/2006:

Viplav Sharma Vs. Union of India & Others] and there was a growing public perception regarding dilution in academic standards in certain institutions deemed to be universities, the Government had ordered a review of functioning of such institutions. The Review Committee comprising of eminent academic experts has found 44 institutions to be unfit to continue as institutions deemed to be universities. The Government has, in principle, accepted the report of the Review Committee. However, the matter is sub-judice and the Supreme Court has directed the Government to maintain *status quo* in respect of the said 44 institutions. The University Grants Commission (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations 2010, have now been notified and are in force w.e.f. 26.05.2010 replacing the UGC Guidelines 2000. Under the new regulations, the process of declaration, as well as the functioning of institutions deemed to be universities in governance and academic operations are expected to be more effective.

A bill providing for mandatory accreditation and establishment of an institutional structure for the purpose has been introduced in Parliament which will also provide for assessment of quality standards being maintained in institutions deemed to be universities.

Pantry services in long distance trains

†*395. SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the basis for providing pantry services in long distance trains running on different railway routes of the country; and

(b) the number of such long distance trains wherein this facility has not been provided alongwith details thereof, area-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) The attachment of pantry cars to trains is based on factors such as operational feasibility, priority of the train, journey time, commercial justification, availability of pantry cars, load of the train, etc. among others. As per the new Catering Policy 2010, the attachment of pantry

cars in trains is to be done in phases as per priority for allotment which is premier, super fast and mail/express trains and on trains with running time of more than 24 hours each way and /or provided with vestibuled coaches.

(b) 37 pairs of long distance Mail /Express trains which have a running time of more than 24 hours have not been provided with pantry cars. Food services in these trains are provided through train side vending facilities as well as static catering facilities at stations enroute.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Implementation of Nutrient Based Subsidy scheme

*396. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme for fertilizers has been implemented;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase domestic capacity of fertilizer production; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Based on the recommendation of the Group of Ministers (GOM) and after consultations with the State Governments and the fertilizer industry and after the inter-ministerial consultations Government has introduced Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) policy for decontrolled Phosphatic & Potassic (P&K) fertilizers, w.e.f. 1.4.2010 in the first phase of the NBS policy.

Under NBS, the subsidy on decontrolled P&K fertilizers has been determined for each nutrient on per kg basis for 2010-11 and fixed by the Government annually. Since the subsidy for each grade of fertilizers will remain fixed, the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of fertilizers at farm gate level has been opened. As per the direction of the Government, keeping in view the affordability of the farmer and current price level of fertilizers and fertilizer inputs in the international market, for the year 2010-11, the Department has fixed the subsidy for the nutrients Nitrogen 'N', Phosphate 'P', Potash 'K' & Sulphur 'S' in such a manner that the farm gate prices of P & K fertilizers are near the prices prevailing before 31st March 2010 so that the farmers are not adversely affected. Fertilizer companies are required to print MRP along with applicable amount of subsidy on each fertilizer bag clearly. Any sale above the printed MRP is punishable under the EC Act.

The NBS is applicable for Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP, 18-46-0), Muriate of Potash (MOP), Mono Ammonium Phosphate (MAP, 11-52-0), Triple

Super Phosphate (TSP, 0-46-0),
12 grades of complex fertilizers and Ammonium Sulphate (AS -
(Caprolactum grade by GSFC and

FACT), which were covered under the earlier Concession Scheme for P&K fertilizers up to 31st March 2010 and Single Super Phosphate (SSP) up to 30th April 2010. Primary nutrients, namely 'N', 'P' and 'K and Secondary nutrient 'S' contained in the fertilizers mentioned above are eligible for NBS.

After implementation of the NBS, requirements of fertilizers for both Kharif 2010 and Rabi 2010-11 have been firmed up. In addition to the estimated indigenous production of DAP (45 lakh MT) and complex fertilizers (88 lakh MT), import of 70 lakh MT of DAP, 45 lakh MT of MOP and 12 lakh MT of complex fertilizers have been committed. Further, inclusion of SSP under the NBS is expected to make about 35 lakh MT of SSP available indigenously.

Urea remains under Government control and is canalised by the Government through designated canalising agencies. W.e.f 1st April 2010, Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of Urea has been increased from Rs. 4830 per MT to Rs. 5310 per MT after a gap of nearly 8 years.

(c) and (d) The Government had notified New Investment Policy on 4th September 2008 for attracting new investments in the urea sector. The fertilizer Industry has responded positively to the New Investment Policy by initiating investment decision for revamp of existing urea capacities. Most of the existing units have either completed their revamp or are currently implementing revamp projects in their units contributing around 1.5 million MT increase in existing urea capacity. Further, six fertilizer companies, namely IFFCO-Kairol, KRIBHCO-Hazira, RCF-Thal, IGFL-Jagdishpur, CFCL-Gadepan and TCL-Babralla, have also indicated their intention for expansion of their existing units by setting up a 1.15 Million MT per annum Ammonia Urea plants in their existing premises. The creation of additional capacities by revival of closed plants of HFCL and FCIL is also under consideration of the Government.

Janambhoomi Express

*397. SHRI NATUJIHALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal to operate

Janambhoomi Express from Jamnagar to Udhampur and not from Ahmedabad and one Durgam train between Jamnagar and New Delhi via Rajkot, Viramgam and Mehsana;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the said proposal;

(c) whether Government has made any survey that a large number of uniformed defence personnel are performing their duty at Jamnagar and not at Ahmedabad; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) Representations to operate "Janambhoomi Express" between Jamnagar and Udhampur and Duronto train between Jamnagar and New Delhi have been received and have not been found feasible for implementation due to operational constraints. Janambhoomi Express train announced in the Railway Budget 2010-11 will run between Ahmedabad and Udhampur.

(c) and (d) This is not within the purview of the Ministry of Railways.

Regulations for handling of hazardous material in laboratories

*398. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked the University Grants Commission (UGC) to frame regulations for procurement, handling, storage, transport and disposal of hazardous material in universities and colleges across the country;

(b) if so, the details of action taken by UGC in this regard;

(c) whether any physical surveillance has been conducted by UGC at laboratories of various universities/colleges across the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, how does the Government/UGC propose to monitor the activities of these laboratories in future?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. University Grants Commission (UGC) has constituted an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. G. K. Rath of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), vide order dated 3rd May, 2010 to

frame guidelines for universities, research institutes and colleges for procurement, storage, usage, and disposal of radioactive and other hazardous materials/chemicals.

(c) and (d) According to the UGC, the Committee has held detailed discussions, conducted site visits and inspection of several laboratories and has also obtained information from 21 universities. Draft guidelines recommended by the Committee are under examination of the UGC.

Rotting of foodgrains

*399. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that millions of tonnes of foodgrains are on the verge of total rot throughout the country as these are covered only under tarpaulins and are exposed to monsoon rains;

(b) if so, the details thereof with a list of total foodgrains stored under tarpaulins during the last three years;

(c) whether Government has conducted any survey to ascertain the monetary value of such foodgrains;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to save these foodgrains from rotting?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) There has been higher procurement of foodgrains for Central Pool during the last two years. As all stocks cannot be stored in existing covered godowns of FCI and State Government agencies, some of them are also stored in cover and plinth (CAP) storage. However, no foodgrains are stored under tarpaulin. Storage in CAP is on scientific lines and precautionary measures are taken to preserve the stocks as per guidelines.

During last three years, following quantities were stored by FCI in CAP:

As on	Quantity (in Lakh Tons)
31.07.2007	3.10
31.07.2008	5.93
31.07.2009	15.70

As on 31.7.2010, such quantity was 21.77 lakh tons with FCI and 137.56 lakh tons with State agencies.

However, reports have been received about damage to foodgrain stocks in FCI and State agency depots by rains and floods during July, 2010 in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Maharashtra and West Bengal as per details given in the statement (see below).

These damages have taken place due to failure in taking required precautionary measures by concerned agencies except at Bani and Ismailabad in Haryana where the damage has been due to floods.

A team from Department of Food & Public Distribution inspected storage situation of foodgrains in FCI Depots at Hapur (Ghaziabad), Orai (Jalaun) and Harduaganj (Aligarh) in Uttar Pradesh during July, 2010 and observed damage to wheat stocks at these depots due to exposure to rains.

Central teams have also inspected storage situation of wheat in two districts each in Punjab and Haryana and noticed damages to foodgrain stocks due to flood/rains at Bani in Sirsa district and Ismailabad in Kurukshetra district, Haryana and at four storage centres each in Sangrur and Ferozpur districts of Punjab. Based on acquisition cost and likely sale price of so far quantified wheat and rice damaged during recent rains, loss works out to Rs.21.14 lakh. Exact quantities of rest of the damaged stocks are being worked out. After detailed inquiry in each case of damage, FCI and concerned State agencies are to fix responsibility and recover the losses. For damages at Hapur, Orai and Harduaganj depots in U.P., FCI has initiated action including suspension of 8 officers.

FCI and State agencies have been directed to intensify checks by senior officers and ensure proper storage of foodgrains in covered godowns as well as CAP complexes. FCI has also been asked to get every case of damage investigated and fix responsibility.

Statement

*Details of FCI depots and storage centres of State Government agencies
where the damages have taken place due to recent rains and flood*

States	Depots	Damaged wheat (tons)
1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	Hapur	9.3
	Harduaganj	90
	Orai, Jalaun	0.5
	Saharanpur, CWC,	29.2
	Bamanheri	
	CWC, Saharanpur,	1.0
	Pilkhani	
Rajasthan	Roza, Shahjahanpur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Chanderi, Kanpur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Udaipur, rail head	8.56
Haryana	HSWC, Bani	Damage yet to be quantified
	CAP Complex	Damage yet to be quantified
	Ismailabad,	
Punjab	Kurukshetra	
	CAP complex Khonuri,	Damage yet to be quantified
	Sangrur	Damage yet to be quantified
	3 Punjab Agro CAP	
	Complexes, Sangrur	
	Pungrain	Damage yet to be quantified
	Talwandi, Ferozepaur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Markfed CAP	
	Copmplex, Zira,	Damage yet to be quantified
	Ferozepur	
Uttrakhand	2 Punjab Agro CAP	
	Complex, Ferozepur	
	SWC Gadarpur,	Damage yet to be quantified
	Udham Singh Nagar	

1	2	3
Maharashtra	FCI Karad	8.0
	FCI Gondia	0.8
West Bengal	FSD, Chinsura	7
	FSD, Dankuni	14.62
	FSD, Midnapur	0.08

In addition, FCI has also reported damage to 30.18 tons of rice in four depots in Bihar and 1 ton of rice in one depot in Andhra Pradesh.

Age-limit in respect of posting

*400. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the age limit in respect of posting as DRM, Zonal General Manager, Member of Railway Board and other Senior Group A postings in the Railways; and

(b) the details regarding total DRM, GM., Office Superintendent in Divisional Offices all over the country as on 1 January 2010, category-wise, i.e., General, S.C., S.T., O.B.C., etc.?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) The upper age-limit for consideration for the posts of Senior Officers in the Railways are as under:-

- i) Divisional Railway Manager - 52 years, at the time of short listing
- ii) General Managers and equivalent - 58 years, on the date of occurrence of the vacancy falling in the turn of the empanelled officer for which he is cleared in the panel.
- iii) Members, Railway Board - Normally 58 years on the date of occurrence of the vacancy of Member, failing which 59 years

on the date of occurrence of
the vacancy

iv) Additional General Managers, - 59 years on the date of
Principal Heads of Department occurrence of the vacancy
falling in the turn of an
officer

(b) The details regarding the total number of Divisional Railway Managers and General Managers all over the country as on 01 January 2010, category-wise are as under:-

Post	SC	ST	OBC	Others	Total
DRM	8	2	-	58	68
GM or equivalent	1	0	-	25	26

*Not available because at the time of their initial recruitment, there was no reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBC)

Details regarding the total number of Office Superintendents which is a Group-C post, is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Sanctions of KVK at Bhind in Madhya Pradesh

†2881. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) has been sanctioned for district Bhind in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the current status and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) has been established in Bhind district of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) (i) This KVK in Bhind district is functioning under the administrative control of Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Gwalior, MP.

(ii) A budgetary provision of Rs.239.86 lakh has been made for

the KVK, Bhind during the XI Plan. For the establishment of infrastructural facilities an allocation of Rs. 157.90 lakh was made during the XI Plan.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(iii) The KVK is undertaking its mandatory activities like technology assessment, refinement, frontline demonstration and training of farmers, rural youth and extension functionaries. The action plan for 2010-11 is being finalized and has been approved.

Proposal for cattle and dairy development

†2882. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received any proposal from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for expansion of dairy development as well as animal husbandry under the special package announced by Government for the development of Bundelkhand;

(b) if so, the amount thereof and the reasons of pendency of the proposal received from the State Government till date; and

(c) whether pendency of proposals doesn't create hurdles in development works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes Sir,

(b) and (c) Govt. of Madhya Pradesh submitted a proposal for Rs. 9,583.60 lakh for the years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 together for dairy development and animal husbandry under the 'Special Package for Drought Mitigation and a Comprehensive Package for Integrated Development of the Bundelkhand Regions of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh'. The proposal submitted under Additional Central Assistance component (Rs. 6,070 lakh) has already been approved and an amount of Rs. 3,480 lakh has been sanctioned by the Planning Commission for release during 2010-11. In addition, Rs.275 lakh has been released by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Govt, of India to Madhya Pradesh in July 2010 under 'Assistance to State for Control of Animal Diseases' schemes for the purposes including vaccination, strengthening of disease investigation labs, training vets and para-vets and awareness cum health camps in Bundelkhand region.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Green Revolution-II

2883. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is need to have Green Revolution-II;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the views expressed by people in this regard; and
- (d) the steps being taken to start Green Revolution-II in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) In order to reduce the over exploitation of natural resources in traditional food bowl areas of North West region, it is required to promote resource rich areas of eastern India for enhancing Agriculture production, where agriculture productivity is low in spite of existing potential and natural resources. Eastern India has 2-3 times more rainfall compared to the North-West States; unexploited good quality ground water aquifers; and agro-climatic condition suitable for yearlong agriculture that has relative advantage for sustainable production of crop like rice, banana, sugarcane and aquaculture.

An amount of Rs 400 crores is allocated to new initiative of "Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India", as a part of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), for tapping the potential of eastern Indian region for enhanced Agriculture production.

Six eastern states of U.P, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, and West Bengal prepared the strategy plans identifying the key constraints for agriculture production with emphasis on priority areas that needs to be addressed for enhancing the agriculture production in their respective states. The technical committee constituted by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation examined the strategy plans submitted by the states and provided region specific suggestions/modifications to the plans. The state strategy plans, so amended, were adopted in the consultative workshop held in Kolkata on 9 & 10th July, 2010 on new initiative "Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India". The initiative was highly appreciated by all the stakeholders.

Promotion of hybrid, based on Chinese model, was highlighted as one of the main interventions that need to be promoted to ensure increase rice production in the eastern region. A task force for hybrid rice promotion was constituted.

Monitoring of programme under NHM

2884. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether under National Horticulture Mission (NHM), web-enabled progress of monitoring the programme has been put in place;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the significant achievements made under the programme in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A web enabled progress monitoring system has been put in place to monitor progress under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) on monthly basis. The system enables online uploading of physical and financial progress for each of the activities approved for implementation as per the Annual Action Plan at the State level as well as at the District level on the NHM web site. The System also facilitates the generation of different types of reports at National, State and District levels for the purpose of analysis and review.

(c) Under NHM, from 2005-06 to 2009-10, 2199 new nurseries were setup, additional area of about 16.56 lakh hectare was brought under new gardens of various horticulture crops and 2.78 lakh hectare of old and senile orchards was rejuvenated. An area of 1.37 lakh hectare was covered under organic farming. Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) was adopted in an area of 7.48 lakh hectare apart from setting up of 307 INM/IPM infrastructure (66 disease forecasting units, 78 bio control labs, 95 plant health clinics, 68 leaf/tissue analysis labs). Under Post harvest management component, funds have been provided for setting up of 1328 pack houses, 343 cold storage units, 5 CA storage, 30 refrigerated vans, 346 mobile/primary processing units. To ensure proper handling and marketing of horticulture

produce,

funds have been provided for setting up of 32 whole sale markets and 298 rural markets. Total 7.74 lakh farmers have been trained under various horticultural activities.

In Andhra Pradesh, 142 new nurseries were setup during 2005-10. An area of about 1.74 lakh hectare was brought under new gardens of various horticulture crops and 0.57 lakh hectare of old and senile orchards was rejuvenated. An area of 0.09 lakh hectare was covered under organic farming and INM/IPM was adopted in 0.75 lakh hectare apart from setting up of INM/IPM infrastructure. Under the post harvest management component, funds have been provided for setting up of 63 pack houses, 18 cold storage units, 1 refrigerated van and 15 mobile/primary processing units. Under marketing infrastructure, funds have been provided for setting up of 8 wholesale markets and 16 rural markets. Total numbers of 1.95 lakh farmers have been trained under various horticultural activities.

**Development of machineries and technologies for
small and marginal farmers**

2885. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) is engaged in developing implements, machineries and technologies appropriate for small and marginal farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the achievements made during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Keeping in view the higher percentage of marginal and small farmers, ICAR has always given due attention to develop implements, machinery and technologies for these category of farmers through the Institutes and All India Coordinated Research Projects of Agricultural Engineering discipline spread all over the country, addressing region-specific mechanisation needs.

(c) During the last three years, the following important implements, machineries and technologies suitable for small and marginal farmers have been developed/demonstrated:

Animal drawn blade harrow, multi-purpose tool carrier/tool frame, improved puddler, post hole digger, Naveen dibbler, rotary dibbler, zero-till drill, animal operated seed-cum-ferti-drill with planter attachment, pre-germinated paddy seeder, mat type paddy transplanter, manually operated mustard seed-drill, manually operated fertilizer broadcaster, manual hand hoe, twin wheel hoe, paddy cono-weeder, serrated sickle, animal drawn groundnut digger, potato digger, vertical conveyor reaper, tubular maize sheller, pedal operated paddy thresher, groundnut stripper, groundnut decorticator, pedal operated grain cleaner-cum-grader, potato peeler and sheer, processes and equipment for ready to eat various products from soybean, curry leaf stripper, motorised soybean dehuller, low cost bamboo green houses, solar cooker, improved cook stove, solar tunnel dryer, etc.

Village artisans and small scale manufacturers were also trained in the fabrication of some of these implements.

Management of foodgrains production

†2886. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise and State-wise target set and actual growth-rate achieved in agriculture sector during last three years and in the current year especially for Jharkhand;

(b) whether Government would face biggest challenge with regard to food inflation in the next three quarters because there may be reduction in overall agriculture growth-rate; and

(c) if so, the measures taken for improvement of agricultural growth and management of foodgrains production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) State-wise target of growth rate in Agriculture Sector is not set. A table showing State-wise growth rate achieved during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 including Jharkhand is given in the statement (see below).

(b) No, Sir. Production of Foodgrains has increased from 208.60

million tonnes in 2006-07 to 234.74 million tonnes in 2008-09.

(c) To improve agricultural growth and management of foodgrains production, Government is implementing a number of Schemes in coordination with the State Governments. Some of the

major Schemes are Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Development & Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for the Production and Distribution of Quality Seed, Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms.

Statement

State-wise Agriculture & Allied Sector's GDP from 2006-07 to 2008-09

At Constant (1999-2000) Prices

(In Crores Rupees)

Sl. No.	State\Union Territories	Agriculture & Allied Sector's cnp GDP			Growth rate Agri & Allied GDP	
		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	51309	59961	60680	16.86	1.20
2	Arunachal Pradesh	652	700	717	7.36	2.43
3	Assam	12401	12484	13287	0.67	6.43
4	Bihar	25060	23416	26847	-6.56	14.65
5	Jharkhand	6197	6315	6447	1.90	2.09
6	Goa	800	698		-12.75	
7	Gujarat	29663	34625		16.73	
8	Haryana	20877	21080	21812	0.97	3.47
9	Himachal Pradesh	4466	5045	4889	12.96	-3.09

1	2	3	4	5	7	8
10	Jammu & Kashmir	6055	6154		1.64	
11	Karnataka	26243	30363	28614	15.70	-5.76
12	Kerala	16783	16025	16083	-4.52	0.36
13	Madhya Pradesh	25377	24901		-1.88	
14	Chattisgarh	9170	9857	8789	7.49	-10.83
15	Maharashtra	50114	55311		10.37	
16	Manipur	1040	1073	1113	3.17	3.73
17	Meghalaya	1107	1147	1242	3.61	8.28
18	Mizoram	365	376	385	3.01	2.39
19	Nagaland	1592				
20	Orissa	15845	16592	16615	4.71	0.14
21	Punjab	28834	29959	30980	3.90	3.41
22	Rajasthan	33078	34976	36473	5.74	4.28
23	Sikkim	285	295	305	3.51	3.39
24	Tamil Nadu	26748	24849	24332	-7.10	-2.08
25	Tripura	1920	1927		0.36	
26	Uttar Pradesh	67538	70174	73166	3.90	4.26
27	Uttarakhand	4345	4365	4334	0.46	-0.71
28	West Bengal	48279	51006	50452	5.65	-1.09
29	A & N islands	281	272		-3.20	

1	2	3	4	5	7	8
30	Chandigarh	55	54	53	-1.82	-1.85
31	Delhi	741	713		-3.78	
32	Puducherry	246	279	298	13.41	6.81
	ALL INDIA	531315	557122	566045	4.86	1.60

Production of oilseeds in Gujarat

2887. SHRI NATUJIHALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of various oilseeds crops viz. Mustard, Groundnut, Soyabean etc., the area under oilseeds cultivation and its yield per hectare during each of last three years and current year in Gujarat, district-wise particularly in Surat, Bharuch, Amerli, Rajkot and Mehsana;

(b) whether per hectare yield of oilseeds in India is lagging behind the international average;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to boost oilseeds production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) District-wise area, production and yield pertaining to Surat, Bharuch, Amerli, Rajkot and Mehsana of Gujarat State in respect of Groundnut and Mustard & Rapeseed for the last three years are given in the statement (see below).

(b) and (c) Yield of oil crops (primary) for the world is 576.7 Kg, 599.6 Kg and 602.9 Kg respectively for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008. Yield of oil crops (primary) in India during the same period is 262.3, 304.6 and 254.0 Kg respectively.

(d) Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) in 14 major Oilseeds, 15 Maize and 8 Oil Palm growing States including Gujarat to boost the production and productivity of these crops. Under this Scheme assistance

is provided to purchase of breeder seeds, production of foundation seeds and distribution of seed mini-kits, distribution of plant protection equipments, etc.

Statement

Area, Production & Yield of selected oil crops of Surat, Bharuch, Rajkot, Amreli and Mehsana of Gujarat State

Sl. No. District		2006-07			2007-08			2008-09		
		Groundnut								
		Area (hectare)	Production (tonnes)	Yield (kg/ hectare)	Area (hectare)	Production (tonnes)	Yield (kg/ hectare)	Area (hectare)	Production (tonnes)	Yield (kg/ hectare)
1	Surat	16700	26600	1593	14300	21100	1476	6300	8700	1381
2	Bharuch	2200	2100	955	1800	2800	1556	2000	3200	1600
3	Amreli	278800	117000	420	243200	431300	1773	252300	123200	488
4	Mehsana	4900	4900	1000	3700	6500	1757	5200	7100	1365
5	Rajkot	404300	198600	491	387500	809700	2090	386800	375900	972
Mustard & Rapeseed										
6	Surat	17200	27400	1593	14700	21700	1476	6600	9300	1409
7	Bharuch	6300	4600	730	12000	16400	1367	13200	19100	1447
8	Amreli	311200	130500	419	263400	442400	1680	272200	133500	490
9	Mehsana	98800	138800	1405	109600	188100	1716	126200	182700	1448
10	Rajkot	430000	219300	510	411200	834000	2028	408200	392400	961
Total oil Seeds in Gujarat										
11	Gujarat	2856200	3020300	1057	2851800	4699200	1648	2873700	3931800	1368

Allocation of fund for Micro Irrigation in Karnataka

2888. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state that in view of the fact that Karnataka has the largest area under arid and semi-arid cultivation and ground water has been depleted and has to be pumped out from enormous depth necessitating drip and micro irrigation, whether Government would be pleased to significantly increase the current allocation of funds under the micro irrigation ' schemes for Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): The State of Karnataka has launched Micro Irrigation Scheme in 2005-06 for its arid and semi-arid region for both agriculture and horticulture crops. The Government of India has released a sum of Rs.266.05 crore as Central Share to the State since inception. The current year's (2010-11) allocation of Rs. 130.00 crore which is increased by 104 per cent over the last year's (2009-10) funds (Rs.63.81 crore) provided to the State under the Micro Irrigation Schemes.

Bamboo Afforestation in Waterseed Areas of Karnataka

2889. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the status for establishment/ upgradation of watershed training centres in Karnataka under the i Japanese Grants-in- aid; and

(b) the status of proposal pending with the National Bamboo Mission for Bamboo Afforestation in watershed areas of Karnataka in the selected 20 districts with the participation of Self-Help Groups?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The proposal received from the Government of Karnataka has been recommended by Ministry of Agriculture to Government of Japan through Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

(b) Annual Action Plans for 2009-10 and 2010-11 received from the Karnataka State have been approved for Rs.415.00 lakh and Rs.347.24 lakh, respectively.

Drought in Bihar, Jharkhand and Eastern U.P.

†2890. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government is aware of the impending drought in the States of Bihar, Jharkhand and Eastern Uttar Pradesh due to which kharif crop is getting damaged and adversely impacting the production;

(b) if so, the strategy made or proposed to be made by Government to tackle the drought in these areas;

(c) whether Government is considering to call a meeting with the representatives of these States with regard to drought relief; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Due to deficit rainfall during South-West Monsoon, 2010, Governments of Bihar and Jharkhand have so far declared drought in 28 and 16 districts, respectively. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has not so far intimated regarding declaration of drought due to deficit rainfall during current monsoon.

It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned to take necessary measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. For such purpose, the States have ready availability of funds in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). First installment of Central share of SDRF for 2010-11 has already been released to Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh, to enable the State Governments take immediate measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. The Government is constantly monitoring the situation in the drought/ deficit rainfall affected States, to take necessary measures in assisting the States to tackle the situation. Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) have been constituted to visit Bihar and Jharkhand to assess the drought situation and the requirement of Central assistance. The IMCT has already visited Bihar in this regard and the IMCT is visiting Jharkhand immediately.

Assistance for Drought Affected States

†2891. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided assistance to drought affected

States/areas in the country during last three years and the current year;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the funds sought and disbursed and the number of farmers assisted as a result thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether various drought relief measures taken by Government were unable to benefit the farmers; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government and the remedial action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Details indicating the assistance sought by State Governments and approved by Central Government from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the wake of drought of 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 are given in the statement (see below).

In the wake of deficit rainfall during South-West Monsoon, 2010, Bihar and Jharkhand declared drought and submitted Memoranda seeking assistance of Rs. 5062.75 crores and Rs. 2157.77 crores, respectively, from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) have been constituted to visit Bihar and Jharkhand to assess the drought situation and the requirement of Central assistance. The IMCT has recently visited Bihar in this regard. Further action will be taken as per prescribed procedure. First installment of Central share of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for 2010-11 has already been released to Bihar and Jharkhand for taking immediate measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought.

Government of India took various measures to assist the affected States to mitigate the impact of drought of 2009-10 which included implementation of Diesel Subsidy Scheme during Kharif 2009 in drought/deficit rainfall affected areas, allocation of additional power from Central Pool, ensuring availability of fertilizers and seeds, release of funds under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes and periodic monitoring of situation at various levels to ensure prompt action.

Distribution of assistance at the ground level to the affected people including farmers is the responsibility of the respective State Governments. The State Governments have not reported details of the number

of farmers benefited from the assistance provided by the Government of India in the wake of drought of 2009-10.

Statement

*Assistance sought and assistance approved from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF)
for droughts of 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10*

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	State	Drought of 2007-08		Drought of 2008-09		Drought of 2009-10	
		Demand by the State	Assistance approved*	Demand by the State	Assistance approved*	Demand by the State	Assistance approved*
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	-	10106.77	575.30
2	Assam	-	-	-	-	792.60	89.94
3	Bihar	-	-	-	-	23071.13	1163.64
4	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	608.13	88.93
5	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	211.82	**
6	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	890.31	200.955
7	Karnataka	-	-	2043.07	83.83	394.92	116.49
8	Kerala	-	-	-	-	168.22#	**
9	Madhya Pradesh	1883.81	42.09	-	-	11669.68	246.31
10	Maharashtra	-	-	-	-	15059.64	671.88
11	Manipur	-	-	-	-	22.09	14.57
12	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	74.76	21.12
13	Orissa	-	-	-	-	2266.65	151.92
14	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	12690.99	1034.84
15	Uttarakhand	220.04	27.78	200.14	57.51	-	-
16	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	12133.42	515.05

Including hailstorm

* Subject to adjustment of available balance in Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) on concerned State Government

** Under Consideration

Suicide by farmers in Orissa

†2892. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of suicide among farmers have also started in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) total number of farmers committed suicide in the State, so far;

(d) whether Government has made any discussion with State Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The Government of Orissa has informed that reports on alleged suicide by persons engaged in farming/agriculture activities were reported in the media. Forty four alleged suicide cases have been reported in 2009-10 and six cases have been reported during 2010-11 (till 15.08.2010). The State Government further stated that none of these suicides can be attributed to agrarian reasons.

(d) and (e) The State Governments are generally vested with power under various Government of India schemes to take effective steps to address important issues pertaining to agriculture sector and to ameliorate the condition of farmers. Accordingly, Government of Orissa has been advised to take appropriate remedial measures to address agrarian distress, if any.

Orissa had declared 18 districts in the State as drought affected due to deficit rainfall during Kharif 2009. In response to the Memorandum submitted by the State Government seeking assistance from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) visited the State for assessment of drought situation and held discussion with State Government. The Report of IMCT has been considered by the Inter-Ministerial Group. A sum of Rs. 151.92 crore has been approved under NCCF to the State Government subject to adjustment of balance amount

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

available with the State Government under Calamity Relief Fund, as determined by the Ministry of Home Affairs. In addition, an amount of Rs. 15.00 crore was approved from the special component of National Rural Drinking Water Programme.

Fund allocation and centrally sponsored schemes for Bihar

2893. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated under Centrally sponsored schemes specially under Agriculture Development, Food Mission and Bagawani Mission to Bihar during financial years 1998-2004 and 2004-10, scheme-wise and year-wise;

(b) the amount released against above allotment during above period, scheme-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the amount spent by Government of Bihar against above release, scheme-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Statement indicating the scheme-wise and year-wise amount allocated, released and expenditure reported by the State Government of Bihar under Food Security Mission, Bagawani Mission (National Horticulture Mission) and other Centrally sponsored schemes of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation during 1998-2004 and 2004 to 2010 is given in the statement.

Statement

*The amount allocated, released and expenditure under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes
being implement In the Bihar during 1998-99 to 2010-11*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of scheme	1998-99 and 1999-2000			2000-2001			2001-2002			2002-03		
		Allocation	Release	Exp.	Allocation	Release	Exp.	Allocation	Release	Exp.	Allocation	Release	Exp.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	National Food Security Mission						Started from 2007-08						
2	National Horticulture Mission						Started from 2005-06						
3	Micro Irrigation						Started from 2005-06						
4	National Bamboo Mission						Started from 2005-06						
5	Support to Extension for Extension Reforms (ATMA)						Started from 2005-06						
6	Macro Management of Agriculture 1879.16						Started from 2001-02					2400.00	1250.00
7	Integrated scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM)						Started from 2004-05						

95

Sl. No.	Name of scheme	2007-2008			2008-2009			2009-2010			2010-2011		
		Allocation	Release	Exp.	Allocation	Release	Exp.	Allocation	Release	Exp.	Allocation	Release	Exp.
1	National Food Security Mission	3631.00	3631.00	1331.00	10961.00	8105.00	4282.00	7449.00	4414.00	8998.00	7717.00	1618.00	
2	National Horticulture Mission	10771.57	269.72	2342.56	14235.47	3122.48	2786.86	3825.00	2435.17	4016.46	3825.00		123.62
3	Micro Irrigation	0.00	0.00	35.14	0.00		48.20	0.00	0.00	27.30	0.00	0.00	
4	National Bamboo Mission		543.81	410.39		0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00			
5	Support to Extension for Reforms (ATMA)	2359.00	1463.00	266.72	2771.90	2255.76	1668.92	2761.44	1246.54	2076.19			
6	Macro Management of Agriculture	2400.00	3042.14	2184.62	3900.00	4593.03	4514.75	3900.00	3814.75	4279.92	5857.48	1918.24	
7	Integrated scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM)	1100.00	1100.00	813.77	800.00	800.00	1218.54	859.66	859.66	677.99		299.36	
8	National Project on Managemenet of Soil Health and Fertility							1247.60	904.68		342.91	616.00	

Price of hike of milk

†2894. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of milk has been increased seven times during last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that milk is 21 percent costlier this year in comparison to last year; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The price of milk was increased two to six times by metro dairies in four metro cities during last three years, which is given as below:

City	Price (in Rs. per litre)		Number of times price increased after July, 07
	July, 07	July, 10	
Delhi	18	24	6
Kolkata	18	24	4
Mumbai	17	24	3
Chennai	13.75	17.75	2

(c) and (d) No Sir, the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) of milk has increased by 19.03% in last one year, Prices of milk have been increased due to increase in cost of production.

Assistance to suicide-prone districts of Andhra Pradesh

2895. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of allocation made to 16 districts in Andhra Pradesh which are identified as suicide-prone districts of the State;

(b) the details of utilization of the above amount, district-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the details of farmers benefited from the above assistance, district-wise; and

(d) to what extent the above assistance helped farmers in strengthening the institutional credit support, irrigation development, promotion of micro irrigation and watershed development, etc. in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The relevant details of various schemes being implemented in the 16 suicide-prone districts in Andhra Pradesh have been given in the Statement (See below).

(d) As on June 30, 2010, loans for an amount of Rs.7650.84 crore have been rescheduled and overdue interest of Rs. 1962.56 crore has been waived. The credit disbursement from the Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks as on March 31, 2010 was Rs.6820.06 crore.

An expenditure of Rs.7102.48 crore has been incurred by the State Government on 15 major & medium irrigation projects and 50 minor irrigation projects till 30.06.2010. The cumulative irrigation potential created up to 2009-10 in respect of major & medium irrigation projects taken up under Prime Minister's Rehabilitation Package (AIBP) is 145559 Ha.

Besides this, an amount of Rs.542.56 crore has been spent by the State Government on creating 4.200 lakh Ha of Micro Irrigation (MI) potential. The MI system has had tremendous impact in enhancing levels of productivity of crops resulting in considerable saving of water. Majority of farmers have informed that MI has resulted in saving of water enabling them to bring more land under cultivation.

Under the watershed development programme, as on June 30, 2010, expenditure of Rs.32.53 crore has been incurred by the State Government. The physical progress is 4.837 lakh Ha.

Trainings on water use management in canal fed paddy, water shed management and *in-situ* moisture conservation like minimum tillage, ploughing across slope, border cropping etc. have created awareness in the farming community. Better linkages between farmers, scientists,

extension workers and NGOs have been developed through different activities in ATMA to ensure adoption of appropriate technologies by farmers. Public Private Partnership in marketing the farm produce and value added products is ensuring better price to the farmers.

Statement

Details of various schemes implemented in 16 suicide-prone districts of A.P.

Amount (Rs.): in Crore

Sl.No.	District	Schemes implemented								
		Seed Replacement			Extension Services			SHM		
		Amount released	Expenditure	No of beneficiaries	Amount released	Expenditure	No of beneficiaries	Amount released	Expenditure	No of beneficiaries
1	Adilabad	35.3	35.3	528000	2.24	2.24	33111	11.49	5.02	6952
2	Anantapur	149.2	149.2	2852000	2.69	2.69	47187	100.61	70.34	33654
3	Chittoor	36.36	36.36	668000	3.79	3.79	59527	35.25	22.80	17872
4	Guntur	6.84	6.84	134000	2.44	2.44	40175	30.06	20.07	37131
5	Kadapa	45.2	45.2	931000	2.14	2.14	35671	62.10	47.08	52800
6	Karimnagar	16.14	16.14	339000	1.69	1.69	32209	16.10	9.17	18424
7	Khammam	3.64	3.64	79000	2.48	2.48	35721	23.07	10.84	25582
8	Kurnool	49.76	49.76	1004000	2.49	2.49	42476	28.71	17.87	11871
9	Mahaboobnagar	36.74	36.74	644000	1.98	1.98	40254	49.11	30.24	29969
10	Medak	10.3	10.3	192000	2.43	2.43	42872	21.68	7.49	10979
11	Nizamabad	28.05	28.05	413000	1.77	1.77	33626	17.44	9.81	17424

12	SPS Nellore	6.92	6.92	168000	2.43	2.43	40721	20.21	11.35	15549
13	Nalgonda	3.73	3.73	90000	2.12	2.12	41749	37.79	28.15	35832
14	Prakasam	29.25	29.25	862000	2.66	2.66	42469	48.28	26.75	41998
15	Ranga Reddy	4.1	4.1	93000	2.34	2.34	39105	25.85	8.45	10389
16	Warangal	8.65	8.65	168000	2.19	2.19	28188	17.51	10.76	35760
	Admin. Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Total		470.18	470.18	9165000	37.88	37.88	635061	545.25	336.20	402186

Sl.No. District		Schemes implemented										
		Micro Irrigation				Animal Husbandry			Fisheries		Ex-gratia Assistance	
		Amount released	Expenditure	No of beneficiaries	Expenditure	No. of beneficiaries	Amount released	Expenditure	No. of beneficiaries	Amount released	Expenditure	No. of beneficiaries
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	Adilabad	14.55	32.86	13690	8.24	41196	0.39	0.39	42	0.50	0.50	534
2	Anantapur	146.47	174.38	61595	12.95	485831	0.32	0.32	36	0.50	0.50	1351
3	Chittoor	60.36	100.21	26664	21.82	432137	0.19	0.19	31	0.50	0.50	500
4	Guntur	11.78	22.7	7715	15.82	223919	0.45	0.45	46	0.50	0.40	401
5	Kadapa	57.57	104.99	35278	13.89	93896	0.14	0.14	18	0.50	0.50	507
6	Karimnagar	21.69	35.04	12993	10.82	78378	0.59	0.59	47	0.50	0.49	704

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
7	Khammam	11.01	36.1	8659	11.53	95802	3.62	3.62	249	0.50	0.50	500
8	Kurnool	8.1	32.42	12122	13.3	154549	0.19	0.19	19	0.50	0.45	744
9	Mahaboobnagar	69	103.45	40579	12.49	75578	0.94	0.94	86	0.50	0.50	500
10	Medak	31.55	71.51	25340	9.36	62515	0.02	0.02	3	0.50	0.50	500
11	Nizamabad	17.71	26.9	11038	10.48	87648	0.17	0.17	15	0.50	0.499	501
12	SPS Nellore	9.36	23.61	9270	10.54	99280	0.05	0.05	5	0.50	0.50	
13	Nalgonda	84.99	93.08	33578	13.87	133939	0.77	0.77	55	0.50	0.50	500
14	Prakasam	12.74	31.13	11429	13.33	233768	0.17	0.17	18	0.50	0.09	89
15	Ranga Reddy	9.02	30.27	10449	11.33	44735	0.03	0.03	1	0.50	0.40	402
16	Warangal	37.76	71.91	20165	11.61	105024	0.29	0.29	17	0.50	0.50	504
	Admin. Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0.03	0.03	0	0.00	0.00	0
	TOTAL	603.66	990.47	340564	201.38	2148195	8.38	8.38	688	8.00	7.33	8741

National Dairy Plan

2896. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Dairy Plan proposed to be implemented by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) aims to nearly double the country's milk production; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The proposed National Dairy Plan (NDP) aims at meeting the projected domestic demand of about 180 million tonnes of milk by the year 2021-22. The share of the organised sector in milk is envisaged to increase from the current 30 per cent to about 65 per cent of total marketable surplus of milk by year 2021-22. The main components of the proposed NDP are production of high genetic merit bulls, frozen semen production, doorstep Artificial Insemination(AI) delivery services, improved animal nutrition through ration balancing advisory services, veterinary healthcare, village milk procurement systems, human resource development including extension and capacity building in the villages and expansion of infrastructure for milk processing and marketing.

National Horticulture Mission in Uttar Pradesh

†2897. SHRI GANGA CHARAN:

SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that 45 districts and 349 development blocks of Uttar Pradesh have been included in the National Horticulture Mission whereas all the districts and development blocks of Maharashtra have been covered under the Mission;

(b) if so, the details of criteria under which all the districts and development blocks of Uttar Pradesh have not been included under the Mission;

(c) the reasons behind this discrimination with Uttar Pradesh;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether Government would cover all the districts of Uttar Pradesh under the Mission; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM), districts are included for development of horticultural crops duly considering the comparative advantage of crops based on agro-climatic conditions, scope for development, extent of area already available under horticulture crops, availability of market infrastructure, avenues for development of infrastructure for Post Harvest Management and potential for exports/presence of Agri Export Zones. Initially during 2005-06, 229 districts were covered under NHM. Subsequently, Districts covered under Special package like Prime Minister's Package for Suicide Prone Districts, Bundelkhand Package and on specific request made by the State Governments with due justification were also included under NHM. Based on these criteria, so far 45 districts of Uttar Pradesh have been included under NHM. There is no restriction in inclusion of Blocks within the approved districts under NHM. Presently, 371 districts have been covered out of total of 482 Districts in the country, where NHM is being implemented. Therefore, no discrimination has been done with Uttar Pradesh in covering the districts under NHM.

(d) and (e) Keeping in view the availability of resources, there is no proposal to cover all the districts of Uttar Pradesh under NHM. Other schemes being implemented with assistance from Government of India such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana have provisions for taking up programmes for development of horticulture. The State Government can, therefore, take up horticulture development programmes under these schemes in the districts, which are not covered under NHM.

Assistance for drought relief in Rajasthan

†2898. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of drought relief provided to Government of Rajasthan

for the year 2009-10;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the amount demanded by the State Government; and

(c) the time by when the remaining amount of the year would be paid to State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Due to deficit rainfall during South-West Monsoon, 2009, the Government of Rajasthan declared drought in 27 districts and sought Central assistance of Rs. 12690.99 crores from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for drought relief. Taking into account the report of Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) and recommendations of Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) thereon, the Government released Rs. 1034.84 crores from NCCF to the State Government, subject to adjustment of available balance in the State Government's Calamity Relief Fund (CRF), as determined by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

Drought in Rajasthan

2899. DR GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in Rajasthan, 4.29 crore people in 27 districts have been affected by drought but State Government received a paltry Rs. 1,034.84 crores from the Central Government against its demands of Rs. 14,927.37 crores for drought relief works in 2009-10;

(b) if so, the statistics regarding other drought affected States, their demands and grants sanctioned; and

(c) the reasons for a step-motherly treatment meted out to Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) During 2009-10, 14 States declared drought/scarcity/drought-like situation in 338 districts mainly on account of deficit rainfall during South-West Monsoon, 2009. Kerala declared drought in 14 districts in March, 2010 mainly due to shortage of drinking water and drying up of water sources mainly in hilly areas.

A Statement indicating State-wise details of declaration of drought, assistance sought from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) and

assistance approved by Government for drought

of 2009-10 is given in the Statement (See below). The assistance from NCCF was approved taking into account the report of the Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) which visited the States for assessment of the situation and recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) thereon and also keeping in view the items and norms of expenditure for assistance from relief funds.

Statement

*Assistance sought and Assistance approved from National
Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for Drought of 2009-10*

				2009-10 (Rs. in crore)
Sl.No.	Name the State	No. of Districts declared drought affected	Demand by the State	Assistance approved*
1	Andhra Pradesh	22	10106.77	575.30
2	Assam	27	792.60	89.94
3	Bihar	26	23071.13	1163.64
4	Himachal Pradesh	12	608.13	88.93
5	Jammu & Kashmir	18	211.82	**
6	Jharkhand	24	890.31	200.955
7	Karnataka	20	394.92	116.49
8	Kerala	14	168.22#	**
9	Madhya Pradesh	38	11669.68	246.31
10	Maharashtra	28	15059.64	671.88
11	Manipur	09	22.09	14.57
12	Nagaland	11	74.76	21.12
13	Orissa	18	2266.65	151.92
14	Rajasthan	27	12690.99	1034.84
15	Uttar Pradesh	58	12133.42	515.05

Including hailstorm.

* Subject to adjustment of available balance in Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of the State Government, as determined by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

** Under consideration.

National Agriculture Insurance Scheme

2900. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether suggestions like timely settlement of claims, smaller unit area of insurance, coverage of perennial crops etc., under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme, have been received from time to time from different quarters; and

(b) if so, the procedure laid down to examine the suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The suggestions with respect to reduction in unit area of insurance, increase in indemnity level, broad-basis of calculation of threshold yield, early settlement of claims, coverage of pre-sowing/planting risk etc. to strengthen the scheme were received from various quarters of farming community and States from time to time. All these suggestions were examined by the Joint Group constituted by the Government of India to study the improvements required in the existing crop insurance schemes. A proposal on Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) incorporating improvements suggested by the Joint Group has been prepared by the Government.

Production of superior quality pesticides by Indian companies

2901. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian companies are providing superior quality of pesticides to farmers at reasonable prices in comparison to international companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that with the Indian companies coming up, those foreign companies misguided the Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee (CIBRC) that is permitting import of pesticides without registering the technical pesticides; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) All companies, Indian as well as international, are required to provide quality pesticides to farmers as per provisions of Insecticides Act, 1968 and Rules framed thereunder.

Prices of pesticides are determined by market forces.

(c) and (d) Both, Indian as well as multinational companies, are granted registration for pesticide formulations for import without registration of technical grade pesticide so as to encourage introduction of new and better molecules in Indian agriculture.

Discovery of 22 new varieties of wheat

†2902. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the research institutes of the country have discovered 22 new varieties of wheat which have the capacity to be immune to Uganda-99 disease;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether such varieties of seeds are needed in the present circumstances of the country;

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that at present, the country is in need of seeds of such crops that can provide more yields with less consumption of water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes Sir. 22 varieties of wheat have been found to have resistance against Uganda 99: (Ug99) disease.

(b) There is continuous screening of varieties and advanced breeding lines under hot-spot conditions in Kenya and Ethiopia against the new black rust race Ug99. During 2009-10, out of 421

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

genotypes screened in Kenya, 40 released varieties were found to be resistant to Ug99. Out of these varieties, 22 varieties namely DBW17, DDK1009, DL153-2, DL788-2, HD4672, HI8498, HI8627, HP1744, HP1761, HS295, HS420, HUW234, LOK-1, MACS2846, NIDW295, NW2036, PDW291, UP2338, VL829, WH147, WH542 and WH896 are in seed production chain for commercial cultivation in India.

(c) The varieties found resistant to Ug99 are already in commercial cultivation in different production systems of wheat growing areas of the country.

(d) There is a constant survey and surveillance by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in areas prone to the Ug99. At present, this disease is not prevalent in the Indian Territory. However, the breeding programmes are continuing to develop still better improved varieties possessing resistance to Ug99 and higher yield potential.

(e) Keeping in view the deficit of water in different areas, there is need of seeds that can yield more with less water consumption. The water efficient improved wheat varieties namely NIAW 917, JW3020, COW(W)1, HS 490, VL892, MP3211 and HD2987 have been released.

Investment in agriculture sector

†2903. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to get four per cent annual growth rate in agriculture sector during Eleventh Five Year Plan, it was estimated that expenditure of Government on agriculture sector is required to be increased by 12 per cent annually from the level of 2006-07;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether investment was made in agriculture sector on this basis at Government level; and

(d) if so, the quantum of annual average investment increased at Government level from 2006-07 to 2009-10?

†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) As per the Eleventh Plan document, to achieve four per cent agricultural growth target, total (public & private) investment in the agriculture sector should be 16% of the agricultural Gross Domestic Product, public investment being about 4%.

(c) and (d) Public investment in Agriculture and Allied Sector and its Quantum increase.

Rs. in Crores (at 2004-05 prices)

Year	Investment in Agriculture & Allied Sector		Gross Domestic product Agriculture & Allied Sector	Share of Public Investment (Agri. & Allied) to GDP (Agri. & Allied Sector)	Share of Investment (Agri. & Allied) to GDP (Agri. & Allied Sector)
	Public	Total			
2005-06	19909	93121	589697	3.4	21.4
2006-07	22978	94400	611409	3.8	24.3
2007-08	23039	110006	640315	3.6	20.9
2008-09	24452	138597	650461	3.8	17.6

Source: Central Statistical Organization

Public Investment in Agriculture increased to Rs.23039 Crore and Rs.24452 Crore in 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively from Rs.22978 Crore in 2006-07.

Target for growth of agriculture production

†2904. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the target of growth of agriculture production has been fixed at four per cent;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that this target was the same for Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh Five Year Plan periods;

(c) if not, the facts thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that this target has not been achieved so far from Ninth Five Year Plan to Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) As per the Eleventh Plan document the target growth of 4 per cent is set for Agriculture & Allied Sector during the Plan period (2007-12).

(b) and (c) The target growth for Agriculture and Allied Sector for the Tenth and Eleventh Plan period is fixed at four per cent. For the Ninth Plan period the target set was 4.5 per cent.

(d) The following table gives the target growth rate and actual average growth rate for the Plan periods.

Period	Target Growth Rate	Actual average Growth Rate
Ninth Plan (1997-2002)	4.5	2.5#
Tenth Plan (2002-2007)	4	2.5#
Eleventh Plan (2007-2012)	4	3.15@

* during 2007-08 and 2008-09

For 9th and 10th Plan the figures are at 1999-2000 prices

@ For 11th Plan the figures are at 2004-05 prices

(e) To incentivize the States to increase investment in Agriculture and Allied Sector to achieve targeted growth, Government has launched several Schemes which include:

(i) A Plan Scheme, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana has been launched during 2007-08 to achieve 4% agricultural growth during 11th Five Year Plan in Agriculture and Allied sector.

(ii) Another, Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Food Security Mission (NFSM)" has been launched in 312 identified districts of 17 States with an aim to achieve additional production of 20 million tonnes of foodgrains by the end of Eleventh Plan (2011-12).

(iii) Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Horticulture Mission" for holistic development of horticulture sector was launched in 2005-06. Improvement in production and productivity, technology promotion, extension, post harvest management and marketing are the major programmes of the scheme.

(iv) Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) has been launched to provide assistance for purchase of breeder seeds, production of foundation seeds and distribution of seed mini-kits, distribution of plant protection equipments, etc.

(v) Macro Management of Agriculture and Integrated Cereals Development Programmes etc. has also been launched to augment production.

Price hike of milk

†2905. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times and the time when the prices of milk have increased in Delhi during last two years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the production of milk increases from July with beginning of rains;

(c) the number of times the prices of milk were increased in July, 2010 and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government would take any steps to control prices of milk; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The price of milk was increased six times in Delhi during last two years by Delhi Milk Scheme and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Mother Dairy, Delhi with net increase of Rs. 3 per litre for Toned Milk, Rs. 2 per litre for Double Toned Milk and Rs. 7 per litre for Full Cream Milk. The price of milk was increased in Delhi by Delhi Milk Scheme and Mother Dairy in the months of August, September and November in 2009 and March, June and July in 2010.

(b) Milk Production generally increases during the month of October to March known as flush season and decreases during months April to September known as lean season.

(c) Price of milk was increased only once in the month of July, 2010, by Delhi Milk Scheme and Mother Dairy, Delhi.

(d) and (e) The sale price of milk is decided by the State Milk Federations/District Milk Unions. Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries is monitoring the milk situation in the country with objective of ensuring availability of milk in the domestic market at a reasonable price. During March, 2010, Government allowed NDDB to import 30,000 MT of milk powder and 15,000 MT of Butter oil/ Anhydrous Milk Fat (AMF) at 0% duty for use by Milk Federations and Metro Dairies to maintain supply of liquid milk to consumers at a reasonable price.

Purchase of land abroad to grow pulses and oilseeds

2906. SHRI AMAR SINGH:

SHRI A. ELAVARASAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some State Governments have suggested Central Government to buy land abroad to grow pulses and edible oil seeds in order to meet domestic demand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the stand of Government in connection with this suggestion made by the group of Chief Ministers of some States; and

(d) the details thereof?

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

Eastern Green Revolution

2907. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has recently advocated to adopt the Chinese model in Eastern States for a "Eastern Green Revolution";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has finalized any plan for provision of high breed seeds that are essential for high breed production to these States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) 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 needs to be promoted to ensure increase in rice productivity. India is the second country next to China to have successfully commercialized hybrid rice technology. During 2010-11, an amount of Rs. 400 Crores is allocated to six eastern States for enhancing agriculture production in the eastern region of the country.

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. The country has already released 43 varieties of hybrid rice till date including 15 hybrid rice varieties from the private sector. It is expected that with the strong policy back-up, intensive research and active promotion, hybrid rice will be able to cover a large area thereby increasing rice production to a great extent.

Apart from the new initiative on "Bringing Green Revolution in the Eastern India" wherein States have planned to give thrust to hybrid rice

promotion, Government of India has been promoting hybrid rice production 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), Development & Strengthening of Infrastructure Facility for production and distribution of Quality Seeds etc.

Schemes for Co-operative Milk Federation

†2908.SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the proposed expenditure for dairy development in the country under Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the percentage share of the proposed expenditure mentioned in (a) above in the total expenditure to be incurred on agriculture development activities and the share of Madhya Pradesh in the proposed expenditure;

(c) the schemes of Government to improve the condition of co-operative milk federations; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The approved outlay for the Eleventh Plan for Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries for dairy development is Rs. 580.00 Crore.

(b) The percentage share for the animal husbandry and dairy development of the Eleventh Five Year Plan allocation for agriculture development activities is as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Eleventh Five Year Outlay		
Agriculture	Dairy Development	Percentage
66577.00	580.00	0.87%

There is no provision for making state-wise financial allocation under the schemes of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries.

(c) and (d) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries has been implementing a Central Sector Scheme - Assistance to Cooperatives to revitalize and rehabilitate the sick dairy cooperative unions at the district level and cooperative dairy federations at the

State level. The scheme proposes to make the sick and potentially viable milk unions/federations, viable, through suitable rehabilitation plans, Financial assistance is provided to the milk unions/federations on 50:50 sharing basis between Central & State Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Demand to build fishing harbour at Biyyappathippa

2909. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a representation from a West Godavari based organization to fulfil their long pending demand to build and operate a fishing harbor at the mouth of the River Godavari at Biyyappathippa;

(b) if so, the name of organization and whether any team has visited the area in the last six years;

(c) the physical difficulties presented during the inspection;

(d) the steps Government would take to re-survey the area and meet with demand of the organization; and

(e) the measures proposed to help the fishermen of that area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (c) Yes, Sir. A representation from the President, Forum on Social & Human Rights, Polavaram, West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh was received in December, 2004 for development of fishing harbour facilities at Biyyappathippa. The fishermen of Biyyappathippa village have expressed their difficulties in operating the boats for fishing due to lack of facilities to operate the boats from Biyyappathippa.

(d) and (e) At the request of Government of Andhra Pradesh, a detailed Techno-Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR) was prepared in October, 2005 through the Central Institute of Coastal Engineering, for Fishery (CICEF), Bangalore for development of an integrated fishery harbour converging two fishing centres namely Anthervedipallepalem and Biyyappathippa respectively in East and West Godavari Districts. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has decided to take up the development of fishing harbour facilities by bifurcating the integrated project into two parts. The proposal for construction of fish landing centre at Anthervedipallepalem at a cost of Rs. 721 lakh was approved in January, 2008 under the Tsunami Rehabilitation Package.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has been requested to submit a TEFR together with confirmation of availability of land, environmental clearance and also willingness to contribute the State share for construction of fishing harbour facilities at Biyyappathippa.

Export of Coconut

2910. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether coconuts are being exported to various countries;
- (b) if so, the details of the quantity and value of coconuts exported during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether there is any reduction in the export of coconuts; and
- (d) the steps being taken to promote export of coconuts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of export for the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 are given in Annexure. For the current year (2010-11), April - September data is not yet finalized.

(c) There is no reduction in export of coconuts. A steady increase in the exports has been observed.

(d) Coconut Development Board (CDB), which is administered through Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry Agriculture has been notified with effect from 1st April, 2009 as an Export Promotion Council (EPC) for all coconut products other than those made from coconut husk and fibre. Since then, 246 exporters from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Goa, Maharashtra, Delhi, West Bengal and North Eastern Region have been issued Registration-cum-Membership Certificate (RMC).

Other important steps taken for export promotion of coconut are:

- (i) Availability of concessions and relief under the various schemes of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP).
- (ii) Release of coconut export manual by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation on 10th April, 2010, which gives invaluable insight to the Policy, procedure, applications, documentation, Shipping formalities, benefits available and how to avail them, standard procedures of Department of Commerce, Department of Revenue (Customs, CE), Department of Economic Affairs and Department of Banking.
- (iii) organizing exporters meet to understand their problems and sensitize them of the various benefits available to the coconut

industry.

- (iv) facilitating to participation of exporters in the national/international exhibitions/fairs for promotion of export of coconut and its products.

Statement

Export of Coconut Products from India (Qty. in Tonnes, Value Rs. In Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Item	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-2010 (upto February 2010		Corresponding previous period (2008-09 up to February 2009)	
		Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
1	Coconuts (fresh)	1043.41	161.16	2838.00	371.48	6814.46	937.99	12709.71	1748.81	6370.73	889.69
2	Coconuts (dried)	622.39	241.15	982.20	250.72	1787.06	618.68	2727.59	1038.39	1702.74	590.46
3	Desiccated coconut	312.06	72.17	1454.73	274.04	2173.29	458.88	1569.60	377.48	2086.84	443.32
4	Other coconuts excluding fresh/ dried	758.63	240.59	3111.62	758.57	8007.08	1882.62	7871.58	2325.72	7646.88	1774.96
TOTAL		2736.49	715.07	8386.55	1654.81	18781.89	3898.17	24878.48	5490.40	17807.19	3698.43

Co-operative Credit Structure

2911. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has estimated the total credit requirements of agriculture sector in the country during Eleventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise specially in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) whether Government proposes to revamp the co-operative credit structure to ensure timely and adequate availability of credit to the farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Working Group on "Outreach of Institutional Finance and Cooperative Reforms", constituted by the Planning Commission has estimated agriculture credit flow of Rs. 19,59,524 crore during Eleventh Five Year Plan period. The Working Group has not estimated the state-wise details of the total credit requirements of agriculture sector. However, Government of India is fixing ground , level credit flow target for agriculture sector on annual basis and the same is, inter-alia allocated on State-wise basis also. Ground level credit flow target for agriculture sector for the year 2010-11 has been fixed at Rs. 3,75,000 crore of which share of Uttar Pradesh is Rs.35,329 crore.

(c) and (d) The Government of India, on the basis of recommendations of Vaidyanathan Committee, has approved a package for reviving and revitalizing the Short Term Rural Cooperative Credit Structure (STCCS) in the country involving financial outlay of Rs. 13,596 crore to make STCCS a well managed and vibrant institution for serving the credit needs of rural India, particularly the small and marginal farmers. The package seeks to introduce legal and institutional reforms necessary for democratic, self-reliant and efficient functioning of the STCCS and to

take measures aimed at improving the quality of management and governance.

Under the package, financial assistance is being provided to STCCS to bring the entities to an acceptable level of financial health, subject to legal and institutional reforms being brought in. As on

31st May, 2010, financial assistance of Rs. 8741.29 crore (Rs.7987.60 crore as Government of India share and Rs.753.69 crore as State Government share) has been released for cleansing of balance sheets of 49,779 Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (P ACS) in fourteen States.

(e) Does not arise.

Apprehension of shortfall in Kharif production

2912. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has analyzed the seed and fertilizer availability for Kharif 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expected production of rice, wheat and pulses during Kharif 2010;

(d) whether Government has apprehended any shortfall in production; and

(e) if so, the plans to meet the expected shortfall in production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The requirement of seeds and fertilizers are assessed and finalized in the Zonal Conferences on Agricultural Inputs that are held before every crop season by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. The input requirement is generally finalized based on the past performance, area of crop sown etc. in consultation with State Governments and other stakeholders. During Kharif 2010, against the requirement of 123.11 lakh Qtls of seeds, 141.93 lakh Qtls seeds are available. The state-wise, month-wise requirement of fertilizers finalized in the zonal conferences is communicated to Department of Fertilisers (DoF) for making supply plan to the states. Accordingly, DoF supply the fertilizer to the state as per their supply plan.

In addition, the position of seed & fertilizers in the State is being monitored every week through video conference by the collaborative

efforts of Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperation, Department of Fertilizers and Department of Railways for ensuring the availability of the inputs in time.

(c) to (e) Although, it is too early to predict the production of rice, wheat and pulses, increase in area sown & good monsoon would positively influence the food grains production.

Construction of Cold Storages

2913. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cold storages in the country till December, 2008, State-wise;

(b) the number of the cold storages in the country in the year 2009 after Government announced some relaxation to industrialists for the construction of cold storage and the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the plan of Government to promote construction of more and more cold storages in the country; and

(d) plan to provide proper uninterrupted electricity to all cold storages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The State-wise number of cold storages till December 2008 and till December 2009 is given in the statement-I and II respectively (see below). However, no separate information is maintained on number of cold storages in the country in the year 2009, after Government announced some relaxation for construction of cold storages.

(c) Government has been providing assistance through various schemes for construction of more cold storages. Under the scheme of National Horticulture Mission, assistance is provided for development of post harvest infrastructure including construction of Cold Storages. Under the Scheme of Horticulture Mission for North Eastern and Himalayan States, assistance is provided for post harvest management including for creation/modernization/expansion of cold storages.

National Horticulture Board is implementing the scheme of Capital Investment Subsidy for construction/ expansion/modernization of cold storage and storages for horticulture produce, under which assistance is provided for creation /modernization/expansion of cold storages.

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority provides assistance under scheme of infrastructure Development for setting up of integrated pack houses with cold store facilities. Ministry of Food Processing Industries provides assistance for cold chain infrastructure development including that of cold storages under the scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure.

(d) Electricity is a concurrent subject. The responsibility for supply and distribution of electricity to different categories of consumers, including that to cold storages rests with the concerned State Government. Government of India supplements the efforts of States by establishing power generating stations and bulk transmission systems.

Statement-I

Statewise number of cold storages as on 31.12.2008

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of cold storages
1	2	3
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UT)	02
2.	Andhra Pradesh	286
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	01
4.	Assam	24
5.	Bihar	260
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	06
7.	Chattisgarh	65
8.	Delhi	94
9.	Gujarat	377
10.	Goa	29
11.	Haryana	243
12.	Himachal Pradesh	18

1	2	3
14.	Jharkhand	45
15.	Kerala	187
16.	Karnataka	161
17.	Lakswadeep (UT)	01
18.	Maharashtra	460
19.	Madhya Pradesh	192
20.	Meghalaya	03
21.	Nagaland	02.
22.	Orissa	109
23.	Puducherry (UT)	03
24.	Punjab	420
25.	Rajasthan	107
26.	Sikkim	00
27.	Tamil Nadu	139
28.	Tripura	11
29.	Uttar Pradesh	1579
30.	Uttarakhand	12
31.	West Bengal	531
TOTAL		5386

Statement-II

Statewise number of cold storages as on 31.12.2009

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of cold storages
1	2	3
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UT)	02
2.	Andhra Pradesh	290

1	2	3
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	01
4.	Assam	24
5.	Bihar	246
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	06
7.	Chattisgarh	69
8.	Delhi	95
9.	Gujarat	398
10.	Goa	29
11.	Haryana	244
12.	Himachal Pradesh	18
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	19
14.	Jharkhand	45
15.	Kerala	193
16.	Karnataka	170
17.	Lakswadeep (UT)	01
18.	Maharashtra	466
19.	Madhya Pradesh	197
20.	Meghalaya	03
21.	Nagaland	02
22.	Orissa	101
23.	Puducherry (UT)	03
24.	Punjab	422
25.	Rajasthan	110

1	2	3
26.	Sikkim	01
27.	Tamil Nadu	148
28.	Tripura	11
29.	Uttar Pradesh	1589
30.	Uttarakhand	15
31.	West Bengal	463
TOTAL		5381

Availability of food

2914. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government realize the danger ahead when rate of population increase surpasses the rate of growth in agriculture;

(b) whether situation is driving towards the pre-green revolution situation; and

(c) per capita food availability in each Five Year Plan period from First to Eleventh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Growth rate of Agriculture & Allied Sector at constant prices (2004-05 prices) and Growth rate of population during 2005-06 to 2008-09 are as follows:

Year	Growth rate of Agriculture & Allied Sector over pervious year	Growth Rate population over pervious year
2005-06	5.2	1.50
2006-07	3.7	1.47
2007-08	4.7	1.44
2008-09	1.6	1.40

Growth rate of Agriculture & Allied Sector is higher than the growth rate of population.

(b) No, Sir. The crop production, investment in Agriculture & Allied Sector and GDP of the Sector are steadily increasing over the years.

(c) Per capita net availability of food grains per day in each Five Year Plan period from First Eleventh is indicated below.

Plan period	Per capita availability per day in grams
First Plan (1951-56)	418.8
Second Plan (1956-61)	446.9
Third Plan (1961-66)	461.1
Annual Plans (1966-69)	423.2
Fourth Plan (1969-74)	451.3
Fifth Plan (1974-79)	435.7
Annual Plan (1979-80)	476.5
Sixth Plan (1980-85)	447.4
Seventh Plan (1985-90)	469.4
Annual Plans (1990-92)	493.3
Eighth Plan (1992-97)	474.9
Ninth Plan (1997-2002)	457.3
Tenth Plan (2002-2007)	452.4
Eleventh Plan (2007-2012)	440.9 *

Source: Economic Survey 2009-2010

* 2007-2009

Setting up of brown field Namrup IV project under BVFCL

2915. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalized the plan for setting up of new brown field project as Namrup IV under the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (BVFCL);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it will be commissioned; and

(c) the total outlay and the target set for implementation of Namrup IV project during Eleventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The plan for setting up of new brown field project as Namrup- IV under Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL) has not been finalized yet.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No outlay or target has been set during Eleventh Plan period for implementation of Namrup-IV project.

Small and medium pharma sector

2916. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that various Departments lack coordination and mutual acceptability leading to taking decisions in isolation, whereby threatening the very existence of small and medium pharma industry in the country;

(b) whether Government is also aware that small and medium scale pharma sector is scattered and unorganized, due to which the lobby of large-scale pharma units is dominating government policies and huge financial funds are required for survival of SME pharma sector's quest to maintain providing quality medicines at affordable prices to the people; 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 Central Government Ministries/Departments whenever required while formulating the policies including those for small and medium pharma industry, have consultation amongst themselves.

(b) and (c) The Department of Pharmaceuticals in collaboration with the Ministry of MSME has introduced a Scheme for Schedule W Compliance by

SSI Units in Pharma Sector under
the overall umbrella of Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme(CLCSS). Under the
Scheme, the Pharma SSI

units are eligible to get 15%(upto Rs. 15.00 lakhs)upfront capital subsidy on an institutional finance for an amount upto Rs. 1.00 crore to be availed by them for inclusion of well established and improved technology to make themselves Schedule W Compliant. To widely disseminate information on the Scheme, this Department had held State level Awareness Building Workshops (ABWs) in 9 pharma clusters at Goa, Mumbai, Baddi, Chennai, Hyderabad, Ahmadabad, Indore, Dehradun and Bangalore. This subsidy of 15% (upto Rs. 15.00 Lakhs) is also admissible to new Pharma Manufacturing Units.

Assistance provided by NIPER

2917. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the services, assistance, projects, advisory consultation being provided by National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali to help small and medium scale pharma industry in their pursuit to develop low cost technologies to provide quality medicines at affordable prices to people; and

(b) the amount of funds that have been allocated by the Government to NIPER to meet the requirements of reengineering of patented drugs, use of green chemistry to reduce environmental problems, enhancing technical capabilities in manufacturing and analytical methods, educational training, etc. to meet the challenges of new regulations under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), SAS Nagar, Mohali established a Small and Medium Pharmaceutical Industry Centre (SMPIC) on 23-02-2009. The Centre has organized 5 training programs on Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) / Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) for Drugs and Pharmaceuticals for Small & Medium Enterprises (SME) Pharma companies. Apart from these training programs, SMPIC is continuously imparting hands-on practical training on the essential analytical instruments like HPLC, GC, AAS to the analytical staff from SME Pharma and as on date 203 persons have been trained. (b)f No separate funds have been allocated.

