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

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 27th August, 2010/5 Bhadra, 1932 (Saka)

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

Re. ISSUE OF TERRORISM

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 441. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. MANOHAR JOSHI (Maharashtra): Sir, I have given a notice for suspension of Question Hour on the Home Minister's statement that there is saffron terrorism in the country. The Home Minister is supposed to make a statement on this. Therefore, I would request you to direct the Minister to give a statement whether this sentence is true or not. There cannot be a *bhagwa* terrorism in the country. ...(Interruptions)... Declare the names of those persons. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सभापति : नहीं , इस वक्त इस सवाल को मत उठाइए।
...(व्यवधान)... I request you to allow the Question Hour to proceed.
...(Interruptions)...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र) : सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT (Maharashtra): It is injustice on the majority of people. ...(Interruptions)... You cannot insult them. ...(Interruptions)... Government is insulting the majority. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us get on with the Question Hour. ...(Interruptions)... Let us get on with the Question Hour. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): If it is so, then remove the saffron colour from the tricolour. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ahluwaliaji, please. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री भारतकुमार राऊत : सर, यह नहीं चलेगा ...(व्यवधान)...
We need clarification. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is Question Hour. ...(Interruptions)... Allow the Question Hour to proceed. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. MANOHAR JOSHI: Feelings are hurt. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री भारतकुमार राऊत : यह नहीं चलेगा , सर ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : सर, ... (व्यवधान) ... राष्ट्रध्वज
से हटाने का ... (व्यवधान) ... यह क्या कर रहे हैं
... (व्यवधान) ...

एक माननीय सदस्य : सर, ...(व्यवधान) ... आप डायरेक्टिव दीजिए
...(व्यवधान) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Joshiji, I request you to allow the Question Hour to proceed. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Everybody is Indian. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: So many people are talking; no one is heard. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. MANOHAR JOSHI: They want to insult the Indians. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Nobody is speaking from the Government. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot hear you. ...(Interruptions) ... आप बैठ जाइए , प्लीज़ ... (व्यवधान) ... Question No. 441
...(Interruptions) ... Joshiji, I request you. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. MANOHAR JOSHI: He is insulting the people of our country. ...(Interruptions) ... He does not understand what does *bhagwa* mean? ...(Interruptions)...

श्री शान्ताराम लक्ष्मण नायक (गोवा) : सर, ... (व्यवधान) ...
यह क्या है ? ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have important questions. ...(Interruptions) ... Please allow the Question Hour to proceed. ...(Interruptions) ... Joshiji, you have said your point. ...(Interruptions) ... I request you to ... (Interruptions) ...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: You direct the Minister to ... (Interruptions) ...

DR. MANOHAR JOSHI: What do they think of ... (Interruptions) ... We condemn the statement made by the Home Minister. ... (Interruptions) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please allow the Question Hour to proceed. ... (Interruptions) ... Nobody is being heard. ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री रामविलास पासवान (बिहार) : सर, होम मन्निस्टर ने ठीक बोला है ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी (उत्तराखण्ड) : सभापति जी, ... (व्यवधान) ...

DR. MANOHAR JOSHI: I am walking out. ... (Interruptions) ...

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Leader of the Opposition please ... (Interruptions). One minute, the Leader of the Opposition has

the floor...(Interruptions).

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, a considerable...(Interruptions).

श्री राम वल्लभ पासवान : महोदय , ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : पासवान जी, एक मिनट I Let us hear the Leader of the Opposition...(Interruptions). Just one minute...(Interruptions).

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, there is a considerable agitation amongst the Members...(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, let the Leader of the Opposition speak...(Interruptions).

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, everyday...(Interruptions).

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: What is this?...(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, allow the Leader of the Opposition to speak. ...(Interruptions).

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : अहलुवालिया साहब, ...(व्यवधान) ... पाणि साहब ...(व्यवधान) ... बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान) ... आप बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान) ... पाणि जी, आप अपनी जगह पर जाइए। ...(व्यवधान) ... You have no right to speak from here.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: How can he say? Who is he?...(Interruptions).

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: I am addressing the Chair...(Interruptions).

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : ऐसा नहीं चलेगा ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, go back to your seats...(Interruptions). आप लोग भी क्या कर रहे हैं ? ...(व्यवधान) ... आप अपनी जगह पर वापस जाइए। ...(व्यवधान) ... Please, one minute...(Interruptions) ... आप ज़रा अपनी जगह पर वापस जाइए। ...(व्यवधान) ... Will you please allow the Chair to speak?...(Interruptions). Please, go back to your places...(Interruptions) ... आप अपनी जगह पर जाइए। ...(व्यवधान) ... The House is adjourned for 15 minutes.

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

The House reassembled at twenty-two minutes past eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jaitley, do you wish to say something?

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सभापति जी, मेरा एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। कल मैंने इसी मुद्दे को उठाया था और Question Hour suspend करने की मांग की थी। ...(व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : देखिए, Question Hour suspend नहीं हो रहा है। ...(व्यवधान) ... Question Hour suspend नहीं हो रहा है, आप बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान) ...

श्री रामविलास पासवान : यह Question Hour का suspension ही तो हो रहा है। ...(व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : Question Hour suspend नहीं हो रहा है, आप बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान) ...

श्री प्रवीण राष्ट्रपाल (गुजरात) : हमें भी opportunity

मल्लिनी चाहिए ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, on behalf of a very large section of this House, I must convey a legitimate grievance of the Members, through you, to the Government on the use of the expression 'saffron terror' by the hon. Home Minister while addressing the conference of senior police officers of this country. We have had various crises in this country during the last two or three decades. We have tried to emerge out of each one of them. Some of them are still pending. We had militancy in Punjab. We dealt with that as a crisis but never identified it with a community or a religion. We have cross-border terrorism. We have local modules of those people operating. We try and keep the community references away so that we don't identify it

with that. We expected the Home Minister to come out with some vision on how he will deal with the Maoist violence, the Kashmir problem instead of his utilizing this opportunity for doing exactly something which he should not have done.

And, therefore, the grievance of a large number of us is that the Home Minister, at some stage — we have a debate on internal security listed, and, I hope the debate does take place in this Session itself — must clarify, and, he must be advised to desist from using this expression because there is no phenomenon in this country as he mentioned. There are legitimate problems we have with Left Wing Extremism, we have a problem in Kashmir and we have other forms of terrorism but by ignoring that and highlighting that there is a phenomenon now of 'saffron terror', he is trying to fight an imaginary phenomenon which does not exist in this country. He should better concentrate on issues which legitimately do exist in this country, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. We have a discussion on 'internal security' listed. (*Interruptions*) Please.

DR. MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, I raised this issue. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. (*Interruptions*) Please.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, let us also speak. (*Interruptions*) Since he has said, 'a very large section of the House', we also.... (*Interruptions*) Please, Sir.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, we should also be allowed to speak. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. (*Interruptions*) Mr. Raja, please. (*Interruptions*) One at a time. (*Interruptions*)

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, मेरा यह कहना है... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : देखिए , आपका suspension का नोटिस था, It has not been agreed to. This is the Question Hour. Do you wish to say anything very quickly?

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, मैं कुछ ज्यादा नहीं कहना चाहता हूँ , मैं सिर्फ़ इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि भारत सरकार के गृह मंत्री ने एक ज़िम्मेदार मंत्री की हैसियत से कहा कि ये saffron लोग हैं ... (व्यवधान) ... भगवा आतंकवाद है ... (व्यवधान) ... ये वे लोग हैं ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : पासवान जी , कृपया आप बैठ

जाइए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : सर, यह क्या हो रहा है ?
... (व्यवधान) ... ऐसा बोलने वाले ये कौन होते हैं ?
... (व्यवधान) ...

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

डा. मनोहर जोशी : सर, हमें भी बोलने का मौका दिया
जाए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

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

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, बजरंग दल, वश्वि हब्बि
परिषद् ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : सर, ऐसा बोलने वाले ये कौन होते
हैं ? ... (व्यवधान) ... भगवा हमारे धर्म का झंडा है
... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : कृपया आप लोग बैठ जाइए ... (व्यवधान) ...
अहलुवालिया जी, कृपया आप बैठ जाइए ... (व्यवधान) ... Please
(Interruptions)

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : सर, ये हमारी insult कर रहे हैं
... (व्यवधान) ... ये हमारी insult कर रहे हैं ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : अहलुवालिया जी, कृपया आप बैठ जाइए
... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please (Interruptions) This is very unfair.
(Interruptions) Please, this is very unfair. (Interruptions) Please,
allow the Question Hour to proceed. (Interruptions)

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : सर, उनके धर्म के झंडे का रंग
क्या है ? ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have a discussion listed on internal security.
(Interruptions) These matters can be taken up there. (Interruptions)

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सर, ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : सर, ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Twenty voices at the same time. It is impossible to
hear any thing. (Interruptions)

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सर, ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया : सर, ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, the Leader of Opposition has mentioned
'large section of the House'. (Interruptions) We constitute the large
section of the House. (Interruptions) Let us speak (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 12.00 o'clock.

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

The House reassembled at 12.00 of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

New curriculum for Maths in Delhi University

*441. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER : Will the Minister of HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news item

published in a prominent daily to the effect that many students of the new course in Maths (Hons.) in Delhi University have failed as in many colleges maths teachers did not teach according to the new curriculum and that the requests of the aggrieved students to the University authorities have fallen on deaf ears;

(b) if so, whether Government would direct the Delhi University authorities to properly look into the grievances of the affected students, if so, by when; and

(c) whether the reluctance of maths teachers, who failed to teach new curriculum, would also be looked into and, if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. News-items to this effect have come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) The University of Delhi is a statutory autonomous body established under the Delhi University Act, 1922 and is governed by the Statutes and the Ordinances framed thereunder. According to the information furnished by the University, at no stage during the course of the academic year did the University receive any complaint pointing out any difficulty in regard to the revised curricula of the B.Sc. (Hons.) Mathematics Part I programme. On receipt of representations from students after the declaration of results, the University constituted a Committee to look into the matter. The Committee has recommended that special arrangements be made by colleges, where the failure rate is 35% and above, for teaching mathematics in the relevant papers. Observing that certain colleges had admitted more students than the sanctioned strength in mathematics, the Committee has recommended seeking of explanation from the Principals concerned. It has also advised the University to seek details of the teachers involved in teaching the paper in the affected colleges. The University has, in the first instance, asked the colleges for the necessary clarification.

Caution money being charged from students in schools

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

(a) whether Delhi High Court had issued directions in 1999-2000 that from next academic session onwards caution money to be charged from students should not be more than Rs.500;

(b) whether Directorate of Education had, in the year 1999, directed private schools running in Delhi to open separate account for depositing caution money charged from students and return the same with interest at the time of leaving school;

(c) if so, names of schools not complying with the directions and action taken against them; and

(d) whether directions given by Delhi High Court and Directorate of Education are being complied with?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) (a) and (b) According to information provided by the Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) Delhi,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the High Court of Delhi *vide* judgement dated 30.10.1998 in CWP No.3723/1997 appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice Ms. Santosh Duggal to decide the charges levied by recognized unaided schools. Based on the recommendations of Duggal Committee, the Directorate of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi *vide* order dated 15.12.1999 issued a direction to the management of the recognized unaided schools in Delhi that caution money of more than Rs.500/- per student shall not be charged. The schools were also directed to open separate bank account to deposit the caution money collected, which was required to be returned with interest to the student at the time of his/her leaving the school.

(c) and (d) The Government of NCT of Delhi has reported that a complaint against Faith Academy School, Prasad Nagar, Karol Bagh was received for charging *ad hoc* advance fee of Rs. 3000 from students at the time of admission. Department of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi had directed the school to comply with the directions issued by them with regard to charging of fee. The school has modified its fee structure in terms of caution money for the academic year 2010-11. The school has been directed to refund the excess money collected during the previous years to the students within a period of 15 days and submit compliance report.

Foodgrains production promotion programme

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

(a) the State-wise details of different parts of the country included in the National Food Security Mission (NFSM);

(b) whether several parts of the country have not been included in NFSM;

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

(d) whether any assessment has been made by Government regarding increase in production of foodgrains due to inclusion of these districts in NFSM;

(e) if so, State-wise details thereof;

(f) whether Government proposes to promote mixed-farming in the country under foodgrains production promotion programme; and

(g) if so, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is being implemented in 476 districts of 17 States of the country with three components *viz.* NFSM-Rice, NFSM- Wheat and NFSM-Pulses. The component and state-wise identified districts are as follows:

NFSM-Rice is being implemented in **138 districts of 14 States**, *i.e.*, Andhra Pradesh (11), Assam (13), Bihar (18), Chhattisgarh (10), Gujarat (2), Jharkhand (7), Karnataka (7), Kerala (1), Madhya Pradesh (9), Maharashtra (6), Orissa (15), Tamil Nadu (5), Uttar Pradesh (26) and West Bengal (8).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

NFSM-Wheat is being implemented in **141 districts of 9 States** i.e. Bihar (25), Gujarat (4), Haryana (7), Madhya Pradesh (30), Maharashtra (8), Punjab (10), Rajasthan (15), Uttar Pradesh (38) and West Bengal (4).

NFSM-Pulses is being implemented in **467 districts of 16 States** viz. Andhra Pradesh (22), Assam (10), Bihar (38), Chhattisgarh (18), Gujarat (26), Haryana (21), Jharkhand (17), Karnataka (30), Madhya Pradesh (50), Maharashtra (33), Orissa (30), Punjab (20), Rajasthan (33), Tamil Nadu (30), Uttar Pradesh (71) and West Bengal (18).

In general, technology deficit districts having high yield potential with large area under the specific crops are selected for technology promotion and timely delivery of the Agricultural services in order to bridge the yield gaps. Districts having more than 50,000 ha area under Rice with productivity less than that of the State's average productivity are selected under NFSM-Rice; and districts with more than 50% irrigation coverage having productivity less than that of the State's average productivity are selected under NFSM-Wheat. All the districts in the pulses growing States are included under NFSM-Pulses.

(d) and (e) Total foodgrains production in most of the NFSM States has increased over the years since the year 2007-08, i.e. the year of inception of National Food Security Mission (NFSM). The year-wise total foodgrains production of the NFSM States since 2006-07 onwards are as under:-

(Million Tonnes)					
Sl. No.	State	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (4th Estimate)	2009-10 Advance
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16.23	19.30	20.42	14.97
2.	Assam	3.06	3.47	4.14	3.94
3.	Bihar	11.10	10.86	12.22	10.51
4.	Chhattisgarh	5.80	6.29	5.17	4.90
5.	Gujarat	6.50	8.21	6.48	5.97
6.	Haryana	14.76	15.31	15.61	15.36

7	Jharkhand	3.69	4.16	4.19	2.11
8.	Karnataka	9.60	12.19	11.28	10.65
9.	Kerala	0.64	0.54	0.60	0.63
10.	Madhya Pradesh	13.75	12.07	13.91	15.05

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Maharashtra	12.65	15.19	11.43	12.82
12.	Orissa	7.34	8.14	7.40	7.52
13.	Punjab	25.31	26.82	27.33	27.04
14.	Rajasthan	14.21	16.06	16.68	11.70
15.	Tamil Nadu	8.26	6.58	7.10	8.43
16.	Uttar Pradesh	41.21	42.09	46.73	43.54
17.	West Bengal	15.97	16.05	16.30	16.22

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics

*[2009-10 witnessed severe drought in many parts of the country affecting production of foodgrains]

(f) and (g) No, Sir. Mixed farming is not promoted under Foodgrain production promotion programmes as such. However, Integrated Cereals Development Programme of Rice, Wheat, Coarse Cereals and Pulses based cropping systems is promoted under Macro Management Mode of Agriculture Scheme for enhancing food grain production of all the crops included in the cropping system. Under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) flexibility has been given to the states for planning and execution of agriculture and allied sector development programmes that include taking up programs for promotion of food crops.

Delay in completion of rail lines

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Rupsa-Bangiri-Posi railway line and Angul-Sukinda railway line are already delayed by more than ten years; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and what is the revised date of commissioning of these two rail lines?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) Gauge conversion of Rupsa - Bangriposi (90 km.) was taken up in 1995-96. Rupsa- Baripada (52 km.) was commissioned on 29.01.2006. Baripada - Bangriposi has also been completed and engine trial run was done on 31.03.2010. Line will be opened for Passenger services after authorization by Commissioner of Railway Safety.

Angul-Sukinda (98.8 km.) new line was taken up in 1997-98. The work

was given lower priority as projected traffic was not expected due to delay in setting up of steel plants in the area. Subsequently, work was entrusted to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) in February, 2006. Now the project is being implemented through Special Purpose vehicle (SPV) named Angul-Suknda

Railway Limited. Land acquisition has been taken up and tender for major bridges has been processed. Target date will be fixed after completion of other formalities including land availability.

Supply of essential commodities in North Eastern States

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

(a) whether Prime Minister has directed recently in a meeting of officers regarding continuous supply of foodgrains, fuels and other essential commodities to the States of North-Eastern Region;

(b) whether Prime Minister had also directed to make buffer stock of essential commodities in Manipur and Tripura; and

(c) if so, whether supply of foodgrains and other essential commodities had been made to Assam, Manipur, Tripura, Nagaland, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya after the direction of Prime Minister?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMERS AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Prime Minister's Office is monitoring position of supply of foodgrains and other essential commodities and their buffer stock position in North Eastern States including Manipur and Tripura on a regular basis and necessary instructions are issued whenever required.

(c) Sufficient quantities of foodgrains and sugar are regularly inducted in North Eastern States by FCI. State-wise monthly allocation of foodgrains and sugar, quantities inducted since June, 2010 and stock position is given in the Statement-I (See below). The stock position of POL and LPG is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise monthly allocation of foodgrains and sugar and stock position

State	In tonnes							
	Monthly		Quantity			Stock position		
	Food-grains	Sugar	Food-grains	Sugar	Total	Food-grains	Sugar	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Assam	116953	18337	304961	48801	353762	122540	36113	158653
Arunachal Pradesh	8520	834	14501	3602	18103	8770	3334	12104

Meghalaya	12575	1732	28575	5375	33950	8840	2717	11557
Mizoram	5910	689	23025	1540	24565	2370	876	3246

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Tripura	25548	2718	59500	8715	68215	18220	6780	25000
Nagaland	9071	1179	39812	4788	44600	16530	6332	22862
Manipur	9701	1763	8952	488	9432	5100	319	5419
Sikkim*	4570	391	13941			8700	339	9039

*Sugar in Sikkim is lifted by State government on its own from the sugar mills allocated by Government of India and its induction position are not reported by State Government.

**Sugar stock position as on 16.8.2010.

Statement-II

Details of Stock position of POL and LPG in the North Eastern States and Sikkim as on 23.8.2010

POL

State	Gross Storage capacity	Effective Storage capacity	Gross Stock as
on		(in KL)	(in KL)
	23.8.2010		
	MS	SKO	HSD
	MS	SKO	HSD
Tripura	1020	4223	4530
Manipur	1119	2666	3591
Nagaland	1580	2990	6280
Ar. Pd.	1160	1930	4340
Assam	35092	45368	68655
Sikkim	420	1190	1530

Meghalaya and Mizoram - Supplies are being executed directly from Supply locations in Assam.

LPG

State	Gross	EffectiveLPG	Stock	in	MT	as	on	opening
23.8.2010	Tankage	Tankage						
	(MT)	(MT)	In tanks		On wheel			Total
1	2	3	4		5			6
Tripura	83	83	15		369			384

Manipur	600	600	137	344	481
Nagaland	100	100	45	135	180

1	2	3	4	5	6
Ar. Pd.	100	100	28	157	185
Mizoram	100	100	73	267	340
Assam*	10369	9169	3151	2675	5826
Sikkim	100	100	59	29	88

*Includes stock at Bongaigaon and Oil Duliajan plants.

Partial LPG demand of Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Nagaland are also met from nearby Assam based plants.

RoB over river Narmada

*446. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal in the recent past with regard to construction of one additional railway bridge over river Narmada in view of the Grand Trunk route between Delhi-Mumbai and Howrah-Rajkot;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal and by when the proposal is likely to be sanctioned by Government for the construction of RoB over river Narmada at Bharuch; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

MDM and SSA schemes in minority concentration areas

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Mid-Day-Meal (MDM) and Sarva-Shiksha-Abhiyan (SSA) Schemes are not being properly and effectively implemented in minority concentration areas in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to streamline the implementation of these schemes in those areas?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) The National Programme of Mid Day Meal in Schools (MDMS) is a

universal programme being implemented in all Government, Government aided, Local Body and National Child Labour

Project schools, Education Guarantee Scheme and Alternative and Innovative Education centres including Madarsas and Maqtabas supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) located anywhere in the country including the minority concentration areas for class I - VIII children. Elaborate arrangements have been made through the Guidelines of MDMS to ensure its effective implementation and monitoring at different levels including establishment of a grievance redressal mechanism in every State/UT.

SSA is also a universal programme for elementary education of equitable quality for children in the 6-14 age group. SSA is implemented as per its Framework of Implementation. Minority concentration districts are identified as Special Focus Districts in the Framework of Implementation for the purpose of monitoring of SSA interventions.

Busy and sensitive rail routes

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

(a) whether in view of traffic, Delhi-Howrah, Delhi-Mumbai, Mumbai-Howrah, Howrah-Chennai, Mumbai-Chennai, Delhi-Guwahati via Sitapur-Gorakhpur-Katihar, and Delhi-Chennai via Jhansi-Nagpur-Ballarshah routes are very busy and sensitive; and

(b) whether it is a fact that out of total 41 sections of these routes, 11 sections have more than 80 per cent, 12 sections have more than 100 per cent and 17 sections have more than 120 per cent traffic density?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. Delhi-Howrah, Delhi-Mumbai, Mumbai-Howrah, Howrah-Chennai, Mumbai-Chennai, Delhi-Guwahati via Sitapur-Gorakhpur-Katihar, and Delhi-Chennai via Jhansi-Nagpur-Ballarshah routes carry majority of the traffic and are very busy. These routes are also referred to as the High Density routes and a large number of sections on these routes have high capacity utilisation.

(b) No, Sir. Of the 201 sections on the above routes, 17 sections are having less than 80% capacity utilisation, 43 sections are having more than 80% capacity utilisation, 62 sections are having more than 100% capacity utilization and 9 sections are having more than 120% capacity utilization. Railways are taking a number of measures to improve capacity of the congested sections.

International Conference on Digital Libraries

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

(a) whether Indira Gandhi National Open University and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) have organized the International Conference on Digital Libraries in the recent past;

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the extent to which the country has been benefited by the said conference; and

(d) the details of the decisions of the said conference so far implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) As per information provided by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), the University and TERI have organised the International Conference on Digital Libraries during 23rd - 26th February, 2010 with the objective to provide a platform for interaction among experts, researchers, academics and students on the issue of bridging the digital divide through knowledge sharing. The Conference provided vision to Information and Communication Technology (ICT) enabled education, including web-based methodologies, etc. for furtherance of the objectives of Distance Learning. One of the major recommendations of the Conference was to strengthen ICT infrastructure. The Government has provided the broadband connectivity to 8500 colleges.

Refusal to renew student visas

*450. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian students are unable to return to Australia because of the collapse of several colleges, refusal to renew student visas and the violence against Indian community there; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to help those students?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) As per the information furnished by High Commission of India in Australia, the reply is in the negative.

(b) Does not arise.

Encroachment of railway land

*451. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a huge chunk of railway land in the country is under encroachment;

(b) if so, the details of railway land illegally encroached by unauthorized persons, State-wise and district-wise;

(c) the steps taken by Government to reclaim the land from such unauthorized encroachers, State-wise and district-wise during the last

two years; and

(d) the valuation of such land under unauthorized possession?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Indian Railways have approximately 10.65 lakh acre of land, out of which 2460 acres of land, which constitutes 0.23% of total land holding, is under encroachment.

(b) to (d) Indian Railways' network is spread across the country. The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

MSP for pulses

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

(a) whether Government has taken a bold initiative to promote production of pulses by raising their Minimum Support Price (MSP) between 14 and 30 per cent;

(b) whether the Prime Minister went beyond recommendations of the Committee for Agriculture Costs and Prices (CACP) in raising the MSP for pulses, particularly arhar;

(c) whether CACP has recommended MSP of Rs. 2800/- a quintal for arhar against Rs. 2300/- last year;

(d) if so, whether Government decided to fix it higher at Rs. 3,000/- an increase of roughly 30 per cent; and

(e) if so, to what extent this support price increase has given us dividends?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of Kharif Pulses for 2010-11 season have been increased over the respective MSPs for 2009-10 season. The MSPs of Kharif pulses for 2009-10 and 2010-11 season are given below:

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

In case of Arhar (Tur), the MSP fixed by the Government is Rs. 3000 per quintal against Rs. 2800 per quintal recommended by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). In addition, for kharif pulses of 2010-11 season, an additional incentive is available to the farmers at the rate of Rs. 5 per kg. for tur, urad and moong sold to procurement agencies during the harvest/arrival period of two months.

The MSP fixed by the Government for Arhar (Tur) for 2010-11 is 30.4 percent higher compared to 2009-10. In case of moong and urad the increase has been 14.9 and 15.1 percent respectively.

The substantial increase in the MSPs of pulses is expected to incentivise farmers to increase their production.

Implementation of Right to Education Act

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken to implement the Right to Education Act in the country;

(b) if so, whether hurdles which will come in the way of implementation of this law, have been identified;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the Departments being entrusted with responsibility for redressal of these problems; and

(d) whether Government has addressed this issue by approaching all the Departments responsible for redressal of these problems?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has come into force with effect from 1st April, 2010. The Government has received representations from State Governments and other stakeholders on various issues such as financial resources for implementation of the RTE Act, teacher qualifications, admission procedure in specified category and unaided schools and schools run by minority organizations. The Government has taken various steps for implementation of the RTE Act, including notifying the (a) 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. The Government is in constant dialogue with the State Governments and stakeholders to address the issues relating to implementation of the Act. The Government had convened a meeting of State Education Ministers on 18th June, 2010, in which issues relating to teacher recruitment, redeployment, and teacher qualifications and training were discussed in keeping with the provisions of RTE Act. In the meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) on 19th June, 2010 issues relating to aligning SSA norms with the RTE Act were discussed. On 14th August, 2010 issues relating to admission procedure in specified category and unaided schools, as also education in Minority institutions were discussed with a wide cross section of stakeholders.

Use of balanced manure

†*454. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the States where regular production has increased due to use of balanced manure during last five years;

(b) whether there has been any decrease in the demand of chemical fertilizers due to use of such manure; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Several factors, including the balanced use of fertilizers are responsible for increase in agricultural production. State-wise production of foodgrains during last five years is given in Statement-I (See below).

(b) and (c) Balanced use of fertilizers involves soil test based balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with organic manure and bio-fertilizers to maintain soil health and its productivity. While balanced use of fertilizers helps in optimizing usage of fertilizers, the demand of chemical fertilizers or any other source of nutrient supply would depend on several factors including soil fertility, crop under cultivation etc. State-wise fertilizer consumption during last five years is given at Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise foodgrains production during last five years

(in '000 Tonnes)

Sl. No.	Name of State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16951.0	16229.0	19303.0	20421.0	14970.0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	240.9	245.7	248.5	255.8	**
3.	Assam	3677.8	3060.0	3470.0	4143.0	3939.6
4.	Bihar	8586.8	11098.6	10864.1	12220.7	10507.6
5.	Chhattisgarh	5714.8	5805.0	6291.9	5167.3	4900.8
6.	Goa	159.8	147.4	133.6	134.3	**
7.	Gujarat	6154.0	6499.0	8206.0	6481.0	5968.0
8.	Haryana	12998.1	14763.0	15307.8	15613.7	15357.8
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1381.4	1382.2	1558.1	1401.2	1256.5
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1482.0	1572.7	1572.1	1721.3	1522.6
11.	Jharkhand	2067.6	3686.8	4164.5	4188.7	2109.7
12.	Karnataka	13489.0	9599.0	12186.0	11275.0	10653.0
13.	Kerala	638.3	640.5	539.7	598.3	631.6

14. Madhya Pradesh	13195.0	13747.0	12070.5	13914.6	15051.9
15. Maharashtra	12087.0	12645.1	15191.7	11427.6	12817.9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
16. Manipur		398.5	398.5	421.8	415.0	**
17. Meghalaya		183.1	231.5	231.8	236.3	**
18. Mizoram		129.8	56.3	19.1	58.9	**
19. Nagaland		424.8	436.2	473.2	514.2	**
20. Orissa		7359.7	7344.7	8143.3	7399.1	7522.9
21. Punjab		25184.2	25313.1	26815.1	27329.8	27037.3
22. Rajasthan		11445.0	14208.8	16058.7	16680.2	11698.9
23. Sikkim		100.3	100.3	111.6	107.5	**
24. Tamil Nadu		6127.2	8263.0	6582.3	7102.3	8428.8
25. Tripura		563.6	630.0	633.3	634.7	**
26. Uttar Pradesh		40410.2	41214.5	42094.8	46729.3	43543.2
27. Uttarakhand		1594.0	1735.0	1796.0	1765.0	1790.0
28. West Bengal		15608.9	15974.5	16050.2	16295.6	16224.2
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		31.2	31.3	24.1	23.9	**
30. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		33.1	33.1	33.1	32.7	**
31. Delhi		117.8	123.6	119.9	118.2	**
32. Daman and Diu		4.8	4.8	5.1	8.7	**
33. Puducherry		61.9	61.9	54.1	51.5	**
**Others						2273.5
ALL INDIA		208601.6	217282.1	230775.0	234466.4	218205.8

Statement-II

State-wise Consumption of Fertilisers in nutrients (N+P+K) during last five years

(in '000 Tonnes)

Name of State	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	2552.55	2484.06	2667.58	3070.88	3013.93

1	2	3	4	5	6
Karnataka	1524.92	1485.83	1507.38	1831.83	1986.55
Kerala	202.46	208.92	208.30	260.91	270.46
Tamil Nadu	1099.22	1124.96	1075.65	1265.22	1222.61
Pondicherry	42.58	44.14	37.17	27.94	32.79
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.59	0.61	0.87	0.60	1.09
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SZ TOTAL	5422.32	4348.52	5496.95	6457.38	6527.44
Gujarat	1279.92	1408.79	1623.26	1716.98	1773.20
Madhya Pradesh	940.85	1205.11	1301.70	1423.40	1649.34
Chhattisgarh	374.32	436.23	441.87	462.82	603.99
Maharashtra	1968.38	2258.97	2325.85	2566.11	3054.97
Rajasthan	882.06	936.13	986.70	1052.02	1081.70
Goa	5.52	5.95	7.13	8.13	9.03
Daman and Diu	0.00	0.49	0.47	0.39	0.31
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.13	1.25	1.02	1.10	1.29
WZ TOTAL	5452.18	6252.92	6688.00	7230.95	8173.77
Haryana	1128.67	1124.97	1220.36	1289.17	1272.86
Punjab	1687.15	1691.20	1697.76	1767.56	1744.20
Uttar Pradesh	3464.26	3726.08	3755.92	4032.76	4126.20
Uttarakhand	120.68	143.14	150.48	152.83	149.95
Himachal Pradesh	47.97	48.98	49.96	57.37	53.55
Jammu and Kashmir	92.26	86.03	78.24	105.10	111.68
Delhi	0.45	1.04	0.39	0.64	1.98
Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NZ TOTAL	6541.44	6821.44	6953.11	7405.43	7460.42
Bihar	918.96	1071.69	1205.64	1357.02	1283.19
Jharkhand	134.45	138.51	145.00	147.27	163.42

1	2	3	4	5	6
Orissa	394.88	402.88	451.89	534.87	540.91
West Bengal	1239.68	1365.15	1374.74	1519.31	1686.11
EZ TOTAL	2687.97	2978.23	3177.27	3558.47	3673.63
Assam	198.12	203.68	213.94	220.61	215.00
Tripura	15.17	16.54	12.33	13.87	13.24
Manipur	14.20	19.07	19.01	12.87	11.58
Meghalaya	4.91	5.13	4.08	3.69	4.00
Nagaland	0.62	0.64	0.84	0.91	0.65
Arunachal Pradesh	0.75	0.73	0.73	0.81	0.47
Sikkim	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	2.28	3.70	3.87	4.35	5.40
NE TOTAL	236.40	249.84	254.80	257.11	250.34
ALL INDIA	20340.31	21650.95	22570.13	24909.34	26085.60

Lack of storage space for agricultural products

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government lacks enough storage space for agricultural products produced in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government would elaborate upon the difference in the demand and availability of storage space; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that some parts of Uttar Pradesh have witnessed a bumper crop of potatoes this season but there are no adequate storage facilities for the produce?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Working Group of Planning Commission on Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure and Policy required for Internal and External Trade for the Eleventh Five Year Plan 2007-12, in its report (January, 2007), had projected on additional storage capacity requirement of 35 million tonnes.

(c) As per information received from Government of Uttar Pradesh, the estimated production of potato in the State of Uttar Pradesh during 2009-10, was 120.94 lakh MT. The capacity of cold storages in Uttar Pradesh is 106.51 lakh MT for storage of perishable agriculture

produce. During 2009-10, 89.95 lakh MT potatoes were stored in the cold storages, and the Government of Uttar Pradesh has advised that there exists enough potato storage capacity in their State.

Suspension of train services

†*456. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that keeping in view the law and order situation in Srinagar, Railway administration has suspended train services in the valley and has removed railway staff belonging to North India from there;

(b) the measures taken to sort out the problem being faced by the travellers due to this step; and

(c) by when the train services are likely to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (c) The train services have been suspended between Baramulla and Qazigund stations on Northern Railways w.e.f. 31.07.2010 due to adverse law and order situation. The prevailing security situation also led to certain problems/difficulties for the railway employees working there, which have since been sorted out.

The rail services on Baramulla-Qazigund section of Northern Railway will be restored on receipt clearance from the Police authorities and on completion of the restoration work of railway's operational assets damaged during the adverse law and order situation.

Promotion of rural industries

*457. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps are being taken to promote rural industries in the country;

(b) if so, the funds earmarked for the purpose for 2010-11;

(c) the allocation made for the purpose, State-wise;

(d) the number of industries set up under the scheme in the last three years, State-wise; and

(e) the various steps proposed to be taken to promote rural industries in 2010-11 in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), a statutory body under the Ministry of Micro, Small

and Medium Enterprises has been implementing a number of schemes to develop khadi and village industries sector with grants available through budgetary sources of the Central Government. In particular, the Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) has been implementing the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) since 2008-09 for generating employment through setting up of 'micro enterprises', including rural industrial units, with KVC

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

as the nodal agency at the national level and through field offices of KVIC, State/Union Territory Khadi and Village Industries Boards and District Industries Centres at the State/Union Territories level, with involvement of banks. The scheme has an attractive quantum of subsidy and low rates of beneficiary contribution for projects set up in rural areas. Besides, the Government has revamped the Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialization at Wardha, Maharashtra for accelerating the process of rural industrialization in the country through pilot projects and demonstration of innovative technology to increase efficiency and productivity of rural industrial units.

(b) An amount of Rs. 906 crore (Budget Estimates) has been earmarked for the implementation of PMEGP Scheme during 2010-11, of which Rs. 836 crore has been proposed to be provided as margin money subsidy. Besides this, a substantial part of a total allocation of Rs. 1,518 crore as provided in Budget Estimates 2010-11 is also expected to flow to rural industries sector through other related schemes.

(c) and (d) Government provides margin money assistance to identified beneficiaries for setting up 'micro enterprises' throughout the country. KVIC reallocates the available fund under the scheme to the States on the basis of tentative targets. The State/Union Territory-wise details of funds allocated by KVIC for 2009-10 under the PMEGP are given in the Statement (See below), including the units assisted under the PMEGP during 2008-09 and 2009-10.