Changes proposed in nutrient based subsidy scheme

2918. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering changes in the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme for fertilizers as part of a concerted move to prune its subsidy after global prices of fertilizers nosedived recently;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to revise Nutrient Based Subsidy ahead of one year schedule to force companies to either pass benefit to farmers or take subsidy cut;

(c) whether Government intends to cut subsidies especially on imports of controlled fertilizers such as Phosphates and Potash; and

(d) if so, by when a decision in this regard will be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) Government of India has introduced Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy for 2010-11 w.e.f. 1.4.2010 for decontrolled Phosphatic & Potassic (P&K) fertilizers (w.e.f. 1.5.2010 for Single Super Phosphate (SSP)). Under the NBS Policy, subsidy for indigenous and imported P&K fertilizers has been announced on annual basis for 2010-11 based on the prevailing prices and price trends of fertilizers in the International market. The prices of fertilizers have registered minor reduction in the International market in the period April 2010 - July 2010. However, despite minor reduction, price of fertilizers in the international market are still comparable or more than the prices adopted under the NBS for 2010-11. Further, marginal decrease in prices, if any, has been offset by the adverse Rs./US\$ exchange rate. Under the Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy, the Government has constituted Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) to recommend per Nutrient Subsidy for 'N', 'P', 'K' & 'S' in the P & K Fertilizers covered under the NBS before the start of the financial year for decision by the Government. However, in case of substantial change in prices, the IMC may review the price trend of the fertilizers/intermediates/raw materials in the International market during the year.

Centre-State sharing for schemes for Bhopal Gas Victims

†2919. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND
FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that sharing in the ratio of 75 per cent and 25 per cent by the Centre and the States respectively has been decided for schemes being operated for the Bhopal Gas Victims;

(b) if so, whether Government is funding its share regularly, the details thereof;

(c) whether a proposal of Rs.50 crore has been received for disposing off residual waste lying at Union Carbide premises, Bhopal; and

(d) if so, the time by when this amount would be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) A Five Year Action Plan of the State Government of MP for medical, economic, social and environmental rehabilitation of Bhopal Gas Victims was approved by the Government of India in 1990, with a total outlay of Rs.163.10 crores (which was subsequently increased to Rs.258.00 crores) with the cost sharing ratio being 75:25. This Action Plan was extended up to July, 1999. The Government of India had released Rs.193.50 crore comprising 75% of its share of the outlay. The Government of India has further approved a sum of Rs.272.75 crores 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 for providing safe drinking water by purification of contaminated groundwater and from other sources and released Rs. 204.56 crore as its share on 08.07.2010.

(c) and (d) This Department has not received any proposal costing Rs. 50 crore for destroying the waste kept in the Union Carbide premises in Bhopal. However, based on the recommendation of the Group of Ministers on Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster, the Government of India has decided to bear the cost of remediation in the first instance. The remediation cost estimated at Rs.310.00 crore has been approved, which will be released on endorsement of the specific project proposals for remediation and waste disposal work submitted by the Government of MP, by the Oversight Committee working under the chairmanship of Minister of State (IC) for Environment and Forests.

Reimbursement of VAT on fertilizers

2920. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to safeguard economic interest of the producers of fertilizers of Gujarat State due to levy of 2.5% of additional VAT as Gujarat State Government has shown its inability to provide relief to fertilizer producers of the State;

(b) whether Government has any intention for reimbursement of this additional VAT as Subsidy from backdate; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Certain States including Gujarat have levied recently additional VAT which is currently not recognized for reimbursement in current subsidy regime. Various options to address the problem are under examination.

Sale of wheat and paddy through middlemen

2921. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allowed farmers in the country to sale wheat/paddy through middlemen;

(b) whether it is a fact that this facility is not available to farmers of Uttar Pradesh;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government consider it appropriate to provide this facility to farmers of Uttar Pradesh; 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) State Governments of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan do procure through Arhthia.

In Uttar Pradesh Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State agencies have been asked to open adequate number of procurement centres in the procuring districts. The Government of India is committed to purchase all the quantity of paddy/wheat brought in by the farmers in the procurement centres/mandis. In order to maximise procurement, Self Help Groups and

Cooperative Societies are

encouraged to procure and a commission of 2.5% of MSP during KMS & 2% of MSP during RMS is extended to them.

Monitoring system for proper utilization of food subsidy

2922. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether concerned over the ineffective Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and to ensure early enacting of the National Food Security Act, the Union Government is considering setting up of an effective monitoring system to ensure proper utilization of food subsidy given to States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in the absence of any monitoring system, the actual BPL families are deprived of the benefits of PDS and the foodgrains are reaching in open market for black-marketing; and

(d) if so, to what extent the monitoring system will curb such malpractice?

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 Central Government and State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. The Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for lifting and distributing the allocated foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible card holders through the fair price shops (FPSs) are that of the State/UT Governments.

Allocations of foodgrains are made to States/UTs under TPDS for distribution to 6.52 crore accepted number of BPL/Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), families @ 35 kg. per family per month. Allocations of foodgrains are also made to Above Poverty Line (APL) families based on the

availability of foodgrains in the central pool and past offtake. Presently, the allocation of foodgrains to APL families ranges between 10 kg. and 35 kg. per family per month.

The Department releases food subsidy to only those State Governments which are undertaking decentralized procurement in their respective States. It is released on the basis of actual offtake of foodgrains under TPDS and Other Welfare Schemes and submission of utilization certificate in respect of amount released earlier in each quarter on provisional basis amounting to 95% of their respective admissible claims. 5% of remaining admissible claims is released on submission of audited accounts by State Governments.

Public Distribution System (Control) Order 2001 mandates the State and UT Governments to carry out all required action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS.

Monitoring of TPDS is a continuous process. To improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly requesting State/UT Governments for continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at FPSs, ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS, improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels and introduction of new technologies such as Computerization of TPDS operations at various levels. In the Conference of Food Secretaries of States and UTs on Best Practices and Reforms in TPDS held on 12th & 13th July, 2010, the above directions have been reiterated.

Wastage of foodgrains

2923. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of storage of foodgrains, pulses and oil seeds across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of foodgrains procured from farmers during last three years;

(d) the details of foodgrains rotted/ wasted due to rain/floods

during last three years; and

(e) the action taken by Government to avoid wastage of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) There is a shortage of covered godowns for the storage of foodgrains in the country, against stock of 544.30 lakh tonnes foodgrains in the Central Pool as on 1st August, 2010, the covered space available with FCI and State agencies was 426.37 lakh tonnes. However, wherever there is shortage of covered space, stocks are kept in scientific Cover and Plinth (CAP).

(b) The State wise details given in the statement (see below).

(c) The details of procurement of foodgrains during the last three years are as under:-

Wheat		Figures in Lakh MTs			
Year (RMS)		Quantity			
2008-09		226.89			
2009-10		253.82			
2010-11		225.25 (as on 31.07.2010)			
Rice					
Year (KMS)		Quantity			
2007-08		287.36			
2008-09		336.84			
2009-10		304.27 (as on 16.8.2010)			
Coarse-grains					
Year	Jowar	Bajra	Maize	Ragi	Total
2007-08	0.01	1.24	0.68	0.11	2.04
2008-09	0.52	3.18	9.94	0.12	13.76
2009-10 (as on 13.08.10)	0.006	0.77	3.28	0.003	4.06

(d) The details of foodgrains that has become non-issuable in the FCI godowns during the last three years are given in the statement-II (see below).

(e) The Government has taken following steps to avoid wastage of foodgrains:

- (i) Adequate dunnage material, covers and chemicals are provided in all the godowns.
- (ii) Prophylactic and curative treatments are carried out regularly and timely for the control of insects pests and rodents.
- (iii) Food grains stored in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) are on elevated plinths and wooden crates are used as dunnage material. Stacks are properly covered with black polythene water proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.
- (iv) Regular inspections of the stocks/ godowns are undertaken by qualified and trained staff of FCI.
- (v) The principle of "First-In-First-Out" (FIFO) is followed so as to avoid longer storage of food grains in godowns.

Statement-I

Covered capacity/stock with FCI and State Agencies as on 1.08.2010

Figure in lakh tonnes

FCI Region	Capacity with FCI	Stock with FCI	Capacity with State agencies (as on 31.3.10)	Stock with State agencies	Overall shortfall of capacity
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh (including Andaman & Nicobar)	39.05	42.67	6.03	0.01	-2.40
Arunachal Pradesh	0.21	0.01	0.05	0.00	-0.25
Assam	2.82	1.80	0.40	0.00	-1.42

Bihar	5.77	3.95	6.30	2.07	-6.05
Chhatisgarh	8.62	7.36	9.42	7.48	-3.20

1	2	3	4	5	6
Delhi	3.36	2.70	0.04	0.00	-0.70
Gujarat	6.61	6.33	2.47	0.00	-2.75
Haryana	22.67	25.33	19.78	64.41	47.29
Himachal Pradesh	0.26	0.24	0.56	0.00	-0.58
J&K	1.31	0.68	1.12	0.00	-1.75
Jharkhand	1.22	0.90	0.02	0.00	-0.34
Karnataka	7.29	8.26	2.70	0.10	-1.63
Kerela	5.17	3.84	1.46	0.31	-2.48
Madhya Pradesh	9.64	8.68	22.16	32.46	9.34
Maharashtra (including Goa)	19.70	15.47	10.67	1.34	-13.56
Manipur	0.20	0.03	0.20	0.00	-0.37
Meghalaya	0.26	0.11	0.06	0.00	-0.21
Mizoram	0.23	0.03	0.56	0.00	-0.76
Nagaland	0.33	0.25	0.06	0.00	-0.14
Orissa	6.41	4.19	3.78	13.14	7.14
Punjab (including Chandigarh)	72.39	76.77	24.17	124.46	104.67
Rajasthan	15.16	20.53	2.25	0.00	3.12
Tamil Nadu (including Pondichery)	9.77	8.57	6.51	6.59	-1.12
Tripura	0.52	0.22	0.39	0.00	-0.69
Uttar Pradesh	23.49	20.73	26.16	19.75	-9.17
Uttrakhand	2.03	2.15	0.20	0.48	0.40
West Bengal (including Sikkim)	10.69	8.11	3.67	1.79	-4.46
Total	275.18	269.91	151.19	274.39	117.93

(-) Excess covered capacity

(+) Shortfall in covered capacity

Statement-II

The details of foodgrains become non-issuable in the FCI godowns during the last three years

Zone	Sl.No.	Region	2007-08			2008-09			2009-10			2010-11			Total
			Wheat	Rice	Paddy	Wheat	Rice	Paddy	Wheat	Rice	Paddy	Wheat	Rice	Paddy	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
East	1	Bihar	406	319	0	10	1	0	275	29	43	0	30	0	1113
	2	Jharkhand	0	0	0	1.492	0	0	0	3.47	0	0	0	0	4.962
	3	Orissa	0	0	0	84	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	84
	4	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21.7	0	0	21.7
N.E.	5	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	6	Nef	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
	7	N&M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	8	Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	9	Haryana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	10	H.P.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
North	11	J&K	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	12	Punjab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	13	Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8.56	0	0	8.56
	14	Uttar Pd.	3.3	0.3	0	32.3	0	0	0	0	0	130	0	0	165.9
	15	Uttranchal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	16	Andhra Pd.	0	135	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	136
South	17	Kerala	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	18	Karnataka	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	19	Tamilnadu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	20	Gujarat	148	0	0	591	0	0	671	0	0	0	0	0	1410
West	21	Maharashtra	2	12	401	0	1	0	98	17	0	8.8	0	0	539.8
	22	Madhya Pd.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	23	Chhatisgarh	0	0	486	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	486
GRAND TOTAL			559.3	466	887	718.8	31	0	1044	49.5	43	169.1	31	0	3998.922

Revamping PDS

2924. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for revamping the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any plan for restoring the Universal PDS;

(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 (b) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of Central Government and State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. The Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for lifting and distributing the allocated foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible card holders through the fair price shops (FPSs) are of the State/UT Governments.

Public Distribution System (Control) Order 2001 mandates the State and UT Governments to carry out all required actions to ensure smooth functioning of the TPDS.

Strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a continuous process. To improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly requesting State/UT Governments for continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at FPSs, bringing about greater transparency in functioning of TPDS, improved monitoring and vigilance at all levels and introduction of new technologies such as Computerization of TPDS operations at various levels.

In the Conference of Food Secretaries of States and UTs on Best Practices and Reforms in TPDS held on 12th & 13th July, 2010, the above directions have been reiterated.

(c) to (e) With a view to specifically target poor sections of society for distribution of subsidized foodgrains (rice, wheat & coarse grains) and sugar, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is presently under implementation. There is no plan to restore Universal Public Distribution System.

Further, procurement of huge quantities of wheat and rice to meet the requirement of Universal Public Distribution System, would result in lower availability of foodgrains in the market, leading to rise in open market prices. If the same quantity of foodgrains is distributed equally among all, then the scale of issue will have to be reduced.

Besides, in order to manage the level of food subsidy, the issue prices of rice and wheat may have to be increased substantially from the present Central Issue Prices (CIPs). This would mean that BPL and AAY families would get much reduced scale of issue and also have to pay higher CIPs.

Rottening of foodgrains

2925. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that 61,000 tonnes of foodgrains had rotten in its granaries as it was kept with poor protection for too long;

(b) if so, the details, State-wise where the foodgrains are being kept in open under tarpaulins cover which is not a good weather-proof material;

(c) the details, State-wise, where the foodgrains were spoiled due to rains and other reasons;

(d) the details of estimated loss incurred to the exchequer due to the negligence of FCI staff; and

(e) the steps Government intend to take against the FCI officials

found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) 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 quantities of foodgrain stocks are also stored in cover and plinth (CAP) storage. Storage in CAP is on scientific lines and precautionary measures are to be taken to preserve the stocks by periodic prophylactic and curative treatment as per guidelines. State-wise details of wheat stocks stored in CAP are given in the Statement-I (See below).

As on 01.07.2010 a total quantity of 11708 tons of damaged/non-issuable foodgrains was there in godowns of FCI. Details of region-wise commodity-wise stock position of these damaged/non-issuable foodgrains in FCI depots and damage to wheat stocks by rains and floods during recent rains in various States are given in the Statement-II (See below). Based on acquisition cost and likely sale price of damaged wheat and rice quantified so far, the loss works out to Rs. 21.14 lakhs.

Foodgrain stock get damaged 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 enquiry 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.

Statement-I

State-wise details of wheat stocks stored in CAP

As on 1.7.2010

(figures in MTs)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Stock with FCI	Stock with State Agency	Total
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1	2	3	4	5
1.	Punjab	752441	9049040	9801481
2.	Delhi	32799	Nil	32799

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Gujarat	41306	Nil	41306
4.	Haryana	332221	5443003	5775224
5.	Uttrakhand	12151	4800	16951
6.	Rajasthan	526370	Nil	526370
7.	Tamilnadu	59570	Nil	59570
8.	Maharashtra	81232	Nil	81232
9.	Madhya Pradesh	37669	Nil	37669
10.	Uttar Pradesh	187107	Nil	187107
11.	Karnataka	131417	Nil	131417
12.	Andhra Pradesh	93492	Nil	93492
13.	Bihar	2867	Nil	2867
14.	West Bengal	17817	Nil	17817
TOTAL		2308459	14496843	16805302

Statement-II

(A) Region-wise commodity wise stock position of damaged/non-issueable foodgrains in FCI depots as reported by FCI.

As on 01.07.2010

(Qty. in tons)

Name of the Region	Wheat	Rice	Paddy	Total	Value (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bihar	360	71	54	485	2314195
Jharkhand	13	4	0	17	84375
Orissa	0	0	0	0	0
West Bengal	364	1482	0	1846	10890750

1	2	3	4	5	6
Assam/Arunachal	0	159	0	159	989775
NEF (Megh./Mizo/T.Pura)	0	139	0	139	865275
Nagaland & Manipur	0	0	0	0	0
Delhi	0	0	0	0	0
Haryana	0	0	0	0	0
Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
Jammu & Kashmir	0	11	0	11	68475
Punjab	52	7014	0	7066	43900050
Rajasthan	12	0	0	12	54900
Uttar Pradesh	40	8	0	48	232800
Uttrakhand	0	0	0	0	0
Andhra Pradesh	0	6	0	6	37350
Kerala	8	43	0	51	304275
Karnatka	0	31	0	31	192975
Tamil Nadu	1	0	0	1	4575
Gujrat	1396	61	0	1457	6766425
Maharashtra	182	96	0	278	1430250
Madhya Pradesh	56	16	0	72	355800
Chhattisgarh	2	0	27	29	121760
TOTAL	2486	9141	81	11708	68614005

Non-issuable wheat stock with State Agencies reported by Regional Offices of FCI as
on 01.07.10

Punjab: 54260 tons

Haryana: 1574 tons

(B) Details of FCI depots and storage centres of State Government agencies where the damages have taken place due to recent rains and flood reported by FCI on 18.8.2010.

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
Rajasthan	Chanderi, Kanpur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Udaipur, rail head	8.56
Haryana	Hafed, Ambala	40
	HSWC, Bani, Sirsa	Damage yet to be quantified
	CAP Complex	Damage yet to be quantified
	Ismailabad, Kurukshetra	Damage yet to be quantified
	Food & Supply, Jundla	
Punjab	CAP complex Khonuri,	Damage yet to be quantified
	Sangrur	Damage yet to be quantified
	3 Punjab Agro CAP Complexes, Sangrur	
	Pungrain	Damage yet to be quantified
	Talwandi, Ferozepaur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Markfed CAP	
	Copmplex, Zira,	Damage yet to be quantified
	Ferozepur	
	2 Punjab Agro CAP Complex, Ferozepur	
Uttrakhand	SWC Gadarpur, Udham Singh Nagar	Damage yet to be quantified
Maharashtra	FCI Karad	8
	FCI Gondia	0.8
West Bengal	FSD, Chinsura	7
	FSD, Dankuni	14.62
	FSD, Midnapur	0.08

In addition, FCI has also reported damage to 30.18 tons of rice in four depots in Bihar and 1 ton of rice in one depot in Andhra Pradesh.

Wheat procurement during year 2010

†2926. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD and PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of wheat procurement made by Government during last year and current year;

(b) the reasons behind low procurement of wheat during the year 2010;

(c) the quantum of wheat got drenched and details thereof procurement centrewise; and

(d) the names of officers found guilty therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The details of wheat procurement made by Government during last year and current year is given below:

State	Procurement (in lakh tonnes)	
	Crop Year	
	2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3
Punjab	107.25	102.05
Haryana	69.24	63.35
Madhya Pradesh	19.68	35.38
Uttar Pradesh	38.82	16.73
Rajasthan	11.52	4.76
Bihar	4.97	1.83
Uttarakhand	1.45	0.86
Delhi	0.00	0.10
Chandigarh	0.12	0.09
West Bengal	0.00	0.09

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3
Gujarat	0.75	0.01
Himachal Pradesh	0.01	0.00
Jammu & Kashmir	0.01	0.00
Total	253.82	225.25

(b) Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2010-11 has once again seen very high procurement of wheat. In fact, last three years have been the highest three years for wheat procurement since 1999-2000.

(c) As informed by Food Corporation of India, no wheat got drenched in any procurement centre.

(d) Does not arise.

Allocation of foodgrains for welfare schemes

2927. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Corporation of India (FCI) provides foodgrains for various welfare schemes of various Ministries in the country;

(b) if so, the quantity of foodgrains provided by FCI during 2008-09 and 2009-10 under various schemes to Chhattisgarh;

(c) whether a huge amount on account of supply of such foodgrains for the said period are pending on various Ministries;

(d) if so, the details in this regard, Ministry-wise;

(e) the details of amount received by FCI during the said period from various Ministries/Departments; and

(f) the steps taken by FCI for recovery of outstanding dues from each of such Ministries/Departments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (f) Food Corporation of India (FCI) provides

foodgrains for welfare schemes of various Ministries as per allocations made by Department of Food & Public Distribution from time to time.

Details of allotment and lifting of foodgrains, provided from Central Pool to Chhattisgarh under various welfare schemes during 2008-09 and 2009-10 are as follows:

(in thousand tons)

Year	Allocation		Offtake	
	Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)	Other Welfare Schemes (OWS)	Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)	Other Welfare Schemes (OWS)
2008-09	937.698	192.980	805.755	64.430
2009-10	1091.952	180.719	1005.898	21.160

Details of outstanding amount of money pending against various Ministries as on 31.7.2010 are as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Ministry of Rural Development	Ministry of Human Resource Development
2008-09	2890.82	148.47
2009-10	2890.82	166.33

Details of amount received by FCI from Various Ministries /Departments are as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Ministry of Rural Development	Ministry of Human Resource Development
2008-09	7500.00	1430.68
2009-10	---	1289.41

To recover outstanding balance from concerned Ministries/Departments, FCI regularly pursues the matter at different levels with the concerned Ministries as well as with Ministry of Finance.

Entitlement of foodgrains to poor

2928. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to restrict food guarantee to 25 kg. of grains for BPL households which is less than the existing entitlement;

(b) whether Government is aware that inadequate intake of food and artificial division of poor in the name of BPL-APL has created serious health problem among majority of population who are poor; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) In the address of the President to the joint session of Parliament on 04.06.2009, it was announced that under the proposed law on Food Security every Below Poverty Line (BPL) family would be entitled to 25 kg of foodgrains at subsidized prices. However, as various issues pertaining to the proposed law are still under examination, a final decision is yet to be taken.

At present, Government makes allocations of foodgrains to States / Union Territories for distribution under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) at the rate of 35 kg per family per month in respect of BPL/Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. Depending upon availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and past off-take, allocations are also made for Above Poverty Line (APL) families. Presently allocations for APL families range between 15 and 35 kg per family per month in different States. The distinction between BPL and APL is made to better target the poor so that their food intake and nutritional status get improved.

In addition, allocations are also made for various other welfare schemes such as Mid-Day Meal scheme, Wheat-based Nutrition Programme, Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls, Integrated Child Development Services scheme, etc.

Food coupons

2929. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of

CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a system of issuing food coupons for disbursement of foodgrains has been introduced in some States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and benefits accrued therefrom;

(c) whether Government has impressed upon the States to run similar schemes for disbursing foodgrains in the remaining States; 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) Only a few States/Union Territories (UTs) have introduced food coupons, some only on a pilot basis. Government of Andhra Pradesh has issued Bar coded coupons for drawal of rice and kerosene under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) to ensure that there is no impersonation/false accounting in distribution of essential commodities by the Fair Price Shop (FPS) dealers. Arunachal Pradesh Government has initiated coupon system on an experimental basis in Tirap District. Coupons are issued to beneficiaries at the time of issuance/ renewal of ration cards. The next month's allocation is based on the coupons submitted by the FPS dealer. Jammu & Kashmir Government is issuing ration cards in a booklet form for two years containing 24 coupons. As reported by Government of Bihar, monthly food coupons are issued to Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families for a year and food grains are distributed to families on the basis of such coupons. However, effectiveness of such coupons in eliminating deficiencies in TPDS has not yet been evaluated.

In the Conference of Food Secretaries of States and UTs held on 12th and 13th July, 2010, various initiatives taken by States/UTs were presented, including the issue of Food coupons. Among other measures, it has been resolved to give a fillip to IT based initiatives through computerization of the TPDS and introduction of Smart Card based delivery of foodgrains to further strengthen & streamline TPDS.

Shortage of sugar

2930. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while the country was facing acute shortage of sugar during festival season recently. Government decided to export 9 lakh tonnes of sugar;

(b) if so, the quantity of sugar exported and imported during 2009-10 and at what price;

(c) the quantity of sugar confiscated from hoarders and black marketeers during 2009-10; and

(d) the steps taken to supply sugar at reasonable price to consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Central Government has neither exported nor imported sugar on its account either during 2008-09 sugar season or 2009-10 sugar season (October-September). As such, the question of exporting 9 lac tons of sugar either in 2008-09 or 2009-10 sugar season does not arise. The Central Government, with a view to augment domestic stock of sugar in 2008-09 and 2009-10 sugar seasons has permitted duty-free import of raw and white/refined sugar upto 31.12.2010. It is the sugar mills/public sector undertakings/merchant importers- exporters who have undertaken import of sugar as per their commercial prudence.

The quantity of sugar exported and imported during 2009-10 sugar season is given below:

(in lac tons)		
Sugar season	Export	Import
2009-10	0.242*	30.20**
	(upto April' 10)	(upto 13.8.10)

Source * Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Kolkata

** Department of Revenue

As the international prices of sugar vary from time to time, it is not possible to indicate the price at which sugar got exported or imported.

(c) The details of the quantities of sugar seized/ confiscated by Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chattisgarh, Delhi, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh, as per report received from concerned State Governments/UTs, are given in the Statement (See below).

(d) The Central Government has taken a slew of measures to supply sugar at reasonable price to consumers viz., permitting import of raw and white/refined sugar upto 31.12.2010; imposition of stockholding limits on bulk consumers upto 14th February, 2011; and imposition of stockholding and turnover limit on sugar and khandsari sugar dealers upto 30.9.2010 etc. Besides, the Forward Markets Commission has suspended future trading in sugar upto 30.9.2010 in domestic markets.

Statement

Sugar seized/confiscated by various State Governments

Andhra Pradesh	A quantity of 461.75 quintals of sugar has been confiscated from hoarders and black-marketers during the year 2009 and 2010 upto March, 2010).
Bihar	434.3 quintal of sugar has been confiscated during 2009-10.
Chandigarh	234 quintals of sugar was confiscated from a trader for illegal storage without license.
Chhattisgarh	368 quintal of sugar has been confiscated from hoarders and black-marketers during 2009-10.
Delhi	No confiscation has been made during the year 2009-10
Maharashtra	During the period from 1.1.2009 to 31.7.2010, the Government has seized 397495 quintals of sugar, out of which so far 181133 quintals of sugar has been confiscated.
Punjab	147402.5 quintals of sugar was confiscated from hoarders and black-marketers in three districts namely, Amritsar, Ludhiana and Patiala.
Tamil Nadu	1297 quintals of sugar was seized from the

dealers for violation of storage limit. A sum of Rs. 17,50,950 was imposed as fine by the district Revenue Officer, Vellore and

the same has been remitted into Government account on 12.1.2010. 354 quintals of sugar was seized from the dealers in Ramanathapuram District. After conducting enquiry and perusal of record, the said quantity of sugar bags was released. From January 2009 to March 2010 a quantity of 3064 quintals of sugar was seized to curtail diversion of public distribution system sugar.

Uttar Pradesh	1,20,000 quintal sugar in District Ghaziabad and 4195 quintal sugar from District Hardoi has been seized in the State during 2009-10.
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Production and demand of sugar

†2931. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of sugar produced in the country during the year 2008-09;

(b) whether the production of sugar is sufficient as per domestic demand or import of sugar in the country is needed;

(c) whether Government is considering to bring down market prices of sugar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when market prices of sugar will be reduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The quantum of sugar produced from sugarcane in the country during the sugar year (October - September) 2008-09 is provisionally estimated at about 147 lac tons as against the provisionally estimated demand of 220 lac tons. As such, import of sugar in the country was needed to bridge the gap.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has taken a slew of measures to augment domestic stocks of sugar so as to ensure availability of sugar at

reasonable prices which, *iner-alia*, include permitting duty-free import of raw and white/refined sugar upto 31.12.2010, imposition of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

stockholding and turnover limits on sugar dealers, stockholding limit on bulk consumers of sugar, etc. Besides, the Forward Markets Commission have suspended futures trading in sugar upto September, 2010 in domestic market. Consequently, sugar prices have decreased significantly from its peak and are now stable in the domestic market.

Non-storage of wheat on time

2932. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: 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 wheat have spoiled recently due to non-storage of wheat on time in godowns of Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has got the investigation carried out in this matter; and

(d) if so, the outcome of the investigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Some quantities of foodgrains viz. wheat are also stored by FCI in cover and plinth (CAP) storage due to shortage of covered storage space. Damage to wheat stocks with FCI and State agencies by recent rains and flood has been reported in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Maharashtra and West Bengal as under:-

States	Depots	Damaged wheat (tons)
1	2	3
	Hapur	9.3
Uttar Pradesh	Harduaganj	90
	Orai, Jalaun	0.5
	Saharanpur, CWC, Bamanheri	29.2
	CWC, Saharanpur, Pilkhahi	1.0
	Roza, Shahjahanpur	Damage yet to be quantified

Chanderi, Kanpur

Damage yet to be quantified

1	2	3
Rajasthan	Udaipur, rail head	8.56
Haryana	Hafed, Ambala	40
	HSWC, Bani, Sirsa	Damage yet to be quantified
	CAP Complex	Damage yet to be quantified
	Ismailabad, Kurukshetra	
	Food &	Damage yet to be quantified
	Supply, Jundla	
Punjab	CAP complex	Damage yet to be quantified
	Khonuri, Sangrur	
	3 Punjab Agro CAP	Damage yet to be quantified
	Complexes, Sangrur	
	Pungrain	Damage yet to be quantified
	Talwandi, Ferozepur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Markfed CAP	
	Complex, Zira, Ferozepur	
	2 Punjab Agro CAP	Damage yet to be quantified
	Complex, Ferozepur	
Uttarakhand	SWC Gadarpur, Udham Singh Nagar	Damage yet to be quantified
Maharashtra	FCI Karad	8
	FCI Gondia	0.8
West Bengal	FSD, Chinsura	7
	FSD, Dankuni	14.62
	FSD, Midnapur	0.08

Above damages to wheat stocks have taken place due to failure in taking required precautionary measures by the concerned officers of FCI and other agencies except at Bani in Haryana where the damage has been due to flood.

(c) and (d) 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 Ismailabad in Kurukshetra district, Haryana and at four storage centres in Sangrur district and four storage centres in Ferozpur district of Punjab.

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

Fertilizer stock in States

2933. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fertilizer stocks gain momentum ahead of rains in some States;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the present position compared to the last 5 years State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Urea is the only fertilizer under partial movement, distribution and statutory price control of Government of India. It is imported for direct agriculture use on Government account through State Trading Enterprises (STEs) i.e. MMTC, STC and IPL. The gap between the assessed 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 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 State-wise requirement (demand), availability and sales of fertilizers including Andhra Pradesh during the year 2006-07 to 2010-11 given in the Statement (See below). As can be seen, supply (availability) of Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK in all States including Andhra Pradesh during current Kharif 10 (April'10 to July'10) has been adequate.

Statement

*State-wise cumulative demand, availability and sales
of fertilizers during 2006-07 (April to July)*

(Figure in 000 MT)

2006-07		UREA			DAP			MOP		
State	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Andhra Pradesh	450.00	681.56	424.12	143.00	162.86	147.18	72.00	52.01	56.02	
Karnataka	328.00	407.66	403.08	215.00	242.99	250.09	115.00	62.69	85.68	
Kerala	55.95	57.78	52.02	8.07	8.29	9.39	47.00	34.65	36.32	
Tamil Nadu	200.00	313.24	271.69	80.00	108.05	112.81	100.00	93.35	95.96	
Gujarat	450.00	434.79	412.45	213.00	161.18	96.11	44.00	38.01	39.07	
Madhya Pradesh	340.00	300.58	245.67	205.00	129.39	97.05	21.50	21.48	28.50	
Chhattisgarh	220.00	238.40	213.67	58.10	56.40	55.05	18.06	22.49	30.16	

Maharashtra	825.00	802.73	786.30	243.75	285.89	292.91	93.75	50.18	72.35
Rajasthan	310.00	329.58	275.63	135.00	86.44	78.20	3.70	0.07	2.71
Harayana	555.00	553.87	522.74	105.00	140.81	86.20	12.00	8.98	11.72
Punjab	1060.00	987.27	972.70	175.00	187.06	105.35	45.00	19.24	20.07
Uttar Pradesh	1490.00	1525.40	1555.64	185.00	241.17	148.33	36.00	11.71	20.68
Uttaranchal	62.00	102.74	94.13	8.20	6.95	6.00	3.60	0.80	1.79
Himachal Pradesh	31.00	31.22	28.16	0.08	10.00	0.10	0.16	0.00	0.00
J&K	54.50	53.04	44.55	33.00	12.52	15.26	9.30	7.17	3.06
Bihar	578.42	355.18	374.18	166.75	86.86	75.83	83.35	5.62	15.59
Jharkhand	52.00	39.49	45.47	51.20	35.82	36.40	5.00	0.18	0.20
Orissa	108.00	145.82	95.99	38.00	54.84	39.89	27.00	23.53	27.97
West Bengal	215.00	192.28	213.05	105.00	111.13	104.01	63.00	25.34	41.07
Assam	53.20	97.84	61.79	11.20	10.91	12.48	16.80	4.55	21.07
All India Total	7493.51	7650.47	7093.03	2192.32	2129.56	1768.64	824.40	472.05	609.99

(Figures in 000 MTs)

B. State-wise cumulative demand, availability and sales of fertilizers during 2007-08 (April to June)

2007-08	UREA			DAP			MOP		
State	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	585.00	709.74	475.44	180.00	200.87	181.32	100.00	100.56	62.69
Karnataka	450.00	441.84	380.87	280.001	219.811	211.24	119.00	162.53	114.42
Kerala	51.00	46.22	44.69	11.76	9.36	9.01	46.00	42.70	39.81
Tamil Nadu	264.00	238.22	174.17	132.70	73.90	69.99	134.00	172.00	126.95
Gujarat	490.00	553.23	498.32	214.00	245.66	188.61	48.00	52.23	49.08
Madhya Pradesh	325.00	383.10	294.35	260.00	200.32	171.43	36.00	34.08	20.89
Chhattisgarh	253.00	279.93	253.43	60.95	81.63	72.67	36.10	29.82	25.26
Maharashtra	1000.00	884.26	849.93	340.00	259.88	256.13	100.00	126.20	111.74

Rajasthan	298.00	356.21	299.92	115.00	117.69	97.68	3.56	7.83	4.54
Harayana	585.00	640.76	571.14	119.00	134.45	113.17	18.00	11.67	7.69
Punjab	1060.00	966.64	910.70	185.00	156.10	130.47	50.00	28.53	19.20
Uttar Pradesh	2000.00	1595.60	1318.62	410.00	307.34	205.78	115.00	47.70	25.21
Uttaranchal	90.00	101.79	93.88	8 20	7.25	5.01	5.00	1.27	1.23
Himachal Pradesh	32.00	31.411	29.62	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00
J&K	70.66	66.59	52.46	43.17	9.82	9.78	14.31	3.66	2.94
Bihar	510.00	490.37	375.39	142.00	93.46	73.80	55.00	27.81	19.50
Jharkhand	77.00	52.58	43.53	40.50	45.72	41.40	5.00	3.61	1.59
Orissa	173.00	144.81	109.68	42.50	86.76	56.51	33.60	48.49	38.70
West Bengal	253.00	301.93	203.73	143.00	145.64	117.65	80.00	89.67	67.12
Assam	61.60	76.11	66.13	13.20	3.67	3.67	20.80	22.98	16.30
All India Total	8683.80	8361.34	7046.00	2755.67	2399.33	2015.32	1027.85	1013.34	754.86

C. State-wise cumulative demand availability and sales of fertilizers during 2008-09 (April to July)

2008-09	UREA			DAP			MOP			NPK		
State	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	520.00	738.76	477.79	210.00	265.25	260.79	95.00	117.93	109.83	526.00	406.65	390.80
Karnataka	420.00	461.83	360.37	294.00	287.89	277.45	149.00	169.43	162.07	349.00	282.64	267.70
Kerala	49.84	67.89	66.52	13.14	8.25	8.24	47.00	56.68	55.74	65.64	63.91	62.65
Tamil Nadu	270.00	304.42	273.88	112.00	116.63	116.56	126.00	185.97	182.04	104.00	75.36	72.94
Gujarat	570.00	516.32	458.52	252.00	286.60	277.27	55.80	65.16	63.32	170.90	169.22	134.32
Madhya Pradesh	425.00	403.05	305.80	305.00	316.96	271.94	59.00	65.88	38.72	242.00	92.49	87.18
Chhattisgarh	436.50	299.55	247.92	121.50	112.98	110.43	55.80	48.93	46.82	87.85	69.62	69.28
Maharashtra	928.70	988.43	856.11	378.20	376.26	359.60	123.80	181.65	167.47	767.20	425.57	415.28
Rajasthan	333.00	388.85	302.59	130.00	189.59	180.26	6.60	13.04	5.41	51.00	25.68	24.07

Harayana	650.00	571.47	511.04	136.00	188.56	180.14	12.00	11.70	11.63	15.70	11.53	11.30
Punjab	1050.00	872.49	812.62	145.00	207.10	204.59	50.00	42.23	32.68	22.00	22.04	21.81
Uttar Pradesh	2100.00	1760.24	1450.89	260.00	309.84	288.11	80.00	80.81	79.85	233.41	148.50	132.19
Uttaranchal	90.00	96.80	85.95	10.00	11.26	9.26	5.60	2.03	1.98	16.25	17.31	14.22
Himachal Pradesh	36.00	36.46	34.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.40	0.00	0.00	8.80	5.50	5.48
J&K	61.55	56.71	50.99	36.88	22.09	21.82	15.65	3.78	3.71	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bihar	510.00	535.17	390.27	120.00	123.60	112.49	35.00	76.90	61.80	120.50	61.94	52.00
Jharkhand	67.10	61.50	53.69	50.00	36.88	34.92	5.00	4.14	3.30	14.45	14.05	12.79
Orissa	135.00	165.03	103.38	68.00	76.93	68.13	40.00	56.07	49.29	126.37	95.95	86.56
West Bengal	251.191	346.42	230.01	127.00	126.17	117.90	83.97	145.84	137.25	176.30	141.23	133.71
Assam	76.80	70.74	68.26	37.12	2.18	0.85	35.84	18.51	17.25	9.60	0.00	0.00
All India Total	8980.68	8742.13	7140.871	2805.84	3065.02	2900.75	1081.46	1346.68	1230.16	3106.97	2129.19	1994.31

(Figures in 000 MTs)

(D) Statewise cumulative demand, availability and sales of fertilizers during 2009-10 (April to July)

2009-10	UREA			DAP			MOP			NPL		
State	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	640.00	618.20	479.21	315.00	466.08	397.14	135.00	125.22	108.11	660.00	553.53	496.42
Karnataka	400.00	404.26	389.70	313.30	496.50	457.37	162.00	166.30	160.98	360.40	349.70	335.16
Kerala	65.75	53.81	50.41	13.00	16.86	15.16	55.40	61.22	55.32	73.75	82.30	80.56
Tamil Nadu	275.00	243.09	237.20	110.00	141.47	138.84	182.00	120.57	116.49	115.00	185.97	178.01
Gujarat	526.50	562.58	526.55	309.40	409.07	352.53	69.60	73.04	72.97	139.50	132.97	114.33
Madhya Pradesh	442.00	379.44	336.55	342.00	437.45	378.89	58.80	38.82	35.76	187.00	54.38	49.05
Chhattisgarh	435.50	257.33	242.80	121.50	162.32	150.57	60.80	44.79	44.75	90.00	49.69	47.86
Maharashtra	835.83	835.36	816.47	396.89	802.02	788.40	156.52	208.62	207.85	685.71	369.36	355.16

Rajasthan	324.00	331.07	276.28	191.00	239.91	216.86	7.30	14.61	12.61	52.95	13.10	12.48
Harayana	600.00	495.22	464.23	200.00	277.27	262.10	18.00	18.91	18.90	17.00	5.63	5.19
Punjab	960.00	792.10	759.27	200.00	271.61	253.53	36.00	23.72	23.72	20.00	6.33	4.38
Uttar Pradesh	2100.00	1566.98	1245.54	300.00	598.54	521.34	80.00	57.86	57.26	225.00	124.63	108.83
Uttaranchal	85.50	82.23	71.91	8.70	21.61	20.07	4.50	0.02	0.02	24.50	4.61	4.56
Himachal Pradesh	35.00	24.59	22.29	0.00	2.65	2.65	0.25	0.00	0.00	7.80	7.45	5.71
J&K	61.55	40.77	38.18	34.38	21.01	20.96	9.14	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bihar	490.00	427.27	350.42	145.00	98.29	91.47	65.00	47.01	46.20	127.50	85.02	82.31
Jharkhand	73.00	54.83	40.12	47.50	35.31	32.55	3.50	5.86	5.86	16.50	21.00	21.00
Orissa	170.00	136.32	115.33	79.00	107.30	87.79	77.00	51.05	46.92	125.30	128.20	105.52
West Bengal	247.10	266.18	221.45	142.50	173.47	150.59	80.97	92.69	88.10	176.65	232.68	226.72
Assam	76.80	89.24	88.91	9.60	9.81	9.26	35.84	28.07	23.88	3.52	4.89	4.89
All India Total	18843.53	7660.87	6772.82	3278.77	4788.55	4348.07	1297.62	1178.88	1126.20	3108.08	2411.44	2238.14

(Figures in 000 MTs)

(E) Statewise cumulative demand, availability and sales of fertilizers during 2009-11 (April to July)

States	UREA			DAP			MOP			NPK		
	Require-	Availability	Sales	Require-	Availability	Sales	Require-	Availability	Sales	Require-	Availability	
	Sales ment			ment			ment			ment		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	655.00	753.12	678.33	325.00	440.87	431.12	125.00	111.23	89.24	540.00	646.87	458.31
Karnataka	405.00	468.29	460.02	480.00	481.19	464.88	166.00	142.37	127.84	417.10	483.78	78.87
Kerala	55.75	52.94	50.26	15.20	17.75	17.42	60.20	64.24	59.75	92.50	85.60	161.11
Tamil Nadu	275.00	236.90	236.03	112.00	78.07	76.64	182.00	107.44	102.70	127.00	167.34	184.63
Gujarat	565.00	590.14	585.79	360.00	303.15	294.58	70.00	59.62	56.33	139.50	206.46	126.62
Madhya Pradesh	417.60	419.58	409.14	400.00	376.50	340.26	37.10	60.14	47.17	90.40	130.02	64.77
Chhattisgarh	430.25	273.48	269.68	205.00	182.40	176.79	72.00	45.65	41.67	83.17	67.65	622.70
Maharashtra	880.00	913.08	905.93	720.00	676.76	664.34	205.00	191.73	172.17	592.40	632.66	38.42
Rajasthan	327.00	301.76	271.18	195.00	200.72	195.60	17.50	18.23	11.97	39.30	39.47	29.38

Haryana	585.00	565.18	550.44	200.00	276.62	267.08	21.00	26.02	21.69	17.00	36.99	30.60
Punjab	950.00	1044.97	1036.08	330.00	278.60	268.18	36.00	38.15	24.67	20.00	34.44	6.47
Himachal Pradesh	30.00	29.07	28.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.00	0.00	8.00	6.52	0.00
Jammu & Kashmir	66.92	71.93	69.19	43.45	31.56	28.31	14.53	0.94	0.93	0.00	0.00	442.24
Uttar Pradesh	1810.00	1610.65	1363.52	640.00	477.19	447.57	90.00	61.25	35.61	365.00	477.94	33.36
Uttarakhand	92.00	90.18	84.13	21.35	8.41	6.23	4.50	1.77	1.53	14.00	37.56	79.12
Bihar	490.00	424.26	384.47	145.00	103.56	92.64	65.00	48.01	37.71	115.00	91.73	12.83
Jharkhand	73.00	56.40	49.94	49.00	26.93	24.37	7.00	3.61	3.61	27.50	14.96	99.93
Orissa	15.00	129.44	110.49	95.00	110.97	98.81	62.00	50.36	42.46	120.00	110.42	207.56
West Bengal	240.10	307.34	267.97	168.54	144.73	130.25	80.97	68.25	61.35	201.05	214.91	4.50
Assam	79.20	123.23	118.04	11.77	10.64	7.46	39.60	26.37	25.45	3.39	4.60	10.41
ALL INDIA	8648.03	8480.74	7947.19	4533.91	4229.26	4038.41	1370.05	1126.60	965.26	3027.54	3500.42	3007.72

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

Includes sales of 3.55 LMT of DAP stock pre-positioned during March '10 against requirement of Kharif '10

Includes sales of 5.23 LMT of NPK stock pre-positioned during March '10 against requirement of Kharif '10

Spoilage of fruits, vegetables and grains

2934. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that every year 25 per cent of the country's fruits and vegetables output, besides seven per cent of grain production, is lost due to spoilage;

(b) whether India's spending on food and beverages has increased by 55 per cent during the last five years; and

(c) if so, remedial steps Government has taken so far for providing foodgrains storage capacity needed for 35 million tonnes of foodgrains entailing an investment of Rs. 64,312 crore, and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) As per a recent ICAR study "Estimation of Quantitative Harvest and Post-Harvest Losses of Major Agricultural Produce in India" (2010), the losses for selected cereals, constituting 94% of national cereal production, were observed to be in the range of 3.9% to 6.0%. The losses were observed to be 4.3% to 6.1% in pulses. The losses in selected fruits and vegetables were found to be in the range of 5.8%-18.0%.

(b) Yes Sir. As per National Accounts Statistics (2004-05 Series), Private Final Consumption Expenditure on Food, Beverages and Tobacco has increased from Rs.763345 crores in 2004-05 to Rs.1 182211 crores in 2008-09 (54.87%).

(c) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture has launched Rural Godown Scheme with the objectives 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, agricultural inputs, etc., and prevention of distress sale. Under the scheme, subsidy @25% of the project cost is provided to all categories of farmers, Agriculture graduates, cooperatives and CWC/SWCs. Subsidy @15% of the project cost is provided to all other categories of individuals companies and corporations are being given. In case of NE States/hilly areas & SC/ST

entrepreneurs and their cooperatives and Women Farmers, subsidy is provided @33.33%.

Food Corporation of India (FCI) has taken following steps to build additional storage capacity:

(i) Construction of 149.40 lakh tonnes capacity has been approved under Private Entrepreneur's Godown (PEC) scheme.

(ii) Increased utilization of capacity is being done beyond norms of optimum utilization of 75%.

(iii) Plinths of 3.70 lakh tonnes capacity have been constructed in its existing complexes in the last one year for CAP storage.

Food inflation

2935. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether food inflation rose for the second consecutive week ended May, 29 to 16.74 per cent resulting increase in prices of pulses by 31 per cent, milk by over 21 per cent and fruits by 18.7 per cent; and

(b) if so, the concrete steps Government has taken so far or proposes to take to check food inflation so as to give some relief to the common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The concrete steps Government has taken so far or proposes to take to check food inflation so as to give some relief to the common man is given in the statement.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government to contain price rise in essential Commodities are briefly stated below:

A. Short term Measures:

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 fulfill 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 August, 2010, 17.0 lakh tons of non levy sugar have been made available which includes 13.37 lakh tons of normal non-levy sugar and 3.13 lakh tons of sugar processed from imported raw sugar during May, & June, 2010. Estimated availability out of imported white/refined sugar during the month is about 0.50 lakh ton. Besides, levy sugar quota of 2.20 lakh tons also been released. Thus, for the month of August, 2010, 19.20 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 10.81 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.

(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.

Functioning of PDS

2936. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the findings of evaluation reports (2005) of PEO and ORG-MARG regarding TPDS;

(b) the observations of Justice Wadhwa regarding rampant corruption and blackmarketing in PDS;

(c) the State-wise findings thereof;

(d) whether PDS has collapsed and needs total revamping;

(e) if so, the steps being taken therefor;

(f) the punitive action taken against offenders, particularly under EC Act; FIRs registered, persons arrested, challaned, convicted and jailed, during last three years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(g) the detention orders issued by States during above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The ORG MARG report mentioned diversion of 39% of rice and 53% of wheat under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). The report mentioned that diversion was because of inclusion errors, leakages through ghost ration cards and pilferages during transportation and from fair price shops. The report of Programme Evaluation Organization (PEO) of Planning Commission on evaluation of TPDS indicated that about 42% of subsidized foodgrains reach the targeted Below Poverty Line (BPL) beneficiaries. It also pointed out

that implementation of TPDS suffered due to targeting errors, prevalence of ghost cards, unidentified households and siphoning off of foodgrains from the supply chain.

(b) and (c) The Central Vigilance Committee (CVC) headed by Justice D.P. Wadhwa is studying functioning of TPDS. CVC has so far submitted its reports in respect of 14 States namely Delhi, Uttrakhand, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Bihar, Rajasthan, Haryana, Chandigarh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh. In these reports, CVC has referred to certain deficiencies/shortcomings in the functioning of TPDS such as inclusion and exclusion errors, bogus/ineligible ration cards being in circulation, beneficiaries not getting their entitled quota of foodgrains and allotment of fair price shops in an arbitrary manner.

(d) and (e) TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of Central and State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations. The Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains up to the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for lifting and distributing the allocated foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible card holders through fair price shops (FPSs) are of the State/UT Governments.

Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 mandates the State/UT Governments to carry out all required actions to ensure smooth functioning of the TPDS. The TPDS has not collapsed, it is working all over the country. However occasional cases of lapses/deficiencies in performance are noticed.

Strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a continuous process. To improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly requesting State/UT Governments for continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families, bringing out greater transparency in functioning of TPDS, improved monitoring and vigilance at all levels and introduction of new technologies such as Computersation of TPDS operations at various levels.

In the Conference of Food Secretaries of States and UTs on best practices and reforms in TPDS held on 12th & 13 July, 2010, the above directions have been reiterated.

(f) State/UT Administrations are empowered to take action under the provisions of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 against offenders. State-wise details of raids conducted, number of persons arrested, number of persons prosecuted and number of persons convicted during the last three years as reported by the State Governments/UT Administrations is at given in the statement-I to III (see below).

(g) Details of detention orders issued under the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980, as reported by the State Governments/UT Administrations during the last three years, are as under:

State/UT	2007	2008	2009
Gujarat	50	16	31
Tamil Nadu	65	141	112
Orissa	-	01	02
Maharashtra	01	-	02
Madhya Pradesh	03	-	-
Andhra Pradesh	-	04	-
Total	119	162	147

Statement-I

*Action Taken under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for the year, 2007
- Information received from States/UTs upto 31.12.2007*

S.No.	State/UTs	No. of raids	No. of persons arrested	No. of persons prosecuted	No. of persons convicted	Reported upto
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	6766	67	11	11	November
2	Assam	1768	108	32	Nil	December

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	Arunachal Pradesh	33	1	1	Nil	October
4	Bihar	20	2	Nil	Nil	July*
5	Chhattisgarh	243	15	89	76	September
6	Delhi	94	63	8	1	December
7	Gujarat	32142	60	134	Nil	December
8	Goa	2	1	Nil	Nil	December
9	Haryana	20	17	15	1	December
10	Himachal Pradesh	24212	4	330	Nil	November
11	Jammu & Kashmir	588	555	342	Nil	October
12	Jharkhand					Not Reported
13	Karnataka	3722	70	Nil	Nil	December
14	Kerala	36661	Nil	1	Nil	December \$
15	Madhya Pradesh					Not Reported
16	Maharashtra	2134	2798	1888	Nil	December
17	Manipur	94	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
18	Meghalaya	66	7	9	Nil	December
19	Mizoram	232	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
20	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	October
21	Orissa	4897	31	179	Nil	December
22	Punjab	60431	12	5	2	December
23	Rajasthan	196	12	52	4	March

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	February
25	Tamil Nadu	12634	1452	138	676	December
26	Tripura	48	12	Nil	Nil	October
27	Uttaranchal					Not Reported
28	Uttar Pradesh	47304	1430	1548	251	December
29	West Bengal	227	174	43	Nil	November
30	A & N Islands	324	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
31	Chandigarh	3	9	3	Nil	July
32	D & N Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	September
33	Daman & Diu					Not Reported
34	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	September
35	Pondicherry	544	44	44	Nil	December
Total		235405	6944	4872	1022	

* - Except January \$ - Except August

Updated as on 15.4.2008

Statement-II

*Action Taken under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for the year, 2008
-Information received from States / UTs upto 31.12.2008*

S.No.	State/UTs	No. of raids	No. of persons arrested	No. of persons prosecuted	No. of persons convicted	Reported upto
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	17235	29	6	-	December
2	Assam	1419	14	19	Nil	December *

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	Arunachal Pradesh	23	Nil	Nil	Nil	November
4	Bihar	16	9	Nil	Nil	September
5	Chhattisgarh	225	1	32	1	March
6	Delhi	153	135	119	4	December
7	Gujarat	31098	20	142	Nil	December
8	Goa	121	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
9	Haryana	46	8	Nil	Nil	December
10	Himachal Pradesh	25634	13	49	Nil	December \$\$
11	Jammu & Kashmir	422	376	94	Nil	September
12	Jharkhand	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	April
13	Karnataka	3396	74	1	4	December
14	kerala	87305	12	2	Nil	December
15	Madhya Pradesh	14921	52	107	Nil	April
16	Maharashtra	2551	3376	2595	Nil	December
17	Manipur	99	4	3	3	December
18	Meghalaya	70	1	2	1	December
19	Mizoram	61	Nil	Nil	Nil	July **
20	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
21	Orissa	2001	22	117	Nil	November
22	Punjab	20632	22	9	4	November

23	Rajasthan	450	13	170	4	July
24	Sikkim	1	2	2	Nil	December
25	Tamil Nadu	20268	2525	1127	761	November
26	Tripura	35	12	9	Nil	December
27	Uttaranchal					Not Reported
28	Uttar Pradesh	39474	1047	1734	Nil	December
29	West Bengal	176	142	5	Nil	December
30	A & N Islands	291	Nil	Nil	Nil	December ***
31	Chandigarh	6	9	Nil	Nil	December
32	D & N Haveli	13	2	Nil	Nil	December
33	Daman & Diu					Not Reported
34	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
35	Pondicherry	633	81	81	8	December
Total		268775	8001	6425	790	

* - Except January & February ** - Except April, May & June

\$\$- Except- October

*** - Except - Sept & October

Updated as on 31.3.2009

Statement-III

Action Taken under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for the year, 2009

- Information received from States / UTs

upto 31.12.2009

S.No.	State/UTs	No. of raids	No. of persons arrested	No. of persons prosecuted	No. of persons convicted	Reported upto
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	7873	43	Nil	1	December

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	Assam	2382	5	Nil	Nil	December \$
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	3	3	Nil	November
4	Bihar	17	8	Nil	Nil	December
5	Chhattisgarh	751	36	90	66	December
6	Delhi	93	98	76	Nil	December
7	Gujarat	28025	30	89	Nil	December
8	Goa	30	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
9	Haryana	107	8	1	Nil	December *
10	Himachal Pradesh	24642	3	2	Nil	December
11	Jammu & Kashmir					Not Reported
12	Jharkhand					Not Reported
13	Karnataka	1659	137	9	3	December
14	kerala	48829	21	2	Nil	December ***
15	Madhya Pradesh					Not Reported
16	Maharashtra	1688	2565	1562	Nil	December
17	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	November **
18	Meghalaya	8	Nil	4	Nil	December
19	Mizoram	366	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
20	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
21	Orissa	35494	7	149	9	December
22	Punjab	122	54	34	26	December
23	Rajasthan	281	3	62	Nil	March
24	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil		December

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25	Tamil Nadu	16404	4775	1471	7	December
26	Tripura	66	2	2	Nil	December
27	Uttaranchal					Not Reported
28	Uttar Pradesh	39684	1023	1491	Nil	December
29	West Bengal	161	117	16	Nil	December
30	A & N Islands	208	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
31	Chandigarh	8	9	Nil	Nil	December
32	D & N Haveli	3	2	Nil	Nil	December
33	Daman & Diu					Not Reported
34	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	November
35	Pondicherry	512	63	68	15	December
Total		209413	9012	5131	127	

* - Except - August & September

** - Except August & October

***- Except October

\$ - Except August

Updated as on 07.04.2010

Review on ethanol prices

2937. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) had given a representation to Government last year regarding review of ethanol pricing;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Indian Sugar Mills Association

(ISMA) made a representation to Government last year requesting that Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) should finalize the bids received from ethanol manufacturers in June-July 2009 upto the price of Rs.26/litre ex-factory.

The Government on 16.8.2010 has approved an ad hoc uniform ex-factory price throughout the country at Rs.27/litre for ethanol procured by OMCs from the date of communication of the order till the time price is recommended by the Expert Committee and a decision taken thereon by the competent authority. The price of Rs.27/litre would be purely interim in nature and subject to adjustment from the final price so determined.

An Expert committee has also been constituted under the chairmanship of Dr. Saumitra Chaudhury, Member, Planning Commission, which will determine formula/principle of fuel ethanol.

Buffer stock of foodgrains

2938. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a substantial quantity of wheat under Government's buffer stock is still stored in the open, making it vulnerable to rotting and damage;

(b) whether Government is holding large stocks of cereals - in case of wheat five times the norm and of rice, twice the norm fixed as buffer levels; and

(c) how does Government reconcile the contradiction in soaring prices of foodgrains and bulging stocks in its buffer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Food Corporation of India (FCI) has informed that as on 1.8.2010, a total of 159.33 lakh tonnes of wheat are stored in CAP (Cover & Plinth) pertaining to the Central Pool. Wheat stocks are stored in CAP only when there is shortage of covered storage space. Storage in CAP is on scientific lines and all precautionary measures are taken as per FCI norms to preserve the stock and to prevent damage due to rain, insect etc.

(b) The buffer norms and actual stock of wheat and rice held in the central pool as on 1st July, 2010 is as under:-

(in lakh tonnes)

Date	Wheat		Rice	
	Buffer	Actual	Buffer	Actual
	norm*	stock	Norm*	stock
1.7.2010	201	335.84	118	242.96

* Buffer norms include strategic reserve stock of 30 lakh tonnes of wheat and 20 lakh tonnes of rice.

(c) In order to increase foodgrains availability & contain rising prices, additional allocation have been made at APL Central Issue Price (CIP) and under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS).

Shortage of storage facility

2939. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foodgrains procured from various States during current year, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has failed to construct enough godowns in the country to augment storage capacity of foodgrains; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps Government proposes to take to address this shortage of storage facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Detail showing State-wise procurement of wheat and rice (as on August, 16th) during the Crop Year 2009-10 is given in the Statement-I (See below).

(b) and (c) To augment availability of storage capacity, Government has formulated a scheme for construction of godown through private entrepreneurs by FCI. A ten year guarantee is given to investors under the scheme. About 149.40 lakh tonnes of storage capacity in 16 States has

been identified for construction of godowns under the scheme. Under this scheme, CWC and SWCs are also constructing 10.74 lakh tonnes capacity on their own lands.

In addition FCI is constructing godowns under Plan funds in NE States, J&K, U.T. of Lakshdweep & new procuring States of Orissa, Bihar & Karnataka. The details of project of construction of godowns by FCI in 11th Plan are given in the statement-II.

Statement-I

Procurement of wheat & rice (as on 16.8.10) during the crop year 2009-10.

(Figures of procurement in lakh tonnes)

State/UT	Wheat	Rice (as on 16.8.10)
1	2	3
Punjab	102.05	92.75
Haryana	63.35	18.18
Andhra Pradesh	0.00	66.24
Chhattisgarh	0.00	31.51
Madhya Pradesh	35.38	1.99
Uttar Pradesh	16.73	27.13
Orissa	0.00	24.71
Tamil Nadu	0.00	11.62
West Bengal	0.09	11.75
Bihar	1.83	8.61
Uttranchal	0.86	3.75
Kerala	0.00	2.61
Maharashtra	0.00	2.12
Karnataka	0.00	0.84
Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.23
Chandigarh	0.09	0.14
Assam	0.00	0.08
Pondicherry	0.00	0.01
Rajasthan	4.76	0.00

1	2	3
Delhi	0.10	0.00
Gujarat	0.01	0.00
TOTAL	225.25	304.27

Statement-II

Projects completed by FCI under XIth Plan

		Capacity in MTs		
Sl.No.	Name of Zone/Centre	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Other than North East				
1.	Tumkur/Karnataka	5,000		
2.	Dungrapalli/Orissa			10,000
North East including Sikkim				
1.	Bualpui/Mizoram	4,590		
2.	Badarpurghat/Assam	5,000		
3.	Chaulkhowa/Assam	2,500		
4.	Nandannagar/Tripura		2,500	
GRAND TOTAL		17,090	2,500	10,00

Ongoing Projects with FCI

Sl. No.	Centre /State	Capacity (in MTs)
1	2	3
North East Region		
1.	Changasari/Assam	50,000
2.	Hailakandi/Assam	5,000
3.	Kohima/Nagaland	5,000
4.	Nandannagar/Tripura	2,500

1	2	3
5.	Jiribam/Manipur	2,500
6.	Senapati/Manipur	5000
7.	Churachandpur/Manipur	2,500
8.	Jorthang/Sikkim	5,000
Other than NE Region		
1.	Lakshadweep/UT	2,500
2.	Dungrapally/Orissa	10,000
3.	Baripada/Orissa	10,000
4	Mohania/Bihar	25,000
5.	Udhampur/J&K	15,000
6.	Budgam/J&K	20,000

CAG audit on PDS

2940. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) is conducting special audit of Public Distribution System throughout the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (b) Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) conducts periodical performance audit of Department of Food and Civil Supplies of various State Governments. C&AG is conducting such audit of Public Distribution System during a current year in the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttarakhand.

Starvation deaths despite having sufficient food stock

2941. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: 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 people are dying due to starvation in many States despite the availability of sufficient food stock in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that India ranks 66th in the list of 88 countries figuring in the Global Hunger Index prepared by International Food Policy Research Institute; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) As per reports received from State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, no incident of starvation death has taken place in any State/Union Territory.

(d) and (e) International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) has brought out a Global Hunger Index (GHI) Report in October, 2009. In this report, India ranks 65 out of 84 nations. The GHI Report, 2009 is based on data from 2002 to 2007 relating to three factors, namely (i) percentage of undernourished in the population, 2003-05; (ii) percentage of under-weight in children under five, 2002-07 and (iii) under-five mortality, 2007.

Inclusion of APL families under Food Security Bill

2942. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether EGoM on Food Security Bill has finalized the figure of poverty estimates;

(b) whether the EGoM is considering to include APL families in the proposed Food Security Bill;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the estimated financial burden if APL families are included in the Food Law?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) constituted to consider various issues concerning the proposed law on food security, has requested

Planning Commission to finalise poverty estimates for determining numbers of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families. Various issues relating to the proposed National Food Security Act, including eligibility of families for coverage, subsidy implications, etc. are under consideration of EGoM.

Sale of wheat by FCI to check inflation

†2943. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Empowered Group of Ministers had permitted to sell 50 lakh tonnes of wheat in open market in July, 2010 to check the inflation of food products;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether small traders can purchase a truckload of wheat from the nearby FCI godowns under this decision;

(c) if so, whether it is also a fact that FCI has offered to sell wheat at higher rate than the selling price of wheat in open market; and

(d) if so, the selling price of FCI in different cities and the details of the quantity of wheat purchased by small traders under this selling price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) in its meeting on 10th June, 2010 had directed that Department of Food may place proposals to off-load about 50 lakh tonnes of foodgrains in the next ten months from the Central Pool stocks. A proposal accordingly was submitted to EGoM on 25.6.2010. EGoM, on the proposal submitted by Department of Food and Public Distribution directed that FCI can sell wheat to traders from FCI godowns. However, no quantity for sale was specified.

(b) Any private trader can purchase 3-9 tonnes of wheat per trader per depot per day from nominated depot of FCI under Open Market Sales Scheme (Domestic).

(c) and (d) The State/UT wise applicable rates for sale to small (private) traders which is also the reserve price for tender sale to bulk consumers is given in the statement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

*The lifting position of wheat released to small (private)
traders under OMSS (D) upto September, 2010*

As on 12.08.2010

S.No.	Zone	Name of FCI Region/ State Govt.	OMSS(D) Rate for both the schemes	Quantity for which Release Orders issued	Progressive Lifted (in Tonnes)
				(in Tonnes)	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	North	Delhi	1252.15		
2		Chandigarh	1238.89		
3		Punjab	1238.89		
4		Haryana	1238.89		
5		Uttar Pradesh	1282.21		
6		Uttrakhand	1259.42		
7		Rajasthan	1270.86		
8		Himachal Pr	1308.78		
9		J&K	1396.92		
Zone Total				0	0
10	South	Tamilnadu	1389.78		
11		Puducherry	1398.27		
12		Kerala	1422.50		
13		Andhra Pradesh	1369.99		
14		A&N Islands	1628.41		
15		Lakshadweep	1487.56		
16		Karnataka	1395.10		
Zone Total				0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
17	East	Bihar	1319.99		
18		West Bengal	1352.30		
19		Sikkim	1410.73		
20		Orissa	1368.82		
21		Jharkhand	1343.87		
Zone Total				0	0
22	North-East	Assam	1364.35		
23		Arunachal Pradesh	1460.74		
24		Meghalaya	1415.68		
25		Tripura	1471.28		
26		Mizoram	1464.43		
27		Nagaland	1398.91		
28		Manipur	1523.81		
Zone Total				0	0
29	West	Maharashtra	1348.94		
30		Goa	1388.84		
31		Madhya Pradesh	1304.98		
32		Chhattisgarh	1355.58		
33		Gujarat	1312.51		
34		Daman & Diu	1369.77		
35		D & N Haveli	1365.77		
Zone Total				0	0
Grand Total				0	0

Short comings in DCP scheme

2944. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE:

PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:

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

- (a) the objectives of De-centralized Procurement scheme (DCP);
- (b) whether only six States for wheat and ten States for rice have undertaken the DCP scheme so far;
- (c) if so, the reasons for not undertaking the DCP scheme by the remaining States;
- (d) whether Government has identified shortcomings of DCP scheme; and
- (e) if so, the measures taken to overcome the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) 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. In it, the 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 (e) Yes, Sir. 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, Madhya Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar Islands) have adopted the DCP system of procurement. However, Uttar Pradesh has moved out of DCP System from Rabi Marketing (RMS) 2010-11 and from Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2010-11.

The decision regarding adoption of DCP system 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.

Measures for strengthening of PDS

2945. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE:

PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:

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

(a) the details of measures taken by Government to strengthen PDS;

(b) the measures taken to ensure that AAY and BPL families do get their due share of foodgrains on a regular basis; and

(c) the quantum of wheat and rice meant for AAY and BPL families diverted into black market during the last two years and action taken against delinquent officers/FPS owners in the matter, State-wise/year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (b) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of Central Government and State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. The Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India. The operational responsibilities for lifting and distributing the allocated foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible card holders through the fair price shops (FPSs) are of the State/UT Governments.

Public Distribution System (Control) Order 2001 mandates the State and UT Governments to carry out all required action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS. An offence committed in violation of the provisions of this Order is liable for penal action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

For ensuring regular distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible AAY and BPL families, Government has been regularly requesting State/UT Governments for continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at FPSs, ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS, improved monitoring and vigilance at all levels and introduction of new technologies.

(c) Powers have been vested with State Governments for taking penal action under provisions of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980. The details of the raids conducted, number of persons arrested, prosecuted and convicted and the value of goods confiscated for violation of rules under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, during 2008 and 2009, as reported by State /UT Governments, are given in the Statement I to II (See below).

Further, State/UT Governments are empowered to detain such persons under the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980, whose activities are found to be prejudicial to the maintenance of supplies of commodities essential to the community. Details of detention orders issued under the said Act, as reported by the State/UT Governments, during the years 2008 and 2009 are given below:

Name of the State	2008	2009
Gujarat	16	31
Tamil Nadu	141	112
Orissa	01	02
Maharashtra	-	02
Andhra Pradesh	04	
TOTAL	162	147

Statement-I

*Action Taken under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for the year, 2008 - Information
received from States / UTs upto 31.12.2008*

S. No.	State/UT	No.of Raids	No. of persons arrested	No. of persons prosecuted	No. of persons convicted	Value of goods confiscated (in Rs.lakh)	Reported upto
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	17235	29	6	-	86.12	December
2	Assam	1419	14	19	Nil	2.37	December *
3	Arunachal Pradesh	23	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	November
4	Bihar	16	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	September
5	Chhattisgarh	225	1	32	1	102.03	March
6	Delhi	153	135	119	4	61.7	December
7	Gujarat	31098	20	142	Nil	253.15	December
8	Goa	121	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
9	Haryana	46	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	December

10	Himachal Pradesh	25634	13	49	Nil	15.52	December \$\$
11	Jammu & Kashmir	422	376	94	Nil	Nil	September
12	Jharkhand	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	April
13	Karnataka	3396	74	1	4	580.95	December
14	Kerala	87305	12	2	Nil	12.98	December
15	Madhya Pradesh	14921	52	107	Nil	405.15	April
16	Maharashtra	2551	3376	2595	Nil	2365.92	December
17	Manipur	99	4	3	3	0.16	December
18	Meghalaya	70	1	2	1	0.05	December
19	Mizoram	61	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.49	July **
20	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
21	Orissa	2001	22	117	Nil	17.51	November
22	Punjab	20632	22	9	4	3.08	November
23	Rajasthan	450	13	170	4	18.12	July
24	Sikkim	1	2	2	Nil	0.01	December
25	Tamil Nadu	20268	2525	1127	761	683.33	November

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
26	Tripura	35	12	9	Nil	2.69	December
27	Uttarakhand						Not Reported
28	Uttar Pradesh	39474	1047	1734	Nil	1410.49	December
29	West Bengal	176	142	5	Nil	58.83	December
30	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	291	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	December ***
31	Chandigarh	6	9	Nil	Nil	2.01	December
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	13	2	Nil	Nil	5.49	December
33	Daman & Diu						Not Reported
34	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
35	Puducherry	633	81	81	8	7.07	December
Total		268775	8001	6425	790	6095.22	

* - Except January & February

** - Except April, May & June

\$\$- Except- October

*** - Except - September & October

Updated as on 31.3.2009

Statement-II

*Action Taken under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for the year- 2009 - information
received from States/UTs upto 31.12.2009*

S. No.	State/UT	No.of Raids	No. of persons arrested	No. of persons prosecuted	No. of persons convicted	Value of goods confiscated (in Rs.lakh)	Reported upto
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	7873	43	Nil	1	233.31	December
2	Assam	2382	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	December \$
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	3	3	Nil	Nil	November
4	Bihar	17	8	Nil	Nil	1.69	December
5	Chhattisgarh	751	36	90	66	858.27	December
6	Delhi	93	98	76	Nil	Nil	December
7	Gujarat	28025	30	89	Nil	528.31	December
8	Goa	30	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	December

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	Haryana	107	8	1	Nil	0.82	December *
10	Himachal Pradesh	24642	3	2	Nil	10.99	December
11	Jammu & Kashmir						Not Reported
12	Jharkhand						Not Reported
13	Karnataka	1659	137	9	3	24.58	December
14	Kerala	48829	21	2	Nil	121.47	December ***
15	Madhya Pradesh						Not Reported
16	Maharashtra	1688	2565	1562	Nil	13842.38	December
17	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	November**
18	Meghalaya	8	Nil	4	Nil	Nil	December
19	Mizoram	366	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
20	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
21	Orissa	35494	7	149	9	14.56	December
22	Punjab	122	54	34	26	464.52	December
23	Rajasthan	281	3	62	Nil	36.89	March

24	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil	December
25	Tamil Nadu	16404	4775	1471	7	623.25	December
26	Tripura	66	2	2	Nil	0.65	December
27	Uttarakhand						Not Reported
28	Uttar Pradesh	39684	1023	1491	Nil	1929.48	December
29	West Bengal	161	117	16	Nil	90.4	December
30	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	208	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	December
31	Chandigarh	8	9	Nil	Nil	7.97	December
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3	2	Nil	Nil	0.22	December
33	Daman & Diu						Not Reported
34	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	November
35	Puducherry	512	63	68	15	15.53	December
TOTAL		209413	9012	5131	127	18805.29	

* - Except - August & September

** - Except August & October

***- Except October

\$ - Except August

Updated as on 7.4.2010

Foodgrain storage facilities

2946. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government's efforts to augment foodgrains storage facilities across the country has failed to make significant headway;

(b) if so, whether certain agencies tasked with the responsibility to construct enough godowns to add the storage capacity in various States have failed to do their job;

(c) if so, whether, in view of the failure of these agencies, Government proposes to set up a separate organization on the lines of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to take up godown construction work; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir. As a long-term measure, for augmentation of the storage capacity in the country, the Government has formulated a scheme for construction of storage godowns through private entrepreneurs. Under the scheme the FCI would now give a guarantee of ten years to the Private Entrepreneurs for assured hiring. A capacity of 149.4 lakh tonnes is to be created under the scheme through private entrepreneurs and Central and State Warehousing Corporation. The Central Warehousing Corporation and State Warehousing Corporations have already created a capacity of 46,300 tonnes and 22,500 tonnes respectively under the scheme. FCI has also prepared a shelf of project with an estimated cost of Rs. 133 crores, against an allocation of Rs. 125 crores by the Planning Commission for the godowns to be constructed by FCI in the country including the North-Eastern States during the 11th Five Year Plan. A capacity totaling 1,38,770 metric tonnes is likely to be created out of the funds allocated for construction of godowns by FCI subject to availability of land for the purpose. Details of the godowns to be constructed is given in the statement (see below). The General

Manager (Region) of FCI have been given full powers for hiring of private godowns for short term usage.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Statement

*Capacity & expenditure likely to be created in the 11th Five Year Plan 2007-12 against
the godowns packed up in shelf of project by FCI*

(Capacity in MT) (Expenditure Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No. 2011-12		Centre/State/Capacity		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11	
		Capacity	Exp.	Capacity	Exp.	Capacity	Exp.	Cap.	Exp."	Cap.	Exp.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Chaulkhowa/Assam/4170MT	2500	9.91								
2.	Bualpui/Mizoram/5000 MT	4590	72.21		22.42						
3.	Tumkar/Kamataka/15000MT	5000									
4.	Badarpurghat/Assam/5000	5000	57.74		14.85						
5.	Nandan Nagar/Tripura/2500		23.68	2500	64.46		15				
6.	Dungripally/Orissa/10000				33.12	9170	203				
7.	Hailakandi/Assam/5000				0.51		200	5000	35		
8.	Kohima/Nagaland/5000		50.21				150	5000	250		
9.	Dimapur/Nagaland/5000										
10.	Jiribam/Manipur/7500						30	2500	125	2500	125
11.	Senapati/Manipur/5000						87	5000	250		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12.	Churachandpur/Manipur/2500						33	2500	125		
13.	Changsari/Assam/50000 + 50000 (with siding)				1366		400		1500	25000	1500
14.	Jorthang/Sikkim/5000							5000	250		
15.	Lakshadweep/UT/2500				38.70	1250	200	1250	180		
16.	Bhawrarana (Palampur)/HP/334 0						100			3340	200
17.	Kinnaur/H.P/1670						100	1670	100		
18.	Mandi/HP/5000						100	2500	150	2500	150
19.	Nagrota Bagwan/HP/5000						100	2500	150	2500	150
20.	Mohania/Kaimur/Bihar25000 (with siding) 400							247	5000	200	10000
21.	Baripada/Orissa/10000						50	5000	200	5000	200
22.	Jalpaiguri/W.Bengal/10000										
23.	Srinagar Valley/ Badgaon/J&K/20000 (with siding)								1650	5000	300
24.	Pulwama/J&K/2500										
25.	Udhampur/J&K/15000 (with siding)								350	10000	700
26.	Karimganj/Assam/5000										
27.	Kokrajhar/Assam/5000										

28.	Nowgaon/Assam/25000 (with siding)										
29.	Dibrugarh/Assam/25000 (with siding)										
30.	Fakiragram/Assam/5000										
31.	Kumarghat/Manipur/5000										
32.	Dimaaur/Nagaland/5000										
33.	Bhagmara/South Garo Hill/2500										
34.	Shillong/Meghalaya/5000										
35.	Bilaspur/HP/5000										
36.	Nahan/HP/5000										
37.	Shimla/HP/5000										
38.	Chakradharpur/Jharkhand/15000										
39.	Mancheswar/Orissa/10000										
40.	Balod/Chhattisgarh/15000										
41.	Akaltara/Chhattisgarh/10000										
42.	Bhandara/Maharashtra/10000										
43.	Others		219.76		66.02						
TOTAL		17090	433.51	2500	1606.08	10420	2015	42920	5515	65840	3725

Total Capacity likely to be created - 1,38,770 MT

Total likely expenditure - Rs. 13,294 lakhs or say Rs.133 crores

Sale of imported goods without proper marking

2947. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

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

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that a host of imported consumer goods are being sold in the country without proper markings viz., the name of the manufacturer/Country, the date of manufacturing, the MRP, etc.;

(b) whether it is a violation of the current norms;

(c) if so, the action taken in such cases; and

(d) if not, the reasons, therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) (i) No; Rule(6) of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977 requires certain mandatory declarations like the name and address of the manufacturer, or where manufacturer is not packer, the name and address of the manufacturer and packer and for imported packages the name and address of the importer, the common or generic name of the commodity, the net quantity, the month and year in which the commodity is manufactured or pre-packed or imported, the retail sale price [Maximum or Max. retail price.....inclusive of all taxes or in form MRP Rs.....incl., of all taxes.], consumer care details.

(ii) Rule 23 (1) of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977 states that "No wholesale dealer or retailer dealer shall sell any commodity in the prepackaged form unless the packages complies with , in all respects, the provisions of the Act and these rules".

(iii) The State Governments/ UTs are implementing these provisions through their Legal Metrology Departments. Action can be taken by them under the provision of the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1976 and Standards of Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1985 and

Rules referred to above.

Problem areas of present TPDS

2948. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that surveys conducted by Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission and ORG-Marg have identified major problem areas in the present TPDS;

(b) if so, the areas that have been identified by the above surveys;

(c) whether it is also a fact that food coupons could effectively break the hegemony of fair-price shopkeepers; and

(d) if so, whether Government would consider replacing TPDS with food coupons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (b) The Department of Food and Public Distribution got Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) evaluated by ORG MARG. The evaluation study covered the period of 2003-04 and 2004-05. The report mentioned diversion of 39% of rice and 53% of wheat under TPDS. The report mentioned that diversion was because of inclusion errors, leakages through ghost ration cards and pilferages during transportation and from Fair Price Shops.

As per the Programme Evaluation Organization (PEO) of the Planning Commission's Report on Performance Evaluation of TPDS submitted in March, 2005, about 42% of subsidized foodgrains reached the targeted Below Poverty Line (BPL) beneficiaries. It pointed out that implementation of the TPDS suffered due to targeting errors, prevalence of ghost cards, unidentified households and siphoning off of foodgrains from the supply chain.

To improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly requesting State/Union Territory (UT) Governments for continuous review of lists of BPL and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at Fair Price Shops (FPSs), ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS, improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels and introduction of new technologies such as

Computerization of TPDS operations at various levels.

(c) A few States/Union Territories (UTs) have introduced food coupons, some only on a pilot basis. Government of Andhra Pradesh has issued Bar coded coupons for drawal of rice and kerosene under TPDS to ensure that there is no impersonation/false accounting in distribution of essential commodities by the Fair Price Shop (FPS) dealers. Arunachal Pradesh Government has initiated coupon system on an experimental basis in Tirap District. Coupons are issued to beneficiaries at the time of issuance / renewal of ration cards. The next month's allocation is based on the coupons submitted by the FPS dealer. Jammu & Kashmir Government is issuing ration cards in a booklet form for two years containing 24 coupons. As reported by Government of Bihar, monthly food coupons are issued to BPL and AAY families for a year and food grains are distributed to families on the basis of such coupons. However, effectiveness of such coupons in eliminating deficiencies in TPDS has not yet been evaluated. There is no proposal to replace TPDS with Food Coupons.

Damage of wheat procured by FCI

2949. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of wheat procured by FCI has been damaged on account of recent rains and floods in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof in each State and the action taken against the officials found responsible in this behalf; and

(c) whether warehousing shortage in those State still persist and if so, the details thereof and the efforts being made to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Damages to wheat stocks by recent rains and flood in Uttar Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Maharashtra and West Bengal have been reported 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	Hafed, Ambala	40
	HSWC, Bani, Sirsa	Damage yet to be quantified
	CAP Complex Ismailabad, Kurukshetra	Damage yet to be quantified
	Food & Supply, Jundla	Damage yet to be quantified
Punjab	CAP complex Khonuri, Sangrur	Damage yet to be quantified
	3 Punjab Agro CAP Complexes, Sangrur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Pungrain	Damage yet to be quantified
	Talwandi, Ferozepaur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Markfed CAP Complex, Zira, Ferozepur	Damage yet to be quantified
	2 Punjab Agro CAP Complex, Ferozepur	Damage yet to be quantified
	SWC Gadarpur, Udham Singh Nagar	Damage yet to be quantified
Maharashtra	FCI Karad	8
	FCI Gondia	0.8
West Bengal	FSD, Chinsura	7
	FSD, Dankuni	14.62
	FSD, Midnapur	0.08

Above damage to foodgrains stocks have taken place due to failure in taking required precautionary measures by the concerned officers of FCI and other agencies except at Bani in Haryana where the damage has been due to flood.

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.

(c) The stocks of Central Pool stored with FCI and State agencies as on 1.7.2010 were 583.21 lakh tons. FCI has storage capacity of 306.44 lakh tons (including 273.99 lakh tons covered and 32.45 lakh tons CAP capacity). Thus it is necessary to augment the storage capacity of FCI. 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.

Amendment to EC ACT

2950. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugar industry has challenged Government's move to absolve itself of a Rs. 14,000 crore payment to the industry through an amendment to the Essential Commodities Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Writ Petitions have been filed in the Supreme Court and some High Courts to challenge the validity of the Essential Commodities (Amendment and Validation) Act,

2009, which has been enacted to remove the ambiguity in law relating to cost components or factors that should be taken into consideration for the determination of the price of

levy sugar. Notices have been issued to the Union of India in all these cases to file Counter Affidavit. The matter is sub-judice.

Implementation of NFSA

2951. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the recent initiatives on fine-tuning of the provisions of the National Food Security Act;

(b) whether successful implementation of the Food Security Act requires an efficient Public Distribution System (PDS); and

(c) if so, the measures being taken to revamp the existing PDS in the wake of widespread allegations of inefficiency, corruption and mismanagement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The proposed law on Food Security envisages entitling every Below Poverty Line (BPL) family to a certain quantity of foodgrains every month at subsidized prices. It also envisages broader systemic reforms in Public Distribution System (PDS).

An Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) has been constituted to consider various issues concerning the proposed law on food security. The EGoM has so far held five meetings in which the proposed law has been discussed. In its last meeting held on 05.04.2010, the EGoM has inter-alia requested Planning Commission to consider all the issues involved and to make specific recommendations regarding proposed legislation on Food Security.

Public Distribution System (Control) Order 2001 mandates the State and Union Territory (UT) Governments to carry out all required actions to ensure smooth functioning of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a continuous process. To improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly requesting State/UT Governments for continuous review of lists of BPL and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at

Fair Price Shops, bringing about greater transparency in functioning of TPDS, improved monitoring and vigilance at all levels, and introduction of new technologies such as Computerization of TPDS operations at various levels. In the Conference of Food Secretaries of

States and UTs on Best Practices and Reforms in TPDS held on 12th & 13th July, 2010, the above directions have been reiterated.

Food Price Index

2952. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food Price Index is increasing in comparison with the previous years;

(b) if so, the details of the last three years;

(c) if so, the impact of it on the food market; and

(d) the action Government has taken to protect the common man from price rise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS) : (a) Yes, sir. WPI is increasing but the year on year WPI food inflation rate is showing declining trend since December 2009.

(b) The details of the food inflation rate (%) during the last three years is given in the statement (see below).

(c) and (d) Hardening of prices is putting pressure on the family budget of the public. Government is taking various measures to moderate the impact on them. Government measures to contain price rise of essential commodities is given in the statement-III. [Refer to the statement appended to the answer to USQ 2935 part (b)]. Due to these measures the food inflation has started softening during the last six months.

Statement

*Table showing Food Inflation (%) during the last three years
from January 2008 to July 2010*

Months	2008	2009	2010
1	2	3	4
January	2.09	11.02	18.41

February	3.35	9.37	18.11
March	5.93	7.54	17.39

1	2	3	4
April	5.54	8.59	16.71
May	5.71	8.45	17.00
June	5.93	10.89	14.60
Jury	6.00	14.16	10.29
August	6.92	14.08	
September	7.72	14.20	
October	9.94	12.99	
November	10.31	18.66	
December	9.95	20.04	

Source: Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.

Effect of changes in migration rules on Indians students

2953. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the new migration rules and their impact on the Indian students currently residing in Australia;

(b) the transitional arrangements provided by the Australian Government and Indian Embassy for those students who are likely to be affected by the change in migration rules;

(c) whether any assurance was given by the Federal and State Governments of Australia on the safety of Indian students and the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Indian Embassy will provide any legal support to students affected by changes in migration rules and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) announced, on 8th Feb., 2010 an overhaul of the skilled migration programme in Australia, aiming to make it a demand-driven programme (in place of the prevailing supply-driven

programme). Major reforms to the programme are:-

- All offshore General Skilled Migration (GSM) applications lodged offshore before 1 September 2007 were withdrawn from consideration affecting about 20,000 people (including 2400 from India) who will get refund of their visa application charges.
- The wide-ranging Migration Occupations in Demand List (MODL) was revoked with immediate effect. The MODL included those occupations and specialisations identified by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) that were in short supply.
- In place of MODL, DIAC announced, a new Skilled Occupations List (SOL), available at <http://www.immi.gov.au/skilled/sol/>. It contains 181 occupations targeted towards a GSM programme focussed on delivering high-value skills, as against more than 400 occupations listed in the old SOL. The new SOL is effective from 1 July 2010 and will be updated annually. Only people with relevant qualifications mentioned in SOL will be eligible for independent general skilled migration. The proposed changes would affect those international students who are currently in Australia and yet to apply for permanent residence under GSM. The new list would apply to all new GSM applications lodged on or after implementation of the new SOL.
- Certain occupations may be capped to ensure skill needs are met across the board. For this purpose, the Australian Government has introduced Migration Amendment (Visa Capping) Bill 2010 in May, 2010.
- Individual state and territory migration plans will be developed so that they can prioritise skilled migrants of their choice.
- The points test used to assess migrants will be reviewed to ensure it selects the best and brightest.
- The new arrangements will also give first priority to skilled migrants who are sponsored by an Australian employer.

Transitional arrangements:

- International students who hold a vocational, higher education or postgraduate student visa will still be able to apply for a permanent visa if their occupation is on the new Skilled Occupations List. If

their occupation is not on the new SOL, they will have until 31
December

2012 to apply for a temporary skilled graduate visa on completion of their studies, which will enable them to spend up to 18 months in Australia to acquire work experience and seek sponsorship from an employer.

These changes are going to affect international students who go to Australia with the hope of getting permanent residency (PR) based on occupations in the MODL. Once the Visa capping bill is passed, it could be used to retrospectively terminate all pending PR applications, following which applicants will have 28 days either to reapply using the new SOL and visa capping requirements, or be required to go back.

(c) and (d) The High Commissioner of India in Australia has taken up the matter with the Minister of Immigration and Citizenship as well as other ministers and senior officials in the Australian government. The Australian authorities have been requested that the retrospective impact of new measures needs to be reviewed and action taken to process pending applications for Permanent Residency in keeping with the implicit understanding under which the Indian students were given student visas under the previous visa regime, wherein the linkage between education and immigration was implicitly accepted. The matter was also taken up with the Australian leaders during the visits of Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development from 6th to 10th April, 2010 and Hon'ble Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs (13-18 June, 2010) to Australia.

Vacant posts in principals and teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas

†2954. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacant posts of principals along with teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country during the academic session 2009-10, category-wise and State-wise;

(b) the number of principals along with teachers appointed during the current academic session, State-wise; and

(c) the attempts made to fill up these vacant posts during the current academic session?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The State-wise details of number of vacant posts of Principals and teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) in the country during the academic session of 2009-10 are given in the Statement-I (See below).

(b) The State-wise details of number of Principals and teachers appointed during the current academic session are given in the statement-II (see below).

(c) Filling up the vacant posts is a continuous process and necessary action has been initiated by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan during the current academic session.

Statement-I

*State-wise number of vacant posts of principals & teachers
category-wise during as on 31.03.2010*

Sl. No.	Name of State	Principal	Vice Principal	PGT*	TGT**	PRT^	HM^^	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	1	1	15	0	0	17
2	Andhra Pradesh	0	7	17	78	12	7	121
3	Arunachal Pradesh	4	0	3	15	9	0	31
4	Assam	3	3	19	48	12	0	85
5	Bihar	7	3	30	69	16	12	137
6	Chandigarh	0	0	2	4	0	0	6
7	Chhattisgarh	2	0	25	56	19	4	106
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	1	2	0	0	3
9	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
10	Delhi	1	2	23	63	18	9	116

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	Goa	0	0	4	13	3	0	20
12	Gujarat	3	0	51	54	6	0	114
13	Haryana	1	1	21	41	8	2	74
14	Himachal Pradesh	6	0	17	36	7	0	66
15	Jammu and Kashmir	6	1	24	78	11	0	120
16	Jharkhand	0	2	16	42	5	0	65
17	Karnataka	3	6	21	74	43	0	147
18	Kerala	2	9	21	57	18	3	110
19	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
20	Madhya Pradesh	15	7	126	163	36	30	377
21	Maharashtra	5	6	84	128	44	4	271
22	Manipur	1	0	5	8	3	0	17
23	Meghalaya	1	1	1	4	0	0	7
24	Mizoram	1	0	2	5	3	0	11
25	Nagaland	3	0	2	8	3	0	16
26	Orissa	1	3	31	52	4	0	91
27	Puducherry	0	1	4	3	3	1	12
28	Punjab	5	2	44	54	24	0	129
29	Rajasthan	12	0	55	73	18	0	158
30	Sikkim	0	0	1	2	0	0	3
31	Tamil Nadu	2	6	15	81	14	9	127
32	Tripura	1	0	1	9	0	0	11
33	Uttar Pradesh	11	7	74	140	32	1	265

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
34	Uttarakhand	4	4	35	54	9	5	111
35	West Bengal	6	7	62	118	63	0	256
Total		106	79	838	1649	444	87	3203

* (PGT) Post Graduate Teacher

^ (PRT) Primary Teacher

** (TGT) Trained Graduate Teacher

^^ (HM) Head Master

Statement-II

Number of Principals & Teachers Appointed During Current

Academic Year as on 18.08.2010

Sl. No.	Name of State	Principal	Teachers	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	1	0	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2	3	5
4	Assam	2	7	9
5	Bihar	4	1	5
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
9	Daman and Diu	0	0	0
10	Delhi	0	0	0
11	Goa	0	0	0
12	Gujarat	0	0	0
13	Haryana	1	2	3

1	2	3	4	5
14	Himachal Pradesh	4	0	4
15	Jammu and Kashmir	4	2	6
16	Jharkhand	0	1	1
17	Karnataka	1	0	1
18	Kerala	1	0	1
19	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	10	0	0
21	Maharashtra	3	0	3
22	Manipur	1	2	3
23	Meghalaya	1	0	1
24	Mizoram	1	0	1
25	Nagaland	2	0	2
26	Orissa	1	0	1
27	Puducherry	0	0	0
28	Punjab	1	0	1
29	Rajasthan	1	0	1
30	Sikkim	0	0	0
31	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0
32	Tripura	1	0	1
33	Uttar Pradesh	2	2	4
34	Uttarakhand	4	0	4
35	West Bengal	2	0	2
TOTAL		50	20	70

Slashing of allocation for higher education

2955. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's ambitious projects launched under Eleventh Five Year Plan got delayed or axed as large spending cuts has come into force due to the economy not growing at expected rate of over nine per cent and only two or three ministerial projects are gearing up and some of them were shelved;

(b) if so, whether Planning Commission which conducted a review of Eleventh Five Year Plan has slashed budgetary allocations for higher and technical education by nearly half of the original amount; and

(c) if so, the total allocation made for higher education and to what extent it has affected working of the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) An allocation of Rs.84943 crore has been made during Eleventh Five Year Plan for the Department of Higher Education out of which Rs.34,683 crore has been allocated during first four years of the Plan. During the first four years of Plan, various new initiatives have been undertaken such as establishment of 16 Central Universities including the conversion of three State Universities into Central Universities, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, 8 new Indian Institute of Technology (IITs), 3 new Indian Institute of Management (IIMs), 5 new Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISERs), 2 New School of Planning and Architecture (SPAs) etc. However, some of the new schemes got approved only in the 3rd year of Plan. Keeping this in view, the Planning Commission, during Mid Term Review of the Plan, has suggested to reprioritise the Schemes launched during Eleventh Five Year Plan.

Objections to opening of new IITs

2956. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to set up 20

new IITs in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Ministry of Finance has expressed its objections; and

(d) if so, the reasons there for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Infrastructure in colleges

2957. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the observation of Supreme Court that 99 per cent Government and private colleges in the country have no Infrastructure as required under the statute, and that they are just like shops fleecing money from the students; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against such colleges which are duping and exploiting the students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) While some news reports to this effect have come to notice, according to the University Grants Commission (UGC), there is no information with the Commission regarding such observation of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. Colleges are established by State Govt./Trust/Registered Societies and Private Managements and affiliation is granted by the concerned University under the Act governing it. Colleges who fulfill the minimum criteria are included under Section 2 (f) & 12 B of the UGC Act, 1956. The UGC has also issued Regulations namely UGC (Affixation of Colleges by Universities) Regulation, 2009 for ensuring minimum infrastructure in colleges.

As part of the reform measures initiated by the Government, legislative proposals, namely, "The Prohibition of unfair practices in technical educational institutions, medical educational institutions and Universities Bill, 2010" and "The National Accreditation

Regulatory Authority for

Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010" have been introduced in Lok Sabha on 3rd May, 2010 and these Bills have been referred to the Department related Parliament Standing Committee.

Recommendations of R.K. Raghavan Committee to curb ragging

2958. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that incidents of ragging are on the rise;

(b) whether Government is aware that under the directive of the Supreme Court a Committee headed by Dr. R.K. Raghavan was appointed to suggest means of its prevention; and

(c) if so, the recommendations and suggestions made by the Committee and how far they have been effective in curbing the menace of ragging?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) As 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", it is not possible to confirm any trend of a rise in the number of incidents.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has issued directions to regulatory bodies to implement major recommendations made by Committee headed by Dr. R. K. Raghavan to look into the issue of ragging and suggest means of prevention in educational institutions. The Government has also requested the Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of all State Governments/Union Territories to comply with the directions of the Hon. Supreme Court of India.

The University Grants Commission has notified, on 17 June, 2009, its regulation namely "The UGC Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009". These regulations are comprehensive and provide for a number of punitive and prohibitive measures, including stopping of grants by UGC and also withdrawal of affiliation/recognition or other privileges

conferred, if any higher education institution fails to comply with any of the provisions of regulations or fails to curb ragging effectively. The regulations also 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. 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 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.

A toll free anti-ragging "Helpline" has already been launched on 20th June, 2009 with Call Centre facilities in English, Hindi and several regional languages to begin with, for helping victims of ragging, besides facilitating effective action in respect of such incidents.

Starting of job oriented courses in Government Colleges

2959. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that commercialisation of education is taking place in different States of the country due to which the standard of education is declining and the poor students are deprived of getting higher and professional education;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check this commercialisation;

(c) whether Government proposes to start job oriented courses in Government colleges; and

(d) if so, the details of their fee structure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Education is in The
Concurrent List of the

Constitution and it is joint responsibility of Centre and States to provide necessary and quality education in the country. As per the National Policy on Education, 1986 (as modified in 1992), Government is against the commercialization of education. Several pronouncements of the Supreme Court of India, have also prohibited commercialization of education in India, though reasonable surpluses can be generated for further development of the educational institutions.

Further, as per the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956, the Commission has been empowered to take steps to ensure that no candidate secures admission to any course of study by reason of economic power and thereby prevents a more meritorious candidate from securing admission to such course of study. The UGC Act provides that no college shall accept, whether directly or indirectly, any payment otherwise than by way of fees; or any donation of gift (whether in cash or kind), from, or in relation to, any student in connection with his admission to, and prosecution of, and course of study. According to the information furnished by UGC, the State Governments have constituted Committee for regulating admission and fee structure in respect of private and self financed colleges located in their respective jurisdiction.

All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) have also formulated regulations for the purpose of charging of fee by technical institutions. As per these regulations State Level Fee Committee have been constituted by the concerned State Governments which will prescribe fee to be charged by technical institutions and also monitor the implementation.

(c) and (d) UGC started the vocational programme at the under graduate level during VIIIth Plan (1994-95), which has been redesigned in 2003-04 under a modified scheme of Career Orientation to Education/Career Oriented Programme. During X Plan Period the Scheme has been renamed as Career Oriented Courses with the objective to ensure that the graduates who pass out after completing these courses, have knowledge, skills and aptitude for gainful employment in wage sector in general and self employment in particular so as to reduce the pressure on institutions of higher learning for Master Degree. These courses run parallel to the conventional B.A., B.Com and B.Sc. Degree. The UGC has given importance

to Job Oriented Education System and has introduced and implemented vocational education programme. All Colleges and Universities recognized by the UGC under Section 2(f) and 12(B) of UGC Act, 1956 are eligible for implementing the scheme of Career Oriented Courses.

As per guidelines under the scheme of Career Oriented Courses, the Universities should not charge any affiliation fee for the Career Oriented Courses sanctioned by the UGC. Guidelines are silent regarding the details of their fee structure.

Inclusive education for disabled children under RTE Act

2960. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Right to Education includes the right for inclusive education for disabled children; and

(b) if so, the nodal Ministry which would implement this right?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 is administered by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. A child suffering from disability, as defined in clause (i) of section 2 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection and Full Participation) Act, 1996, shall have the right to pursue free and compulsory elementary education in accordance with the provisions of Chapter V of that Act, which is administered by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Sanskrit university and colleges

2961. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking any concrete measures to set up a Sanskrit university in Himachal Pradesh and develop infrastructure in Sanskrit colleges so as to improve the infrastructure at all Sanskrit college and school levels;

(b) if so, the time by when it will be done; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) No Sir. There is no such proposal

under consideration

of this Ministry for setting up a Sanskrit University in Himachal Pradesh. However, the Government has setup a Campus of Rashtirya Sanskrit Sansthan. a Deemed University under this Ministry at Garli District, Kangra at Himachal Pradesh.

Implementation of Right to Education Act

†2962. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government for uniform implementation of Right to Education Act in the country;

(b) the details of the measures taken by the Central Government/State Governments in this regard; and

(c) whether it is a fact that there are large number of children below 14 years of age in the country who have not been provided education, so far, and the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Government has taken various steps for implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 , including notifying the (a) Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2010; (b) National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) as the academic authority to lay down teacher qualifications, (c) National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) as the academic authority to lay down the curriculum and evaluation procedure, and (d) National Advisor/ Council (NAC) under the Act. Model Rules have been prepared and circulated to the States to enable them to formulate the State Rules under the Act. In addition, Government has taken steps to align the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) norms with the provisions of the RTE Act.

(c) The State wise number of out of school children aged 6-13 years as per a National Sample Survey conducted by IMRB in 2009 is given in the statement (see below). The survey estimates 81,50,618 children representing 4.28% of the child population in the 6-13 age group as out of school.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

*State-wise number of out of school children aged 6-13
years as per IMRB survey 2009*

Sl. No.	States/ UTs	Out of school children 6-13 years age group
1	2	3
1	Andaman & Nicobar Island	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	172,354
3	Arunachal Pradesh	20,601
4	Assam	234,983
5	Bihar	1,345,697
6	Chandigarh UT	1,974
7	Chhattisgarh	85,366
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	444
9	Daman & Diu	23
10	Delhi	124,022
11	Goa	0
12	Gujarat	162,355
13	Haryana	107,205
14	Himachal Pradesh	2,451
15	Jammu & Kashmir	9,691
16	Jharkhand	132,195
17	Karnataka	108,237
18	Kerala	15,776
19	Lakshadweep	0

1	2	3
20	Madhya Pradesh	328,692
21	Maharashtra	207,345
22	Manipur	12,222
23	Meghalaya	12,655
24	Mizoram	7,485
25	Nagaland	8,693
26	Orissa	435,560
27	Pondicherry	993
28	Punjab	1,267
29	Rajasthan	1,018,326
30	Sikkim	647
31	Tamilnadu	52,876
32	Tripura	8,434
33	Uttar Pradesh	2,769,111
34	Uttarakhand	56,225
35	West Bengal	706,713
GRAND TOTAL		8,150,618.00

Sharing of funds between Centre and States for RTE Act

2963. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far by Government for implementation of the Right to Education Act;

(b) whether Government is considering the State Governments' request regarding sharing of funds between the Centre and State Governments in the ratio of 90:10; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Government has taken various steps for implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, including notifying the (a) Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Rules, 2010; (b) National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) as the academic authority to lay down teacher qualifications, (c) National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) as the academic authority to lay down the curriculum and evaluation procedure, and (d) National Advisory Council (NAC) under the Act. In addition, Government has taken steps to align the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) norms with the provisions of the RTE Act.

(b) and (c) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme is the main vehicle for implementation of the RTE Act. The existing funding pattern between Centre and States is in the ratio of 65:35 for first two years of the 11th Plan, 60:40 for the third year, 55:45 for the fourth year and 50:50 thereafter. In respect of North East States the funding pattern is in the ratio of 90:10. The Government has taken steps for revising the Centre-State funding pattern.

Provision of free text books for students in schools

†2964. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision for giving text books free of cost to the children at school level education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware that school students in Orissa have been facing problems due to non-availability of text books;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government has given any advice or direction to the State Governments in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)

free textbooks

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

are provided to students at elementary level, wherever these are not provided by the State Government. During 2010-11, Rs. 1,487 crore has been approved by the Project Approval Board (PAB) for distribution of free textbooks to 10,11,65,504 children in the country.

The Government of Orissa has informed that there are capacity constraints in the Government Text book Press, and the majority of private firms to whom printing and binding was being outsourced, do not have adequate in house capacity, and therefore they do not deliver text books in time.

With the view to overcoming this situation, the State Government had decided to undertake open tendering for printing and binding of text books for the year 2010-11. However, this decision was challenged in the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa which had passed interim stay order. The stay has been vacated and the case has been disposed off. The distribution of textbooks to students is now under progress and 37% students have been provided textbooks as on 17th August, 2010.

Shift system in Kendriya Vidyalayas

2965. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Kendriya Vidyalaya is functioning under shift system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether shift system, which is not scientific and not good for academic and physical health of students, is continuing; and

(d) whether Government will take steps to stop shift system by providing more infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Presently 39 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) are functioning in double shifts. The State-wise details are given in the statement (see below).

(c) and (d) No case of negative impact on academic and physical health of students due to shift system has come to the notice of Kendriya

Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS). However, running of second shift is not a regular phenomenon in KVS, and this is in vogue in only a few schools.

Statement

List indicating the Region Wise/Statewise is functioning as on 17.08.2010

Name of Region	Name of State	S.No.	Name of Kendriya Vidyalaya
1	2	3	4
Delhi	Delhi	1.	New Friends Centre
	Delhi	2.	AGCR Colony
	Delhi	3.	No. 3 Delhi Cantt.
	Delhi	4.	AFS Tuglakabad
	Delhi	5.	Sector 8 R.K. Puram
	Delhi	6.	Andrews Ganj
	Delhi	7.	Pushp Vihar
	Delhi	8.	Gole Market
	Delhi	9.	Vikaspuri
	Delhi	10.	Janakpuri
	Delhi	11.	Delhi Cantt. No. 1
	Delhi	12.	Delhi Cantt. No. 2
	Delhi	13.	Sector 8 Rohini
	Delhi	14.	Dwaraka Sec. V
	Delhi	15.	Lawrence. Road
	Delhi	16.	Shalimarbagh
	Delhi	17.	Pitampura
	Uttar Pradesh	18.	Noida
	Uttar Pradesh	19.	VKV Ghaziabad
Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	20.	Kanpur Cantt.

1	2	3	4
Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	21.	No. 3 Bhopal
	-Do-	22.	No. 1 Indore
	-Do-	23.	No. 1 Gwalior
Jabalpur	-Do-	24.	Chhindwar
	Chhatisgarh	. 25.	No. 1 Raipur
Bhubaneswar	Jharkhand	26.	Hinoo Ranchi
	Orissa	27.	No. 1 Bhubaneswar
Chandigarh	Chandigarh	28.	Sector-47, Chandigarh
Chennai	Kerala	29.	Pattom, Trivandrum
	-Do-	30.	Adoor
Dehradun	Uttarakhand	31.	IIP Dehradun
	-Do-	32.	Haldwani
Jaipur	Rajasthan	33.	No. 5 Jaipur
Mumbai	Maharashtra	34.	AFS Thane
	-Do-	35.	AFS Ojhar
Patna	Bihar	36.	Kankarbagh, Patna
	-Do-	37.	Baily Road
	-Do-	38.	Danapur
	-Do-	39.	Muzaffarpur

Dropping out of children from schools due to poverty

2966. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that as per the report of National sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), 21 per cent children drop out of the schools due to poverty;

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

(c) whether Government is also aware that national gross average attendance at primary and middle school levels is only 80 per cent;

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

(e) the manner in which Government would achieve its objective of Right to Education to all in view of parts (a) and (c)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) As per NSSO Report No. 532: Education in India: Participation and Expenditure, 2007-08, about 21 per cent children discontinued/ drop-out the school due to financial constraints. Gross Attendance Ratios in Classes I-V and VI-VIII are 104 per cent and 84 per cent respectively. State-wise details of Gross Attendance Ratios in classes I-V & VI-VIII are given in the statement (see below).

The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is implemented in partnership with the States/UTs in which, inter alia, one of the goals specifies retention of all children up to the elementary level. A multi-pronged approach has been adopted under the SSA for reducing drop-out rates. These include, inter alia, strengthening of schools and improving the quality of education through improvement in school infrastructure, recruitment of additional teachers, provision of annual school grants and regular training of teachers. In addition, interventions under SSA aim at building community support, flexible schooling for the hardest to reach children, residential hostel buildings in remote tribal areas, special provision for SC and ST children including free text-books and remedial teaching. The Mid-day-Meal programme also complements the strategy to reduce dropouts.

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.

Statement

*Gross Attendance Ratio in classes I-V & VI-VIII by Broad
Class Group in any Education*

(rural + urban person)

S. No.	States/UTs	Broad Class Group	
		I-V	VI-VIII
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	101	85
2	Arunachal Pradesh	96	94
3	Assam	110	90
4	Bihar	92	69
5	Chhattisgarh	110	89
6	Goa	102	98
7	Gujarat	104	80
8	Haryana	107	91
9	Himachal Pradesh	107	117
10	Jammu & Kashmir	113	114
11	Jharkhand	103	77
12	Karnataka	104	89
13	Kerala	100	96
14	Madhya Pradesh	108	93
15	Maharashtra	106	87
16	Manipur	107	99
17	Meghalaya	116	87
18	Mizoram	106	107

1	2	3	4
19	Nagaland	104	109
20	Orissa	101	84
21	Punjab	103	95
22	Rajasthan	106	84
23	Sikkim	139	96
24	Tamil Nadu	99	104
25	Tripura	114	93
26	Uttar Pradesh	107	75
27	Uttarakhand	108	87
28	West Bengal	110	83
29	A & N Islands	109	98
30	Chandigarh	94	99
31	D&N Haveli	99	91
32	Daman & Diu	108	94
33	Delhi	111	92
34	Lakshadweep	lio	103
35	Puducherry	97	112
	India	104	84

Source: NSS Report No. 532: Education in India: Participation and Expenditure, 2007-08

Regional centre of Indian School of Mines University

2967. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of human RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision not to establish regional centre of Indian School of Mines University approved earlier for Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the reasons due to which Government has taken such a step;

(c) whether Government was unaware of such reasons at the time of approving it;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government is working in a discriminatory manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The proposal to open the Regional Centre of Indian School of Mines (ISM), Dhanbad at Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh has been deferred for now as there is no provision for opening the said centre in the 11th Five Year Plan, approved by the National Development Council (NDC).

Reservation in higher education

2968. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a survey conducted by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) for the National Academy of Sciences has revealed that higher education quota/reservation must continue in Central educational institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the said survey has opined that large-scale privatization in higher education is diluting the benefits of reservation and a large population of reserved category is disadvantaged; and

(d) if so, the views of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the report, the focus of the study was more on analyzing the OBC reservation policy with reference to the field of higher education. The report has stated that in States where reservation for the OBCs to academic institutions has existed for several decades, the evidence shows that the students are as competitive as students from general categories at the stage of entrance and exit from the

institutions.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Constitution has been amended at the initiative of the Government to provide for reservations in educational institutions by laws of the appropriate legislatures.

Screening test in model schools

2969. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a decision not to allow screening test in the proposed model schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to set up 6,000 model schools in the country;

(d) whether it is a fact that out of 6,000 schools, 2,500 schools will be set up in the Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode; and

(e) 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) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The model schools under PPP mode are to be set up in blocks which are not educationally backward.

Joint Education Council between India and Australia

2970. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Australia have agreed to set up Joint Education Council (JEC); and

(b) if so, to what extent the above JEC helps in extending safe education for Indian students in Australia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The India-Australia Education Council is to bring together government, academia, business and industry of both the countries to enhance bilateral collaboration in the education sector. The subject of safety and well being of students of both the countries is being taken up during bilateral meetings at various levels. An Indian delegation led by Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development visited Australia from 6th to 10th April 2010 held extensive discussions with various , dignitaries from the Federal Government of Australia as well as State Governments of Western Australia, New South Wales and Victoria regarding the safety and well being of Indian students in Australia. Hon'ble Minister urged the Australian authorities to take stringent measures to stop such attacks and also to apprehend the culprits in recent incidents. The Australian Government has undertaken various measures for protection and safety of Indian students including introduction of an International Students' Care Service, deployment of additional forces, amendments in sentencing laws and empowering police forces to combat violence and antisocial behavior. The Premier of New South Wales also assured the Hon'ble Minister of early establishment of helpline for international students, including Indian students, to access in distress.

Shortage of teachers

†2971. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vacancies of teachers in Government schools throughout the country;

(b) whether Government has formulated any policy to make the Right to Education Act successful despite huge shortage of teachers in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Pursuant to the enforcement of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, the additional requirement of Teachers and Head Teachers in elementary education has been estimated at 5.08 lakh and 2.44 lakh respectively. In addition, it is estimated that there are 5.23 lakh teacher vacancies in the State sector. As per RTE Act, 2009 all these vacancies are required to be filled up within a period of three years to achieve the Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) prescribed under the Act.

Setting up of sanctioned IITs

2972. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of IITs sanctioned by Government recently;
 - (b) the present stage of implementation of each of them;
 - (c) whether Government of Kerala has requested for an IIT in Kerala;
 - (d) whether Government proposes to accede to the request of Kerala;
- and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Government of India has set up eight new IITs in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh (Indore), Punjab, Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh during the XIIth Five Year Plan. All of them have started functioning from temporary campuses.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. There is no proposal to establish an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) at Kerala. The entire budget allocation for IITs during the XIth Five Year Plan has already been allocated for the above 8 new IITs.

Setting up of world class universities

2973. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after more than 60 years of independence there is not a single university from the country that ranks in the world top 100 universities;

(b) if so, whether Government will propose to set up at least ten world class universities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir, despite having one of the largest higher education systems in the world, only a few institutions of higher learning in the country have been able to make a mark on the global stage.

(b) It is proposed to establish 14 innovation universities aimed at world class standards during the 11th and 12th Plan periods.

(c) The concept note on these universities has already been prepared and the legislative proposal in this regard is being finalized.

Subsidy on diesel

2974. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is actively considering to provide relief to farmers from the enhanced diesel prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this relief would be in form of direct subsidy on diesel to farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has informed that, at present, there is no proposal under their consideration for providing subsidy to farmers, subsequent to increase in the retail selling price of diesel effective from 26.6.2010.

Review of procedure for granting deemed university status

2975. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 44 deemed universities had been de-recognised due to deficiencies in their functioning and have now been issued show cause notices to present their case;

(b) whether the de-recognition move was an indicator of irregularities in the process of awarding deemed university status to such institutions;

(c) whether in the light of the uncertainty that has followed Government's move, the procedures for granting deemed university status are being reviewed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Under Section 3 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956, the Central Government may, on the advice of the Commission, declare institutions of higher education as institutions deemed to be universities. However, as the process of declaring of institutions as deemed to be universities under the then Guidelines (2000) of the UGC were challenged before the Supreme Court [WP (C) No.142/2006: Viplav Sharma Vs. Union of India & Others] and also there was a growing public perception regarding dilution in academic standards in certain institutions deemed to be universities, the Government had ordered a review of functioning of such institutions. A Committee comprising eminent academic experts was constituted to review the functioning of existing institutions deemed to be universities to ascertain whether these institutions were indeed serving the purposes for which they were so declared and whether they complied with the conditions stipulated in the notification.

The Review Committee found 44 institutions unfit to continue as institutions deemed to be universities. The Government has, in principle, accepted the Report of the Review Committee. The Report is available in

the public domain, on the Ministry's website www.education.nic.in. The
issue

regarding review of institutions deemed to be universities has been linked to the Viplav Sharma matter [WP (C) 142/2006] pending in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Hon'ble Supreme Court directed the Government to maintain *status quo* as regards the 44 institutions. The matter is presently *sub judice*.

The UGC (Institutions deemed to be universities) Regulations, 2010 have come into force (w.e.f. 26/5/2010) replacing the UGC Guidelines (2000) on institutions deemed to be universities that was in force earlier.

Grievance Redressal Mechanism for Mid-Day-Meal Scheme

2976. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether spelling out zero tolerance for disruption and delay in the implementation of Mid-Day-Meal Scheme the Ministry has written to all State Governments urging them to set up a Grievance Redressal Mechanism to keep a tab on the programme;

(b) whether catering to nearly 11 crore school children across the country, the scheme has often come into news with reports of students complaining about food quality;

(c) if so, whether attempting to check these instances, the Ministry has detailed all the modalities to ensure transparency in the grievance redressal process; and

(d) if so, the other main suggestions made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some complaints regarding serving of unhygienic/sub-standard/adulterated food under MDM are received through individuals and news reports.

(c) and (d) The recently issued guidelines suggest various possible modes of registration, redressal and monitoring the redressal of grievances. The States/UTs have the flexibility to choose

the most suitable option depending upon their local needs and conditions, and to develop an effective system of grievance redressal.

Urdu language classes in Kendriya Vidyalayas

2977. SHRI AHMAD SAEED MALIHABADI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Urdu language is being taught in Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) under three language formula;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the total number of Urdu teachers appointed in KVs;

(e) whether Government has plan to start Urdu language classes in KVs and recruiting Urdu teachers;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not, the reasons therefor;

(h) whether Government has any proposal to recognize and implement Urdu language in Central Schools;

(i) if so, the details thereof; and

(j) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (j) Urdu language is taught in Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) where more than 20 students opt for the same. There are no regular Urdu teachers in KVs. Wherever students opt for studying Urdu, there is provision to appoint Urdu teachers on contract.

Interest subsidy on education loan

2978. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked the States to designate an appropriate authority at district level for identifying economically backward families to ensure uniformity in sanctioning interest

subsidy on education loans provided by scheduled banks under the Central scheme, for students belonging to economically weaker sections;

(b) if so, the details thereof and present status of the scheme; and

(c) whether it is not a fact that persons belonging to weaker sections are required to submit an income certificate for obtaining loan from banks and for this they have to undergo a cumbersome procedure which creates a hurdle in applying for the loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) A communication dated 21.04.2010 has been issued to all Chief Secretaries of State Govts./UTs., which is available on the website of the Ministry at www.education.nic.in, requesting State Governments to designate competent authorities at District/Tehsil/Block level "for certifying annual family income in respect of students eligible for full subsidy on interest accruing on educational loans under the Indian Banks' Association Scheme of education loans for pursuing professional education.

According to the provisions of Indian Banks' Association Revised Model Educational Loan Scheme for pursuing higher studies in India and abroad, the eligibility criteria for obtaining education loan is that the applicant student should be an Indian National and should have secured admission to professional/technical courses in India or abroad through Entrance Test/Merit Based Selection process.

Use of cereals for production of wine

†2979. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether millet and cereals are being used for production of wine in certain States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some State Governments give incentive/subsidy to such wine producers;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (b) As per the information received from State Governments of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, U.P. and West Bengal, the foodgrains including jowar, bajra and maize have been used to manufacture liquor. Government of Assam, Gujarat, Tripura, Kerala, Orissa and Chandigarh have informed that no foodgrains has been used for manufacture of alcohol.

(c) and (d) The State Government of Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh have informed that subsidy to the liquor manufacturers is provided.

Government of Maharashtra has informed that incentives in backward areas of Vidarbha and Marathwada classified as "D" are given according to the industries Department- i.e. 150% of the Fixed Capital Investment or Rs.37.50 crores whichever is less and for areas classified as D+ -200% of the Fixed Capital Investment or Rs.50 crores whichever being less. For areas not under such classification in this State, 100% of the Fixed Capital Investment or Rs.25 crores whichever being less.

Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that foodgrains are procured by grain based distilleries viz. (i) M/s. Jagatjit Industries Ltd, Bulandshahr (ii) M/s Redico Khetan Ltd. (grain spirit plant), Rampur and (iii) M/s Redico Khetan Ltd. (Malt spirit plant). Rampur. Subsidy is being provided to M/s Radico Khetan (Grain spirit plant, Rampur) by Government of Uttar Pradesh as this unit has fulfilled the provisions of G.O.No.2529 E-2/XIII-2005-374/98 T.C.I, dated 24.5.2005.

(e) State Governments, depending upon production and procurement of foodgrains including coarse grains decide on their usage as per local conditions.

Single entrance examination for engineering and medical streams

2980. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to merge All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE) and All India Pre-Medical Test (AIPMT) which are being conducted by CBSE separately till now into single examination from 2010;

(b) the manner in which this proposal will help the students seeking admission into engineering and medical streams;

(c) whether State Governments are also supportive of this proposal;

(d) whether Government has decided to give weightage to the marks of Class XII when appearing in engineering tests for professional and other courses; and

(e) the details of the proposed plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The All India Engineering Entrance Examination, 2010 and All India Pre-Medical Test, 2010 will be conducted separately. However, there is a proposal with Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to combine these two examinations in future so that the candidates seeking admission to different courses would be spared the bother of appearing in multiple entrance examinations.

(c) In the meeting of the State Education Ministers held on 18.06.2010, there was a consensus to reduce the multiplicity of entrance examinations.

(d) No such decision has been taken.

(e) Does not arise.

Allocation to Bihar under Centrally Sponsored Schemes

2981. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount allocated under Centrally Sponsored Schemes to Bihar during financial years 1998-2004 and 2004-10, scheme-wise and year-wise;

(b) the amount released against above allotment during above

periods, scheme-wise and year-wise;

(c) the amount spent by the State Government against above allotment and release; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) had not implemented any Centrally Sponsored Scheme during financial years 1998-2004 and 2004-10, except the 'Scheme for Co-operativisation in the Coir Sector' which focused on the coir producing States only and this Scheme too was discontinued during the XI Plan due to poor response from the State Governments. No funds could be allocated to Bihar, which is not a coir producing State, under the above-mentioned Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Economic viability of women-special-trains

2982. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any survey to know the economic viability of running the women-special-trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government proposes to review its decision and cut down the number of coaches from the existing ones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Introduction of women special trains is done in order to improve the railway travel for women and is decided on the basis of traffic justification, operational feasibility and resource availability.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

Doubling of rail lines in Gujarat

2983. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has submitted a proposal for doubling of Ahmedabad-Mehsana-Jaipur, Rajkot-Veraval, Rajkot-Viramgam and Rajkot-Okha railway lines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) As per available records, no such proposal has been received from the State Government of Gujarat.

Tourist train from Kashmir to Kanyakumari

2984. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russia has launched a train that spans over the world's longest trans-Siberian railway, covering 5600 miles from Moscow, passing through 87 towns and cities before arriving at Vladivostok, with 150-hours journey time;

(b) if so, with the completion of Baramulla-Udhampur-Jammu railway link in sight, whether Government plans introducing a similar train, as a tourist attraction, from Kashmir valley to Kanyakumari; and

(c) whether the route be so designed, to include maximum number of places of religious importance, historical monuments etc., primarily catering low budget tourists unlike high budget tourist train like Palace on Wheels?

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

(a) The Trans-Siberian Railway connecting Moscow and Vladivostok on the Pacific Coast has the length of the 6560 miles (10555 kilometers) of railway network passing through 12 regions and 87 cities. The passenger trains take about 146 hours to travel on this route.

(b) and (c) There is no such proposal at present.

Firing at Steel express

2985. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in May, this year Maoists opened fire at Steel Express between Jhargram and Sardiha;

(b) if so, whether formal FIR was lodged soon after the firing; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

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

(a) On 22.05.2010, there was an incident of firing at Banstala Halt, in Kharagpur-Tatanagar Section of South Eastern Railway.

(b) and (c) FIR was lodged by Sub-Inspector of Police/ Jhargram. A case vide crime no. 4/10 dated 23.05.2010 under section 353, 326, 307, 120(b), 121 and 121(A) Indian Penal Code and 25/27 Arms Act has been registered against unknown persons at Government Railway Police Station / Jhargram.

Recruitment of persons from muslim community

2986. SHRI AHMAD SAEED MALIHABADI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to recruit a substantial number of persons from the Muslim community in Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Government Railway Police (GRP);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of total number of Muslims recruited in Railways from 2004 to 2010, year-wise and service-wise?

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

(a) and (b) Ministry of Railways generally follow the guidelines of Department of Personnel and Training (DoP&T) for recruitment in Railway Protection Force (RPF). Measures taken to encourage recruitment of minority candidates by this Ministry, keeping in view the directions of the nodal ministry are followed. As regards Government Railway Police (GRP), it functions directly under the administrative control of respective State Governments. Ministry of Railways have no say in the recruitment of GRP.

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

Increase in criminal activities in running trains

2987. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that criminal activities are increasing in running trains/railway premises;

(b) if so, the number of theft, dacoity and other criminal activities noticed in running trains and railway premises during the last three years in the Mathura-Kasganj-Kanpur Section and the steps being taken by Railway to curb such criminal activities;

(c) whether there is a close coordination between Government Railway Police (GRP) and Railway Protection Force (RPF) in tackling such criminal activities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) There is no significant increase in the cases of passenger offences in running trains and Railway premises over Indian Railways during the year 2009 as compared to the year 2008. There is no increase in criminal activities in Mathura- Kasganj - Kanpur section.

The number of cases of theft, dacoity and other crimes reported in trains and Railway premises in the Mathura - Kasganj - Kanpur section during the last three years 2007, 2008 and 2009 are as under:

Year	Theft		Dacoity		Other crimes	
	Train	Premises	Train	Premises	Train	Premises
2007	8	-	-	-	4	3
2008	-	-	-	-	-	3
2009	-	-	-	-	-	-

'Policing on Railways' is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases and their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments concerned which they discharge through their Government Railway Police (GRP) and Civil Police. Railways bear 50% cost of expenditure on the Government Railway Police. As such Railway has to depend largely on the State Governments.

However, following steps are being taken by Railways to prevent such criminal activities:

1. All important trains are being escorted by Railway Protection Force / Government Railway Police.
2. Train Attendance Duty has been introduced for checking of the trains particularly the general and ladies compartments at all RPF manned stations en-route.
3. Close coordination is maintained with Government Railway Police.

(c) and (d) Close coordination is being maintained with GRP and Civil Police by Railways for tackling such criminal activities. Regular coordination meetings are being conducted with GRP and Civil Police by Railways at Zonal level by General Managers and at Divisional level by Divisional Railway Managers to review the crime position in Railways.

Railway Board also keep close coordination with Ministry of Home Affairs and the State Governments.

Construction of overbridges in Chhattisgarh

†2988. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction work of more than ten overbridges in Chhattisgarh has been discontinued;

(b) whether main reason behind discontinuing the construction work of these over-bridges is non-payment of appropriate amount by railways;

(c) whether State Government of Chhattisgarh has provided his share of amount for these overbridges; and

(d) the names of the districts where these overbridges are being constructed in Chhattisgarh?

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

(a) and (b) No, Sir. There are 15 nos. of Rail Over Bridges (ROBs) in Chhattisgarh State and their construction works are in progress. No ROB construction work is discontinued.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if Yes, Sir. The State Government is providing due share regularly.

(d) Over bridges are being constructed in Raigarh, Janjgir-Champa, Bilaspur and Durg districts of Chhattisgarh.

Reduction in railway earning

2989. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that earning of Railways is reducing due to maoist interference;

(b) if so, the details thereof for last two years; and

(c) if so, the measures taken by Railways in this regard?

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

(a) and (b) The total earnings of Indian Railway has registered an increase of Rs.8192.41 crore (11.43%) during 2008-09, Rs.7267.59 crore (9.10%) during 2009-10 over respective previous years and an increase of Rs. 1701.19 crore (8.46%) during first quarter of current financial year over corresponding period of last year. However, there was a loss of Rs.97.31 crore, Rs.834.65 crore and Rs.244.72 crore respectively, during the above period due to bandh/ left wing extremists activities.

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

However, following measures are being taken by the Railways for the security of passengers and Railway property:-

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

(ii) Coordination meetings are held by the General Managers and Chief

Security Commissioners / RPF at Zonal level and Divisional Railway Managers and Sr. Divisional Security Commissioners / RPF at Divisional level with the State Governments and District Administration respectively.

(iii) Railway Board is also keeping close coordination with Ministry of Home Affairs.

(iv) An Integrated Security System costing Rs. 353 crores has been approved to strengthen surveillance mechanism over vulnerable Railway stations. In the first phase, it is being implemented at 202 vulnerable Railway stations.

Railways have also taken other remedial measures such as non-operation of trains during night hours in vulnerable areas and track patrolling.

Facilities for physically challenged passengers

2990. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of railway stations and platforms in the country together with the details of facilities available thereon for physically challenged passengers for their comfortable journey;

(b) whether there is any proposal to provide electric elevators at railway stations located at religious, historical and tourist places like Bodh Gaya, Jammu, Mysore, Bangalore, etc; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide English type commode in trains/platforms for physically handicap passengers/ senior citizens?

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

(a) There are more than 8000 railway stations on Indian Railways with approximately 14,700 platforms. Based on the passenger earnings, these stations are categorized as 'A-I', 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E' and 'F' category. Facilities for physically handicapped passengers at stations are provided in terms of short term and long term facilities. Short term facilities are available at most of the 'A-I', 'A' and 'B' category stations which deal with approximately 75% of passenger traffic. Items under short term facilities are as under:

(i) Provision of standard ramp with railing for barrier free entry;

(ii) Earmarking at least one parking lot for two vehicles used by physically challenged persons;

- (iii) Provision of a non-slippery walkway from parking lot to building;
- (iv) Provision of signages of appropriate visibility;
- (v) Provision of at least one drinking water tap suitable for use by a disabled person;
- (vi) Provision of at least one toilet on the ground floor; and
- (vii) 'May I help You' Booth

Long Term Facilities comprise arrangements for inter-platform transfer and engraving on edges of platform. Arrangements for inter-platform transfer is available at most of the 'A-I', 'A' and 'B' category stations. These facilities are planned to be provided progressively at remaining stations after provision of short term facilities.

(b) Yes Sir. It is planned to provide 100 escalators at 50 important railway stations including Bangalore and other places of religious, historical and tourists importance.

(c) Indian Railways are manufacturing passenger coaches with special designed compartment and European toilet pans adapted to the need of physically challenged passengers/senior citizens. Public conveniences in the form of toilets for physically challenged passengers/senior citizens is available at most of the 'A-I', 'A' and 'B' category stations.

Train accidents

2991. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of train accidents that took place during the last two years and how many passengers killed therein;

(b) whether Government has identified the reasons of these accidents;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the safety measures taken by railways to prevent accidents; and

(e) the reasons for not introducing the Anti-Collision Device (ACD)

by Southern, South Central and South Western Railways?

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

(a) The number of consequential train accidents, i.e. collisions, derailments, manned level crossing accidents, fire in trains and other miscellaneous accidents during 2008-09 and 2009-10 and the number of passengers died in these accidents is given below:

Type of accident	2008-09		2009-10	
	Number of Accidents*	Number of passengers died	Number of Accidents*	Number of passengers died
Collision	13	1	09	36
Derailment	85	10	80	11
Manned Level Crossing	07	-	05	-
Fire in trains	03	31	02	-
Miscellaneous	07	10	04	-
TOTAL	115	52	100	47

* The above figures exclude cases of trespassing by road users at unmanned level crossings caused due to the negligence of road users.

(b) and (c) Cause-wise details of consequential train accidents during 2008-09 and 2009-10, excluding cases of trespassing by road users at unmanned level crossings are as under:

Cause	2008-09	2009-10
Failure of Railway Staff	76	68
Failure of persons other than Railway staff	13	14
Failure of equipment	-	1
Sabotage	13	11
Combination of factors	04	01
Incidental	05	03
Could not be established conclusively	04	02
TOTAL	115	100

(d) 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 Track Circuiting at stations, Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), Light Emitting Diode (LED) Signals, Vigilance Control Device (VCD) and pilot projects on Anti-collision Device (ACD) and Train Protection and Warning System (TPWS), etc.

(e) 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, specifications 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.

Catering service in trains

2992. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received by Government about the poor quality of food served by the private catering service providers in railways;

(b) if so, whether steps have been taken to rectify the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government considers replacing of private service providers in this sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. During the current year from January to July, 2010, about 687 complaints have been received regarding poor quality of food.

(b) and (c) 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 improving the quality of meals.

(d) and (e) As per the new Catering Policy 2010, Railways has sought to improve the quality of food served on trains / at the railway stations, through transfer of management and supervision of catering services from IRCTC to Zonal Railways.

Kolkata metro station named after Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee

2993. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any metro station in Kolkata named after Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to do so in near future?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) At present, no such proposal has been received by this Ministry.

Model railway stations

2994. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposed model railway stations where work has been started;

(b) by when the work would be started on rest of proposed railway stations like Kurukshetra etc.;

(c) the expected time to make these stations a model one; and

(d) the estimated expenditure to be incurred on these projects?

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

(a) to (d) 594 stations were identified for development as Model stations out of which 450 stations have been developed so far. Works have been taken up at Kurukshetra for its upgradation as model station. Works at other remaining stations have also been taken up. All these works are planned to be completed by March-2011.

Works of development of stations are undertaken under plan head 'Passenger Amenities' and an allocation of Rs. 1302 crore has been made under this plan head for 2010-11.

Construction of double track railway in Assam

2995. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received representations from various organizations regarding construction of double track railway in Assam and conversion of NBQ (New Bongaigaon) Workshop to a full-fledged "Coach Cum Wagon Factory";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of action taken by Government and the time by when the work of double track is likely to be started and completed?

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

(a) to (c) Some representations have been received regarding doubling of railway track in Assam and also regarding conversion of New Bongaigaon Workshop to a Coach cum Wagon Factory. Double line already exists between Samuktala Road (near New Alipurduar) to 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 which is targeted for completion during 2010-11.

The existing and planned facilities for Coach and Wagon manufacture, which also includes a new wagon factory planned at Guwahati, are adequate to meet the Railways requirement. Hence,

there is, presently, no proposal to convert New Bongaigaon Workshop to a Coach cum Wagon manufacture factory.

Implementation of Corporate Safety Plan

2996. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of money spent under Corporate Safety Plan (CSP);
- (b) whether it is a fact that more than 50 per cent of the allocation has not been spent;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government has conducted any proper review regarding implementation of the proposals in CSP?

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

(a) The total allocation of Rs. 31,835 crores under the Corporate Safety Plan is to be spent during the period 2003-2013. Rs. 29376.06 crores has been spent uptill 31.03.2010.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Upto 31.3.2010 nearly 92.27% of allocation made under the Corporate Safety Plan has been utilized.

(d) Mid-term Review was done in 2008. Review of the progress of Corporate Safety Plan works is undertaken at regular intervals at Railway Board level.

Frequency/Condition of Kerala Bound Trains

2997. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to convert the Trivandrum-Delhi Rajdhani Express and Sampark-Kranti Express into daily trains;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that coaches in these trains and other trains to Kerala are old?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Due to operational and resource constraints and traffic demand.

(c) Coaches attached to all trains on Indian Railways including those to Trivandrum-Delhi Rajdhani Express and Sampark Kranti Express and other trains to Kerala are in fit running condition.

New catering policy

2998. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has issued a new Catering Policy 2010;

(b) if so, the salient features of the policy;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the new policy had not uttered a single word for those small vendors who were evicted following the faulty Catering Policy 2005;

(d) if so, whether Government is considering to take up steps for restoration of those small vendors and contractors; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (e) A new Catering Policy 2010 has been introduced w.e.f. 21.07.2010. The salient features are as under:

- The new policy seeks to bring improvements in catering by shifting the task of monitoring quality of service from IRCTC to the Zonal Railways and attempts to leverage Zonal Railways' vast and elaborate all-India network in order to effect a thorough supervision and control over catering activities.
- Emphasis has been placed to ensure the availability of quality food for the not-so-affluent classes of passengers by providing Janata food and Jan Ahaar (economy combo-meals) by means of Refreshment Rooms, Stand alone outlets and the vending stalls.

- Supervision and monitoring has been strengthened through an institutional mechanism to be put in place by the zonal railways by deploying railway personnel, to check quality and hygiene and take corrective action in a time-bound manner. Revised Standard Bid Document with weightage to quality parameters would bring improvement in the service.
- Zonal Railways will conduct passenger satisfaction surveys by means of third party audits.
- IRCTC would continue to be a service provider to the Indian Railways and shall be responsible for managing the premium and high end outlets like Food Plazas, Food Courts and Fast Food Units; and institutional catering outside railways.
- Given the vast variety of cuisines and culinary preferences all over the country, regional cuisine has been encouraged and the zonal railways have been given the authority to design the menu, recipes and fix tariff of the a-la carte items within their jurisdiction as per the local tastes and purchasing power.
- The methodology of fixation of the License fee has been revised by adopting rational parameters.
- The issue of monopolization of contracts has been addressed by having stringent ceiling limits on holdings for each category of units.
- Given the social responsibility of the Railways and its obligations towards the under-privileged and the needy sections of the society, reservation policy as envisaged earlier is being continued.

The new Catering Policy, 2010, addresses the concern of all stake holders including small vendors. The issue of renewal / allotment of small units will now be governed as per the provision of new Catering Policy 2010.

Reservation policy for ex-cadre posts in Railways

2999. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the policy followed by Railways regarding reservation in ex-

cadre posts;

(b) the details regarding ex-cadre posts in Railways; and

(c) the details regarding ex-cadre posts filled in/appointment made during 1st January, 2005 to 1st January, 2010?

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

(a) Reservation policy does not apply to vacancies filled in ex-cadre posts on tenure basis. However, when the ex-cadre posts are filled up involving promotions, reservation rules are applicable.

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

Backlog vacancies in Railways

3000. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of backlog vacancies as on 1st January, 2010 in group A, B, C and D service post of Railways, Division-wise; and

(b) whether there is delay in filling up the backlog vacancies inspite of clear direction from the Prime Minister?

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

(a) The details of backlog vacancies of reserved posts of SC/ST/OBC as on 31st March, 2010 in Group A, B, C and D service posts on Indian Railways are indicated in the given Statement (See below).

(b) As per the instructions issued by Departmental of Personnel and Training (DOP&T), Special Recruitment Drive and Special Promotion Drive are already underway for clearing the backlog reserved vacancies.

Statement

Backlog vacancies in Railways.

Railway	Backlog Vacancies of SCs/STs/OBCs as on 31.03.2010			
	Group 'A'	Group 'B'	Group 'C'	Group 'D'
1	2	3	4	5
Central	0	0	526	1000
Eastern	0	0	1399	1015

1	2	3	4	5
Northern	0	0	898	641
North Eastern	0	0	1762	1264
Northeast Frontier	0	0	140	129
Southern	0	0	581	451
South Central	0	0	2102	1115
South Eastern	0	0	39	43
Western	0	0	765	765
East Central	0	0	1932	2221
East Coast	0	0	1008	964
North Central	0	0	32	288
North Western	0	0	668	422
South Western	0	0	885	1112
West Central	0	0	749	116
South East Central	0	0	48	36
Chittaranjan Locomotive Works	0	0	0	0
Diesel Locomotive Works	0	0	232	144
Diesel Loco Modernisation Works	0	0	7	0
Integral Coach Factory	0	0	135	116
Rail Coach Factory	0	0	33	121
Rail Wheel Factory	0	0	14	44
Metro	0	0	0	0
RDSO/Lucknow	0	0	20	1
TOTAL :	0	0	13975	12008

Automatic signalling system

3001. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Automatic Signalling System will augment the travelling frequency in railway lines;

(b) if so, whether Government will take steps to install it in Thiruvananthapuram Thrissur sector in Kerala; and

(c) whether any cost evaluation study has been done by Railways for installing Automatic Signalling System and the details thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The present traffic on Thiruvananthapuram - Thirissur section does not justify Automatic Block Signalling. The works of patch doubling on Ernakulam-Kottayam- Kayankulam section and of Intermediate Block Signalling on Ernakulam-Thirissur and Kayankulam- Thiruvananthapuram in 8 block sections that are in progress, will be sufficient for the required capacity.