(e) The various steps proposed to be taken to promote rural industries in 2010-11 in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar include continued implementation of the PMEGP Scheme as per the targets tentatively fixed under the PMEGP to assist in setting up 8,320 units in Uttar Pradesh and 6,528 units in Bihar for creating around 83,200 and 62,580 additional employment opportunities respectively in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar with the utilisation of margin money assistance of Rs. 116.48 crore in Uttar Pradesh and of Rs. 87.61 crore in Bihar, besides implementation of cluster development activities and other schemes implemented by KVIC for the sector.

Statement

State/Union Territory-wise details of units assisted during 2008-09 and 2009-10 and margin money subsidy allocated under PMEGP during 2010-11

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory Margin Money subsidy allocated during 2010-11 (Rs. lakh)		Number of units assisted	
			2008-09	2009-10
	1	2	3	4
1.	Chandigarh	159.98	16	50
2.	Delhi	433.66	01	85

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Haryana	1387.82	484	550
4.	Himachal Pradesh	971.78	309	485
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	1367.82	680	1782
6.	Punjab	1317.28	266	972
7.	Rajasthan	3807.80	540	1257
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	171.83	40	96
9.	Bihar	8760.64	5873	884
10.	Jharkhand	3907.36	498	353
11.	Orissa	4449.26	1654	1908
12.	West Bengal	5343.17	4002	7197
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	431.09	114	138
14.	Assam	4469.66	1226	2430
15.	Manipur	604.59	0	195
16.	Meghalaya	856.94	0	399
17.	Mizoram	451.52	0	156
18.	Nagaland	714.16	5	17
19.	Tripura	536.50	25	325
20.	Sikkim	295.54	10	60
21.	Andhra Pradesh	4898.94	865	2995
22.	Karnataka	2896.02	1220	1388
23.	Kerala	2686.19	365	1597
24.	Lakshadweep	155.39	0	11
25.	Puducherry	171.27	48	73
26.	Tamil Nadu	3389.80	1197	3142
27.	Goa	435.71	01	89
28.	Gujarat	2542.53	268	841
29.	Maharashtra	4793.80	1692	3281
30.	Chhattisgarh	2983.57	584	464

1	2	3	4	5
31. Madhya Pradesh		5440.13	416	1138
32. Uttarakhand		1120.18	384	816
33. Uttar Pradesh		11648.07	2724	4161
TOTAL		83600.00	25507	39335

Attack on Indian students in Australia

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

(a) whether it is a fact that attacking and beating of Indian students is going on unabated in Australia as the latest attack on an Indian student on 20 July, 2010 shows;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of Government's action on the incident and earlier incidents of such attacks;

(d) whether Government is considering to issue guidelines to Indian students not to venture or go to Australia for higher studies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Though some news reports have appeared about thrashing of an Indian student in the suburbs of Melbourne on the night of 19th July, 2010, the Indian Mission/Posts in Australia have not got official confirmation of the same. As per the information available with the Indian Mission/Posts, no fresh attacks on Indian students have been reported from New South Wales and South Australia recently; the number of attacks on Indian students on record in Melbourne has reduced and no case of attack on Indian student has been registered in the last three months in Melbourne.

(c) An Indian delegation visited Australia from 6th to 10th April, 2010 and 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. The Australian authorities were urged 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 High Commission and the Consulates have taken up the incidents of assaults on members of Indian community, including students, with the Australian authorities at federal and state levels, for over two years now as well as during various Ministerial visits. The High Commissioner of India has also had several meetings in 2009 and 2010 with the

concerned Ministers of Australia at the Federal level and Premiers of several states (New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, etc.,) as well as senior officials and conveyed our concerns in the matter.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Involvement of teachers and students in Mid-Day-Meal Scheme

*459. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme is eating into teaching and learning time;

(b) if so, whether teachers in many States spend one to two hours daily on activities related to cooking Mid-Day-Meals while children in nine States wash utensils every day;

(c) whether objectives of the study made by the Planning Commission, that covered 48 districts across 17 States were to assess coverage of children; and

(d) if so, the other suggestions made by the Commission in this regard and the steps being taken to see that time of teachers and students is not wasted in implementing the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) Guidelines, 2006 stipulate that under no circumstances are teachers to be assigned responsibilities, which impede or interfere with teaching learning process in schools. Their involvement in the programme is limited to ensuring that good quality, wholesome food is served to children and actual serving and eating is undertaken in a spirit of togetherness, under hygienic conditions and in an orderly manner. However, the Performance Evaluation of MDMS done by the Planning Commission has indicated that in 14 States teachers are involved in some manner in arranging provisions for cooking and serving of mid day meal. The report also states that in 9 States students were involved in washing utensils after preparation and serving of mid day meal.

(c) The objectives of the Study are given in the statement (See below).

(d) The main suggestions of the Report relate to holding regular meetings of the Steering-cum-Monitoring Committees from State to Block

level and circulating the minutes to all concerned, making Public Distribution System accountable for supply of food grains for MDM, special marking of food grains bags meant for MDMS, earmarking of funds for meeting transport cost from fair price shops to schools and empowering Block level nodal authorities to make cash advances. This Ministry's letter dated 8th October, 2009 to all the State Governments has reiterated that teachers should not be involved in the implementation and supervision of MDMS. Further, findings of the above Report have been shared with concerned States for remedial action.

Statement

Objective of the evaluation study

- to assess the extent of coverage of Cooked Mid-Day Meal (CMDM);
- to understand and examine the supply chain and processes that are involved in implementation of CMDM;
- to assess the availability and adequacy of infrastructural facilities including manpower for implementation of cooked mid-day meal scheme and also for providing universal education to the children at primary stage;
- to assess the extent to which CMDM has succeeded in achieving its objectives of making a positive impact on enrolment, attendance, retention and nutritional status of children of primary stage;
- to assess if CMDM has had any adverse effect on teaching/learning activities in the schools;
- to assess the extent to which CMDM is relevant to the target group;
- to assess the extent to which community participation and social equity are achieved;
- to study the intervention means and strategy adopted for the implementation of CMDM; and
- to understand the constraints faced in implementation of the scheme and suggest remedial measures to overcome such constraints.

Protest of fishermen to the upcoming power plant in Srikakulam

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

(a) whether Government is aware that the fishermen in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh have appealed to Government to protect their fishing grounds from mega power plants coming up in that area;

(b) if so, whether any official concerned with fishermen welfare visited the area after the death of a number of fishermen in violence;

(c) the details including date(s) of such visit(s) and findings thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to extend relief to the families of the fishermen who died in the violence?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Inland Fishermen Cooperative Society of Manikyapuram village, Kaviti Mandal and Jagannadha Fishermen Cooperative Society, Veditandra

village, Santhabommali Mandal have represented to the Government of Andhra Pradesh to protect their fishing rights from the upcoming Thermal Power Plants in Santhabommali and Sompeta lands.

(b) to (d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported that a team of State officials comprising the Revenue Divisional Officer, Tekkali and the Deputy Director of Fisheries,

Srikakulam visited the area on 16th July, 2010. However, the State Government has informed that 5 fishermen were insured during the protests. They were admitted in the Government Hospital, Barua and discharged after treatment. No death of any fishermen has been reported during the protests.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Seed banks

†3346. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of seed banks operating in the country, particularly in Jharkhand;

(b) whether existing banks are adequate to fulfil the requirements of farmers;

(c) if not, whether Government proposes to open more such seed banks in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of funds allocated and used for this purpose during each of the last two years; and

(f) the State-wise number of farmers who took advantage of such seed banks services during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Seed Banks are functioning in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal through the State Seed Corporations (SSCs) and the State Departments of Agriculture in these States. National Seeds Corporation and State Farms Corporation of India also operate Seed Banks in the country. Jharkhand has been included as one of the implementing agencies, from 2009-10, under the Seed Bank Scheme.

(e) Expenditure incurred under various sub-components such as transportation charges, processing and packing charges, storage losses, price differential for undistributed quantity etc. are released as reimbursement.

Revolving fund for initial procurement and for infrastructure is also provided. Funds utilized during the last two years are as given in the table.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Funds released	Funds utilized
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2008-09	453.00	453.00
2009-10	445.55	370.55

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(f) Seed is maintained for contingency situations up to the specified cut-off dates. The cut off dates, to maintain seeds, for Kharif and Rabi season, are 31st July and 30th November of each year, respectively. Thereafter the participating agencies may sell their seeds freely as per their commercial policies, either through dealers' network or cooperative institutions to farmers as per situation.

Low wheat production estimate by International Grains Council

†3347. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that International Grains Council has lowered the estimates of wheat production for the year 2010-11;

(b) if so, the details thereof and how it would impact wheat production in the country during the period;

(c) whether Government is considering to ban import of wheat by private mills;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In its latest report published on 30th July, 2010, the International Grains Council lowered its forecast of Global Wheat Production during 2010 to 651 million tonnes, down 13 million tonnes from its previous forecast published on 24th June, 2010.

Production of wheat in the country has not been affected by lowering the forecast of global wheat production by the International Grains Council and total production of wheat at all-India level during 2009-10 is estimated at 80.71 million tonnes (4th Advance Estimates).

(c) to (e) No, Sir. In order to increase the availability of wheat in the country as well as to contain the rise in prices, import of wheat at zero duty has been permitted by the Government till further orders.

Fishing harbour at Narsapur in Andhra Pradesh

3348. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government periodically conducts surveys at various potential sites for development of fisheries ports;

(b) if so, the organisation responsible for such surveys and reports;

(c) whether it is a fact that a few years ago the Bangalore-based Fishing Harbour Survey Organization visited Narsapur, West Godavari in Andhra Pradesh at the request of a local body;

(d) whether a report has been filed on the feasibility of a port; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) if so, the steps to be taken to resurvey the area and build a fishery harbour at Narsapur in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Agriculture through its

field institute, namely, Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF), Bangalore and in association with the coastal State Governments and Union Territories conducts need based reconnaissance survey for identification of potential sites for developing as fishing harbours and fish landing centres.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The reconnaissance survey carried out at Narsapur during September, 2001 through CICEF, Bangalore revealed that there is not much scope for developing a fishing harbour at this location due to inadequacy of land.

Alternatively, two locations at Anthervedipallepalam and Biyyaputhippa respectively in East and West Godavari Districts, which are located at the mouth of river Godavari, were recommended for development as an integrated fishing harbour. At the request of Government of Andhra Pradesh, a detailed Techno Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR) was prepared in October, 2005 through the CICEF, Bangalore for development of an integrated fishery harbour covering these two fishing centres.

However, the Government of Andhra Pradesh subsequently 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 Anthervedipallepalam at a cost of Rs. 721 lakh was approved in January, 2008 under the Tsunami Rehabilitation Package. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has been asked 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 Biyyaputhippa.

Scarcity of agricultural inputs

3349. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that with the onset of monsoon and beginning of sowing season, availability of various inputs, such as fertilizers, seeds etc. became scarce in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received various proposals appealing

thereby for speedy and direct intervention of Central Government on the problem;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of actions taken on the issue to protect the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) The Government makes assessment of requirement of

major fertilizers before each cropping season. The requirement and availability of fertilizers is regularly monitored *inter-alia* through Fertilizer Monitoring System and video conferences and fertilizers are rushed to the area if any shortage is reported.

During Kharif 2010, 141.93 lakh quintals of various certified/quality seeds are available against the requirement of 123.11 lakh quintals.

Agriculture credit

3350. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a practice to fix target for agriculture credit for each financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the target of agricultural credit for the year 2010-11 both for Kharif and Rabi seasons, State-wise;

(d) whether Government has fixed any time bound dateline for the distribution of agricultural credit;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of number of beneficiaries of agricultural credit during the year 2009-10 along with the total amount, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The agricultural credit flow target for each financial year is fixed and announced by the Government in the Union Budget.

(c) to (e) For the year 2010-11, the Government has fixed the target of agricultural credit flow at Rs. 3,75,000 crore. State-wise details of agricultural credit flow target for the year 2010-11 is given in the Statement-I (See below). The agricultural credit flow target fixed by the Government is to be achieved by the Banks during the financial year.

(f) Details are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise/Agency-wise target for 2010-2011 under Agriculture and Allied Activities

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UTs	Cooperative Banks			RRBs			Commercial Banks			Total		
		Crop Loan	Term Loan	Total	Crop Loan	Term Loan	Total	Crop Loan	Term Loan	Total	Crop Loan	Term Loan	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Chandigarh	1091	240	1331			0	2077	1917	3994	3168	2157	5325
2.	New Delhi	103	22	125			0	195	180	375	298	202	500
3.	Haryana	3161	694	3855	2678	893	3571	9503	8772	18275	15342	10359	25701
4.	Himachal Pradesh	476	104	580	317	69	386	1508	1392	2900	2301	1565	3866
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	78	17	95	52	12	64	248	228	476	378	257	635
6.	Punjab	4428	972	5400	2952	648	3600	14040	12960	27000	21420	14580	36000
7.	Rajasthan	2460	540	3000	1640	360	2000	7800	7200	15000	11900	8100	20000
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	10	2	12	7	1	8	31	29	60	48	32	80
9.	Assam	184	41	225	123	27	150	585	540	1125	892	608	1500
10.	Manipur	14	3	17	8	2	10	38	35	73	60	40	100

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11. Meghalaya		20	4	24	13	3	16	62	58	120	95	65	160
12. Mizoram		8	2	10	5	1	6	25	24	49	38	27	65
13. Nagaland		14	3	17	8	2	10	43	95	138	65	100	165
14. Tripura		37	8	45	25	5	30	117	108	225	179	121	300
15. Sikkim		12	3	15			0	23	22	45	35	25	60
16. Bihar		1107	243	1350	738	162	900	3510	3240	6750	5355	3645	9000
17. Jharkhand		430	95	525	287	63	350	1365	1260	2625	2082	1418	3500
18. Orissa		1132	248	1380	754	166	920	3588	3312	6900	5474	3726	9200
19. West Bengal		1968	432	2400	1312	288	1600	6240	5760	12000	9520	6480	16000
20. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		14	3	17	8	2	10	43	40	83	65	45	110
21. Madhya Pradesh		2214	486	2700	1476	324	1800	7020	6480	13500	10710	7290	18000
22. Chhattisgarh		369	81	450	246	54	300	1170	1080	2250	1785	1215	3000
23. Uttar Pradesh		4305	945	5250	2870	959	3829	13650	12600	26250	20825	14504	35329
24. Uttarakhand		332	73	405	221	49	270	1053	972	2025	1606	1094	2700

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2			2			0	4	4	8	6	4	10
26. Daman and Diu		3	1	4			0	7	6	13	10	7	17
27. Gujarat		2460	540	3000	1640	360	2000	7800	7200	15000	11900	8100	20000
28. Goa		37	8	45			0	68	63	131	105	71	176
29. Maharashtra		3690	810	4500	2460	540	3000	11700	10800	22500	17850	12150	30000
30. Andhra Pradesh		4920	1080	6000	3280	720	4000	15600	14400	30000	23800	16200	40000
31. Karnataka		3198	702	3900	2132	438	2570	10140	9360	19500	15470	10500	25970
32. Kerala		1743	505	2248	1427	3123	4550	9957	10288	20245	13127	13916	27043
33. Lakshadweep		1		1			0	3	2	5	4	2	6
34. Puducherry		59	13	72	41	9	50	187	173	360	287	195	482
35. Tamil Nadu		4920	1080	6000	3280	720	4000	15600	14400	30000	23800	16200	40000
GRAND TOTAL		45000	10000	55000	30000	10000	40000	145000	135000	280000	220000	155000	375000

Statement-II

*State-wise details of number of beneficiaries and amount of
agriculture credit*

*flow during 2009-10 (April 2009 to March 2010)**

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UTs	Cooperative Banks		RRBs		Total	
		No. of beneficiaries	Amount	No. of beneficiaries	Amount	No. of beneficiaries	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Delhi	0.00	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.21
3.	Haryana	10.15	10123.80	1.18	1951.90	11.33	12075.70
4.	Himachal Pradesh	0.44	357.06	0.23	153.73	0.67	510.79
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.02	9.16	0.05	37.70	0.07	46.86
6.	Punjab	8.53	7552.32	1.07	1786.02	9.60	9338.34
7.	Rajasthan	12.70	3726.78	2.60	3219.45	15.30	6946.23
	Northern Region	31.84	21769.33	5.13	7148.80	36.97	28918.13
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.20	0.01	1.05	0.01	1.25
9.	Assam	0.05	27.59	0.59	157.73	0.64	185.32
10.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Meghalaya	0.01	2.10	0.02	5.11	0.03	7.21
12.	Mizoram	0.00	0.95	0.00	0.26	0.00	1.21
13.	Nagaland	0.05	3.93	0.00	0.87	0.05	4.80
14.	Tripura	0.01	5.03	0.14	67.03	0.15	72.06
15.	Sikkim	0.01	1.67	0.00	0.00	0.01	1.67
	North Eastern Region	0.13	41.47	0.76	232.05	0.89	273.52
16.	Bihar	1.18	197.01	5.59	1205.44	6.77	1402.45
17.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.64	101.16	0.64	101.16
18.	Orissa	18.54	2786.35	2.13	632.63	20.67	3418.98
19.	West Bengal	3.55	1019.50	1.48	740.69	5.03	1760.19
20.	A & N Islands	0.01	2.72	0.00	0.00	0.01	2.72
	Eastern Region	23.28	4005.58	9.84	2679.92	33.12	6685.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21. Madhya Pradesh	1.47	2355.61	0.26	885.14	1.73	3240.75	
22. Chhattisgarh	5.78	1743.12	2.63	1645.02	8.41	3388.14	
23. Uttar Pradesh	37.88	3174.00	13.11	6695.99	50.99	9869.99	
24. Uttarakhand	1.74	431.30	0.11	119.32	1.85	550.62	
Central Region	46.87	7704.03	16.11	9345.47	62.98	17049.50	
25. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
26. Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
27. Gujarat	9.06	4175.16	1.95	974.34	11.01	5149.50	
28. Goa	0.00	4.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.08	
29. Maharashtra	31.26	7682.20	1.91	693.93	33.17	8376.13	
Western Region	40.32	11861.44	3.86	1668.27	44.18	13529.71	
30. Andhra Pradesh	33.38	4281.74	14.79	4588.43	48.17	8870.17	
31. Karnataka	12.38	3484.81	5.38	3835.20	17.76	7320.01	
32. Kerala	5.48	1888.42	9.78	3034.50	15.26	4922.92	
33. Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
34. Puducherry	0.03	9.27	0.12	38.76	0.15	48.03	
35. Tamil Nadu	10.20	2453.83	7.32	1884.82	17.52	4338.65	
Southern Region	61.47	12118.07	37.39	13381.71	98.86	25499.78	
TOTAL	203.91	57499.92	73.09	34456.22	277.60	91956.14	
Commercial Banks**						205.30	
274962.68							
GRAND TOTAL					482.30	366918.82	

*Provisional

**State-wise data not available

Source: National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

Soil degeneration due to indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers

†3351. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers has caused various degenerations in the soil;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that treatment of soil is required to enhance the agro-productivity in the country; and

(d) if so, the total number of laboratories working for soil testing in the country till March, 2010, and the testing capacity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Indiscriminate or injudicious use of chemical fertilizers coupled with low addition of organic matter has resulted in deterioration of soil health in the country particularly in the intensively cultivated area of Indo-Gangetic plains. Government is promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) advocating soil test based balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with organic sources of nutrients. A new scheme, namely, "National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility" (NPMSHF) has been introduced w.e.f. 2008-09 to promote soil test based balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with organic manure and bio-fertilizers.

(d) As per information provided by the State Governments there were 661 Soil Testing Laboratories in the country with annual analyzing capacity of 72.01 lakh soil samples as in March 2009.

Programmes to ameliorate condition of farmers

3352. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of programmes being run by Government for ameliorating the condition of farmers and to make agriculture a profitable business;

(b) whether any survey will be conducted to ascertain the main reasons behind large scale suicide by farmers and their distressed condition;

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

(d) whether Government is aware that after 1991 cost of production and prices of other commodities have increased more than rise in MSP of crops; and

(e) if so, the steps to be taken to make MSP at par with inflation and rising cost of production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The Government is implementing a number of plan schemes and programmes for the benefit of farmers and to make agriculture a viable vocation. The major flagship schemes include the National Food Security Mission, which aims to increase production

of foodgrains by 20 million tonne. The Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana has the objective of incentivising the States to increase public investment in agriculture and allied sectors and providing flexibility and autonomy to States in the process of planning and executing the schemes. Besides this, other major initiatives for holistic development of agriculture include constitution of National Rainfed Area Authority, National Horticulture Mission, National Project on Organic Farming, Micro Irrigation and Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms. A programme to extend the green revolution to the eastern region of the country comprising Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Eastern UP, West Bengal and Orissa has been announced in the Union Budget 2010-11. Moreover, the Government has initiated several measures to make institutional credit available to farmers at lower rate of interest.

(b) and (c) An Expert Group constituted by the Government in August 2006 to look into the problems of agricultural indebtedness in its totality and suggest measures to provide relief to farmers across the country had concluded, *inter-alia*, that suicide is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon. The risk factors can be either in the neurobiological or the socioeconomic domain. In addition to this Expert Group constituted by the Government of India, some Committees were set up at the State level to enquire into the causes of suicides. By and large, the observation of these Committees is that causes of suicides by farmers are manifold including personal and other reasons. Some of the suicides have been attributed to crop failure, indebtedness, drought and socio-economic reasons. More specifically, the Veeresh Committee (in the context of the Karnataka Farmers' suicide) has appropriately concluded that connecting spate of suicides directly to any single cause would be erroneous. Suicide is strictly a personal decision and the post suicide inquiry into causes is based primarily on circumstantial evidence.

(d) and (e) The Government announces each season Minimum Support Price (MSP) for major agricultural commodities. The MSPs of major agricultural commodities with effect from 2006-07 to 2010-11 have been given in Statement-I (See below). The relevant data regarding input prices (1993-94 base) from 2005-06 to 2008-09 has been given in Statement-II (See below).

The Government decides on the MSP taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and Central Ministries, as well as such other relevant factors which are considered important for fixation of support prices. The CACP, while formulating its recommendations on price policy, considers a number of important factors including cost of production, change in input prices, input-output price parity, trends in market prices, demand and supply situation, inter-crop price parity, effect on industrial cost structure, effect on general price level, effect on cost of living, international market price situation and parity between prices paid and prices received by the farmers.

Statement-I

Minimum Support Prices

(As on 10.06.2010)

(According to Crop Year)

(Rs. per quintal)

Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
KHARIF CROPS							
1.	Paddy	Common	580^	645\$\$/180~	850\$	950&	1000
		Grade 'A'	610^	675\$\$/880~	880\$	980&	1030
2.	Jowar	Hybrid	540	600	840	840	880
		Maldandi	555	620	860	860	900
3.	Bajra		540	600	840	840	880
4.	Maize		540	620	840	840	880
5.	Ragi		540	600	915	915	965
6.	Arhar (Tur)			1410	1550^^	2000	2300
	3000**						
7.	Moong		1520	1700^^	2520	2760	3170**
8.	Urad		1520	1700^^	2520	2520	2900**
9.	Cotton	Medium Staple	1770	1800	2500a	2500a	2500a
		Long Staple	1990	2030	3000aa	3000aa	3000aa
10.	Groundnut		1520	1550	2100	2100	2300
	in shell						
11.	Sunflower		1500	1510	2215	2215	2350
	seed						
12.	Soyabean	Black	900	910	1350	1350	1400
		Yellow	1020	1050	1390	1390	1440
13.	Sesamum		1560	1580	2750	2850	2900
14.	Nigerseed		1220	1240	2405	2405	2450
RABI CROPS							
15.	Wheat		750\$\$	1000	1080	1100	
16.	Barley		565	650	680	750	
17.	Gram		1445	1600	1730	1760	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	Masur (Lentil)		1545	1700	1870	1870	
19.	Rapeseed/ Mustard		1715	1800	1830	1830	
20.	Safflower		1565	1650	1650	1680	
21.	Toria		1680	1735	1735	1735	
OTHER CROPS							
22.	Copra	Milling	3590	3620	3660	4450	4450
	(Calender Ball year)		3840	3870	3910	4700	4700
23.	De-husked Coconut (Calender year)		-	-	988	1200	1200
24.	Jute		1000	1055	1250	1375	1575
25.	Sugarcane		80.25	81.18	81.18	129.84	139.12*
26.	Tobacco	Black Soil	32.00	32.00			
	(VFC)	(F2 Gr)					
	(Rs. per kg.)	Light Soil	34.00	34.00			
		(L2 Gr)					

\$ An additional incentive bonus of Rs. 50 per quintal was payable over the Minimum Support Price (MSP)

\$\$ An additional incentive bonus of Rs. 100 per quintal was payable over the Minimum Support Price (MSP)

^ An additional incentive bonus of Rs. 40/- per quintal was payable on procurement between 1.10. 2006 to 31.03.2007. In case of Bihar and Kerala additional incentive bonus extended upto 31.5.2007 and in case of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal additional incentive bonus extended upto 30.9.2007.

^^ A bonus of Rs. 40 per quintal was payable over and above the MSP.

~ From 12.06.2008

a Staple length (mm) of 24.5 - 25.5 and Micronaire value of 4.3 - 5.1

aa Staple length (mm) of 29.5 - 30.5 and Micronaire value of 3.5 - 4.3

& An additional incentive bonus of Rs. 50 per quintal is payable over the Minimum Support Price (MSP) Fair and remunerative price.

* At 9.5% recovery, subject to a premium of Rs. 1.46 for every 0.1 percent

increase in the recovery above 9.5%.

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

Statement-II

Index numbers of wholesale prices (Base 1993-94=100) for agricultural inputs

Year Annual Average (July-June)	Fertilizers (Agriculture use)	Electricity	Pesticides	Non- Electrical Machinery	Tractors	Lubricants	Diesel Oil (HSDO)	Diesel Oil (LDO)	Fodder	Cattle Feed
2005-06	175.1	300.8	150.2	189.6	179.4	203.2	446.8	464.0	198.8	176.1
2006-07	178.3	315.6	119.7	196.3	12.2	260.7	466.2	492.4	210.3	179.2
2007-08	184.6	314.8	119.2	202.2	185.5	279.6	459.4	522.3	201.3	196.0
2008-09	196.8	310.8	129.5	210.2	193.4	332.2	481.3	646.0	206.0	214.4

Source: Office of the Economic Adviser, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Payment of crops insurance

†3353.SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of claims of crops insurance that came before Government during last one year, State-wise;

(b) the amount paid by Government so far;

(c) the remaining amount of crops insurance which is yet to be paid, State-wise; and

(d) by when the remaining amount of crops insurance would be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) State-wise details of claims reported, paid and yet to be paid for the year 2009-10 are given in Statement (See below).

(d) Remaining claims are settled according to receipt of clarification/yield data and respective State Government's share of liability towards premium and/or claims.

Statement

NAIS-State-wise claims of crop insurance reported, paid and pending from 01.4.2009 to 25.08.2010.

Sl. No.		Number of Beneficiary Farmers	Amount (In Lakhs)		
			Claims Reported*	Claims paid so far	Claims payable**
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	809000	83794.01	83781.21	12.80
2.	Assam	3759	71.36	71.36	0.00
3.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	229439	25357.71	25345.19	12.52
5.	Chhattisgarh	363527	12387.07	12387.07	0.00
6.	Goa	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	304961	47846.68	47846.68	0.00
8.	Haryana	3932	96.58	96.58	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	27709	837.62	451.34	386.28

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1 6	2	3	4	5
10. Jammu and Kashmir	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
11. Jharkhand	142127	3228.56	3228.56	0.00
12. Karnataka	161222	14970.30	14970.30	0.00
13. Kerala	1601	62.74	62.74	0.00
14. Madhya Pradesh	211597	8012.57	1717.83	6294.74
15. Maharashtra	96955	1137.32	1136.12	1.20
16. Manipur	10930	223.49	223.49	0.00
17. Meghalaya	33	0.72	0.72	0.00
18. Mizoram	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
19. Orissa	143507	5527.01	5527.01	0.00
20. Puducherry	543	48.86	48.86	0.00
21. Rajasthan	220281	7653.54	7653.54	0.00
22. Sikkim	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
23. Tamil Nadu	590964	68980.51	65967.39	3013.12
24. Tripura	620	5.64	5.64	0.00
25. Uttar Pradesh	499829	17760.69	17760.69	0.00
26. Uttarakhand	56076	2153.33	2153.33	0.00
27. West Bengal	541112	39131.96	39131.96	0.00
TOTAL	4419724	339288.27	329567.61	9720.66

*Claims Reported statistics is of Financial Year 2009-10 i.e. 01.04.2009 to 31.03.2010.

**Claims Payable statistics is as on date i.e. 25.08.2010

Production of milk

†3354. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of milk have been increased several times in the country during last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is going to make any plan to increase the milk production in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(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) Yes, Sir, the price of milk was increased two to six times by metro dairies in four metro cities during last three years (as per details given below) due to increase in input cost.

City	Price (in Rs. per litre) of		Number of Tonned	times Milk
	July, 2007	July, 2010		
price increased after July, 2007				
Delhi	18	24		6
Kolkata	18	24		4
Mumbai	17	24		3
Chennai	13.75	17.75		2

(c) and (d) A National Dairy Plan has been envisaged with the aim of meeting the projected domestic demand of about 180 million tonnes of milk by the year 2021-22. The share of the organized 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 plan are production of high genetic merit bulls, froze semen production, doorstep Artificial Insemination (AI) delivery services, improved animal nutrition through ration balancing advisory services, veterinary health care, village milk procurement systems, human resource development including extension and capacity building in the villages and expansion of infrastructure for milk processing and marketing.

(e) Question does not arise in view of reply at (c) and (d).

Production of pulses and oilseeds in Uttar Pradesh

3355. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of allocations made for schemes implemented for increasing production of pulses and oilseeds in Uttar Pradesh during last three years;

(b) the number of villages in the State selected for implementation of the scheme, year-wise and the criteria of selection thereof;

(c) the targeted production and actual production as a result of

the schemes during the last three years; and

(d) the further steps proposed to be taken to increase production of those product?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The allocations made under the
schemes of Integrated

Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) , National Food Security Mission-pulses in U.P. from 2007-08 to 2009-10 are as under :

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	ISOPOM	NFSM-Pulses
2007-08	1600.00	841.00
2008-09	1450.00	3843.00
2009-10	1822.08	7108.00

Upto 2009-10, 19 districts of Uttar Pradesh were covered under NFSM -Pulses component, whereas, ISOPOM pulses component was covered in all the other districts that were not covered under NFSM Pulses. Similarly, all the districts of U.P were covered under oilseeds component of ISOPOM. Districts under NFSM Pulses were selected originally based on existing large areas under pulses having potential for area expansion through intercropping and utilisation of rice fallows.

(c) The production target and actual production of oilseeds and pulses during the last three years is as follows :

(in lakh tones)

Year	Oilseeds production		Pulses production	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
2007-08	16.07	11.47	24.40	15.77
2008-09	16.99	11.64	24.00	19.98
2009-10	17.09	8.32*	25.80	19.99*

*4th Advance estimates of Department of Economics and Statistics

(d) From Kharif 2010-11, pulses components and areas of ISOPOM have been merged with NFSM Pulses to maintain uniformity at ground level implementation and as a result, all the 71 districts of U.P are now covered under NFSM Pulses. In addition, 25 large scale demonstrations of improved production and protection technology has been initiated under Accelerated Production programme (A3P) during Kharif, where in farmers have been provided inputs free of cost. Similarly, 43 units of A3P demonstrations are planned during rabi 2010-11 in the state. Under the new initiative of "Organising 60,000 Pulses and Oilseeds Villages", an amount of Rs. 27 Crores is allocated to promote dry land farming in rainfed areas of 5400 pulses and oilseed villages in the state through promotion of farm machanisation in selected watershed areas.

Similarly, Eastern Uttar Pradesh is included under another new programme of "Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India", an initiative for enhancing the agriculture production in the eastern region of the state, with an allocation of Rs. 57.27 Crores.

Establishment of veterinary universities

3356. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether veterinary universities are being set up in the Eleventh Five Year Plan in Andhra Pradesh and other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the requests pending from each State; and

(d) by when action will be taken on each proposal in the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Agriculture, including higher agricultural education being a State subject, agricultural/veterinary universities are set up by the State Governments.

(c) and (d) No such request is pending consideration.

New variety of rice

3357. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Rice Research Institute has developed a variety of rice which could be cooked without boiling/steaming;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when this rice is going to be given to farmers for sowing and marketing;

(d) whether it is first of its kind and trade marked;

(e) whether its per acre yield is better as compared to conventional rice; and

(f) whether this rice, when cooked without boiling, retains its nutrients better as compared to other varieties of rice that require to be boiled/steamed for cooking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b): The Central Rice Research Institute (CRRRI) has not developed any such rice which can be cooked without steaming/boiling. However, the parboiled form of a variety *Aghoni* developed by the Regional Agricultural Research Station, (RARS) Titabar of Assam Agricultural University is fit to eat just by soaking

in normal water for about 40 minutes without boiling/steaming. The amylose content of this variety is 4.5% and can be cultivated in wet season only.

(c) Initial release of seed of this variety has already been made to farmers in Orissa and elsewhere.

(d) No, Sir, this variety is not first of its kind, and other varieties like Bhogali are also available.

(e) The yield of this variety is not better than other conventional rice varieties. Its yield is almost at par with other varieties and ranges between 4.0 to 4.5 t/ha in wet season.

(f) The soak and eat characteristic is shown only by the parboiled form of this rice. The parboiled rice is richer in nutrients compared to the normally cooked milled rice.

Development of antidote to Ug-99

3358. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has developed Antidote to deadly global wheat fungus which can potentially resist Ug-99 which can pose a genuine risk to global food security and could push millions into hunger; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) 44 Indian varieties of wheat have been identified to have resistance against Uganda 99 (Ug-99) 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 Ug-99. During 2009-10, out of 421 genotypes screened in Kenya, 40 released varieties were found to have resistance against Ug-99. Out of these varieties, 22 varieties namely DBW17, DDK1009, DLI53-2, 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.

Diagnostic technique for Bird-flu

3359. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICAR has devised any diagnostic technique for Bird-flu;

(b) if so, whether it has been percolated at district level because of its "localization spread" as has been observed during the last three years;

(c) the quantum of compensation paid to poultry owners when their birds were culled to avoid its further spread; and

(d) whether relief and rehabilitation of small poultry owners is adequate to sustain their livelihood during and immediately after the culling operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir; the diagnostic techniques for bird flu have been standardized as per international norms.

(b) Testing for bird flu requires a BSL-3 compliant laboratory. Therefore, wherever there is suspicion of bird flu, anywhere in the country, blood samples from the suspect birds are taken and sent to High Security Animal Disease Laboratory (HSADL) in Bhopal for testing.

(c) and (d) The quantum of compensation paid for poultry owners when their birds were culled to avoid its further spread is as follows:-

Year	State Affected	Amount of compensation paid (Rs. in Lakhs)
2006	Maharashtra/Gujarat/Madhya Pradesh	305
2007	Manipur	94
2008	Tripura	71
2008	West Bengal (Phase-I)	1229
2008	West Bengal (Phase-II)	4487
2008	Assam	170
2009	Sikkim	326
2010	West Bengal (Phase-III)	6380

Compensation was also paid for preventive culling in Assam (Rs. 20.50 lakh), Bihar (Rs. 43.14 lakh) and Jharkhand (Rs. 0.56 lakh).