(c) No, Sir.

More trains for passengers commuting between NCR and Delhi

†3002. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to introduce new local trains/increasing their frequency and providing stops of Express/Mail trains at smaller stations for the passengers commuting from and to National Capital Region Delhi, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to introduce local trains and to provide stops of Mail/Express trains particularly at Anand Vihar, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Gurgaon, Faridabad, Palwal etc. given the long frequency gap of local trains on these routes, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):
(a) and (b) Delhi-Panipat Matribhoomi EMU Speciar (Six days a week) has
been announced in the Railway

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

budget 2010-11. Introduction of additional local trains is not feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints. The following trains have been announced in the Railway Budget 2010-11 with stoppages in NCR area:-

(I) Introductions

1. Delhi-Panipat Matribhoomi EMU Special with stoppage at all station.
2. 9601/9602 Kishanganj-Ajmer Express with stoppages at Delhi, Delhi Cantt., Gurgaon & Rewari.
3. 9603/9604 Sultanpur-Ajmer Express with stoppages at Delhi & Rewari.
4. 2911/2912 Valsad-Haridwar with stoppages at Nizamuddin, Ghaziabad, & Meerut.
5. 2171/2172 Lokmanya Tilak (T)-Haridwar AC Express with stoppages at Meerut City, Nizamuddin & Agra Cantt.
6. 2549/2550 Durg-Jammu Tawi Express with stoppages at Delhi Safdarjung & Agra Cantt.
7. 4011/4012 Anand Vihar-Kathgodam Express with stoppage at Ghaziabad.
8. 2457/2458 Delhi Sarai Rohilla-Bikaner Express with stoppages at Delhi Cantt., Gurgaon & Rewari.

(II) Increase in frequency

1. 2215/2216 Bandra Terminus -Delhi Sarai Rohilla Express from 3 days to 4 days with stoppages at Delhi, Delhi Centt., Gurgaon & Rewari.
2. 2807/2808 Visakhapatnam-Nizamuddin Samta Express from 3 days to 5 days with stoppages at Agra Cantt., Raja-Ki-Mandi, Mathura Jn. & Faridabad.
3. 4705/4706 Delhi Sarai Rohilla-Sadulpur Express from 3 days to 6 days with stoppages at Delhi Cantt., Gurgaon, Pataudi Road & Rewari.
4. 2981/2982 Udaipur City- Delhi Sarai Rohilla Express from 3 days to 4 days with stoppages at Delhi Cantt., Gurgaon & Rewari.
5. 2447/2448 Manikpur- Nizamuddin Uttar Pradesh Sampark Kranti Express from 3 days to Daily with stoppages at Agra Cantt., & Mathura.

Introduction of new trains

3003. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new trains introduced during last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of trains which got their frequency increased during last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether (a) and (b) above have not put pressure on Railways running stock; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to address the issue of adequate manpower and maintenance facilities?

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

(a) and (b) The number of new trains introduced in the last three years i.e. from 2007-08 to 2009-10, year-wise are as under:

(Trains in single)			
Year	New Trains		Increase in
	Suburban	Non Suburban	(Non Suburban)
2007-08	162	192	56
2008-09	235	279	86
2009-10	132	213	34

(c) and (d) New trains are introduced and increase in frequency of existing trains done on the basis of, inter alia, availability of resources, including rolling stock. Investments to provide adequate manpower and maintenance facilities is an ongoing process over the Indian railways.

Vacant posts in Railways

3004. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of different categories of railway employees

lying vacant as on 30th June, 2010;

- (b) since when these posts are lying vacant;
- (c) the reasons for not filling up of these posts;
- (d) whether existing railways operation staff is under pressure because of shortage of staff; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken to accelerate recruitment in the Railway especially for operational posts?

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

(a) As per the available data the number of vacant posts of different categories of railway employees, on the Zonal Railways, as on 01.04.2009 is as under:

(i) Safety Categories	89024
(ii) Other than Safety Categories	79085

(b) to (e) Arising of vacancies is a continuous process due to normal retirements, voluntary retirements, deaths, promotions or creations of posts etc. The Railways are committed to filling up vacant posts, promptly as per the laid down procedure. Vacancies notwithstanding, the efficiency parameters including employee productivity have been showing an increasing trend over the years due to adoption of new technology and rationalize maintenance practices. Steps taken to accelerate the recruitment process includes streamlining of the working of Railway Recruitment Boards, undertaking technical audit of the examination system and also holding of examinations for a particular post on the same date simultaneously by all the Railway Recruitment Boards.

Free travel by cancer patients

†3005. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to allow cancer patients to travel 100 per cent free by train;
- (b) if so, the date from which this decision has been implemented and whether public have been made aware about this; and
- (c) if so, the papers that the cancer patients have to deposit with

Railways at the time of getting reservation and the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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

(a) Yes, Sir. 100% concession in Sleeper and 3-AC classes has been granted to cancer patients.

(b) The above concession is admissible with effect from 20.4.2010. This information has been disseminated through the media and also uploaded on the Railways website.

(c) Concessional tickets are issued directly at the stations on production of the prescribed certificate from the concerned hospital. Concession in rail travel is admissible to Cancer patients when they are going alone or with escort to a recognized hospital on being called for treatment/check up and return thereafter.

Construction of New Paadchari Bridge at Virar

†3006. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Paadchari bridge at Virar in Mumbai is in state of collapsing as it has become very old and it may cause a big accident; and

(b) if so, whether Government is going to construct a new Paadchari bridge after closing this old bridge?

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

(a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Vacancies in Railways

3007. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is a large number of vacancies in Railways, including more than 26,000 of drivers and 20,000 related to railway safety, if so, details thereof;

(b) whether Railways has enhanced infrastructure, including running staff and safety personnel, proportionate to increased number of trains and services in last few years, if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether any steps are being taken or contemplated to provide minimum infrastructure, including adequate technical staff, commensurate with number of trains and services maintained by Railways, if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) The details of vacancies as on 01.04.2009 is as under:

(i) Loco Pilots	7190
(ii) Other safety categories	81834

(b) and (c) Up-gradation of infrastructure and addition to facilities is a continuous process. Works are sanctioned every year keeping in view increase/up-gradation of operation and maintenance facilities including additional holding of locos. While periodic crew review is undertaken based on additional traffic requirement, other essential and safety category posts are created depending on the need.

Survey of new railway lines in North-eastern region

3008. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposed survey of new railway lines in North-Eastern States in details; and

(b) the present status of survey, along with progress?

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

(a) and (b) Details of ongoing surveys for new rail lines in the North Eastern Region along with status is as under:

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Kms	Progress
1	2	3	4
1.	Barpeta Road-Tihu	58	50%
2.	Chaparmukh-Dibrugarh	350	10%
3.	Dangri-Dhola	6	5%
4.	Jogighopa to Guwahati via Barpeta-Sarthebari	120	10%

1	2	3	4
5.	Lalabazar-Vairengte	20	5%
6.	Lekhapani - Khar sang	31	5%
7.	Naganimora-Amguri	30	5%
8.	North Lakhimpur along Silapathar	210	15%
9.	Rupai-Parshuramkund via Mahadevpur, Namsai, Chingkhram	98	5%
10.	Sarthabari to Changasari	60	5%
11.	Tuli-Tuli Town	9.15	85%

Militant attacks on Railways in Assam

3009. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways is on the target of various militants organization active in Assam region and if so, the number of militants' attacks made upon trains passing through Assam region during the past one year;

(b) the number of people killed in these attacks and loss of property and overall loss of Railways therein; and

(c) the details of measures taken to protect Railways from active militants' groups in Assam and whether these measures are sufficient?

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

(a) Railways is sometime targeted by various militant organizations in Assam region. A total of 10 incidents of militant attacks on trains passing through Assam region were reported during the year 2009.

(b) In these incidents, 08 people were killed, 41 people injured and Railway property worth Rs. 2,57,500/- was damaged during the year 2009.

(c) 'Policing on Railways' is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases and their investigation in Railway are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments concerned

which they discharge through their Government Railway Police (GRP) and Civil Police. Railways bear 50% cost of expenditure on the Government Railway Police. As such Railway has to depend largely on the State Governments.

Important and major Railway bridges are guarded round the clock by state police personnel in Assam region.

In addition to the above, following security measures have been adopted jointly by Railways, Civil Police and Government Railway Police:

- i) All important mail / express / passenger trains are being escorted by Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police.
- ii) Vulnerable sections of Railway track are covered by security patrolling by motor trolley as well as on foot by Civil Police, Railway Gang men etc.
- iii) Anti-sabotage checking with the help of sniffer dogs is intensified in important trains at Railway stations, passenger areas etc. by GRP and RPF.
- iv) Access control system has been strengthened at important Railway stations.
- v) Piloting of important passenger trains is done during emergency / crisis etc.
- vi) Joint Control Rooms are activated at Lumding, Guwahati, Rangiya and New Bongaigaon during emergency situation to monitor timely dissemination of information for the safety and security of the Railway tracks and trains etc.
- vii) Integrated Security System at 16 important Railway stations are being implemented.

Temporary filling up of vacant posts

3010. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total vacancies in Railways, zone-wise and whether these posts are actually vacant or the G.M. of these zones under the power

delegated to them have already engaged temporary workers to manage the work;

(b) if so, how many workers in Railways have been engaged temporarily by railway GMs, zone-wise and post-wise; and

(c) whether in future these temporary workers would be regularized or posts would be filled up by regular recruitment process?

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

(a) to (c) The actual vacancies on the zonal railways as on 01.04.2009 are given below:

Zones	Vacancies as on 01.04.09
Central	11202
Eastern	12733
East Central	17042
East Coast	9707
Northern	19013
North Central	9045
North Eastern	5693
Northeast Frontier	8875
North Western	7275
Southern	7858
South Central	10469
South Eastern	11561
South East Central	9866
South Western	8549
Western	10831
West Central	8390
TOTAL	168109

General Managers on the Railways have been delegated the power by the Ministry of Railways to engage substitutes in small numbers in exigencies of service when the post cannot be kept vacant and to avoid the railway services getting adversely affected. The substitutes, so engaged, are subsequently regularized against the regular posts.

Vacancies in regular posts are filled up through open market recruitment as per extant instructions by Railway Recruitment Board's (RRBs) for Group 'C' category and by Railway Recruitment Cells (RRCs) of Zonal Railways for erstwhile Group 'D'.

Selection of physically handicapped persons

3011. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that physically handicapped persons who appeared for the railway interview in East Coast Railway Zone, got selected and called for scrutiny and Medical Board have not given the appointment order till date;

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

(c) by when they will get the appointment order?

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

(a) to (c) The process of recruitment on Physically handicapped quota against Employment Notice No.PH/03&04/2005 dated 13.04.2005 of East Coast Railway is now under Vigilance investigation.

World class station at Bhubaneswar

3012. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present progress of implementation of the proposed World Class Station at Bhubaneswar; and

(b) the reasons for lack of progress?

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

(a) and (b) Bhubaneswar Railway Station has been identified for development into world class station

through PPP (Public Private Partnership) mode, by leveraging the land around and the air space above the station. Preliminary activities have been undertaken and no timelines have been decided as yet.

Electrification of railway lines in Tamil Nadu

3013. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any project for electrification of railway lines is pending in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total number of kilometers (lines) in which electrification has been done for the last three years in the State of Tamil Nadu?

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

(a) and (b) Following Railway Electrification projects are in progress in the State of Tamil Nadu:

Name of the Project	Year of inclusion in Budget	Route Kilometres in (Rs. crores) Tamil Nadu (RKM)	Cost
Tiruchchirappalli-Madurai (154 RKM)	2007-08	154	125.85
Ernakulam-Trivendrum incl. Trivendrum-Kanyakumari & Trichur-Guruvayur (429 RKM)	1999-2000/ 2007-08	57	266.54
Madurai-Tuticorin-Nagercoil (262 RKM)	2008-09	262	175.46
Vellore Cantonment - Villupuram (141 RKM)	December 2008	141	97.26

(c) 336 Route Kilometres of rail lines have been electrified during the last three years i.e. from 2007-08 to 2009-10 in the State of Tamil Nadu.

Catering service in trains

3014. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Board has decided to take over management of all mobile catering services including kitchens due to rising complaints about poor food quality provided in railway stations and in trains;

(b) if so, whether Railway Board would set up mechanism to supervise all mobile catering services in stations and trains; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the new Catering Policy 2010 introduced w.e.f. 21.07.2010, Railways has sought to improve the quality of food served on trains / at the railway stations, through transfer of management of catering services from IRCTC to Zonal Railways. The Catering Policy 2010 has also emphasized supervision and monitoring through an institutional mechanism put in place by the Zonal Railways by deploying railway personnel, who would check quality and hygiene and take corrective action in a time-bound manner. Standard Bid Document would be redesigned to provide with adequate weightages for quality parameters.

Setting up of air-conditioned container factory

†3015. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to set up an air-conditioned container factory in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of amount likely to be spent by Government to set up this factory; and

(d) the time by when this factory would be operational?

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

(a) to (d) It is proposed to set up a refrigerated container factory on a Public Private Partnership mode at

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Budge Budge. Various options are presently being explored and the Public Private Partnership model is yet to be finalised.

Rail link from Hoshiarpur to Pathankot

3016. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there exists a rail link from Hoshiarpur to Pathankot via Jalandhar;

(b) whether there is a demand from the public at large to start DMU service from Hoshiarpur to Pathankot;

(c) if so, by when it would get started; and

(d) whether it is fact that no additional economic burden would be born, if this train is started?

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

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There exists a rail link from Hoshiarpur to Pathankot via Jalandhar and requests to start train services have been received. However, presently there is no proposal to introduce DMU service from Hoshiarpur to Pathankot.

(d) Running of any additional train depends upon availability of resources, manpower, operational feasibility and commercial justification.

Beautification of Ghaziabad railway station

3017. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan for beautification and upgradation of Ghaziabad/New Ghaziabad railway stations in the wake of Commonwealth Games, 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is also aware that there is no sitting space for VVIPs at the station;

(d) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

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

(a) to (e) Ghaziabad and New Ghaziabad are 'A' and 'D' category stations respectively wherein all essential amenities as per norms have been provided. Upgradation and beautification of a station is a continuous exercise and works in this regard are undertaken based on increase in passenger traffic and relative priorities. The work of upgradation/beautification of Ghaziabad station has already been completed. Keeping in view upcoming Commonwealth Games, works for provision of LED based information system for seat availability, fare display, time table display and coach guidance have also been taken up at Ghaziabad station.

For sitting of VVIPs, arrangements exist in the office of Area officer/Ghaziabad. In addition, ladies & gents upper class waiting rooms are available at Ghaziabad railway station.

Mumbai urban transport project Phase-I

3018. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mumbai Urban Transport Project, Phase-1 (MUTP) has not been completed so far;

(b) the date of sanctioning the project, original cost and original schedule for completion;

(c) the reasons for not completing the project as per schedule and steps taken to complete it; and

(d) the revised cost of the project and also the revised schedule for completion?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP) Phase-I was sanctioned in the Railway Budget of 2003-04 with an original cost of Rs.

3125 crore. It was scheduled to be completed by June, 2008. Project was delayed due to following two major reasons:

i) Resettlement & Rehabilitation (R&R) of project affected persons and evacuation of unauthorized encroachments on railway land which was got cleared in the year 2009.

ii) To avoid overrun of cost it was decided to manufacture EMU cars in Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai instead of import. The first EMU rake was received in November, 2007.

Now Resettlement & Rehabilitation (R&R) work has been completed and the production at Integral Coach Factory (ICF), has also picked up.

(d) The cost of the project has been restructured at Rs.4174 crore. The project is now expected to be completed by June, 2011.

Change of platform at the eleventh hour

†3019. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of changing platforms of trains at railway stations in Delhi at the last moment, till date since May, 2010;

(b) the reasons for each such incident and the number of persons died and injured in such incidents;

(c) the names of such officers who were found guilty in each such incident and the action taken against them; and

(d) the arrangements made to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

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

(a) to (c) There has been no incident of changing platform of trains at Railway Station in Delhi at the last moment since May 2010. However, 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.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) The following steps are being taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents:

1. 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.
2. Better crowd management through effective use of Public Address System and Electronic Surveillance System at important Railway stations.
3. Restriction of issuing platform tickets in specific periods especially during summer rush/festive seasons.
4. Deployment of additional staff during peak rush periods.

Security at sensitive railway stations

3020. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways has identified a number of railway stations in the country as sensitive;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has constituted any Committee to study and to upgrade the security system in the sensitive railway stations across the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time-frame fixed for implementing the said scheme?

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

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A 7 member Committee was nominated by the Ministry of Railways. Based on recommendations of this Committee and further deliberations, an Integrated Security System has been approved for installation at 202 vulnerable stations of the Country. The Integrated Security System comprises of following broad areas:

(i) Internet protocol based CCTV surveillance system.

(ii) Access control

(iii) Personal and baggage screening system

(iv) Bomb Detection and Disposal System

The total cost is estimated as Rs. 353 crores for which budgetary allocation has been provided in works programme. Given that these systems will be installed on the Railways for the first time, a firm implementation schedule will be drawn up only after few contracts are finalized, However tenders have been called for most of the locations.

Earmarking of stations for allotment of Curio/Miscellaneous articles contract

3021. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of stations on Northern Railway, with names, earmarked for Reserve Category and General Category for allotment of curio/miscellaneous articles contract;

(b) the details of contractors, with name of stations, who are holding curio/miscellaneous articles contract at Northern Railway at present; and

(c) the details of items permitted for sale to the curio/miscellaneous articles contractor at the station?

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.

New railway line between Aligarh and Kasganj

3022. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a project of laying new railway line between Aligarh and Kasganj was announced; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the status of the progress made in executing the project and the time-frame of completion of the project?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Stoppage of trains at Rajahmundry station

3023. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trains which stop at Rajahmundry in South Central Railway everyday;

(b) the details of reservation quota available on the express and super fast trains and Duronto Trains at Rajahmundry Railway Station;

(c) whether it is a fact that quota for reservation of berths at Rajahmundry has remained stagnant on trains plying in the South Central Railways;

(d) whether Government proposes to meet the passenger demands for more berths at Rajahmundry and Tadepalligudem Railway Stations; and

(e) the steps proposed to increase trains in that area?

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

(a) At present, 38 daily Mail/Express and 58 non-daily Mail/Express trains and 22 daily Passenger trains are stopping at Rajahmundry in South Central Railway.

(b) Under computerized Passenger Reservation System (PRS), station specific quotas are not provided. Rajahmundry station has computerized reservation facility from where passengers can book berths for all classes for 38 daily Express trains and 58 non daily Express trains. Duronto Express is a non stop end-to-end service.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Access to additional reserved accommodation has become available for Rajahmundry and Tadepalligudem with the introduction of 8 Mail/Express trains and 2 Mail/Express trains serving these stations respectively during the last three years.

(e) Introduction of Haldia-Chennai Express and extension of 1405/1406 Kakinada-Manmad Express and 7205/7206 Kakinada-Manmad Express to Shirdi have been announced in the Railway Budget 2010-11.

Unmanned railway crossings

3024. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be

pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of unmanned railway crossings in India;
- (b) the number of unmanned railway crossings in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to reduce the number of unmanned railways crossings and details thereof;
- (d) the expenditure incurred towards improvement of safety in railways and details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government has conducted a safety-audit of all railway crossings and details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) As on 01.04.2010, there are 15,993 unmanned level crossings in India including 1,082 in Tamil Nadu.

(c) It has been stated in 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. 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).

(d) Details of expenditure against Road Safety Works during last three years are as under:

(Figures in crore)

Years	Expenditure
2007-08	534
2008-09	566
2009-10	901

(e) As per laid down norms/schedules of inspection, the safety inspection of all Railway level crossings over Indian Railways has been done. The Safety Audit of selective railways crossings has also been conducted.

Encroachment of railway land

3025. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether large extent of Railways land has been encroached in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, zone-wise;

(c) whether Railways has prepared any action plan to vacate the encroached land;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government is also planning to commercialize the unused railway land to mobilize funds for development; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) Indian Railways have approximately 10.65 lakh acre of land, out of which only 2460 acres of land, which constitutes 0.23% of total land holding, is under encroachment. Zone-wise details of encroachment are given in statement (see below).

(c) and (d) Railways are engaged in a continuous exercise to remove encroachments from railway land as per provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971. Protection of railway land from encroachment is done by providing boundary wall or fencing and tree plantation.

(e) and (f) The first charge on utilization of unused railway land is for railways own developmental works such as doubling, gauge conversion, yard remodeling & traffic facility works as well as servicing the track and other infrastructure. In addition, this land is required, wherever feasible, for setting up of railways infrastructural works.

Vacant land which is not required by railways for its own immediate operational needs, is also utilized for commercial development, wherever feasible. In this regard, Indian Railways have set up Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) to undertake commercial development and so far, 135 sites measuring 3761 acres have been entrusted to RLDA for this purpose.

Statement

Zone-wise details of encroachments, as on 31.03.2010 are given below:

Railway Zones	Area (in Acre) under encroachments
Central	158
Eastern	53
East Central	25
East Coast	61
Northern	545
North Central	123
North Eastern	70
Northeast Frontier	417
North Western	47
Southern	155
South Central	35
South Eastern	403
Southeast Central	121
South Western	40
Western	105
West Central	102
Total	2460

Encroachment on railway land

3026. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway land around rail tracks have been illegally encroached at many places;

(b) if so, the details thereof in respect of metros and Zonal headquarters of Railways;

(c) the action taken to remove encroachers and success achieved;

(d) whether such pieces of land can be used for gainful purposes without hampering operation of railways; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and Government's views thereon?

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

(a) and (b) Presently about 120 acre of land around railway tracks in the zonal headquarters of the railway zones and metropolitan cities is under encroachment.

(c) Railways are engaged in a continuous exercise to remove encroachments from their land as per provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971. During the last three years ending 31.03.2010, approximately 25 acre of encroached land in these areas has been got vacated.

(d) and (e) Such land is essentially required for railways own developmental works for through enhancement like doubling, yard remodeling, traffic facilities as well as for servicing the track and other infrastructure.

Spending on advertisements

†3027. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of advertisements issued to different language newspapers by organizations coming under Ministry of Railways/regional Railways during financial years 2004-05 to 2008-09; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the details of the amount of advertisements issued to English, Hindi, Urdu and other language newspapers respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):
(a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

New catering policy

3028. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of salient features of the new catering policy in Railways;

(b) whether the nature of complaints received with regard to the deteriorating quality of food served in various trains has been adequately addressed to in the new policy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):
(a) The Catering Policy 2010 has laid emphasis on ensuring quality of food served on Railways. The salient features are as under:

- The proposed policy seeks to entrust the supervision and management of mobile catering services from IRCTC to the Zonal Railways and attempts to leverage Zonal Railways' vast and elaborate all-India network.
- Emphasis has been placed to ensure the availability of quality food for the not-so-affluent classes of passengers by providing Janata food and Jan Ahaar (economy combo-meals) by means of Refreshment Rooms, Stand alone outlets and the vending stalls.
- Quality Initiatives for effecting improvements in mobile catering, an all-India grid of base kitchens is being planned. These kitchens will be state-of-the art incorporating the best technology available, and will be constructed within the Railway premises, so as to ensure a better supervision and smooth logistics.

- Supervision and monitoring has been strengthened through an institutional mechanism to be put in place by the zonal railways by deploying railway personnel, who would check quality and

hygiene and take corrective action in a time-bound manner. Standard Bid Document will be redesigned with weightage to quality parameters.

- Zonal Railways will conduct passenger satisfaction surveys by means of third party audits.
- IRCTC would continue to be a service provider to the Indian Railways and shall be responsible for managing the premium and high end outlets like Food Plazas, Food Courts and Fast Food Units; and institutional catering outside railways.
- Given the vast variety of cuisines and culinary preferences all over the country, regional cuisine is being encouraged and the zonal railways are being given the authority to design the menu, recipes and fix tariff of the a-la carte items within their jurisdiction as per the local tastes and purchasing power.
- The methodology of fixation of the License fee has been revised by adopting rational parameters.
- The issue of monopolization of contracts has been addressed by having stringent ceiling limits on holdings for each category of units.
- Given the social responsibility of the Railways and its obligations towards the under-privileged and the needy sections of the society, reservation policy as envisaged earlier is being continued.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The new catering policy 2010 seeks to address the issues concerning the complaints arising due to deterioration in the quality of food served in trains. The supervision and monitoring of catering will be adequately strengthened by means of an institutionalized mechanism setup at various organizational level. Regional cuisine will be popularized onboard and zonal railways have been delegated sufficient powers to design the menu keeping in mind the quality and local culinary preferences. The mode of selection of service providers is being reformed by having a standard bid document for selection based on due weightage to quality and technical parameters.

Suspensions of night train services in Maoist hit areas

3029. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased

to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has suspended night run of passenger trains in maoist hit areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures Government is taking for safety of tracks and passengers?

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

(a) and (b) Running of passenger carrying trains have been regulated during night hours, between Tatanagar and Kharagpur and Kharagpur and Adra for the safety & security of passengers in view of increase in Left wing extremist activities.

(c) 'Policing on Railways' is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are, therefore the statutory responsibility of the State police, which they discharge through the Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. However, to provide better security to the travelling passengers in trains and passenger areas, the RPF Act, 1957 and the Railways Act, 1989 have been amended in the year 2003 to enable the Railways, through the Railway Protection Force, to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways.

Construction of bridge in Raipur

†3030. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time schedule to construct the "Mowa" bridge in Raipur, Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether there is delay in its construction;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

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

(a) to (d) The "Mowa" bridge in Raipur, Chhattisgarh is scheduled for completion by March' 2011. Presently there does not appear to be any likelihood of delay for realization of the target.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Stoppage of trains at unviable stations

3031. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is losing crores of rupees per year owing to uneconomic stops of trains at railway stations;

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

(c) whether the stoppages of trains on unviable stations are also posing serious security threats;

(d) whether anti-national elements mostly enter the trains from such unviable stations;

(e) if so, whether Government proposes to review its policy to provide halt of trains at unviable stations; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) No, Sir. Such data is not maintained by Indian Railways.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Restructuring of SAIL

3032. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for restructuring the SAIL is pending before the Appointment Committee of Cabinet for its nod;

(b) whether clearance of the Committee will be expedited; and

(c) if so, whether SAIL will launch its 20 per cent share sale plan to enable it to generate rupees 16,000 crore by the third quarter of current fiscal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal for restructuring the Board of Directors of the Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) with a view to streamlining it as per the operational needs of the company is under active

consideration.

(c) The Government has decided to disinvest 10% of its shareholding in SAIL and for raising of 10% of additional equity by SAIL, in two discrete tranches to be issued at appropriate times in consideration of SEBI guidelines and prevailing market conditions. The actual amount that would be raised through disinvestment as well as from Further Public Offer would depend upon a number of factors including *inter-alia* the prevailing market conditions, share price and investors' interest.

Payment of arrears of wage revision

3033. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether arrears due to wage revision from 1 January, 1997 to 31 December, 2006 have been paid to the staff members of all units of Steel Authority of India Ltd.; and

(b) if not, by when the employees of SAIL, ISP Burnpur unit will be paid their arrears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP):

(a) and (b) Payments of Wage/Salary Revision effective from 1.1.1997 have been made to all employees of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)'s Plants/Units, except IISCO Steel Plant (ISP), which as erstwhile Indian Iron and Steel Company Ltd. (IISCO) was a subsidiary and later got merged with SAIL from 1.4.2005. The proposal for payment of arrears on account of wage revision effective from 1.1.1997 to ISP employees as received from SAIL was examined and had not been agreed to by the Government. No proposal as approved by the SAIL Board for reconsideration of the matter has been received in the Ministry so far.

Development of Rajkot airport at railway land

3034. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal received by Railways from Ministry of Civil Aviation to hand over unused land of Railways to AAI for development of Rajkot airport; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to resolve this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. Ahammed):
(a) and (b) A request was received by Railways from Airport Authority of
India (AAI) for leasing of railway

land measuring 14.7 hectare for extension of runway at Rajkot Airport. AAI has been requested to submit a comprehensive proposal with their consent to bear the cost of shifting of existing structures and lease charges as per railways' extant policy.

Perspective planning for production of steel

3035. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the ratio of import and indigenous availability of steel during 2008 and 2009;

(b) whether there is any perspective planning for the Twelfth and Thirteenth Five Year Plan periods which will enable indigenously produced steel to meet increasing requirements of the country by 2020; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to have Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) to ensure optimum utilization of vast natural resources or 'iron ore', 'metal' etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP):

(a) Data on import, indigenous availability and ratio of import to indigenous availability of finished steel during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 are as under:

Year	Finished Steel (in million tonnes)		
	Import	Indigenous availability	Ratio of (a) to (b)
	(a)	(b)	
2008-09	5.84	58.57	9.9
2009-10*	7.29	63.75	11.4

Source: Joint Plant Committee (JPC); *=provisional

(b) Currently, the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) is in progress. Work for the Twelfth and Thirteenth Five Year Plans has not yet started.

(c) No, Sir. There is no proposal for Public-Private-Partnership in the steel sector as steel is a de-regulated sector and choice of factors

such as location, capacity, technology and product-mix of steel projects are decided by the investors based on commercial criteria.

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

RE: ASSURANCE TO GIVE FULL PROTECTION TO THE
SIKH COMMUNITY IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, मैंने एक विशेष उल्लेख का नोटिस दिया है ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : अभी आप बैठिए, पहले पेपर्स lay करने दीजिए ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL (Punjab): They are being forced to leave the Valley. ... (Interruptions) ... This concerns the security of the whole nation. ... (Interruptions) ... A strong message should go from this House. ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब) : यह बहुत सीरियस मामला है ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : पहले पेपर्स lay करने दीजिए ... (व्यवधान) ... आपको नोटिस देना पड़ेगा ... (व्यवधान) ... आपने नोटिस क्यों नहीं दिया ... (व्यवधान) ... Have you given notice? ... (Interruptions) ... Have you given notice? ... (Interruptions) ... आपने नोटिस क्यों नहीं दिया ... (व्यवधान) ... आप सुबह नोटिस दे सकते थे ... (व्यवधान) ... What prevented you from giving notice? ... (Interruptions) ... Ravi Shankar Prasadji, I can understand. ... (Interruptions) ... I agree but what prevented you from giving notice? ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया (झारखंड) : सरकार बयान दे कि जो अल्पसंख्यक हैं ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What prevented you from giving notice? ... (Interruptions) ... Mr. Ahluwalia, please sit down. ... (Interruptions) ... We have admitted it for Zero Hour in the name of Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy under the heading 'threat to Sikhs in the Kashmir Valley'. It is coming during Zero Hour. ... (Interruptions) ...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, the point is very simple. We don't want to have a discussion on this, we want an assurance from the Government. ... (Interruptions) ... On Independence Day, the Prime Minister declared from the ramparts of the Red Fort that Kashmir is part and parcel of India. ... (Interruptions) ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We have admitted it. ... (Interruptions) ...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: We want a response from the Government today.
...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I would like the Government
...(Interruptions)...

श्री बलबीर पुंज (उड़ीसा) : कश्मीर घाटी में पहले 5 लाख पंडितों को निकाला गया, अब सिखों को निकाला जा रहा है ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Where is the Minister? ...(Interruptions)...

श्री बलबीर पुंज : उपसभापति जी, आप तो हमारी पीड़ा समझिए ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Government may examine and get back to the House. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, are you informing the Government?
...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have said that on this issue if they want to react, they may react. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: People are being asked to get converted to Islam.
...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति : गुजराल साहब, आप क्या कर रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान).... मैं कह रहा हूँ कि रूडी साहब का जीरो ऑवर मेशन admitted है ...(व्यवधान).... आप क्या चाहते हैं बताइए ...(व्यवधान).... मेरी समझ में यह बात नहीं आ रही है ...(व्यवधान).... मैं कह रहा हूँ कि रूडी साहब का जीरो ऑवर मेशन admitted है, उस वक्त आप यह बात कह सकते हैं ...(व्यवधान)....

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: You should direct the Government that they come back to the House and give a statement. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have already said. You have not listened. I have said it. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विनय कटियार (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, आपकी बात सही है कि रूडी साहब का जीरो ऑवर मेशन है, लेकिन कभी-कभी देश में ऐसे विषय होते हैं ...(व्यवधान)....

श्री उपसभापति : आप लोग बोलते जा रहे हैं, लेकिन मुझे बोलने का मौका ही नहीं देते ...(व्यवधान).... आप डिस्कस कीजिए ...(व्यवधान).... Nothing will go on record.....

श्री विनय कटियार : *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The External Affairs Minister wants to react.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister of External Affairs wants to react.
आप बैठ जाइए।

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Government wants to react. आपने कहा कि गवर्नमेंट का reaction चाहिए, When Government wants to react, you say, 'What can he say?' The Government wants to react. ...(Interruptions)... Please, ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Rudy, your Zero Hour is coming. In the meantime, they have raised this, what can I do?

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Seelam, you please go back to your seat. Please maintain silence. This is a very serious subject.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): Sir, it is a fact that Government of India has always taken the position that Jammu and Kashmir is part and parcel of the Republic of India. There is no ambiguity about it and we are not open to any talks about this position. So, everyone. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री अनिल माधव दवे : *

SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Well, the protection of minorities is the concern of the Government and India will strive every now and then to see that minorities, wherever they are, will be protected. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति : इसको जीरो ऑवर में ले रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)... आप क्या चाहते हैं?
...(व्यवधान)... Papers laid on the Table. Shri Dinsha Patel.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**Statements (3rd quarter of 2009-10, end of 2009-10 and 1st quarter
of 2010-11) on Quarterly Review of the trends in receipts
and expenditure in relation to Budget**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (1) of Section 7 of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

*Not recorded.

- (i) Statement on Quarterly Review of the trends in receipts and expenditure in relation to the Budget for the third quarter of the financial year 2009-10.
- (ii) Statement on Quarterly Review of the trends in receipts and expenditure in relation to the Budget at the end of the financial year 2009-10.
- (iii) Statement on Quarterly Review of the trends in receipts and expenditure in relation to the Budget at the end of the first Quarter of the financial year 2010-11.

I. Report and Accounts (2009-10) of CGTMSE, Mumbai and related papers.

II. MoU (2010-11) between Government of India and NSIC

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

- (i) (a) Tenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE), Mumbai, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) and the National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC), for the year 2010-11. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2873/15/10]

Report and Accounts (2008-09) of IPFT, Gurgaon and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHRIKANT JENA): Sir, I to lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

- (a) Eighteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Institute of Pesticide

Formulation Technology (IPFT), Gurgaon, for the year 2008-09,
together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2945/15/10]

**Report and Accounts (2006-07 and 2007-08) of RLDA,
New Delhi and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED):
Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), New Delhi, for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on the-Accounts.
- (b) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), New Delhi, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Authority.
- (d) Statements giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) and (b) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2946/15/10]

Reports and Accounts (2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09) of various Universities, Technology Institutes, Bharat Shiksha Kosh, Mahila Samaklya Societies, Language Institute, Indian School of Mines, Serva Shiksha Abhiyan, Management, Educational, Planning Institutes and Missions 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 papers, under sub-section (3) of Section 31 of the University of

Allahabad Act, 2005:-

(a) Annual Report of the University of Allahabad, Allahabad,
for

the year 2008-09.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above
University.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3024/15/10]

(ii) (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 19 of the Jawaharlal Nehru University Act, 1966:-

(a) Thirty-ninth Annual Report of the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3023/15/10]

A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

(iii) (a) Annual Accounts of the Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, for the year 2008-09, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 36 of the Visva Bharati (Amendment) Act, 1984.

(b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3022/15/10]

(iv) (a) Annual Report of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee - Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management (ABV-IIIT&M), Gwalior, for the year 2008-09.

(b) Annual Accounts of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee-Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management (ABV-IIIT&M), Gwalior, for the year 2008-09 and the Audit Report thereon.

(c) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

(d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) and (b) above. [Placed in Library.

See No. L.T. 2927/15/10]

- (v) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Allahabad, for the year 2008-09.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Allahabad, for the year 2008-09 and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iii) (a) and (b) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2926/15/10]
- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Shiksha Kosh (BSK), for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iv) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2930/15/10]
- (vii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Shiksha Kosh (BSK), for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (v) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2931/15/10]
- (viii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Shiksha Kosh (BSK), for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (vi) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2932/15/10]
- (ix) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bihar Mahila Samakhya

Society, Patna, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (vii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2935/15/10]

(x) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Kerala Mahila Samakhya Society, Trivandrum, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (viii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2934/15/10]
- (xi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Institute of Classical Tamil (CICT), Chennai, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ix) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2924/15/10]
- (xii) (a) Annual Report of the Indian School of Mines (ISM), Dhanbad, for the year 2008-09.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Indian School of Mines (ISM), Dhanbad, for the year 2008-09 and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (c) Review by Government on the working of the above School.
 - (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (x) (a) and (b) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2938/15/10]
- (xiii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Lakshadweep Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan State Mission Authority, Lakshadweep, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xi) (a) and above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2930/15/10]

- (xiv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Union Territory Mission Authority, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2925/15/10]
- (xv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Union Territory Mission Authority, Puducherry, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xiii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3026/15/10]
- (xvi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rajiv Gandhi Indian Institute of Management (RGIIM), Shillong, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xiv) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2937/15/10]
- (xvii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study (IIIT), Shimla, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xv) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3025/15/10]
- (xviii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the School of

Planning and Architecture (SPA), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above School.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xvi) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2936/15/10]
- (xix) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the UEE Mission Delhi, Delhi, for the year 2005-06, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xvii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2928/15/10]

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have already said that Government will come back to the House with a reply. ...(*Interruptions*)...

I. Notification of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

II. Notification of the Ministry of Agriculture

III. Report and Accounts (2004-05) of KAICL, Kerala and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): Sir, I lay on the Table:-

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, (Department of Food and Public Distribution) Notification No. EP. 1 (1)/2010, dated the 20th July, 2010, publishing the Food Corporation of India (Staff) (3rd Amendment) Regulations, 2010, under sub-section (5) of Section 45 of the Food Corporations Act, 1964. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2814/15/10]
 - II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Agriculture, (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) Notification No. G.S.R. 650 (E), dated the 2nd August, 2010, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 129 dated the 17th April, 2004, to insert certain entries in the original Notification, under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the Agriculture Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2876/15/10]
 - III. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
 - (a) Thirty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Kerala Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2004-05, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3035/15/10]
 - (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
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- I **Report (2010-11) of CAG - Procurement of Stores and machinery in Ordinance Factories**
 - II **Report (2010-11) of CAG-Air Force and Navy**

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, I lay on the Table, under clause (2) of article 151 of the Constitution, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports:

- I. Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2010: Report No.15 of 2010-11: Union Government (Defence Services) - Procurement of Stores and Machinery in Ordnance Factories; and

- II. Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2009: Report No.16 of 2010-11: Union Government (Defence Services) - Air Force and Navy.

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

The Appropriation (Railways) No.4 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 of Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Appropriation (Railways) No. 4 Bill, 2010, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th +August, 2010.

2. The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India."

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE (Maharashtra): Sir, I present the Two Hundred and Twenty-fifth Report (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on 'The Educational Tribunals Bill, 2010'.

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON
FOOD, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Eighth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (2009-10) on 'Food Subsidy and its Utilisation' of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution).

REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR

SHRI G.N. RATANPURI (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour:-

- (i) Thirteenth Report on Action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Fortieth Report of the Committee (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on the 'Problems Being Faced by Workers Due To Sickness of HMT Units'; and
- (ii) Fourteenth Report on Action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the tenth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the 'Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Labour and Employment for the year 2010-11'.

**ACTION TAKEN STATEMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON LABOUR**

SHRI G.N. RATANPURI (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Statements of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour:-

- (i) Statement showing further action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in Seventh Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee (2009-10) on the recommendations contained in Thirty-fifth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on 'General conditions of weavers in the country-a case study of Sircilla concentration zone of weavers' of the Ministry of Textiles;
- (ii) Statement showing further action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in Eighth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee (2009-10) on the recommendations contained in Thirty-ninth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on

'Employees' Provident Fund Organisation-Employees' Pension Scheme,
1995' of the Ministry of Labour & Employment;

- (iii) Statement showing further action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in Ninth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee (2009-10) on the recommendations contained in Third Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants' for the year 2009-10 of the Ministry of Labour and Employment; and
- (iv) Statement showing further action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in Twelfth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee (2009-10) on the recommendations contained in Fourth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants' for the year 2009-10 of the Ministry of Textiles.

...(Interruptions)...

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES**

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS (West Bengal): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Fifth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources on Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the First Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Water Resources.

...(Interruptions)...

**MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR
MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): Sir, I move the following Motion:-

"That in pursuance of clause (d) of sub-section (3) of Section 3 of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006 (No.27 of 2006), read with sub-rule (ii) of Rule 6 of the National Board for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Rules, 2006, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from amongst the Members of the House, to be a member of the National Board for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in the vacancy caused due to the retirement of Shri Oscar Fernandes from the membership of the Rajya Sabha on the 30th June, 2010."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

...(Interruptions)...

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

(i) Status of implementation of observations/recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture.

(ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second and Fourth Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): Sir, on behalf of Shri Shreed Pawar, I make the following statements regarding:-

(i) Status of implementation of observations/recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture.

(ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second and Fourth Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution.

...(Interruptions)...

(i) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the First Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Department of Pharmaceuticals.

(ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals.

(iii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fifth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing

Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers, on 'Production and availability of medicines to deal with Swine Flu'.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I make the following statements regarding:-

- (i) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the First Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Department of Pharmaceuticals.
- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals.
- (iii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fifth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on 'Production and availability of medicines to deal with Swine Flu'.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 12.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned at thirteen minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House reassembled at thirty minutes past twelve of the clock,

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE) in the Chair.]

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE) : The House is adjourned for another fifteen minutes.

The House then adjourned at thirty minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House reassembled at forty-five minutes past twelve of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair

**RE: ASSURANCE TO GIVE FULL PROTECTION TO THE SIKH COMMUNITY IN JAMMU AND
KASHMIR - contd.**

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I am told that the hon. Members expressed concern about some threats received by the members of the Sikh community in

Jammu & Kashmir. I am aware of it. There is one incident where the rights of one person belonging to the Sikh community were violated. But, then the Chief Minister and I discussed the matter, and the Chief Minister has assured me that the rights of the Sikh community will be fully protected and no harm will come to them. We are aware of these so-called threats but there is nothing to fear, nothing to worry. The Chief Minister has assured me that the Sikh community will be given full protection and nobody will be allowed to harm the Sikh community. I think, yesterday or a day before, I received a letter, if I recall, from a delegation of the Sikh community to meet me; I have said, 'yes; I will be happy to meet them.' I think they will come in the next few days. But let the House be assured that both the Central Government and the State Government will work together to give full protection to the Sikh community in Jammu & Kashmir.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, one minute, please.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; no. Please.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: I want to make only one observation. Sir, the hon. Minister's assurance looks very correct on the face of it. But going by the history, we have seen how five lakh Hindus were thrown out of the valley in spite of repeated assurances. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; no. Zero Hour Mentions. Dr. Bhalachandra Mungekar. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Sir, we need an assurance that history will not be allowed to repeat. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is not the subject before us. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: But, it is very relevant, Sir. Five Lakh Hindus were thrown out of the valley in spite of all the assurances from the Central Government. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have called the Member for Zero Hour Mention.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Assurances stand. But Kashmiri Pundits and Hindus
continue to be refugees in their own country. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no notice on this subject.
...(Interruptions)...

DR. CHANDAN MITRA (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, can the Minister assure that nobody will be forced to leave the valley? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Sir, this thing will not be allowed. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has said about it. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: No; Sir. Please understand the sensitivity. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I understand it. But you also know that this House discusses issues on notices. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is a question of ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You give a notice and have a fulfilled discussion on this. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, I would like to remind the Government that when Bill Clinton came to India in 2000, at that time, in Chittisinghpura, 36 Sikhs were killed. At that time, I went there. I assured them. They wanted to migrate from Kashmir. In Valley, the Indian civilian face is the Sikh face. Otherwise, either it is paramilitary or Army. The Indian civilian face is the Sikh face and they want to finish that also by converting them forcibly to Islam. ...(Interruptions)... How can we allow and how are you going to do this? That is my point. And, then, after Chittisinghpura, Mehjoor Nagar came. ...(Interruptions)... Then again a delegation went there and assured them; all the leaders went there and assured that 'on our dead body, you will leave.' This is the same situation. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ahluwalia, you know on what basis, this House works. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Maulana Faruki came; everybody came there; all the leaders came, and assured them. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Sir, just allow me to say something.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Chandan Mitra, I can understand the sentiments....(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, my point is, whether the Government will assure this House on it.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the rules of this House cannot be more sacred than the unity and integrity of this country which is being questioned today.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is anybody questioning that?

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: It is being questioned, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)... It is being questioned. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Their heads were shaved; their beards were cut. And, now you are saying that they will be forced to undergo *sunnat* and they will be forced to recite *kalma*! Why? Why is this happening? Who is going to protect them?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ahluwalia, you are a senior Member. (*Interruptions*) You know that you have to give notice. ...(*Interruptions*)... Who is preventing you from discussing all these matters? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: You cannot protect them by providing security guards. You have to create that atmosphere. We want congenial atmosphere there. You cannot provide security to each and every Sikh. Sikhs are living in villages. They are cultivators. They are farmers. They are running orchards. You have to create a congenial atmosphere. That congenial atmosphere is not there. Then, how are you going to protect them? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have one request to make. The hon. Home Minister is here. Why don't you ask him to. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Punj, I have no matter here to ask the Government to reply. There is no subject. There is no notice. How can I do it? If every time a Member gets up and asks the Chair to make the

Government respond. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, the Home Minister is talking about protection. I am saying that you must create an atmosphere. How will you do that? Not by providing guns or bodyguards!

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. The Home Minister has come here for a specific purpose because, in the morning, all of you raised this issue and you had wanted the Home Minister to react; I had said that the Government should take note of it and react. The hon. Home Minister has come and reacted. Now, you are raising another subject. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: We are not raising a different subject. We are raising the same very issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Their assurance has failed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You know, if the assurance has failed, what to do.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: 'What to do' means what? Whose responsibility is that? This is the responsibility of the Government.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If a senior hon. Member says this, I have to just. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विनय कटियार : उपसभापति जी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : आप भी उठकर खड़े हो गए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, hon. Members want to seek clarification. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विनय कटियार : उपसभापति जी, पांच हजार हिन्दुओं को वहां से निकाला जा चुका है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... हमें आपका संरक्षण चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : आप नोटिस दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Mr. Rudy, your own people are standing; what can I do?

श्री विनय कटियार : उपसभापति जी, हमें आपका संरक्षण चाहिए। पूरी कश्मीर घाटी के अंदर
... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : अब क्या आप लगातार बोलते रहेंगे? ...*(व्यवधान)*... क्या आपका बोलने का राइट है? क्या दूसरे मैम्बर का राइट नहीं है? ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Nothing goes on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing goes on record.

श्री विनय कटियार : *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You cannot go on talking. I cannot allow. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing goes on record.

श्री विनय कटियार : *

श्री उपसभापति : यह क्या बात है? ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह रिकार्ड में नहीं जा रहा है। आप क्यों बोल रहे हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*... Dr. Bhalchandra Munekar.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: *

श्री उपसभापति : यह रिकार्ड में नहीं जा रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, I have only one request to make. I want to seek some clarification from the hon. Minister if you allow me just one minute.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Implementation of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, with Special Reference to the Khairlanji Incident of Maharashtra

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR (Nominated): Thank you, Sir, for allowing me to raise this matter of national importance.

Sir, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes constitute about 25 per cent of our country's population. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, what is this disturbance? ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR (Nominated): They continue to suffer from multiple disabilities, economic, social, educational, and so on. Besides, they have suffered all kinds of

*Not recorded.

discrimination for centuries. Today, I would like to share with this august House my deep anguish and concern over the growing number of atrocities against the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in different parts of the country.

Sir, as per the Home Ministry's statistics, there were 1,46,2900 crimes against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes between 2001 and 2005. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Atrocities Act is absolutely irrelevant so far as its implementation is concerned. In the Khairlanji case in Maharashtra, where four dalits, a mother and her three children, were virtually lynched, as per the Court's order and observation, investigation by the police and the local CID were not conducted properly. Unfortunately, the matter was referred to the CBI but CBI also did not challenge the acquittal of the accused under Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code, as the Prevention of Atrocities Act requires. Therefore, I am convinced that all this was not just an accident, but care was taken to see that the Atrocities Act was not applicable to the Kharlanji case at all. In view of this case, the future of the POA as well as safety and security are in danger.

The Government, therefore, must implement the Prevention of Atrocities Act in all sincerity and do justice to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. I also appeal to this House and all sections of the society that generally when atrocity takes place, it is only the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes who protest. It is absolutely not auguring well with the commitment to equality - social, economic and political in the country. Fighting atrocities against the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes is not the responsibility of those communities alone. That is why I take the opportunity to appeal to all sections of the House and the Indian society to raise their voice to implement the provisions of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and do justice to the most neglected and vulnerable sections of the society.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL (Maharashtra): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Denial of payment of salary to the Railway employees in Kerala

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, I would like to raise a serious issue regarding the denial of payment of salaries to the Railway employees in Kerala before 20th August in connection with Onam. The Ministry of Finance has given orders on 5th of this month for advance payment of salaries. The order says, "in view of the 'ONAM' festival, the Government have decided that the salary of all Central Government employees in the State of Kerala for the month of August, 2010 may be drawn and disbursed by the Central Government offices (including Defence, Posts & Telecommunications) on 20th August, 2010." We are very grateful to the Finance Ministry for recognizing the feelings of Malayalese. The Ministry has also given orders for advance payment of pension also. But, Sir, only one Ministry, that is, the Ministry of Railways in this country is not ready to implement the directions of the Finance Ministry. Even the Defence Ministry and other Government companies like BSNL and MTNL have also followed this order, but the Railway Ministry has not issued orders for the disbursement of salaries before today, that is, 20th August. Is the Railway Ministry functioning as a separate republic in our country? There is clear evidence of breach of collective functioning of the Ministry and the Government in many cases. It is also evident in this case. This is a very serious discrimination against the State of Kerala by the Railway Ministry. The Minister of State of Railways belongs to Kerala State, but I don't know why he could not recognize the feelings of Malayalese. I request the Minister to intervene in this issue and ensure today itself the payment of advance salary. Today is the only working day before Onam. I request the Government to intervene in this issue.

Threat to Sikhs in the Kashmir Valley

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी (बिहार) : उपसभापति महोदय, यह अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण विषय है। इसके बारे

में आप से चर्चा हुई है और हमने नोटिस भी दिया है। हम इस बात को मानते हैं कि सिख समुदाय भारत में ही नहीं बल्कि पूरी दुनिया के इतिहास में जिस प्रकार से केंद्रीब्यूशन रहा है, उसको कभी भी नजर अंदाज नहीं किया जा सकता। केवल भारत में ही नहीं, बल्कि पूरी दुनिया में सिख समुदाय का एक स्थान है। उन्होंने हर क्षेत्र में अपना एक स्थान

1.00 P.M.

बनाया है। चाहे वह कृषि का क्षेत्र हो, विज्ञान का क्षेत्र हो, चाहू यूथ का क्षेत्र हो, चाहे देश की सुरक्षा का क्षेत्र हो, हर क्षेत्र में उनका योगदान है। आप चाहे दक्षिण में चले जाओ, उत्तर में चले जाओ, पश्चिम में चले जाओ, देश के हर कोने में हम सिख समुदाय को देखते हैं। हम उनको बड़ी कद्र के साथ अपने भाई की तरह मानते हैं। हमने देखा है कि हाल के कई वर्षों में जिस प्रकार से सिख समुदाय के साथ अफगानिस्तान में व्यवहार हुआ है, हमने वे तमाम तरह की घटनाएं देखी हैं। उसके बारे में सदन में भी चर्चा हुई है और सदन ने भी उस बारे में चिंता व्यक्त की है, लेकिन हम उनको वहां जितना सुरक्षित करना चाहते थे, दुर्भाग्य से उतना सुरक्षित नहीं कर पाए। हमने पाकिस्तान में भी देखा है कि पिछले कई वर्षों में ऐसी घटनाएं घटी हैं, जहां हम सिखों की सुरक्षा नहीं कर पाए हैं। वहां पर जिस प्रकार से सिखों के सिर काटे गए, उनका कत्ल किया गया, हमारे तमाम प्रयास के बाद भी भारत सरकार पूरी तरह से विफल रही, हम इस बात का जानते हैं। हमें विश्वास है कि सरकार उस काम में पूरी तरह लगेगी। वहां पर लगभग एक लाख सिख समुदाय के लोग रहते हैं, जिस प्रकार से उनको चेतावनी दी गई है, चुनौती दी गई है और सभी समाचार पत्रों में छपा है, उनको तीन विकल्प दिए हैं। पहला विकल्प यह है कि आप या तो अपना धर्म परिवर्तन करें, यदि आप अपना धर्म परिवर्तन नहीं करते हैं, तो कम से कम आप Stone Pelter's Association के सदस्य बनें, यानी जितने वहां एंटी नेशनल हैं, उनके साथ लाइन में खड़े हो जाएं। सिख समुदाय का आदमी देश के लिए हमेशा कुर्बानी देता रहा है।

उनको यह कहना कि "तुम हमारे साथ देश के आंदोलन में खड़े होओ", यही उसका सबसे बड़ा अपमान है। वे उनसे कह रहे हैं कि या तो आप "स्टोन पैल्टर्स एसोसिएशन" के सदस्य बनो, नहीं तो जम्मू-कश्मीर से बाहर निकल जाओ। महोदय, यह कोई पहली घटना नहीं है, यह शुरुआत है। जो शुरुआत हम देख रहे हैं, वह हमने पहले भी देखी है कि जिस प्रकार से कश्मीर में 5 लाख हिन्दुओं को वहां से निकालकर भगाया गया, आज वे पूरे भारत में बिछे हुए हैं, चारों तरफ हैं, दिल्ली में हैं, हमारी पीड़ा उनके साथ है, हम उनको वापस वहां पर पुनर्वासित नहीं कर पाए हैं, आज अगर वैसी ही चुनौती फिर से सिख समुदाय के साथ हो तो उस परिस्थिति में हमारा क्या रिस्पांस होगा। We are proud have a Prime Minister who is a Sikh. We are proud; the country is proud of hir But, enough is enough and if this is what the policy of the Government is, and this is how the

Government is going to treat the Sikh community in this country, is a matter of great concern. It is not just Rajiv Pratap Rudy; it is not just the BJ or, the JD(U), or, the Congress; if this is an attitude and if this is going happen, the entire country would be compelled to go and shed our lives to prote each and every Sikh residing in the Valley. This will happen. The Prime Minist recognised the problem, but the Prime Minister cannot. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, all are associating.

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब) : उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री प्रभात झा (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा) : उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती माया सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री बलबीर पुंज (उड़ीसा) : उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

सुश्री अनुसुइया उइके (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री अनिल माधव दवे (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नरेश गुजराल (पंजाब) : उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ। Sir, I want to take only ten seconds to add to what Mr. Rudy has said. Sir, there were hundred thousand Sikhs in the Valley. Unfortunately, their number has now come down to 50,000. They are leaving by the day, and I am sorry to point out that twice, their delegations have come to Delhi to meet the Prime Minister, but they were not given time. I hope that now, the Prime Minister will send for them and re-assure them that their lives and property and their families would be protected in the Valley.

Rehabilitation of the victims of Leh tragedy

श्री प्रभात झा (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, 5, 6 तारीख की रात लेह में जो कुछ घटा, वह प्राकृतिक विपदा थी। यह सब हमारे सामने आ चुका है, लेकिन लेह में आज भी जिस तरह से नागरिकों को तकलीफ हो रही

हैं, उससे परेशानी है। तीन-तीन केंद्रीय मंत्री वहां गए थे, लेकिन वहां की स्थिति में कोई सुधार नहीं है। आज भी आप वहां पर टेलीफोन नहीं लगा सकते हैं, कोई बात नहीं कर सकते हैं। वहां पर कीचड़ों का अम्बार लगा हुआ है, नागरिकों की साधारण बुनियादी सुविधाओं पर प्रश्न चिह्न लगा हुआ है। गृह मंत्री जी ने यहां आकर सारी बातें रख दीं कि वहां पर हालत स्थिर हो रही है, बढ़िया हो रहा है, परंतु 7,400 लोग वहां से बाहर जा चुके हैं। उनके लिए सरकार ने 429 करोड़ रुपए दे दिए हैं, लेकिन वे लोग रुपए का क्या करेंगे? वहां पर व्यवस्था नाम की कोई चीज़ नहीं बची है। वहां सरकार कोई नागरिक सुविधा, जैसे पीने का पानी भी मुहैया नहीं करवा पा रही है। वहां शुद्ध पीने के पानी की जगह पर पूरी तरह से गंदा पानी फैला हुआ है।

(उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) पीठासीन हुए)

वहां पर महामारी फैलने की पूरी तरह से संभावना व्यक्त की जा रही है। हम लोग यहां पर बैठे हैं, गृह मंत्री जी ने कहा कि सब कुछ देखकर आ गए हैं। तो हम जानना चाहते हैं कि क्या वहां पर इस तरह की स्थिति है, क्या लोग वहां से जा रहे हैं, क्या वहां पर लोग रह पा रहे हैं? हमारा यह कहना है कि आप वहां की स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं देखिए। वहां के सारे लोग इस समय बीमार हैं। वहां पर कोई स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं नहीं दी जा रही हैं। आपने डाक्टरों की टीम भेज दी। आपने कह दिया है कि वहां पर चार नर्सों भेज दी हैं, लेकिन वहां पर लोगों को अपने बच्चे नहीं मिल रहे हैं, किसी का पिता खो गया है, किसी की मां नहीं मिल रही है, किसी की बहिन नहीं मिल रही है। सर, लेह भारत का हिस्सा है। लेह में प्राकृतिक आपदा आई है। वहां पर सैनिक सब काम कर रहे हैं। मैं उन सैनिकों को सेल्यूट करता हूं। सारे लोग लगे हुए हैं, लेकिन उसके बाद भी लेह की हालत बहुत विचित्र है, दर्दनाक है। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं वहां पर एक बात बहुत शिद्दत के साथ, बहुत जिम्मेदारी के साथ कहना चाह रहा हूं, आप मेरी बात सुनेंगे। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपसे डिस्टर्ब हो रहा हूं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : आप बोलिए।

श्री प्रभात झा : मैं जिस बात को कहना चाह रहा हूं, वह यह है कि आज लेह में लोग जिस तरह की जिंदगी जी रहे हैं, उससे मुझे लगता है कि स्थिति ठीक नहीं है। टाज सवरे ही मैंने अखबारों में एक विज्ञापन देखा, मैं बहुत जिम्मेदारी के साथ कह रहा हूं कि राजीव गांधी जी इस देश के प्रधानमंत्री थे और उनके प्रति श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूं, आदर अर्पित करता हूं, लेकिन अखबारों में करोड़ों रुपए के विज्ञापन दिए गए हैं, करोड़ों रुपए के कागज

के टुकड़े के लिए खर्च किए गए हैं, मेरा निवेदन है कि अगर ये करोड़ों रुपए लेह के लिए दिए जाते, तो गरीब और अनाथ बच्चों को शायद रोजी रोटी मिलती और भूख की वजह से जो लोग मर रहे हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं विरोध नहीं कर रहा हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं बता रहा हूँ ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं एक निवेदन कर रहा हूँ। यदि राष्ट्रीय आपदा हो ...**(व्यवधान)**...

यह राष्ट्रीय विपदा है, राष्ट्रीय आपदा है ...**(व्यवधान)**... और इससे बड़ी श्रद्धांजलि और नहीं होती, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य है कि हर चीज़ में राजनीति होती है। क्या करोड़ों रुपए बर्बाद करने से आपको लाभ मिलेगा? ...**(समय की घंटी)**... मेरा निवेदन है कि इस पर विचार करना चाहिए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay. Your time is over.

श्री प्रभात झा : इस तरह सरकार को करोड़ों रुपए, जो विज्ञापनों के माध्यम से बर्बाद किए गए, नहीं करने चाहिए थे।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, we shall take up Special Mentions.

SPECIAL MENTIONS*

Need for consolidation of Public Sector Banks

SHRI N.K. SINGH (Bihar): I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to the need for consolidation of public sector banks. Our banks are not able to compete in the global arena in terms of fund mobilisation, loan disbursement, investment and rendering of financial services due to the fragmented nature of the industry. Even the largest bank, the State Bank of India ranks 76 in terms of total assets and 64 in terms of tier-I capital globally.

The lack of global scale for Indian banks came into sharp focus during the recent financial crisis that saw several international banks reneging on their funding commitments to Indian companies. But, local banks could not step into the breach because of balance sheet limitations. While the Government is widely reported to have a pro-consolidation stand itself, I urge the Minister to take decisive actions in this direction and not delay such consolidation further.

*Laid on the Table of the House.

**Concern over threat to life and property of villagers in West Bengal
due to subsidence of illegal coal mines**

SHRI RG. SINGH (West Bengal): Sir, I would like to draw your kind attention that on 23rd July, 2010, subsidence at Porascole village, P.S. Asansol, District Burdwan, West Bengal, in Kajoria area of Eastern Coalfields Ltd., has taken place owing to mining operations. About 550 sqm. has been subsided. The village is totally covered by mining and there is no doubt that the whole underground of the village has been mined out by ECL and illegal miners. Since the subsidence has taken place very close to the village, some houses of the village have to be vacated as per the order of the Safety Department of Mines. Earlier also, many cases of subsidence have taken place adjacent to the village, and the same has been brought to the notice of the concerned authorities. But, nothing has been done in that respect. It is not only due to mining operations by ECL, but also due to rampant illegal mining. Not only this, due to unscientific mining operations, huge agriculture land has been damaged and the life and property of villagers is in danger.

About 3,000 habitations are residing there for centuries. These incidents are posing danger to these villagers and their property. In view of this, I request you to immediately direct the officials concerned in the Ministry and take necessary steps forthwith to halt illegal mining; and villagers are shifted to safer places with appropriate arrangements for their livelihood, or, make proper arrangements for the safety of the village.