Besides the compensation for culling and preventive culling, the government also announced a number of financial measures for poultry units in the years 2006-07 and 2007-08, as follows:-

- (i) A moratorium of one year on repayment of existing principal and interest for term loans and working capital due to all scheduled banks, cooperative banks and Regional Rural Banks.
- (ii) Conversion of working capital into term loan. The first year of repayment would be after the expiry of moratorium period.
- (iii) Re-scheduling of term loans availed by poultry units over an additional period of two years from the agreed tenure of the term loan.
- (iv) After conversion of working capital into term loan, poultry units may be permitted to draw additional working capital depending on the commercial viability of each unit.
- (v) Barring wilful defaulters, Reserve Bank of India is requested not to treat defaulted accounts as NPAs.
- (vi) Grant of one-time interest subvention of 4% for a period of one year on the outstanding principal amount.

The government also provided 41 lakh quintals of maize on subsidized rates to 15 States in the country, between August, 2006 to March, 2007.

Distribution of breeder seeds and planting materials

3360. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research has produced and distributed 7340 tonnes of breeder seeds and over 25 planting materials;

(b) if so, whether any study has been made to find out the actual benefits for the farmers, growers, planters, etc. in terms of better yields;

(c) whether this was a one-time exercise or this is an on-going annual practice;

(d) the criteria for identifying prospective users; and

(e) whether rain-fed crop backward districts of Vidarbha like Yavatmal were covered or proposed to be covered in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir. ICAR has produced more than 7340 tones of breeder seed of field crops and over 25 lakh planting materials of various horticultural crops. The breeder seed is made available to different seed agencies for the production of foundation and certified seed to be made available to the farmers.

(b) It has been established through Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) in different crops that quality seed alone contributes 15-20% in the yield improvement.

(c) The production of breeder seed is a regular annual activity. The indents of breeder seed received from various agencies, through Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) are catered to through the project AICRP-NSP (Crops).

(d) ICAR, normally produces breeder seeds as per the indent of DAC which is an aggregation of indents of state governments, private seed companies and DAC itself.

(e) Indents are prepared state-wise, and reflect state-wide requirements.

Organic farming policy

3361. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has an organic Farming Policy for the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including implementation;

(c) if not, whether Government would initiate steps for adopting an Organic Farming Policy;

(d) whether any State Government had an organic Farming Policy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The Government has a National Policy on organic farming which

seeks to promote technically sound, economically viable, environmentally non-degrading and socially acceptable use of natural resources in favour of organic agriculture.

(b) To facilitate, encourage and promote organic farming in the country the Government has launched a "National Project on Organic Farming" (NPOF) during 2004-05.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Nine States have formulated organic farming policy, i.e., Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Mizoram, Sikkim and Uttarakhand.

Acreage under sowing of different crops

3362. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total acreage under sowing of wheat, rice, sugarcane, cotton, oilseeds and pulses, during last five years, year-wise and crop-wise;

(b) the total production during above period, year-wise and crop-wise;

(c) the total quantum of increase/decrease of the acreage and production during above period, year-wise and crop-wise;

(d) the quantum of production per hectare; year-wise and crop-wise; and

(e) the correlation between acreage under sowing and production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Details of area, production and yield (per hectare production) of rice, wheat, pulses, oilseeds, cotton and sugarcane during the last five years, i.e. 2005-06 to 2009-10 alongwith increase(+)/decrease(-) in their area/acreage and production over the previous year are given in the Statement (See below).

(e) During the period 2005-06 to 2009-10, production of rice, wheat and sugarcane has been highly correlated with area/acreage under sowing, whereas in case of pulses, oilseeds and cotton, the increase in production during the above period has not been keeping pace with increase in the area coverage.

Statement

Estimates of area, production and yield of Rice, Wheat, Pulses, Oilseeds, Cotton, Sugarcane alongwith their increase(+)/decrease(-) in Area Coverage and Production over the previous year during the period 2005-06 to 2009-10

Crop	Area (Million Hectares)					Production (Million Tonnes)					Yield (Kg./Hectare)				
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10*	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10*	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10*
Rice	43.66	43.81	43.91	45.54	41.85	91.79	93.36	96.69	99.18	89.13	2102	2131	2202	2178	2130
Wheat	26.48	27.99	28.04	27.75	28.52	69.35	75.81	78.57	80.68	80.71	2619	2708	2802	2907	2830
Pulses	22.39	23.19	23.63	22.09	23.35	13.38	14.20	14.76	14.57	14.60	598	612	625	659	625
Sugarcane	4.20	5.15	5.06	4.42	4.20	281.17	355.52	348.19	285.03	277.75	66919	69022	68877	64553	66099
Cotton#	8.68	9.14	9.41	9.41	10.31	18.50	22.63	25.88	22.28	23.93	362	421	467	403	395
Oilseeds	27.86	26.51	26.69	27.56	26.11	27.98	24.29	29.76	27.72	24.93	1004	916	1115	1006	955

*4th advance estimates released on 19.07.2010

#Production in Million Bales of 170 Kgs. Each

Statement-Contd.

*Estimates of area, production and yield of Rice, Wheat, Pulses, Oilseeds, Cotton, Sugarcane alongwith their
increase(+)/decrease(-)
in Area Coverage and Production over the previous year during the period 2005-06 to 2009-10*

Crop	Increase (+)/Decrease(-) over previous year									
	Area (Million Hectares)					Production (Million Tonnes)				
	2005- 06	2006- 07	2007- 08	2008- 09	2009- 10*	2005- 06	2006- 07	2007- 08	2008- 09	2009- 10*
Rice	1.75	0.15	0.10	1.62	-3.69	8.66	1.56	3.34	2.49	-10.06
Wheat	0.10	1.51	0.04	-0.29	0.77	0.72	6.45	2.76	2.11	0.03
Pulses	-0.37	0.80	0.44	-1.54	1.26	0.25	0.81	0.56	-0.19	0.03
Sugarcane	0.54	0.95	-0.10	-0.64	-0.21	44.08	74.35	-7.33	-63.16	-7.28
Cotton#	-0.11	0.47	0.27	-0.01	0.90	2.07	4.13	3.25	-3.61	1.66
Oilseeds	0.34	-1.35	0.18	0.87	-1.45	3.62	-3.69	5.47	-2.04	-2.79

*4th advance estimates released on 19.07.2010

#Production in Million Bales of 170 Kgs. Each

Announcement of MSP ahead of sowing season

3363. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to announce Minimum Support Prices (MSP) ahead of the sowing season;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) In a vast country like India sowing season varies among different regions/crops. However, all efforts are made to announce Minimum Support Prices (MSP) ahead of the sowing season.

Sowing of soyabean and paddy

3364. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recent monsoon deficit is potentially damaging the sowing of soyabean and paddy and forcing farmers to replant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) As per the report released by the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), the rainfall during South-West monsoon in the country as a whole is likely to be normal and as per 2nd revised forecast the rainfall in the country as a whole is likely to be 102% of LPA with model error of +-4%.

So far, damage to rice and soyabean crops has not been reported by the states. However there could be damage to rice crop due to drought in some pockets of paddy growing states of Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. It is too early to predict the damage as rice sowing is under progress in most of the states. Contingent crop plan for three different scenarios of the monsoon like less rainfall, normal and excess rainfall has been prepared and issued to all States Government for implementation as per the requirement.

Environmental Sciences Division of IARI

3365. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Environmental Sciences Division (ESD) is recognized division in Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) New Delhi, if so, the details of its formation;

(b) whether the post of Divisional Head and other scientists' posts in the ESD are filled up through proper advertisement and subsequent screening, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) in the absence of regularization/recognition of Environmental Sciences Division of IARI, what system is being followed for obtaining 'Budget' approval as well as financial expenditure incurred by the Division?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Yes, Sir. The Environmental Science Division, established in 1993, is a recognized Division of Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi as per the decision of Board of Management of IARI and IARI's office order No.4-27/92-PI dated 1-1-1993. The budget for this Division is allocated in annual plan allocations by IARI.

(b) All the posts of scientists including Divisional Head are appointed against the sanctioned strength of IARI and are recruited through regular advertisement by Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB). At present, senior most Principal Scientist of the division is holding the charge of Divisional Head till regular Head is selected through ASRB.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

The Seed Bill, 2010

3366. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the current Seed Bill is against the accepted norms of Compulsory Licensing under the Protection of Plant Variety and Farmers Rights Act resulting in high and arbitrary cost of seed varieties;

(b) whether the current Bill liquidate the penalties for violation of Seed Law and is against biosafety norms;

(c) whether the Bill goes against the interest of farmers as it has dispensed with the rule of providing compensation to farmers for poor and spurious quality seeds; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to protect the interest of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The objective of the Seeds Bill is to regulate the quality of seeds. Therefore, the Seeds Bill provides for Compulsory registration of kinds or varieties of seeds. No person will be allowed to carry on the business of selling or supplying any seed

which is not of a registered kind/variety. Farmers are exempted from compulsory registration. The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Right Act provide registration of plant varieties with the objective of conserving rights of breeders and farmers.

(b) Penalties proposed in the Bill are higher than the existing Act. Proposed penalties have been further enhancing based on the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee and other amendments proposed to the Bill. The Seeds Bill is stringent in its provisions as it provides not only for penalty (both fine and imprisonment) but also for cancellation of registration and compensation to farmers.

Special provisions have already been made for GM Crops in the Bill as under:-

- (i) Clause 15 (special provision for registration of transgenic varieties);
 - (ii) Clause 16 (cancellation of registration of seeds of kind and varieties where it is necessary to prevent the commercial exploitation of such kind or variety of seed (i) in the public interest (ii) to protect public order or public morality or (iii) to protect human beings, animal and plant life and health to avoid serious prejudice to the environment); and
 - (iii) Clause 18 (exclusion of certain kinds or varieties of seeds from registration if prevention of commercial exploitation of such kind or variety is necessary to protect public order or public morality or human, animal or plant life and health, or to avoid serious prejudice to the environment and a kind or variety of seed containing any technology, which is harmful, or potentially harmful, shall not be registered).
- (c) to (d) The Bill ensures the interest of the farmers under the following provision:
- (i) Exemption of farmer from compulsory registration of seeds of all kind/variety.
 - (ii) Lucid definition of farmer.
 - (iii) Participation in the Central Seed Committee to decide programming, planning, Development, production and export and import of seed and standards for registration, certification, testing and its enforcement.
 - (iv) Providing the safeguard to the farmer to curtail the unwanted technology like GURT (Restriction technology including terminator technology)
 - (v) Compensation to the farmer in case of seed failure.
 - (vi) To assure the quality seed to the farmer through regulating the quality of seed sold in the market.
 - (vii) Enhance the penalty and cancellation of registration to ensure the quality seed to farmer.
 - (viii) To make available good planting materials from anywhere from the world to the Indian farmer.
 - (ix) Additional standard of seed health prescribed to ensure disease free seed to the farmer.

National Agricultural Insurance Scheme

3367. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the main features of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS);

(b) whether any group has been set up to study the improvements required in the existing scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The main features of National Agriculture Insurance Scheme are given in the Statement-I (See below).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A Joint Group was constituted by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to review and bring improvements in the existing Crop Insurance Schemes. The Group studied in-depth the related issues and made important recommendations regarding reduction in unit area of insurance, more precise calculation of threshold yield, higher indemnity levels, coverage of pre-sowing/planting risks and post-harvest losses etc. A proposal on Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) incorporating the major improvements suggested by the Joint Group has been prepared by the Government.

Statement

Main Features of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS)

- Scheme is available to all farmers - loanee and non-loanee - both irrespective of their size of holding.
- It covers yield losses due to natural and non-preventable risks.
- NAIS is an area based scheme. Implementing States notify any unit area of insurance i.e. district, tehsil, taluka/block, phirka, mandal, gram panchayat etc. keeping in view the capacity to undertake requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments for making assessment of yield.
- Compulsory for loanee farmers and optional for non-loanee farmers.
- The scheme is voluntary for the States/UTs.
- Sum-insured may extend to the value of threshold yield of the area insured.
- Coverage of all food crops (cereals, millets and pulses), oilseeds and annual commercial/horticultural crops in respect of which past yield data is available for adequate number of years.
- Premium rates are 3.5% for bajra and oilseeds, and 2.5% for other Kharif crops, 1.5 for wheat, and 2% for other rabi crops. In case the rates worked out on the basis of actuarial data are less than the prescribed premium rate, the lower rate will be applicable.
- In case of annual commercial/horticultural crops, actuarial

rates are charged.

- Small and marginal farmers are provided subsidy of 10% of the premium.
- Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC) is the implementing agency of the scheme.

Public investment in agriculture sector

3368. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether public investments in agriculture sector have declined during last three years in comparison to private investment;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to increase public investments in agriculture in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Public and Private Investment in Agriculture and Allied Sector for 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 at 2004-05 prices is as follows:

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Investment in Agriculture and Allied Sector		
	Public	Private	Total
2006-07	22978	71422	94400
2007-08	23040	86966	110006
2008-09	24452	114145	138597

Investment (both public and private) in this sector has steadily increased in the last three years.

(c) Government has launched several schemes to increase investments in agricultural sector and for accelerating agricultural growth. The major schemes are as follows:

- Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana to incentivise the States to increase public investment in Agriculture sector.
- National Food Security Mission to promote improved production technologies like hybrids, System of Rice Intensification, resource conservation technologies, integrated nutrient, pest and weed management and usage of farm implements.
- Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seed to develop and strengthen the existing infrastructure for the production and distribution of certified/quality seeds to farmers.
- National Horticulture Mission for holistic development of horticulture sector duly ensuring forward and backward linkages with the active participation of all the stakeholders.

Aquatic life in running fresh water

†3369. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal has been sent by Government of Madhya Pradesh (Fish Farmers Development Agency) for implementation of development of aquatic life in the running fresh water; and

(b) if so, by when the proposal would be accorded sanction and funds would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted a proposal under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme- "Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture", for construction of ponds etc. A sum of Rs. 60 lakh as first installment has already been released to the State Government.

Houses for Fishermen

†3370. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Madhya Pradesh Government has submitted a proposal to Central Government for construction of houses for fishermen of the State under Fishermen Welfare fund being sponsored by the Central Government; and

(b) if so, by when the sanction would be accorded and fund would be released according to the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Madhya Pradesh Government has submitted a proposal for construction of houses etc. for fishermen under the Centrally Sponsored 'National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen'. The proposal could not be considered as it was incomplete and was not submitted as per the requirements of the scheme.

Purchase of farm land abroad to produce pulses and oilseeds

3371. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hooda Committee constituted by Government has suggested to encourage Indian companies to buy farm lands in other countries for producing pulses and edible oilseeds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) In order to insulate the people, particularly the poor, from rapid rise in prices of food and essential commodities, the Government constituted a 'Core Group' which inter-

alia constituted "Work Group on Agriculture Production" under the chairmanship of Chief Minister, Haryana, The recommendations of the Working Group have not been finalised.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Environmental impact on fish

3372. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any project has been sanctioned recently to study environmental impact on fish;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) had entrusted a study entitled "Assessment of fisheries with regard to water quality in the river Ganga and Yamuna" to the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), Barrackpore during 2008 to 2009-10. In order to assess the impact of water qualities on fisheries, CIFRI during 2008 to 2010 had conducted investigations at selected stations of rivers Ganga and Yamuna with the following objectives:

(i) fish species richness and diversity in target river,

(ii) quality of riverine environment particularly in polluted river stretches identified by CPCB in relation to fishery status,

(iii) changes in fish diversity and productivity due to water quality changes and

(iv) assessment of fish yield and grading of river stretches.

(c) The CIFRI, Barrackpore has completed the studies and submitted its final report during April 2010 to the CPCB.

Unremunerative price of raw jute

3373. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that jute growers in the country are facing great difficulties due to unremunerative price of raw jute in the market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government's attention has also been drawn to the fact that the present market value of Grade V jute is only Rs. 2000.00;

(d) if so, the details of prevailing market price of various categories of jute, vis-a-vis, the increased cost of inputs;

(e) whether the Ministry, in view of the above, is considering to

increase the Minimum Support Price of raw jute; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Government of India fixes Minimum
Support Price

(MSP) for certain agricultural commodities including Raw Jute on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce. The CACP while recommending MSP considers all the relevant factors including the overall demand-supply situation; market prices-both domestic and international, status of Jute economy and cost of production. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by the Government is in the nature of a minimum guaranteed price for the farmers offered by the Government for their produce in case the market prices fall below that level. The MSP for Raw-Jute for TD-5 variety Ex-Assam is fixed at Rs. 1575 per quintal. However, the All India total cost of production for Raw Jute is worked out (projected by CACP) at Rs. 1312 per quintal for 2010-11 season.

(c) and (d) The month end Wholesale prices of TD-5 grade for raw Jute in July 2010 was ruling in the range of Rs. 2500-Rs. 3000 per quintal which is much higher than the MSP of Rs. 1575 per quintal for the current season.

(e) and (f) The Government has already increased the MSP for TD-5 grade of raw Jute ex-Assam from Rs. 1375 per quintal for 2009-10 to Rs. 1575 per quintal for 2010-11, which is higher by Rs. 200 per quintal (or 14.5%) as compared to previous season.

Soil erosion and land degradation

3374. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total geological areas affected by soil erosion and land degradation, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by Government to check the same during the last three years; and

(c) the achievements made by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Geological areas are basically physical attributes of land from a natural perspective. The study conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), indicates that soil erosion and land degradation has affected about 146.82 million ha. of geographical area in the country. The State-wise details are given in the Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) With a view to prevent soil erosion and land degradation, Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing various Watershed Development Programmes, namely; National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA), Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood

Prone River (RVP and FPR), Reclamation and Development of Alkali and Acid Soils (RADAS) and Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) across the country. Under these programmes, during last three years (2007-08 to 2009-10), an area of 1.96 million ha. has been developed with a total expenditure of Rs. 1685.08 crore.

Statement

State-wise area affected by Soil Erosion and Land Degradation in India

(Area in thousand hectares)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UTs	Water Erosion	Wind Erosion	Water Logging	Salinity/ Alkalinity	Soil Acidity	Complex Problem	Degraded Area	Geographical Area
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11518	0	1896	517	905	156	14992	27507
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2372	0	176	0	1955	0	4503	8374
3.	Assam	688	0	37	0	612	876	2213	7844
4.	Bihar	3024	0	2001	229	1029	0	6283	17387
5.	+Jharkhand								
6.	Goa	60	0	76	0	2	24	162	370
7.	Gujarat	5207	443	523	296	0	1666	8133	19602
8.	Haryana	315	536	146	256	0	214	1467	4421
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2718	0	1303	0	157	0	4178	5567
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5460	1360	200	0	0	0	7020	22224
11.	Karnataka	5810	0	941	110	58	712	7631	19179
12.	Kerala	76	0	2098	0	138	296	2608	3886
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

13.	Madhya Pradesh	17883	0	359	46	6796	1126	26210	44344
14.	+Chhattisgarh								
15.	Maharashtra	11179	0	0	1056	517	303	13055	30771
16.	Manipur	133	0	111	0	481	227	952	2233
17.	Mizoram	137	0	0	0	1050	694	1881	2108
18.	Meghalaya	137	0	7	0	1030	34	1208	2243
19.	Nagaland	390	0	0	0	127	478	995	1658
20.	Orissa	5028	0	681	75	263	75	6122	15571
21.	Punjab	372	282	338	288	0	0	1280	5036
22.	Rajasthan	3137	6650	53	1418	0	110	11368	34224
23.	Sikkim	158	0	0	0	76	0	234	710
24.	Tamil Nadu	4926	0	96	96	78	138	5334	13006
25.	Tripura	121	0	191	0	203	113	628	1049
26.	Uttar Pradesh	11392	212	2350	1370	0	0	15324	29441
27.	+Uttarakhand								
28.	West Bengal	1197	0	710	170	556	119	2752	8875
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

29. Delhi	55	0	6	10	0	11	82	148
30. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	187	0	0	9	0	9	205	825
31. Chandigarh*								11
32. Dadra and Nagar Haveli*								49
33. Daman and Diu*								11
34. Lakshadweep*								3
35. Pondicherry*								48
GRAND TOTAL	93680	9483	14299	5946	16033	7381	146820	328725
GRAND TOTAL (Million ha.)	93.68	9.48	14.30	5.95	16.03	7.38	146.82	328.72

*Degradation details are not available.

Source: National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP) - Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Regional Centre, Nagpur, Maharashtra

Decrease in profit of agriculture product

†3375. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether profit from foodgrain production has been decreasing continuously as a result of which farmers are falling in debt trap;

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

(c) whether Government has conducted any study in this regard in different parts of the country including Jharkhand;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether interest of small and marginal farmers to continue with farming is diminishing; and

(f) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to increase agriculture production so that profit in agriculture increases and farmers community could be helped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Profit from foodgrain production depends on a number of factors which includes, *inter-alia*, efficiency in use of inputs, weather conditions, availability of credit, yield levels etc. The thrust of Government policy is directed at improving the income earning opportunities of farmers through Minimum Support Price (MSP) policy, providing agricultural inputs at subsidised rates including credit at affordable rate etc.

(c) and (d) There is no report of such study conducted by the Government.

(e) As per the Situation Assessment Survey (59th Round of National Sample Survey Organisation) sixty percent of the farmers, which includes small & marginal farmers, like farming as a profession.

(f) Government has taken number of steps to increase agriculture production and profitability which includes fixation of Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities with the objective to ensure remunerative prices to the growers. In addition, the Government implements a number of programmes/schemes with a view to increasing agricultural productivity and production and in the overall interests of the farmers, including small and marginal farmers, which includes, *inter-alia*, National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Integrated Cereals Development Programme, strengthened farm credit delivery system for providing credit at affordable rate of interest to farmers with particular focus on small and marginal farmers etc.

Manufacturing and sale of insecticides

3376. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the details of insecticides being manufactured and sold in the country which are banned in other countries?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): Pesticides are registered in the country for manufacture and sale under the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968, after due scrutiny of various parameters including efficacy and safety. As new developments come to notice, including a ban or restriction on use of any pesticide by other countries, the pesticide is subjected to a review to decide on its banning or continuation in India. There are 67 pesticides banned or severely restricted in some countries, which are used in the country. The details are given in the Statement.

Statement

List of Pesticides which have been banned/severely restricted in some countries

Sl.No.	Name of the Pesticide
1	2
1.	Acephate
2.	Alachlor
3.	Aluminum Phosphide
4.	Atrazine
5.	Benfuracarb
6.	Benomyl
7.	Bifenthrin
8.	Butachlor
9.	Captan
10.	Carbaryl
11.	Carbendazim
12.	Carbofuran
13.	Chlorfenapyr
14.	Carbosulfan
15.	Chlorothalonil
16.	Chlorpyrifos
17.	Dezomet
18.	DDT
19.	Deltamethrin
20.	Diazinon
21.	Dichlorvos

1	2
22.	Dicofol
23.	Diﬂubenzuron
24.	Dimethoate
25.	Dinocap
26.	Diuron
27.	Endosulfan
28.	Ethofenprox
29.	Fenpropathrin
30.	Fenarimol
31.	Fenitrothion
32.	Fenthion
33.	Iprodione
34.	2, 4-D
35.	Kasugamycin
36.	Linuron
37.	Lindane
38.	Methomyl
39.	Methoxy Ethyl Mercury Chloride
40.	Methyl Parathion
41.	Malathion
42.	Mancozeb
43.	Mepiquat Chloride
44.	Metaldehyde
45.	Monocrotophos
46.	Oxyﬂurofen
47.	Paraquat Dichloride
48.	Pendimethalin
49.	Phorate
50.	Phosphromidon
51.	Pretilachlor
52.	Propargite

1	2
53.	Propineb
54.	Quinalphos
55.	Sodium cyanide
56.	Sulfosulfurone
57.	Thiodecarb
58.	Thiometon
59.	Thiophanate Methyl
60.	Thiram
61.	Triazophos
62.	Trichlorofon
63.	Tridemorph
64.	Trifluralin
65.	Zinc Phosphide
66.	Zineb
67.	Ziram

Utilization of fertilizer subsidy by small and marginal farmers

3377. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any plan has been made relating to ensuring utilization of Rs. 50,000 crore fertilizer subsidy for 2010-11 by small and marginal farmers, as instances are often quoted about actual nonpercolation of envisaged benefits to the target sections of cultivators;

(b) if so, whether close co-operation of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) or NGOs will be taken as only such ground-level outfits have capabilities and expertise to reach small and marginal cultivators; and

(c) whether with the success of NREGA in rural areas, any such modality for subsidized fertilizers, which will actually cover target farmers, is being thought of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Rs. 52,840.73 crore (gross) (not Rs. 50000 crore) is budgeted for 2010-11 for giving fertilizer subsidy to the farmers through the fertilizer manufacturers and importers. Small and marginal farmers are also included in it.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration of the Department.

(c) No NREGA like modality to cover farmers is under consideration of the Department.

Shortage of gas for fertilizer firms

3378. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fertilizer firms suffer gas burns;

(b) if so, the details thereof in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, year-wise and State-wise especially Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to avoid such a situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) With reference to a Newsitem titled "Fertilizer firms suffer gas burns", published in the Economic Times, dated 16th July, 2010 a copy as given as a Statement (See below). It is submitted that the Government has notified on 4th September, 2008, a policy for New investment in Urea sector and offtake of urea from Joint Venture abroad. The fertilizer industry in terms of New Investment Policy have initiated investment for expansion of existing capacities. Six fertilizer companies viz. IFFCO-Kalol, KRIBHCO-Hazira, RCF-Thal, IGFL-Jagdishpur, CFCL-Gadepan and TCL-Babrula have also indicated their intention for expansion of their existing units by setting up a 1.15 million tonne per annum Ammonia Urea plants in their existing premises. The companies have been regularly requesting the Government for either firm allocation of gas at predetermined fixed prices from domestic gas sources for a period of 15 years or insulate industry from any additional liability arising due to increase in delivered price of gas by correspondingly increasing the floor prices in the absence of any commitment on allocation of natural gas at fixed prices.

(b) to (d) The present and future requirement of gas for all the fertilizer units including that for units in Andhra Pradesh has been communicated to Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. As regards constraints indicated above, the same are under examination and a proposal for amendments in the New Investment Policy notified on 4th September 2008 is under consideration to facilitate the investment in urea sector.

Statement

Copy of Fertiliser firms suffer gas burns

NEW DELHI : A meeting of the empowered group of ministers (EGoM) scheduled for the month-end is likely to discuss the fertiliser industry's demand to allocate natural gas, as it looks to reduce dependence on costly imported urea through a new attractive investment policy.

The Government's inability to supply adequate gas to key fertilizer projects was holding up a plan to attract over Rs. 27,000 crore investment in creating additional urea capacity of 8.5 million tonnes.

The industry has been demanding gas supply to projects, both new and those undergoing revamping. Requirement of natural gas for both ongoing and proposed projects in the fertiliser sector is estimated to be 24.5 mmscmd.

Allocation and cost of gas have a direct bearing on the industry's decision to put up new urea capacity. It also impacts the subsidy payouts by the Government.

At risk on account of gas unavailability in existing projects alone is an investment of over Rs. 8,000 crore. This excludes gas needed to replace re-liquefied natural gas in select units. Fertiliser units currently use about 8mmscmd of RLNG but it will become fully linked to crude prices from January 2014.

In addition, several brownfield projects are also awaiting gas allocation for further action including financial closure. A ministry official acknowledged "A year and half have already elapsed between the notification of the policy and now, with nominal results."

Industry had urged both fertiliser and petroleum ministries to allow urea units to terminate their RLNG contracts and, instead, allot them KG D-6 gas.

Some fertilizer units have identified customers for their more expensive RLNG but lack of domestic gas to replace this and the Centre's refusal to allow urea units to sell their imported RLNG to other customers. An EGoM held in end 2009 had decided that RLNG offtakers GAIL, IOC and BPCL and urea companies should jointly explore the possibility of supplying contracted RLNG to customers in other sectors on the same conditions.

The development comes given as India stockpiles imported fertilisers in anticipation of a desperately needed and good monsoon, Chairman and MD of DSCL, Ajay Shriram pointed out, adding "The Government should pave the way for investment in the urea

sector to be a viable business proposition with some certainty on returns.”

In 2010-11, India produced 22 mt of urea and needs for the 12th plan period could go past 30mt. Under the makeover investment policy, the time period allowed for the proposed investment may be five years from the date of notification of the revised policy. But industry wants this reworked such that proposed investment is for five years from the date of firm domestic natural gas allocation.

“It would be impractical to expect any project to get executed in the remaining period of the existing investment policy” the official said. Proposals being mulled also include “deemed” export status for all expansion projects; exemption of project imports for urea expansion from customs duty and a possible 15 year tax holiday under the IT Act.

Monitoring of prices of fertilizers

3379. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that except Urea all other fertilizers have been decontrolled by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has instituted any monitoring body to have an eye on the price situation of various fertilizers in the post decontrol era;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has formulated any mechanism to inform farmers about the prices, availability, etc. regarding fertilizers; and

(f) 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 recommendations of Joint Parliamentary Committee, the Government of India had decontrolled Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) Fertilizers on 25.8.1992. Accordingly, Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP), Muriate of Potash (MOP), NPK Complexes and Single Super Phosphate (SSP) etc. were decontrolled. Keeping in view the adverse impact of decontrol of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers and price rise on the productivity of the crops, Department of Agriculture and Co-operation introduced concession scheme for DAP, MOP and NPK complexes on *ad-hoc* basis w.e.f. 1.10.1992. This scheme was extended to SSP w.e.f. 1993-94. Since then, the scheme has continued up to 31.3.2010 with modifications for decontrolled P&K fertilizers. Government of India indicated Maximum Retail Price (MRPs) of P&K fertilizers (except SSP) from 1997-98 on all India basis before which the respective State Governments used to indicate the MRPs. In case of SSP, except for the period May 2008 to September 2009 during which the MRP was fixed by the Government of India at Rs. 3400 per MT on all India basis, MRP of SSP was also indicated by the State Government in consultation with the companies. Accordingly, the farmers have been supplied fertilizers at the subsidized rates.

W.e.f. 1st April 2010 for P&K fertilizers (w.e.f. 1st May 2010 for SSP), the Department of Fertilizers has introduced Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS)

policy for
decontrolled Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers, whereby DAP, MOP,
NPKs Complexes,
Mono-Ammonium Phosphate (MAP), Triple Super Phosphate (TSP), Ammonium
Sulphate and SSP are proved to the farmers at the subsidized rates.
Since subsidy under Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy has been fixed for
2010-11 on annual basis, MRP has been left open. However, keeping in
view the requirement of reasonable MRP and affordability of the
farmers, the Government has announced subsidy in such a manner that
MRPs of the fertilizers fixed by the manufacturers/importers are as
far as possible near the MRP that prevailed before introduction of NBS
policy.

(c) and (d) An Inter ministerial Committee (IMC) has been constituted under the Nutrient Based Subsidy policy under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Fertilizers) with members from Department of Agriculture and Co-operation, Department of Expenditure, Planning Commission and Department Agriculture Research and Education. The Committee recommends per nutrient subsidy and also reviews the prices and subsidy of the fertilizers from time to time.

(e) and (f) The Department of Fertilizers has a web-based Fertilizers Monitoring System (FMS). District wise and State-wise updated information about requirements, despatches, sales and availability of fertilizers is publicly accessible at the Department's web site www.urvarak.co.in. The manufacturers and importers are required to print MRP as well as the amount of subsidy given by the Government of India on each bag released by them in the market under the EC Act, 1955 so that farmers are aware of MRP and subsidy. The retailers selling the fertilizers have been told to display the MRPs and stocks held on daily basis at a prominent place at their outlets. Further, Department of Agriculture and Co-operation operates Kisan Call Centres through toll free number 1800-180-1551 and farmers obtain information on various aspects of subsidy, MRPs and NBS policy, amongst other information, by dialling the number and talking to the centres.

Memorial for victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy

†3380. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI:

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR:

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

(a) whether a proposal of Rs. Fifty crores has been put up to build a memorial of international standard for the victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy in Union Carbide Complex, Bhopal;

(b) whether Government had proposed a memorial for the victims, in 1984;

(c) if so, the decision of Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the status and the timeline for constructing such a memorial; and

(e) the reasons for the delay, given that twenty six years have passed since this industrial disaster?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (e) A proposal for construction of a memorial at a cost of Rs. 70 crore was received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh in December, 2005. The Government of Madhya Pradesh was advised to approach the Planning Commission directly for funds. The Planning Commission approved one time Additional Central Assistance of Rs. 10.00 crore to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for this purpose in 2006-07. A proposal for construction of Bhopal memorial with an estimated expenditure of Rs. 116.18 crore was received

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

again from the Government of Madhya Pradesh in November, 2009. The State Government of Madhya Pradesh was again advised to take up the matter directly with Planning Commission for required funds.

Fertilizers subsidy and agricultural productivity

3381. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether grants on fertilizers have gone up to Rs. 1,00,000 crore at present, from Rs. 12,800 crore in the year 2001-02;

(b) whether productivity has increased by only 6.92 per cent during the said period;

(c) whether the above shows that there is no positive correlation between fertilizer subsidy and agricultural productivity; and

(d) whether it also shows that subsidy fattens the industry instead of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): The total expenditure on subsidy/concession for all fertilizers during the year 2001-02 was Rs. 12695.02 crores (Gross) and during 2009-10, the expenditure was Rs. 64,032.29 crores (Gross).

(b) The average productivity of food grains was 1734 kg/ha during the year 2001-02 and this has increased to 1798 kg/ha during the year 2009-10.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Fertilizer subsidy is the difference between the normative delivered cost of fertilizers and the notified selling prices of the subsidized fertilizers. The subsidy is provided to fertilizer manufacturers/importers to covers the gap between the normative delivered costs of subsidized fertilizers and the notified selling prices (MRPs) at the farm gate level. Accordingly, subsidy is disbursed to farmers in the form of subsidized fertilizers.

Supply of quality fertilizers

3382. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the national policy on supply of quality fertilizers to farmers;

(b) the annual requirement of fertilizers and reasons for short supply;

(c) the quantum of fertilizers imported during last five years and their value;

(d) the details of subsidies extended on fertilizers for the last five years, year-wise, and whether Government is planning to scale down these subsidies;

(e) whether Government is aware of smuggling of fertilizers from India to neighbouring countries;

(f) if so, details thereof and measures taken to curb the same; and

(g) the measures taken by Government to encourage utilization of bio-fertilizers in place of chemical fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Government of India has declared fertilizer as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and has notified Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 under the said Act. The quality of fertilizers is regulated under the Fertilizer Control Order, 1985. As per the provision of the Fertilizer Control Order, 1985, fertilizers, which meet the standard of quality laid down in the order can only be sold to the farmers. The State Governments are adequately empowered to take appropriate action against the sellers of non-standard fertilizers. The penal provision includes prosecution of offenders and sentence if convicted upto seven years imprisonment under the ECA, 1955 besides cancellation of authorization certificate and other administrative action. There are 71 fertilizer testing laboratories including four laboratories of the Government of India at Faridabad, Kalyani, Mumbai and Chennai with an annual analyzing capacity of 1.34 lakh samples. During the year 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09, the percentage of samples of fertilizers declared non-standard at all India level were 6.0%, 6.2% and 5.5% respectively.

(b) The requirement of major fertilizers for each crop season is assessed by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) in consultation with the Agriculture Departments of State Governments. For the current Kharif season (April'10 to September'10), the DAC has assessed requirement of 136.64 LMT of Urea, 68.74 LMT of DAP 22.98 LMT of MOP and 48.69 LMT of complex fertilizers. 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 to fill up the gap between the assessed requirement and indigenous production of Urea. 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 and Cooperation. Government is paying subsidy on these fertilizers under Nutrient Based Subsidy policy. Union Government monitors availability within the State. The State-wise requirement (demand) availability and sales of fertilizers during the years 2010-11 (April to July) is given in the Statement (See below). As can be seen, the availability of fertilizers is adequate.

(c) The year-wise import of Urea, DAP and MOP during the last five years and value is given below:

(in crores)						
Year	Imported Urea		Imported DAP/ MAP/TSP		Imported MOP	
	Imports	Value	Imports	Value	Imports	Value
	(LMT)	(in crores)	(LMT)	(million US\$)	(LMT)	(million

US\$)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2005-06	20.57	1748.42	28.28	837.20	45.29	906.71
2006-07	47.19	4647.23	28.76	947.35	34.48	724.08
2007-08	69.28	8338.70	32.39	1582.88	44.21	1129.57

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2008-09	56.67	11091.87	67.57	7343.70	53.46	2954.79
2009-10	52.10	5754.01	60.29	2207.99	52.43	2464.47

(d) Fertilizers are provided to the farmers in the States at subsidized rates. Expenditure on fertilizer subsidy in the last five years is as follows:

(in crores)					
Year	Indigenous P and K	Indigenous Urea	Imported P and K	Imported Urea	Total
2005-06	4499.20	10625.57	2096.99	2140.88	19389.64
2006-07	6648.17	12650.37	3649.95	5071.06	28019.55
2007-08	10333.80	16450.37	6600.00	9935.14	43319.31
2008-09	32957.10	20968.74	32597.50	12971.38	99494.72
2009-10	16000.00	17580.25	23452.06	6999.63	64031.94

Under the Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy (NBS), subsidy for indigenous and imported P and K fertilizers has been announced for 2010-11 based on the prevailing prices and price trends of fertilizers in the International market. Subsidy for indigenous urea is provided based on the New Price Scheme-III. The prices of imported fertilizers have not registered any substantial change in the International market in the period April, 2010-July, 2010. Further marginal decrease in prices, if any, has been offset by the adverse/US\$ exchange rate.

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

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

(g) The Government is promoting integrated Nutrient Management involving use of bio fertilizers and organic manures in conjunction

with chemical fertilizers, Under National Project on Organic Farming 25% credit linked back-ended subsidy upto Rs. 40 lakh is provided to private entrepreneurs for establishment of bio fertilizers production units through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).

Statement

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

(Fig. in 000'MTs)

States	Urea			DAP+NPK			MOP		
	Requirement	Availability*	Sales*	Requirement	Availability*	Sales*	Requirement	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	655.00	753.12	678.33	865.00	1087.74	1042.57	125.00	111.23	89.24
Karnataka	405.00	468.29	460.02	897.10	964.97	923.19	166.20	142.37	127.84
Kerala	55.75	52.94	50.25	107.70	103.35	96.29	60.20	64.24	59.75
Tamil Nadu	275.00	236.90	236.03	239.00	245.40	237.75	182.00	107.44	102.70
Gujarat	565.00	590.14	585.79	499.50	509.61	479.21	70.00	59.62	56.33
Madhya Pradesh	417.60	419.58	409.14	490.40	506.52	466.89	37.10	60.14	47.17
Chhattisgarh	430.25	273.48	269.68	288.17	250.05	241.56	72.00	45.65	41.67
Maharashtra	880.00	913.08	905.93	1312.40	1309.42	1287.03	205.00	191.73	172.17
Rajasthan	327.00	301.76	271.18	234.30	240.19	234.02	17.50	18.23	11.97
Haryana	585.00	565.18	550.44	217.00	313.61	296.46	21.00	26.02	21.69
Punjab	950.00	1044.97	1036.08	350.00	313.05	298.78	36.00	38.15	24.67
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Himachal Pradesh	30.00	29.07	28.88	8.00	6.52	6.47	0.35	0.00	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	66.92	71.93	89.19	43.45	31.56	28.31	14.53	0.94	0.93
Uttar Pradesh	1810.00	1610.65	1363.52	1005.00	955.13	889.81	90.00	61.25	35.61
Uttarakhand	92.00	90.18	84.13	35.35	45.97	39.59	4.50	1.77	1.53
Bihar	490.00	424.26	384.47	260.00	195.29	171.76	65.00	48.01	37.71
Jharkhand	73.00	56.40	49.94	76.50	41.88	37.20	7.00	3.61	3.61
Orissa	155.00	129.44	110.49	215.00	221.39	198.73	62.00	50.36	42.46
West Bengal	240.10	307.34	267.97	369.59	359.64	337.81	80.97	68.25	61.35
Assam	79.20	123.23	118.04	15.16	15.23	11.96	39.60	26.37	25.45
ALL INDIA	8648.03	8480.74	7947.19	7561.45	7729.58	7341.69	1370.05	1126.60	965.26

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

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

Introduction of universal PDS

3383. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce universal PDS in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to introduce new commodities in the list of PDS; 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) There is no proposal to introduce Universal PDS in the country. Government is implementing Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) since June 1997. Under TPDS, foodgrains (rice, wheat and coarse grains) and sugar are allocated to all State and UT Governments for distribution to ration card holders at subsidized prices through Fair Price Shops and Kerosene Oil through Kerosene dealers. Allocations of foodgrains are made by Government to accepted number of BPL/AAY families @35 kg. per family per month. Allocations are made to Above Poverty Line (APL) families depending upon the availability of stocks in central pool and the past offtake by the States.

In addition to the commodities allocated by Central Government under TPDS, State/UT Governments have been advised to allow FPS licensees to enlarge basket of commodities by allowing sale of non-PDS items of daily use as per local requirements in order to make the fair price shops economically viable. The non-PDS commodities being sold by some State/UT Governments include pulses, iodized salt, edible oils, chillies.

Rottening of foodgrains

3384. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether 30 lakh tonnes of foodgrain stock were reported to

have rotted due to
failure to lift stocks and also alleged poor storage in the Food
Corporation of India (FCI) godowns;

(b) if so, the details of quantity and value of foodgrains
damaged/rotted, State-wise including Punjab and Haryana;

(c) whether the Supreme Court has asked the Central Government to
explain as to why these stocks were not given to poor families instead
of wasting; and

(d) if so, the corrective steps taken by Government to check such wastage in future in order to compensate the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) No Sir, however, due to recent rains, some quantity of wheat and rice got damaged in various regions of FCI including Punjab and Haryana. Details of region-wise commodity-wise stock position of these damaged/non-issuable foodgrains in FCI depots and damage to wheat and rice stocks by recent rains and floods in various States are given in the Statement (See below). Based on acquisition cost and likely sale price of recently damaged wheat and rice quantified so far, the loss works out to Rs. 21.14 lakhs.

(c) and (d) No Sir, Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Order passed on 27.7.2010 and 12.8.2010 has *inter-alia* suggested Government of India to consider some short term measures including distribution foodgrains to deserving population at a very low cost or not cost.

In order to check the wastage of foodgrains, FCI has informed that the instructions for safe storage of foodgrains have been reiterated to field functionaries for strict compliance. Besides, following steps are being taken for proper storage, movement and safe upkeep of foodgrains in FCI.

- (i) All FCI godowns to be constructed as per specifications and foodgrains stored by adopting scientific storage practices.
- (ii) Adequate dunnage materials, fumigation covers and chemicals to be provided in all the godowns.
- (iii) Prophylactic and curative treatments to be carried out regularly and timely for the control of stored grain insect pests and rodents.
- (iv) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage to be stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates to be used as dunnage material. Stacks should be properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.
- (v) Regular inspections of the stocks/godowns are to be undertaken by qualified and trained staff of FCI.
- (vi) The principle of "First-In-First-Out" (FIFO) is to be adopted

to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.

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

FCI is not storing the Farmer's stock in FCI godown.

Statement

Details of region-wise commodity-wise stock position in FCI

(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
Assam/Arunachal Pradesh	0	159	0	159	989775
NEF (Meghalaya/Mizoram/Tripura)	0	139	0	139	865275
Nagaland and 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 and 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
Karnataka	0	31	0	31	192975
Tamil Nadu	1	0	0	1	4575
Gujarat	1396	61	0	1457	6766425

1	2	3	4	5	6
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 Officers of FCI as on 01.07.10.

Punjab : 54260 tons

Haryana : 1574 nos.

(B) 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	Harduaganj	9.3
	Orai, Jalaun	90
	Saharanpur, CWC, Bamanheri	0.5
	CWC, Saharanpur, Pilkhani	29.2
	Roza, Shahjahanpur	1.0
	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, Damage	yet to be quantified
	Kurukshetra	
Punjab	Food and Supply, Jundla	Damage yet to be quantified
	CAP Complex Khonuri, Sangrur	Damage yet to be quantified
	3 Punjab Agro Agro CAP	Damage yet to be quantified
	Complexes, Sangrur	
	Pungrain Talwandi, Ferozepur	Damage yet to be quantified
	Markfed CAP Complex, Zira	Damage yet to be quantified
	Ferozepur	

1	2	3
	2 Punjab Agro CAP Complex, Damage yet to be quantified Ferozepur	
Uttarakhand	SWC Gadarpur, Udham Singh Damage yet to be quantified Nagar	
Maharashtra	FCI Karad	8
	FCI Condia	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

Distribution of essential commodities through Government outlets

3385. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the States who have taken steps to distribute essential commodities at subsidised rates through Government outlets; and

(b) the details of the subsidised price index of pulses and edible oils, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Uttar Pradesh State Employees Corporation through its 160 outlets/mobile vans is selling pulses at subsidized rates. Government of Delhi have taken steps to distribute essential commodities such as Pulses through Kendriya Bhandar, Mother Dairy and National Consumer Cooperative Federation (NCCF) with cooperation of Delhi Grain Merchant Association at subsidized rates as given in Statement (See below). Whole wheat fortified Atta is also being sold through Kendriya Bhandar, NCCF, National Agricultural Cooperative Market Federation (NAFED) etc. in Delhi. Edible oils are not sold at subsidized rate in Delhi through Government outlets.

Statement

Details of rates at which Pulses were sold through Kendriya Bhandar, Mother Dairy and NCCF with cooperation of Delhi Grain Merchant Association in Delhi

(Unit: Rs./kg.)			
Sl.No.	Commodity	Rates under	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	Channa (Whole)	31	Sales stopped w.e.f. 16.8.2010

1	2	3	4
2.	Channa (Dal)	32	Sales stopped w.e.f. 16.8.2010
3.	Arhar	70	-do-
4.	Masoor (Black)	46	-do-
5.	Malka (Red)	52	-do-
6.	Urad (Washed)	55	Sales Stopped w.e.f. 20.4.2010
7.	Urad dal (Whole)	45	-do-
8.	Moong (Washed)	81	-do-
9.	Rajma (Chitra)	41	Sales Stopped w.e.f. 16.8.2010
10.	Kabli Gram	43	-do-

Source: State Civil Supplies Department, Government of Delhi

Setting up of WDRA

3386. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided for setting up of Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA); and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the functions and duties assigned to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA) is in the process of being set up under the provisions of Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007. The Act provides for negotiability of Warehouse receipts, development and regulation of Warehouses and establishment of WDRA. WDRA will register and accredit warehouses intending to issue negotiable warehouse receipts and put in place a system of quality certification and grading of commodities with a view to protect the interest of holders of warehouse receipts against negligence, malpractices and fraud. The powers and functions of WDRA given in Section 35 of the aforesaid Act, are given in the Statement.

Statement

Powers and functions of Authority given in Section 35 of the Warehousing

(Development and Regulation) Act, 2007

35. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act and any other law for the time being in force, the Authority shall have the duty to regulate and ensure implementation of the provisions of this Act and promote orderly growth of the warehousing business.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the forgoing provisions, the powers and functions of the Authority shall include the following, namely:-

- (a) to issue to the applicants fulfilling the requirements for warehousemen a certificate of registration in respect of warehouses, or renew, modify, withdraw, suspend or cancel such registration;
- (b) to regulate the registration and functioning of accreditation agency, renew, modify, withdraw, suspend or cancel such registration, and specify the code of conduct for officials of accreditation agencies for accreditation of the warehouses;
- (c) to specify the qualifications, code of conduct and practical training for warehousemen and staff engaged in warehousing business;
- (d) to regulate the process of pledge, creation of charges and enforcement thereof in respect of goods deposited with the warehouse;
- (e) to promote efficiency in conduct of warehouse business;
- (f) to make regulations laying down the standards for approval of certifying agencies for grading of goods;
- (g) to promote professional organisations connected with the warehousing business;
- (h) to determine the rate of, and levy, the fees and other charges for carrying out the provisions of this Act;
- (i) to call for information from, undertaking inspection of, conducting enquiries and investigations including audit of the warehouses, accreditation agencies and other organizations connected with the warehousing business;
- (j) to regulate the rates, advantages, terms and conditions that may be offered by warehousemen in respect of warehousing business;
- (k) to specify, by regulations, the form and manner in which books of account shall be maintained and statement of accounts shall be rendered by warehousemen;
- (l) to maintain a panel of arbitrators and to nominate arbitrators from such panel in disputes between warehouses and warehouse receipt holders;

- (m) to regulate and develop electronic system of holding and transfer of credit balances of fungible goods deposited in the warehouses;
- (n) to determine the minimum percentage of space to be kept reserved for storage of agricultural commodities in a registered warehouse;
- (o) to specify the duties and responsibilities of the warehouseman;
- (p) to exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be prescribed.

New sugar mills in Gujarat

3387. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from Government of Gujarat to set up new sugar mills at Surat, Mehsana, Bharuch and Rajkot districts;

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

(c) the steps taken to expedite the process of setting up of new sugar mills in these districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The Central Government has not received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat to set up sugar mills at Surat, Mehsana, Bharuch and Rajkot districts.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Universal Food Security

3388. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is actively considering a proposal placed in the National Advisory Council (NAC) meeting that Universal Food Security be implemented irrespective of BPL/APL people;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has invited opinion of various State Governments regarding this;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the likely time-frame by which this Universal Food Security project will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The National Advisory Council (NAC) has not made any recommendation to the Government.

(b) to (e) In view of the above, do not arise.

Prices of sugar made products

†3389. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that price of sugar has been decreased now by 25 per cent to 30 per cent in comparison to last months in the country;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the prices of sugar-made products, which have seen price hike owing to increase in the price of sugar, have still not been decreased;

(d) if so, the name of such products; and

(e) whether any effort is being made by Government to control their prices by intervening in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The price of sugar in the domestic market have now decreased in comparison to last few months responding to the measures taken by Government to augment domestic availability of sugar and moderate sugar prices. The retail price of sugar in Delhi has decreased from peak level of Rs. 47 per kg. on 15.01.2010 to Rs. 31 per kg. i.e. decrease of 34%.

(c) to (e) The Central Government does not control the prices of sugar-made products in the open market. As such, the question of controlling prices of such products does not arise.

Role of retailer in price increase of pulses

†3390. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a huge difference in the prices of pulses between the retail market and factory rate prices;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and whether Government has investigated the matter;

(c) if so, the details of the said investigation report; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that the profit share of seller in retail market plays a vital role in the price hike of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The details of the retail and wholesale prices of pulses along with their variation in 4 Metros viz. Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai are given in the Statement (See below).

A Conference of Chief Ministers was held on 6th February, 2010 to discuss the issues relating to prices of essential commodities. The

conference recommended the constitution of a Standing Core Group of State Chief Ministers and concerned Central Ministers to deliberate on and recommend measures to contain price rise. Accordingly, a Standing Core Group constituted under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Prime Minister

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

met on 8th April, 2010 in which it was decided *inter alia*, that a Working Group on Consumer Affairs chaired by Chief Minister, Gujarat, with Chief Minister Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Chief Minister Tamil Nadu as members be constituted to suggest strategies/plan of action *inter alia* for:

(i) Increasing efficiency of distribution channels from farm to consumers.

(ii) Reducing intermediation costs and for reducing gap between farm gate and retail prices.

(d) Wholesale/retail prices are largely determined by the market forces. Different layers in the distribution channel and lack of market integration lead to the entry of intermediaries and contribute to the high prices paid by the consumer. There are other factors which affect the prices spread, such as: (i) transportation and handling costs (ii) Wholesalers Margin (iii) packaging and other marketing expenses at retail, (iv) retailers mark-up, (v) various taxes levied by different State Government e.g. octroi duty, (vi) the location of the market and the nature of the consumer group covered by that market.

Statement

*Details of variation in wholesale and retail prices of
Essential Commodities in Metros*

(as on 20.8.10)

Commodity/Centre	Retail Prices (Rs./Kg.)	Wholesale Prices (Rs./Kg.)	Variation
1	2	3	4
Gram Dal			
Chennai	34	30	4
Delhi	35	27	8
Kolkata	32	27.50	4.5
Mumbai	34	28.75	5.25
Tur Dal			
Chennai	66.50	62	4.50
Delhi	71	61.25	9.75
Kolkata	58	50	8
Mumbai	64	53.25	10.75

Urad Dal

Chennai	78	72	6
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1	2	3	4
Delhi	73	63.75	9.25
Kolkata	68	61.80	6.20
Mumbai	73	71.25	1.75
Moong Dal			
Chennai	79	68	11
Delhi	83	72	11
Kolkata	75	66	9
Mumbai	80	71.25	8.75
Masoor Dal			
Chennai	48	44	4
Delhi	54	44.75	0.25
Kolkata	48	40.50	7.50
Mumbai	50	42.75	7.25

Source: State Civil Supplies Department NR – Not Reported

NT – Not Traded

Revival of sick sugar mills

3391. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:

SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE:

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

(a) the quantum of money lying in Sugar Development Fund and for what purpose(s) the same is utilized;

(b) the details of funds disbursed to sick sugar mills for their revival in the State of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the action taken by Government for rehabilitation and modernization of sugar mills and development of sugarcane areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) As on 31.07.2010, an amount of Rs. 136.1139 crore was available in the Sugar Development Fund. The Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982 provides for the following purposes for which the Fund shall be applied:—

(i) Making loans for facilitating the rehabilitation and modernization of any sugar factory or any unit thereof;

including to a potentially viable sugar undertaking.

- (ii) Making loans for undertaking any schemes for development of sugarcane in the area in which any sugar factory is situated, including to a potentially viable sugar undertaking.
 - (iii) Making grants for the purpose of carrying out any research project aimed at the promotion and development of any aspect of Sugar Industry.
 - (iv) Defraying expenditure of a sugar factory on internal transport and freight charges on export shipment of sugar with a view to promoting its export.
 - (v) Making loans to any sugar factory having an installed capacity of 2500 TCD or higher to implement a project of bagass-based co-generation of power.
 - (vi) Making loans to any sugar factory having an installed capacity of 2500 TCD or higher for production of anhydrous alcohol or ethanol from alcohol or molasses with a view to improving its viability.
 - (vii) Defraying expenditure to sugar factory for the purpose of building up and maintenance of buffer stock with a view to stabilizing price of sugar.
 - (viii) Defraying expenditure for the purpose of financial assistance to sugar factories towards interest on loans given in terms of any scheme approved by the Central Government from time to time.
 - (ix) Defraying any other expenditure for the purpose of the Act.
- (b) No funds have so far been disbursed to sick sugar mills for their revival in the States of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh as no applications have been received in this regard.
- (c) The Sugar Development Fund provides for giving soft loans to the sugar factories for their rehabilitation/modernization and also for development of sugarcane in their respective areas. Since inception and upto 31.07.2010 an amount of Rs. 210062.9 lakh and Rs. 72933.05 lakh, has been disbursed to the sugar factories for their modernization and sugarcane development respectively.

Construction of godowns

3392. 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 physical and financial targets set for

construction of godowns during 2009-10 in respect of North-Eastern States as well as other States;

(b) whether Government has achieved the targets; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the measures taken to step up construction of godowns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) As against a physical target of

10,420 tonnes for construction of godowns by FCI in 2009-10, the achievement has been 9,170 tonnes. The financial target for 2009-10 for construction of godowns by FCI was Rs. 20.15 crores, against which the expenditure was 24.49 crores.

(c) For construction of godowns by FCI in the country including the North-Eastern States during the Eleventh Five Year Plan the Planning Commission has allocated Rs. 125 crores. As a long-term measure to step up creation of 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 Corporations

Coverage of middle income group under PDS

3393. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to revamp the Public Distribution System in the country so as to cover the middle income group of population who are mostly not entitled to this facility as they are income tax payers but are at present hard hit by unprecedented food inflation in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when that is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) With a view to specifically target poor sections of society for distribution of subsidized foodgrains (rice, wheat and coarse grains) and sugar, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) was launched in June, 1997. Foodgrains are allocated by the Government of India under TPDS to 6.52 crore accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, which includes 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families @ 35 kg. per family per month. However, a take care of the Above Poverty Line (APL) families, which include the middle income group, depending upon the availability of foodgrains in the central pool and past offtake, the allocations are also made to APL families. At present, allocation to APL families ranges between 15 kg. and 35 kg. per family per month in different States. To check rise in prices, additional *adhoc* foodgrain allocations of 36.08 lakh tonnes have been made in January and

February, 2010, 30.66 lakh tonnes in May, 2010 and 27.41 lakh tonnes in August, 2010.

Action taken on Tendulkar Committee Report

3394. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has considered Tendulkar Committee Report on the number of people living below poverty line;

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

(c) whether there is any contradiction in the number of BPL families mentioned in this report and other reports; and

(d) the action taken by Government on the recommendations of Tendulkar Committee Report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Planning Commission is the nodal agency of the Government of India for estimating poverty at National and State levels. For allocation of foodgrains (wheat and rice) to States and Union Territories (UTs) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and the population estimates of the Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000 or the number of such families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by the State/UT Governments, whichever is less. As per these estimates, the number of BPL families is 6.52 crore, which includes 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families.

Planning Commission constituted an Expert Group to review the methodology of estimation of poverty under the chairmanship of Prof. Suresh Dr. Tendulkar. The Expert Group submitted its report in December, 2009. As per Planning Commission, the Expert Group has, *inter-alia*, estimated all-India rural poverty headcount ratio for 2004-05 at 41.8%, urban poverty headcount ratio at 25.7% and All India level at 37.2%.

In the Mid Term Appraisal of the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12), it has been indicated that the revised poverty lines recommended by the Tendulkar Committee have been accepted by the Planning Commission for 2004-05.

Ministry of Rural Development constituted an Expert Group to suggest methodology for conducting the next BPL census in rural areas. In the report submitted by the Expert Group under the chairmanship of Dr. N.C. Saxena, it is mentioned that the percentage of people entitled to BPL status should be revised upwards to at least 50%. However, the terms of reference of the Expert Group to advise the Ministry of Rural Development on the methodology for conducting the BPL Census for the Eleventh Five Year Plan does not include estimation of poverty. The report of the Expert Group has been considered by an inter-ministerial core group. Ministry of Rural Development is in process of conducting a pre-testing study to establish the final methodologies for identification of the rural poor.

Reforming TPDS

3395. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of Food Secretaries on best practices and reforms in Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) was held in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas for improving the PDS taken up in the said conference;

(d) whether a pilot scheme on smart card based delivery of essential commodities under TPDS has been launched; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard and the time by when this pilot scheme will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) A conference of Food Secretaries of States and Union Territories (UTs) and other officials on Best Practices and Reforms in Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) was held on 12th and 13th July, 2010. In the said conference, it was resolved, among others, to ensure proper identification of beneficiaries, timely distribution of foodgrains, increase viability of Fair Price Shops (FPSs), enhancing storage capacities, use of technology based initiatives in TPDS and increase public awareness.

(d) and (e) To improve quality of delivery of services under TPDS and to assess replicability of new technologies, a pilot scheme on smart card based delivery of TPDS commodities has been approved for Chandigarh and Haryana in December, 2008. Implementing agencies of this scheme are NIC, State Government of Haryana and Chandigarh UT Administration. Under the scheme, the existing ration cards are to be replaced by smart cards. These smart cards will contain bio-metric features of the adult members of the ration card holder families.

As reported by the Administration of Chandigarh UT and Government of Haryana, they have completed trial run of smart card based transaction of TPDS commodities in June, 2010 in their respective States. The pilot scheme was launched in the Conference of Food Secretaries of States and UTs and other officials held on 12th and 13th July, 2010, by issuing smart cards to some TPDS beneficiaries of Haryana.

Use of biometric machine

3396. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States who have implemented Biometric Identification System for targeted public distribution in the country so far;

(b) whether Government has made any analysis of the effectiveness of the Biometric Identification System implemented for public distribution:

(c) whether there is any request from Kerala State Government

pending for financial assistance for implementation of Biometric Identification System for PDS in the State; and

(d) if so, the action taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Some States/Union Territories (UTs) such as Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Delhi and Chandigarh have taken up implementation of Biometric Identification System for TPDS.

Government has approved implementation of a pilot scheme on Smart Card based delivery of essential commodities under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in Chandigarh Union Territory (UT) and States of Haryana. Under the scheme, the existing ration cards will be replaced by Smart Cards which will have biometric features (fingerprints) of adult members of beneficiary families, based on which verification of genuineness of the beneficiary family will take place and only thereafter the essential commodities will be issued to them from the fair price shops. After implementation of the scheme in pilot States, it will be evaluated so as to assess the cost benefits, suitability of technology and the feasibility of replicability in other States/UTs.

Government of Kerala has recently submitted a proposal for Central financial assistance for implementation of Biometric Identification based Integrated Public Distribution System. After the evaluation of the pilot scheme, it will be considered to be rolled out in other States/UTs, including the State of Kerala.

Expansion of coverage of BPL under PDS

3397. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to expand the coverage of BPL under Public Distribution System to 8.07 crores from current 6.52 crore based on acceptance of Tendulkar Committee's poverty projections for 2011 by Planning Commission;

(b) whether this will entail outgo of about 34 million tonnes of foodgrains annually and food subsidy of about Rs. 54,000 crore annually on BPL account alone; and

(c) if so, whether Government has sent the proposal for approval of Empowered Group of Ministers and to what extent they have agreed and by when final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) For allocation of foodgrains (wheat and rice) to States and Union Territories (UTs) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and the population estimates of the Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000 or the number of such families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by the State/UT Governments, whichever is

less. As per these estimates, the number of BPL families is 6.52 crore, which includes 2.43 crores Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. Allocation of foodgrains to these 6.52 crore BPL families are made @ 35 kg. per family per month.

Planning Commission constituted an Expert Group to review the methodology of estimation of poverty under the chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar. The Expert Group submitted its report in December, 2009. As per Planning Commission, the Expert Group has, *inter-alia*, estimated all-India rural poverty headcount ratio for 2004-05 at 41.8% urban poverty headcount ratio at 25.7% and All India level at 37.2%.

In the Mid Term Appraisal of the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12), it has been indicated that the revised poverty lines recommended by the Tendulkar Committee have been accepted by the Planning Commission for 2004-05.

The revision of the number of beneficiaries based on poverty estimates of the Planning Commission, the foodgrains requirements and subsidy implications, etc. are under consideration of an Empowered Group of Ministers constituted to consider all issues concerning the proposed law on food security.

Import of foodgrains

†3398. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a short term solution to control rising prices, Government is considering to import food items; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and in times when prices of food items are on an increase worldwide, how the import would check rising prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) In view of the higher level of procurement of food grains (wheat, rice and coarse grains) during crop year 2007-08, 2008-09 and in the current procurement season crop year 2009-10 and considering present level of allocations made under Targeted Public Distribution System and other Welfare Schemes, there is no proposal to consider import of food grains (wheat, rice and coarse grains) for the Central Pool. However, the import of wheat and rice on private account at zero duty is permitted. In the case of sugar also there has been no import of sugar on Government account.

There is no import of pulses on government account. However, Government has permitted import of pulses at zero duty. In order to augment domestic availability of pulses, Government encourages import of pulses under two schemes (i) Scheme for import of pulses of PSUs against reimbursement of losses up to 15% of landed cost and services charge of 1.2% of CIF value (ii) Distribution of imported pulses by State Governments through PDS, @1 kg per family per month at a subsidy of Rs. 10 per kg.

Outstanding cane price arrear

3399. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER

AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugarcane arrear is required to be paid within 14 days of supply of sugarcane by the farmers;

(b) whether cane price arrears pertaining to sugar season 2007-08 and earlier are still pending;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the measures taken by the State Governments concerned to recover cane price arrears from defaulting sugar mills as per the provisions of Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966; and

(d) the quantum of outstanding cane price arrears as on 31 December, 2009, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) As per provisions of the Sugarcane (control) Order, 1966, sugar mills are required to pay for cane purchased from sugarcane growers within 14 days from the date of delivery of sugarcane unless there is an agreement in writing to the contrary between the parties.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The measures taken by the sugar producing States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh, to recover the cane price arrears from defaulting sugar mills as per the provisions of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 are given in the Statement-I (See below).

(d) The quantum of the State-wise cane price arrears as on 31.12.2009 for the sugar seasons, 2009-10, 2008-09 and 2007-08 and earlier seasons are indicated in the Statement-II (See below). The cane price arrears have since considerably reduced.

Statement

Measures taken by the State Governments to recover cane price arrears from defaulting sugar mills as per the provisions of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966

Andhra Pradesh:- For the sugar season 2002 – an amount of Rs. 33.09 crore is pending against 12 sugar factories due to court case. Hence, no action could be taken to recover the same. For sugar season 2007-08 season, an amount of Rs. 40.00 lac is pending against Nizamabad Coop Sugar Ltd.

Bihar:- Two sugar factories are defaulters for previous sugarcane price dues viz., Bagha and Motihari. Certificate cases have been filed to realize the dues against them.

Gujarat:- The Director of Sugar, Government of Gujarat has strictly instructed concerned co-operative sugar factories to pay cane arrears to the cane growers at the earliest.

Karnataka:- Recovery Certificate have been issued against four sugar mills in the State.

Maharashtra:- Revenue Recovery Certificate have been issued against the defaulting sugar factories. Revenue Recovery Certificates have been issued against 18 cooperative sugar factories.

Punjab:- There are no cane price arrears the State, in respect of 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 sugar seasons.

Uttar Pradesh:- For the crushing season 2009-10 notices have been issued against the defaulter sugar mills. Recovery Certificate against the Gadaura, Hargaon, Ajra, Seohara, Malakpur, Modinagar, Gagalhery has been issued. Only one sugar mill in the private sector, Kamalapur sugar mill is defaulter. Recovery certificate have been issued against the mill in 2009. In respect of Sugar season 2007-08, Recovery certificate has been against Majhawali, Gopi and Kamalapur Sugar mills.

Statement

*State-wise and Sugar season-wise position of cane price
arrears as on 31.12.2009*

(Amount Rs. in lac)

Sl. No.	State	Cane price arrears for 2009-10 season	Cane price arrears for 2008-09 season	Cane price arrears for 2007-08 and earlier season	Total cane price arrears (3+4+5)
1.	Punjab	1591.50	0.00	0.00	1591.50
2.	Haryana	4170.92	0.00	0.00	4170.92
3.	Uttar Pradesh	93523.94	268.72	8627.92	102420.58
4.	Uttarakhand	3970.74	0.00	629.73	4600.47
5.	Madhya Pradesh	89.58	0.00	1061.67	1151.25
6.	Gujarat	14629.80	10.17	1197.61	15837.58
7.	Maharashtra	17544.37	36.12	2105.91	19686.40
8.	Bihar	5783.76	31.08	3935.54	9750.38
9.	Andhra Pradesh	21938.55	0.00	3495.46	25434.01
10.	Karnataka	53625.00	438.00	3318.00	57381.01
11.	Tamil Nadu	8517.29	342.79	215.94	9076.02
12.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	384.74	387.74
13.	Orissa	276.89	0.00	0.00	276.89
14.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Puducherry	277.18	0.00	0.00	277.18
16.	Goa	295.63	0.00	0.00	295.63

TOTAL :	226235.15	1126.88	24972.52	252334.55
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National policy for procurement of foodgrains

3400. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of national policy for procurement of major foodgrains;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has been procuring food items beyond prescribed norms;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the current storage facilities are not sufficient to meet the procurement levels;

(e) the details of storage facility required and currently available;

(f) whether Government is contemplating policy of involving private sector to create storage facilities; and

(g) 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) Under the existing policy for foodgrains procurement, Government procures food grains (wheat, rice and coarse grains) conforming to uniform specifications at Minimum Support Price (MSP) from the farmers through Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State agencies procuring on behalf of FCI for the Central Pool. As such, procurement of food grains is open ended wherein all the food grains offered by farmers are procured. Farmers have a choice to sell it to FCI/State Agencies at MSP or to sell it to the open market whichever is advantageous to them. Because of remunerative MSP, procurement as percentage of production has been increasing.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The total storage capacity available with the FCI (as on 31.6.2010) and State agencies (as on 31.3.2010) is 601.94 lakh MTs of which covered is 409.78 lakh MTs. The total stock in central pool as on 1.8.2010 was 544.30 lakh tonnes.

(f) and (g) To augment 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 and also constructing 10.74 lakh tonnes capacity on their own lands.

In addition FCI is constructing godowns under Plan funds in NE States, Jammu and Kashmir, U.T. of Lakshadweep and new procuring States of Orissa, Bihar and Karnataka. The details of project of constructed of godowns by FCI in Eleventh Plan are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of project of construction of godowns by FCI in Eleventh Plan

(A) Projects completed by FCI under Eleventh Plan

		Capacity in MTs		
Sl. No.	Name of Zone/ Centre	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
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	10,000

(B) 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
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/Uttar Pradesh	2,500

1	2	3
2.	Dungrapally/Orissa	10,000
3.	Baripada/Orissa	10,000
4	Mohania/Bihar	25,000
5.	Udhampur/Jammu and Kashmir	15,000
6.	Budgam/Jammu and Kashmir	20,000

Remunerative price for sugarcane

3401. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugarcane growers are not being provided remunerative price for their produce;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be 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) to (c) No, Sir. In order to provide remunerative price for sugarcane to the farmers, the Central Government revised the sugarcane pricing policy by amending the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 on 22.10.2009, i.e. by inserting a 7th criteria under Clause 3(1), which now provides that the farmers will be given margins on account of profit and risk for supplies of their cane. Accordingly, from 2009-10 sugar seasons onwards, the Central Government is fixing a Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) for sugarcane instead of Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) being given earlier. The FRP now gives margins on account of profit and risk payable to the farmers upfront which was not available earlier under SMP.

Accordingly, the FRP payable by sugar mills for 2009-10 sugar season was determined at Rs. 129.84 per quintal, linked to a basic recovery rate of 9.5% subject to a premium of Rs. 13.7 for every 0.1 percentage point increase above that level. The FRP fixed at Rs. 129.84 per quintal for 2009-10 sugar season was about 51% higher than the SMP of sugarcane of 2008-09 calculated at 9.5% basic recovery rate. The FRP for 2010-11 sugar season has been determined at Rs. 139.12 per quintal subject to a premium of Rs. 1.46 for every 0.1 percentage point increase in recovery above that level.

Introduction of Smart Card System

3402. 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 Government is planning to introduce a Smart Card System which would be linked to Unique Identification Card (UIC);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the existing practice of supplying foodgrains to States or giving cash payments to States or cash transfer would also go side-by-side where UICs are not issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Government has approved implementation of a pilot scheme on Smart Card based delivery of essential commodities under TPDS in Chandigarh Union Territory (UT) and State of Haryana. Under it, eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families would be issued Smart Cards in place of existing ration cards which will have biometric features of the family members, based on which verification of genuineness of the BPL families will take place and only thereafter the essential commodities would be issued to them from the Fair Price Shops (FPSs).

Under Targeted Public Distributions System (TPDS) allocation of foodgrains to States/UTs are made by Government of India on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and March, 2000 population estimates of Registrar General of India. Accordingly, allocation of foodgrains are made to 6.52 crore BPL families including 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families.

State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Government of NCT of Delhi submitted proposals for direct disbursement of food subsidy in cash of BPL/AAY families on pilot basis in five district, namely, Lakhimpur Kheri and Hardoi in Uttar Pradesh, Panchkula and Jhajjar in Haryana and Central District in Delhi, instead of distribution of foodgrains to them under TPDS. Based on those proposals, a draft scheme has been prepared to test the feasibility of this alternative mode of transfer of food subsidy to BPL/AAY families under TPDS.

Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has proposed Aadhaar based reforms in Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). In this connection, a Task Force has been constituted with the responsibility of working out the modalities of the existing projects including the Smart Card Scheme and also to suggest as to how UIDAI will be eventually leveraged.