**Demand to take steps to ascertain the fees charged by the Private
Medical Practitioners and Hospitals in the country**

सुश्री अनुसुइया उइके (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं इस विशेष उल्लेख के माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहती हूँ कि देश में गरीबों के लिए कैंसर, हृदय की शल्य चिकित्सा, सिर की चोटों की चिकित्सा, ब्लड कैंसर, स्पाईन सर्जरी, जैसी गंभीर बीमारियों की जिला चिकित्सालयों एवं छोटी जगहों में पर्याप्त चिकित्सा सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं है।

आम व्यक्तियों को निजी चिकित्सालयों एवं चिकित्सकों की शरण में जाना पड़ता है, जिनके शुल्क शासन द्वारा निर्धारित नहीं हैं, इसलिए उनके द्वारा बहुत अधिक फीस ली जाती है। यह फीस गरीब एवं आम व्यक्तियों की

हैसियत से बहुत अधिक होती है किंतु गंभीर बीमारी, दुर्घटना के समय मजबूरी में निजी चिकित्सकों एवं चिकित्सालयों की शरण में जाना ही पड़ता है।

निजी चिकित्सकों द्वारा चिकित्सा कार्य को पूर्णतः व्यवसाय बना लिया गया है। मरीजों का बिल बढ़ाने के लिए लम्बे समय तक उन्हें भर्ती रखा जाता है, विभिन्न क्लिनिकल परीक्षण किए जाते हैं, इसके उपरांत भी मरीज के जीवित रहने की कोई गारंटी नहीं होती है और न ही मरीज की स्थिति के बारे में सही जानकारी दी जाती है। यहां तक देखा गया है कि यदि मरीज का स्वर्गवास हो जाता है और जब तक उसके परिजन अस्पताल का बिल जमा नहीं करा देते, तब तक लाश उनको नहीं दी जाती है। इस प्रकार का व्यवहार चिंता का विषय है।

ऐसी स्थिति में बीमार व्यक्ति को या तो अपनी संपत्ति बेच कर इलाज करवाना पड़ता है अथवा इलाज के अभाव में उसकी मौत हो जाती है।

अतएव मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि देश में कार्यरत निजी चिकित्सकों, चिकित्सा परीक्षणों एवं चिकित्सकों की फीस निर्धारित की जाए, जिससे गरीब एवं आम व्यक्तियों की मौत होने से बचाया जा सकता है।

**Need to establishing AIIMS/PCI, Chandigarh like institute
in Himachal Pradesh**

श्रीमती बिमला कश्यप सूद (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : मैं आपके ध्यान में लाना चाहती हूं कि मैं पहाड़ी क्षेत्र हिमाचल प्रदेश से आती हूं और यह हर्ष की बात है कि स्वयं माननीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री भी पहाड़ी क्षेत्र से आते हैं। वे पहाड़ी क्षेत्र की समस्याओं से भली-भांति परितच हैं। हिमाचल प्रदेश में आर्थिक संसाधन सीमित हैं। वहां पर कोई बड़ा (AIIMS) अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान तथा चण्डीगढ़ स्थिति PGI की भांति अस्पताल नहीं है और न ही कोई ट्रामा सेंटर है। पहाड़ी और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में डॉक्टरों की भी बहुत कमी रहती है। हिमाचल प्रदेश में 1000 व्यक्ति प्रतिवर्ष सड़क दुर्घटना की वजह से मारे जाते हैं और लगभग 1500 लोग सड़क दुर्घटना की वजह से अपंग हो जाते हैं। हिमाचल प्रदेश में 12 जिले हैं, इसलिए 12 ट्रामा सेंटर होने चाहिए, जो पूर्ण रूप से आधुनिक उपकरणों द्वारा सुसज्जित हों। जब कभी बस या कार 400, 500 फुट गहरी खाई में गिर जाती है तो पीड़ित लोगों को खाई से निकाल कर जब तक अस्पताल पहुंचाया जाता है, तब तक आधे लोग रास्ते में ही दम तोड़ देते हैं, अतः पूर्ण रूप से आधुनिक उपकरणों द्वारा सुसज्जित एम्बुलेंस होनी चाहिए। जो विशेषज्ञ डाक्टर हैं, उनको विशेष भत्ता, बेहतर आवास व्यवस्था, जैसे प्रोत्साहन केंद्र सरकार को देने चाहिए। अतः मैं सरकार के माध्यम से स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय से

मांग करती हूं कि हिमाचल प्रदेश में एक बड़े अस्पताल, जो (AIIMS) अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान तथा चण्डीगढ़ स्थित (PGI) की तरह का अस्पताल हो, की अति आवश्यकता है, ताकि आम आदमी को उचित स्वास्थ्य परिचर्या संबंधी सेवाएं उपलब्ध हो सकें।

Demand for ban on use of GM seeds in the country

डा. राम प्रकाश (हरियाणा) : महोदय, यूरो स्थित विश्व के 180 देशों में जी.एम. कृषि और उत्पादों पर पूर्ण प्रतिबन्ध है। जी.एम. खेती का 75 प्रतिशत अमेरिका, कनाडा, ब्राजील व अर्जेंटीना में होता है। इन देशों में भी कपास, सोयाबीन, मक्का, बैनोला में ही जीन संवर्द्धन की अनुमति है। बीटी बैंगन के खाद्य पदार्थ के रूप में इस्तेमाल की अमेरिका और इंग्लैंड में अनुमति नहीं है। भारत में जी.एम. फसलों को परखने के लिए गठित जी.ई.ए.सी. ने अक्टूबर 2009 में बीटी बैंगन की व्यावसायिक खेती की अनुमति दे दी थी, जिस पर उत्पादकों, उपभोक्ताओं आदि के विरोध के कारण और अधिक अनुसंधान करवाने का पर्यावरण मंत्री तथा यूपीए सरकार का फैसला सराहनीय है। पर भिंडी, पत्तागोभी, टमाटर, धान आदि की व्यावसायिक खेती पर पर्यावरण मंत्रालय का यह फैसला लागू नहीं है। अभी ऐसे 41 खाद्य फसलों पर परीक्षण चल रहे हैं। जी.एम. बीज की अनुमति देने से पूर्व कम-से-कम 30 परीक्षण अनिवार्य हैं। जिन खाद्य फसलों की अनुमति दी गई है, उन पर पूरे परीक्षण नहीं किए गए। प्रायः सभी परीक्षण उत्पादक कंपनियों या किसी सरकारी एजेंसी के हैं। उनकी independent testing नहीं हुई। बीटी बैंगन पर निर्णय केवल 90 दिन की स्टडी पर आधारित था और वह भी केवल 10 चूहों पर। इन खाद्य पदार्थों पर दीर्घकालीन अध्ययन नहीं किए गए। बीटी कॉटन का अनुभव भी सुखद नहीं है। जी.एम. खेती का आस-पास के खेतों में कुप्रभाव पड़ता है। बीज शुरू में अच्छी पैदावार देता है, लेकिन धीरे-धीरे उत्पादकता में कमी आ जाती है। तीन-चार साल के बाद खेत में ऐसे कीट पैदा हो जाते हैं, जिनके लिए अधिक शक्तिशाली रसायनों की जरूरत पड़ती है।

अतः सरकार से मेरा अनुरोध है कि जी.एम. बीजों के इस्तेमाल पर रोक लगाई जाए।

**Demand for inquiry into irregularities in the Haj quota being committed
by private Haj tour operators**

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान (आन्ध्र प्रदेश) : सर, मैं आपके तवस्सुत से मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ़ एक्सटर्नल अफेयर्स का ध्यान हज कोटा हासिल करने वाले प्राइवेट टूर-ऑपरेटर्स की धांधलियों की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूं। हिन्दुस्तान को सऊदी अरब सरकार ने 1,60,000 से ज्यादा हाजियों का कोटा अलॉट किया है, जिसमें से हज कमेटीयों के

ज़रियے 1,26,000 से ज्यादा हाजी भेजे जाते हैं और बाकी कोटा प्राइवेट टूर-आपरेटरों को अलॉट कर दिया जाता है, लेकिन अफसोस की बात है कि कुछ टूर-ऑपरेटरों के अलावा, जो खुलूस और ईमानदारी से अपना काम कर रहे हैं, बहुत से टूर-ऑपरेटर्स बहुत धांधलियां कर रहे हैं। जहां हज कमेटी के ज़रिये जाने वाले हाजी का तकरीबन 1,26,000 रुपये खर्चा आता है, वहीं प्राइवेट टूर-ऑपरेटर्स हर हाजी से कम से कम 1,80,000 रुपये वसूल करते हैं और कुछ ऑपरेटर्स हज की बढ़ती हुई मांग का नाजायज फायदा उठाकर चार से पांच लाख रुपये तक वसूल करके अपने कोटे का नाजायज इस्तेमाल करते हैं, जिसकी वजह से मिडिल क्लास से ताल्लुक रखने वाले हाजी मेहरूम रहे जाते हैं। प्राइवेट हज टूर-ऑपरेटरों की बहुत सी शिकायतें मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ एक्सटर्नल अफेयर्स के पास पड़ी हुई हैं। मैं ऐसे कई मामलों से वाकिफ हूं और मैंने इसकी शिकायत वज़ीर-ए-आज़म और मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ एक्सटर्नल अफेयर्स से भी की है।

इसलिए भारत सरकार से मेरी मांग है कि हज का कोटा हासिल करने वाले प्राइवेट टूर-आपरेटरों के खिलाफ उन तमाम शिकायत की जांच के लिए इस साल हज से पहले ही एक कमेटी मुकर्रर की जाए और उन धांधलियों के जिम्मेदार पाए जाने वाले सभी प्राइवेट टूर-आपरेटरों के खिलाफ सख्त कार्यवाही की जाए। साथ ही, मेरी मांग है कि प्राइवेट टूर-ऑपरेटरों का कोटा खत्म करके उसे सूबाई हज कमेटीयों में तकसीम कर दिया जाए ताकि आम हाजियों को राहत मिल सके।

جناب محمد علی خان (آندھرا پردیش) : سر، میں آپ کے توسط سے منسٹری آف ایکسٹرنل افیئرز کا دھیان حج کوٹہ حاصل کرنے والے پرائیویٹ ٹور-اپریٹروں کی دھاندلیوں کی طرف دلانا چاہتا ہوں۔ ہندوستان کو سعودی عرب سرکار نے 000،60،1 سے زیادہ حاجیوں کا کوٹہ الاٹ کیا ہے، جس میں سے حج کمیٹیوں کے ذریعے 000،26،1 سے زیادہ حاجی بھیجے جاتے ہیں اور باقی کوٹہ پرائیویٹ ٹور-اپریٹروں کو الاٹ کر دیا جاتا ہے، لیکن افسوس کی بات ہے کہ کچھ ٹور-اپریٹروں کے علاوہ، جو خلوص اور ایمانداری سے اپنا کام کر رہے ہیں، بہت سے ٹور-اپریٹرز بہت دھاندلیاں کر رہے ہیں۔ جہاں حج کمیٹی کے ذریعے جاتے والے حاجی کو تقریباً 000،26،1 روپے خرچ آتا ہے، وہیں پرائیویٹ ٹور-اپریٹرز ہر حاجی کو کم سے کم 000،80،1 روپے وصول کرتے ہیں اور کچھ آپریٹرز حج

[Transliteration in Urdu Script]

کی بڑھتی مانگ کا ناجائز فائدہ اٹھا کر چار سے پانچ لاکھ روپے تک وصول کر کے اپنے کوٹے کا ناجائز استعمال کرتے ہیں، جس کی وجہ سے مڈل کلاس سے تعلق رکھنے والے حاجی محروم رہ جاتے ہیں۔ پرائیویٹ حج ٹور-اپریٹروں کی بہت سی شکایتیں منسٹری آف ایکسٹرنل افیئرز کے پاس پڑی ہوئی ہیں۔ میں ایسے کئی معاملوں سے واقف ہوں اور میں نے اس کی شکایت وزیر اعظم اور منسٹر آف ایکسٹرنل افیئرز سے بھی کی ہے۔

اس لئے بھارت سرکار سے میری مانگ ہے کہ حج کا کوٹہ حاصل کرنے والے پرائیویٹ ٹور-اپریٹروں کے خلاف ان تمام شکایات کی جانچ کے لئے اس سال حج سے پہلے ہی ایک کمیٹی مقرر کی جائے اور ان دہاندلیوں کے ذمہ دار پائے جانے والے سبھی پرائیویٹ ٹور-اپریٹروں کے خلاف سخت کارروائی کی جائے۔ ساتھ ہی، میری مانگ ہے کہ پرائیویٹ ٹور-اپریٹروں کا کوٹہ ختم کر کے اسے صوبائی حج کمیٹیوں میں تقسیم کر دیا جائے تاکہ عام حاجیوں کو راحت مل سکے۔

(ختم شد)

**Demand to withhold environmental clearance to the proposed
power project at Sompeta in Andhra Pradesh**

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, a private mega power plant of 1000 MW was proposed at Sompeta, Srikakulam District in Coastal Andhra Pradesh. The location of the mega power plant is in a sensitive ecological zone on the coast effecting 8 Panchayats and 2 lakh people covering 20 kilometre area with a water body serving the drinking water needs of the people other than flora and fauna. The farmers and fishermen have been protesting against and it recently culminated in a police firing, resulting in deaths and serious injuries to hundreds of people. National Environmental Appellate Authority conducted a study afterwards and suspended all environmental clearances.

After suspension, the people hoped that the plant would be scrapped. However, the State Government has since been writing letters to the Government of India to rescind it. This has fuelled anxiety among locals.

Tension is prevailing in the area again.

Public agitations and facts being considered afresh, there should be no re-issue of clearances. People expect Government would reject such toxic projects violating laws in public interest. It is not a good practice to give permission to such projects and then await public reaction. There is no doubt that if Ministry of Environment and Forests tries to revive this project, there will be violent agitations. I appeal to the Government of India to announce that this mega power plant at Sompeta is rejected. This assurance is urgently needed as tension is building up in Sompeta and there is grave insecurity as private sectors interests are preparing threatening postures against the fishermen and farmers. Thank you.

Demand to restore the emergency quota in trains plying through Bihar

श्री राम कृपाल यादव (बिहार) : उपसभापति जी, अभी ऐसा समाचार आया है कि रेल मंत्रालय ने बिहार आने-जाने वाली सभी गाड़ियों में आपातकालीन आरक्षण कोटे (EQ) को घटाकर आधे से भी कम कर दिया है। समाचार के अनुसार 2394 संपूर्ण क्रांति में 60 से घटाकर 24, सम्पर्क क्रांति में 52 से घटाकर 30, श्रमजीवी में 40 से घटाकर 24, वैशाली में 42 से घटाकर 24, विक्रमाशिला में 40 से घटाकर 24 आदि इसके कुछ द्रष्टांत हैं। बिहार की सभी गाड़ियों में प्रतिदिन बहुत ज्यादा भीड़ रहती है। EQ के द्वारा VVIP से कुछ राहत दी जा रही थी, वह भी अब समाप्त कर दी गई है। बिहार के लोगों के साथ यह अन्याय हो रहा है। पूर्व रेल मंत्री जी द्वारा चालू की गई योजनाओं पर कुछ कार्य नहीं हो रहा है। अतः मैं सरकार से निवेदन करता हूँ कि बिहार के लिए स्वीकृत परियोजनाओं और EQ को पुनः बहाल किया जाए, सभी परियोजनाओं पर तीव्र गति से काम हो और इनके लिए पर्याप्त बजट का प्रावधान किया जाए।

Need for easy access to higher education for every citizen of the country

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE (Maharashtra): Sir, education for whom and education for what? These are the two most important and crucial questions. 'Education for all' is the answer to the first question. This is the national policy on education. Education for life is the answer to the second question. The right of children to free and compulsory education is a Fundamental Right now. It has put education into action. But this right is continued only to elementary education,

for children in the age group of 6-14 years. The elementary education is not enough to develop the

whole potential in an individual male or female. Higher education is essential for the development of human resources as well as natural resources. Time demands that secondary education should be universalized. Higher education is an engine of development. Secondary and higher education cannot be made free and compulsory. But it is also a fact that students from weaker and marginal sections of society cannot bear the cost of higher and technical education. Then, what to do? Government should give them loans at low interest, say four per cent. Government should also open professional colleges for them. Poor students cannot bear the expenditure of private colleges. At the same time, Government should construct hostels at taluka places and provide them accommodation with minimum charges. A talented individual, properly educated and equipped with skills is an asset to the nation. I urge upon the Government to give opportunity of education at all the levels, to every boy and girl.

Demand for providing marketing and processing facilities to the potato growers in the country

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, देश के 8 प्रमुख राज्य के किसान आलू की खेती प्रमुखता से करते हैं और इन राज्यों का आलू पूरे देश में खाने में उपयोग होता है। आलू के किसानों के लिए मार्केटिंग की व्यवस्था न होना, फूड प्रोसेसिंग उद्योगों की कमी व निम्न स्तर के आलू का उत्पादन होना, जिसके कारण विदेशों में भारत के आलू की मांग न होना, आलू किसानों के लिए ये भीषण समस्याएं हैं। उपरोक्त समस्याओं के कारण इस वर्ष आलू के किसान को आलू की कीमत 2 रुपए प्रति किलो भी नहीं मिल पा रही है। कोल्ड स्टोरेज भरे हैं और किसान उनका किराया देने की स्थिति में नहीं है। वह कोल्ड स्टोर से आलू नहीं उठा रहा है। बाजार में आलू की मांग नहीं है। भारत सरकार ने भी इसकी खरीद का कोई इंतजाम नहीं किया, इससे स्थिति विकट होती जा रही है। किसान आत्महत्या पर उतारू हो गया है। कोई भी अप्रिय घटना हो सकती है। हम इस विशेष उल्लेख के माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित कर स्थिति से अवगत होना चाहते हैं। धन्यवाद।

Need to check unsolicited telephone calls

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (West Bengal): Sir, unsolicited phone calls are one of the major problems that telecom customers are facing. The Telecom

Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
has framed the Telecom Unsolicited Commercial Communications
Regulations, 2007, for curbing

unsolicited calls. Under this, all telecom subscribers are to maintain a Private Do Not Call List of subscribers who do not want to receive any UCC. This is to be updated in the National Do Not Call Registry established in 2007. All telemarketers are also required to register in the NDNC Registry.

(iv) Even after registering in NDNC, complaints regarding UCC have been received by service providers.

(v) The frequency of receiving unsolicited SMS and MMS has increased.

(vi) The framework established is not very effective as only about 11 per cent of the telephone subscribers have registered for 'Do Not Call' in NDNC Registry since the process is complicated and there is no appropriate advertising to make customers aware.

(vii) A penalty of only Rs. 500 for the first time call and Rs. 1,000 for every subsequent call is made by the telemarketer to the service provider. No compensation is provided to the customer for the mental irritation he faces.

(viii) There are no penal provisions for unsolicited private communications.

Due to limited effectiveness of the present regulations and the large number of complaints being received, TRAI is considering public consultations on the issue of Do Call Registry in place of NDNC for reducing unsolicited calls.

I urge upon the Government to take effective measures in this regard.

**Demand to supply adequate urea and other fertilizers
to the farmers of Andhra Pradesh**

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, due to start of sowing season in Andhra Pradesh, the demand for urea has gone up. The requests

for making the urea available have gone up from the farmers of almost all the districts of Andhra Pradesh. But in the absence of adequate supply of urea, the farmers are facing umpteen problems in the sowing season. In June and July, the Government of India has allotted 4.8 lakh tonnes of urea, but supplied only 3.57 lakh tonnes of urea.

The demand of urea, in May, was 1.02 lakh tonnes, but supplied only 0.96 lakh tonnes; in June, the demand was 1.35 lakh tonnes and the supply was only 1.31 lakh tonnes; and in July, the demand was 2.31 lakh tonnes and the supply was only 2.10 lakh tonnes. In August, the demand is 4.5 lakh tonnes, but the supply, till today, is only 1.2 lakh tonnes. This clearly shows that there is a drastic reduction in the supply of urea to Andhra Pradesh. Even the stocks in the MARKFED have exhausted. The Government of India says that 2.97 lakh tonnes of urea for Andhra Pradesh has to come from abroad. It means, till the imports reach our country, the farmers will have to wait and by the time the imports would reach Andhra Pradesh, the sowing season would be over. Due to this, there is a rampant black-marketing and hoarding of fertilizers in the State. In view of the above, I request the Government of India to immediately take steps and release urea, complex and other fertilizers required for the farmers of Andhra Pradesh.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): The House is adjourned to meet at 2.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at eleven minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-one minutes past two of the clock,

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) in the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Hon. Members, see, the Appropriation (Railways) No.4 Bill, 2010 is also listed. A special Supplementary List of Business is being circulated. Therefore, you know that it is more important. So, I would like to take the sense of the House. Shall we take up the Appropriation (Railways) No.4 Bill, 2010 first as it is more important?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: We can take up this Bill first, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, Km. Mamata Banerjee to move the Bill.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I want to seek only one small clarification. After the Railways Bill, what will be the next item of business? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, since yesterday, we have been frequently changing the items one after another. At least, ten times it has been changed since yesterday. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI D. RAJA: What is the next item to be taken up after the Railways Bill?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I will let you know. Hon. Minister, the question is: After the Railways Bill, which item is to be taken up? Shall we go as per the agenda?

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, we shall start the discussion on illegal mining. Rest of the business can be taken up tomorrow.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): That is clear. So, you agree that after the Railways Bill, we will take up the discussion on illegal mining.

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Sir, what about the other Bills? Will they be taken up tomorrow? Tomorrow morning, there will be no Government Business.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Tomorrow morning, there will be Government Business.

Tomorrow morning, we can take up these Bills. Now, we are going to take up the Railways Bill. After the Railways Bill discussion is over, we will take up illegal mining.

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, tomorrow morning, it is
a Private Members' Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Just now you have said 'after the Railways Bill, illegal mining'!

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: There will be no changes, I suppose!
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Sir, what changes they want?
...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I announced it after taking the sense of the House. I have not taken the decision. It was your decision. It was the decision of the House. Now, Km. Mamata Banerjee, please move the Bill.

GOVERNMENT BILL

The Appropriation (Railways) No.4 Bill, 2010

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): Sir, I beg to move:

That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2010-11 for the purposes of Railways, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The question was proposed.

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, अगर हम रेलों को देखें, तो रेलें पैसेंजर्स को लेकर जाती हैं, कोचेज़ लेकर जाती हैं। रेलवे का इंटरनेशनल इतिहास भी है क्योंकि पाकिस्तान को भी रेल जाती है। इसलिए हम कह सकते हैं कि यह भारतीय रेल भी है और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय रेल भी है। यह कई राज्यों को भी आपस में जोड़ती है। जैसा आज माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि करीब 2 करोड़ लोग प्रतिदिन रेलों से सफर करते हैं। इसलिए रेलवे का बहुत महत्व है। रेलवे का डिपार्टमेंट बहुत बड़ा है। देश के कोने-कोने में रेलों का जाल बिछा हुआ है। इसलिए रेलवे के प्रति बहुत सी अपेक्षाएं लोगों के मन में हैं।

रेलवे का सफर सुरक्षित हो, रेलवे में पूरी सेफ्टी हो, रेलवे में खाना अच्छा मिले, पैसेन्जर्स को

सुविधाएं हों, कर्प्शन बिल्कुल न हो, रेल साफ-सुथरी हो, रेल टाइम पर आए और टाइम पर जाए,
स्टाफ का व्यवहार अच्छा हो

और रेलवे का जो expansion है, वह भी हो, जहां तक रेल नहीं पहुंची है, वहां तक रेल पहुंचनी चाहिए, नए पुल बनें, फुट ब्रिज बनें और रेलवे में जो facilities नहीं हैं, वे facilities भी provide की जाएं, जैसे कि medical facility. रेलवे employment देने वाली एक बहुत बड़ी संस्था है। लाखों लोग रेलवे में काम करते हैं। रेलवे में जो भर्ती हो, वह भी transparent way से हो। ऐसी आम लोगों की अपेक्षा है। रेल फौजियों और उनके वाहनों को इधर से उधर ले जाने का काम भी करती है। रेलवे यह एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण काम करती है।

लेकिन आज modern age में लोग पैसा खर्च करके रेल में बैठते हैं तो वे चाहते हैं कि रेल में उनको सब कुछ अच्छा मिले। लेकिन, मैं बहुत से उदाहरण दे सकता हूं, जिन पर यहां अलग-अलग प्रश्नों के समय में चर्चा भी हुई है, जब रेल से आई, रेलवे में सफाई नहीं थी, रेलवे का चार्ट, जो बाहर लगता है, वह भी गलत लगा हुआ था, रेलवे में accidents बहुत हो रहे हैं, आदि। अगर मैं सबसे पहले रेलवे की सेफ्टी की बात करूं, एक्सीडेंट की बात करूं, तो 1965-70 का जो डेटा है, उसकी तुलना में बहुत कम एक्सीडेंट हुए हैं। लेकिन आज के समय में जब कि हमें modern facilities मिल गई हैं, तब भी एक्सीडेंट का होना बहुत बड़ी चुनौती का विषय है। इससे जहां एक तरफ एक व्यक्ति की मौत होती है, वहीं दूसरी तरफ देश की बहुत सारी properties का नुकसान भी होता है। यह ऐसा नुकसान होता है, जिसके कारण देश के ऊपर बर्झन पड़ता है।

सर, अलग 2007-08 का डेटा लिया जाए, तो उसमें 8 आमने-सामने accidents, 100 के करीब डीरेलमेंट, लेवल क्रॉसिंग पर 76 accidents, 5 फायर accidents और 7 miscellaneous accidents हुए। कुल मिला कर 196 accidents 2007-08 में हुए। इसी तरह 2008-09 में 13 आमने-सामने accidents, 85 डीरेलमेंट, लेवल क्रॉसिंग 69 accidents, 3 फायर accidents और 7 miscellaneous accidents हुए। कुल मिला कर 170 accidents 2008-09 में हुए। 2009-10 का जो डेटा है, जिसमें जनवरी तक का डेटा है, जनवरी के बाद के एक्सीडेंट के बारे में डिस्प्ले नहीं हुआ है, जब कि जनवरी के बाद काफी accidents हुए हैं और काफी मौतें हुई हैं। 2009-10 में 9 आमने-सामने accidents, 59 डीरेलमेंट, लेवल क्रॉसिंग पर 54 accidents और 2 फायर accidents हुए हैं। कुल मिला कर 124 accidents 2008-09 के जनवरी तक हो चुके हैं। इसलिए रेलवे में सफर करना एक बहुत असुविधा का कारण भी बनता जा रहा है। इसी तरह, आज माननीय मंत्री जी ने नहीं माना, जब एक प्रश्न में आया था कि ट्रेनों में जो डकैती और लूट-पाट हो रही है, जिसके कारण रेलवे की सुरक्षा के ऊपर एक बहुत बड़ा प्रश्नचिह्न लग गया है और जो रेल में सफर करते हैं, उनके लिए यह बहुत बड़ी चिंता का विषय है। सबसे बड़ी चिंता की बात तब पैदा होती है, जब रेल

की सुरक्षा में लगे हुए लोग ही यात्रियों को लूटते हैं, यात्रियों के साथ दुर्व्यवहार करते हैं, उस समय, जैसा कि मैंने पहले ही अंतर्राष्ट्रीय रेल की बात बताई है, उसके ऊपर एक दाग लगता है। सर, इन सभी बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए मैं माननीय रेल मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूंगा कि सबसे पहले रेल में यात्रा करने वाले लोगों की सुरक्षा का ध्यान रखा जाए।

सर, Anti Collision Device (ACD) लगाने की बात हम बहुत दिनों से सुनते आ रहे हैं। Konkan Railway Corporation Limited ने स्वदेशी device बनाया था, लेकिन वह अब तक क्यों नहीं लगा? अभी तक इसका जवाब सदन को और देश के लोगों को नहीं मिला है।

माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपनी बजट स्पीच में कहा था कि 1700 किलोमीटर Southern और Western Railway पर जो गाड़ियां चलती हैं, उन पर Anti Collision Device लगाया जाएगा, लेकिन अभी तक देश को इंतजार है कि कब रेल पर यह instrument लगेगा ताकि रेल accident-free हो सके।

महोदय, रेलवे की unmanned crossings पर बहुत सारे accidents होते हैं लेकिन अभी पार्लियामेंट में जो question आया था, उस समय जिस ढंग से मंत्रालय ने जवाब दिया, वह satisfy करने वाला जवाब नहीं था। Unmanned crossings पर इतने accidents हो रहे हैं, उनको manned करने की प्रक्रिया रेल मंत्रालय को करनी चाहिए। जब हमारे नेता श्री अरुण जेटली ने एक प्रश्न उठाया था, उस समय भी आप उसका उत्तर सही नहीं दे पाई थीं। आपने MPs के ऊपर वह डाल दिया कि बीस-बीस लाख या एक project MP ले, तो उसके बाद रेल सोचेगी। रेल मंत्रालय अपनी जिम्मेदारी से भाग नहीं सकता, क्योंकि उन unmanned crossings पर बहुत से accidents होते हैं, बहुत लोगों की जानें जाती हैं और बहुत सी प्रॉपर्टी का नुकसान होता है, इसलिए उनकी सेफ्टी का प्रबंध रेलवे को करना चाहिए। उनको फेज़वाइज़ manned करना चाहिए या alternative ढंग से करना चाहिए। महोदय, मुझे भी कई बार विदेशों में जाने का मौका मिला है। यहां पर ऐसा सिस्टम है कि जब ट्रेन आती है, तो फाटक automatically बंद हो जाता है और जब ट्रेन चली जाती है, तब वह फाटक खुल जाता है। क्या रेल मंत्रालय इस सिस्टम पर विचार कर सकता है कि automatic रेल फाटक लग पाएं? अगर नहीं, तो क्यों, ऐसा जवाब यह सदन आपसे चाहता है।

महोदय, देश में बहुत सारी जगहें रेल से unconnected हैं। हमारे प्रधान मंत्री श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी ने एक सपना देखा था कि कश्मीर तक रेल को शुरू किया जाएगा और उस पर बहुत काम भी हुआ है, लेकिन आज देश के बहुत से हिस्से हैं, जो आज भी रेलवे से connected नहीं हैं। यहां पर उतनी connectivity नहीं है, इसलिए उन प्रदेशों का, उन जगहों का विकास नहीं हो पाता, इसलिए मैं रेल मंत्रालय से निवेदन करूंगा कि आप इन जगहों पर expansion करें। महोदय, मैंने सुना है कि आज्ञादी से पहले होशियारपुर से पेशावर तक ट्रेन जाती थी लेकिन आज स्थिति यह हो गई है कि लोग आगे जा रहे हैं और हम पीछे हो गए। अब होशियारपुर last station है। मैंने बहुत बार रिक्वेस्ट की है, मैं जब लोक सभा में MP था, उस समय भी हर बजट स्पीच में बोलता था, हर बार question raise करता था कि होशियारपुर से रेलवे को extend किया जाए। यह boarding district है, साथ में हिमाचल पड़ता है और tourist की दृष्टि से यह एक ऐसा स्थान है कि अगर रेल का expansion किया जाए तो रेलवे को बहुत ज्यादा फायदा हो सकता है, लेकिन हर question के जवाब में यह आया कि manpower नहीं है, revenue की कमी होगी, लेकिन कभी भी try करके नहीं देखा गया। मैं आपको एक छोटा सा उदाहरण देना चाहता हूं। जहां connectivity है, वहां DMU रेल चलाने की कुछ सुविधाएं अगर दी जाएं तो जनता को बहुत लाभ हो सकता है। उदाहरण के तौर पर होशियारपुर से जम्मू तक rail connectivity है। होशियारपुर से दिल्ली तक वाया जालंधर rail connectivity है, लेकिन वहां से कोई भी ट्रेन न जम्मू को जाती है, न दिल्ली के लिए आती है। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करूंगा कि इसमें आपका कोई additional खर्च नहीं आएगा, जो ट्रेन जालंधर तक आती है, आप उसकी सिर्फ 30-35 किलोमीटर आगे होशियारपुर तक connectivity कर सकते हैं। होशियारपुर तक इंडस्ट्रियल टाउन डेवलप हुआ है और वहां अच्छी-अच्छी इंडस्ट्रीज हैं।

महोदय, साथ ही बहुत सारे जो प्लेटफार्म हैं, अगर उनको देखा जाए तो वे डिब्बों से इतने नीचे होते हैं कि यदि किसी विकलांग, बुजुर्ग या महिला को किसी प्लेटफार्म पर उतरना हो, तो बहुत मुश्किल होता है।

कई बार लोग गिर जाते हैं, accidents होते हैं। ऐसे कई platforms हैं, जो, जितनी लम्बी ट्रेन है, उतने लम्बे नहीं हैं। ऐसी जगह पर एक passenger को उतरना कितना मुश्किल होगा, यह आप समझ सकते हैं। आप रेल मंत्री हैं, आपने भी रेल में सफर किया होगा, आपको मालूम ही होगा कि अगर किसी को बिना platform के कहीं उतरना पड़ जाए, तो कम से कम दो लोगों की सहायता की जरूरत होगी, तब वह नीचे उतर सकता है। मेरा अनुरोध है कि

उन platforms को extend किया जाए, ताकि लोग रेलवे का पूरा फायदा उठा सकें। कई बार लोग इसीलिए रेल में नहीं चढ़ते कि platform है नहीं, तो हम चढ़ेंगे कैसे। इसी तरह एक platform को दूसरे platform से connect करने के लिए कई जगह पर footbridge ही नहीं है। इसलिए सभी footbridge बनाए जाएं, ऐसा मेरा आपसे आग्रह है। माननीय रेल मंत्री महोदया, आपको याद होगा, हमारे एक माननीय सदस्य ने इसी सदन में एक प्रश्न उठाया था कि जो लम्बी दूरी की ट्रेनें चलती हैं, जिनमें लोग 24 घंटे, 36 घंटे सफर करते हैं, उनमें कोई भी medical facility नहीं होती। अगर आप बसों की बात करें, ट्रकों की बात करें, यहां तक कि जो टैक्सियां चलती हैं, उनकी बात करें, तो ऐसे छोटे-छोटे ट्रांसपोर्ट सिस्टम में भी first aid देने का provision होता है। रेलवे, जो कम से कम 1000-1500 लोगों को लेकर चलती है, उनके साथ अगर अभी emergency हो जाए, तो कोई भी ऐसा सिस्टम नहीं है कि उन्हें medical facility दी जाए। हां, आपके लोग इतना जरूर करते हैं कि जब कोई emergency होती है तो एक announcement होती है कि गाड़ी में अगर कोई डॉक्टर है तो फ्लां डिब्बे में चला जाए। वैसे तो कोई जाता नहीं है, अगर चला भी जाए तो medicine न होने के कारण, कोई facility न होने के कारण वह कैसे इलाज कर पाएगा? इसलिए आपको इस संबंध में सोचना होगा कि सारे passengers को ध्यान में रखते हुए उनके लिए medical facility प्रोवाइड की जाए। इसी तरह से pantry की समस्या है। बहुत सी ट्रेनों में pantry car न होने के कारण लोगों को असुविधा होती है। ट्रेन जब platform पर जाकर रुकती है तो वहां पर बहुत rush होता है, लोगों के लिए वहां पर उतरकर कुछ खाने के लिए लाना बड़ा मुश्किल होता है। सर, लोगों ने पेमेंट करके खाने के लिए कुछ खरीदना होता है इसलिए मेरा अनुरोध है कि उनके लिए pantry की सुविधा ज्यादा से ज्यादा extend की जाए। मैं आपसे एक और निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि शताब्दी एक्सप्रेस, राजधानी एक्सप्रेस और व्हील ऑन पैलेस - ये सब ऐसी ट्रेनें हैं जिनमें बहुत सारे foreigners सफर करते हैं, लेकिन ऐसी ट्रेनों में जब खाना अच्छा नहीं मिलता तो उससे देश के गौरव को ठेस पहुंचती है। मुझे याद है, मैं एक बार अमृतसर शताब्दी से सफर कर रहा था तो उस समय मेरे खाने में एक कंकड़ आया। जब मैंने उन लोगों को बुलाकर पूछा तो उन्होंने कहा कि आप खाना बदल सकते हैं। सर, बात खाना बदलने की नहीं है, जिस ट्रेन को विदेश से आए हुए लोग prefer करते हैं कि इस ट्रेन में सफर किया जाए, इसमें सफर करना comfortable होगा, उस ट्रेन में अगर खाना अच्छा नहीं मिलेगा तो इस देश के गौरवमयी इतिहास को ठेस पहुंचेगी। महोदया, इस संबंध में मैं आपको सजेशन देना चाहता हूं कि जो खाना परोसा जाता है, आप उसको परोसने से पहले चैक करने का provision बनाइए ताकि रेलवे में अच्छा खाना मिले। इसके अलावा

रेलवे में बहुत सारी vacancies खाली पड़ी हैं। कृपया उन vacancies को भरिए क्योंकि आज तक जितने भी accidents हुए हैं, उनमें से बहुत से accidents के कारण यह बताए गए हैं कि वहां पर manpower की कमी थी। अगर हम ड्राइवर से ज्यादा काम लेंगे, गार्ड से ज्यादा काम लेंगे तो इसके कारण वह अपनी ड्यूटी को अच्छी तरह से perform नहीं कर पाएगा, जिसके कारण accidents हो सकते हैं। इसलिए मैं आपसे अनुरोध करता हूं कि जितनी भी vacant posts हैं, उनको भरा जाए और जो posts भरने का सिस्टम है, वह भी transparent होना चाहिए। लोगों को विश्वास हो कि यहां पर बिना पैसे दिए हमें नौकरी मिल सकती है। महोदय, जो आम passengers गाड़ियों में सफर करते हैं उनके संबंध में एक बात और कहना चाहता हूं - इसमें ज्यादा पैसा या बजट खर्च करने की जरूरत नहीं है - आप अपने स्टाफ के behaviour को ठीक कीजिए। जितने लोग गाड़ियों में सफर करते हैं, उनके साथ आपके टीटी जो व्यवहार करते हैं, वह अशोभनीय है। कई बार ऐसा होता है कि आपके साथ जो पुलिस चलती है, उनका व्यवहार भी ज्यादा अच्छा नहीं होता है।

तो मैं माननीया रेल मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूंगा, मैंने अपने क्वेश्चंस में कुछ सुझाव दिए हैं, जहां पर बिना पैसे खर्च किए रेलवे अपना विस्तार कर सकती है। आनन्दपुर साहिब पंजाब के लोगों के लिए ही नहीं, बल्कि दुनिया में कहीं भी बैठे हुए लोगों के लिए एक गौरवमयी स्थान है, वहां पर सिख पंथ का निर्माण हुआ था और पटना साहिब में गुरु गोविंद सिंह जी का जनम हुआ था। लेकिन अफसोस की बात है कि आजादी के 63 साल बाद भी इन दोनों स्थानों के लिए कोई भी ट्रेन आज तक नहीं चलाई गई है। बहुत बार सभी लोगों ने, खासकर के पंजाब के लोगों ने आपसे निवेदन किया था कि ट्रायल के रूप में बेशक आप हफ्ते में एक ट्रेन या महीने में दो दिन ट्रेन आनन्दपुर साहिब से पटना साहिब के लिए चला दें, तो बहुत बड़ा लाभ उन यात्रियों को होगा जो पंजाब में आनन्दपुर साहिब और अमृतसर में घूमने आते हैं। मेरी एक प्रपोजल के आधार पर अमृतसर को आनन्दपुर साहिब से जोड़ने के लिए एक बजट में एनाउंस हुआ और सर्वे हुआ। इसके बाद, मैं लोक सभा से एम.पी. नहीं रहा और जब मैं राज्य सभा में आया तो मैंने यहां क्वेश्चन किया कि उस प्रोजेक्ट का क्या हुआ? मुझे इसका जवाब आया तो मुझे बड़ा अफसोस हुआ। जवाब में उन्होंने यह कह कर बात टाल दी कि अगर इसमें 50 परसेंट राज्य डाले और 50 परसेंट रेलवे

डालेगा, तब हम यह प्रोजेक्ट पूरा करेंगे। यह रेलवे का काम है, रेलवे की प्रॉपर्टी है। अगर राज्य पैसा डालेगा तो क्या उसमें होने वाला प्राफिट आप राज्यों का देंगे? यह बात ठीक नहीं है, यह न मानने वाली बात है। कोई भी राज्य कभी भी रेलवे के लिए या उसके विस्तार के लिए, क्योंकि यह रेलवे का अपना प्रोजेक्ट है, रेलवे के विस्तार से आपकी आमदनी बढ़ेगी, तो कोई भी राज्य उसमें शेयर नहीं करेगा। तो मैं आपसे निवेदन करता हूँ कि जैसा बजट में माननीय लालू प्रसाद जी ने माना था कि अमृतसर से आनन्दपुर साहिब रेलवे कनेक्टिविटी हो गई है, सिर्फ 33 किलोमीटर का जो एरिया है, वहां पर रेल बिछानी है, उससे आगे रेल बिछी हुई है। कृपया उस रेलवे प्रोजेक्ट को पूरा किया जाए।

मेरी एक और रिक्वेस्ट है कि होशियारपुर से एक डी.एम.यू. चलाई जाए, क्योंकि जहां पर अमृतसर से बिजनेस कनेक्टिविटी बहुत है। भटिंडा के चार पांच सौ हॉकर्स हैं और वहां सामान बेचने का काम करते हैं, उन्होंने मुझे दुखी होकर बताया कि रेलवे ने उनका काम बंद करवा दिया है, सिर्फ भटिंडा का। 9 स्टेशनों से उनकी कम्पलेंट आई थी कि उन्होंने पैसे जमा नहीं कराए। भटिंडा के सभी वेंडर्स पैसे लेकर आपके अधिकारियों को मिले। उनको बताया गया कि आप पहले सारे पैसे जमा कराओ, तब आपसे बात करेंगे। तब वे पैसे लेकर गए, उनके पैसे जमा नहीं हुए। लेकिन आज भी भटिंडा में जितने, चार-पांच सौ, वेंडर्स हैं, वे बेचारे बेकार होकर बैठे हैं। वे कोई एजिटेशन भी नहीं कर रहे हैं। उनमें से दो-तीन डेली दिल्ली आते हैं, आपके अधिकारियों से टाइम लेते हैं, कोई किसी के पास भेजता है, कोई उनको किसी और के पास भेज देता है। तो मेरा आपसे निवेदन है कि उन लोगों का रोजगार शुरू कराया जाए। ये लगभग 500 वेंडर्स हैं, उन लोगों के लिए जो भी सुविधा हो वह उनके पैसे जमा कराकर शुरू करायी जाए, नहीं तो सब के साथ एक व्यवहार किया जाए, चाहे वे अम्बाला के हों, चाहे वे जालंधर के हों या किसी और स्थान के हों। वहां के ये लोग आज भी रो रहे हैं। वे सिर्फ धरने पर इसीलिए नहीं बैठे हैं, क्योंकि आपने कहा था कि ट्रेन इसलिए लेट होती है कि लोग ट्रेन रोक देते हैं। अगर आप ऐसा व्यवहार करेंगे तो लोगों के पास क्या चारा रहेगा, और वे लोग इस बात पर नहीं उतरें, आपकी ट्रेनें न रोकें, आपकी ट्रेनें चलती रहें। तो उन लोगों के लिए आपको कुछ करना होगा।

मैं गुड्स ट्रेन्स के बारे में भी आपसे कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। मैंने कई स्टेशनों का दौरा किया। अगर कोई व्यापारी आधा घंटा भी अपना माल देरी से उतारता है तो आप उस पर डेमेरेज डाल देते हैं। लेकिन वहां आप उनको

क्या सुविधाएं प्रोवाइड करते हैं, कभी जाकर देखिए। यहां दफ्तर में बैठकर सिर्फ अपनी रिपोर्ट्स को देखकर किसी सवाल का जवाब मत दो, बल्कि वहां किसी अफसर को देखने के लिए भेजें कि वहां क्या सुविधा है। मैं कपूरथला गया, जहां पर आपकी गुड्स ट्रेन्स खड़ी होती हैं, वहां पर मजदूरों को पीने के लिए पानी नहीं है।

वहां पर लाइट का कोई प्रावधान नहीं है, वहां के प्लेटफार्म पर लोग सामान उतारते हैं, वह भी खस्ता हालत में है। होशियारपुर में जहां पर रेलवे की गुड्स ट्रेन्स खड़ी होती हैं, जब से वहां पर लगे शेड उठाए गए हैं, लोगों ने रेलवे से अपना सामान बुक करवाना बंद कर दिया है।

मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं कि इस डाटा को आप वैरिफाई करवा लेना। रेलवे सामान को ले जाने का और लाने का एक रास्ता साधन है। आप इसको वैरिफाई करेंगे, तो आपको पता लगेगा कि वहां पर लोगों ने अपना सामान लाना और ले जाना बंद कर दिया है। मैं आपसे अनुरोध करूंगा कि आप इस बात को वैरिफाई करके लोगों को सुविधाएं उपलब्ध करवाइए। दफ्तर में बैठकर, एयर कंडीशंड कमरों में बैठकर रिपोर्ट तैयार करके अगर सदन में इस तरह से जवाब देंगी तो, आपके जवाब को वैरिफाई करके, हो सकता है कि मुझे प्रिविलेज मोशन भी मूव करना पड़े, अगर वे असत्य हुए तो।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हम इस देश के वासी हैं। हम नहीं चाहते कि सरकार का कोई नुकसान हो। रेलवे की बहुत सी प्रॉपर्टी, बहुत से वृक्ष, बहुत से पेड़ ऐसे ही कटे पड़े हैं, लेकिन कभी भी रेलवे ने चिंता नहीं की है कि उनको उठाकर, बेचकर रेलवे का रेवेन्यू बढ़ाया जाए। माननीय मंत्री जी से मैं अनुरोध करूंगा, आपका जो समय है, वह आजकल वेस्ट बंगाल में ज्यादा लग रहा है, यह इतना बड़ा मंत्रालय है, यह गौरव का मंत्रालय है, इसलिए आप पूरा टाइम इस मंत्रालय को देकर इसकी जो भी कमियां हैं, उनको दूर करने की कोशिश करिए, अन्यथा अच्छा मैसेज नहीं जाएगा। मैंने एक अखबार में पढ़ा था, टाइम्स आफ इंडिया के पेपर में लिखा था, *The Ministry of Railways needs a full time Minister*. मुझे पता नहीं, उन्होंने ऐसे क्यों लिखा है। वे चाहते हैं कि एक पूरे टाइम का मिनिस्टर रेलवे को मिले, ताकि जितनी भी रेलवे की समस्याएं हैं, वे हल की जा सकें। मैं ज्यादा न कहते हुए, फिर पाइंटिड बात आपसे कह रहा हूं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं आपसे निवेदन करूंगा कि जो पाइंटिड बात है, जो रेलवे का इतिहास है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो रेलवे की हिस्ट्री है, उसको देखते हुए, रेलवे एक्सीडेंट-फ्री हो, रेलवे में सफर करना आसान हो,

यात्रियों की इश्योरेंस का जिम्मा भी रेलवे ले, तो उससे यात्रा करने वाले लोगों में एक विश्वास पैदा होगा कि वे रेलवे में यात्रा करेंगे और यदि कोई बात होती है, तो वे कम्पनसेट भी आराम से हो जायेंगे। इन बातों को कहते हुए, मैं माननीया रेल मंत्री जी से आग्रह करता हूँ कि मैंने जिन प्रोजेक्ट्स के बारे में बात कही है, आज आप कुछ न कुछ अनाउंसमेंट. कुछ न कुछ बात उसके बारे में कहेंगी। आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री नंदी येल्लैया (आन्ध्र प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, रेल बजट के बारे में अभी माननीय सदस्य ने अपने विचार प्रकट किए। मैंने रेल बजट पर कई बार अपने विचार व्यक्त किए हैं। जैसा कि माननीया रेल मंत्री जी को मालूम है, मैं जब लोक सभा में था, तेलंगाना का जो एरिया है, उसमें मेढक डिस्ट्रिक्ट है और वहां से श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी जी ने इलेक्शन जीता था। वहां की डिस्ट्रिक्ट अथॉरिटी के एक-दो बुजुर्ग थे, मिस्टर बागा रेड्डी, मदन मोहन और मैं भी था, वहां से मेम्बर ऑफ पार्लियामेंट चुनने के बाद श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी जी प्रधान मंत्री बनीं थीं, तो हम लोगों ने उनके पास जाकर अनुरोध किया कि यह बैकवर्ड एरिया है, इसको फारवर्ड एरिया बनाने के लिए रेल की जरूरत है। वहां की डिस्ट्रिक्ट अथॉरिटी और जितने भी इलेक्टिड मेम्बर थे, उन सबकी रिक्वेस्ट के बाद मैडम ने आठ किलोमीटर रेलवे लाइन खुलवाई। उस वक्त हमारे मल्लिकार्जुन आन्ध्र प्रदेश की ओर से स्टेट मिनिस्टर थे, कुछ साल चलने के बाद, फिर सरकार बदल गई और जो दूसरी सरकार आई, उसको क्लोज किया गया।

सर, मैं मैडम से यह अनुरोध करूंगा कि जिस वक्त नई रेल लाइन बनाई जाए, उसी वक्त यह जांच लिया जाए कि उसका क्या सिस्टम होगा, लेकिन वैसा नहीं किया गया और बाद में 8 किलोमीटर की पूरी लाइन को क्लोज कर दिया गया। महोदय, मैं मैडम से यह भी अनुरोध करूंगा कि आपको काफी जानकारी है और आप रेलवे में काफी तरक्की करने के बारे में सोचती रहती हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि भारत के अंदर कितने बैकवर्ड एरियाज़ हैं, उनकी जानकारी रेलवे बोर्ड को होनी चाहिए। आजकल बैकवर्ड एरिया और फॉरवर्ड एरियाज़ में कोई फर्क नहीं किया जाता है। ऐसा होता है कि 'जिसकी लाठी उसकी भैंस'। मैंने यह बात जाफ़र शरीफ साहब से भी कही थी। मैंने उनसे यह कहा कि साहब, यह क्या हो रहा है? तो उन्होंने जवाब दिया कि आप भी मिनिस्टर बनें, तब अपने हिसाब से काम करना। मैंने कहा कि डेमोक्रेसी का यह ढांचा नहीं हो सकता है। इसलिए मैं आज मैडम से यह कहूंगा कि बैकवर्ड एरिया कौन सा है और फारवर्ड एरिया कौन सा है, इसके लिए आपके पास एक क्राइटेरिया होना चाहिए। उस एरिया से एक MP बदल सकता है और उसकी जगह दूसरा MP आ सकता है। आपके पास एक क्राइटेरिया होना चाहिए कि यह बैकवर्ड एरिया है और इसे फॉरवर्ड करने के लिए कुछ करना है, लेकिन ऐसा नहीं

3.00 P.M.

हो रहा है। तीन साल पहले यहां पर बैकवर्ड एरिया का सर्वे हुआ था। यहां मनोहराबाद से लेकर कोत्तपल्लि वाया सिद्धिपेट, दुब्बाका आदि बैकवर्ड एरिया का सर्वे भी हो चुका है, लेकिन आज तक उस पर काम नहीं हुआ है। हमने कई बार इस सदन में इस विषय को उठाया है। जब हम अपने क्षेत्र में जाते हैं, हम तो राज्य सभा में MP हैं, लेकिन जो लोग लोक सभा में MP हैं, जब वे अपने एरिया में जाते हैं तो लोग उनसे पूछते हैं कि आप लोगों ने दिल्ली में जाकर लोक सभा में बैठने के बाद, राज्य सभा में बैठने के बाद, अपने एरिया के लिए क्या किया है? हमें आवाम को इन सारी बातों का जवाब देना पड़ता है, इसलिए मैं चाहता हूं कि बैकवर्ड एरिया और फारवर्ड एरिया का एक ढांचा होना चाहिए, एक मास्टर प्लान होना चाहिए।

दूसरी बात यह है कि जैसे साउथ सेंट्रल रेलवे की प्रॉपर्टी है और उसमें ज्यादा जमीन है, जिस तरह से स्पेशलिस्ट डॉक्टर्स होते हैं, उसी तरह से कुछ लोग जमीन पर कब्जा करने में स्पेशलिस्ट होते हैं और उसमें हर पार्टी के लोग होते हैं। मैं मैडम को यह भी बताना चाहूंगा कि जैसे मल्काजिरी का म्युनिसिपल एरिया है, वह मेरी ओल्ड पार्लियामेंट्री कांस्टीट्यूएन्सी है, वहां पर लोग बसे हुए हैं, आप उनके साथ क्या करने वाले हैं? क्या आप उस एरिया को डिमॉलिश कराने जा रहे हैं? क्या आप उनको वहां से रिमूव कर सकते हैं? यह नामुमकिन है। यदि आप ऐसा करोगे, तो वहां पर दूसरी पार्टियों के लोग आ जाएंगे, लॉ एंड आर्डर की प्राब्लम हो जाएगी और फायरिंग हो जाएगी, इस तरह की तमाम बातें हैं। मेरा यह कहना है कि रेलवे की प्रॉपर्टी है, उसको आप रेगुलराइज़ कीजिए, उसको नोमिनल रेंट पर दीजिए। आप उसको रेगुलराइज़ नहीं कर रहे हैं और दिन प्रतिदिन रेलवे की जमीन पर इन्क्रोचमेंट बढ़ता जा रहा है। मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि या तो रेलवे की प्रॉपर्टी को उस जोन के अंदर रखिए या फिर उसे रेगुलराइज़ करिए। यह एक अहम सवाल है।

दूसरी बात यह है कि हमारे साथी बहुत कम रेल की यात्रा करते होंगे ... (व्यवधान) ... आप करते हैं? ... (व्यवधान) ... मेजरिटी लोग तो नहीं करते हैं, क्योंकि MP के पास समय कम रहता है। उसको कई कमेटीज अटेंड करनी पड़ती हैं, जिला परिषद की कमेटीज़ अटेंड करनी पड़ती हैं और कभी उसे पार्टी मीटिंग में जाना पड़ता है, जिसके लिए उसे प्लेन का सहारा लेना पड़ता है। इसीलिए जो कॉमन मैन है, गरीब लोग हैं और जो वीकर सेक्शन से हैं, उनके लिए ट्रेन के सिवाय दूसरा कोई जरिया नहीं है। ट्रेनों में इतना गंदा भोजन दिया जाता है, जिससे फूड

पाइजनिंग हो सकती है। इस तरह हमारे यहां ट्रेनों में 70 प्रतिशत लोगों के लिए खाने की व्यवस्था और पानी की व्यवस्था ठीक नहीं है। मैं यह कहता हूं कि केटरिंग सिस्टम इस प्रकार का होना चाहिए, भले ही आप सामान का रेट बढ़ाएं, लेकिन भोजन अच्छा खिलवाइए। ममता जी के जमाने में भोजन में फिश भी खिला सकते हैं, क्योंकि बंगाली लोग ज्यादा फिश खाते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं यहां पर वेजिटेरियन और नॉन वेजिटेरियन की बात नहीं कर रहा हूं। मेरा यह कहना है कि आप केटरिंग के रेट बढ़ाइए, लेकिन अच्छा भोजन दीजिए। सभी लोग क्रिटिसाइज करते हैं कि ट्रेन में भोजन अच्छा नहीं होता है।

इसी तरह से हमारे साउथ सेंट्रल रेलवे में RPF की बहुत शॉर्टेज है। मैंने इस बात का जिक्र स्टैंडिंग रेलवे कमेटी में भी किया था कि वहां पर रिक्रूटमेंट बहुत समय से रुका हुआ है क्योंकि पहले तो RPF के बारे में शिकायतें हैं कि ये लोग ट्रेन में रहते ही नहीं हैं, ये कहंा रहते हैं भगवान जाने। लेकिन इनके बारे में काफी शिकायतें हैं। जहां-जहां पर शॉर्टेज है, वहां पर वेकेंसीज को भरना चाहिए, वे नहीं भरी जा रही हैं, इनको जल्दी भरा जाना चाहिए। आज रेलवे स्टेशन्स पर कितने मासूम लोग घंटों तक ट्रेन की प्रतीक्षा करते हैं। वहां पर बैठने के लिए जगह नहीं मिलती है, वे लोग नीचे बैठ जाते हैं, इसलिए वहां पर बैठने की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। दो-तीन घंटे तक ट्रेन का इंतजार करने के लिए यह व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए, क्योंकि ट्रेन कभी लेट भी हो सकती है। मैं समझता हूं कि रेलवे एक बड़ी ऑटोनोंमस बॉडी है। वह एक बहुत बड़ा समुद्र है, वहां पर क्या होता है, यह किसी को मालूम नहीं पड़ता है, इसलिए मैडम, मैं चाहता हूं कि आप बैकवर्ड एरिया का खयाल रखिए। मैं समझता हूं कि मनोहराबाद, जिसके बारे में मैंने एक बार नहीं, कई बार बोला है कि मनोहराबाद टू कोडोपल्ली, करीमनगर बैकवर्ड एरिया है, जहां सिद्धिपेट एरिया एक डिवीजन है, एक हैडक्वार्टर है, वहां पर कई राइस मिल्स हैं, आपके बहुत से बिजनेस सेंटर हैं, लेकिन उनको रेल में यात्रा करना नसीब नहीं है। मैं चाहता हूं, क्योंकि मैं पांच बार लोक सभा में था, पांच बार मामूली बात नहीं है, मैंने आठ बार कंटेस्ट किया है, उसमें से पांच बार इलेक्ट हुआ हूं, एक बार पांच हजार वोट से हार गया था, अभी सैंकिंड टाइम सोनिया गांधी जी की वजह से, उनकी मेहरबानी से दो दफा राज्य सभा में हूं, इसीलिए मैडम, मैं चाहता हूं ...**(व्यवधान)**... ममता जी की मेहरबानी अलग है, सोनिया गांधी की मेहरबानी अलग है। वे नेशनल लीडर हैं, आप मैडम और सोनिया गांधी को कंपेयर मत कीजिए ...**(व्यवधान)**... यहां रेलवे के बारे में बोल रहे हैं। वे बहुत होशियार महिला हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप क्या बोल रहे हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... देखिए, मैं चेयर की तरफ एड्रेस कर रहा

हूं, मैं आपकी तरफ एड्रेस नहीं कर रहा हूं ... (व्यवधान) ... हमारी मिनिस्टर साहिबान चाहे पॉलिटिक्स में हों, देश में हों या कहीं ओर हों या रेलवे में, मैंने अभी सुना है कि उनकी पूरी फोर्स बंगाल जाती है, वे खामोश नहीं बैठती हैं, बहुत कुछ डिस्पोजल कर रही हैं, अच्छा काम कर रही हैं। उनके अच्छा काम करने के लिए हम उनको बधाई देते हैं और ख्वाहिश करते हैं कि ... (व्यवधान) ...

रेल मंत्री (कुमारी ममता बनर्जी) : सब इधर से ही करते हैं, उधर से नहीं करते हैं।

श्री नंदी येल्लैया : मैडम, इधर से करते हैं, उधर से नहीं करते हैं, यह तो अंदर की बात है। यह सभी को मालूम है, क्या हमको मालूम नहीं है, चाहे कहीं से भी हो, मगर आप करती जरूर हैं, काम होता रहता है। मैं चाहता हूं, मेरी गुजारिश है, मैं पांच बार सदस्य रहा हूं, मैं आपसे एक छोटा सा टुकड़ा मांग रहा हूं कि मनोहराबाद टू सिद्धिपेट, जो आपकी रेलवे लाइन है, जो बैकवर्ड एरिया है, बिजनेस सेंटर है, आप यहां रेलवे लाइन दीजिए। आप कंजूसी मत कीजिए, जरा हमारा हाथ बंटाइए। इतना ही कहते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं, शुक्रिया।

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : धन्यवाद उपसभाध्यक्ष जी। क्योंकि मैं ममता जी का व्यक्तिगत समर्थक हूं, हम उनके साथ प्रोग्रेसिव एलायंस में भी रहे हैं, इसलिए मैं बजट का विरोध करने के लिए नहीं खड़ा हुआ हूं। मैं जानता हूं कि ममता जी डायनामिक हैं, लेकिन जिस कदम पर विभाग चल रहा है, उसकी आलोचना करना मैं अपना कर्तव्य समझता हूं और कुछ सुझाव भी देना चाहता हूं। श्रीमन्, यह बात सही है कि आज यातायात के लिए रेल व्यवस्था सबसे बड़ी ऑर्गेनाइजेशन है। विश्व में शायद ही कोई इतनी बड़ी ऑर्गेनाइजेशन हो, लेकिन अगर उस ऑर्गेनाइजेशन में सुधार नहीं किया गया, उसकी तरफ पूरा ध्यान नहीं दिया गया, तो वह व्यवस्था कहीं चरमरा न जाए, उसकी तरफ भी हमें देखना पड़ेगा। आज हमें इस पर भी सोचना पड़ेगा कि इतने सालों के बाद, जब विश्व में दो सौ, ढाई सौ किलोमीटर पर ऑवर की स्पीड से ट्रेन्स चल रही हों, हमारे हिंदुस्तान में आज भी ट्रेन्स की स्पीड पचास से सत्तर किलोमीटर से ऊपर नहीं बढ़ी है। आजादी के तिरसठ साल बाद आज भी हम रेल व्यवस्था को पचास से सत्तर किलोमीटर से ऊपर नहीं पहुंचा पाए हैं। श्रीमन् "लखनऊ मेल", बड़ी वी.आई.पी. ट्रेन कहलाती है, यह लखनऊ से दिल्ली के बीच चलती है, यह वी.आई.पी. ट्रेन नौ घंटे में लखनऊ से दिल्ली पहुंचाती है। यह जो "लखनऊ मेल" ट्रेन है, यह चार सौ किलोमीटर नौ घंटे में पहुंचती है। आप जोड़ लीजिए कि कितने किलोमीटर पर

ऑवर पड़ेगा। मैं चाहूंगा कि ममता जी इस व्यवस्था पर विचार करें कि अगर रेलवे की स्पीड बढ़ानी है, तो कुछ सोचना होगा। यह सही है कि हमें कहना पड़ रहा है कि रेलवे में एक्सीडेंट्स बहुत अधिक हुए हैं। पिछले दस साल में रेलवे के करीब 3000 एक्सीडेंट्स हुए हैं। एक पूरा विवरण दिया हुआ है कि दस साल में 3000 एक्सीडेंट्स हुए हैं और करीब दस हजार लोग उनमें हताहत हुए हैं। श्रीमन्, खाली कम्पेनसेशन देना अगर हमने अपना कर्तव्य समझ लिया है तो मैं कुछ नहीं कहना चाहता हूँ। कैग की रिपोर्ट आई है।

कैग की एक रिपोर्ट है कि पिछले तीन साल में रेलवे को सुरक्षा पर जितना पैसा दिया गया, रेलवे उस पैसे को खर्च नहीं कर पाई।

ममता जी, आप अपने विभाग में खुद विचार करें, आप सप्लीमेंटरी बजट पेश कर रही हैं, आज आपने क्वेश्चन ऑवर में कहा कि हम सुरक्षा पर पूरा ध्यान दे रहे हैं, अगर आप ध्यान दे रही हैं, तो accidents क्यों बढ़ रहे हैं? हमें इस पर विचार करना पड़ेगा। केवल compensation देना अगर हमने अपना कर्तव्य समझ लिया है, तो मैं समझूंगा कि व्यवस्था में सुधार नहीं हो रहा है कौर कहीं-न-कहीं कमी हो रही है। मैं चाहूंगा कि अगर दिल्ली में ज्यादा टाइम दिया जाए, तो इस पर ज्यादा अच्छा विचार होगा और व्यवस्था में कहीं-न-कहीं सुधार जरूर होगा।

श्रीमन्, कह दिया जाता है कि infrastructure की कमी है, ट्रेनें बहुत बढ़ गई हैं। आप क्यों नहीं infrastructure पर पैसा खर्च करतीं? Infrastructure पर पैसा खर्च करने से कोई मना तो नहीं करता! हमें चाहिए कि हम infrastructure पर पैसा खर्च करें और इस व्यवस्था को और सुधारें। आज सुरक्षा का हाल यह है कि जब आदमी रेल में चलता है, तो उसे लगता है कि हम सुरक्षित हैं कि नहीं, हम गंतव्य स्थान पर पहुंच पाएंगे या नहीं। यह ठीक है, आपने कह दिया कि GRP राज्यों के जिम्मे है, हम 50-50 प्रतिशत पैसा देते हैं, लेकिन RPF तो रेलवे का organization है। हम क्यों नहीं दोनों का तालमेल करके रेलवे की सुरक्षा को बढ़ाते? आज लूटपाट की घटनाएं बढ़ रही हैं। मैंने सुबह ही कहा कि कोलकाता से या बिहार से जितनी ट्रेनें उत्तर प्रदेश आती हैं, कोई भी ट्रेन समय से नहीं पहुंचती है। आखिर उसका कारण क्या है? आपने ठीक कहा कि तमाम राजनीतिक दल बंद का आह्वान कर देते हैं, लेकिन सालों भर तो बंद का आह्वान नहीं रहता है। अगर वहां delay होती है, तो इसका कोई reason होगा।

श्रीमन्, मैंने इसको भी अच्छा नहीं समझा, माओवाद के आतंक में जिस तरह ट्रेनें रोक दी गईं, वह कोई बहुत अच्छा निर्णय नहीं था। आज माओवादी कह दें कि हम इस एरिया में नहीं चलें, तो उस एरिया में पूरे मकान ही खाली करा दिए जाएंगे? माओवादियों से संघर्ष करने के लिए एक कड़ा निर्णय लेना पड़ेगा। माओवादियों से संघर्ष करना, नक्सलवाद से संघर्ष करना सरकार की इच्छा पर निर्भर करता है। अगर हम नक्सलवाद को समर्थन देंगे, तो हम नक्सलवाद का विरोध क्या करेंगे? उत्तर प्रदेश में तीन जिलों में नक्सलवाद था। हमारी मुख्य मंत्री जी ने तीनों जिलों में नक्सलवाद समाप्त कर दिया। सोनभद्र, मिर्जापुर और भदोही, उत्तर प्रदेश के ये तीनों जिले नक्सलवाद से प्रभावित थे। हमने वहां कड़ाई भी की, हमने विकास भी किया और नक्सलवाद को समाप्त किया। आखिर बंगाल, बिहार, छत्तीसगढ़ या झारखंड, आन्ध्र प्रदेश, जहां पर नक्सलवाद है ... (व्यवधान) ... इसमें उड़ीसा भी है, उन सब जगह पर हम क्यों नहीं कोई व्यवस्था करते, क्यों नहीं निर्णय लेते? जब इस सदन में internal security पर बात आएगी, तब इन चीजों को रखा जाएगा।

श्रीमन्, मुझे कहते हुए तकलीफ हो रही है। उत्तर प्रदेश देश का सबसे बड़ा राज्य है, सबसे बड़ी आबादी का प्रदेश है, लेकिन सबसे ज्यादा उपेक्षा उत्तर प्रदेश की होती है। उसका कारण है कि रेल मंत्री ज्यादातर या तो बंगाल से बने या बिहार से बने। रेल विभाग ने उत्तर प्रदेश को उपेक्षित कर दिया है। हमारी याददाश्त में पंडित कमलापति जी उत्तर प्रदेश से रेल मंत्री थे। उस जमाने में ... (व्यवधान) ... लाल बहादुर जी तो शुरू में रहे। उसके बाद पंडित कमलापति उत्तर प्रदेश से रेल मंत्री रहे। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री अनिल माधव दवे (मध्य प्रदेश) : हम आपकी ओर सम्भावना से देख रहे हैं।

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : ठीक है, आशा बांधे रहिए। आशावान बने रहेंगे, तो कुछ-न-कुछ मिलेगा ही।

लाल बहादुर शास्त्री जी के बाद पंडित कमलापति जी रेल मंत्री रहे। कुछ दिन हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश के महावीर प्रसाद जी भी राज्य मंत्री रहे। लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश इतना बड़ा प्रदेश है और उत्तर प्रदेश से कितनी नई ट्रेनें चलाई गईं? आप पिछले बजट को देखिए। उत्तर प्रदेश से उत्तराखंड अलग कर दिया गया। अगर हम लखनऊ से देहरादून के बीच जाना चाहें, तो दो राज्यों की राजधानियों, लखनऊ से देहरादून के बीच जाने के लिए बाबा आदम के जमाने की चली दून एक्सप्रेस और जनता एक्सप्रेस, मात्र दो ट्रेनें हैं, जिनसे हम वहां जा सकते हैं। श्रीमन्, 50 साल पहले

चली वे ट्रेनों, जो बंगाल से आती हैं, बनारस से आती हैं, उन दो ट्रेनों से हम आशा करें कि दो राज्यों के बीच आवागमन बढ़ गया, हम चल पाएंगे, तो ठीक नहीं है। मैं ममता जी से कहूंगा कि वे इस पर विशेष ध्यान दें और लखनऊ से देहरादून के बीच एक ट्रेन चला दें, तो कम-से-कम दो राज्यों की राजधानियां जुड़ जाएंगी और उत्तर प्रदेश और उत्तरांचल फिर एक हो जाएंगे और उत्तर प्रदेश के लोगों को लगेगा कि हम पर ध्यान दिया गया। वैसे तो उत्तर प्रदेश में बहुत ट्रेनों की डिमांड है, मैंने उस दिन कहा भी था, मैं आपके विभाग के अधिकारियों से मिला भी था, उनको भी तमाम सुझाव दिए हैं, उनसे तमाम मांग की हैं, लेकिन मुझे नहीं पता कि उनमें से कितनी पूरी होंगी।

वैसे तो आपने लखनऊ स्टेशन को टॉप प्रायोरिटी पर लिया है, लेकिन उसमें अभी तक बहुत अच्छा सुधार नहीं हुआ है। अगर वहां प्लेटफार्म्स बढ़ा दें तो अच्छा होगा, क्योंकि अब लखनऊ से 200 ट्रेनें निकलने लगी हैं। लखनऊ उत्तर प्रदेश की राजधानी है। चाहे झांसी हो, कानपुर हो, बनारस हो या लखनऊ हो, इन सब स्टेशनों में हमें सुधार करना पड़ेगा।

मैं हरदोई की बात करूंगा। मैं ऑरिजनली वहीं का रहने वाला हूं और राजनीतिक जीवन की शुरुआत मैंने वहीं से की। हरदोई नॉर्थ रेलवे का एक मुख्य स्टेशन है। मैंने उस दिन भी कहा था कि हरदोई और लखनऊ के बीच लोकल ट्रेन चलाई जाये तो रेल विभाग ने एक जवाब दे दिया कि वहां 6000 पैसंजर्स चलते हैं, जबकि बीच के स्टेशनों को नहीं जोड़ा गया। मैं कहता हूं कि अगर आप लखनऊ के बाद बालामऊ, संडीला, रहीमाबाद, मलीहाबाद, काकोरी आदि क्रांतिकारियों से संबंधित बड़े-बड़े स्टेशनों को जोड़ लीजिए तो 20 हजार से कम पैसंजर्स नहीं चलते हैं। अगर आप इन 20 हजार पैसंजर्स के आवागमन के लिए एक शटल अथवा लोकल ट्रेन चला दें तो अच्छा रहेगा, वह रूट भी electrified हो गई है। उस दिन ब्रजेश पाठक जी ने भी यह बात उठाई थी। हमारे हरदोई में अंग्रेजों की बनी हुई माधोगंज-सांडी, बहुत पुरानी लाइन है। वहां लोग आज भी तरस रहे हैं कि अंग्रेज चले गये, ट्रेन बन्द हो गई। अब तो कम से कम हमारा देश आजाद हो गया, अब ट्रेन चल जाएगी, लेकिन आज तक कोई भी ट्रेन उस पर नहीं चली। आप उस पर ही ट्रेन चला दें, आखिर आप कुछ तो कर दें। तमाम ऐसी ट्रेनें हरदोई से

पास हो जाती हैं जो लखनऊ, शाहजहांपुर, बरेली और मुरादाबाद में रुकती हैं, लेकिन पता नहीं हरदोई से क्या नाराजगी है? ... (समय की घंटी) ...

श्रीमन्, मैं ममता जी से कहूंगा कि मैंने कई बार पत्र दिए हैं, अगर आप उन पत्रों को निकलवा लें और उन पर विचार कर लें तो मैं समझूंगा कि आपको उत्तर प्रदेश के प्रति कहीं न कहीं से रहम आया। अगर आप उत्तर प्रदेश के प्रति कुछ सोचेंगी तो जरूर आगे बढ़ेंगी और अगर उत्तर प्रदेश की उपेक्षा करेंगी तो भगवान ही मालिक है कि क्या होगा।

श्रीमन्, इसी प्रकार, मैंने लखीमपुर के बारे में कहा था कि आप वहां मयगलगंज में माल गोदाम बनवा दें, क्योंकि छोटी लाइन का मयगलगंज स्टेशन बड़ी लाइन पर पड़ता है। लखीमपुर में एक पुल भी बनना है। गाजियाबाद से हमारे माननीय सदस्य कश्यप जी बैठे हुए हैं। गाजियाबाद एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण स्टेशन है, लेकिन आज वह बुरी स्थिति में है। वहां के स्टेशन पर बड़ी गन्दगी है और वहां कोई वीआईपी रूम नहीं है। ममता जी, ये तो मैंने लोकल बातें बतलाई हैं।

श्रीमन्, अगर हम रेलवे की पेन्ट्री देख लें तो वहां इतनी गन्दगी है कि कोई पैसंजर खाना नहीं खाएगा। कई बार अखबारों में यह बताया गया कि शताब्दी में जो फल परोसे जा रहे हैं, वे सड़े हुए और खराब हैं, पता नहीं वे किस तरीके के हैं। अब शायद आपने यह निर्णय लिया है कि आप इन सारी चीजों पर कड़ाई करेंगी, लेकिन आप यह कड़ाई कब करेंगी? अगर हमें रेलवे में भी अच्छा खाना नहीं मिलेगा तो फिर कहां पर अच्छा खाना मिलेगा? अगर वहां सफाई नहीं हुई और हम रेलवे का खाना खाकर बीमार हुए ... (समय की घंटी) ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please conclude. We have to take up the next item also.

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल : अन्त में, मैं कहूंगा कि रेलवे में कुलियों की बहुत कमी है। पूर्व मंत्री लालू प्रसाद जी तमाम कुलियों को अपग्रेड कर गये थे। आज स्टेशनों पर कुलियों का बहुत अभाव है। कुछ स्टेशन तो ऐसे हैं, जहां एक कुली भी नहीं रह गया है। हर पैसंजर की इतनी सामर्थ्य नहीं है कि वह अपना सामान खुद उठा कर चले। इसलिए आप कुलियों की भर्ती पर भी ध्यान दें और उनकी भर्ती में आरक्षण का विशेष ध्यान रखें। अगर आप इन सब बातों पर ध्यान देकर इस सदन को कुछ जवाब देंगी तो मैं समझूंगा कि आपने मेरी बात को ध्यान से सुना, उस पर विचार किया और निर्णय लिया। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, before I start my main speech, I would like to remember the 2010-11 Budget Speech delivered by the hon. Railway Minister in the Lower House. She said and I quote it from the PIB release. It says, "Safety and Security never sleeps and zero tolerance for accidents is our vision and mission." I firmly believe that this should be the vision and mission of the Railways as well as the country. Today morning, while replying to a supplementary, the hon. Railway Minister said that more than 2 crore people are traveling from one part of the country to the other. But, we all know the reality and the problems that we are facing.