Special allocation scheme

3403. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has significantly reduced price of wheat and rice given to States under 'special allocation scheme' targeted at Above Poverty Line families;

(b) whether under special allocation scheme each APL family was normally allocated 10 kgs. of foodgrains per head per month over and above allocation made under targeted PDS;

(c) whether this scheme was launched in January, 2010 and the special scheme was in addition to Targeted Public Distribution System; and

(d) if so, the total quantity of wheat and rice to be supplied under scheme to States and to what extent this scheme has been helpful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Apart from the normal allocation of foodgrains made under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) to States/UTs, the Government has made a Special *ad hoc* additional allocation of a total of 10.62 lakh tonnes of rice and 25.46 lakh tonnes of wheat, for the months of January and February, 2010, @ 10 kg. for all accepted number of families including the Above Poverty Line (APL) category under TPDS, at Minimum Support Prices (MSP) based price of wheat @ Rs. 10.80/- per kg. and MSP derived prices of rice @) Rs. 14.93/- per kg. for Common variety of rice and Rs. 15.37/- per kg. for Grade 'A' rice. These allocations were required to be lifted by the States/Union Territories (UTs) upto 25th May, 2010. A total of 9.22 lakh tonnes of foodgrains was lifted by the States/UTs against this allocation.

The Government made a further special *ad hoc* additional of 30.66 lakh tonnes of foodgrains comprising 13.80 lakh tonnes of rice and 16.86 lakh tonnes of wheat to all the States and UTs for the accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL), Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Above Poverty Line (APL) families under TPDS on 19th May, 2010. The above allocations have been made at a subsidized price of Rs. 11.85/- per kg. for rice and Rs. 8.45 per kg. of wheat. The States/UTs have been allowed to lift the allocated quantities upto 20th November, 2010. Against this allocation, as on 25.8.2010, a quantity of 7.52 lakh tonnes of foodgrains have been lifted by the States/UTs.

Subsidy on imported Palmolien

3404. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that imported Palmolien is given a subsidy of Rs. 15/- (Rupees Fifteen) per litre for distribution through PDS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the coconut oil produced in India is not being given such a subsidy;

(d) whether Government of Kerala has requested for providing subsidies

@ Rs. 15/- (Rupees Fifteen) per litre to coconut oil for distribution through PDS;

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

(f) the reason why the Palmolien farmers in foreign countries are indirectly helped while the coconut growers are given a raw deal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) In order to give relief to consumers from rising prices and to augment domestic availability of edible oils in the country, the Government of India had implemented a 'Scheme for distribution of subsidized imported

edible oils through States/UTs' during 2008-09 with a subsidy of Rs. 15/- per kg. till January, 2009 and thereafter Rs. 25/- per kg. upto March, 2009 on edible oil imported by the PSUs and handed over to the States/UTs for distribution to ration card holders at a rate 1 litre per month per family. The Scheme has been extended upto 31.10.2010 envisages an import of upto 10 lakh tonnes of edible oils with a subsidy of Rs. 15/- per kg. of imported edible oil handed over to States for distribution.

(c) to (f) Subsidy under the 'Scheme for distribution of subsidised imported edible oils through States/UTs' is restricted to edible oils imported by PSUs and supplied to the States/UTs for distribution, and that the Scheme had no provision to subsidise domestic oils including coconut oil. The purpose of the Scheme is to provide relief to consumers and to augment domestic availability of edible oils.

Vide its letters dated 12.8.2008, 29.3.2008, 23.6.2009 and 25.6.2009, the Government of Kerala had requested that the subsidy given under the above Scheme may be allowed for coconut oil.

The Government of Kerala had been informed that the subsidy under the Scheme is restricted to edible oils imported by PSUs and there is no provision to subsidise domestic oils including coconut oil.

Hunger deaths

3405. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is thinking of universalisation of Public Distribution System in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure no hunger death in the country; and

(c) the details of hunger death in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) With a view to specifically target poor sections of society for distribution of subsidized foodgrains (rice, wheat and coarse grains) and sugar, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) was launched in June, 1997. Government is not considering to introduce Universal Public Distribution System.

As per reports received from State Governments and Union Territory (UT) Administrations, no incidence of starvation deaths have been reported by them. However, to mitigate the

effect of hunger the Government has been implementing the following schemes for providing foodgrains at highly subsidized prices to the targeted population through the State/UT Governments.

Foodgrains (wheat and rice) are allocated to 6.52 crore accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, including 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families under the

TPDS to States and Union Territories (UTs) @ 35 kg. per family per month. Foodgrains to AAY families are allocated at highly subsidized price of Rs. 3 per kg. for rice and Rs. 2 per kg. for wheat. 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 15 kg. and 35 kg. per family per month.

In addition, foodgrains are allocated by Central Government to States/UTs under different welfare schemes. Under Annapurna scheme, indigent senior citizens 65 years of age or above who are not getting old age pension are provided 10 kg. of foodgrains per person per month free of cost. Under Emergency Feeding Programme, rice at BPL rates is allocated to Government of Orissa for approximately 2 lakh beneficiaries in eight KBK districts of Orissa. Under the Villages Grain Bank Scheme, foodgrains are allocated free of cost of the States of provide to vulnerable families on loan basis to safeguard them against starvation during natural calamity and lean season. Government also makes allocation of foodgrains under Mid-day Meal scheme for providing food to school children studying in primary and upper primary levels. Other such schemes for which foodgrains are allocated include the Scheme for Welfare Institutions, Wheat Based Nutrition Programme and Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls.

Storage of foodgrains

3406. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of foodgrains rotted during last three years in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) who is responsible for this large scale damage of foodgrains; and

(c) whether Government has adequate godowns to store the grains, if not, the reasons for purchasing grains more than the storage capacity and measures proposed to handle this storage problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The quantities of food grains damaged/non-issuable in FCI during last three years in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are as follows:-

(Quantity in tonnes)

Region	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Punjab	23118	16798	2273
Haryana	0	16	0
Uttar Pradesh	40	62	14
Madhya Pradesh	76	14	49

The officials who were found responsible for dereliction of duty were proceeded against. The details for the last three years are as under:-

Year	No. of officials proceeded against for wastage of foodgrains	No. of cases finalized	No. of cases pending
2007-08	31	26	5
2008-09	50	43	7
2009-10	28	25	3
TOTAL:	109	94	15

(c) The storage capacity available with FCI is not adequate to store the present level of foodgrains. As per the policy, procurement of wheat, paddy and coarse grains is open-ended i.e. whatever produce comes to the purchase centres and conforms to Uniform Quality Specifications is purchased by Government agencies at Minimum Support Prices (MSP).

Following steps have taken by FCI to build additional storage capacity:-

- (i) Construction of 149.40 lakh tonnes 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 tonnes capacity have been constructed in its existing complexes in the last one year for CAP storage.

Performance of NGOs under National Literacy Mission

3407. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several literacy projects have been approved by the National Literacy Mission for NGOs during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the performance of NGOs has been reviewed;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by Government against NGOs whose performance has been found unsatisfactory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The number of literacy projects approved by the

National Literacy Mission to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) (State/UT-wise) during the last three years is enclosed as Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) Review of functioning of NGOs is undertaken periodically by the National Literacy Mission Authority internally as well as through third party evaluation. The reviews have shown that the system of monitoring of performance requires further strengthening; financial norms need to be adhered to scrupulously; there is a need to develop capacity building of staff; adequate infrastructure needs to be available to carry out assigned roles; and their activities need to be demand led and relevant to the core clientele of the scheme.

(e) Whenever instances of omission or commission come to the notice of the National Literacy Mission Authority, it resorts to appropriate action including stoppage of grant or even cancellation of allotment of Jan Shikshan Sansthan to the errant NGO.

Statement

*The details of Literacy projects approved by NLM in NGOs in the year
2007-2008 to 2009-10*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2007-08			2008-09			2009-10		
		JSS	SRC	NGO	JSS	SRC	NGO	JSS	SRC	NGO
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Assam	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
4.	Bihar	2	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Delhi	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
7.	Gujarat	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
8.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9.	Haryana	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

13. Karnataka	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
14. Kerala	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
15. Madhya Pradesh	3	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16. Maharashtra		2	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
17. Manipur		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18. Mizoram		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19. Nagaland		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20. Orissa		3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
21. Punjab		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22. Rajasthan		-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
23. Tamil Nadu		1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
24. Tripura		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25. Uttar Pradesh		3	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
26. Uttarakhand		1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27. West Bengal		1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
28. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29. Chandigarh		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
-										
31. Daman and Diu		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Lakshadweep		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33. Puducherry		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:		23	-	-	50	-	-	-	-	-

National Mission for Indian Languages

3408. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has noticed reports including United Nations report about the serious existential crisis of thousands of mother tongues due to tremendous changes in the global order including globalization;

(b) whether this situation will affect our language and culture; and

(c) whether Government would form a National Language Mission for promoting and protecting our National, Official and Regional Languages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The 'UNESCO Atlas of World's
Languages in Danger' lists 196 languages for India, whose degree of
endangerment varies from 'Vulnerable' to

'Extinct'. However, not all these languages listed in the UNESCO's Atlas are recognised as languages in the Census of India Report, 2001. The degree of endangerment varies from language to language. Languages are an intrinsic part of culture.

(c) There is no proposal at present to form a National Language Mission. However, for the promotion of various languages, the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, has the following organisations/institutions/Universities under it:-

- (i) Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi
- (ii) Maharishi Sandipani Rashtriya Vedvidya Pratisthan, Ujjain
- (iii) Shree Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, New Delhi.
- (iv) Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati.
- (v) National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language;
- (vi) Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad.
- (vii) Central Institute of Classical Tamil Chennai.
- (viii) National Council for Promotion of Sindhi Language, New Delhi.
- (ix) Central Hindi Directorate, New Delhi.
- (x) Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra.
- (xi) Mahatma Ghandi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha.
- (xii) English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad.
- (xiii) The Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore-for other languages.

Introduction of sex education in schools

3409. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made up its mind to introduce sex education in schools in spite of the fact that it is opposed by various sections and some of the State Governments fearing that it will promote promiscuity in Indian society annihilating thereby its cultural ethos;

(b) if so, what is its time-frame; and

(c) if not, the rationale behind it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. After consultation with representatives of the State Governments and other stakeholders, Ministry of Human Resource Development has introduced an educational programme, known as Adolescence Education Programme (AEP) at secondary level. This programme focuses on making students aware of the concerns of adolescence stage, and dangers of HIV/AIDS and substance abuse; helping them to acquire

necessary life skills to enable them to avoid risky situations; to take informed decisions and to develop healthy and responsible behaviour.

Heavy bags of school children

3410. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the report of the National Advisory Committee to advise on Improving the Quality of Learning while reducing the burden on school students, in its report of 1993 presented to the Ministry had stated that there was no justification for torturing the young children by compelling them to carry very heavy bags of books every day to school;

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

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Yash Pal Committee in its report "Learning Without Burden" recommended that textbooks should be treated as school property and thus, there should be no need for children to purchase books individually and carry them daily to homes. The Committee recommended that separate time-table for the assignment of home work and for the use of textbooks and notebooks be prepared by the schools. It also recommended that no homework should be given in primary classes. In upper and secondary classes homework should be non-textual.

(c) The National Curriculum Framework (NCF) - 2005 for school education, brought out by NCERT, fully addresses the issues raised in the report "Learning Without Burden". NCF-2005 recommends a shift in learning from rote methods and also focuses on enriching the curriculum to provide for overall development of the child, rather than adopting a textbook, centric approach. New syllabi and textbooks of NCERT reflect the NCF-2005 perspective on curriculum load.

CBSE affiliated schools have been instructed to keep the number of textbooks for all classes limited to that prescribed by NCERT; to implement the policy of 'no school bag' for the children of Classes I and II; and ensure that no home work is given to the children of Classes I and II.

Payment of gratuity amount by Delhi University

3411. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that retired employees of Delhi University (DU) had been paid gratuity as per CCS Pension Rules instead of Gratuity Act, 1972;

(b) if so, whether Controlling Authority on Gratuity has directed DU to pay Gratuity under Gratuity Act, 1972;

(c) whether retired employees of DU are paid gratuity for the whole service rendered by them;

(d) the details of such employees who had been paid gratuity for rendering 38 years of service; and

(e) by when DU proposes to pay the balance amount of gratuity under gratuity Act, 1972 to all retired employees, who have approached the authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, the retired employees of the University are paid gratuity on the basis of qualifying service of an employee subject to a ceiling of 33 years of qualifying service, in terms of the provisions contained in Statute 28(A) of the Statutes of the University read with CCS Pension Rules, 1972. The Delhi University has informed that the Controlling Authority under the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 had passed orders for payment of gratuity to two employees of the University for rendering 38 years of service and, accordingly, the payments have been made. However, the university has no proposal to pay the balance amount of gratuity to all retired employees.

Drinking water and toilet facilities in Government schools

†3412. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether facilities of drinking water and toilets are available in all Government schools in the country;

(b) if not, the manner in which Government is monitoring to provide the same; and

(c) whether position of private schools in this regard, is much better; and

(d) if not, the details of instructions given to them in this regard and the mechanism in place to monitor their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) As per District Information System for Education (DISE) data, 2008-09, 87.08% Government and Government Aided schools have drinking water and 65.45% have toilet facilities upto elementary level.

Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme, 1,98,162 drinking water facilities and 3,34,924 toilet blocks have been sanctioned upto March, 2010.

ICT in School Scheme

3413. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has revised guidelines for ICT in Schools Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether usage of Microsoft products such as Word and Excel are mandatory for implementing ICT in Schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the revision are as follows:-

- (i) The non-recurring expenditure per school has been revised from Rs. 6.7 lakh to Rs. 6.4 lakh whereas annual recurring expenditure has been revised from 1.34 lakh to Rs. 2.70 lakh. The recurring cost will be provided for a period of 5 years from the year of sanction.
- (ii) All Government and Government aided secondary and higher secondary schools are planned to be covered under the Scheme with priority for schools in educationally backward blocks and in areas having concentration of SC/ST/minority/weaker sections.
- (iii) Under the revised scheme, there is provision of a suitable qualified computer teacher in each secondary and higher secondary school.
- (iv) There is provision for in-service (induction and refresher) training for all teachers in secondary and higher secondary schools to enable them to impart ICT enabled teaching.
- (v) There is a provision for development of e-content in regional languages.
- (vi) 150 smart schools are to be set up by State Governments and UTs at the district level using a grant of Rs. 25 lakh for each school and a recurring grant of Rs. 2.5 lakh per year. This would enable provision of at least 40 computers in each such school.
- (vii) There is a provision to strengthen SIETs to contribute to e-content development.
- (viii) The scheme includes institution of National Award for teachers using ICT in schools in the teaching learning process.
- (ix) The sharing pattern will be 75:25 between the Centre and the State except for the north eastern States including Sikkim where the ratio would be 90:10.

(c) No, Sir.

Air-conditioning in Government schools in Delhi

3414. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE

DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Government schools in Delhi;

(b) whether Government is planning to install air conditioners in Government schools; and

(c) if so, the number of Government schools that would be installed with air conditioners this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) 2805 Government schools that includes 936 schools under Government of NCT of Delhi, 79 schools under New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), 1746 schools under Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), 2 Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas and 42 Kendriya Vidyalayas, are functioning in Delhi.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Educational institutions established by minorities

3415. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of educational institutions established by minorities, in particular Muslim Minority, under Article 30 of the Constitution, as on 31 March, 2010, State-wise;

(b) whether Government is aware of the demand from Muslim intellectuals to declare Jamia Millia Islamia as Minority Educational Institution; and

(c) if so, the response and action taken by Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Details of educational institutions established by Minorities in various States is not maintained centrally.

(b) and (c) An application relating to grant to minority status to the Jamia Millia Islamia is before the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) for appropriate orders.

Monitoring mechanism for Mid-Day-Meal Scheme

3416. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many complaints are coming to Government regarding mismanagement of Mid-Day-Meal programme;

(b) if so, the nature of the complaints;

(c) whether there is any monitoring mechanism to sort out the complaints; and

(d) whether Government has taken up the issue with State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Few complaints on various issues such as misappropriation of Mid-Day-Meal funds, supply of poor

quality of food grains, fake enrollment of children, corruption, providing less quantity of foodgrains, not providing Mid Day Meals regularly, serving substandard/unhygienic food are received through media reports and individual complaints.

(c) and (d) The overall responsibility to ensure all logistic and administrative arrangements

for serving wholesome and regular cooked mid day meal in every eligible school/institution lies with the State Government/UT Administration. However, as and when any complaint comes to notice of the Government, the concerned State Government/UT Administration is asked to conduct suitable inquiry into the complaint and to take appropriate action against the responsible person(s) and also to initiate corrective measures to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future.

Training courses for special teachers in inclusive schools

3417. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government is taking to implement RTE Act, for inclusive education;

(b) whether there are any mandatory training courses for special teachers in inclusive schools; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is the main vehicle to implement the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The financial provisions for children with special needs under SSA have, therefore, recently been revised from Rs. 1200 per child to Rs. 3000 per child, of which Rs. 1000 per child will be earmarked for appointment of Resource Teachers in order to address the needs of children with disabilities. The revised financial provision has come into effect from 1st April, 2010.

(b) and (c) School teachers under SSA are being oriented to the educational needs and requirements of children with special needs through teacher-training programmes. SSA provides for short-duration training as well as 90-day Foundation Course recognized by the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) to sensitize teachers on the need, importance and meaning of inclusive education for children with special needs.

Pay fixation anomaly cases of KV primary teachers

†3418. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 965 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27th November, 2009 and state:

(a) whether Government is aware that certain pay fixation anomaly cases of Fifth Pay Commission especially relating to Primary Teachers (PRTs) of Kendriya Vidyalayas of Delhi region have not yet come to the notice of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) and, therefore, have not

been resolved so far;

(b) whether K.V.S. has made any enquiry and taken confirmation from all the Kendriya Vidyalayas of Delhi region about the unresolved and pending pay fixation anomaly cases of primary teachers; and

(c) if not, whether it is proposed to make such an enquiry from the schools with a view to resolve such pending cases at the earliest?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Consequent upon implementation of Vth Pay Commission some cases of pay anomaly in the Grade of Primary Teachers (PRTs) were reported and were disposed of by the Regional Office, Delhi. However, pay anomaly is a comparative term, and as and when the pay of an employee is stepped up, it may give rise to further anomaly with reference to the pay to other employees. The matter of pay anomaly arises out of comparison of salaries, service documents, seniority etc. of an employee with reference to some other employees of the same cadre in same scale. The anomaly, if any, is required to be projected by the employee, and is removed as per the prescribed rules. There are no pending cases of pay anomaly in the grade of PRTs in the Regional Office, Delhi, and the question of making an enquiry does not arise.

Confusion among schools regarding implementation of RTE Act

3419. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any confusion among schools gearing upto meet various clauses of the Right to Education (RTE) Act which came into force in April, 2010 and more so on some features of the Act like banning of screening test and selecting neighbourhood children; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Government has held discussion with various stakeholders, including educationists and Principals of schools, to address several issues relating to implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, including screening procedure and admission of children belonging to disadvantaged group and weaker section.

Financial assistance to NE States for technical institutions

†3420. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has received any proposal from North-Eastern (NE) States for financial assistance to upgrade their technical institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government regarding the said proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The all India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has received a total 191 applications during 2009-10 from North-Eastern (NE) States for granting financial assistance to upgrade their technical institutions. The proposals were

processed as per laid down procedure. Financial Assistance of Rs. 3004.03 lakh were sanctioned to the suitable proposals under various scheme such as Modernization and Removal of Obsolescence (MODROBS), Staff Development Programme (SDP) and Seminar Grant.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Also, under the scheme of Sub-Mission Polytechnics under Coordinated Action for Skill Development, 7 proposals were received from North Eastern States. Out of which financial assistance of Rs. 10.00 lakh each has been sanctioned to five polytechnics as per details given below:-

- (i) Advanced technical Training Centre, Bardang, Sikkim.
- (ii) Central for Computers and Communication Technology, South Sikkim Namchi
- (iii) Jowai Polytechnic, Ladthalaboth, Jowai, Meghalaya
- (iv) Tura Polytechnic, Cherengre, Meghalaya
- (v) Government Polytechnic, Kohima, Nagaland

Establishment of Srimanta Sankardeva Centre

3421. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about the contribution of great saint, poet, playwright, composer, philosopher and social reformer of India, Srimanta Sankardeva who bridged Assam to the Indian culture way back in the 15th century;

(b) if so, whether Government is planning to establish a Srimanta Sankardeva Chair in any of the Central Universities located in Assam;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government proposes to establish a Srimanta Sankardeva centre for sustained research on literature, performing arts, folklore and other relevant perspectives of the country in any of those universities; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) Central Universities are statutory autonomous bodies established under the relevant central Acts and are governed by the Statutes and the Ordinances framed under. The Government has no role in regard to the academic matters which are purely within the competence of the Universities. According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC has a Scheme of Epoch Making Social Thinkers of India for establishment of new study centres and at present no such centre has been approved by it in any of the Central Universities located in Assam for want of any specific proposal under the Scheme.

Implementation of revised UGC pay package

3422. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the terms and conditions laid towards release of 80 per cent additional expenditure incurred by the respective States in implementing revised UGC pay package;

(b) the list of State which fulfilled these conditions along with the amount released, year-wise;

(c) the States which have not opted for this scheme or those which have opted with modifications of the composite scheme like the age of superannuation; and

(d) the details of such implementations with modifications of composite scheme and response of Government towards release of reimbursement amount of those States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) A communication dated 11.05.2010 was sent to all State Governments requesting them to send the detailed proposals in the prescribed format as per terms and conditions mentioned therein for availing of 80% central assistance for meeting the additional expenditure involved in implementation of the revised pay scales. A copy of this is available on the Ministry's website at www.education.nic.in. Central assistance for reimbursement of 80% of the additional financial requirement for meeting arrears for salary revision of teachers in higher education from 1.1.2006 to 31.3.2010 is subject to adoption of the entire package of benefits, including the age of superannuation.

No amount has been released so far. States have been asked to submit proposals in the prescribed calculation sheet after ensuring that the arrears have actually been disbursed before claiming reimbursement. At a recent conference of State Ministers of Higher Education, several States asked for a review of the decision of raising the age of superannuation as a precondition for availing Central assistance.

According to available information, the State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal have issued orders on revision of pay structure of their eligible teachers and equivalent cadres in universities, where applicable, and colleges (some with certain modifications) based on the scheme of revision of pay of teachers and equivalent cadres in universities and colleges, issued by the Ministry of Human Resource Development on 31.12.2008.

**Charging of capitation fee and misleading of students by
educational institutions**

3423. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of charging of huge capitation fee or misleading

of students with
false claims/promises by educational institutions in the country have
increased over the
years;

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

(c) whether Government proposes to make it mandatory for
educational institutions to consult Parent-Teacher Association (PTA)
before raising capitation fee; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Levying of capitation fee is against the national policy as well as rulings of the Apex Court. There is no information which could conclude that there is any increasing trend over the years towards charging of huge capitation fee or misleading of students in the higher educational institutions.

A legislative proposal namely 'The Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill, 2010' has been circulated in Parliament. This is with a view to address the problem of unfair practices in technical educational institutions, medical educational institutions and Universities and to protect interests of students admitted or seeking admission therein.

Semester system in higher education

3424. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the semester system of examinations is a big educational reform in itself; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to adopt and implement it in institutions of higher education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Universities have autonomy in academic

matters including the introduction of the Semester System. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has written to Vice Chancellors of all Universities and institutions deemed to be universities to implement a slew of academic reforms in higher education including the introduction of semester system. Section 6(2) of the Central Universities Act, 2009, makes it obligatory on the new Central Universities to implement certain academic reform measures including the Semester System. The introduction of the semester system in conjunction with other reform resources would ensure greater choice in learning besides enabling student mobility across institutions.

Private engineering colleges

3425. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that private engineering colleges in the country are not properly controlled and regulated by the concerned universities to which they are affiliated and the AICTE with the result that they have created chaotic conditions;

(b) if so, what mechanism and measures are envisaged to regulate them;

(c) whether Government is aware of the fact that they don't have adequate qualified faculty and infrastructure facilities; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to appoint qualified staff and provide infrastructural facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) All technical institutions including private engineering colleges are required to adhere to the norms and standards prescribed by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to maintain the standards of technical education. In cases of the proposals for establishment of new technical institutions, AICTE examines the proposal from the sponsoring trust, gets those claims verified viz-a-viz norms and standards prescribed by it through the Expert Visiting Team. On the basis of the report of the visiting team, AICTE grants approval for establishment of new technical institutions. As regards the existing technical institutions and engineering colleges, such institutions are required to furnish the information in the form of Compliance Report to AICTE. On the basis of the said Compliance Report, AICTE accords the permission for extension of approval etc. In case AICTE receives any complaint against any engineering college with *prima facie* evidence, the same is got inquired and appropriate action is taken in accordance with the provision under AICTE Approval Process Handbook framed under the concerned Regulations.

(c) and (d) Certain section of the private engineering colleges had raised the issue of shortage/non-availability of qualified faculty, in terms of "All India Council for Technical Education (pay scale, service condition and qualification for teacher and other academic staff in technical institutions (Diploma/Degree) Regulation, 2010" of AICTE). Considering the concern of the engineering colleges, AICTE has allowed the recruitment of teachers with B.Tech qualification as Pro-term Lecturers for a limited period of 3 years. The said Pro-term Lecturer is supposed to obtain its masters qualifications within the period of 3 years. In order to address the issue of shortage of qualified faculties also to facilitate the students to pursue their higher study leading to award of M.Tech degree. The AICTE has granted permission to start second shift in the existing institutions.

Adult female literacy rate

3426. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to enhance the adult female literacy rate, Government has launched the new variant of National Literacy Mission and has fixed the target of reducing the gender gap in literacy to 10 per cent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action plan prepared to achieve the goal; and

(d) the achievement made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Saakshar Bharat, the new variant of National Literacy Mission has been launched with prime focus on adult female literacy. It aims to provide opportunities to acquire basic literacy, skill development, continuing education and equivalency to formal school education.

(c) The action plan envisages coverage, in a phased manner, of all Gram Panchayats in districts having adult female literacy rate of 50% or less (as per census 2001).

(d) The programme has already been rolled out in 167 districts.

Innovation Universities

3427. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has considered a Concept Note on the establishment of Innovation Universities aiming at world class standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the final decision taken in this regard; and

(d) by when the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) A concept Note on the establishment of Innovation Universities aiming at world class standards has been prepared by Government. The concept Note has been placed in the public domain at <http://www.education.nic.in/uhe/Universitiesconceptnote.pdf>, for wider consultations.

(c) and (d) Universities for Innovation are provided for across two five year Plan periods, beginning with Eleventh Plan.

Student suicides/deaths due to corporal punishment

3428. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of reported student suicides/deaths due to corporal punishment in schools in the country during last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the steps Government has taken/proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) There have been reports of sporadic incidents of suicide by students due to corporal punishment in schools. However, as education is a concurrent subject and a majority of schools are under the purview of the State Government, data on number of such incidents is not centrally maintained by this Ministry.

(b) Corporal punishment has been banned in all the schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education. National Commission for Protection of

Child Rights (NCPCR) has issued guidelines of all States/UTs as well as to the District Administrations for addressing the issue of corporal punishment in schools. As per Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, no child shall be subjected to physical punishment or mental harassment. The Ministry has written letters to all State Governments to prohibit corporal punishment in all school under their jurisdiction. Several States have reported that they have banned corporal punishment.

Literacy programme

3429. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the States in which the continuing literacy programme is going on;

(b) how much funds have been earmarked for the continuing literacy programme in Union Budget 2010-11; and

(c) the initiatives Government will take to implement skill upgradation and vocational training programmes through continuing literacy programmes in States like Kerala where the programme is going on?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Sir, duration of the Continuing Education Programme under National Literacy Mission all over India ended on 30.9.2009

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Standard of education in universities and colleges

3430. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether contrary to India's plan to become a strong knowledge power, a parliamentary panel has found that only 30 per cent of the universities and 10 per cent of colleges are of high quality and the Ministry has held State Governments responsible for the situation;

(b) if so, whether Parliamentary Committee on Estimates has held University Grants Commission responsible for the prevailing low/mediocre standards of majority of universities and colleges in the country; and

(c) if so, what are other main points mentioned by the panel and the steps Government has taken to implement suggestions made by the panel to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Parliamentary Committee on Estimate has found that 30 per cent of the universities and 10 per cent of colleges are of high quality. This is due to the fact that 90% of the institutions funded by University Grants Commission (UGC) are under the administrative

control of State Governments. The Committee report pointed out that UGC has to improve its functioning in order to improve the standards of higher education.

(c) The Committee *inter-alia* recommended providing incentives to State Governments to encourage them to give adequate maintenance grants to State Universities and colleges, giving one time special grant to 'C' and 'D' grade colleges, model amendments in the Acts of the State Universities, special development grants to improve facilities. Faculty development programmes and mandatory NAAC accreditation.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) on its part, despite financial constraint, has taken number of steps through various schemes/programmes to strengthen quality of higher education such as Universities with Potential for Excellence (UPE), Colleges with Potential Excellence (CPE) and Centre for Excellence. During the Eleventh Plan, 374 model degree colleges in the district having GER lower than national level with the Centre-State funding in the ratio of 1:1 for Special Category States and 1:2 for other States has been provided. Additional assistance is to be provided to 160 State universities and about 5500 colleges which are already declared fit to receive grants under Section 12B of the UGC Act. Eight new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) have been set up during the first two years of the Eleventh Plan. Five new Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs) have also been set up. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has permitted second shift in certain engineering colleges and polytechnics. Expansion of intake in Central Educational Institutions by 54% has been undertaken consequent to the implementation of the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006. A Bill namely "The National Accreditation Regulatory Authority for Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010" making accreditation mandatory has been introduced in Parliament on 3rd May, 2010.

Promotion of Tamil language

3431. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the State Government of Tamil Nadu had taken an initiative to promote Tamil and also earmarked Rs. 100 crore fund for the above purpose;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the State Government of Tamil Nadu had asked the Central Government to share the huge expenditure for the purpose of promotion of Tamil language; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No such intimation/proposal has been received by the Central Government from the Government of Tamil Nadu.

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

Amendments in RTE Act

3432. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to make amendments in the Right to Education (RTE) Act;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the sections which are being considered for amendment; and

(c) whether Government is doing so under pressure of protests from private schools and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Consequent upon examination of the representations received from (a) organizations working for the welfare of the children with disabilities and (b) minority institutions, a decision was taken to carry out certain amendments to the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory (Education (RTE) Act, 2009. Accordingly, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2010 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 16th April, 2010 incorporating the following amendments to the RTE Act:-

- (i) Inclusion of children with disabilities in the definition of 'child belonging to disadvantaged group' in clause (d) of section 2 of the RTE Act.
- (ii) To provide that children with disabilities including children with cerebral palsy, mental retardation, autism and multiple disabilities shall have the right to pursue free and compulsory education in accordance with Chapter V of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995."
- (iii) To provide that School Management Committee (SMC) of an aided minority school constituted under section 21 of the RTE Act shall function in an advisory capacity and further that the SMC of an aided minority school constituted under section 21 will not be required to prepared the School Development Plan under section 22 of the Act.

Educational institutions having minority status

3433. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of educational institutions in our country that have got minority status by the order of National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI);
- (b) the details thereof, State-wise and year-wise; and
- (c) whether any specific guidelines to determine minority status exist?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The State-wise and year-wise details as on 01.08.2010 of the number of educational institutions in the country that have been issued minority status certificates by the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) is given in Statement (See below).

(c) NCMEI has prescribed Indicia for grant of minority status to an educational institution which envisage *inter-alia*, that the institution has been established by member/members of the religious minorities for the benefit of the minorities and is administered by the minorities.

Statement

*State-wise and year-wise details of minority status certificates
issued*

As on 01.08.2010

Sl. No.	State	Year						Total No. of MSC
		2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andaman	-	3	2	-	-		5
2.	Andhra Pradesh	4	9	24	6	30	1	74
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	2	-	6		8
4.	Assam	-	2	-	17	2	11	32
5.	Bihar	1	2	20	17	3	2	45
6.	Chandigarh	-	2	3	1	1	1	8
7.	Chhattisgarh	-	1	4	5	7	40	57
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	2	2	-	-		4
9.	Daman	-	1	-	-	-		1
10.	Delhi	2	36	8	15	10	4	75
11.	Goa	-	9	31	25	81	3	152
12.	Gujarat	-	3	3	5	8	1	20
13.	Haryana	-	20	12	3	4		39
14.	Himachal Pradesh	-	9	3	4	-		16
15.	Jharkhand	-	2	15	15	3		35
16.	Karnataka	-	4	26	15	11	7	63
17.	Kerala	-	9	78	97	524	506	1214
18.	Madhya Pradesh	-	15	19	12	23	3	72
19.	Maharashtra	11	22	28	21	7	3	92
20.	Manipur	-	1	-	1	-		2
21.	Meghalaya	-	1	4	-	-		5
22.	Orissa	-	14	16	23	6	12	71
23.	Pondicherry	-	2	13	-	3		18
24.	Punjab	-	11	39	4	-	8	62

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
25. Rajasthan		-	2	22	37	20	3	84
26. Sikkim		-	3	13	-	1		17
27. Tamil Nadu		1	9	19	13	14	3	59
28. Tripura		-	-	-	1	6		7
29. Uttar Pradesh		1	107	99	48	59	49	363
30. Uttarakhand		-	36	17	6	4	2	65
31. West Bengal		1	85	215	113	15	6	435
TOTAL:		21	422	737	507	848	665	3200

Funds for arrears of revised UGC pay scales

3434. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given funds to the State Government's to give arrears of the revision of UGC pay scales;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) A communication dated 11.5.2010. was sent to all State Governments requesting them to send the detailed proposals in the prescribed format as per terms and conditions mentioned therein for availing of 80% central assistance for meeting the additional expenditure involved in implementation of the revised pay scales. A copy of this is available on the Ministry's website at www.education.nic.in. Central assistance for reimbursement of 80% of the additional financial requirement for meeting arrears for salary revision of teachers in higher education from 1.1.2006 to 31.3.2010 is subject to adoption of the entire package of benefits, including the age of superannuation. Several States have asked for a review of the decision of raising age of superannuation as a precondition for availing Central assistance.

No amount has been released so far. States have been asked to submit proposals in the prescribed calculation sheet after ensuring that the arrears have actually been disbursed before claiming reimbursement.

Setting up of new IITs

3435. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE

DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to set up 20 new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) on PPP model and on a 85:15 fund sharing format;

(b) whether Government has also asked State Governments to identify land and suitable locations for these new institutions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the response from the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) do not arise.

Propagation of Sanskrit language

3436. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government for propagation of Sanskrit language;

(b) the new plans to be taken up by Government for further propagation of Sanskrit language; and

(c) the details of funds allocated for the said purpose during each of the last five years along with the funds released and spent therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Government is already propagating Sanskrit Language through its three deemed Central Sanskrit Universities, viz. Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan (RSKS), New Delhi, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth (SLBSRSV), New Delhi and Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth (RSV), Tirupati

RSKS is implementing several schemes for propagation of Sanskrit. These include Financial Assistance to Voluntary Sanskrit Organizations and Institutions; All India Sanskrit Elocution Contest; Sashtra Chudamani Scheme; Vocational Training Scheme; Presidential award of certificate of honour to Scholars; Production of Sanskrit Literature; bulk purchase of books; Financial assistance to Institutions recognized as Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya/Shodha Sansthan; award of Research and Post Matric Scholarship; grant of Samman Rashi to eminent Sanskrit Pundits in indigent circumstances; financial assistance to NGOs/Universities; grant for Modern Teachers working in Sanskrit Pathshalas; grant to Secondary/High Schools.