During the last one year, or, to be very precise, during the last fourteen months, there has been an unprecedented series of accidents, not only in any particular State, but throughout the country. It is absolutely right that an accident is an accident. You can't predict about an accident. It is a fact. But it is a very serious matter that the people of this country have been facing a series of accidents. The reply to a Starred Question, placed before the House today, says that maximum number of accidents has taken place due to human errors. But I would like to make one point that the Railways should pay attention to the maintenance of equipments. Also, the safety measures are being neglected. It is one of the major factors for accidents. It should be recognized by the Ministry of Railways. So, it is not only the human errors that are responsible for accidents. Very recently, in West Bengal, a very big and unfortunate accident had taken place at Sainthia between Vananchal Express and Uttar Banga Express. A lot of ill-fated people had suffered in this accident. A lot of casualties had taken place. But my submission is that it is not only the human errors that are responsible for such accidents, but, in most of the cases, there is negligence on the part of Railway administration. We know that proper inquiry will be conducted. So far as Gyaneshwari Express is concerned, more than 160 casualties had taken place. The matter is being investigated by the CBI. The hon.

Minister had herself told today morning that so far as the Sainthia
Express accident
is concerned, there was a demand for CBI investigation. I am not going
into the details of that. But I

would like to know one thing from the Minister. It is reported that thirteen people have been arrested in connection with the Gyaneshwari Express accident. Is the Ministry aware of their identity? Who are these 13-14 people, who have been arrested? It is a prime concern of common man. People are in panic because of these frequent accidents. They are so scared whether they should travel by train or not. I am saying all this because the Railways is the lifeline of the country. More than 2.20 crore people, throughout the country, travel by Railways; more than 70,000 trains are running; there are thousands of kilometers of railway line throughout the country. So, I firmly believe that the 'Railways' is the lifeline of our country, so far as the people and economy of our country are concerned. So, safety of passengers should be the first priority of the Railways. I suppose, even today also, there are three slogans at the railway stations - safety, security and punctuality. But the first slogan, that is, safety, is under attack. So, the prime concern of the Railways should be the safety and security of its passengers. This is my first submission.

My second point is with regard to security. It is a fact that there are some maintenance problems, and like that. But a lot of posts are also lying vacant in the Railways.

There are two three points in this regard. In the reply given to an Unstarred Question in the Lok Sabha this week, it was said, - "Merely 87,000 posts are vacant which are related to the safety and security measures, as far as the railway is concerned." Why is this so? ...(*Time-bell rings*)... I know the railways are in a process to fill up the vacant positions. But Sir, since it is related to the safety and security of the passengers, it should be done as early as possible. Today morning, the Ministry of Railways told that right from OBC, minorities to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, she is now in the process of filling up these vacancies. So, I emphasis upon this point that as far as the safety and security is concerned, she must fill up these posts as

early as possible.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please conclude.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Sir, my next point is this. I am very much astonished to hear the reply of the hon. Minister. I heard her speech in the Lok Sabha. I would like to know from the hon. Minister why the anti-collision device has not been introduced in the Railways so far. This is my question. Who will reply to this? The Government of India will reply to this. Why is the Government of India not introducing this?

Sir, my last point is this. I feel that there is some discrimination against the Rajya Sabha Members. I do not know why the Railways is having this type of a system. The Railways have introduced monthly passes, 'Izzat train pass' of Rs.25/- for some section of the people. It is a good thing. But the Lok Sabha Members send requisition letter to the Station Master, and, Sir, I was compelled to send it to the DRM. It is causing inconvenience to the Rajya Sabha Members. I request the hon. Minister to look into this and make the process easier.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay.

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Sir, there are two, three more points. Sir, One is about the Palghat coach factory, which is in your State. Then, Sir, the UPA-I Government had declared a wagon factory at Alapuzha. Nothing has been done. Then, more allocation should be made for doubling and electrification in Kerala. This is very much related to your State, Sir. These are my points. Again, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to these points and request the hon. Minister to address these points. With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

SHRI S. THANGAVELU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, at the outset, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my leader, hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalaignar, who has given me the opportunity to become a Member of this august House. I remember here with pride, Perarignar Anna who was the hon. Member of this House and made a great contribution to the growth and development of the people of Tamil Nadu.

As a common citizen belonging to the Scheduled Caste, I also remember Dr. Ambedkar who was a Member of this august House and the architect of our Constitution and his contribution for upgradation of downtrodden people. I further remember here with pride Hon. Murasoli Maran on the occasion of his 76th birthday. He also was a Member of this House and also the Cabinet Minister for a long period. Previously, he acted as a bridge for our leader Dr. Kalaignar and the Central Government. We cannot forget his great contribution to growth and development of this nation and also his diplomatic approach and powerful advocacy for the honour and growth of our country in Doha Conference.

First of all, I welcome the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Railways. Railways has direct link with every citizen of the country and it is therefore necessary to earmark adequate funds for railway projects on priority basis to make the railway service accessible to all sections of the society. Sir, it is my maiden speech. So, I would like to utilize this opportunity for listing a number of long pending demands of the people of Tamil Nadu, as I feel it is my principal duty to do so.

As far as conversion of gauge is concerned, I can certainly say that Tamil Nadu is the only State which has the longest distance of meter gauge lines than any other State of the country. Even though a number of projects are being announced in the Railway Budget every year, but the implementation of those projects could not be realized. For example, the conversion of line between Sengottai and Punalur section of 49 kilometres with 950 meters of tunnel is still under process. It should be completed without further delay so that Tutucorin Port and Cochin Port will have direct link as well as successful execution of Samuthram Project will come into reality.

Also the gauge conversion between Sengottai to Punalur is important, as it would be fruitful for economic and industrial development of both

Tamil Nadu and Kerala States. After completion of gauge conversion between Sengottai to Punalur via Thenkasi and Madurai if a new train from Cochin or Thiruvananthapuram to Chennai is introduced, the present distance of 250 kilometres would be reduced and five hours journey time would be saved.

Also the gauge conversion between Tirunelveli and Tenkasi section of 70 kilometres is in slow progress. So I request that it should be completed within the stipulated time.

Secondly, gauge conversion of 90 kilometres between Madurai and Bodinayakanur has not been initiated till today despite the fact that it was previously announced by the Government in the Railway Budget. Likewise, though the gauge conversion between Villupuram to Katpadi via big pilgrim centre of Thiruvannamalai started four years ago but the work is still going on.

Apart from long distance meter-gauge lines in the State of Tamil Nadu, the early proposed projects of doubling the line are still not implemented and some works are going on at snail pace. I would like to remember in this House that our Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalam, has already urged the Government for doubling and electrification of Chennai to Kanniyakumari section. Due to the absence of double line between Madurai-Virudunagar segment, trains from Virudunagar-Kanniyakumari, Virudunagar-Sengottai and Vanchi Moniyachi to Tuticorin sections are unnecessarily halted at small stations like Kallikudi and Thirumangalam for hours.

Sir, I am very much concerned about the meagre number of new trains introduced in my State and it is customized to cancel the train service of any route without prior notice or alternative steps. Sir, presently, the Podhigai Express from Chennai Egmore to Sengottai is fully congested as this line is the main route for the majority of the people who are visiting Kuttalam, a tourist place and Ayyappan Koil. Further, there was a weekly train between Chennai Egmore to Shengottai but, later, it was cancelled. It has created more passenger traffic in the existing Podhigai

Express. Hence, I request the Government to bring back the earlier weekly train and convert the same into daily basis.

Likewise, a new-train from Sengottai to Coimbatore via Tiruppur was announced by the Government recently and as such a weekly train was running, but this was also stopped now. So, I request the Government to provide daily service on this line. A shuttle train from Coimbatore to Salem via Tiruppur and another new train from Coimbatore to Bangalore should be introduced to minimize road traffic and consequent fuel wastage. From the big pilgrim centre, Thiruchendur to Chennai via Madurai, Trichy, a weekly train is running presently, and I request to convert this service on daily basis with a stopping at Kayalpattinam. I also request for a daily service in day time from Rameshwaram to Chennai for which a new train may be introduced.

I would request you to provide daily train service during the day between Nagercoil and Rameswaram, where the train service provided is only three days a week. A new route connecting Dindigul-Theni-Kumuli-Aiyyappankoil should be laid, as the route has a number of tourist places. Also, it would provide a link between Tamil Nadu and Kerala. The process of laying a new line between Salem and Karur has been very slow; it has been going on for the last ten years. It should be completed within one or two years. Also, a new 27 kilometres stretch should be laid between Dharmapuri and Murappur.

Sir, Sankarankovil is a tourist and religious place. The passenger reservation system in Sankarankovil, Kadayanallur, Srivilliputhur and Tirumangalam should be upgraded into a full-fledged ticket counters functional from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Before concluding, I would like to make two important requests. There is a big yard with a coaching terminus at the Madura Junction. Here, widening of platforms, modernization and installation of escalators is necessary since thousands of people use the Madurai Station everyday. I would request the Government to consider setting up a wagon workshop and

coach maintenance yard at the Tirunelveli Junction. Also, the Tirunelveli Junction should be declared a big terminal station. If that is done, it would provide a useful link to a number of new routes and connect various places.

Sir, while participating in the discussion on The Appropriation Bill of the Railways, I have listed a number of long-pending demands of my State. There are many more points left, but there is paucity of time, and with the hope that the pending demands would be addressed in the coming years, I support this Appropriation Bill wholeheartedly.

SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL (Maharashtra): Thank you, Sir, for giving me time to speak on the Appropriation Bill. सर, मैं ज्यादा समय ने लेते हुए ऑनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब से यह विनती करना चाहता हूँ कि महाराष्ट्र में पंडरपुर-मिराज रेलवे लाइन थी, उसकी पटरी तो डाली गई है लेकिन स्टेशंस पर कार्गो हब बनाने और अन्य चीजें करने के लिए 800 करोड़ रुपये की अभी भी आवश्यकता है। आदरणीय मंत्री महोदया से मेरी विनती है कि यह जो 800 करोड़ रुपए की मांग है, उसे अगर पूरा किया जाए तो अच्छा होगा क्योंकि पंडरपुर एक धार्मिक स्थल है और साल में लगभग सवा करोड़ से दो करोड़ लोग वहां पर दर्शन करने के लिए आते हैं। इसलिए पंडरपुर-मिराज रेलवे लाइन, जितनी जल्दी हो सके, वहां पर जितनी जल्दी amenities दी जा सकें, दी जाएं, यह देखने की आवश्यकता है। दूसरा, जो कुर्दवाडी है, वहां पर वेगन्स के rehabilitation का काम किया जाता था। वहां पर सरकार की जमीन है, रेलवे की जमीन है लेकिन आज तक वहां पर काम न मिलने की वजह से हजारों मजदूर और कामगार बेकार हो गए हैं। वहां पर आज जो भी infrastructure बचा है, उसके लिए आपने 30 करोड़ रुपए की मंजूरी दी थी, वह tender भी निकाला गया था, लेकिन बाद में वह tender कैंसिल हो गया। इसलिए मेरी आदरणीय मंत्री महोदया से विनती है कि वह 30 करोड़ रुपए अगर आप देंगी तो जो भी वहां पर facilities आज खड़ी हैं, उनसे और भी अच्छे wagons का rehabilitation होगा और जो कामगार हैं, उनको काम मिल सकता है। महोदय, मैं एक आखिरी मांग और करना चाहता हूँ। आदरणीय मंत्री महोदया, आपको सब दीदी बुलाते हैं। आपका छोटा भाई होने के नाते मैं आपसे एक विनती करना चाहता हूँ। आज़ादी के बाद हर साल यहां पर एक सवाल उठाया गया है - पंडरपुर-लोनंद रेलवे लाइन के बारे में यह मांग हमेशा आती रही है, लेकिन आज तक उस पर कोई सोच-विचार नहीं किया गया है। मेरा अनुरोध है कि अगर उसका सर्वे हुआ है तो आगे की कार्यवाही की जाए और अगर सर्वे नहीं हुआ है तो सर्वे कराया जाए क्योंकि पंडरपुर शोलापुर डिस्ट्रिक्ट में आता है, जहां पर barren land है, वह barren district है। ऐसा करने से वहां के किसानों को और वहां के धार्मिक स्थलों को अच्छी

सुविधा उपलब्ध हो सकेगी। इसलिए पंडरपुर-लोनंद रेलवे लाइन डालने के लिए मैं आपसे अनुरोध करता हूं। महोदय, चार दिन के बाद रक्षा बंधन का त्योहार है। मेरी दीदी से विनती है कि लोहे की कड़ी डाल दें ताकि एक रक्षा बंधन आपका महाराष्ट्र से जुड़ा रहे। यही विनती करते हुए मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Shri Pyarimohan Mohapatra, not present. Shri Mahendra Mohan.

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : धन्यवाद उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीया रेल मंत्री जी ने जो लगभग 498 करोड़ रुपए का भारत सरकार के कंसोलिडेटेड फंड से धन मांगा है, उससे मैं सहमत हूं, वह धन उन्हें जरूर आबंटित किया जाए। लेकिन मेरा उनसे अनुरोध है कि कुछ ऐसे कार्य हैं जो बहुत समय से बाकी पड़े हुए हैं और रेलवे के पास एक बहुत बड़ा स्रोत है जहां से धन लाया जा सकता है। यह सवाल मैंने रेलवे कंवेन्शन कमेटी में भी उठाया था जब मैं वहां पर था। रेलवे की जो प्रॉपर्टी पड़ी हुई है उसका कोई स्टॉक टेकिंग नहीं हुआ है। अगर रेलवे की प्रॉपर्टी का स्टॉक टेकिंग कराया जाए कि कहां कितनी रेलवे की प्रॉपर्टी पड़ी हुई है, उससे बहुत सा धन एकत्रित किया जा सकता है, जिससे रेलवे के एक्सपेंशन के लिए अच्छे कार्य किए जा सकते हैं।

इसके साथ ही साथ मैं उनका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा कि कानपुर स्टेशन को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर का स्टेशन बनाने की घोषणा सदन में दो साल पहले की गई थी। लेकिन जिस प्रकार से वहां कार्य चल रहा है, अगर कभी वहां का आकस्मिक दौरा माननीया रेल मंत्री जी कर लें तो पता लगेगा कि किसी भी प्रकार से प्रगति नहीं हो रही है। वहां स्टेशन पर हर समय गंदगी पड़ी रहती है और वहां कार्य बहुत ही धीमी गति से चल रहा है। कानपुर के स्टेशन पर व्यवस्थाएं ठीक की जाएं। इसके साथ ही साथ ट्रेनों के अंदर साफ-सफाई, इसके अलावा स्टेशनों पर साफ-सफाई की ओर ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है। एक जो अन्य विषय है, वह कानपुर-झांसी में इलेक्ट्रिफिकेशन का था, जिसे पूर्व रेल मंत्री जी ने स्वीकार भी किया था। कानपुर-झांसी से होकर ही कानपुर और उत्तर प्रदेश का जुड़ाव बनता है। कर्नाटक से, तमिलनाडु से, इन सारे स्टेट्स से, वहां पर सिंगल लाइन चलती है, इलेक्ट्रिफिकेशन नहीं हुआ है जिसके कारण बहुत दिक्कतें होती हैं। वहां पर डबल लाइन कराए जाने का कार्य पहले से ही स्वीकृत है, लेकिन बहुत ही धीमी गति से वह कार्य चल रहा है। एक बहुत बड़ी समस्या आती है जब ट्रेनें लेट हो जाती हैं। उसमें यह व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए, क्योंकि आज टेक्नोलॉजी भी बहुत बढ़ चुकी है, उससे रेलवे

के अंदर यह एनाउंसमेंट हो जानी चाहिए कि अगर गाड़ी एक घंटे से अधिक लेट हो रही है तो किस कारण से यह गाड़ी लेट हो रही है और कितनी लेट है। तो जो सवारियां गाड़ी में चल रही होती हैं, इससे उन्हें सुरक्षा का कुछ भाव प्राप्त हो सकता है, अन्यथा उनको बड़ी दिक्कत होती है। यह पता ही नहीं चलता है चाहे वह राजधानी ट्रेन हो, शताब्दी हो या अन्य विशेष ट्रेनों हों, कि वे क्यों लेट हो रही हैं और कितनी देर बाद वे अपने गंतव्य पर पहुंचेंगी, इसकी कोई जानकारी नहीं मिल पाती है। उस ओर भी थोड़ा सा ध्यान दिया जाए। अगर इसमें एनाउंसमेंट की व्यवस्था करा दी जाए तो बहुत ही अच्छा रहेगा।

मैंने आज सुबह ही एक प्रश्न सुरक्षा के बारे में उठाया था। लूटपाट और जिस प्रकार की घटनाएं आजकल रेलवे के अंदर हो रही हैं, उस ओर भी बहुत ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है। इसमें एक कोऑर्डिनेशन होना चाहिए स्टेट के साथ, अन्यथा जो रेलवे पुलिस फोर्स है उसको अतिरिक्त अधिकार दिए जाएं। उसके लिए जो भी संशोधन कानून में करने हों, वे किए जाएं जिससे कि ट्रेनों के अंदर सुरक्षा मिले। ट्रेनों के अंदर विशेष रूप से महिलाओं को सुरक्षा की बहुत आवश्यकता है, उनके साथ बदसलूकी भी हो जाती है और उन्हें सुरक्षा प्राप्त नहीं हो पाती है। आज ट्रेनों में महिलाओं को अकेले चलना बहुत ही कठिन और दूभर होता चला जा रहा है, इस ओर भी थोड़ा सा ध्यान देना चाहिए।

इसी प्रकार से जब से कुलियों का गैंग मैन बनाने का कार्य किया गया, तब से कुलियों की बहुत कमी हो गई है। जब महिलाएं और बुजुर्ग ट्रेनों में चलते हैं तो सामान वगैरह उठाने में उन्हें बहुत कठिनाई होती है। तो कुलियों के लिए नए लाइसेंस दिए जाएं और कुलियों की संख्या बढ़ाई जाए, जिससे महिलाओं और बुजुर्गों को समुचित सुविधा प्राप्त हो सके। इन्हीं चीजों के साथ मेरा आपने अनुरोध है कि रेलवे के जो ओवर ब्रिज के काम पैडिंग पड़े हुए हैं, बहुत ही धीमी गति से चल रहे हैं, उस ओर ध्यान दिया जाए, ताकि ओवर ब्रिज बनकर तैयार हो सकें, ताकि ट्रैफिक जाम की जो समस्या रहती है, विशेष रूप से उत्तर प्रदेश के अंदर बहुत से स्थानों पर और कानपुर में विशेष रूप से, उस ओर भी ध्यान दिया जाए। वहां के ओवर ब्रिजेज जल्दी से जल्दी पूरे किए जाएं और यह कार्य आगे बढ़ाया जाए।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं समर्थन करता हूं कि उनको अतिरिक्त धन उपलब्ध कराया जाए। इस देश की रेलवे पूरी उसी तरह से क्रियाशील होनी चाहिए जिस प्रकार से शरीर के लिए सारी धमनियों का कार्य होता है, वैसे ही रेलवे हमारे सारे देश को जोड़ती है, एकता को बढ़ाती है। मैं उनका समर्थन करता हूं।

SHRI A. ELAVARASAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the Indian Railways has been playing a vital role in the development of the economy. It has become the lifeline of country's economic prosperity. Everyday, lakhs and lakhs of people travel in the trains, irrespective of caste, creed and religion. It is also the symbol of national integration. It is the largest public sector enterprise with 14 lakh employees and eleven lakh pensioners.

In Tamil Nadu, the length of the metre gauge lines is very-very high as compared to other parts of the country. I appeal that concerted action should be taken by the Railway Ministry to convert all the metre gauge lines into broad gauge lines. It is needless to say that poor allocation for safety works will cost precious human lives. Accidents at unmanned level crossings have become a regular affair. This puts the rail travel safety and road travel safety to great risk. I appeal to the hon. Railway Minister to increase allocation for safety works.

The announcement was made in the Budget for the modernisation of the railway stations into the world class stations and Adarsh stations. A minimum number of stations have been identified. Chennai Egmore, Tambaram, Trichirapalli, Madurai, Salem, Coimbtore, Kumbakonam and Myladuthurai stations may also be included in the proposed list of Adarsh stations. Chennai Egmore, Chennai Central linking project was inaugurated in the year 2003 by the then Minister of State for Railways. There is an increasing doubt in the minds of the people whether the scheme has been dropped. I categorically urge the Minister to clarify whether the scheme has been dropped or not. The main and chord lines from Chennai to Kanyakumari via Trichy and Madurai should be double lined and electrification must be done. There are the five new lines which are under construction: Salem-Karur, Tindivanam-Nagari, Athipattu-Puthur, Erode-Palani and Tindivanam-Thiruvannamalai.

Many railway stations in the rural areas of the country lack basic amenities like drinking water, clean toilets and hygienic refreshment

stalls. Many stations have small platforms that don't accommodate all the coaches of the trains. Many coaches of the trains are far away from the

platforms causing great inconvenience to passengers while boarding and alighting. I request that funds may be allocated for the extension of all such platforms in the current Budget itself. A new railway line should be ordered in between Madurai and Trichy via Melur and Viralimalai. Steps should be taken to provide safety and security for the passengers. The formation of new railway line in between Nagapattinam and Velankanni is complete. In view of the festival of Velankanni, which is going to start from 29th August, 2010, I request the hon. Minister for Railways for early inauguration of the railway line on or before 29th August, 2010.

I humbly request the hon. Minister to consider the following genuine requests of the public: (1) To resume the service of Rockfort Express from Chennai-Trichy-Chennai instead of Chennai to Kumbakonam, (2) The Railway Workshop at Golden Rock may be converted into Coach Manufacturing Factory like the Perambur Coach Factory, Chennai, (3) The Railways should come forward to start new hospitals and multifunctional shopping complex at Trichirapalli Railway Junction, (4) Fill up the safety-related posts, (5) To provide adequate personnel in unmanned railway crossings, (6) efforts should be made to provide better sanitary maintenance in the railway compartments, (7) adequate security with the help of defence personnel may be provided in long-running trains to ensure the safety of the passengers, and (8) to set up a monitoring mechanism to check the quality of food provided in the long-running trains.

With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

SHRI M. P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, there is a widespread criticism and dissatisfaction about the working of the Railways. It was amply manifested in today's Question Hour. Railway accidents are increasing and the safety of the passengers is in danger. More than 87,000 posts are lying vacant. Today, the Minister has promised that she will take action to fill up the vacancies. I hope, she will give a timeframe to fill up the

vacancies, especially, those which are

concerning the railway safety. Sir, 87,000 posts, which are directly connected with the Railway safety, are lying vacant. Due to the shortage of staff, the workload on Railway employees has tremendously increased. Some drivers are forced to work continuously up to sixteen hours, which endangers the safety of the passengers. This is the general picture.

Now, I will draw the Minister's attention to some urgent needs and complaints of Kerala. Sir, we have been saying for long that the State of Kerala is being neglected or discriminated by the Railway authorities. We hoped that there would be some improvement. When the Minister of State for Railways was in Kerala, he toured every Railway station in Kerala, and, received thousands of complaints and suggestions from the passengers. But I am sorry to say that he failed to fulfill his promises. I do not know the reasons but still many of the promises have not been fulfilled.

Sir, in the Railway Budget for the year 2008-09, it was announced that a Rail Coach Factory will be sanctioned at Palakkad. The State Government acquired more than 431 acres of land and handed it over to the Railways but still, the Railways and the Union Government have not taken any decision to sanction this project. The State Government has suggested that the value of the land may be converted as the equity of the State. Either through PPP or any other mechanism, we want Rail Coach Factory, which was promised long time back during Smt. Indira Gandhi's time.

Sir, in the Railway Budget for the year 2007-08, the State of Kerala was promised that a joint venture with steel industry of Kerala will be formed to establish a wagon factory at Alappuzha. Still, there is no word or clearance in this regard by the Railway authorities.

Sir, a dedicated freight corridor connecting Trivandrum with all major metro cities was also promised to us. It is a long-standing demand of the State of Kerala but the Railway is not ready to consider that demand. Sir, with regard to doubling and electrification work in Kerala,

there are a few stretches where the doubling work is pending. Without doubling and electrification work, railway facilities cannot be improved in Kerala. ...(*Time bell rings*)...

Finally, Sir, I will request the Railway Minister to grant some more funds and also give us a timeframe to complete the electrification and doubling work in the State of Kerala. With these words, I conclude my speech. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya, not there. Shri Kumar Deepak Das, I can allow you because only one Member can be allowed from your party. Take two-three minutes.

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS (Assam): Sir, the Railways is running with an ambitious and creative plan. I thank the hon. Railway Minister for assuring us that the pilgrimage of Kamakhya will be connected with other important places of pilgrimage by the Railways. I also thank her for her assurance to complete the survey of new railway line between Jogighopa, Barpeta, Hajo and Amingaon within this financial year. We are eagerly awaiting the announcement of fund provision for this new railway line in the next Railway Budget.

Sir, the North-East region needs an adequate and focussed funding for the railway network. The pace of national project, which has been taken up for implementation in our region, is very slow because of paucity of funds. A long-standing demand of electrification and double-tracking of railway line in the North-East region is still an illusion. The North-East region is backward and one of the main reasons of it is this.

We are surprised that Bongaigaon-Jogighopa-Kamakhya line is considered for the double-track line between Bongaigaon, Rongia, and Kamakhya. This is the impression given by the Ministry in various replies.

Madam, I request you to take immediate steps for doubling the existing railway tracks in the North-East region which is still an illusion for the people of North-East region. It will cost much less in comparison to other States, because meter-gauge track, which is still abundant, can be developed as second broad-gauge track. I hope the hon.

Minister for the Railways will assure us in this regard.

Madam, 400 bigha of Railways' land at Sorbhog line has been lying unutilized for the last six years. Please utilise it and establish at least one factory there or start any other development work in that area, so that it cannot be occupied by other unexpected persons.

Madam, we want that there should be removal of dirty and deplorable coaches which are usually used in various trains running from Assam.

Madam, please start a new passenger train between Dhubri and Guwahati via Rongia, so that North Lakhimpur district and Dhemaji district of Assam along with Arunachal Pradesh can be linked up. There is an urgent need of creating a new separate zone exclusively for the North-East region. It will have exclusive and inclusive economic growth of the North-East Region.

I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will give priority to consider such demands. I hope that Madam will react positively to such demands.

With these few words, I, once again, thank the hon. Minister for giving priority to consider various projects in the North-East region.

Sir, I thank you very much for having given me this opportunity.

4.00 P.M.

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA (Orissa): Sir, I do not support this Appropriation Bill for the simple reason that the Railways perhaps need an additional Rs.15,000 crore. They have been short-changed in this Budget. They have been short-changed in this Budget as they have been short-changed in every Budget. It is high time that from the Central exchequer, the Railways are funded more and more to be able to do their duty to the nation. It is the most crucial infrastructure. The Railway Minister keeps on listening to all of us in both the Houses. And when she goes and sits down in her throne with all the Railway Board Members and everyone, they say that they have not

got enough funds, but, let us try to satisfy everyone, put a little bit here and put a little bit there. What

else can she do if she is denied the funds that she deserves? So, I will not make any demand as such because our demands are well known. Every State has demands. All my colleagues have been making demands. We should demand that the Railways should not be treated merely as a commercial organisation. There should be support available. For the social cost which they incur, they must get the benefit. Unless they do so, I am afraid, the rolling stock will deteriorate, safety measures will not be there and gradually, we will come to a situation where accidents will be more. And because it is depreciating, every such rolling stock will depreciate pretty fast. I don't think I have studied it, but, I think, their depreciation fund is not big enough to really take care of the situation.

Sir, having said this, I will come to a few problems of Orissa. Sir, after long decades, Orissa is going into the throes of industrialisation. Today, there are commitments of more than Rs. 6,00,000 crore of investment. If the PCPIR of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers are put together, if it comes up, which is likely to come up in the near future, it will add another Rs.1.7 lakh crore of more investment. Madam, you will be glad to know that in 2009-10, Orissa stands as number one with an investment of Rs.71,000 crore or Rs.74,000 crore, well ahead of all the other States. But, how would these fructify without infrastructure? You said, "Build roads". Now, the cheapest mode of goods and passenger traffic is the Railways and you are not there. Let us say we need this Daitari-Banspani, which you have built to be doubled, to be extended up to Barbil. A short gap is there -- that's not being done -- to connect it to Jamshedpur. Then the entire northern market, the northern region, is available for industries in Orissa. Otherwise, they go by a longer route and costs increase. Similarly, we are putting up ports. Thirteen ports have been planned. Three have already started; three more are likely to start during this year. The general principle that the Railways appear to be taking is, "No, we won't build lines to

those ports." It will be too much to repeat port developers to take care of the entire cost of the line. Why don't you get into a joint venture? If he takes the railway line, you also lose revenue. It will be a dedicated private railway line. So, why not take up a joint venture? Please think about this suggestion. Another suggestion would be to kindly shift Rourkela-

Jharsuguda portion from South Eastern Railway to Orissa and take out the Waltair Division minus Orissa portion to Andhra Pradesh. Andhra Pradesh has been demanding. We have been demanding for this portion.

Please do it; you will get the blessings of the people of both Andhra Pradesh and Orissa for your future ventures. I have a number of railway lines which are important to the State, which I can mention before you, but I do not want to mention for paucity of time. A number of important trains which you have to run, So, all those lists I will send to the Chairman, Railway Board, and with a copy to you, if you have time to look at it. But passenger amenities in Orissa stations are awful. ...(*Time bell rings*)... You go to other States; you go to Orissa; you will find the difference. Please take care of that. Thank you very much, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Thank you, Mr. Mohapatra. Now, Shri Rajniti Prasad.

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बिहार) : धन्यवाद सर। सबसे पहले तो मैं नंदी येल्लैया साहब को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि आंध्र प्रदेश के होते हुए भी उन्होंने बहुत अच्छी हिन्दी में रेलवे पर अपनी बात कही। इसके लिए मैं उनको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। वे तेलुगुभाषी हैं, लेकिन फिर भी वे अच्छा बोले।
... (व्यवधान) ...

सर, पहली बात यह है कि जो प्राकृतिक आपदा होगी, उसके लिए तो हम कुछ नहीं कर सकते हैं। जैसे अभी लेह में बादल फटा, फिर वहां भूकम्प आया और वहां पर लेह में जो हुआ, स्कूल की छत पर बच्चे मर गये, उनके टिफिन आदि हमको दिखाये गये, लेकिन जब हमारी और आपकी भूल के कारण पैसेंजर्स का जो बस्ता दिखता है, यानी आदमी तो मर जाता है, लेकिन उसका लगेज़ बच जाता है। वह हमारी भूल के कारण होता है। अगर हम बात नहीं करेंगे, तब भी आपको पैसा तो मिलेगा ही, लेकिन इसके बारे में आपको कोई उपाय निकालना चाहिए। जब हम लोग रेल में जाते हैं तो एक दर्दनाक स्थिति होती है और हमें हनुमान चालीसा पढ़ना पड़ता है, जय हनुमान जान गुण सागर कि कहीं कोई गड़बड़ न हो जाए। तो यह जो हनुमान चालीसा पढ़ने वाली बात है, उसके लिए आप जरूर कुछ कीजिए। अगर आप नहीं करेंगी तो गरीब लोग ट्रेन में कैसे चलेंगे? हम लोग तो हवाई जहाज में चलते हैं या

कभी किन्हीं दूसरे साधनों से चलते हैं। आपकी जो ट्रेन है, उसमें कभी ऐसा झंझट होता है, उसमें कभी ऐसा हड़कम्प होता है कि या तो कभी लाइन खत्म हो जाती है, कभी बिजली की लाइन खत्म हो जाती है या कभी कहीं सिग्नल में गड़बड़ी आ जाती है और तब ये ट्रेनें रुक जाती हैं। आप यहां संसद में हमसे पैसा ले रही हैं तो आप भी एक बात याद रखिए कि आप 500 करोड़ रुपये ले रही हैं और 100 करोड़ रुपये आप कॉमनवेल्थ गेम्स में दे रही हैं, इसमें फिर घपले की बात भी आ जाएगी, जिसे बाद में देखा जाएगा, लेकिन अभी आप उसको दे रही हैं।

मैं आपसे यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि बिहार बहुत ही गरीब राज्य रहा है। बिहार आपका भाई ही रहा है, क्योंकि पहले बिहार, बंगाल, उड़ीसा सब एक रहे हैं ... (व्यवधान) ... हमने रेलवे में 58 हजार करोड़ रुपये बिहार को दिये हैं। हमने वहां पांच प्रोजेक्ट्स चलवाये। ऐसा नहीं कि उनका केवल शिलान्यास हुआ बल्कि उन सभी प्रोजेक्ट्स की मंजूरी भी हो गई थी। उन सभी के लिए पैसा सैंक्शन हो गया था कि आप पांच फैक्ट्री वहां लगाएंगे। जब हमने आपसे सवाल पूछा था तो आपने 2010-11 में एक फैक्ट्री चालू करने की बात तो कही, लेकिन बाकी चार के बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा। मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि बिहार बहुत पिछड़ा है, इसके लिए आप जरूर ध्यान दीजिए।

मंत्री महोदया, मैं एक बात आपसे यह कहना चाहता हूं कि मैं पटना के दानापुर के डी.आर.एम. से मिलने गया था। मैंने उनसे कहा कि जो ट्रेनें पटना से बक्सर, पटना से मुकामा और पटना से गया जाती हैं, जब ये ट्रेनें दिन में चलती हैं तो उनको गांव के लोग कहीं भी, बिना स्टेशन के हाथ देकर रुकवा देते हैं। कहते हैं - गाड़ी रोको, हम आ रहे हैं और जहां वे चाहते हैं, उतर जाते हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : आपका 5 मिनट का समय था, अब 4 मिनट हो चुके हैं।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : जब मैं वहां DRM से मिलने गया, तो उन्होंने कहा कि हम इसमें कुछ नहीं कर सकते हैं। जब मैं DGP से मिलने गया, तो उन्होंने भी कहा कि हम कुछ नहीं कर सकते हैं। इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि दिन में जो ट्रेनें पटना से मुकामा, पटना से गया और पटना से बक्सर जाती हैं, उन ट्रेनों का कोई मातृक नहीं होता है, वे कहीं भी रुक जाती हैं, उनमें से लोग कहीं भी उतर जाते हैं। यह बड़ी समस्या है। वहां जितनी फोर्स थी, वह पूरी

फोर्स उठाकर आप बंगाल में लग गई हैं और बिहार में आज RPF की कोई फोर्स नहीं है, यह मुझे बताया गया है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप इस बारे में कुछ स्पष्टीकरण दें।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, दूसरी बात यह है कि हमारे एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि आप ट्रेन से ज्यादा चलते हैं। चूंकि मैं गरीब प्रदेश का आदमी हूँ, इसलिए ट्रेन से ज्यादा चलता हूँ। जब मैं ट्रेन से चलता हूँ, तो मुझे दो बातें याद आती हैं - एक तो यह कि पता नहीं आज कौन सा खाना खाने के लिए मिलेगा और दूसरा यह कि यह ट्रेन कब पहुंचेगी। मैंने आज ही सवाल किया था कि आप कितनी भी स्पीड से ट्रेन को चलाइए, यह कहा जाता है कि right time पर पहुंच रही है, लेकिन आधे-आधे घंटे, एक-एक घंटे, डेढ़-डेढ़ घंटे तक ट्रेन outer पर खड़ी रहती है। इस बारे में आप जरूर विचार करिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : अब आप समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मुझे 2 मिनट और दे दीजिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : आपके 6 मिनट हो गए हैं, बाकी सभी लोगों ने 5-5 मिनट में अपनी बात खत्म कर दी है।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, अभी हाल के दिनों में बिहार में ट्रेनों के अंदर लूटपाट हुई है। आप कहते हैं कि इसे देखना बिहार का काम है। ट्रेन आपकी, ट्रेन में सभी चीजें आपकी, पटरियां आपकी, RPF आपकी और वे लोग RPF की uniform पहनकर ट्रेन में डकैती करते हैं। आपकी intelligence कहाँ गई? मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि आप इस ओर ध्यान दीजिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : आपकी बात हो गई, पांच मिनट हो गए, बहुत ज्यादा समय हो गया।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, एक आखिरी मुद्दा उठाकर मैं अपनी बात आधे मिनट में खत्म करूंगा। उत्तर रेलवे के मुरादाबाद मंडल में एक रेलवे स्टेशन है, जिसका नाम Sambhal है, Sambhal के आगे कोई भी गाड़ी नहीं जाती है। यहां पर रेल लाइन खत्म हो जाती है। आज़ादी से लेकर आज तक यहां कोई भी पैसंजर ट्रेन दिल्ली तक नहीं चली है। Sambhal से मुरादाबाद के बीच पैसंजर ट्रेन चलती है। मेरी रेल मंत्री महोदया से गुज़ारिश है कि चूंकि इस इलाके में ज्यादातर गरीब और अल्पसंख्यक लोग रहते हैं, इसलिए जो भी पैसंजर ट्रेन मुरादाबाद और दिल्ली के बीच चलती है, उनमें से किसी ट्रेन को Sambhal तक चलाया जाए। धन्यवाद

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Shri Anil Madhav Dave. Your party's time is over. So, you take only two or three minutes.

श्री अनिल माधव दवे (मध्य प्रदेश) : सर, मैं 5 मिनट का समय लूंगा।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Your party's time is over. Then I am not calling you.

श्री अनिल माधव दवे : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं विशेषकर मध्य प्रदेश के संबंध में आपके माध्यम से माननीय रेल मंत्री महोदया का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। मध्य प्रदेश के कुछ जिले ऐसे हैं, जिनके अंदर आजादी के 60 सालों के बाद भी रेल सेवा नहीं है। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदया से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि मध्य प्रदेश के दो हिस्से ऐसे हैं, जहां रेलवे की सेवा नहीं है। एक है - धार, झाबुआ, बड़वानी और खरगौन। चूंकि आप खरगौन की हैं, इसलिए मैं आपका पक्ष भी रख रहा हूं। दूसरा हिस्सा है - मंडला, डिंडोरी, बालाघाट और छिन्दवाड़ा। कहने को इनके किनारे से रेल गुजरती है, लेकिन रायसेन ऐसा जिला है, जहां आज तक रेल नहीं है। कहने के लिए कोई कह देता है कि उसके बाजू में एक किलोमीटर की दूरी पर रेलवे स्टेशन है, लेकिन अगर हम समग्र विकास की ओर ध्यान दें, तो मैं चाहता हूं कि इस प्रकार के budget allocation प्रस्तावों में आज नहीं तो भविष्य में अवश्य इसको शामिल करने पर विचार किया जाना चाहिए।

दूसरा, विशेष करके झाबुआ-खरगौन-बड़वानी-अलीराजपुर वाला जो क्षेत्र है, इसके अंदर हमें कभी न कभी रेलवे पर आधारित उद्योगों के संबंध में भी सोचना चाहिए, क्योंकि यह बहुत ही उपेक्षित है। मैं दो-तीन बजट से देख रहा हूं कि शायद कुछ हो जाएगा, शायद कुछ हो जाएगा, लेकिन अभी तक उस विषय में कुछ नहीं हो पा रहा है।

महोदय, सुबह भी मैं इस बात को कह रहा था कि रेलवे के वर्क कल्चर के ऊपर ध्यान देना बहुत जरूरी है। पिछले कुछ समय से ऐसे लोगों ने इसका नेतृत्व कर लिया है, जिनके कारण तीन अलग-अलग विषयों के अंदर बात बिगड़ गई है। False Financial Facts Budget के अंदर रख करके, जिसके लिए आपने कहा था कि मैं white paper दूंगी, लेकिन वह उतना white नहीं बनता है, जितना white बनना था, वह dirty white था। यह अच्छा होता, अगर वह total white बन जाता, जिससे कम से कम यह मालूम पड़ता कि किसी के प्रयत्नों के कारण रेलवे की मूल ढांचागत व्यवस्था के अंदर एक बहुत बड़ी खराबी आई है। हमने human resource के मामले में जिस प्रकार का

recruitment किया है, भारत के अंदर केन्द्र सरकार के जितने भी संस्थान हैं, उन सब के अंदर अगर कहीं सबसे ज्यादा काम का वातावरण था, तो वह रेलवे में था। चूंकि मैं रेलवे कर्मचारी का बेटा हूं और मैंने रेलवे क्वार्टर्स में अपना जीवन जीया है, इसलिए मैं जानता हूं कि working की दृष्टि से रेलवे का atmosphere कितना अच्छा था। पिछले 20 सालों के अंदर रेलवे के अंदर एचआर के क्षेत्र में recruitment के लेवल पर गड़बड़ हुई है। उसके अंदर कभी कोई आता है और कहने लगता है कि रेलवे में कुल्हड़ मिलेगा। कहां है भैया, कुल्हड़? आज की तारीख में डिब्बे के अंदर पीने का पानी नहीं है, बाकी की बात तो छोड़ दीजिए। कोई कहता है कि खादी की चादर मिलेगी, हम गांधी के प्रवर्तक हैं। जिन लोगों ने खादी की चादरों की बात की, सुबह हम शताब्दी एक्सप्रेस की बात कर रहे थे, शताब्दी एक्सप्रेस के अंदर से "वैष्णव जन तो तैने कहिए, जे पीड़ पराई जाने रे" गीत इसलिए हटा दिया गया कि यह गीत सांप्रदायित है। बताइए, अब यह कोई तरीका है काम करने का। ... (समय की घंटी) ...

सर, मेरा कहने का तात्पर्य इतना ही है कि रेलवे के वर्किंग कल्चर के ऊपर ध्यान दे देंगे, तो मुझे लगता है कि चीज पर्याप्त हो जाएगी ... (समय की घंटी) ...

सर, मैं अंतिम बात कह कर अपनी बात समाप्त कर रहा हूं। अगर आप आने वाले financial year के अंदर इतना कह दीजिए कि डिब्बे में पीने के लिए साफ पानी मिल जाए। रेलवे लाइन के दोनों तरफ ट्रेक पर बोलतें फिंकी रहती हैं और हर रेलवे स्टेशन पर बच्चे उसी को रिपेक करके एक-एक, दो-दो रुपए में पानी का बोतल दे रहे हैं, इस environmental hazard के कारण लोग गलत पानी पी रहे हैं। ममता जी, इतना कर दीजिए। मध्य प्रदेश की बातों की ओर मैंने आपका ध्यान आकर्षित किया और अगर राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर वर्क कल्चर के ऊपर ध्यान दिया जाएगा, तो बहुत ठीक होगा। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री ईश्वर सिंह (हरियाणा) : सर, रेलवे हमारे देश की एक जीवन रेखा है। रेलवे में आम आदमी का वास्ता है। हमारी रेल मंत्री बधाई की पात्र हैं। ये एक सफल और निपुण मंत्री साबित हुई हैं। मैं इनको बधाई देता हूं। कई चीजें हैं, जैसे आपकी सादगी है, ईमानदारी है, आपको बहुत सख्ताई से मुकाबला करना पड़ेगा। मैं सबसे पहले भूमि की बात करता हूं। रेलवे के अंदर 75.7 परसेंट भूमि रेलवे स्टेशनों, रेलवे कलोनियों, रेल लाइन, रेल पथ, आदि की संरचना में गई है और 10.5 परसेंट वृक्षारोपण में गई है। यह रेलवे मिनिस्ट्री खुद भी मानती है कि 15 परसेंट भूमि बिल्कुल खाली है, जो कि किसी भी प्रयोग में नहीं लाई जाती है, तो मैं आपसे एक निवेदन करता हूं कि वह भूमि भूमिहीन लोगों को दे दी जाए। वह पट्टे पर दे दी जाए या सीज पर दे दी जाए या हिस्सेदारी पर दे दी जाए, इससे

एक तरफ तो राष्ट्र को फायदा होगा और दूसरी तरफ जो बेरोजगार हैं, उनको रोजगार मिलेगा। विशेष कर जो SC और ST क्लास के लोग हैं, जिनके पास भूमि नहीं है, मेरा आपसे यह निवेदन है कि उनको यह भूमि allot कर दी जाए। वे इसके मालिक नहीं बनेंगे, वे आपको आपका हिस्सा भी देंगे और आपकी मलिकयत को भी संभाल कर रखेंगे, क्योंकि ऐसी भूमि पर अवैध कब्जे हो रहे हैं।

मेरी दूसरी request आपसे यह है कि जैसे अभी उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय ने कहा कि आपका हरियाणा छोटा सा स्टेट है, इसलिए आपको बोलने के लिए एक मिनट मिलेगा। हरियाणा बेशक छोटा है, परंतु देश के अंदर उसकी अहम भूमिका है। हमारा स्टेट धान का कटोरा है और वह wheat का बहुत बड़ा दरिया है, जो सारे देश को भरता है। हमारी फसल का एक-चौथाई हिस्सा देश में जाता है। राजस्व भी हम सबसे ज्यादा देते हैं लेकिन जहां तक यात्री सेवा में हमारा हिस्सा होना चाहिए, वह नगण्य है।

मैडम, आपने पिछले सेशन में कुरुक्षेत्र के लिए announce किया था। आज जिस सीट पर आप बैठी हैं, उसी सीट से आपने कुरुक्षेत्र के लिए announce किया था। ...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : ईश्वर सिंह जी, चेयर पर मैडम नहीं बैठी हैं। आप चेयर को address कीजिए।

श्री ईश्वर सिंह : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं मैडम को सम्बोधित कर रहा था कि पिछले सेशन में ... (व्यवधान) ... सर, पिछले बजट में मैडम ने कहा था कि कुरुक्षेत्र को 1st class station घोषित कर दिया जाएगा, लेकिन दुख की बात है कि जो गीता की स्थली है, जहां हिन्दुस्तान का सबसे बड़ा पर्व मनाया जाता है, जहां सूर्य ग्रहण मनाए जाते हैं, इसको इस साल छोड़ दिया गया है। दूसरे, एक बात सुनने में यह आई है कि एक विशेषज्ञ समिति बनी है, उसने 64 multi functional station घोषित किए हैं। मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदया से यह कहना चाहता हूं कि मैडम, कुरुक्षेत्र से ढांड, पबनावा, टीक, कलायत आदि जो स्टेशन हैं, मैंने इन स्टेशनों पर खुद जाकर देखा है कि पीने की पानी की कहीं सुविधा नहीं है। सीवरेज की कहीं सुविधा नहीं है। वे कहते हैं कि सीवरेज स्टेट का महकमा है और सीवरेज का रेलवे स्टेशनों के साथ कहीं connection नहीं जुड़ता है। सभी स्टेशनों के साथ ऐसा है। सभी रेलवे स्टेशनों ने सीवरेज की अपनी व्यवस्था की है, जो कि नगण्य है और जो गांव के स्टेशन हैं, वे पानी की व्यवस्था के बिना इसी तरह से अधूरे हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपके माध्यम से मैं सबसे बड़ी बात यह कहूंगा कि जो कुरुक्षेत्र से वाया पटियाला वाया चीका-गुला एक रेलवे लाइन मंजूर की है, वह इस बजट के अंदर लाई जाए। इससे हरियाणा का काफी portion पंजाब के साथ जुड़ेगा। एक और अहम बात यह है कि नरवाणा से कुरुक्षेत्र तक अंग्रेजों के जमाने से एक लाइन निकली है, आज तक उसको डबल नहीं किया गया, उसका विद्युतीकरण नहीं किया गया, माल-भाड़े में सबसे ज्यादा आमदनी वहां है, यह आपका रिकार्ड बताता है, परंतु यात्री सुविधा के मामले में सदियों से यहां यात्रियों के लिए, कर्मचारियों के लिए पानी नहीं है। ... (समय की घंटी) ... सर, एक मिनट ... मैं एक बात यह कहना चाहता हूं कि रेलवे में जो सबसे बड़ा defect है, वह ठेकेदारी प्रथा है। ठेकेदारी प्रथा में स्क्रेप है, लाइन बिछाने का काम है, infrastructure का काम है, कार-पार्किंग तक का काम है। इस ठेकेदारी प्रथा की वजह से रेलवे महकमा ज्यादा बदनाम है, इसके ऊपर अंकुश लगाया जाए। यह महकमा जब अपने हॉस्पिटल बनाता है, अपने स्कूल बनाता है तो इन कामों को भी वह अपने अंडर में ले और जी.आर.पी. ... (समय की घंटी) ... सर, जी.आर.पी. एक ऐसा महकमा है, जैसा सुबह मैडम ने कहा कि यह स्टेट का महकमा है, इसके अंदर करप्शन का सबसे बड़ा अड़्डा है। वहां का ही आदमी जो स्टेशन पर तैनात है, वह जानता है कि कौन चोर है, कौन डकैत है, वह ज्यादा शुल्क देकर ... (समय की घंटी) ...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : बैठिएबैठिए।

श्री ईश्वर सिंह : सर, मैं आपका आभारी हूं कि आपने मुझे टाइम दिया, परंतु टाइम भी आपने तीन ही मिनट का दिया, धन्यवाद।

श्री जयप्रकाश नारायण सिंह (झारखंड) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं माननीय रेल मंत्री महोदया से आग्रह करना चाहता हूं और मैंने पहले भी बार-बार आग्रह किया है कि मैं झारखंड और देवघर का रहने वाला हूं और आपका पड़ोसी भी हूं। उसी लाइन से होकर कोलकाता हावड़ा ट्रेन जाती है, हम उसी लाइन पर स्थित हैं। देवघर झारखंड का सबसे पवित्र और famous तीर्थ स्थान है।

हम बराबर यह मांग करते हैं कि झारखंड में माननीय अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी की सरकार में जब

आप मंत्री थे, उस समय रेल लाइन के निर्माण की जो आधारशिला रखी गई थी, अभी तक वह लाइन अधूरी है। उस

लाइन को पूरा किया जाए। दूसरा राजधानी एक्सप्रेस ऊधर से तीन दिन Jasidih रुकती थी, उसे एक दिन कर दिया गया है। आपसे आग्रह है कि इसे तीन दिन किया जाए। महोदय, Jasidih में बहुत बड़ी आबादी है, वहां पर 17-18 हजार की population है। उसको जोड़ने के लिए, समपार बनाने के लिए मैंने लिखा था कि मैं अपने एमपी फंड से पैसा दूंगा। लेकिन आज तक रेल मंत्रालय ने इसका जवाब नहीं दिया कि आप हमारे पैसे का उपयोग करना चाहती हैं या नहीं करना चाहती। इस प्रकार से यह काम नहीं हुआ। महोदय, देवघर-दुमका-रामपुर रेल लाइन को अतिशीघ्र पूरा किया जाए। इसी तरह से गिरीडीह-हजारीबाग-रांची रेल लाइन, देवघर-बांका-सुल्तानगंज रेल लाइन, जमालपुर रेल कारखाना को भी उन्नत किया जाए - यही मेरी मुख्य मांग है। महोदय, मैं ज्यादा समय ने लेते हुए दो मिनट में ही अपनी बात समाप्त कर रहा हूं। मैं मंत्री महोदय से आग्रह करूंगा कि अपने पड़ोसी पर भी ध्यान दें। धन्यवाद।

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT (Maharashtra): Thank you, Sir, for giving me time. It was because of miscommunication; I thought that the Nalanda University Bill was coming up first and so, I did not give my name. I will give my demands only in bullet points to Mamta didi.

Firstly, I must thank her for giving a railway station in the Konkan region of Konkan Railways. Konkan in Maharashtra has four districts, namely, Thane, Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg. All trains passing through this region were not getting stations. Now, you have given one station. I am happy about it. But I am rather surprised how it happened that you have given the station; the train stops at Kankrauli in the Sindhudurg district. But it has no booking facility. There is no quota of seats available at Kankrauli Railway Station. So, what is the point? Therefore my demand is that you should provide the booking facility at this railway station.

My next point is about recruitment. You have Regional Railway Recruitment Boards. My request to you is that, for recruitment in class III and class IV, unskilled and non-engineering staff positions, you must recruit only local people. There is no point in a person coming from the south and going to the north or from the east to the west and so on. That is not useful. Therefore, the selection for recruitment of non-

engineering staff must be done from amongst the local people.

Coming to my third request, in the last Budget, Madam, you had given 105 extra local trains for the suburban railway of Mumbai. We all clapped. I thumped the benches. Where are those trains? What happened to them? Almost half the year has gone by and not one new train has started. I can understand your problem. If we have to have 105 extra local trains, you should have those many tracks. There are no tracks. Where will you run those trains? Trains can't run on roads! Therefore, don't promise anything unless you are very sure of what you can do.

My last point is on behalf of all the MPs. We, MPs, get railway booking. My request to you is, allow us the online booking facility. That online booking facility is not available to us. If we give our IC number, we should be able to get online booking. That is our day-to-day requirement. Please, accept it.

श्री राम कृपाल यादव (बिहार) : धन्यवाद उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने बहुत कृपा की। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान केवल कुछ प्वाइंट्स की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। मैडम हमारी दीदी हैं। महोदय, बिहार के लिए कुछ महत्वपूर्ण योजनाएं थीं, जो शायद pending पड़ी हुई हैं। मैं उनकी चर्चा नहीं करूंगा कि कौन सी महत्वपूर्ण योजनाएं हैं, मैडम को मालूम है। कई महत्वपूर्ण रेल लाइनें बिछानी थीं, कई फैक्ट्रीज़ थीं, जिनकी चर्चा माननीय सदस्य श्री राजनीति प्रसाद जी ने की है। उनकी तरफ अगर मैडम का ध्यान चला जाए तो बड़ी कृपा होगी। सर, मैडम तो विशाल हृदय की व्यक्तित्व हैं।

और आम लोगों की तरह हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि बिहार बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ इलाका है, देश की आजादी के बाद से वहां कोई इण्डस्ट्री नहीं लगी है और उसका हक भी मारा गया है, मैं उसकी डिटेल् में नहीं जाना चाहता। महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मैडम से यह निवेदन करूंगा कि आपके मन में बिहार के प्रति भी वही भावना है, जो बंगाल के प्रति है, क्योंकि बंगाल और बिहार कभी न कभी भाई रहे हैं, और यह उसकी का पार्ट है। जो महत्वपूर्ण योजना है फैक्टरी सहित, उस पर आप कृपया विशेष ध्यान दें, ताकि वहां के आर्थिक विकास में गति हो और बिहार विकास में थोड़ा आगे बढ़ सके। मुझे यह भी निवेदन करना है।

पटना जंक्शन के ठीक बगल में एक सुपर स्पेशलिस्ट हॉस्पिटल का निर्माण हो रहा है, जहां किडनी और हार्ट के इलाज के विशेष इंतजाम होंगे। यह सिर्फ रेलवे स्टाफ के लिए ही नहीं, बल्कि आम लोगों के लिए भी महत्वपूर्ण योजना है। मगर इसका काम धीमा पड़ गया है, जबकि इसका उद्घाटन भी हो गया है। केवल आउटडोर काम हो रहा है। अतः हॉस्पिटल के काम में गति आए और जिस परपज़ से इस हॉस्पिटल का निर्माण कराया जा रहा है, उसकी उपयुक्तता हो सके, उसके लिए हम मैडम से निवेदन करेंगे।

दूसरा, मैडम, पटना जंक्शन पर आप जाएं। मैं तो निवेदन करूंगा, आप तो रेल से सफर करती हैं तथा स्पेशल ट्रेन को भी आप अवाँड करती हैं। कभी, इन दिनों कई महत्वपूर्ण अवसर मिले हैं, मगर आपकी व्यवस्तता रहती है। मैं आपसे निवेदन करूंगा कि पटना जंक्शन पर आप जरा एक बार आ जाइए, जो हालात वहां के हैं हम उसका यहां वर्णन नहीं कर सकते। पटना जंक्शन के ठीक सामने एक शौचालय का निर्माण करवाया गया है। लेकिन वहां तक जाना भी मुश्किल है, मैं उसको एक्सप्लेन नहीं कर सकता। वहां आप जाएं या अपने किसी प्रतिनिधि का भेजकर इसको दिखवाइए कि किन हालात में पटना जंक्शन की स्थिति है। ... (समय की घंटी) ... वहां लाखों लोग आते-जाते हैं लेकिन वहां सफाई की स्थिति बदतर है।

बिहार के अंदर पैसेंजर्स ट्रेन्स की हालत भी बहुत खराब है। वहां जो लोकल ट्रेन्स चलती हैं उनकी बत्ती बंद रहती है, उनके शौचालय की स्थिति बहुत खराब है, उनकी खिड़कियां टूटी रहती हैं। मैडम, आप तो आम लोगों की तरह हैं, वह फर्स्ट क्लास वाली मैडम नहीं है, जो हमारी दीदी है। मेरा निवेदन यह होगा कि कम से कम आप उस पर जरूर ध्यान दें ... (व्यवधान) ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay, please sit down. ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : खाली पाइंट्स ही हैं, मैं खत्म कर दूंगा, दो पाइंट और हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Your time is over, please sit down. ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : बस खत्म कर दूंगा, दो पाइंट और हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं कोई भाषण नहीं कर रहा हूँ, केवल आपके माध्यम से दीदी का ध्यान आकृष्ट कर रहा हूँ और शायद पहली दफा हमको मैडम के सामने रेलवे पर बोलने का अवसर मिला है। इसलिए मैंने निवेदन किया है। एक और महत्वपूर्ण मामला है, जिसके बारे में मैंने मैडम से व्यक्तिगत रूप से उनके चैम्बर में जाकर के निवेदन किया था। पटना में विभिन्न जगहों से दिल्ली से, कोलकाता से ट्रेन का जो कोटा निर्धारित था उका कोटा आधे से कम कर दिया गया है, जबकि इतनी बड़ी तादाद में वहां की आबादी है, वहां के लोग बाहर ज्यादा रहते हैं। जब कोटा खत्म हो जाएगा तो लोग कैसे जा पाएंगे। इसलिए मेरा निवेदन यह होगा कि या तो कोटा फुलफिल करने का काम कीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : बस, बस।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : सर, अंत में मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि पटना के दानापुर में जो डी.आर.एम. कार्यालय है ...**(व्यवधान)**... बस, मैं खत्म कर रहा हूँ। वहां जो कर्मचारियों के रहने के आवास हैं उनकी स्थिति बद से बदतर है। कृपया उस तरफ भी ध्यान दीजिए। इन्हीं चंद शब्दों के साथ मुझे विश्वास है कि जब मैडम जवाब देंगी तो इन पर गौर करेंगी। अन्त में, सर ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Yadav, it is not going on record, please sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Salim Ansari now. ...**(Interruptions)**... What is this? ...**(Interruptions)**... बाकी लिख कर दे दो। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सुनिए, बाकी लिख कर दे दो। आप सुनते नहीं हैं। बैठो, बैठो, टाइम नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Mr. Yadav, it is not good. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please sit down. It is not going on record; Mr. Salim Ansari now. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री सलिम अन्सारी : माननीय डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब का मैं शुक्रिया अदा करता हूँ कि उन्होंने मुझे टाइम दिया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Rajniti Prasad, if a Member or a leader gives an assurance to the Chair, it should be honoured. That is what I am saying. You spoke from

your party, yet you requested that Mr. Yadav be given two minutes. Instead of two, I gave him more than four minutes. But, even then, he is not obeying the Chair. It is not proper. Please take note of it.

श्री सलिम अन्सारी : शुक्रिया डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब। आपने मुझे दो मिनट बोलने का समय दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका आभारी हूँ। मैं आपके माध्यम से रेल मंत्री, कुमारी ममता बनर्जी का ध्यान उत्तर प्रदेश के पूर्वांचल की ओर ले जाना चाहता हूँ। पूर्वांचल अति पिछड़ा है और वहाँ पर मऊ जंक्शन रेलवे स्टेशन है। वह दो किलोमीटर लम्बा है और दो किलोमीटर चौड़ा है और वहाँ एक किलोमीटर लम्बा प्लेट फार्म है। स्वर्गीय कमलनाथ राय जब जिंदा थे, तो 1995 में मऊ जंक्शन को टर्मिनल बनाने की घोषणा की गई थी। यह बनारस और गोरखपुर के बीच पड़ता है। मैं माननीया रेल मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूँगा कि 1995 की वह घोषणा, जो मऊ को टर्मिनल बनाने के लिए की गई थी, उसका क्या हुआ? वहाँ पर पर्याप्त जमीन है, वहाँ पर पर्याप्त सब कुछ है, अगर मऊ को टर्मिनल बनाया जाए, तो इससे वहाँ की जनता को काफी फायदा होगा। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि पूर्वांचल उत्तर प्रदेश का दिल है। टर्मिनल बनाने के बाद वहाँ से तमाम ट्रेनें चलाई जा सकती हैं। रेलवे के पास मऊ में बहुत जगह है, वहाँ पर एक किलोमीटर लम्बा रेलवे प्लेटफार्म है, यह मैंने आपको पहले ही बताया है। उससे 40 किलोमीटर दूर आजमगढ़ पड़ता है, जहाँ से कैफियात एक्सप्रेस बनकर चलती है। वहाँ के लोगों की यह डिमांड है कि कैफियात एक्सप्रेस को मऊ से चलाया जाए। मऊ से पहले रेलवे का loco-shed था, उसमें रेलवे के डेढ़ हजार कर्मचारी काम करते थे, अब वह loco-shed खत्म हो गया है। वहाँ पर रेलवे की सारी प्रॉपर्टी वैसे ही पड़ी है। अगर ममता दीदी मऊ जंक्शन की ओर थोड़ा-सा ध्यान दे दें और मऊ में रेलवे टर्मिनल बना दें, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि इससे बनारस पर भी लोड कम पड़ेगा और गोरखपुर पर भी लोड कम होगा। मेरी मांग है कि मऊ टर्मिनल को फंक्शनिंग किया जाए, वहाँ से ट्रेनों को मूव किया जाए, क्योंकि वहाँ पर आपके पास पर्याप्त मात्रा में जमीन है, यही मुझे कहना है। धन्यवाद।

SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN (Assam): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, as you know, the North-Eastern Region, except Railway, does not depend on any other mode of transportation for its development. We fully depend upon the Railway system. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Railway

Minister that the people of the North-East depend only upon the Railway system for their economic development. The Railway system which was started during the British regime, today it has not seen more and more development after 60 years of Independence. So, I draw the attention of the hon. Railway Minister, through you, Sir, to all these problems we have. Sir, whatever points have been submitted by my friend from Assam, Shri Kumar Deepak Das, because you are cutting down our time, I fully subscribe to all his submissions. But, from my side, I again reiterate that many projects of national importance are pending for implementation in the North-Eastern Region. I request the hon. Railway Minister to use her good offices in the Ministry so that all the projects of national importance in the North-Eastern Region are implemented quickly. These are the projects of national importance, these are committed projects to the people of North-East, but they are not seeing the light of the day. So, I once again request the Railway Minister, I am not going to elaborate it because there is no time, to expedite all the projects of the North-Eastern Region. Sir, with these submissions, as you had said that I should confine to the time-limit, I have confined to it, I conclude my speech. Thank you very much, Sir.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister that in her Budget Speech she had announced that there would be a Wagon Factory in Guwahati on PPP mode. I want to know from the hon. Minister the present status of this project, and I would like to request the hon. Railway Minister -- we have already requested it in the last Budget Session -- that instead of taking up this project on Public-Private-Partnership, it should be taken up by the Railway Department itself.

In her budget speech, the hon. Railway Minister announced that there will be a master plan for the North Eastern Region and in consultation with the North Eastern Region Planning Commission she is going to implement this project. I want to know from the Minister from where

finance is coming

because there is no reflection at all in the General Budget about this plan, and secondly, budgetary provision for the North Eastern Council has not been increased. So, I want to know for this plan where is the money coming from. One of the most interesting things of our region is that there are about 9000 posts of Grade IV and Grade III posts which are vacant in the NF Railway which has headquarters at Maligaon, Guwahati. You know the problems of the North Eastern Region. Insurgency problem of the North Eastern Region is known to everybody. One of the basic reasons for the insurgency of the North Eastern Region is unemployment. Looking at the unemployment, I would like to know whether the Railway Minister is going to announce a special recruitment policy in the interest of the North Eastern Region because we have seen all the times the youth of the North Eastern Region are deprived. Not during your time but before that more than 200 youths were appointed in the NF Railway without any advertisement, without any interview. Out of these 200 youths not a single boy was selected from the North Eastern Region. This is the reason we are suffering a lot. We would like to request the hon. Railway Minister to kindly declare a special recruitment policy considering the problems faced by the youths of the North Eastern Region. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... I would take only one minute, Sir. Sir, there are a lot of projects announced as national projects and one of these projects is the Bogibeel bridge. The foundation stone of this bridge was laid in 1997. But till today this bridge has not been completed. I would like to request the hon. Minister to give some attention on the projects for the North Eastern Region like the Bogibeel bridge, like broad gauge lines and implement the projects of the North Eastern Region as early as possible. The last request I would like to make to the hon. Minister is to introduce electrical rail line and double line in the North Eastern Region. Guwahati is the hub of North Eastern Region and there should be a superfast train, a bullet train, between Guwahati and Mumbai because the highest number of cancer patients of our country is coming from the North

Eastern Region. Looking at the number of cancer patients, will the hon. Minister introduce a bullet train between Guwahati and Mumbai? Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Before hon. Minister's reply, I think Shri Ahammed wants a small intervention for clarification. Yes, please.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): Sir, the Railways and its employees are having excellent relationship and Railways is one institution which has even set apart Rs.55,000 crores of rupees for their salary and pension increase because of the Pay Commission. An hon. Member of this House, Mr. Rajeeve, while speaking here said the Railways has not paid the festival allowance, the Onam allowance to the employees. It is totally incorrect. As a matter of fact, there is a system prevailing in the Railways, the railway unions and the management, they would discuss and do it. As a matter of fact, what happened was that the salaries for the Railways staff are given early during festival season on their request. As they requested, the salary was given on 20th, that is, today, as per their earlier request. That is also the engineering wing of the staff of Trivandrum Division. No other people have come forward. Whoever wants, the Railways is ready. My friend has tried to create a bad impression about Railways. I do not know why he has done it. He also referred my name. It is quite unfortunate. I just wanted to dispel the impression that he sought to create here against the Railways. Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): I am grateful Sir, to the hon. Members. मैं पार्लियामेंट की आभारी हूँ कि आप लोगों ने बहुत सारे सुझाव दिए हैं, बहुत सारी इम्पोर्टेंट बातें भी की हैं, लेकिन यह हमारा कोई जनरल बजट नहीं है, यह जो डिस्कशन है कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा ट्रेन्स चाहिए, स्टॉपेज चाहिए, ये डिमांड्स हर दफा कर सकते हैं, You can make it. लेकिन यह जो है, यह It is just a supplementary demand. Technically, it is Rs. 398 crores. It is for the North-Eastern project and again it will be reimbursed from the Finance Ministry and according to our Budget announced we kept a provision for the Commonwealth Games. But, yesterday also I clarified in the Lok Sabha that we are leading partners of Commonwealth Games but, we will see the credentials, then, we will think about

the matter. But, because of the Budget announcements, we have to keep the provision. We have

kept the provision and there are some technical infrastructural projects which we announced in the Budget. It is only a technical thing. पर जितने भी सजेशनस मिले हैं I think, sometimes if we speak also इसमें अच्छे सजेशनस भी मिले हैं। So, it is good to listen. लैसन और लर्निंग में कभी-कभी थोड़ी अच्छी चीज भी मिलती है। Thank you very much to all our friends. Twenty MPs participated in Supplementary Demands. If I mention their names, it is Shri Avinash Rai Khanna from BJP party, Shri Nandi Yellaiah from INC, Shri Naresh Chandra Agrawal, BSP -- I am not mentioning the party names -- Shri Moinul Hassan, Shri S. Thangavelu, Shri Ranjitsinh Vijaysinh Mohite-Patil, Shri Mahendra Mohan, Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, Shri A. Elavarasan, Shri Achuthan, Shri Kumar Deepak Das, Shri Pyarimohan Mohapatra, Shri Rajniti Prasad, Shri Anil Madhav Dave, Shri Ishwar Singh, Shri Jai Prakash Narayan Singh, Shri Bharatkumar Raut, Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, कभी-कभी एम.पी. का नाम बोलने से वे भी रिकॉर्ड में आ जाते हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ... It is good to give credit to them also.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I think you have not mentioned the name of any CPI (M) Member.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I have already mentioned Mr. Moinul Hassan's name. Then, Shri Salim Ansari, Shri Silvius Condpan and Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya spoke. About 25 Rajya Sabha MPs participated. Thank you very much for giving your good comments. लेकिन सर, एक बात सच है कि कभी-कभी we are discussing why cleanliness is not there, why coaches are not available, why the food is not good, why every stoppage is not available, why train is not running at the proper time. I appreciate all of them. Yes, you need to discuss the matter. It is the concern of the House. It is not only the concern of the House but the concern of the people of this country. I appreciate that. मुझे भी लगता है, लेकिन बात एक है। जब छोटा बच्चा होता है, तो उसकी एडुकेशन के लिए, ऐसा पहले नहीं था, लेकिन अभी उसकी हायर एडुकेशन के लिए पहले से इंश्योरेंस करके रखते हैं, पहले से प्लानिंग करके रखते हैं, मेडिकलेम बनाते हैं। देखिए, एम.पी., एम.एल.एज. में सभी को तो एडवांटेज नहीं मिलती है। एम.एल.ए., एम.पीज. को एडवांटेज रहती है। जब तक वह एम.एल.ए., एम.पी. रहता है, एक्स एम.पीज. रहता है, तब तक

रहती हैं। जो

मैंने देखा है, उसके हिसाब से एम.पीज. के लिए मेडिकलेम फेसिलिटीज थोड़ी सी कम है, एम.एल.ए. को मेडिकल फेसिलिटी ज्यादा है। यह बहुत सारे स्टेट्स में डिफर करती है, अभी वह बात नहीं है, लेकिन आम इंसान के लिए इतनी फेसिलिटी नहीं है। अभी प्लानिंग करके मेडिकलेम करते हैं कि अगर हमारी जिंदगी खतरे में आ जाए। I can at least go for treatment. आप हमको बताइए। I am Railway Minister for the last one year plus one or two months. Earlier, I worked for one year and five months. I quote Abraham Lincoln in this regard. "You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all the people all of the time."