The RSV, Tirupati is implementing various schemes like offering regular courses from Prak Sastri (+2) to Vachaspati (D. Litt.); some courses on Distance Education mode; introduction of innovative and

career oriented programmes both in Graduate and Post Graduate levels; adopting sinking Sanskrit Institutions in the country; publishing books, journals, magazines, news letters in and on Sanskrit; preparing e-materials like CDs, self learning kits and other audio video documents.

SLBSRSV is conducting teaching of Sanskrit on traditional lines at Graduate, Post-Graduate and Research levels; teachers' training courses at Graduate and Post Graduate levels;

enrich collection of manuscripts, edit and publish rare manuscripts and books of special importance.

(b) The existing schemes comprehensively cover all the areas for propagation of Sanskrit.

(c) The details of fund allocated for the said purpose during each of the last five year along with the funds released and spent are as under:—

(Rupees in lakh)						
Year	RSKS, New Delhi		SLBSRSV, New Delhi		RSV, Tirupati	
	Fund Allocated and released	Fund spent	Fund Allocated and released	Fund spent	Fund Allocated and released	Fund spent
2005-2006	3207.00	3207.00	709.81	643.38	506.50	511.72
2006-2007	4414.00	4414.00	997.97	998.56	559.12	617.80
2007-2008	5219.67	5219.67	1054.84	983.83	709.90	728.85
2008-2009	6224.00	6224.00	1870.14	1152.00	1039.63	979.86
2009-2010	8510.00	8510.00	1703.06	1957.22	1431.90	1568.65

Involvement of NGOs in preparation and distribution of Mid-Day-Meal

3437. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to involve NGOs in the preparation and distribution of Mid-Day-Meal in schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this direction, State-wise;

(c) the details of funds allocated to State of Maharashtra under the said scheme over the last three years, district-wise; and

(d) whether some NGOs/organisation have been identified under the said scheme for Maharashtra and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The overall responsibility to provide nutritious cooked meal to children under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) lies with the State/UT Government. Under the Guidelines of the MDMS, the State/UT may assign the responsibility of cooking mid

day meal, its distribution, capacity building, monitoring, evaluation and research to NGOs fulfilling the conditions laid down in the Guidelines. The extent of involvement of NGO in these aspects of MDM depends on the policies of States/UTs in this regard.

(c) Under the MDMS, funds are allocated to States/UTs, who further distribute it to districts as per the requirements. During the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10, funds amounting to Rs. 30182.54 lakh, Rs. 72925.21 lakh and Rs. 57771.47 lakh were allocated and made available respectively to the State of Maharashtra under MDMS.

(d) The State Government of Maharashtra has informed that MDMS is implemented by Village Education Committee at village level and Municipal Corporation and Council at Urban level of Ward Education Committee and Private Aided Schools by Management Committee of schools. They appoint agencies like Self-Help Groups, Mahila Mandal, needy women or NGOs for the purpose of cooking. Few Municipal Corporations have assigned the work of cooking to NGOs which *inter-alia* includes ISKON, Naik Foundation and Federation of Self Help Groups. The State Government has also taken a policy decision to call for expression of interest from NGOs in all urban area schools.

Funds for colleges

3438. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has noted report of the Parliamentary Estimates Committee which has criticized the UGC for mediocre universities and colleges;

(b) whether it is a fact that UGC has not been able to improve university administration in the country;

(c) to what extent poor internal management of UGC has led to a situation where all the eligible 6500 colleges did not get the funds due to them; and

(d) the steps which will be taken to find a solution for such bottlenecks and poor administration in the UGC and help deprived colleges with their due funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The quality of education varies from institution to institution and a variety of factors including governance, level of funding, socio-economic and geographical disparities are responsible for uneven level of quality. The State universities are suffering resource crunch with inadequate funding from the concerned State Governments forcing the universities to resort to mobilize financial resources at the cost of quality.

As per the information furnished by the UGC, during 2008-09, 4890 colleges were given financial grants out of a total of 6028 colleges eligible to receive grants.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) on its part despite financial constraint, has taken number of steps through various schemes/programmes to strengthen quality of higher education such as Universities with Potential for Excellence (UPE), Colleges with Potential for Excellence (CPE) and Centres for Excellence. Efforts have been made to ensure that all eligible colleges and Universities receive the grants.

Rajiv Gandhi Research Fellowships

3439. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has mulled the need to extend Rajiv Gandhi Research Fellowships on the same lines and qualifications for all qualified students belonging to economically weaker sections of society;

(b) whether it is a fact that no Research fellowship is being given to any student from the economically weaker section of forward communities;

(c) the steps Government will take for a humane and sympathetic attitude to all students who come from poor background and do not have parents in the income tax paying brackets; and

(d) the steps proposed to extend facilities to all poor students doing Ph. D and M. Phil in universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship is awarded to candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students to pursue M. Phil/Ph.D courses. There is no proposal under consideration to extend Rajiv Gandhi Research Fellowships on the same lines and qualifications for all qualified belonging to economically weaker section of society.

Development of life skills and attitudes in students

3440. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing education system does not provide for the development of life skills and attitudes in students and is only concerned with high percentage of marks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which Government propose to tackle this issue in future;
and

(d) the views of the public, NGOs and experts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Keeping in mind that the

education system should cater to the needs of the manpower requirement for the economic development of the country, Government has accorded high importance to vocational education and training. While elaborating on the essence and role of Education, the National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 (as modified in 1992) has recognized that Education develops manpower for different levels of the economy. The NPE also envisages the introduction of systematic, well-planned and

rigorously implemented programmes of vocational education. These elements are meant to develop a healthy attitude amongst students towards work and life, to enhance individual employability, to reduce the mis-match between the demand and supply of skilled manpower, and to provide an alternative for those intending to pursue higher education without particular interest or purpose. The policy envisages that efforts will be made to provide children at the higher secondary level with generic vocational courses which cut across several occupational fields and which are not occupation specific.

Government has already started Technical Quality Improvement Programme to improve quality education and enhance existing capability of the technical institutions to become dynamic, demand-driven, quality conscious, efficient at national and international levels. The proposed reforms include faculty development, examination reform, curriculum revision, semester system, seminar tutorials, autonomy with the accountability.

Nation-wide scheme of "Sub-Mission on Polytechnics" has also been launched, wherein assistance is being given to the State Governments for starting 1000 new Polytechnics, revamping the Community Polytechnic Scheme and increasing their number of 1000, providing assistance for construction of 500 women hostels and for the upgradation of existing 500 Polytechnics. The UGC also has a scheme of Career Orientation to Education/Career Oriented Programme/Career Oriented Course, with an objective to ensure that graduates who pass out after completing these courses, have knowledge, skills and aptitude for gainful employment.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Vocationalisation to Secondary Education" which was started in 1988, vocational courses are offered at the higher secondary stage to enhance the employability of the students. The National Curriculum Framework, 2005 has recommended work-centred education as an integral part of the school curriculum.

Government has also introduced a scheme of Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS). There are 221 JSS in the country and they are expected to act as district level support agencies especially in regard to organization of vocational training and skill development programmes for the neo-literates and other large groups of the continuing education programme. The Jan Shikshan Sansthans offer a large number (371) of vocational training programmes from candle making to computer

courses. In the year 2006-07, 17.53 lakh beneficiaries have been covered under various vocational training programmes and other activities.

Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has provided for the education of Life Skills right from Classes VI to X. The major objectives of bringing in Life Skills Education is to orient students to develop skills of Creative and Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Decision Making, Self Awareness, Interpersonal, Communication, Empathy, Coping with Stress and Coping with Emotions. The CBSE while developing the Life Skills Manual has taken cognizance of broad views and contribution of many NGOs working in the area of Life Skills Education.

Corporal punishment and discrimination of students in schools

3441. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of increasing cases of corporal punishment and discrimination of students in schools across the country;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and whether Government has asked the civil society, parents and students to speak up against the injustice in the education system; and

(c) if so, the further steps taken by Government to check instances of corporal punishment or discrimination of students across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) There have been reports of sporadic cases of corporal punishment and discrimination of students. However, as education is a concurrent subject and a majority of schools are under the purview of the State Governments, data on number of such incidents is not centrally maintained by the Ministry. The Central Board of Secondary Education has issued instruction to its affiliated schools not to resort to physical punishment of students, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti have strictly prohibited corporal punishment in all their schools. A letter has been written in, December, 2007 and again in July, 2010, to all State Governments to prohibit corporal punishment in all schools under their jurisdiction. Several States have banned corporal punishment in their schools.

Quality and enrolment ratio in secondary education

3442. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts his Ministry is making, in coordination with the States, to provide a secondary school within a reasonable distance of every habitation, so as to achieve the ambitious target of 75 per cent enrolment in the coming five years;

(b) the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of major countries of the world during the last five years, year-wise and how Government is planning to match with them; and

(c) the extent to which new scheme, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan

(RMSA), would help in improving the quality and enrolment ratio in secondary education in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The centrally sponsored scheme "Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)" was launched in March, 2009 to enhance access to secondary education and to improve its quality. The scheme envisages enhancing the enrolment ratio to 75% for classes IX-X within 5 years by providing a secondary school within a reasonable

distance of every habitation, improving quality of education imparted at secondary level through making all secondary schools conform to prescribed norms, removal of gender, socio-economic and disability barriers, universal access to secondary education by 2017, and universal retention by 2020. The physical target for Eleventh Five Year Plan is strengthening of about 44000 existing secondary schools and opening of about 11000 new secondary schools. The sharing pattern between the Centre and the States during the Eleventh Five Year Plan is 75:25, while for the north-eastern States, the ratio is 90:10. In the year 2009-10, an amount of Rs. 550 crore (RE) was released to the States/UTs. For the current year 2010-11, a budget provision of Rs. 1700 crore has been made. As per "Global Education Digest, Comparing Education Statistics Across the World" for the years 2005-2009 prepared by UNESCO, the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of Total Secondary Sector of major countries of the world from 2003 to 2007 including India is given in the Statement.

Statement

Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of secondary education, all programmes of major countries, including India during the year 2003 to 2007

Country	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
USA	93	95	95	94	94
Germany	100	100	100	102	100
France	109	110	116	114	113
Japan	103	102	102	101	101
China	70	73	74	76	77
Russian Federation	95	93	92	84	84
Italy		99	99	99	100
101					
India		53	52	57	55
55					

Source:- UNESCO "Global Education Digest" for the years 2005 to 2009, in which the term "Total Secondary" includes upper primary also.

Grants under RMSA

3443. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new scheme of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) is applicable only to Government owned schools and excludes the Grant-in- Aid Schools;

(b) whether Government is aware that because of above anomaly Government of Gujarat is getting inequitable share as it has only 500 Government owned schools and 5500 Grant-in-Aid secondary schools;

(c) whether Planning Commission has also stated that RMSA scheme creates inequality in fund distribution among States and so a criteria based funding should be adopted and Grant-in-Aid Schools should also be included in the scheme; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The "Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)", meant for universalizing access to secondary education, *inter-alia*, envisages strengthening of existing Government secondary schools and opening of new Government secondary schools, including schools under local bodies. However, teachers of Government-aided schools are eligible for regular in-service training of teachers under RMSA.

(b) As per the Statistics of School Education, 2007-08 (Provisional, with reference date 30.9.2007), out of a total 5523 high schools, 433 schools were owned either by the State Government or local bodies in the State of Gujarat and the number of private aided schools as on 30.09.2007 was 3333. However, under RMSA, funds are sanctioned to the State Governments based on Annual Work Plan and Budget which factor in the requirement of teacher training even in respect of aided schools.

(c) The Mid-term Appraisal document of the Eleventh Plan of the Planning Commission has *inter-alia* stated:-

"Since the RMSA Scheme targets existing Government schools, some States like West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh with a low proportion of Government schools in secondary sector may not get an equitable share of RMSA funds. Therefore, RMSA needs equitable fund allocation criteria, with two-third weightage to enrolment in upper primary schools and one-third to child population of the relevant age group. There should also be flexibility to cover Government aided schools with infrastructure support, including library and laboratory facilities".

(d) While inclusion of Government-aided school under the ambit of RMSA is proposed to be taken up during future review, automatic allocation of funds in the initial stage of implementation of the scheme without linkage to performance may lead to parking of scarce resources with States negating the project based approach. Similarly, as proposed by the Planning Commission, giving weightage to the related age group at the secondary level may not be desirable, as the number of children in the secondary stage would critically depend upon the completion rate of elementary stage, and not on the population of the whole age group.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

3444. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has noticed any shortcomings in the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of measures taken to improve the Pupil-Teacher ratio to achieve the objectives of SSA; and

(d) the details of the findings of the independent study commissioned for assessing the present status of school drop-outs and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme aims at universalisation of elementary education for children in the 6-14 age group. SSA has continued to make progress towards its overall goal of universal access, and attention is being given to regular attendance and completion of the elementary cycle of eight years of schooling.

(c) Under SSA programme 12.82 lakh teachers have been sanctioned till 31.3.2010 to improve Pupil-Teacher ratio.

(d) The findings of study on school dropouts are being re-validated by undertaking a sub-sample survey in 20 States in which the study was conducted. Steps to reduce drop-outs include, *inter-alia*, provisions for free textbooks, teacher training, teacher availability, intervention for community support, residential hostel buildings in remote tribal areas, special provisions for girls, SC and ST children. The Mid-Day Meal programme also complements the strategy to reduce drop-outs.

Literacy rate

3445. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the literacy rate in the country compared to the literacy rate of neighbouring countries;

(b) whether the literacy amongst the students in the country has increased markedly during the last decade after successful implementation of various comprehensive educational programmes in various States;

(c) if so, the extent of increase in literacy rate in each State/Union Territory during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to have educational exchange programme with neighbouring countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The literacy rate in the country as compared to the literacy rate of neighbouring countries is as follows:-

Sl. No.	Country	Literacy Rate in percentage (Age group 15 years and above) (2000-2007)
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1	2	3
1.	India	66
2.	Bangladesh	53
3.	Bhutan	53

1	2	3
4.	Nepal	57
5.	Pakistan	54
6.	Sri Lanka	91

Source: UNESCO's EFA Global Monitoring Report, 2010

(b) To impart functional literacy to non-literates in the age group of 15-35 years, the National Literacy Mission was launched in 1988 and it continued through the Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plans. Because of efforts made under the Mission as well as other educational programmes of the Government, the literacy rate in the country registered a marked increase from 52.21% in 1991 to 64.84% in 2001.

(c) The literacy rate in India is collected decennially and not annually State/UT-wise literacy rate, as per the 1991 and 2001 Census, and the increase therein is given in the Statement (See below).

(d) There is no educational programme with neighbouring countries.

Statement

State/UT-wise literacy rate as per the 1991 and 2001 and increase therein

Sl.No.	Name of the States/UTs	Literacy rate as per Census 1991	Literacy rate as per Census 2001	Increase in literacy rate between 1991 and 2001
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44.08	60.47	16.39
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	41.59	54.34	12.75
3.	Assam	52.89	63.25	10.36
4.	Bihar	37.49	47.00	9.51
5.	Chhattisgarh	42.91	64.66	21.75
6.	Delhi	75.29	81.67	6.38
7.	Goa	75.51	82.01	6.50
8.	Gujarat	61.29	69.14	7.85
9.	Haryana	55.85	67.91	12.06
10.	Himachal Pradesh	63.86	76.48	12.62
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	NA	55.52	NA

12. Jharkhand	41.39	53.56	12.17
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1	2	3	4	5
13.	Karnataka	56.04	66.64	10.06
14.	Kerala	89.81	90.86	1.50
15.	Madhya Pradesh	44.67	63.47	19.07
16.	Maharashtra	64.87	76.88	12.01
17.	Manipur	59.89	70.53	10.64
18.	Meghalaya	49.10	62.56	13.46
19.	Mizoram	82.26	88.80	6.54
20.	Nagaland	61.65	66.59	4.94
21.	Orissa	49.09	63.08	13.99
22.	Punjab	58.51	69.65	11.14
23.	Rajasthan	38.55	60.41	21.86
24.	Sikkim	56.94	68.81	11.87
25.	Tamil Nadu	62.68	73.45	10.77
26.	Tripura	60.44	73.19	12.75
27.	Uttaranchal	57.75	71.62	13.87
28.	Uttar Pradesh	40.71	56.27	15.56
29.	West Bengal	57.70	68.64	10.94
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	73.02	81.30	8.28
31.	Chandigarh	77.81	81.94	4.13
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	40.71	57.63	16.92
33.	Daman and Diu	71.20	78.18	6.98
34.	Lakshadweep	81.78	86.66	4.88
35.	Pondicherry	74.74	81.24	6.50
ALL INDIA		52.21	64.84	12.63

Air conditioning in Government schools

†3446. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating air conditioning of some Government schools being run in Delhi;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to lack of electricity students are still deprived of even fans in many schools; and

(d) if so, whether Government would ensure availability of electricity in school hours to the schools which would be made air conditioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Appointments in ICHR

3447. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rules were violated in the appointment of consultants and lawyers for Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR);

(b) whether it is also a fact that Central Vigilance Commission has asked Government to fix responsibility for wrongdoings; and

(c) the action Government has taken or proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) A reference has been received from Central Vigilance Commission requiring examination of the issues concerning violation of guidelines in engagement of consultants and irregularities in payments to private legal counsels by Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), New Delhi.

As regards issue of engagement of Consultants, a Fact Finding Enquiry to identify specific lapses, if any, on the part of the officials of ICHR, is presently underway. The issue concerning the irregularities reported in the payment of legal fees to private counsels is under examination in the light of the opinion obtained from the Ministry of Law, Department of Legal Affairs in this regard.

Right to education for children with disabilities

3448. SHRI SHYAM BENEKAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts of the Government to implement the Right to Education Act for children with disabilities and meet their special needs;

(b) whether education of disabled children is an objective of

Government besides care and rehabilitation; and

(c) the structural reformative action being undertaken by Government to train school teachers of regular schools to meet the educational needs of disabled children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) SSA is the main vehicle for implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The financial provisions for children with special needs under SSA have recently been revised from Rs. 1200 per child to Rs. 3000 per child, of which Rs. 1000 per child will be earmarked for appointment of Resource Teachers in order to address the needs of children with disabilities. The revised financial provision has come into effect from 1st April, 2010.

(b) The care, rehabilitation and education of persons with disabilities is governed by the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. However, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme, which aims at universal elementary education, seeks to ensure that every child with special needs, irrespective of the kind, category and degree of disability, is provided meaningful and quality education. SSA, therefore, provides for a variety of interventions, including *inter alia* identification of children with special needs, functional and formal assessment of their disability, appropriate educational placement, provision of aids and appliances, transport/escorts allowance, teacher training, appointment of resource teachers, resource support through therapeutical support and rehabilitative care, and removal of architectural barriers to access.

(c) School teachers under SSA are being oriented to the educational needs and requirements of children with special needs through teacher-training programmes. SSA provides for short-duration training as well as 90-day Foundation Course recognize by the Rehabilitation council of India (RCI) to sensitize teachers on the needs, importance and meaning of inclusive education for children with special needs.

Centralized board system

3449. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many boards are in existence at present apart from CBSE;

(b) whether Government is of the view to implement a centralized board system for whole country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) At present apart from CBSE the following boards are in existence:-

(i)	Secondary Boards	—	07
(ii)	Senior Secondary Boards	—	07
(iii)	Combined Boards	—	20
(iv)	National Level Boards	—	02
(v)	Madrasa Boards	—	03

(vi) State Open Schools	—	04
(vii) Sanskrit Boards	—	02

(b) and (c) Considering the diversity of the country there is no proposal to have a centralized board system for the whole country.

Promotion of micro and small industries

3450. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has done away with the reserved list of items to be exclusively produced by micro and small industries;

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

(c) the action Government proposes to promote micro and small enterprises?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The Government has not done away with the reserved list of items for exclusive manufacture in micro and small enterprises (MSE) sector. As on date, there are 20 items reserved for exclusive manufacture in MSE sector.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Central Government implements several schemes/programmes to facilitate promotion of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) with focus on infrastructure assistance through cluster approach, timely availability of credit, entrepreneurship and skill development, technology upgradation, capacity building, marketing assistance etc. The Government has also enacted the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006 and announced a 'Package for Promotion of Micro and Small Enterprises' in 2007 to facilitate promotion and development of MSMEs and enhance their competitiveness. Further, a Task Force was constituted under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister in 2009 to address the issues concerning the MSME sector. The Task Force submitted its report and made several recommendations in the areas of technology upgradation, credit, marketing, infrastructure development, skill development etc. for providing an impetus to the growth of the sector. The report has been circulated to the department/agencies concerned for time-bound action as laid down in the report. For assisting first generation entrepreneurs, the Government is also implementing the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) under which financial institutions provide credit and Government provides subsidy for setting up new enterprise.

Artisans Welfare Fund Trusts

3451. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Artisans Welfare Fund Trusts (AWFTs) in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of works undertaken by the AWFTs during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken by Government to cover all Artisans under AWFTs; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure proper utilization of funds and working of the AWFT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The State-wise number of Artisan's Welfare Fund Trusts (AWFTs) functioning in the country, given in the Statement (See below).

(b) to (d) Khadi Institutions registered with the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)/Khadi and Village Industries Boards (KVIBs) of State/Union Territories are required to create Artisans Welfare Fund (AWFs) with a view to extending security and other help in the hour of need to the artisans. Khadi institutions are required to contribute 12 per cent of wages of artisans to AWF whose benefit is extended to all artisans except those who are salaried employees of khadi institutions. The main functions of the AWFTs include providing financial security as and when required by the artisans such as daughter's marriage, medical treatment, etc. Amount accruing to AWF is kept in fixed deposits in nationalized Banks. Separate accounts in respect of each artisan showing the subscriptions made by him/her together with the contribution made by the institution are maintained. Each artisan, subscribing to this fund is issued a pass book by the khadi institutions. In the case of death of an artisan, the entire amount to his/her credit in AWF is paid to his/her legal heirs or nominees. State-wise details of works undertaken by the AWFTs are not maintained centrally.

With a view to achieving universal coverage of artisans under AWFTs, the membership of the respective AWFTs has been made mandatory for all 'A+', 'A', 'B' and 'C' category khadi and polyvastra producing institutions.

Statement

State/Union Territory-wise number of Artisan Welfare Fund Trusts

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Number of AWFTs	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	
2.	Assam	1	Other States of the North Eastern Region except Sikkim included

3.	Bihar	1
4.	Chhattisgarh	1
5.	Gujarat	1
6.	Haryana	1

1	2	3	4
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1	
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	
9.	Jharkhand	1	
10.	Karnataka	1	
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1	
12.	Maharashtra	1	
13.	Orissa	1	
14.	Punjab	1	
15.	Rajasthan	1	
16.	Tamil Nadu	1	
17.	Uttar Pradesh	1	Excluding Meerut Region
18.	Delhi	1	Including Meerut Region
19.	Uttarakhand	1	
20.	West Bengal	1	
21.	Kerala	1	
TOTAL		21	

Damage to railway property

3452. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of loss suffered by Railways due to recent disturbances in the Kashmir valley in which railway stations were burnt and damages caused to other railway properties; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) As per preliminary assessment made by various departments, the extent of damage to Railway infrastructure is estimated to Rs. 7,67,42,000/-. The details are as under:-

(i) Rs. 16.60 lakhs due to damage of Railway track at 30 locations, 3 bridges and 3 station buildings between Quazigund and Budgam. Survey of damage between Budgam to Baramulla

section is under process.

(ii) Rs. 64.82 lakhs due to damage of Railway Electrical assets at Sopore Railway station.

(iii) Rs. 286 lakhs due to damage of Signalling and Telecom gears at 11 stations between Quazigund - Baramulla. Assessment of loss at 4 stations is under process.

(iv) Rs. 4 crores due to damage of station building and equipment at Sopore Railway station.

Final assessment of the Railway property damaged can be made only after the improvement in the law and order situation in the Kashmir Valley.

Rail projects in Rajasthan

3453. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ongoing/pending railway projects in Rajasthan;

(b) since when they are pending and what was their completion roadmap, project-wise;

(c) whether these works are being executed/progressing as per their schedule;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor, project-wise; and

(f) the cost escalation due to delay and whether anyone held accountable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (f) Details of ongoing Railway Projects falling fully/partly in the State of Rajasthan is given as under:-

Sl.No.	Name of the Projects and Length (in kms.)	Year of inclusion in the Railway Budget	Progress and Target Date of Completion (TDC), wherever fixed
1	2	3	4

New line

1. Ajmer-Pushkar (31.4 kms.) 2000-01 Overall physical progress-70%.

2. Bangurgram-Ras (27.8 kms.)	2008-09	Overall physical progress-1%.
3. Dausa-Gangapurcity (92.67 kms.)	1997-98	Overall physical progress-26%.
4. Ramganjmandi-Bhopal (262 kms.)	2000-01	Overall physical progress-25%. Ramganjmandi-Jhalawar (26.5 kms.) targeted for completion in 2010-11.

1	2	3	4
Gauge Conversion			
1. Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar-Udaipur (299.2 kms.)	2008-09	Final Location Survey for Himmatnagar-Udaipur completed. Detailed estimate prepared.	
2. Dholpur-Sirmutra with ext. up to Gangapur City (144.6 kms.)	2010-11	New work included in Railway Budget 2010-11. Preliminary activities have been taken up.	
3. Gwalior-Sheopurkalan ext. up to Kota (284 kms.)	2010-11	New work included in Railway Budget 2010-11. Preliminary activities have been taken up.	
4. Jaipur-Ringus-Churu and Sikar Loharu (320.04 kms.)	2008-09	Detailed estimate sanctioned.	
5. Sadulpur-Bikaner and Ratangarh-Degana (394.35 kms.)	2007-08	Sadulpur-Ratangarh and Ratangarh-Degana completed. Ratangarh-Bikaner (141.06 km.) - Overall physical progress-75%. TDC-2010-11.	
6. Shriganganagar-Sarupsar (116 kms.)	1997-98	Overall physical progress-51%.	
7. Suratpura-Hanumangarh-Shriganganagar (240.95 kms.)	2008-09	Detailed Estimate sanctioned.	
8. Ajmer-Chittaurgarh-Udaipur including extension from Udaipur to Umra (11 kms.) (311 kms.)	1996-97	Ajmer-Udaipur Completed and commissioned. Mavli-Nathdwara parallel BG line has been taken up as part of the project. TDC-2010-11.	
Doubling			
1. Abu Road-Sarotra Road (23.12 kms.)	2010-11	New work included in Railway Budget 2010-11. Preliminary	

		activities taken up.
2.	Alwar-Harsauli (34.86 kms.) 2007-08	Overall physical progress-80%. TDC-2010-11.
3.	Bhagat Ki Kothi-Luni (28.12 kms.) 2010-11	New work included in Railway Budget 2010-11. Detailed Estimate prepared.
4.	Dausa Bandikui (29.04 kms.) 2006-07	Overall physical progress-90%. TDC-2010-11.

1	2	3	4
5. Jaipur-Dausa (61.28 kms.)	2005-06	29 kms. completed.	TDC-2010-11.
6. Harsauli-Rewari (39.35 kms.)	2007-08	Overall Physical Progress-57%.	TDC-2010-11.
7. Kesavganj-Swaroopganj (26.48 kms.)	2010-11	New work included in Railway Budget 2010-11. Preliminary activities taken up.	
8. Sarotra Road-Karjoda (23.59 kms.)	2010-11	New work included in Railway Budget 2010-11. Preliminary activities taken up.	
9. Swaroopganj-Abu Road (25.36 kms.)	2010-11	New work included in Railway Budget 2010-11. Preliminary activities taken up.	

Railway Electrification

1. Bina-Kota (309 kms.)	2006-07	TDC-2010-11.
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Railways have a huge throwforward of ongoing projects with resources constraints, as a result of which the projects take relatively longer time for completion. This coupled with other reasons e.g. escalation, charge in standards of construction and technology, scope of the work and conditions of the areas etc. during the intervening period, lead to increase in cost of projects. The aforesaid projects would be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

Change of platform at the eleventh hour

3454. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether at least two persons were killed and hundreds were injured at the New Delhi Railway Station on May 16, 2010 due to last minute change in platforms of two trains;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been ordered into the incident and the result thereof; and

(c) the compensation paid to the victims, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) On 16.05.2010, there was a melee at New Delhi

Railway station arising out of an incident of stumbling of a lady passenger due to falling of luggage, in which 03 persons died and 08 persons sustained minor injuries.

The incident was enquired into by a High Level Committee. The inquiry committee in its interim report has observed that it was an incident of stumbling of a lady passenger due to falling of luggage. The final report is awaited.

(c) Payment of *ex-gratia* of Rs. 6,00,000/- to 3 dead persons at the rate of Rs. 2,00,000/- each and Rs. 1,20,000/- to 8 injured persons at the rate of Rs. 15,000/- each has been made by the Railways.

Survey of standards of education

3455. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Policy on Education accords priority for improvement of standards of education at all levels for children living in rural and urban areas;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The National Policy of Education, 1986 (as modified in 1992) lays special emphasis on the removal of disparities and to equalize educational opportunities by attending to the specific needs of those who have been denied equality so far.

Education as a subject on the Concurrent List, is the shared responsibility of both Central and State Governments. The responsibility of school education lies primarily with the State Governments. The University Grants Commission (UGC), a statutory organization is responsible for co-ordination, determination and maintenance of standards in University Education. All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) another statutory organization is vested with statutory authority for planning., formulation and maintenance of norms and standards, quality assurance through accreditation, funding in priority areas, monitoring and evaluation, maintaining parity of certification and awards and ensuring coordinated and integrated development and management of technical education in the country. The National Council for Teacher Education is another statutory body which is responsible for achieving the planned and coordinated development of teacher education system throughout the country and for regulation and proper maintenance of norms and standards of teacher education.

Under DISE (District Information System of Education) School report

cards are available which contain data on various aspects of all the schools in the country which is used in planning process of SSA and provide progress on school facilities, etc. No individual school-wise evaluation of schools is done centrally.

In the implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), this Ministry maintains associations with professional bodies like National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) who provide various educational inputs including data on learning achievements, advise for curriculum reforms as per National Curriculum Framework, 2005. NUEPA maintains a data base on

elementary education covering various facets of elementary education which is used in planning of SSA Programme. At the State level, academic resource support is provided through State Councils of Educational Research and Training (SCERTs).

Train accidents

3456. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are over 200 accidents in last 14 months in the country whereas train accidents are rare in most countries;

(b) if so, whether Government had constituted any Body to analyze the factors which could be the basic reasons for those accidents;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the rail safety measures taken by Government for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir. During the last 14 months period of May, 2009 to July, 2010, a total of 116 consequential train accidents excluding incidents of trespassing at unmanned level crossing took place on Indian Railways.

As per the records of Accidents Per Million Passenger Kilometers maintained by International Union of Railways (UIC), Indian Railways compare quite favorably in comparison to the advanced countries of Europe. As per the latest available figures, in the year 2006, Accident Per Million Passenger Kilometers in India was 0.0003 in comparison to 0.0015 in Japan, 0.0021 in France, 0.0022 in United Kingdom, 0.0029 in Italy, 0.0042 in Belgium, 0.0046 in Germany and 0.0064 in Switzerland. Since the year 2006, there has been a further improvement in the safety performance on Indian Railways.

(b) and (c) All serious accidents are enquired into by the Commission of Railway Safety which is an independent statutory body under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. During the last 14 months period of May, 2009 to July, 2010, out of 116 consequential train accidents, 20 accidents have been enquired by the Commission of Railway Safety.

(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, signalling 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.

Incident of looting

3457. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the incident of looting in Lal Quila Express at Lakhisarai Station in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the passengers and GRP personnel injured/killed in this incident;

(d) whether only 4-5 GRP personnel were on duty in the train;

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

(f) the details of *ex-gratia* payments made to injured passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) On 06.08.2010, Train No. 3111 Kolkata - Delhi Lal Quila Express was stopped by miscreants at Kundar Halt between Jamui - Mananpur Railway stations (Lakhisarai Dist.) in Jhajha - Kiul section over East Central Railway in Bihar by pulling alarm chain and looted the passengers travelling in 4 sleeper coaches and 1 air-conditioned coach. On resistance by the Government Railway Police escorts, the miscreants opened fire causing bullet injury to one of the Constables. Government Railway Police/Jhajha has registered a case *vide* crime no. 24/2010 dated 06.08.2010 under section 147, 148, 149, 323, 324, 353, 332, 224, 307, 379 Indian Penal Code and 27 Arms Act.

(c) 15 passengers and 1 Government Railway Police Constable sustained injury. No passenger was killed.

(d) and (e) 4 Government Railway Police personnel were on train escorting duty.

(f) There is no provision of payment of *ex-gratia* in such cases

Allocation of berths under HOR/VIP quota

3458. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1449 given in Rajya Sabha on 6 August 2010 and state:

(a) whether 949071 berths out of total berths in trains have been allocated under HOR/VIP and other quotas on daily basis, in Indian railways;

(b) if so, the number of total berths and their percentage allocated as HOR out of 949071 berths, zone-wise;

(c) the average number of HOR/VIP requisitions received daily along with the details thereof for any five days;

(d) the details of officials who have been recognized as high officials and entitled for HOR along with their number in the country; and

(e) whether these quotas will be abolished in view of miseries of Aam Aadami and corruption involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) 949071 are the daily average total number of physical berths/seats available on Indian Railways under different types of quota viz. General, Emergency, Defence, Foreign Tourist, Parliament House etc.

(b) Zone-wise details of approximately daily average number of berths defined as Emergency Quota and its percentage to approximately total daily average number of berths/seats are given in the Statement (See below). The unutilized berths/seats of emergency quota are released to the RAC/waitlisted passengers.

(c) Since Emergency Quota is released on day to day basis from all zonal and Divisional Headquarters and other important locations, a large number of requisitions are received, which are preserved for the prescribed period at their place of receipt which are spread across the country. However, the details of such requisitions are neither compiled nor centrally maintained.

(d) HOR facility is extended to the dignitaries mentioned in Annexure F of Indian Railway Conference Association (IRCA) Coaching Tariff Part-I (Vol. I) and its amendments made from time to time.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration.

Statement

Zone-wise details of approximately daily average number of births defined as Emergency Quota and the percentage to approximately total daily average number of Berths/Seats

Zone	Daily average available berths in Emergency Quota approximately	%age of Emergency Quota w.r.t. total Quota
1	2	3
Central	5675	6.42
East Central	2855	6.11
East Coast	1900	5.97
Eastern	2834	5.62
Konkan	322	6.75
North Central	811	4.82

North Eastern	1945	5.93
North Western	2337	6.90
Northeast Frontier	1633	5.82

1	2	3
Northern	3301	4.69
South Eastern	2361	4.97
South Western	2502	5.10
Southeast Central	979	4.96
Southern	6216	4.78
West Central	849	4.49
Western	4710	5.78

Dedicated freight corridor between Delhi and Mumbai

†3459. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work on dedicated freight corridor between Delhi and Mumbai has been held up;

(b) whether the acquisition of 11535 hectare of land for construction of Eastern and Western dedicated freight corridor has been held up for the time being;

(c) whether it was announced to complete the construction work of both corridors by 2010;

(d) whether Government of Japan has said to Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation that the amount of loan would be released only after the acquisition of land is completed; and

(e) whether Government of Japan has promised to provide 67 per cent of cost as loan on lower rate of interest for Western corridor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Process of making land available is on. Efforts are being made to minimize the requirement of land for the Dedicated Freight Corridor project.

(c) No, Sir. Western and Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor are targeted for commissioning in 2016-17.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Commitment of Government of Japan exists to fund the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor utilizing Japan's Special Terms for

Economic Partnership (STEP) Scheme. Japanese assistance is estimated to fund about 80% of the project cost.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Cultivation of vegetables

3460. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways has rented out railway land to cultivators for cultivation of vegetables;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the vegetables grown are not fit for human consumption;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the terms and conditions on which the land is rented out to cultivators; and

(e) the action taken for violation of terms and conditions during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Corruption in Railways

3461. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether corruption in Railways has increased manifold in the past one decade and caused an estimated Rs. 50000/- crore loss to the exchequer;

(b) if so, the details of various sectors in Railways where instances of corruption has come to the notice of Government;

(c) whether existing systems of procurement, tendering etc. in Railways are not transparent and nexus with the middlemen, suppliers and Railways officials have increased; and

(d) if so, the steps Government/Railways proposes to take to issue a white paper on the functioning of Railways and to remove corruption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir. Vigilance Organisation of Railways deals with Complaints of corruption and also conducts preventive checks. Corruption cases are dealt with in consultation with CVC.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Systems are transparent and all extant instructions of Government on the subject are being followed.

(d) There is no such proposal.

New rail line in Punjab and Himachal Pradesh

†3462. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the details of the new rail lines proposed to be laid in Punjab and Himachal Pradesh under the last Five Year Plan;

(b) the present status of Hoshiarpur-Una, Chandigarh-Baddi and Bhanupalle Bilaspur-Leh lines; and

(c) whether Government has received any proposal from Himachal Pradesh for laying of new rail line during the last and the current Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Chandigarh-Baddi and Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri new lines falling in Punjab and Himachal Pradesh have been included in Railway Budget 2007-08 and 2009-10 respectively.

(b) The status of mentioned new lines is as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of project	Status
1.	Una-Hoshiarpur new line	Updating survey taken up.
2.	Chandigarh-Baddi new line	Work has been stalled following refusal by State Government of Punjab and Chandigarh Administration to provide land for the work. Study of alternative alignment from Kalka/Ghanauli to Baddi taken up.
3.	Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri new line	Work already sanctioned. Final Location Survey completed. Part Detailed Estimate sanctioned. Land acquisition taken up.
4.	Bilaspur-Manali-Leh new line	Survey completed. Project proposal has been processed for necessary approval.

(c) Since 2002-03, proposals have been received from the Government of Himachal Pradesh for laying of Chandigarh-Baddi, Ghanauli-Baddi, Baddi-Kalka, Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri, Jogindernagar-Mandi and Bilaspur-Manali-Leh new lines.

Direct train between Delhi and Kasganj

3463. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no direct train between

Kasganj and Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when direct train service between Kasganj and Delhi is
proposed to be
provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E.
AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Presently, there is no direct train between
Kasganj and Delhi.

(c) Introduction of a direct train service between Kasganj and Delhi is operationally not found feasible at present.

Valley rail projects

3464. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the valley rail projects are coming up;

(b) if so, the details worked out for SCR and other zones in the remaining period of Eleventh Five Year Plan along with the fund requirements; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No such classification like "Valley rail Projects" exists in Indian Railways.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Diversion of routes of trains

†3465. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether routes of several trains have been diverted in view of naxal attacks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) for how long this diversion would continue;

(d) whether passengers who board trains from stations enroute diverted route are being extended ticket purchasing and reservation facility therein with immediate effect;

(e) if not, by when the same would be extended;

(f) whether due to this Samaleswari Express, (having Koraput-Sambalpur- Howrah route), now plies on Rourkela-Tatanagar stations via Angul and Dhenkanal; and

(g) whether this train would run on this route on regular basis and journey facility to passengers would be extended from all stations enroute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Temporarily, 3 pairs of Mail/Express trains scheduled to run during night time on Kharagpur-Rourkela

section have been diverted and 2 pairs of passenger trains run during night time have been cancelled. All other trains scheduled to run on Kharagpur-Rourkela section are now temporarily regulated to avoid running over the section during night time.

(c) These diversions will cease on satisfactory improvement of the security situation in Kharagpur-Rourkela section.

(d) and (e) At present, there is no such proposal, since diversions are temporary in nature.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) No, Sir. This arrangement is temporary and will cease on satisfactory improvement of the security situation in Kharagpur-Rourkela section.

Naxals affected railway station

†3466. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Kharagpur-Rourkela' section of 'Howrah-Mumbai' main line of Indian Railways is considered the most naxalite affected section;

(b) if not, the details of most naxalite affected rail section;

(c) whether after an attack on Gyaneshwari Express either routes of trains or their time of passing through 'Kharagpur-Rourkela' section has been changed;

(d) whether it is being considered to make this change permanent; and

(e) if not, upto what time and in what manner the long route trains like Howrah- Mumbai, Howrah-Porbander, Howrah- Koraput, and Howrah-Pune, etc., will run on this route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Temporarily, 3 pairs of Mail/Express trains scheduled to run during night time on Kharagpur-Rourkela section have been diverted and 2 pairs of passenger trains run during night time have been cancelled. All other trains scheduled to run on Kharagpur-Rourkela section are now temporarily regulated to avoid running over the section during night time.

(d) and (e) These changes are temporary and will cease on satisfactory improvement of the security situation in Kharagpur-Rourkela section.

Electrification of railway in North-Eastern Region

3467. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no electrification in Railway in NE region;

(b) whether lots of assurance were given on various occasions for electrification of Railway for NE region by Government;

(c) whether after a long period Government has sanctioned electrification project of Barauni-Katihar-Guwahati in NE region, but this portion is not even touched for electrification till date;

(d) whether Government will consider for electrification of at least Guwahati- Alipurddwar portion in this financial year; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Electrification of Barauni-Katihar-Guwahati including Katihar-Barsoi is already in progress and targeted for completion by March'2013.

(b) Rail Budget announcement of 2010-11, Para 124, Item No. (viii) States that feasibility study for electrification of New Bongaigaon-Jogighopa-Kamakhya will be undertaken. Survey has been done and this section is not considered feasible for electrification on operational grounds.

(c) The electrification of this route was sanctioned in the year 2008-09. Agency has been fixed for Barauni-Katihar section and turn-key contract for Katihar-New Jalpaiguri section has been finalized and for the balance section upto Guwahati, the tenders are in process.

(d) and (e) With a view to ensure continuity, electrification has been started by one agency from Barauni to Katihar and by another agency from Katihar to New Jalpaiguri. Agency is yet to be fixed for proposed section.

Facilities for disabled passengers

3468. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no indicators on Western Railway platforms in Mumbai showing the location of coach for disabled in sub-urban trains, whereas Central Railway platforms have been provided with beepers which are easier for disabled passengers to locate their coach quickly;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many times in rainy season these beepers do not work;

(c) if so, the reasons for Western Railway not giving the same type of facility in Mumbai, which Central Railway has already provided; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) On Western Railway, boards indicating location of coaches meant for disabled on suburban trains are already available at the platforms. However, beepers have not been provided.

(b) Beepers/buzzer provided on Central Railway to indicate the position of the coaches meant for the disabled are in working

condition and regular maintenance and testing is carried to ensure their proper functioning.

(c) and (d) The contract for provision of beepers has been awarded by Mumbai Division of Western Railway and the work is planned to be completed by March, 2011.

Incident of fire in railway container depot, Tughlakabad

3469. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee set up by the CONCOR has completed its investigation on fire incident in railway container depot in Tughlakabad;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken so far, by Government thereon; and
- (d) the remedial measures taken by Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) A committee consisting of officers from Container Corporation of India and experts from Delhi Fire Service was constituted to establish the cause of fire, fix responsibility and suggest preventive measures. After through examination of the available evidence by the fire experts and rest of the members, the committee was unable to conclusively establish the cause the fire. The committee has observed that fire preparedness at Tughlakabad is in accordance with the norms set by the Insurance Tariff Advisory Committee of Ministry of Finance. Fire Safety Audits have been undertaken at various terminals and arrangements have been strengthened wherever necessary.

Late running of Kalindi Express

†3470. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for continuous late running of Kalindi Express (Bhiwani-Farrukhabad) and too much filth in it;
- (b) whether passengers with general ticket have specifically been authorized to travel in the reserved coaches of the above said train;
- (c) if not, the reasons for passengers having general tickets travelling in such a large number in reserved coaches of above train; and
- (d) whether Government would take immediate necessary action regarding timely running of Kalindi Express, its cleanliness and in respect of unauthorised passengers in reserved coaches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) 4724 Bhiwani-Farrukhabad Kalindi Express is running right time on most of the days. In the month of July and August, 2010 (upto 15th August) out of 46 days, the train has terminated right time on 36 days. It was late on 10 days due to various reasons like asset failures, miscreant activities, cattle run over, bad weather and cascading affect of other trains running late etc. Cleaning of coaches of Kalindi Express is carried out at Bhiwani and Kanpur before the start of journey of the train each time.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Passengers having general ticket and found travelling in reserved coaches are treated as irregular passengers by railways.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) The following steps are taken for ensuring punctuality of trains:-

1. Intensive, round the clock monitoring of trains at all three level viz. Divisional, Zonal Head Quarters and Railway Board.
2. Punctuality drives are being conducted from time to time.
3. Improvements in Time tabling to provide a clear path.
4. Improvement in standard of maintenance of assets to reduce equipment failures and cleanliness.
5. Training, counseling and motivating staff to ensure punctual running.
6. Up-gradation of technology of track, rolling stock and signaling.
7. Up-gradation of infrastructure of improve line and terminal capacity.
8. Regular drives are conducted to prevent irregular travel including entry of unauthorized passengers in reserved coaches. Such persons, when detected are dealt with as per provisions of Railways Act. It is a continuous process.

Recommendation of CAG on safety norms

3471. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has submitted a report laying down certain safety norms and areas for improvement in Railways;

(b) if so, whether Government has failed to initiate any corrective measures outlined in the CAG's report yet; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Comptroller and Auditor General of India in its report no. PA 8 of 2010-11, presented in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 3.8.2010, has reviewed the implementation of Corporate Safety Plan in Indian Railway and has made its observations thereon. These observations are under examination in consultation with audit and Action Taken Notes on these recommendations will be submitted to Public Accounts Committee as per the laid down procedure.

Quota on trains to Bihar

3472. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar has been discriminated in the matter of quota on trains than other States like West Bengal, etc.;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to restore the quota on the trains to Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Review of reservation quotas is done train-wise and not State-wise. Such reviews of

reservation quotas are done by Zonal Railways on periodic basis and adjustments are made depending upon utilization of existing reservation quotas and the demand pattern. This is a continuous process.

Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana

3473. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licensed porters, vendors and hawkers working in Railways; and

(b) the number of them brought under the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The number of licensed porters presently working on Indian Railways is approximately twenty thousand. The private licensees providing catering/vending activities in the Railways engage their workers under their own terms and conditions and not directly linked with Railways.

(b) The scheme of bringing them under the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana is under finalization.

Lack of passengers amenities at railway stations in Bihar

3474. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the railway stations in Bihar are very dirty and lack basic passenger amenities;

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

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to provide basic amenities at these stations and keep them clean?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Regular inspections are conducted by various officials at railway stations and whenever any deficiency in basic amenities or cleanliness is noticed suitable remedial action is taken.

Poor condition of rail bridges in Bihar

3475. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the condition of Railway bridges in

Bihar is very bad and need immediate construction/repair;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the bridges repaired/constructed during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) All rail bridges in Bihar are safe for running of passenger and goods trains.

Rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening of bridges is an ongoing process on Indian Railways. Railways undertake rehabilitation/rebuildings/strengthening of bridges on the basis of their physical condition as ascertained during regular inspections carried out in the field.

(c) Details of railway bridges is maintained zone wise. Bihar is served by Eastern, East Central, North Eastern, North East Frontier Railway. Number of bridges rehabilitated/rebuilt/ strengthened on these railways in last 3 years are as below:-

Railway	07-08	08-09	09-10
ER	132	221	155
ECR	35	47	50
NER	15	8	11
NFR	125	92	57

Effect of situation in Kashmir on railway operations

3476. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway operations and office functioning were affected by the recent turmoil situation in Kashmir valley; and

(b) if so, the details of the damages caused and the steps being taken to protect the railway properties and ensure safety of railway employees working there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The train services have been suspended between Baramulla and Qazigund stations on Northern Railways w.e.f. 31.07.2010 due to adverse law and order situation. The prevailing security situation also led to certain problems/difficulties for the railway employees working there, which have since sorted out.

The main damages to the railway assets assessed are as under:

- (i) Railway track was damaged/disturbed at more than 30 locations between Qazigund-Budgam section.
- (ii) Three railway bridges were damaged/affected between Qazigund-Budgam, section.
- (iii) Building and related works were partially damaged at 3 stations (Budgam, Avantipur and Kakapora) between Qazigund-Budgam section.
- (iv) Station building to Sopore was burnt.
- (v) Station substation (250 KVA DG set, HT metering panel, transformers) at Sopore station was burnt and damaged.

- (vi) Colony substation (HT metering panel, LT panel feeder pillars) at Sopare station was burnt and damaged.
- (vii) Panels, HPSV fittings, high mast tower fitting, light fittings and fans in 12 quarters, honda sets, UPS, invertors etc. in station building and colony at Sopare station were damaged.

(viii) Signalling gears have been damaged at Qazigund, Sadura, Anantnag, Bijbehara, Panzgam, Avantipur, Kakapora, Pampore, Srinagar and Budgam stations.

Law and order including '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.

Theft and robbery on running trains

3477. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thefts on running trains have increased manifold, including one such robbery in Bihar recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering to enhance the security on trains; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Theft of passengers' belongings in running trains have marginally increased. On 06.08.2010, Train No. 3111 Kolkata - Delhi Lal Quila Express was stopped by miscreants at Kundar Halt between Jamui - Mananpur Railway stations in Jhajha - Kiul section over East Central Railway in Bihar by pulling alarm chain, and looted the passengers travelling in 4 sleeper coaches and 1 air-conditioned coach. On resistance by the Government Railway Police escorts, the miscreants opened fire causing bullet injury to one of the Constables. 15 passengers also sustained injury. Government Railway Police/Jhajha has registered a case vide crime no. 24/2010 dated 06.08.2010 under section 147, 148, 149, 323, 324, 353, 332, 224, 307, 379 Indian Penal Code and 27 Arms Act.

(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. Railway Protection Force (RPF) does not have any legal power to prosecute the offenders involved in criminal offences like dacoity/robbery/theft of passengers' belongings, drugging etc.

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

Extension of train services to ST dominated areas

3478. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to extend train services to ST dominated areas on no profit no loss basis as announced in the Rail Budget 2009-10;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any plan to expedite the matter on priority basis;

(d) the names of the places in the country including, Surat, Bharuch, Mehsana, Tapti and Navsari of Gujarat where survey for laying of the railway lines has been completed; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Socially desirable projects have been up to provide rail connectivity, and thereby train services, in backward areas. Many of the ongoing new line projects are on socio-economic considerations. In the Railway Budget 2010-11, it has been proposed to process socially desirable new line projects in various parts of the country.

(c) Extension of train services is an ongoing process subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility and resource

availability.

(d) and (e) A Statement is enclosed.

Statement

Details of survey for new rail lines

Sl.No.	Name of the Survey
1	2
1.	Ajmer-Kota

1	2
2.	Aligarh-Kasganj
3.	Amarapura (Jorasi) to Chirawa via Tathwari and Singhana
4.	Angadippuram-Kozhikode
5.	Anupgarh to Kolayat via Khajuwala
6.	Anupgarh-Khajuwala-Jaisalmer-Ramgarh
7.	Banarhat-Samtse (Bhutan)
8.	Bangalore-Nangli
9.	Barwadih-Chirmiri
10.	Bhadrachallam-Kovvur
11.	Bhavnagar-Mahua
12.	Bilaspur to Leh via Kullu and Manali (400 km.)
13.	Bishnupur-Mukutmonipur
14.	Bongaon-Bagdaha
15.	Budge Budge-Namkhana-Frazerganj
16.	Canning-Gosaba via Basanti
17.	Chalsa-Jhaldhaka
18.	Champadanga-Tarakeswar
19.	Chhikbalapur-Puttapurthy-Sri Satya Sai Nilyam
20.	Chidambaram-Attur via Ariyalur, Perambalur
21.	Chinchwad-Roha
22.	Cumbum to Podattur
23.	Dangri-Dhola
24.	Dauram Madhepura to Pratapnagar via Singheshwar Asthan, Bhimnagar and Triveniganj
25.	Dehradun to Kalsi
26.	Deoria-Kushinagar
27.	Dharwad-Belgaum
28.	Dindigul-Kumuli (lower camp)
29.	Donakonda-Bitragunta
30.	Dumdum to Garia via Rajerhat

1	2
31.	Ellanabad-Sirsa <i>via</i> Raniyal
32.	Erode to Satyamanglam
33.	Extension of Rupsa-Bangriposi to Gurumahishani
34.	Ferozepur-Patti
35.	Ghanauli-Baddi
36.	Ghatakpur-Minkhan
37.	Gunjaria-Gazole <i>via</i> Ithar, Raiganj
38.	Gunji-Kulem
39.	Harij-Mahsana-Radhanpur
40.	Hasimara, Phuentsholing (Bhutan)
41.	Jadclerla-Nandyal New Line
42.	Jammu-Poonch <i>via</i> Akhnur, Rajaori, Bajalta
43.	Jangipara-Furfura
44.	Jaynagar-Jamtala
45.	Jhargram-Purulia
46.	Jhunjhunu-Pilani
47.	Jogighopa-Silchar <i>via</i> Panchratna
48.	Joginder Nagar-Mandi
49.	Jolarpettai-Hossur <i>via</i> Krishnagiri
50.	Kandra-Namkom
51.	Kanjangad-Panathur
52.	Karad-Chiplun
53.	Kasganj-Khurja <i>via</i> Atrauli
54.	Katangi-Tirodi
55.	Kathua-Basoli-Bhadarwah-Kishtwar
56.	Khemkaran-Firozpur
57.	Khurja-Raya new line <i>via</i> Mat, Surir, Bajna
58.	Kokrajhar-Gelephu-(Butan)
59.	Krishna Nagar-Beharampore <i>via</i> Chapra, Karimpur
60.	Krishnanagar-Nabadwipghat extension to BB loop

1	2
61.	Krishnaraja Nagar-Kushal Nagar
62.	Lalganj-Bachhrawan <i>via</i> Gurubakshganj
63.	Lohardega-Gumla, and extension to Simdega
64.	Madurai-Karaikkudi <i>via</i> Melur, Tiruppattur
65.	Madurai-Tuticorin
66.	Manmad-Indore <i>via</i> Malegaon and Dhule
67.	Manuguru-Ramagendam
68.	Meerut-Panipat
69.	Modasa-Shamlaj
70.	Morappur-Dharmapur <i>via</i> Mukkanur
71.	Nadikudi-Srikalahasti
72.	Namkhana-Bakkhali
73.	Nanjangud-Nilambur <i>via</i> Sultan Bathery
74.	Needmangalam-Pattukottai <i>via</i> Mannargudi, Madukkur
75.	New Jalpaiguri-Kakrabitta (Nepal)
76.	Ningala-Gadhad-Babra-Khijadia Jn.
77.	Ongole-Donakonda
78.	Pandharpur-Lonad
79.	Panskura-Ghatal-Chandrakona and Ghatal-Arambagh
80.	Park Circus-Dhamakhali
81.	Pathsala-Nanglam (Bhutan)
82.	Porbandar-Pordbandar Port
83.	Pune-Nasik
84.	Pushkar-Merta road
85.	Puttaparthi (Satyasai Nilayam) - Kadiri <i>via</i> Nallamada
86.	Raigarh-Mand Colliery - Bhupdeopur
87.	Rail-cum-Road bridge between Tejarayanpur-Sahibganj
88.	Rajkharswan-Ranchi
89.	Rama Mandi-Maur Mandi <i>via</i> Talwandi Sabo
90.	Rangia-Sandrupjongkhar <i>via</i> Darranga (Bhutan)

1	2
91.	Rangpo-Gangtok
92.	Ranjitpura-Yeshwantnagar
93.	Ratlam Banswara-Dungarpur
94.	Rewa-Mirzapur
95.	Rewari-Bhiwadi
96.	Ringus Didwana via Khatu Shyamji
97.	Rishkesh-Karanprayag
98.	Rotegoan-Puntamba
99.	Rupai-Parshuramkund via Mahadevpur, Namsai, Chingkhram
100.	Sabarimala-Chenganur
101.	Salboni-Jhargram via Lalgah-Belpahari
102.	Salna to Khumtai
103.	Sambhal Hatim Sarai-Gajraula
104.	Shirpur-Mhow
105.	Tejnarayanpur-Bhaluka Road
106.	Thalassery-Mysore via Kodagu
107.	Thanjavur to Ariyalur via Tirumanur and Valampuri
108.	Tiruvannamalai-Jolarpettai
109.	Tonk-Deoli
110.	Tumkur-Davangiri
111.	Ujjain-Jhalawar-Ramganjmandi
112.	Una-Hoshiarpur
113.	Veer-Harihareshwar
114.	Villivakkam-Katpadi
115.	Wadsa-Gadchiroli
116.	Whitefield-Kolar

Vacant posts in Railways

3479. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a large number of vacant posts of Drivers, Gangman and Safety Officers in Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if this shortage could be related to growing incidents of railway accidents; and

(d) the action being proposed/taken by Government in this regard and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The number of vacant posts of Drivers and Gangman (including Gangmate) on the Zonal Railways, as on 01.04.2009 is as under:

(i) Drivers	:	7190
(ii) Gangmen (including Gangmate)	:	35288

Safety Officers: Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) and (d) The number of consequential train accidents have declined over the years. Action taken includes streamlining of the working of Railway Recruitment Boards, including technical audit of the examination system and holding of examinations for a particular post on the same date simultaneously by all the Railway Recruitment Boards. Recruitment process are at various stages for filling up of vacancies including backlog of reserved vacancies.

Robbery in Howrah bound Amritsar Mail

3480. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on 22 February, 2010 armed robbers attacked the passengers travelling in coach number 10 of Howrah bound Amritsar Mail;

(b) whether it is also a fact that RPF personnel travelling in very next compartment neither prevented the robbers nor arrested them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) On 22.02.2010, 9/10 miscreants looted the passengers travelling in coach no. S-10 of Train No. 3006 Amritsar – Howrah Mail between Dumrao and Reghunathpur Railway stations in Patna – Mughalsarai section over East Central Railway. One passenger sustained

injury and was given first aid by Railway doctor at Danapur Railway station. Government Railway Police, Agra has registered a case vide crime no. 15/10 dated 23.02.2010 under section 395/397 Indian Penal Code.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The train was escorted by 5 Government Railway Police personnel of Ara.

Development of crash-worthy coaches

3481. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of development of crash-worthy coaches and locomotives to prevent train accidents in the country;

(b) whether any time-frame has been fixed by which all the existing coaches and locomotives are replaced with crashworthy coaches in the country; and

(c) to what extent the anti-collision devices help in preventing train accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) To improve upon the standards of safety, a "Crashworthy" coach design was evolved which enables adsorption of significant amount of energy during the impact/collision. A total of about 465 such 'crashworthy' coaches have been manufactured so far.

(b) Retro fitment of crashworthy design features has not been found technically feasible in existing coaches/locomotives. Such coaches/locomotive shall be replaced on attaining their prescribed life. While new crashworthy coaches and locomotives shall be inducted in service, no definite time frame can be fixed for the complete replacement.

(c) Anti collision devices such as Train Protection Warning System (TPWS) and Anti Collision Device (ACD) have been tried out on pilot basis and these are being developed/installed to help in preventing specific cases/types of accidents/collisions.

Private players to build railway track

3482. SHRI M. V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to allow private players to build railway tracks and earn revenue from freight charges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are any plans to allow private players to operate special freight trains; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The Railways have issued a revised R3i policy (Railways' Infrastructure for Industry Initiative) on 20.07.2010 to attract private sector participation in rail connectivity projects so

that additional rail transport capacity can be created. It also aims at making rail option more competitive for prospective customers by allowing them to get a share in the freight revenues generated through freight traffic moving via new line.

(c) and (d) Special Freight Train Operator (SFTO) Scheme has been launched on 31.05.2010 to attract private investment in special purpose wagons. Eligible private operators registered under the scheme can operate private trains for transportation of specific commodities listed under the scheme. The commodities include molasses, edible oils, caustic soda, fly ash and chemicals/petrochemicals, alumina, cement and fertilizer in bulk as also steel

products requiring specially designed wagons. Another scheme namely Automobile Freight Train Operator Scheme (AFTO) has also been launched on 19.07.2010 to attract private investment in high-capacity auto-carriers in order to increase the share of railways in automobile traffic.

Railway staff in valley

3483. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway staff from outside the valley have left for their homes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the staff was not feeling safe there; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) Due to adverse law and order situation, the train services have been suspended. The prevailing security situation also led to certain problem/difficulties for the railway employees working there, which has since been sorted out.

Proposals of flyovers

3484. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether zonal level, division level, and Railway Station Railway User Advisory Committees and Consultative Committees are meeting regularly in Eastern Railway and South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details of date of meetings of Divisional and Zonal level committee in 2009-10 and 2010-11;

(c) whether there are regular meetings with the State Government for better coordination; and

(d) whether Government of Orissa has given specific proposals for second flyover at Jajpur Road, flyover bridge at Manapura Gate and footbridge over Baitarani Bridge near Bandallo railway station in Jajpur district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The present Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committee (ZRUCC) and Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committees (DRUCCs) have been reconstituted for a two years term with effect from 16.09.2009. Details of the meeting of ZRUCCs and DRUCCs of

Eastern and South Eastern Railway are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No such proposals have been received from State Government of Orissa regarding second flyover at Jajpur Road Railway station and foot path over Baitarani river railway bridge near Bandallo in Jajpur District. However, the flyover bridge at Manapur Gate i.e. Mangovindpur

in lieu of level crossing No. 16 at Railway km. 172/8-9 between Sukinda-Jakhpura Jn. Stations in the district Jajpur has been sanctioned in 2009-10. General Arrangement Drawing for the Road Over Bridge has been approved and detailed estimate is under process.

Statement

Details of the meeting of ZRUCCs and DRUCCs of Eastern and Southern Railway

Eastern Railway

ZRUCC		10.08.2010
DRUCC	Howrah	20.4.2010
	Sealdah	20.08.2010
	Asansol	08.07.2010
	Malda Town	18.08.2010

South Eastern Railway

ZRUCC		17.02.2010
DRUCC	Adra	28.05.2010
	Chakdiharpur	17.05.2010
	Kharagpur	25.02.2010, 30.06.2010
	Ranchi	17.05.2010

Doubling and electrification of rail line in Orissa

3485. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jagatpur to Bhubaneswar via Cuttack and from Bhubaneswar to Puri rail line is the most important railway line in the State as all trains pass through Cuttack and Bhubaneswar;

(b) if so, why doubling and electrification of this rail line is not complete till today; and

(c) whether East-coast Railway has enough fund to complete this work in 2010?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) There is no railway station by the name Jagatpur in Orissa. No state-wise hierarchy in terms of importance of railway lines is maintained on Indian Railways.

(b) and (c) On Bhubaneswar-Puri section, double line exists between Bhubaneswar-Khurda Road-Delang. The doubling of Delang-Puri has been taken up in the Railway Budget 2010-11. Rs. 20 crore has been allocated for doubling during the current year. In Cuttack-Bhubaneswar section, double line exists between Bhubaneswar-Barang while doubling of

Cuttack-Barang section is planned for completion during 2010-11. Existing lines from Cuttack-Bhubaneswar to Puri are electrified.

Dividend from public sector undertakings

3486. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not getting the dividend from seven public sector undertakings special purpose vehicle joint ventures even though Railway has invested 958 crores for a long time; and

(b) in other seven public sector undertakings the dividend is only Rs. 268.46 crores till 2008 and 2009 although the investment of Railway is Rs. 5407.57 crores even though these companies are not facing any competition for getting the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Out of seven Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), there are loss making companies hence not paying dividend, these are expected to become profit making shortly. Remaining four are project development/implementation companies having no business income, hence not paying dividend.

(b) Out of the seven SPSEs referred, six have paid dividend in terms of the guidelines of Ministry of Finance, only exception being Rail Vikas Nigam Limited. The total investment includes financing cost of Rs. 4522.62 crore (*i.e.* 83.63% of the total investment) of railway projects given to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited as equity. As and when the assets, for which financing has been done, are commissioned and transferred to Indian Railways, consequent to that, corresponding amount of equity would also get reduced. Most of these companies earn their business through competitive bidding.

Special railway safety surcharge

3487. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been levying special railway safety surcharge ranging between Rs. 2 and 100 per traveller;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the projects undertaken under the safety fund for the last three years and the total cost of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Safety surcharge was levied from 1st October, 2001 to 31st March, 2007. The details are as under:—

Upto 500 kms.	Beyond 500 kms.
1	2

Single journey ticket

Second (Ordinary)

1

1

	1	2
Second (M/E)	2	2
Sleeper	10	20
AC Chair Car	20	40
First	20	40
AC 3-tier	30	60
AC 2-tier	40	80
1st-AC/Executive	50	100
Monthly Season ticket (MST)		
First class	20	—
Second class	10	—
Quarterly Season ticket (QST)		
First class	60	—
Second class	30	—

(c) The Special Railway Safety Fund (SRSF) was closed on 31.03.2008. There are no expenses under SRSF during 2008-09 and 2009-10, and current year. The projects pertaining to Track, Bridges, Rolling Stock and Signalling were under taken under SRSF. Total expenditure upto 31.3.2008 was Rs. 16,317.64 crores.

Performance of IRCTC

3488. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether IRCTC is earning profit;

(b) if so, the amount of profit earned during last three financial years; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of the profit made during last three financial years are as follows:—

(Rs. in crores)		
2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 Provisional

Net Profit	20.75	46.50	63.05
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(c) Does not arise.

Unutilized land of Railways

†3489. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the zone-wise details of unutilized land of Railways as on 31st March, 2009;

(b) whether railways has given its land for use of any authority/agency after 2004;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the revenue earned by Railways by this move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Indian Railways have approximately 10.65 lakh acre of land. About 90% of this land is under Railway's operational and allied usages. Total vacant land, which is approx. 1.13 lakh acre (with zone wise details given in the Statement (See below). comprises the land bank. The first charge on utilization of this land bank is for Railways' own development works such as doubling, gauge conversions, yard re-modeling and traffic facility works, freight corridors as well as for servicing the track and other infrastructure. In addition, Railways plan to utilize its land bank, wherever feasible for setting up infrastructural works etc. Vacant railway land and air space not required by Railways for its immediate future operational needs is utilized for commercial development, wherever feasible.

(b) to (d) Land measuring 5278 acre has been given to various authorities/agencies on lease/license/entrustment including 3761 acres entrusted to RLDA after 2004. The total revenue earned by Railways from land thereof is as under:-

Sl. No.	Year	Revenue earned (In crore of Rupees)
1.	2004-05	200.80
2.	2005-06	201.45
3.	2006-07	356.00
4.	2007-08	476.51
5.	2008-09	541.95
6.	2009-10	685.08

Statement

Zone-wise details of vacant land as on 31.03.2009

Sl. No.	Railway Zone	Details of Vacant land (Area in Acre)
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1	2	3
1.	Central	6188

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3
2.	Eastern	3792
3.	East Central	8620
4.	East Coast	4707
5.	Northern	9489
6.	North Central	1079
7.	North Eastern	14352
8.	Northeast Frontier	11718
9.	North Western	5953
10.	Southern	5673
11.	South Central	5557
12.	South Eastern	4467
13.	South Western	2255
14.	South East Central	9659
15.	Western	17970
16.	West Central	1458
TOTAL:		112937

Pending Railway Projects

†3490. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of sanctioned pending railway project, State-wise;
- (b) by when the work is likely to be started on them; and;
- (c) the estimated expenditure on these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The State-wise details of ongoing railway projects are as under:—

State	New line	Gauge Conversion	Doubling	Railway electrification
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	16	1	7	2
Assam and NE States	11	3	1	1
Bihar	34	6	12	4

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4	5
Chhattisgarh	1	–	10	–
Delhi	–	–	4	2
Gujarat	2	10	7	1
Haryana	2	1	6	4
Himachal Pradesh	3	–	–	1
Jammu and Kashmir	1	–	3	1
Jharkhand	8	1	10	5
Karnataka	10	2	12	3
Kerala	2	2	9	2
Madhya Pradesh	5	5	4	2
Maharashtra	4	4	8	2
Orissa	5	–	15	1
Punjab	5	–	4	2
Rajasthan	5	13	8	1
Tamil Nadu	7	6	7	4
Uttar Pradesh	8	8	19	9
Uttarakhand	3	2	–	–
West Bengal	14	3	28	7

Projects falling in more than one State have been shown against each State.

(b) and (c) Projects are in various stages of progress. An expenditure of about Rs. 40,000 crore has been incurred on these projects upto 31st March, 2010.

Scam in Surat-Bhagalpur Express

3491. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scam relating to Surat-Bhagalpur Express has come to light;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) One extra sleeper coach was attached to train No. 9047/9048 Surat-Bhagalpur express for clearance of extra rush of passengers. The coach was incorporated in the computerized passenger reservation system, from Surat to Bhagalpur, but not from Bhagalpur to Surat.

Therefore computerized reservation chart of this coach were not being generated from Bhagalpur to Surat. The allotment of berth was being done manually by Ticket Checking staff for passengers including the Reservation Against Cancellation (RAC) and Waitlisted passengers. The matter is under investigation.

(c) The extra coach has now been incorporate into the Computerized Research system and the reservation chart of the entire train, including this extra coach is being done through Passenger Reservation System.

Allotment of berth under emergency quota

3492. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI has conducted surprise checks on several trains and unearthed major irregularities in the allotment of berths under the Emergency Quota;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the nexus between railway officials and touts has given rise to the irregularities in berths allotment; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the steps Government proposes to take to prevent such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) Central Bureau of Investigation, alongwith Vigilance branch had conducted surprise checks on several trains, and the full report of CBI is awaited.

Shortage of rakes in Kolkata Metro

3493. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kolkata Metro is facing serious problems of shortage of rakes;

(b) whether it is also a fact that various accidents involving the coaches are taking place on regular basis as the rakes have outlived their lives;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) No, Sir. There is no shortage of rakes on Kolkata

Metro for operating the scheduled services as advertised in Metro Railway Time Table. In view of increased passenger traffic, Kolkata Metro plans to run additional services and for extension of its services, additional rakes are required. Necessary planning for acquisition of additional rakes has already been made and are likely to be received in due course. There has been no accident on account of coach defect. Measures such as schedule inspection, overhauls, special safety check etc. as prescribed for safe running of trains are continuously taken to prevent any accident.

Import of cheap steel

3494. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the indiscriminate import of cheap steel from foreign countries has affected the indigenous steel industry as their inventory has been piling up;

(b) if so, the details of the indigenous production of various categories of steel demand and imports during the last two years;

(c) whether there is a surge in imports, if so, how it has affected the indigenous steel industry;

(d) whether the steel industry has taken up the matter with Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) The total stock position of steel as on 01.08.2010 with the domestic producers is 1.62 million tonnes *i.e.* around 10 days production, which is the average norm. The increase in import of steel is apparently due to the increase in steel demand in the country. During the year 2009-10, consumption of finished steel in the country has grown by 7.9%, whereas the production has increased by 4.4%. Similarly, during April to July period of 2010-11, the increase in steel consumption is 10.7%, whereas production increase is 2.7%. Normally, the excess demand to steel in the domestic market is met through imports. No apparent adverse impact causing injury to the domestic producers, on account of imports, has been noticed, so far.

(b) The Production, import and consumption of all categories of finished steel products are given below:-

(in million tonnes)			
Period	Production	Import	Real Consumption
2008-09	57.16	5.84	52.35
2009-10	59.69	7.29	56.48
2010-11 (April-July)	19.99	3.67	19.98

(c) The import of steel during the period of April-July, 2010 is
3.67 million tonnes

against 2.20 million tonnes during April-July, 2009, which is an increase of 66%. However during the same period the consumption of finished steel in the country has also increased from 18.06 million tonnes to 19.98 million tonnes. The indigenous steel production, during the period of April-July, 2010 has also increased from 19.44 million tonnes to 19.99 million tonnes.