Why am I quoting this? If you say only in this House that आपने क्यों नहीं किया, why are you staying in Kolkata? Why are you not in Delhi? You tell me why have you people not done this. We are the citizens of this country. We have just celebrated the 64th year of our Independence. आपने किया, तो कुछ-न-कुछ तो हुआ, लेकिन अभी हमारी आबादी बढ़ रही है, population बढ़ रही है, infrastructure बढ़ रहा है। I am not blaming any of my predecessor, because I don't play political blame game. I don't believe in that. I am not blaming. I can say so many things. I can also raise my figure at some people. मैंने कभी ऐसा नहीं किया, क्योंकि मैं भी जानती हूँ कि मेरी political boundary क्या है। मैं नहीं बोलना चाहूँगी। मैंने यहां आने के बाद जो देखा, I cannot disclose all these things to you. I am sorry, because there are some internal problems and there is also some internal beauty and duty. कभी country की security की बात होती है, तब हम बाहर चर्चा नहीं करते, क्योंकि इससे हमारी country की इज्जत की बात होती है, हमारी country की security की बात होती है। वैसे ही रेलवे भी एक चीज है, जिसे lifeline of the nation कहा जाता है। हर चीज़ हम बाहर नहीं कहते हैं।

जब मैं यूपीए-॥ के टाइम second time रेलवे मिनिस्टर हुई, मैंने पूरी चीज देखी। इसके बाद मैंने सोचा कि planning करना जरूरी होती है। If you do not do planning for the future, आज अगर कोई मुझे कहे, We need this. Yes, demand तो है, कोच दो, रेक्स दो, ट्रेन दो, लाइन दो, तो planning नहीं होने से हम कहां से ले आएंगे? हम पहले भी कह चुके। I feel, sometimes, sad for this. अगर कपड़ा खरीदना है, तो दुकान में मिलता

है, अगर आप साबुन खरीदते हैं, तो दुकान में मिलता है, लेकिन रेल का कोच दुकान में नहीं मिलता है, अपने देश में बनाने में भी दिक्कत होती है, क्योंकि पूरी चीजें नहीं मिलती हैं। हम जो वैगन का ऑर्डर देते हैं, वह कहीं नहीं मिलता है। Even the coaches are not available. हमारे पास coaches की shortage है। हमारे पास 55 हजार के करीब हैं, लेकिन हमारी shortage आज भी है। हमारे पास 5 हजार से ज्यादा होने चाहिए। Every year demand बढ़ रही है। पहले प्रतिदिन पैसेंजर्स 1.8 करोड़ थे, अभी वे 2 करोड़ से ज्यादा हो गए। कभी आप लोगों ने सोचा कि जब 2 करोड़ 20 लाख पैसेंजर्स हो गए हैं, एक करोड़ से दो करोड़, double हो गए, because the Railways is the only passenger-friendly transport system. आसमान में, If you calculate the seating availability of all the airlines throughout the country, including private, it may be between 25,000 to 30,000 passengers go by air and the Railways carry 2 crores! Sir, can you imagine the network, the vast area, more than 8,000 stations, 17,000 trains? It is not a matter of joke. It is a vast network. लेकिन हम लोगों ने शुरू किया, यह 53 हजार से 64 हजार पर आ गया है। इसको बढ़ाना है। हमें socially desirable projects करना है, इसको गांव-गांव लेकर जाना है, suburban system को और बढ़ाया होना है। जैसे मैं कभी-कभी सोच रही हूँ कि कानपुर से बनारस क्यों नहीं local होगा, बनारस से लखनऊ क्यों नहीं होगा, ऐसे छोटे-छोटे काम। इनको पूरा करने के लिए अभी बहुत सारे vision आ रहे हैं, लेकिन इसके लिए planning करने की जरूरत है। इसीलिए मैंने यहां आने के बाद जो पहला काम किया, मैंने Vision 2020 किया, क्योंकि मैंने commitment किया था। मैंने 3 महीने - 6 महीने के अन्दर आपको Vision 2020 इसलिए दिया कि 10 साल के अन्दर कितने किलोमीटर लाइन हो सकती है, 10 साल के अन्दर कितनी इंडस्ट्री हो सकती है, 10 साल के अन्दर कितने कोच मिलने चाहिए, 10 साल के अन्दर कैसे accidents को रोक सकते हैं, 10 साल के अन्दर कैसी employment potentiality हो सकती है, I covered everything in the Vision 2020 document. I request all my colleagues of this House to please go through that vision document.

What we have done in one year? हम लोगों ने क्या किया? आप लोगों ने catering policy के बारे में कहा। मैंने नई catering policy बनाई, announce भी कर दिया, लेकिन पुरानी चीज़ से नई चीज़ में आने में थोड़ा

टाइम लगता है। हम लोगों ने 6 महीने टाइम लिया। इसके लिए हमें best kitchen बनाना है। अगर अच्छा खाना बनाना है, तो best kitchen बनाना है, क्योंकि ऐसा नहीं है कि हम एक दिन के लिए खाना बनाएंगे।

हमें 10 लाख पैसंजर्स को खाना देना है तो वह एक दिन में तैयार नहीं होता है। सर, 10 लाख लोगों के लिए खाना तैयार करना एक मुश्किल बात होती है। इसके लिए इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर की जरूरत होती है। We need good people and good infrastructure for that. इसके लिए हमने कैटरिंग पॉलिसी को चेंज किया है और हमने न्यू पॉलिसी अपनायी है। हम चाहते हैं कि रेल का खाना अच्छा मिले, इसकी क्रेडिबिलिटी तथा क्रेडेंशियल्स बनी रहे और पहले की तरह इसकी अच्छी इमेज हो। इसके लिए हमने वादा किया था और हमने पॉलिसी अनाउंस कर दी।

सर, हमने एक साल के अंदर व्हाइट पेपर लाने की बात कही थी। Somebody may be happy and somebody may not be happy. But this is not my political White Paper. It is not a black list. It is a truth. Even the CAG has also appreciated that White Paper. तीसरा प्वायंट यह है कि हम एक साल के अंदर कैटरिंग पॉलिसी को लेकर आये। चौथा प्वायंट यह है कि हमने रेलवे के रिक्रूटमेंट के लिए नई पॉलिसी बनाई। One of our friends from Assam, and also some other friends, raised a point regarding local employment. हमने जो पॉलिसी बनायी है, उसमें यह व्यवस्था है कि एक दिन में examination होगा। अगर examination एक ही दिन होगा तो बिहार से बंगाल, बंगाल से महाराष्ट्र या महाराष्ट्र से चेन्नई कोई नहीं जा सकता है। The regional people will automatically get an opportunity, इसलिए हमने नई रिक्रूटमेंट पॉलिसी अनाउन्स कर दी। And, you will be happy to know की हमारा बैकलॉग है, लेकिन वह बैकलॉग पिछले 10 सालों से पूरा क्यों नहीं किया गया? I cannot do it in a day. सर, इसमें नोटिफिकेशन होता है, प्रोसेस होती है और जब हम एम्प्लायमेंट का नोटिस देते हैं तो वह कभी CAT में चला जाता है, कभी कोर्ट में चला जाता है, कभी SAT में चला जाता है और कभी हम रैट हो जाते हैं। यह भी होता है। इसमें कभी-कभी लीगल टेक्निकल प्रॉब्लम भी होती है। इसलिए हमने यह प्रोसेस शुरू कर दिया। यह ग्रुप "सी" में भी शुरू हो गया है और सेफ्टी कैटगरी में भी शुरू हो गया है, लेकिन हमारे जो 21 न्यू रिक्रूटमेंट बोर्ड्स हैं, इनमें 20 जगहों पर ग्रुप "सी" का examination भी हुआ और एक जगह में गड़बड़ी हुई तो लोगों ने हल्ला मचाना शुरू कर दिया। अगर 21 जगह होगा, तो क्या एक जगह गड़बड़ नहीं होगी? अगर कोई गड़बड़ करेगा तो उसको पकड़ा जाएगा। अगर कोई आदमी गड़बड़ करे तो उसको पकड़ना

भी तो जरूरी है? इसके लिए you should appreciate. हमने काम की शुरुआत कर दी है। हमारी जो सेफ्टी कैटेगरी है, इसको नेगलेक्ट नहीं करना चाहिए। Our slogan is correct that safety never sleeps. इसके लिए हमने जान-बूझ कर ऐसा स्लोगन दिया। सेफ्टी को strengthen करने के लिए ही हमने ऐसा स्लोगन दिया। Some people may be unhappy, but I am not unhappy about that. हमको हमारे स्टेट में अच्छा मैसेज दिया जाता है, लेकिन इधर आप लोग थोड़ी गड़बड़ करते हैं, ठीक है। मैं केवल कोलकाता में रहती हूं, कोई काम नहीं करती हूं तो क्या इतनी सारी पॉलिसीज़ ऐसे ही बन गईं? ऐसी बहुत सारी बातें हैं, जिन्हें मैं बताऊंगी। इसीलिए हमने safety never sleeps कहा। सेफ्टी कैटेगरी के लिए जो बैकलॉग था, मैं तो एक साल से हूं, पहले के लोगों ने उसे क्यों नहीं किया? उसमें 10 सालों से भर्ती क्यों नहीं की गई? Maybe, there were some problems. I am not blaming anybody, लेकिन यह एक दिन मैं तो नहीं हुआ? उसमें भी सेफ्टी को ध्यान में रखने के लिए हमने अभी एक नई पॉलिसी अपनाई। हमारे रेलवे में बहुत सारे सेफ्टी कैटेगरी के स्टाफ हैं और जो voluntarily retire करते हैं, उनके लिए Safety-related Retirement Scheme भी बना ली है। अगर कोई आदमी 50 साल की उम्र में कहता है कि I am not be able to do my job as a Gangman and I want to offer my services to my son, he is eligible, मैं रिटायर होना चाहता हूं, तो हम उसको मौका देंगे। इसका मतलब यह कि इसमें दोनों चीजें हो जाती हैं, एक तो employment for the railway employees will be guaranteed, especially in the safety category, इसके लिए उसको काम करने की इच्छा भी ज्यादा होगी तथा वह और भी अच्छा काम करेगा, यह हमारा विश्वास है। सेफ्टी कैटेगरी के लिए हमने ऐसा किया है। Voluntary retirement के लिए we are proud of our employees' union. We have a recognized union. It is their proposal. They came to us. उन employees को प्रायोरिटी देने के लिए हमने उनके मुताबिक काम किया। We have approved that policy for employment. As far as other recruitment are concerned, they are in process. So far as fulfilling the notification and other Government processes are concerned, they will be done at right time. ये हमें करना है। हमने एक और काम किया कि अगर नोटिफिकेशन करने में टाइम लगता है, क्योंकि इसमें बहुत सारी टेक्निकल प्रॉब्लम्स भी आ जाती हैं। Mr. Kapil Sibal is here.

5.00 P.M.

वैसे वे HRD मिनिस्टर हैं, लेकिन basically Shri Kapil Sibal is a big lawyer. He knows, if there is a legal case. तो एक साल, दो साल, चार साल, पांच साल, बहुत इंतजार करना पड़ता है। इसलिए हमने एक shortcut रास्ता अपनाया, not negatively but positively. हमने यह किया कि हमारे जितने भी Act Apprentice हैं, हमने उन सबको भर्ती कर दिया। मुझे पता नहीं है कि वे यू.पी. के हैं या बिहार के हैं या महाराष्ट्र के हैं या पंजाब के हैं। पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में रेलवे के जो भी Act Apprentice हैं, हमने उन सबको भर्ती करने का फैसला किया है। यह हमारे railway employees की बात है। इसके बाद हम लोगों ने Ex-servicemen के लिए कहा है कि उनको हम safety and security में लगाएंगे। इसके लिए जो भी मौका मिलेगा, उस मौके पर हम यह काम करेंगे, हमने यह पॉलिसी अपनाई है।

इसके बाद मैं प्लानिंग की बात करती हूँ, हमें प्लानिंग करनी है। कोई स्टेशन है, वहां पानी नहीं है, यह बात सच है, किसी स्टेशन में बैठने की जगह नहीं है, यह बात भी ठीक है। बहुत से लोग कहते हैं कि मैं यहां नहीं रहती हूँ। Do you know 15 दिनों के अंदर हम लोग safety के बारे में पूरे रेलवे बोर्ड की मीटिंग करते हैं। Yes, I am attending the meeting every 15 days. If I do not know the job, how do I do it? Politically, आपको हमारे खिलाफ जितना भी बोलना है, आप बोल सकते हैं, लेकिन मैं आपको बताना चाहती हूँ कि Every 15 days, I, personally, meet the full Railway Board alongwith the Safety and Security officials. Every 15 days, I do it. इसीलिए, safety के बारे में we have taken so many decisions.

Now, I come to the Konkan Railway anti-collision device. जब मैं 1999 में मिनिस्टर थी, for one year and five months, that time, I had ordered for the pilot project regarding the Konkan Railway anti-collision device. I went personally to Madgaon to see the device. Then, I ordered. लेकिन अब इसको 10 साल हो गए हैं, एक ही final हुआ है, उसके आगे नहीं हुआ। अब पिछले एक साल से चर्चा चल रही है और अभी तीन

जगहों पर हाल ही में चालू हुआ है। अभी नॉर्थ फ्रंटियर में चालू हुआ, 1,700 किलोमीटर के रूट में, लेकिन By the 1st of September, in three areas, that is, Chennai, Hubli and Secunderabad, यहां पर भी anti-collision device काम करेगा। इतनी जल्दी हम लोगों ने यह काम किया है। Similarly दो सालों के अंदर unmanned level crossing की समस्या solve हो जाएगी। देखिए, TPWS के लिए हमने बजट में बहुत पैसा दिया है। Train Protection & Warning System के लिए भी हम लोगों ने बहुत पैसा रखा है। इसको करना जरूरी है, लेकिन करने में समय लगता है। आज अगर मैंने बजट में इसके लिए रुपया रखा है, तो उसके बाद टेंडर करना है, यदि कोई complaint करे, तो दोबारा टेंडर करना है। अगर दो बार टेंडर आता है, तो इसी में छह महीने से एक साल तक का समय लग जाता है। गवर्नमेंट का कोई process होता है और process में delay भी होता है। अब जहां तक world-class stations का सवाल है, world-class stations के जो norms हैं, उनको ध्यान में रखते हुए हमें टेंडर करना पड़ता है। इसी तरह से MFC के लिए भी टेंडर करना पड़ता है। अगर हमें टेंडर करना पड़ता है, तो इसमें समय लग जाता है। यह time हमें maintain करना है, अगर नहीं करेंगे, तो आप कहेंगे कि आपने illegally यह काम कर दिया। हम क्या करें? हमारे लिए तो गवर्नमेंट का सिस्टम follow करना जरूरी है और इसमें थोड़ा समय लग जाता है। आज कहने से कल तक नहीं होगा। आपको पहले रेलवे के सिस्टम के बारे में पता होना चाहिए कि इसमें 6 महीने से एक साल तक का समय लग सकता है, because of the tender and other processes. But it is under process. इसके लिए हमें कहने की जरूरत नहीं है। अभी हमारे कई साथियों ने कहा कि We are not giving importance to safety. That is, absolutely, wrong. In 2003, the SSRF was created. It was about Rs.17,000 crores, लेकिन इन सब funds को मिला कर अब Corporate Safety Plan में हमें 31835 करोड़ रुपए खर्च करना है और By 2013, we have to complete all these safety funds. During these days, we have completed more than Rs.29,000 crores. Only Rs.2500 crores are left out. It will be completed by 2013. I say that even before that time it will be completed. The Government has to follow some process and we are doing it very quickly. Sir, we are giving all the required importance to safety

aspects because this is an important area. Sir, as far as rail accidents are concerned, I mentioned about the anti-collision device. It is not foolproof till now. We have asked the Konkan Railways to take care. See the foolproof system. We will place the order if it is foolproof.

That is why we are waiting for that also because, I think, even if you accommodate it now, it will take 3-4 years' time to complete. But there is some system which is already working in Chennai, Mumbai and we have also tried it in the suburban areas.

Then, Sir, I come to the points made by my friend from CPI(M), Mr. Moinul Hassan. He is a very good person. I appreciate him for his concerns. Of course, he is my opponent; but still I will give him 100 per cent marks. This is the beauty of democracy. I want to appreciate him. He said a series of accidents took place in the last 14 months. I want to just clarify that. It is a fact that the number of accidents is now declining. If you see the number, you will find that it is declining. Here I can quote the figures because here it is necessary to give the correct figure. Otherwise, I would not have quoted that. Sir, if you see the figures of total number of train accidents, you will see that in 2002-03, it was 269; in 2003-04, it was 239; in 2004-05, it was 169; in 2005-06, it was 169; in 2006-07, this number was 123; in 2007-08, it was 129; in 2008-09, it was 115; and in 2009-10, it was 100. I can also give you figures with respect to these four months, which is 32 and 26, but since the year is not yet complete, I cannot give you the details about 2010-11. We have to wait for that. Sir, only because of these two incidents in two months, the death toll has increased. I am sorry; I condemn these incidents. Whoever they may be, I condemn it. I don't know who are these people who have done it; but I condemn this attitude. The reason why I am saying it is because these are not accidents. In Gyaneshwari-bound accident, 150 people died. I don't know who are these people; somebody may be from Bihar; somebody may be from Himachal; somebody may be from Kanyakumari; and

somebody may be going from Maharashtra to Bengal. Why has their life been lost? Why? It is due to sabotage. I am sorry to see the death toll. I always appeal to my friends to please fight with me politically. I can give reply to all your political questions outside. But don't play politics with me. इतने आदमी को मत मारो, किसी के जान से खेल मत करो, हमको यह पसंद नहीं है। Sir, we are shocked or rather everybody should be shocked for those incidents. Everybody should condemn it. Sir, I cannot give you all the details because the investigation is going on. We handed over this case to the CBI. Let them give their complete report. After their report, we can tell you the details. So, as per our *parampara*, मैं नहीं कह सकती हूँ। That is why I am not telling it; but it is a sabotage. You can condemn that. The people have been killed. We can condemn that. This is not an accident. It is an incident. Even for Sainthia incident also, we requested the Home Ministry to allow the CBI inquiry. We want to know the actual reasons. Seeing these two incidents not only me but all the countrymen are shocked. Really we are shocked, Sir. I have never seen this type of thing. I agree, Sir, that sometimes accidents are caused by human errors. We cannot deny that. Sometimes accidents happen due to that also. If you keep so many cars with you, sometimes, that may be bad also. सर, बोला जाता है कि सिग्नल इतना failure क्यों होता है। Sir, we must also appreciate that 17,000 trains run per day. अगर किसी में थोड़ा सा सिग्नल गड़बड़ हो गया, तो खराब हुआ, लेकिन कभी-कभी ऐसा हो जाता है। हम लोग ऐसा नहीं चाहते हैं। Sir, if you see the figures of road accidents, it is about 1,40,000. Railways is a passenger friendly mode of transport. About 17,000 trains run every day. अगर बड़ा कुछ होता है, इसमें भी इतना नहीं होता है, तब भी हम 1000 से ज्यादा कभी cross नहीं करते हैं। Just compare it with 1,40,000. लेकिन तब भी हम लोग नहीं करते हैं। Even one life is important to us. इसलिए मैं कहना चाहूंगी कि जो incident हुआ है, that is not accident. Incident is incident. इसके लिए sabotage और बात-बात पर जान पर खेलना किसी के लिए भी ठीक नहीं है। यह देश के लिए भी खतरा है। Sir, today I am the Railway Minister. Tomorrow, I may not be here. Any of my friends can come; any political party can come; any Government can come. But if such an

incident takes place, I will feel sorry for it. My heart will cry.

My heart is crying for the victims and for every family member of the victims. We express our condolences to all the family members. I am aware that no amount of financial help can compensate for the loss of lives. But there can be no compromise on safety and security of the Railways लेकिन तब भी उनके परिवार हैं। हम लोगों को कभी-कभी future के लिए परिवार को भी देखना पड़ता है। We even tried giving compensation and made special announcement for employment from among the victims' families in the Railways. They should get, at least, something for their future. यह हम लोगों ने किया है। My hon. colleagues have covered the point about drinking water; वह मैं भूल गई, वह प्वाइंट छूट गया। उसके लिए हम लोग चाहते हैं कि 8000 स्टेशनों में हम इसको मगर रेलवे के पास इतना पैसा नहीं है। रेलवे केवल commercial नहीं है, इसकी social obligation भी है। अभी पेट्रोल-डीज़ल में रेलवे का 1000 करोड़ रुपया गया। इलैक्शन हुआ, उसमें गया, बाद में हम लोगों ने बढ़ाया नहीं। हम तो गवर्नमेंट में एक साथ ही हैं, यह भी हमारी गवर्नमेंट है, लेकिन हमने नहीं बढ़ाया, तो 1000 करोड़ रुपया हमारा ज्यादा expenditure हो गया। इसके बाद रेल रोको, रास्ता रोको, बंद आदि में हमारा 1000 करोड़ का नुकसान हुआ। इसके बाद this time, in view of the Sixth Pay Commission, we have paid Rs.55,000 crores out of our internally generated funds to the workers. In view of the Sixth Pay Commission, we have incurred an additional expenditure of about Rs.55,000 crores towards pension liabilities and other things. सर, ऐसी परिस्थिति है। The Railways is not only a commercial organization, it has social obligation too. रेलवे बहुत सारे concessions देता है, चाहे इज्जत हो, चाहे artist's concession हो, चाहे नौजवानों को concession हो, चाहे cancer patient को concession हो, हमारे जो भी concessions हैं, Railway gives the concessions. इसका किराया भी कम है। यह cheapest है, लेकिन हम इसको aero plane के साथ कभी compare नहीं कर सकते हैं। रेलवे cheapest है, लेकिन हमें लगता है कि इसको थोड़ा सुंदर होना चाहिए, थोड़ा अच्छा होना चाहिए और इसके लिए अभी से प्लान रहेगा तो after one or two years you would see the result. I can assure the House that after one year you would get to see the service of the Railways, because we are working hard. This year, we have put in place a catering policy; we have put in place a recruitment policy; for economic sharing in

private participation for the construction of new railway lines, we did not have money. इतनी मनी कैसे मिलेगी? लेकिन अगर कोई coal mines connect कर सकता है, If the industries want to invest their money, we are willing to give them economic share for a new line. Even that policy is clear. The automobile hub policy is clear; RDSO policy is clear; a white paper has been laid; Vision 2020 is clear. So, there are so many policies that we have cleared. Within this year, we have tried our level best to clear all these policies and I am happy to say that things have started rolling. You would get the result and see the results. अगर other stations की घोषणा की है, तो वह होगा। अगर multi functional बोला है, तो वह होगा। थोड़ा tender वगैरह में टाइम लगता है। World class बोला है तो होगा, मगर जो trains budget में announce होती है, उनको एक साल लगता है। We have to run all the trains with the finances available to us. Even during the last Budget, I had said we would run 120 trains, and we ran about 117 trains. 3 में रेलवे लाइन का काम complete नहीं हुआ, इसीलिए उनको छोड़ दिया, लेकिन 100 परसेंट हम लोगों ने कर दिया। अभी भी जितनी trains हमने announce की हैं, within the financial year, it would be completed.

Sir, my friend, Mr. Raut, talked about Mumbai कि हमने मुम्बई में आपको देखा, इतना clapping किया कि इतनी trains दीं, लेकिन कुछ भी नहीं दिखा, तो देखिए, 101 sub-urban local trains का बोला था, already 80 trains चल गईं। So, you must have that information. Sometimes, you do not get the information. तो trains चल गईं। अब आपका गणपति का festival है, हमने कितनी trains दीं, आपको पता है? We are providing for a number of trains. I would like to wish everybody on Onam, Ganpati festival and Ramzan also, हमारे मुस्लिम भाइयों के रोजे होते हैं, तो हम सबको देते हैं and we maintain a friendly relationship with everybody.

Sir, I could touch upon all the issues. One hon. Member spoke about eviction, land bank के लिए बोला, I appreciate the point. ईश्वर सिंह जी बोले।

लेकिन महापात्र जी ने भी कहा। He raised some good points also. ईश्वर सिंह जी ने land eviction के बारे में कहा। हम लोगों ने लैंड बैंक भी तैयार किया है, 1 लाख 12 हजार का लैंड बैंक हम लोगों ने तैयार किया है।

जैसे हमारी इंडस्ट्री लगाने की जरूरत हो तो हम forcefully मारने नहीं जाएंगे, हम उसको अपनी जमीन से करेंगे। इसके लिए we have set up our land bank also. Even for dedicated Freight Corridor, we are giving about 12,000 acres of land from the land bank. So, we are trying our best. हम लोग यह सब कह रहे हैं। Eviction के बारे में कहा गया। हम कैसे eviction करें? अगर कोई आए तो क्या हम उस पर गोली चलाएंगे? यह हम लोगों से नहीं होगा। हम लोगों ने physically क्या सोचा कि हमारे बहुत से गरीब आदमी जो रेल लाइनों पर रहते हैं जिसके कारण रेल का चलना भी मुश्किल हो जाता है। उनके लिए हम लोगों ने एक प्रोग्राम तैयार किया है जिसे हम पहले पायलट प्रोजेक्ट के माफिक देखेंगे। We have already discussed this matter with the Urban Development Ministry कि हमारा जो eviction लाइन पर है, अगर यह एक-दो जगह पर successful हो जाएगा तो हर जगह पर भी हम इसे करेंगे। इससे हमारी रेल लाइन भी क्लीयर हो जाएगी और जो गरीब आदमी हैं, उनको रहने का राइट मिल जाएगा, हक मिल जाएगा। हम लोगों ने इसे implement करने के लिए एक योजना तैयार की है और इस योजना का नाम है - सुखी गृह। उसमें क्या होगा कि जो लोग रेलवे लाइनों पर रहते हैं जिसके कारण उनकी जिंदगी खतरे में है - इससे रेल को भी खतरा है लेकिन रेल से भी ज्यादा उनकी जिंदगी खतरे में है - उनके लिए अगर हम लोग अर्बन मिनिस्ट्री के साथ और म्युनिसिपल कारपोरेशन के साथ अम्बेडकर योजना में कर सकते हैं तो रेलवे की जमीन पर ही उनके लिए क्वार्टर बनाएंगे और उनको हम बिना पैसे के उन लोगों को दे देंगे। हम उनको एक-एक रूम दे देंगे, democratic rights भी देंगे और रहने के लिए जगह भी देंगे। ऐसा करना रेलवे के लिए भी अच्छा होगा और जो गरीब आदमी हैं, जिनकी जिंदगी खतरे में है, वे लोग भी सोचेंगे कि हमारा कोई address नहीं था, हमारा कोई मकान नहीं था, रोटी-कपड़ा है या नहीं है, मकान भी नहीं है, पर अब हमारे सर पर एक छत रहेगी। इस तरह से बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर योजना के माफिक एक रूम हम उनको देंगे। इस प्रकार से हम लोगों ने तय किया है। ऐसे बहुत सारे काम हैं लेकिन I only replied whatever our hon. Members asked. To the north frontier we are giving all importance. With these words, I will request. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति : सबका रिप्लाई नहीं मिलेगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

कुमारी ममता बनर्जी : सबसे ज्यादा किया है लेकिन लॉ एंड ऑर्डर के मामले में मैं कहना चाहती हूँ, ...*(व्यवधान)*... I appeal to all of you. ...*(Interruptions)*... लॉ एंड ऑर्डर हमारे पास नहीं है लेकिन ...*(व्यवधान)*... I will request all the State Governments including Bihar, UP, etc. ...*(Interruptions)*... मैं क्या बोलूँ, जो बोल सकती हूँ, मैंने बोला। मैंने उनसे कहा कि आप लोग देखिए कि रेल में जो सफर करते हैं, आपकी स्टेट से सफर करते हैं, पैसंजर्स को सिक्योरिटी देना जरूरी है, मेहरबानी करके आप उन्हें सिक्योरिटी दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Security is not with the Railways. हम जी.आर.पी. को पैसा देते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : अब कुछ नहीं जाएगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप रिप्लाई मत कीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: With these words, Sir, I request that the Bill be returned.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the question is:

That the Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2010-11 for the purpose of Railways, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2, 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill. Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I beg to move: That the Bill be returned.

(The question was put and the motion was adopted.)

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

Large scale illegal mining in the country

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I rise with a very heavy heart to raise this discussion on illegal mining in the country. I rise with a very heavy heart because this is the sixtieth year of our becoming a Republic.

We have given ourselves this Constitution and enacted ourselves as a Republic saying that we, the people, will protect the dignity of not only the country but every individual citizen of this country. But, what we see in this illegal mining is large-scale plunder, large-scale loot and the rape of the mineral resources of our country. This is not an issue confined to any one particular mineral wealth of our country. Though the names of Bellary and iron ore illegal exports have been figuring in the news in a big way for a long time, it is with great anguish that we have to note that this is happening with every particular mineral resource that is there in our country. I will only like to point out that in some of the unstarred questions, there is a wealth of material that has been presented to this House. On the 2nd of this month, the Union Minister, Shri Handique, had actually answered a question on whether there were 42,000 cases of illegal mining detected in eleven States during the last year. I quote Mr. Handique's reply, "The Indian Bureau of Mines has constituted Special Task Force teams and conducted inspections in 106 mines in the endemic areas of five States of Karnataka, Andhra, Orissa, Jharkhand and Gujarat." And, the instances of what they have done in these illegal mining cases have all been listed by the Minister. Again, Sir, in an unstarred question on the 9th of this month, the Minister has detailed the illegal mining of coal in the States of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Assam. Likewise, in a number of such answers to unstarred questions, the Government of India and the Ministry have pointed out that whether it is from the North-East,

or any other part of our country, this sort of illegal mining is taking place. It is rampant in all the mineral

resources of our country. So, I am not confining myself only to the hr profile things that are happening in Bellary and with the iron ore, though that is very important. I will come to that. But, what is happening in the name of illegal mining is not merely a small degree of illegality that is being committed or a petty crime, it is a gigantic loot of resources of our country. Now, in the 60th year of our Republic, are we to permit such a loot in our country? Therefore, Sir, this issue merits, in my opinion, and that is what I would like to argue in the short time that I have in initiating this discussion, that we require an out of the box solution to protect and safeguard our country's mineral resources. For this, we shall have to learn from what the other developed countries are doing. You look at the United States of America. It does not touch its oil reserves. Today, it imports all its requirement of oil, keeping its oil reserves for a future date when such an emergency arises, when it requires to fall back on its own reserves. Look at our neighbour, China. It imports many of these mineral resources from across the world, but it keeps its resources intact so that when it needs to fall back on them, there is a fall-back option. What are we doing, Sir? We are mercilessly looting our resources and selling them abroad illegally with some people making super profits, profits of a phenomenal rate. This sort of loot that is taking place in our country can be described as nothing else but 'crony capitalism'. The Prime Minister, standing here in this House, has said, "India can ill afford crony capitalism." If the Prime Minister is true to his own words, I think, the time has come for us to pay proper attention to this loot that is taking place, and the time has come, as I will argue now, for us to nationalise all mineral resources in our country and ban all export of mineral resources from our country. If anybody wants to use our mineral resources, let them come here and set up their factories, let them add value to our mineral resources on our land, let them provide employment for our people, let them generate productive resources in our country so that we will gain rather than exporting these

minerals to their countries and increasing their productive capacity at our cost. So, this is what I want to establish that we have to learn from other countries. Today, the time has come to nationalise all our mineral resources and ban any sort of export of our mineral resources.

Here, Sir, various steps have been taken by the Government in terms of saying that much of this loot that is taking place is because of law and order problems that are State subjects.

And, if law and order is the State subject, it is the State Governments, which are primarily responsible. This tossing of the ball between the Central and the State Governments cannot be afforded any longer. The only way we have got to solve this problem is by nationalizing our mineral resources. Let us take the issue of Bellary. In the case of Bellary and the illegal export of iron ore, all of us know, how rampant it has been. Sir, it is very revealing that the incumbent Chief Minister in a 21-page reply to some of the questions raised in the State Assembly on the 10th of July this year, has said that in the past seven years, more than 30 million tonnes of iron ore was illegally exported from the State of Karnataka. More than 30 million tonnes of iron ore from one State alone! Even if you take a conservative price of US \$ 50 per tonne in the international market, it turns out to be US \$ 1.5 billion, or, Rs. 7,500 crore of exports in these six to seven years from one State, Karnataka, and, only from one area where the Obulapuram mines are located. This is the scale of loot. He has also informed that it is not confined to any one particular political dispensation. He said that the earlier Congress Government, which was there, had issued notifications for 33 mining permits. The Janata Dal (Secular) Government that followed had issued notifications for 19 mining permits. There were nine beneficiaries under the President's Rule, and, the rest of the notifications were issued by the current BJP-led Government. Whether it is Congress, Janata Dal (Secular), BJP or the President's Rule, you have such notifications. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): Illegal export took place only in BJP-regime. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA (Karnataka): No, no. That is not true. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY (Orissa): What is happening in Orissa? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I am coming to Orissa, Pany Saheb. Don't worry.

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : आप उड़ीसा के बारे में बोलेंगे? वह आपकी बगल में बैठे हैं।
...(व्यवधान)... आप वहां पर सरकार के साथ हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : मैं इन्हीं की बगल में बैठा हूं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री के.बी. शणप्पा : आप बेल्लारी का रेफरेंस दे रहे हैं। आप सबका जिक्र कीजिए। You have to mention everybody. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप बोलने दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Sir, he is so intellectual, he is so intelligent, he should not say like this. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति : वह क्या बोलेंगे? यह आपसे पूछ कर नहीं बोलेंगे। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA (Orissa): The State of Orissa has taken. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. I will not allow. ...(Interruptions)... Nothing will go on record. आप बीच में इस तरह से इंटरैप्ट मत कीजिए। उनको जो कहना है, वह कहेंगे। आपको जो कहना है, आप कहिएगा। ...(व्यवधान)... Why are you interrupting?

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : *

श्री उपसभापति : जो आप चाहते हैं, वह वैसा नहीं बोलेंगे। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से बताना चाहता हूं कि शायद आप देर से पहुंचे हैं। आपके आने से पहले मैंने कहा कि यह किसी एक प्रांत तक सीमित नहीं है, न किसी एक मिनरल तक सीमित है। मैंने जिन States के नाम गिनाए, उसमें उड़ीसा का नाम भी गिनाया। मैंने उड़ीसा का नाम लिया और मैं फिर कहूंगा कि जब हम कोल पर आयेंगे, तो उसमें किस तरीके से illegal mining हो रही है, उसके बारे में बतायेंगे। आप फिक्र मत

*Not recorded.

करिए। मेरी चिंता पूरे देश की है, सिर्फ बेल्लारी की ही नहीं है। इसीलिए यहां से शुरू किया है कि पूरे देश में हमारे जो मिनरल रिसोर्सेस हैं, उन मिनरल रिसोर्सेस का राष्ट्रीयकरण करने की जरूरत है और उस मिनरल रिसोर्सेस के एक्सपोर्ट के ऊपर बैन लगाने की जरूरत है। सर, मैं अभी बेल्लारी के बारे में बता रहा था, क्योंकि यह सबसे बड़ा glaring case है, जो हमारे सामने आया है। And, what does the Chief Minister's statement says, Sir? It is amazing. Look at this. 20,49,961 tonnes of iron ore was illegally exported in 2003-04; Similarly, the figures are: 52,39,528 tonnes in 2004-05; 21,71,492 tonnes in 2005-06; 47,44,645 tonnes in 2006-07; 57,61,048 tonnes in 2007-08; 33,96,000 tonnes in 2008-09, and, 71,27,937 tonnes in 2009-10. It is amazing. And, if you take the current rate, which is US \$ 150 per tonne, this is what my friend Pyarimohan Mohapatra suggests, this value goes up to around Rs. 22,500 crore.

Sir, this is the sort of loot that is taking place in our country, and various agencies of our country were involved in trying to examine it. The hon. court, the judiciary had intervened. They had appointed a Central Empowered Committee to go into this issue, particularly Obulapuram mining in Andhra Pradesh, and in Karnataka. But it was mainly in Andhra at that point in time. And what conclusion did the CEC come?

"The CEC after examining the matter is of the considered view that the demarcation of the boundaries of the five of the above mining leases and the conclusion reached by the State of Andhra Pradesh that M/s OMC is not involved in any illegal mining in the forest areas outside its mining lease areas suffers from the following serious defects and inconsistencies -- please underline this -- and is not at all in conformity with the approved mining leases:"

And they give you a list of various pages of recommendations. Finally, it recommends, "Keeping in view the facts and the circumstances as brought in the report you (Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh) are advised to take immediate steps to stop the mining operations, including transportation of already mined material from the six mines dealt with in

the CEC's Report."

Orders come for stoppage of that. But nothing happens. And this was ordered in November 2009. After that, you just heard me saying, 71-odd lakh tonnes has actually been exported illegally.

This is the manner in which every agency seems to be collaborating with this loot. What is amazing is the report of the Lokayukta of Karnataka. He says that he asked his officers to seize some of these illegally transporting trucks. And what does the report say, Sir? It says that the officers conducted raids and seized 99 trucks with illegally mined ore and 40 sacks of forged documents. On the basis of that, 8.5 lakh tonnes of ore were already purchased by 11 companies for export and even when the High Court was considering the matter six lakh tonnes of ores were shipped outside. The court is seized of the matter. The court is saying that you stop the export. The trucks are seized. The iron ore is seized. The iron ore is kept at certain place and from that place nearly six lakh tonnes of iron ore vanishes. It vanishes under the very nose of the very Government, the very High Court, and the very authorities. Then you have an amazing statement by the Chief Minister which was reported by the media, so I cannot authenticate it. But it was reported in the media that the Chief Minister has said that it got washed away in the rains....(Interruptions)... I said I read it in the media. ...(Interruptions)... That is why I am not authenticating it. But the point is that the whole business is being dealt with such lack of seriousness where every arm of our constitutional legality -- and that is why I began with 'We the people' -- the Judiciary, the Executive and the Legislative Assemblies of the concerned States are all involved in the matter, are all seized of the matter. But yet the iron ore keep disappearing. Just look at the cloud that exists as far as these people are concerned. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: When your turn comes, you can say that. Please don't interrupt.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I want, through you, the entire House to understand the gravity of the situation. It is not a question of scoring points whether the rain washed it off or somebody stole it or somebody took it away. The issue is that my country's resources, your

country's resources are being looted like this. Are we to permit it? Don't try and pick holes in trying to say whether this is right or that is wrong. The point is that the mineral resource of my country has vanished. This is your wealth. This is my wealth. This is our wealth. How has it vanished? And why has it vanished?

My point, which I think that all of us must take very seriously, is this. Can we afford this sort of a loot and plunder of our country's resources?

And that is why, I am raising this issue. Yes, the question of accountability, the question of who is responsible for this, all that needs to be addressed and the guilty need to be brought to book. Whatever this august House will recommend, I hope, the Government will respond seriously to that and take it up and will not pass on the buck by merely saying that it is State Government's problem or a party's problem. That is not the issue. Every single party which has been holding Government in different States is responsible. We have seen how illegal mining of coal is happening in our country.

Please look at the collateral damage. Let me now come to the question of what is the damage it is causing. To use an American phrase, collateral damage is happening to our country. What is the result of this? It has been pointed out that an estimated amount of 1.6 lakh hectares of forest land has been diverted for mining in our country. Our Minister of Environment, otherwise a very outspoken person, is not here at the moment. ...(Interruptions)... I wish he ought to have been here. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, 1.6 lakh hectares of forest land has been diverted for mining. Of this, for example, take iron ore mining alone. We are talking about Obulapuram. ...(Interruptions)... I am coming to Vedanta. If you are talking of Obulapuram. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : आप उड़ीसा नहीं जाएंगे। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : मैं जाऊंगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : वे कह तो रहे हैं मैं जाऊंगा, फिर क्यों बार-बार यह बात उठा रहे हैं
... (व्यवधान) ... आप बैठिए।

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : सर, मैं जाऊंगा। मैं बिना आमंत्रण के भी जाऊंगा। आप तो बुला नहीं रहे हैं, मैं उसके बावजूद भी जाऊंगा। Sir, for iron ore mining alone, apart from the forest area of 1.6 lakh hectares that has been diverted for mining, 77 million tonnes of water has been used up in one year of 2005-06. It is only for iron ore mining. How much would this affect? This would have met the daily needs of nearly three million of our people who do not have potable water near their households or habitations. This is collateral damage that is happening. And, what has happened in one year of 2006? Sir, 1.84 billion tonnes of waste was dumped in our country. It was in just one year and this waste is not disposed of. Whether this has toxic material or not is never investigated. This sort of waste is dumped in our lands which affects our agricultural productivity and fertility of our soil. So, look at the collateral damage in terms of forest depletion, in terms of water that has been used up which is a scarce resource in many parts of the country, in terms of dumping on your arable and fertile land whereby you cannot produce food. And, Sir, this is not all. Collateral damage goes beyond the economy and physical resources. You have a collateral damage that is now occurring in the entire polity of our country. The riches from illegal mining are actually influencing our political system. To the extent, it becomes unbearable for any one of us -- I am sure, Sir, it is as applicable to you as it is to me -- that it is impossible today to contest elections in the State from where you come. With the amount of money that is being used, all the money that is collected through illegal mining has gone in there. There are phenomenal amounts of money. It puts to shame the limits that the Election Commission has put on the expenditure in election and all this is finding its place in politics. It is distorting our political system. The collateral damage is not only to ecology or resources, but, it is also to our polity. It is distorting our political system by the use of this sort of money which is also distorting your democracy, in the sense, people are no longer voting on the basis of the positions of the political

parties or on the basis of the issues that political parties articulate,
but on the basis of which political party has how much resources at their
command and on that basis, you have

people voting and it is distorting our democracy. So, what has begun with illegal mining is actually having a collateral damage on your entire system, not only on your economy.

Sir, now, I would come to other point and I want this House to seriously consider this point. Sir, you take the physical map of our country and map out the areas where you have Maoist violence today. In every single area that you map out Maoist violence today, you will find that it is a mineral-rich area, particularly coal, in the States of West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Bihar and Orissa where thousands of hectares of land are being given away to these companies and corporates in order to exploit these mineral resources.

And in most of these areas where our tribal people, our tribal brothers and sisters habitat, when their interests are affected, whether it is only a particular issue of Orissa that you are talking about, where large-scale tribal persons are displaced, where, in the name of mining, not only forest depletion is taking place but even tribal habitations are being shifted despite the scheduled areas in which they live and despite the protection, 'that you cannot displace them', that the Indian Constitution gives. Despite all that, you have thousands of these families being relocated for mining interest! The discontent that is generated in them works as a fertile basis for the growth of anarchic and violent activities of the Maoists. So, you have a collateral damage in terms of political factors that are completely antithetical to the parliamentary system.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: How much more time will you take?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I am concluding, Sir. It is a serious matter. You know, normally, I won't take too much time.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know that.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I am grateful to you because on many

occasions, you are on record to say that 'I do not normally waste time. I only take time when I passionately feel about something very serious.'

So, what I am saying, Sir, is, whether it is the question of illegal mining or whether it is the question of illegal bauxite mining -- and there is a new report that has now been prepared by a team of experts that bauxite mining in Orissa is being handed over to certain corporates -- whether it is the question of iron ore or whether it is the question of, in-between the North-East, very sensitive areas where this illegal mining is going on, all these put together, the only one aspect which I think all of us have to seriously apply our mind to is that it is no longer a loot of our precious resources alone, it is no longer sleaze and corruption where some people are making huge, big bucks at the expense of our country and our resources, but it is also an issue that is permeating ever single sphere of our polity and our democracy. Our polity is not being spared; our democracy is not being spared; all this is being distorted because of this illegal mining. So, stopping illegal mining is not merely a question of protecting our resources and punishing the guilty, but stopping illegal mining is also the question of protecting modern India, Sir. If, to stop illegal mining, in order to protect modern India in this sixtieth year of our Republic, we say that we, the people, give ourselves this Republic, we, the people, should be able to safeguard our Republic too, and if we have to safeguard our Republic, there is, today, no other way, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, than to nationalise all of our mineral resources. Nationalise all of our mineral resources. Ban the export of all mineral resources. Any company, any corporate in the world is most welcome; he can come here, use our resources, add the value and produce finished products in our country, give jobs to our people and enrich our economy by enlarging our productive capacity. So, you have the value addition done inside the country. Ban the exports of our mineral resources and nationalise these resources. There is no other way through which we can protect ourselves, our Republic and our resources. Therefore, I beseech, through you, Sir, the Government to take this bold step. If they take this bold step, the people of our country will pay to

them. ...(*Interruptions*)... The people in the country will continue to recognise them like their illustrious predecessor. It may have happened with the Left support then, in 1969, but when the

illustrious predecessors nationalised the coal mines, when they nationalised the banks, see the result; that is where we, in India, are today. So, take these measures; take these steps. It will go down in history as not only protecting our resources but also as protecting our country, its democracy and its polity. And with that gravity, I want the Government to take this issue into consideration, and they will find full support from us if they proceed to nationalise these resources and ban the export of our mineral resources from our country. I hope the Government will, at least, consider it seriously. I mean, I would not only like the Government to accede to my point, but you, please, also ask them to, at least, consider it seriously and to ensure that our country is not allowed to be looted in the manner in which it is being looted today. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Yechury. Now, Shri Aayur Manjunath. He is going to speak in Kannada. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Aayur Manjunath to speak in Kannada.

SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA (Karnataka): Thank you, Sir. I will speak in English and Kannada, mixing both. ...*(Interruptions)*... मैं हिन्दी में बोल सकता हूँ, लेकिन आपको सुनने में दिक्कत होगी।

Sir, as you are aware, the issue of over-exploitation of the mines and illegal mining have been a major concern of the mineral-rich States of our country. Despite the efforts by various State Governments, illegal mining could not be stopped. The name of Karnataka State was mentioned by my senior colleague, Shri Sitaram Yechury. Karnataka State is the first State which has imposed a ban on exports of ore and requested the Prime Minister of this country to stop exports. We met him personally, submitted a letter and requested him to stop exports of ore.

Sir, it is a fact that 1.64 lakh hectares of land is used for mining. More than 2.5 crore people have been displaced. They belong to the Tribal community. As a result of this activity, most of the Tribal people have

been compelled to join hands with the Naxalites, anti-social elements and the Maoists. It has created a big security problem to the country. To avoid the anti-social activities through illegal mining, a ban should be imposed on exports.

At the same time, I would like to bring to the kind notice of the Chair that there are more than 15,000 illegal mines throughout the country. It is not one or two. He has mentioned Obulapuram. But it is not in Karnataka. It is in Andhra Pradesh where there is a Congress Government. He has mentioned about illegal mining in Obulapuram. But it does not belong to Karnataka. ...(Interruptions)... As far as my knowledge goes, the main beneficiaries of illegal mines and mining are our Congress leaders. They are the main beneficiaries throughout the country. As far as my knowledge goes, a mine owner is also a Member of this august House. He comes from that line. ...(Interruptions)... I am not prepared to take his name. ...(Interruptions)... Illegal mining is creating so many problems.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Sir, there is one point. There may be mine owners. But he should talk about illegal mining. He should not talk about Congress leaders generally. He should say clearly that it is illegal mining. That is the point. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: What I am mentioning is that illegal mine owners are here. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Then, do you want to hear the names? ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Ahluwaliaji, don't interrupt. Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Then, why is he provoking? He will give you the specific names. Are you interested to hear that?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please.

SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Mining has also resulted in the destruction of forests.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please don't politicise this.

SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Yes, Sir. It has also resulted in disappearance of water sources, especially, depleting underground water table. Mining poses a great threat to human

habitats, especially, the Tribal community. The toxic by-products of mining, when they enter the atmosphere, will create acute health problems to the people.

Mining is never eco-friendly. It leads to negative effects despite following the best precautionary measures. Hence the Centre for Science and Environment, in its report, has recommended a strict ban on mining to preserve ecological balance. Recently, the English fortnightly, Frontline, has published a detailed report on nefarious activities of mining mafia across the country. Therefore, I request the Government to put a ban on illegal mining and export of iron ore. * Hon'ble Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is a matter of great concern that illegal mining is rampant in our country. Unfortunately nobody is concerned about its adverse impact on the country's economy and its social and political fall outs. The livelihood of our people particularly tribals, backward community are greatly affected. Illegal miners are encouraging anti social elements like naxalites, maoists with tainted money to create disturbance in the border areas. They are a big threat to the safety and security of our country.

Sir, illegal mining operations are going on in 7 or 8 states in India. But I am proud to say that Karnataka is the only state in the country, which has shown its concern to protect national resources by imposing ban on export of iron ore from Karnataka. I congratulate the Hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka for taking such a bold step. Hon. Chief Minister has even said that the mining licenses would be issued to those persons who come forward to utilize our mines for value addition.

Deputy Chairman Sir, I would like to know from the Government of India through you as to how many persons in the entire country are operating these minings and how many of them have not taken permission from the Government. Details about the domicile and political affiliations of

those who resort to illegal mining should be made available to this
august House. Hon. Member Shri

Sitaram Yechuri in his speech said that there are 42,000 illegal mining cases booked in the country. I request the Government to give the details as available in the FIRs.

Sir, it is very very unfortunate that illegal miners are looting the country's wealth by displacing about 2.5 crore of backward and tribal people. These hapless people are not given any kind of protection. They do not have land for cultivation or food to eat or houses to live in. In order to protect such people Hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka has taken bold step. Henceforth Mining license would be issued only for value addition. It would help us to utilize our national resources within the country and create employment opportunity. It would generate more revenue to our exchequer. Our Hon. Chief Minister Shri Yeddyurappa has written a letter to Hon. Prime Minister of India making a request to impose a ban on export of iron ore in the entire country and to nationalize all the mineral mines of the country.

Sir, it is unfortunate that sincere efforts of the Government of Karnataka to curb illegal mining are not being recognized. Instead, some people are criticizing us. But we all know that they had joined hands with mining mafia when they were in power.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to take stringent action against those involved in the illegal mining and to punish them. Finally, I would like to impress upon the Government to take strong measures to protect our national resources and save the country from illegal mining.

Thank you.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, while I share the total feelings and the facts that Mr. Yechuri has presented, believe me, I am in the same mood; I am not trying to score any debating point, nor am I trying to indulge in some kind of blame game plan by saying that this man has done wrong, or, that man has done wrong. All of us in this House, I am sure, are equally

concerned about what is happening in the country. It is a plunder and loot, -- that is what Mr. Yechury feels -- but there is the other side to the coin. Let us look into that. Any money, easily gotten money, the concomitant of it is that it has a greater draconic role to play. Whatever has happened in Karnataka or a few other States, -- there is a big hype about Karnataka -- I am not trying to blame the BJP at all because the friends here sitting on the BJP benches are known for their honesty and transparency. And, as they have themselves said, as the Chief Minister has also said, illegal exports have to be banned. I am not trying to blame anybody. The most perplexing and paradoxical part of this debate is this. Every one, right from the Prime Minister, the UPA Chairperson and the Union Minister, who is present here, says so. He has said the same in the Lok Sabha, "I agree that a widespread illegal mining is going on. It is so widespread that it shocks my conscience." The Supreme Court says so in so many words. The CVC says so. The other Civil Courts say so. The DFO says so. The Environment Minister, in his own 13 letters, written to the Karnataka Government says so. And, all the Members say so. Yet, it goes on unabated. What is exactly happening? The illegal mining, which we are talking about, is not only a loot and plunder, but it is also the easy money that you have. It can be converted into gold and any kind of money. Sir, I don't have the facility and privilege, like Mr. Yechury has at his desk. Otherwise, I have a lot of materials which pinpoint to the kind of irregularities that are there. I am only trying to mention the reports, which have come from Karnataka, that bring out the truth. Let us also appreciate; the Lok Ayukta, Karnataka, who had come out with the Report that he has read. It also shows that they also have some kind of a feeling, some kind of a sentiment and commitment to see to it that it must end. But, all the same, that is not enough at all because there are methods and means for the so-called mafias, the mining mafias. The mafias have invented their own methods. After all, what is an illegal mining? You take a permit; the

the IBM gives details. There is the Geology Department that looks into and finds out where exactly the minerals and the resources are. It has its own study. It also fixes the quantity that you must dig out of it. Yet, when you look at the facts that Mr. Yechury has mentioned, the figures that he has given, -- I have to skip them; I have to discard those papers because that will take a lot of time --

6.00 P.M.

I should tell you, what has happened is, if you are to look at the Karnataka issue, -- I am only taking it as an example of how those people operate -- if you try to find out how illegality can be probed into; the question is, seven times more than what is permitted has gone as an export. Now what kind of a thing has been exported? There are mines where you don't have prime deposits; in Andhra Pradesh, that is what we call, a diversified thing, which our Minister and others know about it. These are not fine deposit iron ore. You are a mine owner of that area. Yet all your exports are fine materials. Where did they come from? It means that there is also a scope that you, in the name of that permit, in the name of that holding, in the name of that lease, can bring things from outside; whether they are legitimate or not, we would not understand it. It is for inquiry agencies to know; you tried to export them.

So, while going into those details, I am tempted to, first, jump to the conclusion -- which Mr. Yechury has mentioned and which the hon. Member from the BJP has also mentioned -- that there has to be an end to this. And the end is -- I don't know whether it is nationalization or not -- but you stop the export and use the material for value addition within the country. If some foreign country likes to use your material, it can have its plant here as well. This will end, to a large extent, this kind of illegality in the mining sector.

Sir, he mentioned the figure of 42,000 metric tonnes. I would not like to go into that because there are three very shocking reports that have come. One is of the Supreme Court. The other is from the Chief Minister of Karnataka. And the third one is from the CEC. Karnataka Chief Minister's report would be very interesting for the simple fact that he had been so truthful even amidst all the crises that he was facing. He talks about a total illegal transportation of about 71 lakh metric tonnes. And, as you said, it does not belong only to the period for which

the BJP Government is responsible, it also touches the periods of other Governments.

But the issue that we are discussing here today is not what a particular man has done or not. Why have, perhaps, Obulapuram, or, one of the friends' brothers' names are coming in, is for the simple reason that there is a political dimension added to this illegality. One is, here are a few gentlemen who are politically in-charge of a mine-rich area. And I am quoting all these facts which have come out in the reports of the Lok Ayukta, the Chief Minister and from what has been said on the floor of the Assembly. So, there is nothing like wild allegation that is being made. Even if there are a few allegations, please forgive me; I am sorry if they are not backed by facts. But this is what has been reported. The point is, they become the in-charge of that area. And it might have happened anywhere. It has happened to some extent in Andhra. I am in-charge of Jharkhand and it is happening in Jharkhand. I do not know much about Chhattisgarh but it is happening in Chhattisgarh. I know what is happening in Orissa in which Mr. Pany is interested. The second phase permission has not yet been given and, yet, the factory comes out with it, whether it is Vedanta or some other. You have referred to Goa. Though the land belonged to the State under the Portuguese Act, it is you who got the concessions, once your Act came into the picture with amendments. The land belonged to the Government but it has been sold and transferred to Vedanta. All these kind of things have happened. They may not directly be concerned with illegal mining, but they are concerned with illegal mining activity.

So, today, this is the kind of thing that the Chief Minister says. The Karnataka Chief Minister accepts that this is one of the biggest shocks that he has had in his life, of the illegal mining in the State. I mean, he was talking about the overall scenario and about the State as well. He admitted that illegal mining was taking place in the State in a very high order. Then, he gives the figures. Then, I am quoting the DFO report of the same place which says, "ground excavations do not tally with the permits issued by the Department of Mining and Geology", to

which I referred. This report includes

two States, Andhra Pradesh as well as Karnataka. I am not trying to run away from the situation in Andhra Pradesh. Again, more iron ore has been brought from the Karnataka mines; although the permits allowed were of a limited value, the exports were much higher than what exactly was permitted. That they came from Karnataka, has been admitted by DFO of Andhra Pradesh. But this is done by a company belonging to Karnataka.

The man in power can do anything; this is what has been done. The report also says that 57 officers were transferred from the district. Please introspect on what can happen if this kind of nexus develops between the politicians and the mine owners, or if politicization of the entire business takes place. There is one issue which we need to understand in this. Just imagine what kind of an impact the easy money, ill-gotten money can play a role. We bring the name of Karnataka again not to undermine or criticize it, but to caution the entire country. This money can interfere with our democratic institutions very badly. All of us have read about our neighbouring State; I know perfectly well the kind of political game these people wanted to play, planning to overthrow the Government because of their money power, the same kind of designs they tried to play in Andhra Pradesh, the same kind of game played in Jharkhand. We need to be cautious; we need to gear up ourselves to face this kind of challenges. This impact is again because of illegal mining.

Sir, as far as these figures are concerned, all this has started only in 2003-04, as one friend said, only because of rise in exports. Sure, when China increased the prices at a time when the price was at 400 per ton, it went up to 4000, naturally everybody looked to the iron ore mines where it was easily available, whether Obulapuram or other places. But, what happened is, in Obulapuram, even the State borders were changed! It happened because the permits were available in one State and the ore was available in another State. If what my friends have said is correct, it could be the reason also -- if a particular State did not like to give them the place to mine but to give the permit, you would change the

entire boundary and take areas of the other State and say that this land
belongs to

Andhra Pradesh and try to mine there! This can be done. It can be Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand border, Jharkhand and West Bengal border which are mine rich, resource rich. It is not only iron ore, as Mr. Yechury said. It can be aluminium, bauxite, sea sand, I do not know much about chrome; it could be for black granite too. In Andhra Pradesh, let me tell you, it all started with Chilkurt in Ongole district for black granite. I am not trying to score points but to drive home a point. Once the High Court referred to black granite being mined illegally, the Chief Minister had to resign and go. He was a very sensitive Chief Minister; only because his name was mentioned and he did not like to stay there! My suggestion is not to say that Mr. Yeddyurappa should go. I am saying that everybody is saying that such and such a thing is happening right by the Ministers themselves. And, those Ministers, according to the reports available, are trying to feel that they are bosses to the Chief Minister, which none of us, whether from this party or that, likes. But it is happening. Thanks to the wise leadership of the respective parties, nothing could really go that wrong at the particular point of time.

Sir, we are trying to discuss this illegal mining from two angles. One is the loot and plunder of the national resources which needs to be stopped. Every one of us knows the facts and figures for the last 6-7 months; we are being fed by the media about all kinds of atrocious and scandalous things going on in this field.

Number two is, the worst role that this kind of an easily-gotten money is playing. This thing needs to be looked into. It is one thing which happens whenever this illegal thing takes place. Just now, I was trying to tell the hon. Minister, who after having looked into it, have said on the floor of the Lok Sabha that these activities are in his knowledge. He admitted that he is aware of all these kinds of activities. He said that he has announced a Commission of Inquiry to look into the entire thing in 18 months' time. I personally, though sitting in this side of the House, next to Treasury Benches, would

like to remind the hon. Minister that this kind of an Inquiry Commission report will not help in the issue of this dimension and in an issue of this intensity. Let me remind the hon. Minister that everyday illegal mining, the export value of which is worth Rs. 20 crores, is being done by one company. This is the export value of the mined product. In 18 months, nearly Rs.7000-Rs. 8000 crores would be going to these illegal mining mafia. So, this has to be looked into. So, what should be done? What needs to be done is, either we need to be bold enough to come to some kind of a policy decision to stop these exports or we need to think that for a particular time wherever these areas have become grey, wherever there are some kinds of allegations, wherever there are some complaints and wherever there is a need of inquiry, we can temporarily ban mining. We can stop it with a backup mechanisms. The hon. Minister was just now saying that the police would stop it. The police would never stop it as long as the local powerful people are holding these mines. The police is under the control of the State. I am not trying to immediately find fault and saying that these brothers are corrupt. But, the question is, we need to look into this and learn from our own experiences as to what machinery has to be introduced at these places. So, what we need to do is to have some kind of a new mechanism, if you are trying to do it. First of all, 18 months' time for this Inquiry Commission is not necessary because you have in your hand all the reports of inquiries and investigations. Even Andhra Pradesh has announced the CBI inquiry, it is one of them. So, these kinds of things would only delay the issue. And we need to look into the issue without further delay.

Sir, I would like to tell you about the other impact of this illegal activity. Now, these people are getting into reserved forest areas. It is estimated that permits are being given for something like one lakh acres of land which are otherwise reserved forests. The response of the Minister of Environment and Forests of the Central Government is that 'they have not been given the permits and the rights. They are illegal;

there are encroachments. The State Forest Departments have to protect these encroachments, and these reserved forest land cannot be used for mining purposes. All the maps which are made and the topography sheets which have so far been identified need to be put aside.' This is what the Central Ministry has told them, but without any result.

Then, again, the same Minister writes that mining is continuing in the forest areas of Sindhu and Bellary in spite of our reminders. Why is the Forest Department, bla, bla, is saying the same thing. Again there is the same answer. Even the Supreme Court's curb on the Obulapuram mining ore, mining around the Karnataka's Bellary district has not made any dent on the powerful Reddy brothers' business. This is the letter of the Central Government. I am reading from the letter of the Central Government. Why they used those names, I don't know. But, they have said that reports have been received that 30 per cent iron ore is being illegally mined by other six miners. This is again an investigative kind of a report.

So, this kind of investigation which you are trying to say that the Commission of Inquiry will probe, I say much of it, 70 to 80 per cent of it is already in your hand. It is for you in your wisdom to know whether you still need to buy some more time to get into this. Sir, the modus operandi of these people - although I am not very much interested in finding fault with one person or the other - is that this particular gentleman against whom the court has sent arrest warrants once. Again he challenged that in the court and the court has rejected it finding fault with the State Governments for not bringing him to book. Then again he does not appear. Seventeen times the court gives the order, non-bailable warrants, but nothing happens to him. He is as much a fine Minister as ever. Why I am saying this is that once you wield power in a State, more so with the kind of money that you have, with this kind of money, these agencies, however strong they are in the enforcement, become weak before your money. So, we have been talking of not regular mining thing. I would have, along with Mr. Yechury, really found fault with the exploitative methods of the monopoly houses. But this is more than that. The monopoly houses have something which we can find fault with and can go legally against? Here is an activity which will defy every kind of moral, legal order. This is what exactly is available in this kind of a scenario.

Then, Sir, this kind of mining, which I am telling, I am jumping

over many of the facts which Mr. Yechury has already given, so I will not elaborate. Now, Sir, this is again, because I am talking about one lakh acre., it could be one lakh acre because another friend said it is 1.57, but whatever acreage it is, the thing is the vegetation is being affected, the tribal lives are being affected and 2.5 crores tribals have been displaced, according to an hon. Member in this House. While sharing his concern, let me, for instance, say if all the 2.5 crores become Naxalite, then the of Naxalite figure will be much more and you and we would have been more bothered than as they are trying. They would not join. Let our concern go to them, let us share their agony, let us share this way, let us share their condition, miserable condition. But the question today is that their lives are being displaced with no rehabilitation because in these illegal activities, we do not get into the rehabilitation schemes. Even if the Government has given it, it is not there in Karnataka, Andhra, and Jharkhand which I know to be sure that not like that we have what is known Bayyaram in A.P. Sir, Bayyaram is another instance where something like 1,47,000 acres of forest land is given.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Keshava Rao, there are other three speakers from your side. I am just reminding you.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, I just want your time. How much time do you want to give me, Sir? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Till the discussion is over. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, this kind of forest land is now being encroached upon. Now the easiest method devised by these mafias, is to take the name of a State agency like in Andhra Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh Mining Development Corporation, in Karnataka, Karnataka Mining Development Corporation, in Jharkhand, Jharkhand Mining Development Corporation, in Orissa, Orissa Development Corporation. You first share

those lands taken by them and you get in subcontract with them and APMDC man or the MDC man will be sleeping all through and you do whatever you like. It has been proved on records, in the letters of the Ministry, including the Mining

Ministry, the Minister is here. So, this kind of backdoor operations that have become popular now like in many other places in Jharkhand, Andhra and I do not know much about Karnataka in this case, these two areas have become popular where everybody is utilizing the name of a State agency.

Sir, whatever it is, one thing is sure, I cannot sit in the Rajya Sabha and try to advice or suggest on to the other States but, nonetheless, there are two views here. Government wants to be very firm as it looks, Government wants to be honest as it looks, but, the same time there are elements. These elements emanate from the very design which is draconian. So, these have to be curbed. These people have no name. They don't belong to any party. They don't belong to any sections of the society. They are nothing but criminals of the first order and hence if we have to face the issue squarely, the only thing is, let us have a ban on exports of iron ore, manganese and anything which are sensitive and let not any new permit be given in the eco-sensitive zones. Thirdly, Sir, if at all you try to give permit, because development has to go on, then, what we need to do is, give them value addition so as to help them.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have to go for breaking my fast. Hence, Dr. K. Keshava Rao will occupy the Chair if the house permits.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHA RAO) in the Chair]

श्री गंगा चरण (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, आज illegal mining देश की एक बड़ी समस्या बन गई है। इस illegal mining से और भी समस्याएं पैदा हो रही हैं। आज नक्सलवाद का जन्म भी वहीं हो रहा है, जहां illegal mining हो रही है। एक तरफ लोग illegal mining से करोड़ों रुपए कमा रहे हैं और दूसरी तरफ वहां के स्थानीय लोग दाने-दाने के लिए मोहताज हैं। इसलिए सरकार को इस समस्या को गंभीरता से लेना चाहिए। मैं उन सदस्यों के प्रति अपना आभार व्यक्त करता हूं, जिन्होंने यहां discussion में भाग लिया है। सरकार को इस समस्या के बारे में बहुत ही गंभीर होना चाहिए, क्योंकि देश की जो अमूल्य खनिज सम्पदा है, उसका अवैधानिक तरीके से दोहन हो रहा है। जो पैसा देश के खजाने में जाना चाहिए, वह खजाने में न जाकर, कुछ माफियों के पास, उनसे जुड़े हुए तथा जिनका गठजोड़ है, कुछ नेताओं और कुछ

अधिकारियों के पास जा रहा है। जिस तरह से कर्नाटक

का मामला आया है और illegal mining से जुड़े हुए नेताओं के नाम आए हैं और अधिकारियों के नाम आए हैं, हमारे लिए यह शर्मनाक बात है।

सर, इल्लिगल माइनिंग से देश के राजस्व का ही नुकसान नहीं हो रहा है, बल्कि देश के पर्यावरण को भी भारी नुकसान पहुंच रहा है। वहां जंगलों को काटा जाता है और उस जगह पर डायनामाइट लगाकर विस्फोट किए जाते हैं। माइनिंग की जो गाइडलाइन्स हैं, उन गाइडलाइन्स का पूरा उल्लंघन किया जाता है। यह अफसोस की बात ही है कि जिससे देश को अपार राजस्व का लाभ हो सकता है, उस पर आज तक कोई प्रभावकारी नीति नहीं बनी है, कोई पॉलिसी नहीं बनी है। वह बात चाहे कोल माइनिंग की हो, आयरन माइनिंग की हो, ब्लैक ग्रेनाइट की हो, खास तौर से वेस्ट बंगाल, झारखंड, महाराष्ट्र, कर्नाटक, छत्तीसगढ़, उड़ीसा, असम, यहां पर अमूल्य खनिज संपदा का भंडार है, लेकिन अफसोस है कि हम उस अमूल्य खनिज संपदा का सही तरीके से दोहन नहीं कर रहे हैं, उससे राजस्व का लाभ अर्जित नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। हमारे एक सदस्य के प्रश्न के उत्तर में, जो कोल माइनिंग से है, स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के साथ मिलकर जो रेड डाली गई है, ईस्टर्न कोल फील्ड लिमिटेड, वेस्ट बंगाल एण्ड झारखंड में अवैध खनन की जो रिकवरी हुई है, वह 8,161 टन की हुई है। इसकी कीमत लगभग 96 लाख है। इसी तरह से यह अफसोस की बात है भारत कोकिंग कोल लिमिटेड, सेंट्रल कोल फील्ड लिमिटेड, नॉर्दन कोल फील्ड लिमिटेड, वेस्टर्न कोल फील्ड लिमिटेड, साउथ-ईस्टर्न कोल फील्ड लिमिटेड, नॉर्दन-ईस्टर्न कोल फील्ड लिमिटेड महानंदी कोल फील्ड लिमिटेड तथा कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड, इन सारी कंपनियों के जो अधिकारी हैं, इनके द्वारा ही अवैध खनन हो रहा है, कोयले की अवैध ढंग से निकासी हो रही है। सरकार को अवैध खनन को रोकने के लिए तत्काल कोई कानून बनाना चाहिए, एक पॉलिसी बनानी चाहिए। सरकार को ऐसा सख्त कानून बनाना चाहिए कि इस धंधे से जुड़े हुए जो माफिया हैं, उन माफियाओं की संपत्ति को सी.बी.आई. के द्वारा जांच कराकर जब्त किया जाए, उनको जेल में डाला जाए और नेशनल सिक््योरिटी एक्ट के अंतर्गत उनको बंद किया जाए। जब सख्त कदम उठाए जाएंगे, तो यह बंद होगा। इन माफियाओं के तार जिन नेताओं से जुड़े हैं, जिन अधिकारियों से जुड़े हैं, उनकी संपत्तियों की भी जांच होनी चाहिए। इन लोगों ने अपार संपत्ति अर्जित कर ली है और यह अवैध धन आज हमारी राजनीति को भी प्रभावित कर रहा है। इस मुद्दे पर सभी लोग इसीलिए चुप हैं, क्योंकि इसमें ज्यादातर लोगों की इन्वोल्वमेंट है। मैं अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि हमारे देश के अंदर बहुत अमूल्य खनिज संपदा है, इसमें प्लेटिनम भी

है, यूरेनियम भी है, इनका भी अवैध कारोबार है, यदि हमने इसे गंभीरता से नहीं लिया तो माफियाओं का एक सशक्त गुप्त खड़ा हो जाएगा। जिस तरह * चाहे वे पोलिटिक्स में हों, अन्य किसी क्षेत्र में हों, मीडिया के क्षेत्र में हों या सोशल वर्क के क्षेत्र में हों, जिस तरह से उन्होंने किसी क्षेत्र में कब्जा कर लिया है, उसी तरह से भारत में हमारी पार्लियामेंट पर, हमारे लोकतंत्र पर इनका कब्जा हो जाएगा।

पहले पॉलिटिक्स में समाज में सेवा करने वाले लोग आया करते थे, फटेहाल लोग आया करते थे, झुग्गी-झोंपड़ी में रहने वाले लोग एमएलए/एमपी बन जाते थे। वे शासन/प्रशासन से अन्याय और शोषण के खिलाफ लड़ते थे।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. के. केशव राव) : अगर आप समाप्त करें, तो अच्छा है, क्योंकि आपकी पार्टी के एक और speaker हैं।

श्री गंगा चरण : ठीक है, सर।

लेकिन आज हम देख रहे हैं कि लोग सभा और राज्य सभा में राजनीति पर पूंजी हावी हो गई है। अब पैसे वाले लोग ही राजनीति में आ रहे हैं। जो समाज की सेवा करने वाले लोग हैं, जो गरीबों, झुग्गी-झोंपड़ियों, किसानों और मजदूरों के बीच काम करने वाले लोग हैं, वे आज एमएलए/एमपी नहीं बन पा रहे हैं। इसका सबसे बड़ा कारण है कि अवैध खनन या और भी चीजों से जो गलत ढंग से पैसा पैदा कर रहे हैं, उन्होंने हमारी सत्ता पर, हमारे लोकतंत्र पर भी कब्जा कर लिया है। यह गम्भीर विषय है। इस पर हमें चिंतन करने की जरूरत है। सारे politicians, जो सेवा के क्षेत्र से जुड़े हुए हैं, जो स्टूडेंट राजनीति से या लेबर पॉलिटिक्स से या किसान आन्दोलन से निकलते हैं, वे अपनी सारी जिन्दगी बर्बाद कर देते हैं, लेकिन आज वे एमएलए/एमपी नहीं बन पाते हैं और संसद का या विधान सभा का मुंह नहीं देख पाते हैं। आज वे लोग, जो ठेकेदार हैं, जो खनन माफिया हैं, जो बिल्डर्स हैं, जो अन्य तमाम कारोबार से जुड़े हैं, वे आ रहे हैं। इसलिए आज illegal mining के subject पर जो discussion है, उसमें इन सब चीजों को जोड़ते हुए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ, क्योंकि यह राजनीति को प्रभावित कर रहा है, इसलिए हमें गंभीर होने की जरूरत है और इस पर हमें सख्त-से-सख्त कदम उठाने की जरूरत है। थैंक्यू सर।

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA (Orissa): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, having listened to my colleagues I agree with whatever has been said by Mr. Yechury, Mr. Manjunatha, yourself and my friend, Mr. Ganga Charan. These are dealing with symptoms of the issue, that is, what has

happened? But let us go into the core issue, why it has happened; what really has happened. What is illegal mining? Illegal mining has happened because of the laxities of the enforcement machineries of both, the State Governments as well as the Central Government. I do not defend any Government. You have the IBM. Ninety per cent plus of illegal mining is over-production, without mining approval from the authority i.e., IBM. The IBM, the Directorate of Mines, the Department of Mines, everyone gets dispatch figures, everyone gets production figures. In the beginning, a mine owner is allowed to produce one lakh tonnes in a particular year, and, then, goes on and produce 8-10 lakh tonnes because there is a boom in the market. China was taking fines, which were lying like hillocks. They did not know how to dispose it of. Now, they are selling it off and making plenty of money. You receive the production figures. You also receive the dispatch figures. The IBM, at least, gets the production figures. The State Secretary receives the dispatch figures, which are going to ports for exports and which are going to other places in the country. Why were these figures not co-related? Over the years, over the decades, the cross-checking has fallen into disuse. Nobody was bothering. This is the biggest part of the illegal mining. Today, questions are being raised by the very people, who are doing the illegal mining, that they are sending one lakh tonnes and they are mining two lakh tonnes; they are mining less than that; they had been giving all the figures in proper forms. What has happened now? Nobody had questioned us. But, now, you are arresting us!

That is the plea they are taking before the investigating authorities. This is one aspect of illegal mining. The second aspect of illegal mining is this. Because there is a boom, prices are very high, now, go into the reserve forests or go beyond the mining areas. Some mine owners have crossed their boundaries. They have mined areas either in the buffer zone or areas belonging to the corporations or belonging to other mine owners.

Thirdly, other than the mine owners, mafias developed. When they found all these things going on, they also indulged in making easy money. As mentioned very clearly by you, Sir, easy money was

the main thing. So, it went on. It has to be remembered that a lot of these mines are not approachable. Everybody in that area, from Constable to Forest Guard, whosoever it was, made money. I am aware that a lot of people have made money in the process. I do not want to point fingers to anybody. Though some of my friends are tempted to point fingers at others. I do not point fingers at others until prima facie evidence is available against them. My Chief Minister has ordered a vigilance inquiry, police inquiry. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: At what level?

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: At all levels. ...(Interruptions)... If you are involved, you will not be spared. If you are involved, Mr. Pany, you will not be spared. If I am involved, I will not be spared. ...(Interruptions)... Nobody will be spared. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAVA RAO): Mr. Mohapatra, actually, your time is over, but you can speak for one more minute.

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Sir, please give me some time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAVA RAO): Please do. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: He comes from that area.

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: I come from a coal mining area.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAVA RAO): Please stick to the time-limit.

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: So, what I am saying is, a lot of things are being put in place by the State Governments, by the Central Government, but there is a lot of politicization which is taking place. Everybody was making easy money. The Central Government also went for easy money. It mopped up something like Rs. 250/- per tonne as export duty, without seeing what was

being exported and how was it being exported? Five Chief Ministers including the Chief Ministers of Orissa, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Chattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh have been knocking at the doors of the Central Government saying, "Please get us .."...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHA RAO): Please conclude.

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Sir, I am the only Member from my Party.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHA RAO): That is why we gave you five minutes. But you have taken eight minutes. All right. You take another one minute. ...(Interruptions)... Please. I cannot allow Mahapatra ji. Your time is five minutes. You have taken eight minutes.

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Mr. Yechury was allowed for 15 more minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHA RAO): Certainly not. I will call the records. That will not do. You take double the time you were allotted. I said five minutes but you take double of that. Now, carry on.

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: So, I have three more minutes. Okay, fine. So, all these new systems have been put in place. But at the time when there was a boom, did the Central Government think of obtaining technology, using fines in this country? Or, everybody was happy that Oh, China needs so much because of Beijing Olympics, so, let the boom continue. Why was the royalty of 30 per cent demanded by these six Chief Ministers denied? Thirty per cent of the easy money made by the mine owners could have come over to the State Governments, to the poor States.

Why was it not done? After the bird had flown, after the prices came down, you are putting it as 10 per cent. What for? Now, you need to look at the issues on their face value. Look at illegal mining as a phenomenon; look at Dhanbad; look at all these things that are happening around us. I

come from a coal-mining town, Talcher. I have seen, as a child in the preTndependence days, people working in the private mines coming in the evening with some coal and selling it off. It is easy money; multiply it a million times. This has happened. The enormity of the crime that was being committed was not appreciated at any time, either by Delhi or by other States. ...(*Time-bell rings*)...

I would request you that instead of being with the mine-owners, be with the people. Please enforce mining plans when you talk of rehabilitation of tribals. Mining plans require that mining is done in a scientific manner, so that as you mine, you continue rehabilitating the mine. If you rehabilitate the mines, people would get back their lands. You won't have unrest. But mining plans are violated. It is 60 years now; nobody has looked into this issue. To check mining plan violations with the IBM is the Government's responsibility. Central and State Governments have failed. We have arrested all the officers starting from the Director of Mines. Why haven't you arrested any one of your officers? That is my question.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAVA RAO): Mr. Ramalingam; you have three minutes.

SHRI K.V. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu)*: Hon'ble Vice Chairman Sir, I thank you very much for granting me this opportunity to express my views on behalf of my party AIADMK, in this discussion on large scale illegal mining. India is a land of so many resources. Our founder Dr. Puratchithalaivar M.G.R. has said in a song,

What is the resource that is lacking in this country

Why should we extend our hand to foreigners

A flag with a particular symbol should fly everywhere

And that is the symbol of food that denotes absence of scarcity".

If all the resources of our nation are properly utilized, all social

problems such as scarcity, hunger, famine and poverty will be alleviated from our nation.

†English translation of the original speech made in Tamil.

Coal is available in Jharkhand which accelerates the economic development of the state. Though many parts of Andhra Pradesh have been affected by drought, the presence of mineral resources in that state paved the way for economic development thereby providing employment to the people of that region. The granite stones obtained from Karnataka help the economic development of the state. Due to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation in Tamil Nadu, power generation has increased. A recent survey says that coal is present at Ullundhurpet, an area nearby Neyveli. If such coal resources are excavated, it would strengthen the economy of Tamil Nadu. When land is acquired for mining, proper compensation ought to be paid to the landowner in addition to providing employment to one member in that family. The Government should legislate a law accordingly. In Namakkal district of Tamil Nadu, many layers of platinum are found. Platinum is a precious metal. If proper efforts are taken to excavate this mineral, it would promote the economic development of the state and also guarantee employment to the people of that region.

Similarly, if all the mineral resources are excavated and are brought to international market, it would help the growth of economy. If the mineral resources are excavated only with the sole intention of amassing wealth, it would lead to environmental pollution. It also affects the health of the common people to a great extent.

Export industry occupies a prominent place in our country's economy. The granite stones exported from our country have become famous throughout the world. But, there should be a limit for the excavation of these granite stones. Mining should not be done to the extent of degrading the environment, bypassing all laws. The environment should be the consideration during mining instead of income.

Water resources are vital for the growth of our agriculture. Presence of water resources varies across the various states of India. Some states have perennial rivers. But some states have

to depend on their neighbouring states for obtaining water. Issues such as failure of monsoon, inter

state disputes regarding sharing of water etc. affect the agricultural production. But without considering these issues, sand mining is done illegally which leads to drying of river water. In Tamil Nadu, sand mining is done at a large scale. As a result, water from rivers could not flow into the canal which is above the riverbed. Therefore, agriculture is affected in Tamil Nadu. Due to the mining of sand from river bed, sea water gets mixed with river water. The quality of ground water also changes due to extensive sand plundering. Ground water turns unusable due to its increasing salinity. Due to large scale sand plundering in various parts of Tamil Nadu, ground water table is affected. People can not get safe drinking water.

In my district Erode, Coconut is grown in large number. Coconut trade is the livelihood of farmers in my district. The farmers are already in distress for not getting proper support price for the coconut produced. Due to sand plundering, ground water is also polluted. This in turn spoils the quality of the coconuts produced. When such poor quality coconuts are brought to the market, the farmers can not get proper procurement price.

As sand plundering is done above the level fixed by law, severe damages occur. The sand filters the polluting substances of the rain water that reaches ground water table. But due to sand mining, the polluting substances of water that reaches the ground water table were not filtered. The groundwater table also gets polluted with the result that water becomes impotable. Such situation is experienced in Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Vellore and Kanchipuram districts of Tamil Nadu where the river water is not potable. People are affected by many diseases due to the contamination of water in these areas. Palar River bed is also polluted.

Smuggling of mineral resources has increased throughout the country. Everyday smuggling of mineral resources is done through railways. Proper

steps need to be taken to prevent such smuggling. Recently a media report has informed that due to the over mining of red sandstone near a bird sanctuary in Rajasthan, the bird sanctuary's compound wall has developed cracks and it is likely to collapse any time. The smugglers did not spare even bird sanctuaries.

Agriculture in Tamil Nadu is facing a severe water crisis as the Cauvery water dispute is not resolved between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. More than 70 per cent of agricultural land in Tamil Nadu remains uncultivated. Thousands of truck loads of sand is mined in Tamil Nadu. They pay for two units of sand at quarries but take away more than five units of sand. According to law, more than two units of sand should not be carried in a truck. But the law is not followed. This illegal mining of sand not only causes revenue loss to the Government but also damages the roads, making them unfit for smooth travel. Therefore, road accidents also increase. In Cauvery river bed, particularly in Karur and neighbouring districts, sand is plundered at a large scale. As a result, the farmers are suffering due to shortage of water and price rise. Agricultural production is affected. Environment is polluted.

When our party's general secretary Hon'ble Puratchithalaivi Amma was the chief minister of Tamil Nadu, she regulated sand mining and prevented plundering. She also increased the revenue of the Government by allowing sand mining rights only to the Government. In addition to this, rainwater harvesting was made mandatory by her. This was done with a good intention to provide safe drinking water. She also filed a case in the Supreme Court to get sufficient water from Cauvery for protecting farmers of Cauvery delta.

Now some journalists have exposed the plundering of granite in Tamil Nadu with the connivance of the rulers in Tamil Nadu State Government. Attacks and filing of fake cases against such journalists have become a continuing story in Tamil Nadu. The rights of sand mining in Tamil Nadu are given to some benamis of the ruling party men in Tamil Nadu. They plunder in crores of rupees with the connivance of the State Government. The sand which is plundered illegally in Tamil Nadu is exported to Maldives. The Union Government should look into this issue and take strict measures against those plunderers in order to protect the mineral resources, sand resources, water resources and all other natural

resources of the nation. With these words, I conclude my speech. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAHA RAO): Mr. Raja, you have only three minutes.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the House has taken up this serious issue for discussion. Like natural gas, minerals and ores are national assets. They are the wealth of the nation. They are the common wealth of our nation, not the common wealth of the Games.

Sir, the illegal mining is one way of plundering the national wealth, looting the national wealth, as said by my previous speakers. To understand the dimension of the problem, I would like to simply quote the statement made by the Minister a couple of days ago in this very House.

The second para of the statement says, "Due to a combination of reasons in recent years, the incidence of illegal mining has grown considerably. This problem is acquiring organised dimensions and may lead to a nexus with criminal and anti-national elements in some of the States including those affected by Left Wing Extremism."

This is an official statement made by the Minister in this very House. If that is so, it is a crime and there is a nexus with criminals and anti-national elements. How is this crime being allowed to continue like this? I squarely say that it is the failure of the Central Government as well as the respective State Governments. The Indian Bureau of Mines identified some 17 States where such illegal mining is going on. The worst affected States are Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Jharkhand and several other States including West Bengal for coal mining also. Around 15 to 20 million tonnes of coal is illegally mined annually by the coal mafia, which has stronghold in coal-bearing regions, especially, in Jharkhand and West Bengal.

I am not getting into the details but this crime continues, the loot of the nation continues. What are the reasons? Are we not having enough laws to curb this crime, to put an end to this crime? We have enough laws. The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, you have in your hands. The Minerals Concession Rules, 1960, you have in your hands.

Forest

Conservation

Act, 1980, you have in your hands. Apart from these, you have the Water
(Prevention and Control of

Pollution) Act, 1974; the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974; the Environmental Protection Act, 1986; the Forest Rights Act, etc. All these laws are available. With all these-laws, how can we fail to fight this menace, fight this crime? I think, it is basically, primarily the failure of the Central Government as well as the State Governments.

Now, Sir, I come to one or two small points before I conclude. Now, Obulapuram, Bellary is being referred to mention how this illegal mining of iron ore is done. It is not the question of export only. There are some crucial questions. Why does the customs duty continue to be five per cent, which is so low, on iron ore? Why does the royalty continue to be so low? Several Members spoke on this issue. These are certain practical steps which the Central Government, with powers in its hand, can take, or, which the State Governments can take. But why do they fail? I have a doubt that there is a nexus between the politicians, criminals, and, I don't know who these anti-national elements are. The Minister has identified it here. It is a nexus between criminals and anti-nationals, and, also a nexus with politicians also. When I say, politicians, I do not name any political party. Definitely, we are not there. The problem is that the political will on the part of the Union Government. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Mr. Raja, you are an associate in Orissa.

SHRI D. RAJA: Who? ...*(Interruptions)*... Even when we associate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : आपका चुनाव गठबंधन था। ...*(व्यवधान)*... In the elections, you were the associate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. के. केशव राव) : पाणि जी, मेरी मदद कीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... पाणि जी, ज़रा मदद कीजिए। टाइम कम है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... राजा जी, बोलिए। No, no. Raja, let us go with this. ...*(Interruptions)*... पाणि जी, ज़रा मदद कीजिए। Right, right.

SHRI D. RAJA: Mr. Pany, even if we associate, we never fail to fight against the wrong things.

You shared Government with them. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHA RAO): Mr. D. Raja, you have already taken double the time.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, due to paucity of time, I will not go into the figures as to how much iron ore has been illegally mined and exported and all these things. It is a serious crime. It is a betrayal of country's interest. How can the Central Government and the State Governments remain mute spectators, or collaborators, to this huge crime? That is my question. I do not think the Central Government is not aware of the crime and those criminals or the respective State Governments do not know who the criminals are. Then why did both the Governments keep quiet? Why are they not taking any serious action against these people? In fact, it is a serious thing. There are some Ministers of the Government. Once I raised this issue on the very same floor. What happens to the code of conduct for Ministers? If they are doing mining illegally, how can they continue to be Ministers in a particular State Government? I raised this question and there was no answer from the Government. Illegal mining, ill-gotten money, and super profit earned through illegitimate means affect the very polity of the nation. It affects the democracy of our country. This has to be fought. I ask the Government this question. What action is the Government going to take? You have said that you are going to constitute an Enquiry Commission. That Enquiry Commission will be given 18 months' time. What kind of enquiry do you want to do? The facts are before you. It is known to everybody. And the Government should not behave as if it is naive, not knowing all these things. What is the Enquiry Commission going to do? Why are you giving it 18 months' time? It should have a short time-frame, say, three months, or six months. Catch hold of the criminals, take firm action, and save the nation. We are asking the Government that since you are in power, so you have to save the nation. You nationalise it. It is national wealth. You nationalise it and save the nation.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAHA RAO): You and Mr. Yechury have said
it.

7.00 P.M.

SHRI D. RAJA: If you don't save the nation, people will not save you. With these few words, I conclude. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the illegal mining of coal, iron ore, granite, and sand is being done in broad daylight. But we are discussing 'illegal mining' during night time.

Sir, in 2006, I opened this Pandora's box of irregular sanctioning of iron ore mines to OMC company and encroachment on forest land and on land belonging to other people.

But now the scope of the discussion is entirely different. With due apology to the Chair, as an example, I want to show the photograph of a Sunkulamma temple.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHA RAO): You should not show it.

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: I know that. SB Logistics exported ten million tonnes, and ILC Company Limited exported ten million tonnes. I know that Dalmia surrendered 1,200 acres of land because now the mineral has vanished from that area. I know about the companies. But because of decency, decorum, and procedure of this House, I don't want to mention the names. This wealth has gone to China and they earned, as you told when you spoke from that side, twenty crore rupees per day.

Of course, I know that Karnataka Chief Minister is in a piquant situation. He's willing to wound, but afraid to strike. Anyhow, he banned the export of minerals out of Karnataka.

Sir, the Deccan Herald exposed on 6th that lorries were queued up at Hagari check post.

Thousands of lorries were carrying iron ore to Andhra Pradesh border for export from the Andhra sea ports. Sir, since you are occupying the Chair, I do not want to mention, but in Karnataka,

the Karnataka Congress people had made a Maha Padayatra demanding, I think so, the ban of export of iron ore. But it seems as if the lorries are coming to Andhra and are going to the sea ports. Why the Andhra Government did not ban the export of iron ore from our sea ports, I do not understand, Sir. Probably, they may be interested in reconciling the Odarpu Yatra while the Karnataka Congress people are doing the Maha Padayatra! ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, in Zero Hour, on 25th November, 2009,¹ I raised this subject of illegal mining and irregular sanctions; how they were looting the country's wealth, but the Government did not take cognizance of that. But Mr. Deve Gowda, our ex-Prime Minister, also raised this matter in Zero Hour, but I am happy that the Minister gave a reply to him. In that reply, the illegal mining activities in Rajasthan, Orissa, AP and Karnataka he had accepted. One thing more, Sir. Meanwhile, in the Ministry of Finance, the Department of Revenue also recognised this thing, and I quote from the Memorandum:

"It was decided that Customs Commissionerates shall share the details of minerals exported through the Ports within their respective jurisdiction with the concerned State Governments on a periodical basis."

But I do not know whether they are reconciled with the State Governments or not. They might have been reconciled. But what is the extent of illegal mining of iron ore that has been exported to the other countries? That also might have been known, Sir. Now, the Minister has made a statement that he is going to form a Commission on illegal mining, Sir. Will the Minister explain the terms of reference? What more substantial evidence does this Government require to curb this illegal mining? The Commission is an eyewash and also part of delay tactics, Sir. There is not need of setting up a Commission. They can straightway ban the export of iron ore and coal also. It is unfortunate, Sir, that he was expressing that the technology, in India, is not available. Sir, I am sorry to cement; the pithead peptization technology is available in India even with low grade iron also. This is almost misleading the House as you

were also expressing while sitting on this side. Regarding Bayyaram
...(Time bell rings)... I am concluding, Sir. The Minister, in the other
House, gave a statement:

"We gave the reservation to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for A.P. Mineral Development Corporation. Reservation means merely blocking the area for a certain length of time for conservation."

Sir, the Andhra Government issued a G.O.Ms.No.64, on 30-06-2010. I quote:

"In the reference 4th read above, Government of India have conveyed the prior approval for reserving Iron Ore bearing areas of 56690.00 hectares in Bayyaram, Garla and Nelakondapally Mandals of Khammam district for exclusive exploration for 10 years in favour of M/s Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation Limited under Section 17A(2) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act."

These people entered into an MoU with Rachana Steel.

...(Time Bell rings)... I am concluding, Sir. In half-a-minute, I am concluding.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHA RAO): You can take one minute and conclude.

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Thank you, Sir. The illegal iron ore mafia, economically, is so strong that they are corrupting the political system; they are corrupting the bureaucracy. They have extended their tentacles to the judiciary also.

I am sorry to comment like this. They are looting the national wealth. That is why I have to comment like this. The Government gets revenue to the tune of Rs.2 crores to Rs.10 crores per million tonnes of iron ore which is exported. If value added goods are exported, the Government would get Rs.250 crores by way of excise duty, VAT, etc. That is why, in the interest of the nation and in the interest of the future of the nation, I suggest auctioning of iron ore blocks through a bidding process for captive consumption, banning export of raw iron ore and allowing export of value-added goods. As regards the irregularities, I

also demand an inquiry into the irregularities. But there is no need for a commission. The Government may constitute a JPC for a statutory probe into illegal mining. Thank you.

श्री के.बी. शणप्पा : धन्यवाद उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय। यहां पर illegal mining के ऊपर चर्चा शुरू हुई है। सबके दिमाग में यह आ रहा है कि हिन्दुस्तान में जहां भी deposits हैं, चाहे मैंगनीज हो, आयरन हो, गोल्ड हो, लाइमस्टोन हो, यूरेनियम हो, जो कुछ भी धरती मां ने अपने पेट में छुपा रखा है, उसके बारे में, आप सब समझ रहे हैं कि हर चीज़ को illegally निकाला गया है। मैं ऐसा नहीं समझता हूं। जब-जब इसकी जरूरत पड़ी तब तब कुछ legally निकाला गया है। यहां पर सीताराम येचुरी जी ने इसका उल्लेख किया है। हम तो समझ रहे थे कि ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री राजीव शुक्ल (महाराष्ट्र) : आपके हिसाब से illegal mining नहीं हो रही है? ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : आप इनकी पूरी बात सुनिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री के.बी. शणप्पा : एक मिनट, आप मेरी पूरी बात सुनिए। ... (व्यवधान) ... आप बड़े आदमी हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : शुल्क जी, ये नॉन हिन्दी स्पीकिंग स्टेट से हैं। वह हिन्दी में बोल रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री राजीव शुक्ल : वह हिन्दी में बोल रहे हैं, इसकी तो हम प्रशंसा करते हैं, तारीफ करते हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ... लेकिन हिन्दी की आड़ में आप चोरी को जस्टिफाई नहीं कर सकते हैं ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री के.बी. शणप्पा : आप क्या बोल रहे हैं, मेरी समझ में नहीं आ रहा है। आप मेरी बात सुनिए तो सही। ... (व्यवधान) ... आप पता नहीं कहाँ थे, अभी दिखाई दे रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ... आप बीच में दखलअंदाजी कर रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ... सर, मैं इस बहस में ज्यादा नहीं पड़ना चाहता हूँ। उड़ीसा में illegal mining हुई है और दूसरी जगहों पर, जहां-जहां deposits हैं, वहां पर illegal mining हुई है। कर्नाटक को मुद्दा बनाकर हर कोई यहां पर बेल्लारी की बात कर रहा है। कर्नाटक असेम्बली की बैठक तीन महीने पहले हुई। वहां पर इसके बारे में जोरदार बहस हुई। Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, you and everybody here in this august House have seen the scene. वहां के चीफ मिनिस्टर ने कहा कि "भाई साहब, आप लोग जनता की तरफ से प्रतिनिधि बनकर आए हैं। हमको मेजोरिटी से लोगों ने चुनकर भेजा है। आप लोगों ने 55 साल कर्नाटक में राज किया। हमें ढाई साल हो गये। आपकी

अपोजिशन पार्टी को किस तरह से हाउस में फ्लोर पर बिहेव करना चाहिए। Mind your business and tolerate us. Whatever problems that you have, you bring before me. I am here to answer your questions. Whatever document you want, I am here to provide you". Regarding illegal mining activities in Bellary, the Bellary brothers were made the target. Why? Do you mean to say that they are the only people who are exploiting the deposits? मेरे पास बहुत डाक्यूमेंट्स हैं। यहां पर चर्चा चली, नॉन-पालिटिकल चर्चा चली, इसलिए मैं उस पर नहीं जाना चाहता हूं। लेकिन मैं उस prospective के बारे में नहीं सोचता हूं, ढाई साल में वहां की गवर्नमेंट लोगों की समस्याओं के साथ जूझ रही है।

They are very near to the people and approaching them. They have made hundreds of plans for the development of SCs, old people, ladies, Anganwadis. He has almost attending to all of them. He wants to do the best possible for the people of the State. Forgetting all these things, the mud da of Bellary has come all of a sudden. मैं यह नहीं समझता कि इसके पीछे कोई राजतंत्र नहीं है। मैं 1957 में 8वीं क्लास में पढ़ता था। That was the first elected Communist Government in Kerala. But the Centre was not happy to see that Government. They wanted to destabilize that Government. A Communist Government was elected by the people of Kerala, not by any revolution. Ballot revolution took place. That Government was approaching the people with progressive ideas. But the people sitting in Delhi could not tolerate it. At the same time, in Congo, there was the Government of Patrice Lumumba. The CIA planned to destabilize the Government in Congo. A lot of plots had taken place and we know it, the politicians here know it. I am going to talk in that perspective. For the first time in South, a BJP Government has been brought by the people of Karnataka. Do you think that the people sitting here in Delhi are happy? We have ruled Uttar Pradesh. We are in Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. The people sitting in Delhi never thought that the BJP will enter Karnataka. All of a sudden, a lot of change has taken place in South and that has become the gateway of South. We have not only formed a Government in Karnataka, but also we have given a

popular Government there. I do not want to mislead this House, Sir. In 50 years, I have seen many Chief Ministers. As they could not tolerate the Government in Kerala in 1959 under the name of vimochanasamaram; they started it because they opposed the Education Bill of Prof. Mundasseri. Mannam Pandnabhan was the leader. Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the President of the Congress Party here. So, that Government was destabilized. यह जो conspiracy है, I am feeling यह BJP गवर्नमेंट वहां पर किस तरह से काम करने लगी। इसका influence बाजू के स्टेटों में भी जाएगा। Ultimately, it is politics. Bellary is a mudda. When the Chief Minister said, "You come over here. Let us have a dialogue. I am prepared to talk about whatever you want". कितनी illegal mining हुई, किधर-किधर से हमारे जमाने में हुई?

आपकी तरफ से कितने लोग हैं जो आज आपके साथ बैठकर उधर पुकार रहे हैं। मैं उसका पूरा ब्यौरा दूंगा। आपने सीन देखा होगा, अपोजिशन लीडर goes like this. जब तक आप dialogue के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं, जब आपके मन में पाप है, आप वहां पर बैठकर चर्चा करने के लिए तैयार नहीं होंगे। बिना चर्चा किए, आपके सामने गवर्नमेंट के विचार कैसे आएंगे? You ask for the documents from the Chief Minister. Being the Leader of the Opposition, you have got every right to ask for it. You have got the Cabinet darja. You have left all these things. You have given a slogan," जब तक आप Reddy Brothers को नहीं निकालेंगे, हमारा मूवमेंट जारी रहेगा और रोड़ों पर जाएंगे, बेल्लारी में जाएंगे। क्यों, बेल्लारी में उनका क्या है? उनका तो धन्धा चलता है आनन्दपुर डिस्ट्रिक्ट में। ओबलापुर आनन्दपुर डिस्ट्रिक्ट में है।

इन्होंने ओपनली कह दिया on the floor of the House, अगर वहां पर मेरा माइन्स का छोटा सा भी धन्धा चल रहा है तो आप इक्वायरी कराइए, आप जो भी पनिशमेंट देंगे, हम उसके लिए तैयार हैं। उनका धंधा आंध्र प्रदेश में चलता है। आपको भी मालूम है कि आंध्र प्रदेश में किनके साथ उनका धंधा है। आप लोग मुंह क्यों नहीं खोल रहे हैं? Who are the people who are encouraging them? अपने रिकार्ड्स को लेकर जाइए, हमारे पास भी बहुत कुछ रिकार्ड्स हैं। If the Chair permits,....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAVA RAO): Not necessary.

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: I don't want to highlight the names of people ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand) : The Chair knows it.

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: I have got it. The Chief Minister has already highlighted the names of people, who are in the Treasury Benches here, and in the Opposition there. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राजीव शुक्ल : ट्रेजरी बेंच ...*(व्यवधान)*... लोग इतने साफ सुथरे कैसे हो गए ...*(व्यवधान)*... ट्रेजरी बेंच ...*(व्यवधान)*... ब्लेम करने के लिए यह कौन सा तरीका है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : आपको पता है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री राजीव शुक्ल : आपको पता नहीं है, आप चुप रहिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... अहलुवालिया जी बोलने के लिए बैठे हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*... आपके रूडी जी हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : आप चुप रहिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान (आंध्र प्रदेश) : आप क्यों लड़ रहे हैं, बात बराबर की है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : आप ऊंची आवाज मत निकालिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान : हमें ऊंची आवाज में बात करने का हक है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. के. केशव राव) : खान साहब, आप बैठिए प्लीज ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बोल सकते हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*... आपको पुकारने की क्या जरूरत है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री राजीव शुक्ल : आंध्र वाले साफ-सुथरे हो गए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : सर, अच्छी भली डिबेट चल रह थी, अगर राजीव शुक्ल जी बीच में आकर पिन प्रिक करेंगे तो यहां पर लोग चूड़ियां पहनकर नहीं बैठे हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : मैं निवेदन करता हूं ...*(व्यवधान)*... शुक्ल जी वहां बैठे हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*... पार्लियामेंट के अंदर ...*(व्यवधान)*... सदन के अंदर ड्रामा करते हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*... कंप्यूज करते हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री राजीव शुक्ल : पार्लियामेंट में बहस से क्या मतलब ...*(व्यवधान)*... आपको कुछ पता है? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. के. केशव राव) : राजीव जी, बैठिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : यह नहीं चलेगा ... (व्यवधान) ...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. के. केशव राव) : यह ठीक नहीं है ...*(व्यवधान)*... उनको कुछ बोलने दीजिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : सर, सदन पहले से चल रहा है ...*(व्यवधान)*... सदन की कार्यवाही शांति से चल रही है। फर्स्ट स्पीकर के टाइम में पहले से ही राइडर लगा दिया गया है। एक-दूसरे पर नाम लेकर मत बोलिए। अगर आप नाम सुनना चाहते हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री के.बी. शणप्पा : नाम भी बताएं।

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : अगर आप नाम सुनना चाहते हैं, लिस्टिड नंबर सुनना चाहते हैं, तो देखिए, यह बैग पूरा भरा हुआ है, अगर कहेंगे तो खोलकर दिखाता हूं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. के. केशव राव) : नहीं, नहीं, हो गया है।

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : हमारे पास सब कुछ है, किंतु फोटो सहित दिखाऊंगा, फिर कहीं मुंह दिखाने लायक नहीं रहेंगे, इसलिए शांत रहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAVA RAO): Shanappaji, the hon. Leader of the Opposition should speak. You must leave some time for him. Please have consideration because there are a lot of things to be said.

श्री के.बी. शणप्पा : सर, शुक्ल जी, बीच में आकर मेरे टाइम को ले रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAVA RAO): You have already taken fifteen minutes.

श्री के.बी. शणप्पा : मैं यह कह रहा था कि आपने शायद महाभारत की कथा सुनी होगी, the eyes of the enemy, that is, the Kauravas, were on Bheema. महाभारत की कथा में Bheema was the man who saved Pandavas, when they were in trouble. He killed all the 100 Kauravas with his Gadha. आप लोगों ने उन लोगों को टारगेट बनाया, जिनको फिनिश करने से वे अपने आप में लड़ेंगे और हमारा उल्लू सीधा हो जाएगा। ऐसा नहीं होगा।

You may allow me to read the letter written by the Chief Minister or. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAVA RAO): You may place it on the Table; that would do. Anybody can use it. ...*(Interruptions)*... You may

lay it. Whoever wants to use it can use it.

श्री के.बी. शणप्पा : सर, मैं दो मिनट में बोल दूंगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAHA RAO): You have to keep time in mind. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री के.बी. शणप्पा : एक मिनट, सर। हम लोग 2008 में आए। इससे पहले 1998 से लेकर 2004 तक आपकी गवर्नमेंट थी और कौन चीफ मिनिस्टर थे, आपको मालूम है। 2004 के बाद जो गवर्नमेंट आई, that was a coalition Government with the JD(S); your Chief Minister was there. Till 2007, the Government was led by the Congress in coalition with the Janata Dal (S). उनके जमाने में क्या-क्या हुआ, मैं बता देना चाहता हूं, क्योंकि यहां पर बात छेड़ी गई है कि किनके जमाने में कितना लूटा गया।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. के. केशव राव) : एलओपी साहब बोलेंगे, शणप्पा जी प्लीज़ समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री के.बी. शणप्पा : कांग्रेस की गवर्नमेंट थी, 2004 की ...*(व्यवधान)*... I am going to complete it, Sir. Kindly allow me to complete it, Sir. Kindly allow me to...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAHA RAO): How much time do you want?

श्री के.बी. शणप्पा : सर, पांच मिनट दे दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAHA RAO): No, no; this is impossible. Please understand me.

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Forty-three cases were. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAHA RAO): No, no. Shanappabhai, please understand me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Permissions given were seven; notifications issued were 33. During Kumaraswamy's time: 47 cases were referred; 22 were given ...*(Interruptions)*... 19 were given permission. गवर्नर के जमाने में, 15 दिन तक गवर्नर थे, उनके जमाने में सबसे ज्यादा illegal mining का issue हुआ। ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAHA RAO): Mr. Yechury referred to all that. He has referred to the Governor and all that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Sir, Yeddyurappa has categorically stated. ...*(Interruptions)*... Just one minute more, Sir, and I am concluding. From 2008 till today, he has issued only two permissions. One did not materialize at all and, in another, they have asked for the goldmine. Both of them have not materialized and we are saying that this is the Government during whose time all the illegal mining activity has been carried out. I am sorry to say this. So, kindly bear this in your mind that he has come out openly to request the Prime Minister of the country कि सर, अगर कहीं भी ये चीजें चल रही हैं, तो आप हमारे कान पकड़िए, बुरे लोगों को नियंत्रण में रखिए और एक सेंट्रल कानून बनाए। illegal mining को बंद कराने का कोई भी रास्ता आप निकालिए, तो हम आपकी तरफ हैं।

इतना कह कर मैं अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूँ। थैंक्यू सर।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHA RAO): Please, it is over. Thank you. Shri Anil Lad.

SHRI ANIL H. LAD (Karnataka): Sir, I would like to disclose that I am in the mining business, as this disclosure is required under the rules of the House. सर, हम लोग 1956 से बेल्लारी में mining कर रहे हैं। 1956 से हमारी family mining में है। आज illegal mining के ऊपर जो लोग बोल रहे हैं, वह 2002 से चालू हुआ है। सर, मैं इसका कारण सदन को बताना चाहता हूँ। 2002 में जब globalization हुआ, real estate economy बढ़ी, जिसमें iron ore और स्टील की मांगें भी बढ़ी। There was a technology from China with the help of which small sponge iron units were coming up in Hyderabad, Bellary and other such places. Two hundred to three hundred industries came up around Bellary and Hyderabad. The required investment was only Rs.20 and Rs. 25 crores. A lot of people put up industries. For this industry, the material required was hard tumbler material. उसमें जितनी भी बेल्लारी के आस पास माइन के नीचे की जमीन है, उस जमीन में पत्थर आने लगे हैं। I know a lot of Members have spoken about it.

खेतों में हमारे जो फार्मर्स हैं, जब उनको पता चला कि उससे उनको अच्छा धन मिल रहा है तो उन्होंने उसको निकालना चालू किया। Then mining was started by a lot of companies. सर, विदाउट परमिट माइनिंग, इल्लिगल माइनिंग है। जो आदमी mining concession लेता है और वह उसे परमिट से निकालता है या सेल करता है, that is legal, लेकिन जो illegally sale करता है, that is illegal. It started in 2002. Today, the newspaper, Vijay Karnataka, says that in 2004-10, near about 3 crore tonnes of material has been illegally mined. सर, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि my friend-colleague said now that the BJP Government in Karnataka is in power only for two years now. I would like to correct that. They were in a coalition Government from 2006-onwards with JD(S) headed by Mr. Kumaraswamy. The Deputy Chief Minister was Mr. Yeddyurappa. Please understand this. The mining * is a threat to democracy.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAVA RAO): The word * will not go on record.

SHRI ANIL H. LAD: This was released in 2006 and it appeared in all the newspapers. CNN-IBN has done a lot of reporting on illegal mining. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANIL H. LAD: Sir, he was not in power. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAVA RAO): Allow the hon. Member to continue. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Shanappa, hon. LOP would be responding to your points; he knows how to respond.

SHRI ANIL H. LAD: Sir, he is taking my precious time. ...*(Interruptions)*... In 2006, I was an MLA and from my district only one among the Reddy brothers was the District Minister during that time also. This illegal mining, Sir, the illegal mining to the extent of 71 lakh tonnes which was done in 2009-10; the Karnataka Chief Minister admitted in the Assembly that the illegal mining had happened. Hon. Justice Santosh Hegde had been interviewed by CNN-IBN and he frankly said that

there was

*Not recorded.

no law and order in Bellary, "If I want to go and survey, I require police protection.' These are the words he spoke.

Sir, I would like to say what our contention is. The Lokayukta can survey only where the mining has been done. Ultimately, they can only submit a report indicating the quantity that is moved out. सर, बेल्लारी में कोई पोर्ट नहीं है। अगर बेल्लारी से कोई माल कहीं जाना है तो कम से कम 500 किलोमीटर दूर जाकर उसको रवाना करना पड़ता है। Bellary is connected with 6-7 ports. The Government should take note of the quantity of material that has been exported from which port, whether there was a legal permit or not; they have registered Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysian benami companies. आज उधर आयरन ओर्स की प्राइस 150 यूएस डॉलर है, तो उन्होंने इसे over-invoice करके 200-220 डॉलर कर दिया। इल्लैगल माइनिंग का जो कैश पैसा था, वह इधर से हवाला से होकर उधर गया और फिर उधर से यह पैसा ऑफिशियल होकर इधर आया। I would like to say, if the Lokayukta, Justice Santosh Hegde can go into all these details, it would be nice. I am saying that even the CBI cannot go into this because it is very, very technical. What I am saying is, let there be an inquiry even on us which includes the permits that we have, on the quantities we have exported, where we have exported, whether we have done under-invoicing or over-invoicing. There is MMTC also. Every month, there is a GSM pricing. It can be ascertained in which month what is the export. Say, in the month of June, the price can be \$90; in the month of March, it goes to \$180. So, there is a lot of variation in the prices. My esteemed friends are saying that the permission should be given only on value addition.

Sir, recently, a global meet was held in Karnataka. I request all the hon. Members to listen to this. Sir, the person who is Minister in-charge in Bellary colludes his hands with Andhra Pradesh, and says, "I will put one steel plant in 2006 in Cudappa" Sir, today, we are in 2010, and the plant is not existing there, and a lot of mining leases have been issued on that plant. Again, today, in Karnataka, there is a global meet. Arcelor Mittal comes and says, "I will invest Rs.30,000 crores in Bellary". The

Minister from that District who has a company in his wife's name said, "We will invest Rs.36,000 crores". Sir, I would like to say in this House that when I am a mine-owner for the last 44 years, and I don't have that kind of money, how can the Minister say "I can invest Rs.36,000 crores in Bellary, and Rs.30,000 crores in Cudappa"? So, wherefrom this Rs.66,000 crores coming? I would like to know from my friends whether you have given permission to the company for investment of Rs.36,000 crores in Karnataka or not. You have to agree to it.

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Let the Customs and Income-tax authorities investigate it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAVA RAO): Let him say whatever he wants to say. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Lad, you please address the Chair.

SHRI ANIL H. LAD: Sir, a high-level committee has been formed in the State to scrutinize all these plants. Lot of investors have come and put applications in Karnataka. The Karnataka Government rejects these applications, and says, "We don't have water and land in the State of Karnataka". In the next three months, they give the permission for these two big plants, Sir. It is being given by diverting 84,000 acres of agricultural land. This agricultural land is being diverted for setting up industries. Can we imagine that 84,000 acres of green agricultural land is being diverted? Bellary's temperature in summer goes up to 45 degree centigrade. In Bellary, we have the JSW's biggest steel plant from 1993. Every year, they are asking the Government of Karnataka to give them a lease, but the Government of Karnataka is not giving the lease to JSW. But, without a plant, they allotted the land and even given the mining leases for this company. Please understand, this is not a small scandal. This is going to be the biggest scandal in the name of value-addition. We have plants, but we have not been allotted mines. We have put our application, but we have not been allotted the land. So many other people have also applied for that. Sir, what I am saying is, this

high-level committee. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, we have been hearing the hon. Member. He was kind enough to disclose his interests, when he started, but in the course of

the speech, he can't start making a grievance that his company has not been allotted the lease. This is the direct conflict of interests. ...*(Interruptions)*... I can quite understand the concern of the hon. Members. This issue has been raised by Mrs. Karat earlier also. On generic issues concerning the industry to raise it, but then to start making a grievance of your own lease being granted or not being granted, that is the direct conflict of interests, which should not be allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAVA RAO): It is a matter of expression. ...*(Interruptions)*... The word "I" brought the personal angularity to it. Let us avoid that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please conclude your speech.

SHRI ANIL H. LAD: Just a minute, Sir. The Andhra Government conducts a CBI Inquiry. The person who is saying that he is ready for any inquiry, goes to the High Court and gets a stay on the CBI Inquiry. Today, they are saying that they are as pure as 24 carat gold, and they have not done any such thing. ...*(Time-bell rings)*... Sir, the Lokayukta mentioned in its Report that 99 illegal mining happened in Bellary. Sir, I would like to quote here one thing. The Lokayukta used this GPS-72 equipment to survey our lands. When the lands were allotted to us, it was surveyed by chain and the land was given to us.

When a GPS survey was done, even if the Parliament is surveyed by this equipment, there will be a variation in that. On that we have gone to court and got the stay. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHAVA RAO): Let us avoid personal angularity to it, okay. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let us not bring personal angularity to the debate. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, your time is also over. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANIL H. LAD: Sir, I would like to say मैं अपनी जगह पर illegal mining नहीं करने दूंगा। There are barren lands, forest barren lands पर जाकर illegal mining हुआ है। One Dalimia mine which is twelve

acre mine which is available in Hospet उधर से बहुत सा माल चोरी हुआ है। Sir, I want this survey to happen very fast. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. K. KESHA RAO): Mr. Shantaram Laxman Naik. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have three minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*... You can take one minute extra, total four minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Thank you, Sir. I will start by referring to Mr. Sitaram Yechury's statement asking for nationalization. See, I am also basically a socialist man in person. I would like the national wealth to be in the hands of the State. But seeing what is happening in the public sector, the vast corruption which is there, we are not able to manage, admittedly, many of our public sector undertakings. If we are able to manage the public sector, then the nationalization could have been the solution. Secondly, you were asking for a ban on export. Today we don't have capacity and that capacity will take years together for utilizing our iron ores. Sir, a place like Goa where only low grade iron ore is there, that is not utilized at all in the country because there is no scope. Therefore, there is no other alternative than to export low grade iron ore. I am mentioning Goa only. For other iron ores also we do not have that much capacity. Therefore, exporting is the only ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, we are having a mineral policy well laid down where so many things have been mentioned. I am not referring to that. The only thing is that the mineral policy says that as per the policy we will be amending the concerned legislation, that is, mineral rules, regulations, etc. I urge upon the Government that as per this policy which is there the necessary amendment to the legislation have to be made because as Kapilji is saying policy is not a law, policy has to be incorporated in the legislation. Therefore, although we have got a mineral policy, we have not amended the concerned legislation. In this mineral policy there is a very important revolutionary change which has been made, namely, wherever we are going to hold, if we have mining leases

now, henceforward the tribal and villagers will be the stakeholders. It is not only that we are going to compensate them, it is not that only we are going to resettle them but they are going to be the stakeholder. This is a revolutionary scope which has been given in the policy statement. Therefore, that has to be implemented. Then, Sir, you have to see how these iron ores of Bellary went. Did it disappear all of a sudden, whether a theft was committed or whether it was washed away by rain? Who made it disappear, this requires to be investigated. Sir, this cannot be investigated by an Inquiry Commission. The offence has already taken place. When offence of theft has already taken place, there has to be an FIR and not only that those who have committed theft be arrested but the conspirators, even if they are in the Government, even if the highest person is there, if he is found to be a conspirator by clearing the files, by helping those persons, then the highest executive person will be a conspirator and that higher executive person in the State has to be arrested. It cannot be done by an Inquiry Commission because it takes years together.

If somebody does not want to take action, the Inquiry Commission is there. Therefore, Inquiry Commission is not a substitute for this. Therefore, I demand that CBI inquiry is the only solution for Bellary theft.

सुश्री सुशीला तिरिया (उड़ीसा) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सबको सुन रही थी और मैं ज्यादा समय नहीं लूंगी।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. के. केशव राव) : आपके तीन मिनट हैं।

सुश्री सुशीला तिरिया : सर, तीन मिनट तो एक मिनट तो आपने ही ले लिया है। सर, मैं सबसे पहले grievance के तौर पर यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि जहां भी बड़े projects होते हैं, चाहे irrigation के हों, electrification के हों या mining के हों, वहां फॉरेस्ट लैंड होता है और वहां ट्राइबल्स ज्यादा रहते हैं, तो मेरा यह कहना है कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट के तमाम decision होने के बावजूद भी उनका proper rehabilitation कभी नहीं होता है। They are always displaced from one place to another in the name of development, whether

it is a power project, electrification work or illegal mining of minerals.

[MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair]

इसलिए illegal mining जो हुई है, इसमें ट्राइबल्स का 1 परसेंट भी शेयर नहीं है। वे बेचारे वहां unhygienic atmosphere में रह रहे हैं। वे उनको केवल एक लॉलीपॉप दे रहे हैं कि उनकी एजुकेशन का, हाउसिंग का, सब

कुछ वे देखेंगे लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहूंगी कि उड़ीसा में पिछले डेढ़ साल में 35,000 करोड़ से ज्यादा का जो घपला हुआ, तो कमिशन बैठाने की बात की जा रही है। जब किसी स्टेट में illegal mining हो रही है, उसमें आप चाहे Enquiry Commission बैठाइए या सी.बी.आई. से जांच कराइए, जहां पर आपकी कोई मशीनरी न हो और आप स्टेट गवर्नमेंट अथॉरिटी या किसी भी investigation authority को लेने जाएं और उनके ऊपर किसी किस्म का विश्वास न हो, तो उसका क्या नतीजा निकलेगा?

महोदय, मैं यह भी निवेदन करना चाहती हूं कि पिछले एक-डेढ़ साल में हमारे यहां क्वॉर्र और मयूरभंज में सबसे ज्यादा illegal mining हुई है। जहां 100 में से 90 प्रतिशत ट्राइबल्स रहते हैं और जहां जंगल है, वहां Environment Minister कहां रह गए? उनके कानून कहां रह गए? वहां water pollution कहां गया? वहां air pollution कहां गया? क्वॉर्र के ट्राइबल्स में ऐसी-ऐसी बीमारियां हो रही हैं कि वहां डाक्टरों के जाने के बाद भी, उनकी जांच होने के बाद भी बीमारी का पता नहीं चल पा रहा है। उनको पीने का स्वच्छ पानी नहीं मिल रहा है। महोदय, Indian Constitution में जो Article 21 है - Right to Live, ट्राइबल्स के लिए मैं इसकी डिमांड करना चाहती हूं। जो सौ सालों से ज्यादा समय से जंगलों में रह रहे थे, illegal mining की वजह से अब उनको उतनी unhygienic जगह में throw करके उनका जीना मुश्किल कर रखा है। महोदय, यह national threat तो जरूर है लेकिन उड़ीसा में मयूरभंज में टाटा स्टील को जो iron ore बादामपहाड़, सुलईपाड़ से लेकर जमशेदपुर टाटा में जो Iron & Steel Plant है, तो यह क्यों नहीं हो सकता है जहां प्रचुर मात्रा में iron ore हो, raw manganese हो, वहां के लोगों के economic benefit के लिए कोई इंडस्ट्री वहां पर हो? यदि उस क्षेत्र से सारा आप ट्रांसपोर्ट करके बाहर भेज देंगे, export कर देंगे, उसके बाद न उनके खेत रहेंगे, न उनके लोग रहेंगे, न आगे उनके जीने का कोई साधन होगा। मैं यही निवेदन करना चाहूंगी इसी पॉलिसी के तहत सरकार को या मिनिस्ट्री को सोचना चाहिए कि जहां-जहां पर प्रचुर मात्रा में रेवेन्यू सरकार को देना है, स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को, सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को, वहां इंडस्ट्री रखने के लिए, जैसे मयूरभंज में एक भी इंडस्ट्री नहीं है, तो क्यों नहीं वहां एक स्टील प्लांट बनाया जाए? वहां minerals भी है, iron ore भी है, सब कुछ वहां प्रचुर मात्रा में है, उससे आराम से प्लांट बनाया जा सकता है, यह मैं आपके माध्यम से निवेदन करना चाहती हूं।

महोदय, हमारे क्वॉर्र और मयूरभंज में पिछले दिनों बहुत illegal mining हुई है। उड़ीसा असेंबली में Vedanta के बारे में उठा, चाहे Posco के बारे में उठा, लेकिन उनका rehabilitation सदियों से नहीं हो रहा है। मेरा

निवेदन यह है कि उनके लिए तो विधान सभा है, लेकिन क्यॉझर और मयूरभंज के ट्राइबल्स के लिए तो विधान सभा भी नहीं है। इसीलिए मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से निवेदन करना चाहूंगी कि illegal mining को, specially जो Enquiry Commission under section 3 लगाने को स्टेटमेंट मंत्री जी ने सदन में दिया है...

उसमें इन दोनों जिलों को अच्छी तरह से कवर करके जिन लोगों ने paper tampering करके लाइन और बाउंडरी के बाहर लीज़ देने का काम किया है, उनको भी पनिशमेंट मिलनी चाहिए - उसमें चाहे political involvement हो, चाहे बड़े ऑफिसर्स का involvement हो, चाहे ऑफिशियल मैनेजमेंट का involvement हो या किसी कम्पनी या individual का involvement हो - जिसको भी इसमें लिप्त पाया जाता है, उसको दंडित किया जाना चाहिए क्योंकि उनको दंडित किए बिना उन पर आगे रुकावट नहीं लगायी जा सकेगी और इसी तरह से illegal mining चलती रहेगी। धन्यवाद।

श्री उपसभापति : श्री राम कृपाल यादव। आपने तीन मिनट के लिए रिक्वेस्ट की थी।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव (बिहार) : सर, मुझे पांच मिनट का समय दे दीजिए।

श्री उपसभापति : देखिए। पहले आपने दो मिनट मांगे, फिर तीन मिनट और अब पांच मिनट कह रहे हैं।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : सर, मैं एक बड़ी पार्टी को represent कर रहा हूँ और यह एक महत्वपूर्ण मामला है।

श्री उपसभापति : आपका नाम नहीं था, फिर भी आपको allow कर रहे हैं।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : आपकी बड़ी कृपा है। महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य श्री सीताराम येचुरी जी का आभार व्यक्त करना चाहता हूँ जिन्होंने आज एक महत्वपूर्ण सब्जेक्ट पर चर्चा आरंभ की। आज पूरे देश का ध्यान खास तौर पर इस ओर है। महोदय, legal और illegal mining की चर्चा बहुत जबरदस्त रूप से की जा रही है। मेरा साफ तौर पर यह कहना है कि जो legal mining करने वाले लोग हैं, उनकी बाढ़ में ही illegal mining हो रही है। महोदय, आपको जानकर आश्चर्य होगा कि जो लोग legal mining कर रहे हैं, जिनको हम परमिट देते हैं, जिनके पास authority है, वे सरकार को प्रति टन कितनी राशि दे रहे हैं - मात्र 21 रुपए। दूसरी ओर सारे खर्च निकालकर उनका जो खर्चा

आ रहा है - मजदूरों को देकर, गाड़ी में लगाकर, उठाकर और फिर बंदरगाह तक ले जाने के बाद मात्र 300 रुपए

खर्चा आ रहा है। अब उसकी बिक्री कितने में हो रही है? आपको जानकर आश्चर्य होगा कि पांच से छः हजार रुपए टन के हिसाब से उसकी बिक्री हो रही है। क्या हम यह नहीं कह सकते कि हमने स्वयं लाइसेंस देकर हमारी जो पॉलिसी है, जो नीति है, उससे ही अवैध रुपया कमाने की व्यवस्था कर रखी है? मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि illegal mining करने वाले जो लोग हैं, वे कौन लोग हैं। आज legal mining करने वालों की बाढ़ में ही illegal mining हो रही है और वह सब illegal mining करके legal mining के नाम पर एक्सपोर्ट किया जा रहा है। इस पर गौर करने की आवश्यकता है। हमारी पॉलिसी कहां है? हमने तो लूट की छूट दे रखी है। हमारी जो नीति और पॉलिसी है, उसके अनुसार हम कह रहे हैं कि लूटो, लूट सको तो लूट लो। उसी में कोई 35 हजार करोड़ रुपया और कोई 36 हजार करोड़ रुपया लूट रहा है। सब लूटते रहेंगे। देश की सम्पत्ति इसी तरह से लूटी जा रही है और चंद लोगों के हाथ में यह पैसा जा रहा है। वे कौन लोग हैं? * इन सब लोगों के पास हिम्मत और साहस है?

श्री उपसभापति : आप नाम मत लीजिए। नाम निकाल दीजिए।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : सर, यह fact है, यह सच्चाई है।

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : सर, वे आहिस्ता-आहिस्ता नाम ले रहे हैं।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : आप कागजात उठाकर देख लीजिए कि legal mining करने वाले कौन लोग हैं? तमाम कम्पनियां हैं, इनके जैसे और लोग हैं। हम यह साहस नहीं कर सकते कि * पर ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : धीरे-धीरे बोल कोई सुन न ले। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : आप तो सुन रहे हैं न। महोदय, यह आश्चर्य की बात है। आपने एक नई पॉलिसी बनाई है - मैं माननीय प्रधान मंत्री मनमोहन सिंह जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ - आप टेलीफोन की auction कर रहे हैं, आपने 3जी का auction किया, आपको हजारों करोड़ का फायदा हुआ। आप air का auction कर रहे हैं। आप क्यों नहीं ऐसी पॉलिसी बनाते कि इसका भी auction करें? इस पर गंभीरतापूर्वक सोचना पड़ेगा। नहीं तो केन्द्र और राज्य की जो पॉलिसी है, इससे इसी तरह से देश का खजाना लूटा जाता रहेगा और हम चुपचाप हाथ पर हाथ धरकर बैठे रहेंगे तथा दूसरी ओर देश की गरीबी और फटेहाली में जीने वाले लोग मरते रहेंगे, जिन्हें रात-दिन

*Not recorded.

कमाने के बाद भी दो वक्त की रोटी नसीब नहीं होती है। जिसकी चर्चा हमारी बहन कर रही थी और यही हाल होगा, पूरा देश आज उग्रवाद की चपेट में आ रहा है, माओत्स बढ़ते जा रहे हैं, पूरी कन्ट्री पर यह छा रहा है। सर, हम कहां जा रहे हैं, हमको दिमाग खोलना पड़ेगा। इसलिए मैंने यह निवेदन किया है। माननीय मंत्री जी नहीं हैं, पता नहीं कहां चले गए? ... (व्यवधान) ...

कुछ सम्मानित सदस्य : वे आ रहे हैं।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : हमें इसकी इच्छा शक्ति जगानी होगी। सर, हमारे यहां एक कहावत है - कम्बल ओढ़ कर घी पीना। हमने तो नकाबपोश ओढ़ लिया है - लीगल माइंस, 21 रुपया टन और दस गुना फायदा और उसकी आड़ में, यही नहीं, सर, अगर लीगल माइंस करने वालों पर नजर रखा जाए, हम अगर उसको 20 किलोमीटर की परमिशन दे रहे हैं तो वह 25 किलोमीटर में फैलाकर इल्लिगल माइंस करवा रहे हैं। ये वही लोग हैं जो लीगल माइंस की आड़ में इल्लिगल काम कराने का काम कर रहे हैं।

श्री उपसभापति : आपने 5 मिनट मांगे थे, अब 5 मिनट हो गए हैं।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : सर, अब मैं अपनी बात समाप्त कर दूंगा। मैंने आपसे आग्रह किया, क्योंकि भविष्य में मुझे आपसे फिर समय लेना है, इसलिए मैं आपके आदेश का अक्षरशः पालन करूंगा और मैं बैठ जाऊंगा, यह बात कहते हुए कि जिस तरफ मैंने ध्यान आकर्षित कराया है, माननीय मंत्री जी, उस पर कार्रवाई करिए। राज्य सरकार और केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकारी, पदाधिकारी बड़े पैमाने पर उनसे मिले हुए हैं, जिनको मोटी रकम मिल रही है और देश की सम्पत्ति लूटी जा रही है और हम खुली आंख से देखने का काम कर रहे हैं, इसको स्टॉप करवाया जाए। धन्यवाद, सर।

श्री धीरज प्रसाद साहू (झारखंड) : उपसभापति महोदय, अवसर देने के लिए मैं आपका आभार व्यक्त करता हूं। मैं साथ ही अपनी नेता श्रीमती सोनिया गांधी जी का आभार व्यक्त करता हूं कि उन्होंने खनन के इस महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दे पर आमूल बदलाव लाने की सिफारिश की है। उपसभापति जी, हमारे यहां एक कहावत है कि - "हींग लगे न फिटकरी और रंग चोख ही चोखा।" यह कहावत अवैध खनन के मामले में ज्यादा शायद ही कहीं चरितार्थ होती हो।

राजस्थान हो, मध्य प्रदेश हो, छत्तीसगढ़ हो, उड़ीसा हो या झारखंड, अवैध खनन का कारोबार हर जगह फल-फूल रहा है। अवैध खनन और झारखंड का बहुत गहरा संबंध है। हमारे यहां खनिज सम्पदा बहुत अधिम मात्रा में है और वहां अवैध खनिज भी जोरों से चल रहा है। मैं पहले अपने गृह जिला लोहरदगा एवं गुमला और लातेहार जिला की चर्चा करूंगा जहां बाक्साइट की खाने बहुत अधिक मात्रा में हैं, अधिकतर जगहों में हिन्डालको (आदित्य बिरला ग्रुप) का लीज है। अपने लीज एरिया के अलावा अगल-बगल के फोरेस्ट एरिया में अवैध खनन का काम अपने ठेकेदारों के द्वारा बहुत नायाब तरीके से कराया जा रहा है। पहले माइन्स को क्लोजर करा दिया जाता है और श्रम मंत्रालय से फोरक्लोजर का प्रमाण पत्र भी जुगाड़ से हासिल कर लिया जाता है और बंद खानों को ठेकेदारों से अवैध खनन कराके इसका लाभ हिन्डालको उठा रही है। इसकी उच्चस्तरीय जांच होनी चाहिए और कम्पनी पर इसके लिए कड़ी से कड़ी सजा लगानी चाहिए। उपसभापति महोदय, मेरे पास इसके पूरे सबूत के तौर पर फोटोग्राफ और वीडियो भी हैं लेकिन सदन की मार्यादा को खयाल करते हुए मैं उन सबूतों को यहां दिखा नहीं सकता। अवैध खनन के कारण माइंस को नुकसान के साथ-साथ फोरेस्ट एरिया में जंगलों की बेरहमी से कटाई हो रही है, जिसका पर्यावरण पर भी बुरा असर पड़ रहा है। यहां रहने वाले गरीब आदिवासियों की जमीन भी अवैध खनन के कारण बर्बाद हो रही है क्योंकि इन गरीब आदिवासियों की कोई सुनने वाला नहीं है। अवैध खनन के कारण कई बार यहां दुर्घटना भी हो चुकी हैं, स्थानीय लोग भी इस मुद्दे को लेकर आंदोलन कर चुके हैं लेकिन इस पर सरकार का ध्यान कभी नहीं गया। इससे सरकार को अरबों रुपए का नुकसान हर साल हो रहा है। लौह अयस्क के निर्यात पर प्रतिबंध और श्वेत पत्र जारी करना चाहिए, जिससे देश को पता चल सके कि हमें कितना नुकसान हो रहा है। प्रकृति हम सब की सामूहिक धरोहर है इसलिए खनिज के रूप में प्रकृति ने हमें जो उपहार प्रदान किए हैं, उन पर देश के सभी नागरिकों का साझा अधिकार है। इसके लिए लौह अयस्क के निर्यात पर रोक और अन्य सभी खनिजों, अयस्कों के निर्यात पर अधिक टैक्स लगाने की जरूरत है।

मैं आज की चर्चा के माध्यम से अवैध खनन पर नियंत्रण के लिए प्रक्रिया में सुधार का एक प्रस्ताव देना चाहता हूं। आज हमारे देश के महान नेता स्व. राजीव गांधी की याद में राजीव गांधी अक्षय ऊर्जा दिवस भी मनाया जा रहा है। अतः मेरा प्रस्ताव है कि अवैध खननकर्ता के लिए अवैध खनन की गई भूमि पर अनिवार्य रूप से अक्षय ऊर्जा का स्रोत विकसित करने की बाध्यता कानून में संशोधन कर बनाई जाए। इससे पैदा होने वाली बिजली नजदीक के गांव को मुहैया कराई जाए और ग्राम सभा को इस प्रावधान के पालन की देख-रेख की जिम्मेदारी दी जाए। इससे न केवल ग्रामीण जनता को लाभ होगा, बल्कि स्वरोजगार के नए साधन मिल सकेंगे। ... (समय की घंटी) ... इससे

नक्सलियों को अवैध खनन से होने वाली लेवी पर अंकुश लगेगा, नौजवानों के रोजगार के अभाव से पलायन में कमी आएगी और आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में ग्राम स्वराज का हमारा सपना पूरा हो सकेगा। इससे हमारे देश की बिजली की जरूरत का 15 प्रतिशत अक्षय ऊर्जा स्रोतों से प्राप्त करने की राष्ट्रीय नीति और हमारे जीडीपी उत्सर्जन की intensity को कम करने की अंतर्राष्ट्रीय commitment को पूरा करने में भी सहयोग मिलेगा। इस प्रकार समन्वित सतत विकास के लिए इंडियन ब्यूरो ऑफ माइन्स को और सशक्त बनाने की जरूरत है, ताकि खनन संबंधी कानून और प्रक्रियाओं का पूरा अनुपालन हो सके।

MESSAGES FROM LOK SABHA - contd.

(i) The Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2010

(ii) The Trade Marks (Amendment) Bill, 2010

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following messages received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:-

(I)

"In 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 Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2010, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 20th August, 2010.

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

(II)

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 101 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Trade Marks (Amendment) Bill, 2009 at its sitting held on the 10th August, 2010, were taken into consideration and agreed to by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 20th August, 2010:-

Enacting Formula

1. That at page 1, line 1, for the word "Sixtieth", the word "Sixty-first" be substituted.

Clause - 1

2. That at page 1, line 2, for the figure "2009", the figure "2010" be substituted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Discussion on large-scale illegal mining is concluded. The Leader of the Opposition will speak before the reply is given. Reply will be tomorrow. The House stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. on Saturday, the 21st August, 2010.

The House then adjourned at fifty-seven minutes past seven of the clock till eleven of the clock on Saturday, the 21st August, 2010.