(d) and (e) A section of steel industry had represented to the Ministry of Steel, requesting to bring the import of "Hot Rolled Coil" into 'restricted category' of imports. At the same time the consumers of Hot Rolled Coil had also represented not to impose any kind of restriction on imports of Hot Rolled Coil. In this regard, a discussion was held in the Ministry of Steel, on 6.8.2010, with major Hot Rolled Coil producers and consumers. Ministry of Steel is closely monitoring the situation on production, demand, import and prices of all categories of steel products and will initiate appropriate action, whenever necessary.

Land acquisition for Salem Steel Plant

3495. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a demand to provide relief including jobs to people whose land has been acquired for the purpose of Steel Plant at Salem in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government of Tamil Nadu had also made a request in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of Tamil Nadu had acquired an area of 3973.08 acres of land in a phased manner for Salem Plant between 1970 and 1983, on account of which 3002 families had been displaced. The persons from whom lands were acquired have demanded that they be provided employment opportunities on priority basis. A request from the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu regarding provision of employment opportunities to displaced persons was also received by the Government. Salem Steel Plant of the Steel Authority of India Ltd. being a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) is governed by Government guidelines and Court Orders. The vacancies are notified to the local employment exchange under the Compulsory Notification of Vacancies Act and recruitment notices are also published in the press, wherever any vacancy arises. The candidates can apply against such notification/advertisement and their candidature is considered for employment, as per the rules of the company and all things being equal, due preference is given to

displaced persons in line of the judgements of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras. A total of 212 of legal heirs of the displaced persons have been provided jobs so far.

Merging of Neelanchal Ispat Nigam Limited

†3496. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the merger of Neelanchal Ispat Nigam Limited (NINL) located at Kalinga Nagar in Orissa with the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been decided in principle;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (c) There is no proposal for merger of Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd. (NINL) located at Kalinga Nagar in Orissa with Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL). However, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL) has plans to acquire equity stake in NINL. The process of valuation of the equity shares of NINL based on due diligence has since been carried out and communicated to Minerals and Meals Trading Corporation (MMTC) for appropriate action.

Schemes to promote steel producing units

3497. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has special schemes to promote new steel producing units in the country; and

(b) whether Government would initiate more schemes by making use of the iron-ore to make value added products like steel rather than ore exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP):

(a)

No, Sir. Government of India has no special schemes to promote new steel producing units. All other general schemes for industrial and regional development, as formulated otherwise by Central Government and respective State Governments, are, however, applicable to steel units.

(b) There is no special scheme for making use of the iron ore to make value added products like steel. Presently, in order to conserve iron ore resources, there is an export duty of 5% on iron ore fines and 15% on other varieties of iron ore.

R&D in iron and steel sector

†3498. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes launched for Research and Development (R & D) in iron and steel sector during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the scheme-wise cost thereof and likely benefits therefrom;

and

(c) the details of present status of these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) Based on the recommendations of the Working Group on Steel Industry, a new scheme *i.e.* Scheme for Promotion of R&D in Iron and Steel Sector with an outlay of Rs. 118.00 crore has been launched by the Government during Eleventh Five Year Plan. Further it has been decided to pursue R&D on three broad areas namely (i) Development to innovative/path breaking technologies utilizing Indian iron ore fines and non coking coal (ii) Improvement of quality of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

steels produced through induction furnace route and (iii) Beneficiation of raw materials like iron ore, coal etc. and agglomeration (e.g. Pelletization).

(c) Under this scheme, so far, 8 specific research proposals have been identified. Out of these Projects, 4 R&D projects have been approved and are under implementation. The total cost of these projects is Rs. 33.4115 crore, of which, the 1st installment of Rs. 4.14 crore has already been released.

Consumption of steel

†3499. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether target for per capita consumption of steel in the urban and rural areas are in place;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the efforts being made to achieve it;

(c) the link between increase in the power consumption along with the increase in the per capita steel consumption; and

(d) the areas identified for increasing the consumption of steel in the rural areas apart from its use in building activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) Steel is a deregulated sector. In a deregulated, open market economy, the role of Government is that of a facilitator and in that capacity, it promotes/encourages growth of steel industry through suitable policy measures. Government has not set any targets for per capita consumption of steel. However, as per the National Steel Policy, 2005 laid down by the Government drawing the broad roadmap of growth for the Indian steel industry, the per capita consumption of finished steel is likely to reach 165 kg. per annum in the urban areas and 4 kg. per annum in the rural areas by the year 2019-20.

In order to understand the pattern and potential of steel consumption in the Indian rural market, the Government has initiated a study on assessment of steel demand in the rural areas of the country.

(c) There is a direct link between the poor consumption and per capita steel consumption as both have identical trends.

(d) Some of the areas identified for increasing consumption of steel in rural areas, apart from its use in building activities, are:-

1. Low cost steel housing for economically challenged people.
2. Steel doors, windows, roofs, racks, framers, etc. for household purposes.

3. Steel culverts.
4. Community toilets/Halls etc.
5. Steel agricultural implements.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

12.00 Noon

6. Steel silos/Storage bins.

7. Steel bullock carts.

Opening of sale depots in rural, tribal and remote areas

3500. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has instructed the State Government companies to open sale depots in rural, tribal and remote areas in respective State including Gujarat State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of depots to be opened in the districts of Mehsana, Bharuch, Surat, Rajkot and Amreli for the purpose; and

(d) the number of sale depots likely to be opened in the State both in retail and wholesale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has appointed 96 numbers of dealers in the State of Gujarat for the marketing purpose of SAIL branded products. Of these, 23 dealers have been appointed in the districts of Amreli (2), Mehsana (4), Rajkot (5), Bharuch (8) and Surat (4). Further, SAIL has advertised for the appointment of more dealers in 18 locations of Gujarat State in which Amreli and Mehsana are also included. Similarly, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) has appointed one district level dealer at Vadodara, Gujarat and has proposed to appoint 15 more district level dealers in Gujarat State.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभापति महोदय, रामविलास जी का बयान ... (व्यवधान) ... रामविलास जी ने जो आरोप लगाया है, वह expunge किया जाए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, the Leader of Opposition made

a

statement in which he referred to large sections of the House. Sir, those large sections of the House...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us lay the papers. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, if he had spoken only on behalf of his party, it is one thing. ...*(Interruptions)*... He has spoken on behalf of the House and we totally object to being referred to in that way because we entirely disagree ...*(Interruptions)*... with the comment he has made...*(Interruptions)*... and we believe that...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति : पहले papers lay करने दीजिए।
...(व्यवधान)... Papers lay करने दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)... I will
hear you after laying of papers.

Reports and Accounts (2008-09) of BCI, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bar Council of India (BCI), New Delhi, 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 (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2943/15/10]

Notification of the Ministry of Shipping

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of Section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Shipping Notification No. G.S.R. 329 (E), dated the 16th April, 2010, publishing the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Oil from Ships) Rules, 2010, along with delay statement.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3040/15/10]

Notification of the Ministry of Civil Aviation

SHRI G.K. VASAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Praful Patel, I lay on the Table, under Section 14 A of the Aircraft Act, 1934, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation Notification No. G.S.R. 643 (E), dated the 29th July, 2010, publishing the Aircraft (Second Amendment) Rules, 2010, along with Explanatory Note on the Notification.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3041/15/10]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Environment and Forests

II. Reports and Accounts (2008-09) of FRLHT, Bangalore and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Sir, I lay on the Table:-

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, under Section 26 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986:-

- (1) S.O. 2363 (E), dated the 15th September, 2009, amending Notification No. S.O. 1888 (E) dated the 30th July, 2008, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (2) S.O. 3065 (E), dated the 1st December, 2009, amending Notification No. S.O. 948 (E) dated the 12th June, 2007, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.

- (3) S.O. 3066 (E), dated the 1st December, 2009, amending Notification No. S.O. 1105 (E), dated the 4th July, 2007, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (4) S.O. 242 (E), dated the 3rd February, 2010, amending Notification No. S.O. 1735 (E) dated the 11th October, 2007, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (5) S.O. 852 (E), dated the 16th April, 2010, regarding constitution of the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Nagaland.
- (6) S.O. 853 (E), dated the 16th April, 2010, regarding constitution of the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Goa.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (6) See No. L.T. 2888/15/10]

- (7) S.O. 1111 (E), dated the 14th May, 2010, regarding constitution of the Uttarakhand State Ganga River Conservation Authority.
- (8) S.O. 1906 (E), dated the 3rd August, 2010, regarding delegation of powers to the Uttarakhand State Ganga River Conservation Authority.
- (9) S.O. 1907 (E), dated the 3rd August, 2010, authorizing the Uttarakhand State Ganga River Conservation Authority for filing complaints for any offence under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. For (7) to (9) See No. L.T. 3010/15/10]

- (10) S.O. 2144 (E), dated the 21st August, 2009, regarding constitution of the Union Territory Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Chandigarh.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2888/15/10]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre of Excellence for Medicinal Plants and Traditional Knowledge, Foundation for Revitalisation of Local Health Traditions (FRLHT), Bangalore, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3011/15/10]

Reports and Accounts (2007-08) of BCPL, Kolkata and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS
(SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following
papers, under
sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act,
1956:—

- (a) Twenty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL), Kolkata, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (c) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3042/15/10]

Report on the progress made in the intake of SC/ST against vacancies reserved for them in railways upto March, 2009, 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) Report on the Progress made in the intake of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes against vacancies reserved for them in recruitment and promotion categories in the Railways, for the year ending 31st March, 2009.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3043/15/10]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Human Resources Development

II. Reports and Accounts (2008-2009) of various educational Institutes/Council/Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Sir, I lay on the Table-

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education):-
 - (1) S.O. 2825, dated the 11th-17th October, 2009, publishing the Council (Institutes of Technology) Amendment rules, 2009, under sub-section (3) of the Section 35 of the Institutes of Technology Act, 1962, along with delay statement.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2933/15/10]

- (2) No. 146, dated the 26th May, 2010, publishing the UGC

[Institutions Deemed to be Universities] Regulations,
2010, under Section 28 of the University Grants
Commission Act, 1956.

- (3) No. F.6-1(11)/2006 (CPP.I), dated the 2nd August, 2010,
publishing Addendum/ Corrigendum to the UGC (Institutions
Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3021/15/10]

II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section(4) of Section 22 of the National Institutes of Technology Act, 2007:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Calicut, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3020/15/10]

- (b) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Raipur, for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3019/15/10]

- (c) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Patna, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (d) Review by Government on the working of the above Institutes.

- (e) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3018/15/10]

(2) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 25 and sub-section (4) of Section 26 of the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993:—

- (a) Fourteenth Annual Report of the National Council for Teacher Education, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09.

- (b) Annual Accounts of the National Council for Teacher Education, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, and the Audit Report thereon.

- (c) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

- (d) 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. 3018/15/10]

A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (3) (a) Annual Report of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09.

- (b) Annual Accounts of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, and the Audit Report thereon.

(c) Review by Government on the working of the above Samiti.

(d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) and (b) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3129/15/10]

- (4) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rajasthan Council of Elementary Education, Jaipur, 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 (ii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3026/15/10]

- (5) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Kolkata, 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 (iii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3016/15/10]

- (6) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the year 2008-09.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for the year 2008-09 and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3017/15/10]

- (7) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Thiruvananthapuram, 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 (v) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3015/15/10]

- (8) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rajiv Gandhi Siksha Mission, Bhopal, 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 (vi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3027/15/10]

- (9) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Mission, Gujarat Council of Elementary Education, Gandhinagar, 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. 3028/15/10]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Finance

II. Report and Accounts (2009-10) of NABARD, Mumbai, and related papers

III. Trend and progress of Housing in India, 2008

IV. Report and Accounts (2009-10) of IDBI and related papers

V. Report (2009-10) on working of various banks and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): Sir, I lay on the Table:-

- I. (a) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), under Section 48 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999:-
 - (1) G.S.R. 634 (E), dated the 27th July, 2010, publishing the Foreign Exchange Management (Guarantees) (Amendment) Regulations, 2010.
 - (2) G.S.R. 635 (E), dated the 27th July, 2010, publishing the Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign Exchange Derivative Contracts) (Amendment) Regulations, 2010.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2995/15/10]

- (b) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) Notification No. LAD-NRO/GN/2010-11/13/13945, dated the 29th July, 2010, publishing the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Mutual Funds) (Amendment) Regulations, 2010, under Section 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2996/15/10]

- (c) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications

of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), under sub-section (1) of Section 7 of the Coinage Act, 1906:-

- (1) G.S.R. 667 (E), dated the 11th August, 2010, publishing the Coinage of the One Hundred Rupees and Five Rupees coined to Commemorate the occasion of 150 Years of the Kuka Movement Rules 2010.

(2) G.S.R. 668 (E), dated the 11th August, 2010, publishing the Coinage of the One Hundred Rupees and Five Rupees coined to Commemorate the occasion of Birth Centenary of the Mother Teresa Rules 2010.

(3) G.S.R. 669 (E), dated the 11th August, 2010, publishing the Coinage of the One Hundred Rupees and Five Rupees coined to Commemorate the occasion of Birth Centenary of the C. Subramanian Rules 2010.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3058/15/10]

(d) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services) Notification No. G.S.R. 595 (E), dated the 12th July, 2010, publishing the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure for Investigation of Misbehaviour or Incapacity of Presiding Officer) Rules, 2010, under sub-section (3) of Section 36 of the Recovery of Debts to Bank and Financial Institutions Act, 1993.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3060/15/10]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (5) of Section 48 of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981:-

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Mumbai, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Bank.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2994/15/10]

III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

Report on Trend and Progress of Housing in India, 2008, under Section 42 of the National Housing Bank Act, 1987.

IV. Annual Report and Accounts of the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Mumbai, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts, under sub-section (5) of Section 18 and sub-section (5) of Section 23 of the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964.

V. (a) Annual Report on the working and activities of the

following Banks for the year 2009-10, together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon, under sub-section (8) of Section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980:-

1. Corporation Bank;

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2969/15/10]

2. Punjab and Sind Bank;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3075/15/10]
 3. Oriental Bank of Commerce; and
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2971/15/10]
 4. Vijaya Bank.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2974/15/10]
- (b) Annual Report on the working and activities of the following Banks for the year 2009-10, together with the Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon, under sub-section (8) of Section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970:—
1. Allahabad Bank;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2958/15/10]
 2. Andhra Bank;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3057/15/10]
 3. Bank of India;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3057/15/10]
 4. Bank of Maharashtra;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2959/15/10]
 5. Canara Bank;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2968/15/10]
 6. Central Bank of India;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2960/15/10]
 7. Indian Bank;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2970/15/10]
 8. Indian Overseas Bank;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2962/15/10]
 9. Union Bank of India;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2964/15/10]
 10. United Bank of India; and
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2973/15/10]
 11. UCO Bank.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2965/15/10]

Notifications of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, under Section 62 of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006:-

- (1) G.S.R. 604 (E), dated the 19th July, 2010, publishing the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Exclusively for City or Local Natural Gas Distribution Network) Amendment Regulations, 2010.
- (2) G.S.R. 605 (E), dated the 19th July, 2010, publishing the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Authorizing Entities to Lay, Build, Operate or Expand City or Local Natural Gas Distribution Networks) Amendment Regulations, 2010.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3044/15/10]

Accounts (2007-08 and 2008-09) of ICWA, New Delhi and related paper

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

- (a) Annual Accounts of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi, for the year 2007-08 and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3061/15/10]

- (b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09 and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) and (b) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3062/15/10]

I. Report and Accounts (2008-09) of MAICL, Mumbai and related papers

II. Notification of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

III. Report and Accounts (2007-08) of SAVERA, New Delhi and related papers

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Prof. K.V. Thomas, I lay on the Table-

- I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the

Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) Forty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Maharashtra Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

(c) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3064/15/10]

II. 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(2)/2010, dated the 16th July, 2010, publishing the Food Corporation of India (Staff) (2nd Amendment) Regulation, 2010, under sub-section (5) of Section 45 of the Food Corporations Act, 1964.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3065/15/10]

III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers: -

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Society for Advancement of Villagers and Empowerment Rehabilitation of All (SAVERA), New Delhi, for the year 2007-08, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Society.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3066/15/10]

Report and Accounts (2008-09) of BEE, New Delhi and related papers

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Bharatsinh Solanki, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), 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 Bureau.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3000/15/10]

Reports and Accounts (2008-09) of AIIMS/Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh/NIB/NBE, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVEN): Sir, I lay on the Table-

(i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 18 and Section 19 of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956 :-

(a) Fifty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), 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 Institute.

(c) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3072/15/10]

(ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

(a) Annual Reports and Accounts of the Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh (National Population Stabilisation Fund), New Delhi, 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 (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3071/15/10]

(iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Board of Examinations, 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 Board.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3070/15/10]

(iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Biologicals (NIB), NOIDA, 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 (iii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3076/15/10]

Report and Accounts (2008-09) of NIEPMD, Chennai and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri D. Napoleon, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD), Chennai, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3085/15/10]

Report and Accounts (2008-09) of MTNL, New Delhi and related papers

संचार और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(श्री सचिन पायलट): महोदय, मैं नमिलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर
रखता हूँ :

I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) Twenty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (c) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3087/15/10]

Report and Accounts (2008-09) of NPCC, New Delhi and related papers

SHRI VINCENT PALA: Sir, I lay on the Table-

I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) Fifty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the National Projects Construction Corporation Limited (NPCC), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
- (c) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3090/15/10]

Notification of the Ministry of Finance

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: Sir, I lay on the Table, under Section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) Notification No. 84/2010-Customs, dated 27th August, 2010, seeking to amend Notification No. 13/2010-Customs, dated 19th February, 2010, so as to include suppliers, contractors, vendors or sub-vendors of the Organising Committee of Common Wealth Games, 2010 or of Prasar Bharati as eligible importers subject to specified conditions and to add certain specified goods in the list of exempted goods, together with an Explanatory Memorandum on the Notification.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 3125/15/10]

MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA

The Nalanda University 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 120 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 26th August, 2010, agreed without any amendment to the Nalanda University Bill, 2010, which was passed by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st August, 2010.”

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

डॉ. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान): महोदय, मैं 'एच.आई.वी./एड्स से पीड़ित महिलाओं' के संबंध में महिलाओं को शक्तियां प्रदान करने संबंधी समिति (2009-10) के पांचवें प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी में) सभा पटल पर रखती हूँ।

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS**

SHRI ABANI ROY (West Bengal): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in Hindi and English) of the following Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways:-

- (i) Eighth Report on 'Protection and Security of Railway Property and Passengers'; and
- (ii) Ninth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations of the Committee contained in their Seventh Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants for the year 2010-11 of the Ministry of Railways'.

**STATEMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

SHRI H.K. DUA (Nominated): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in Hindi and English) of the following Statements of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs:-

- (i) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Chapter-V of the Fifth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on action taken on the recommendations contained in the First Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, for the year 2009-10; and

- (ii) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and Chapter-V of the Sixth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on action taken on the recommendations contained in the Second Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs, for the year 2009-10.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the
Seventh Report of Department-related Parliamentary Standing
Committee on Railways**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): Sir, I make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Seventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways.

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the
Seventeenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing
Committee
on Petroleum and Natural Gas**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): Sir, I make a statement regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas on 'Strategy for Development of Alternative Sources of Oil and Gas'.

Re. SOME POINTS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Special Mentions...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I had raised the point. Kindly give me two minutes. Sir, in his comments, the Leader of the Opposition had talked about his views representing large sections of the House. Sir, I would like your permission to demarcate from that because I don't think he is representing large sections of the House. He is certainly not, and therefore, I would like you to give me permission to make a two minutes' intervention on the issue that he has raised...(Interruptions)... Why? It is not a question of semantics. The issue here is that certain individuals and organizations operating in the name of so-called...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Brindaji, that is not the subject...(Interruptions)...

श्री बलवंत उर्फ बाल आपटे (महाराष्ट्र): यह क्या हो रहा है? किस आधार पर ये बोल रही हैं? ... (व्यवधान) ... इनको बोलने का क्या अधिकार है? ... (व्यवधान) ... कौन से वषिय पर बोल रही हैं? ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, on every Statement of an individual Member, we cannot allow this. ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री बलवंत उर्फ बाबू आपटे : कुछ भी मन में आया और वे बोल दें ? ... (व्यवधान) ... इनको क्या अधिकार है ? ... (व्यवधान) ... कौन सा रूख है ? ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Let me finish. This is not fair... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have said it. This has gone on record. That is sufficient... (Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: This is not fair... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What are you doing? We have a lot of Legislative Business... (Interruptions)...

श्री बलवंत उर्फ बाबू आपटे : सर, यह रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जामा चाहिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is his view. You have dissented. That is all right... (Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Those who seek to create hatred between ... (Interruptions) ... I am on a point here, Sir. When somebody claims to represent large sections of the House, I have every right to put my point of view... (Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति : मैं बोल रहा हूँ ... (व्यवधान) ... आप क्या बात कर रहे हैं ? ... (व्यवधान) ... आप बैठिए। ... (व्यवधान) ... प्लीज़ , आप बैठ जाइए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री वनिय कटियार (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, क्या सदन ऐसे चलेगा ? ... (व्यवधान) ... इनका नोटिस नहीं है। फरि भी आप इनको अनुमति दे रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Let me complete my point... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Madam, you see, he said, large sections of the House. You disagree with it. It has gone on record... (Interruptions)...

श्री वनिय कटियार : आप क्या बात कर रही हैं ? ... (व्यवधान) ... सर, यह कैसे हो रहा है ? ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: We want to make a point that large sections of the House are concerned about the so-called ... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no need to make another point ... (Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Those who do not believe in the basic secular values of the Constitution and who are committing acts of terror... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You disagree with it. ... (Interruptions)...

पुत्रीज़ , आप बैठिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: They should condemn such acts of terror in the name of so-called Hindutva... (Interruptions)... What is this? Why should they object to my statement?

श्री बलवंत उर्फ बाल आपटे : वे क्या बात कर रही हैं और आप उनको करने दे रहे हैं ? ... (व्यवधान) ... ये हाउस को डिस्टर्ब कर रही हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ... यह रिकॉर्ड से नकार दीजिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री वनिय कटियार : ये क्या बात कर रही हैं ? ... (व्यवधान) ... चाहे केरल हो , चाहे बंगाल हो ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : कटियार जी, आप बैठिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...
देखिए, अब सब बैठ गए हैं। अब आप क्यों खड़े हो गए हैं ?
... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री वनिय कटियार : जहाँने पूरे देश के अंदर आतंकवाद
को जन्म दिया है, ... (व्यवधान) ... आज उसके कारण समस्याएं खड़ी
हो गयी हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : सहि साहब, आप बैठिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री वनिय कटियार : आखिर हम लोग सदन में आए या न आए ?
... (व्यवधान) ... जो चाहे, खड़ा हो जाता है, जो चाहे, बोझ देता
है। ऐसे सदन कैसे चलेगा ? ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठिए। ... (व्यवधान) ... आप भी जो चाहे
बोलते जा रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ... किसी की परमिशन नहीं है पर
बोलते जा रहे हैं और दूसरों पर आपत्ति करते हैं।
... (व्यवधान) ... आप बैठिए। यह तो बिल्कुल ही गलत है, आप बोलते
जा रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ... Then, nothing will go on record.
... (Interruptions) ... Nothing will go on record. ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री वनिय कटियार : *

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठिए न। ... (व्यवधान) ... आप
बैठिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री वनिय कटियार : *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, no. ... (Interruptions) ... First, let
me say, please. ... (Interruptions) ... No, no; please. I have permitted
her. I have told her, "I will listen." ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री बलवंत उर्फ बाल आपटे : *

श्री वनिय कटियार : *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: देखिए, I have told her. You see
... (Interruptions) ... आप बैठिए it is the Chair's discretion.
... (Interruptions) ... मैं बतलाता हूँ, आप बैठिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री वनिय कटियार : *

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठिए ... (व्यवधान) ... कटियार जी, आप
बैठिए न, मैं बताता हूँ। ... (व्यवधान) ... प्लीज़
बैठिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE (Rajasthan): He can say that. He is the
Leader of the Opposition. ... (Interruptions) ... He is the Leader of
the Opposition. He can say what he has to say. ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी (उत्तराखंड) : मेरी भी इस पर
आपत्ति है। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़ बैठिए। देखिए , जब हाउस री-असेंबल हुआ , before the Papers were laid, वृंदा जी ने कहा she had to submit something. I said, "I will listen to her after the papers are laid." Now, she got up and said, "The Leader of the Opposition has made certain statement expressing that it is the majority sentiment of the House." ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Large section, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, large section. She, as a Member, says, "We do not associate with it. Whatever he wants to say, it is not the sentiment of the large

*Not recorded.

section of the House.” That has gone on record. It is fine. ...*(Interruptions)*... The hon. Leader of the Opposition has made a statement. There is nothing unparliamentary for me to question. It is his view; he has expressed it. And ‘that you disagree with the view’, you have expressed it. Fine. और बचा क्या , debate नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इसमें डबिट नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, may I make a submission, Sir? ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I want to make a different submission. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, we have extended the Parliament Session by two days, i.e. 30th and 31st of August, Monday and Tuesday. There is a good bit of Legislative Business which is still to be taken up. There are certain Bills.....*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I appealed for it.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: We have to still take up those Bills, and, Sir, the hon. Members would appreciate that one of the very, very important items of agenda, and, in fact, the primary business, for the Parliament is to take up the Legislative Business which is proposed by the Government. Sir, I would, with utmost humility and respect, request all the hon. Members, and you also, Sir, to first begin with the Bills. Some time later, you may take up the Special Mentions. Sir, we must take up some Bills today itself.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You see.....*(Interruptions)*... अब छोड़िए , वह सब्जेक्ट हुआ। That subject is over, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : उपसभापति जी, आपकी व्यवस्था चाह रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : व्यवस्था ठीक है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : आपकी व्यवस्था चाह रहा हूँ श्रीमान , मेरा अनुरोध यह है कि जब लीडर ऑफओपोजिशन बोझने के लिए खड़े हुए , तो हम सब लोगों ने शांति से उनकी पूरी बात सुनी। हम उनसे सहमत हों या असहमत हों , लेकिन हमने पूरी बात सुनी। हमारा नविदन इतना है , व्यवस्था यह चाहिए कि अगर लीडर ऑफओपोजिशन की बात हम पूरी शांति से सुन चुके तो हमारे पक्ष से कोई बात कहना चाह रहा है या उनकी बातों का जवाब देना चाह रहा है तो हमारी बात को भी पूरी शांति से दूसरे पक्ष को सुनना चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I have to make a submission.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Raja, please cooperate. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please cooperate.

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : हम आपसे यह पूछना चाहते हैं कि

बोलने का अधिकार केवल भाजपा के लोगों को है, हम लोगों को नहीं है?... (व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; please cooperate. ... (Interruptions)... What can I do? I can only appeal to you, Members. More than that, what else can I do?

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपसे व्यवस्था चाहता हूँ... (व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please help us to conduct the business... (Interruptions)...

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, please give me half-a-minute. ... (Interruptions)... Half-a-minute you give me, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is it?

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I agree with the Minister that we should take up the Legislative Business first. We are for it.

श्री वनिय कटियार : उपसभापति जी, हमको भी समय चाहिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : वनिय क्या है, ... (व्यवधान) ... समय कब वनिय पर देना चाहिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, we should take up the Legislative Business. ... (Interruptions) ...

SHRI D. RAJA: This is the problem, Sir. ... (Interruptions) ... This is the problem.

श्री उपसभापति : आप क्या बोलना चाह रहे हैं ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me handle it. ... (Interruptions) ... Please sit down. ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री प्रकाश जाबडेकर (महा राष्ट्र) : उपसभापति महोदय, मुद्दा संवेदनशील इसलिए है ... (व्यवधान) ... मुद्दा संवेदनशील इसलिए है कि इस देश का गृह मंत्री ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : एक मिनट। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सर, मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : इसमें व्यवस्था का क्या प्रश्न है? ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सर, मैं यह कह रहा था कि हम इनकी बाह को शक्ति से सुझते हैं ... (व्यवधान) ... क्या हमको अपने पक्ष की बाह कहने का अधिकार नहीं है? ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : इसमें चेयर क्या करेगी? ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : क्या हमको अपने पक्ष की बाह कहने का अधिकार है या नहीं है? ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, I am not being allowed to complete my sentence. ... (Interruptions) ... All that I am saying is let me complete my sentence. ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री उपसभापति : देखिए, हर आनरबल मेम्बर को अपनी बाह रखने का अधिकार है ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : उस अधिकार का संरक्षण आप करेंगे। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : हाँ, अधिकार है ... (व्यवधान) ... यहां पर ... (व्यवधान) ... देखिए। ... (व्यवधान) ... only according to the

rules of the House.

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : हाउस के नियम के अनुसार
...(व्यवधान)... किसी ने कोई आरोप लगाया है, तो उसका जवाब
देने का अधिकार हमको है। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : हर मेम्बर की बात का जवाब देने का अधिकार
हर मेम्बर को नहीं है। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सर, ऐसा नहीं होगा, तो
फिर ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : देखिए, एक मेम्बर जो कहता है, उसका जवाब
देने के लिए this House is not meant for that. Every Member has a
right. ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : नहीं, नहीं। श्रीमान्, अगर कोई
बात कही गई है और हमारे ऊपर कोई आक्षेप लगाया
है। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री प्रकाश जाबडेकर : उपसभापति महोदय , ... (व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Unless it is unparliamentary, you should not intervene. If it is a Member's view and if you want to refute it, when you get a chance, you refute it. Otherwise, every Member speaks what he wants to speak in this House. They will not speak what every Member wants to know. When a matter is raised, they express their views. If I allow the Members to react on it and answer it, there is no concurrence. ... (Interruptions)...

श्री प्रकाश जाबडेकर : उपसभापति महोदय। ... (व्यवधान)...
उपसभापति महोदय। ... (व्यवधान)... गृह मंत्री जी
द्वारा ... (व्यवधान)...

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, you are not listening to me. ... (Interruptions)... You are listening to others. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am listening to you, Mr. Raja. Why are you saying that I am not listening to you? I am listening to everybody. The point is... (Interruptions)... Let us take up Special Mentions. ... (Interruptions)... Let us take up the legislative business. ... (Interruptions)...

श्री प्रकाश जाबडेकर : उपसभापति महोदय , ... (व्यवधान)...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I support all that has been said by... (Interruptions)...

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, you allow me to complete. I agree with the hon. Minister that the House should transact the legislative business. I have no objection to that. The point is that the issue was raised yesterday. The issue has been raised today. The right wing extremism is a fact of life. It poses a grave threat to the internal security of the country. ... (Interruptions)... It is not a question of ... (Interruptions)... That is all I want to say.

श्री प्रकाश जाबडेकर : उपसभापति महोदय , हमारा जो
राष्ट्रध्वज है , उस राष्ट्रध्वज में भगवा कलर है ,
उसको ... (व्यवधान)... उपसभापति महोदय ... (व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Special Mentions. ... (Interruptions)...

श्री प्रकाश जाबडेकर : उपसभापति महोदय। ... (व्यवधान)...
उपसभापति महोदय। ... (व्यवधान)...

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I request that the Special Mentions may be taken up at the end of the day. ... (Interruptions)... Sir,

Special Mentions may be taken up at the end of the day after we have done the legislative business. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री प्रकाश जाबडेकर : उपसभापति महोदय। ...(*व्यवधान*)...
मैं एक मिनट बता रहा हूँ ...(*व्यवधान*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): No, Sir. It is decided that Special Mentions will be taken up at 12 o'clock. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री वनि य कटियार : उपसभापति महोदय , हम सभी लोग सदन को चलने देना चाहते हैं , लेकिन ...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will tell you. There are about 48 Special Mentions. If it is not possible for all the 48 Members to read them out, ...(*Interruptions*)... आपजरा सुनि ए, those who

want to lay them can lay, and those who want to read them out can do so at the end of the day. श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप। आप लेकर दीजिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री वनिय कटियार : सर, बोलने का अधिकार दीजिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : आपको अधिकार देंगे, लेकिन इस तरह से नहीं। ... (व्यवधान) ... आपको भी दिया है। ... (व्यवधान) ... मैं काम कर रहा हूँ। ... (व्यवधान) ... ठीक है, आप जो करना चाहें, करें। ... (व्यवधान) ... आप अपना काम करते रहिए, हम अपना काम करेंगे। ... (व्यवधान) ...

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Demand to improve landline and cell phone connectivity provided by BSNL and MTNL in the country

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र उत्तर प्रदेश में बी.एस.एन.एल. एवं एम.टी.एन.एल. नेटवर्क बुरी तरह से बाधित हो गया है और लैंडलाइन फोन भी बरसात के कारण ठप्प हो गए हैं, जिसके कारण बी.एस.एन.एल. व एम.टी.एन.एल. सेलफोन तथा लैंडलाइन फोन का प्रयोग करने वाले करोड़ों उपभोक्ताओं का संपर्क अपने जनप्रतिनिधियों, अधिकारियों तथा सगे-संबंधियों से दूरा हुआ है। साथ ही कारोबारी व्यापारियों के व्यापार पर भी इसका गहरा असर पड़ा है। विशेषकर, मेरे गृह महानगर, गाज़ियाबाद, जो एन.सी.आर. में होने के कारण एम.टी.एन.एल. नेटवर्क से जुड़ा है, मैं नेटवर्क की समस्या सबसे ज्यादा उत्पन्न हो गयी है। फलस्वरूप गाज़ियाबाद के लाखों लोग सेल फोन और लैंडलाइन फोन की सेवाओं का उपयोग नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। शाम को ये फोन सेवाएं और भी ज्यादा बाधित हो जाती हैं। महोदय, राज्य सभा द्वारा उपलब्ध कराए गए सख्ति कार्ड का प्रयोग भी माननीय सदस्य भली प्रकार नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। माननीय सदस्यों के क्षेत्र में जनता का विश्वास माननीय सदस्यों से उठने की संभावना प्रबल हो गयी है और यदि जनप्रतिनिधियों से जनता का विश्वास उठता है तो देश की लोकतांत्रिक व्यवस्था ध्वस्त हो जाएगी और कारोबारियों की आर्थिक स्थिति पर इसका प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ेगा। देश के गरीब और मजदूर तबके के पास आपसी संवाद करने के लिए और कोई उपयुक्त साधन उपलब्ध नहीं है।

अतः मैं सदन के माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि गाज़ियाबाद व एन.सी.आर. सहित, उत्तर प्रदेश तथा देश के संपूर्ण भागों में बी.एस.एन.एल. तथा एम.टी.एन.एल. लैंड लाइन

नेटवर्क तथा सेवाओं को, बेहतर बनाने के लिए समय सीमा
निश्चित करके, बहाल करने की कृपा करें। धन्यवाद।

**Demand to give opportunity to individuals to check the
particulars of forms filled in during the current census**

SHRI AMBETH RAJAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I congratulate the Government for having accepted in carrying out caste enumeration in Census 2011, which has been approved by the GoM on 11th August, 2010.

I wish to suggest some of my views upon the caste-wise census which is going to be taken after 80 years, a very lengthy period in the history of India. In this regard, I would like to say that the voter lists are prepared by the Government and displayed to the people for verification. Thus, the voters can check their details and carry out corrections, if any.

The method adopted by the enumerator in the Census exercise is that they ask details from head of the family and note down them with pencil in the relevant forms. After taking the details,

they obtain signature of the family head. The most important point is that there is all likelihood of mistakes to be committed while preparing the final details. The procedures which were being adopted during Census exercise recently, no opportunity was given/available to the individual person for checking the details enumerated by the enumerator about him and his family, because, the Government considers that the details of the Census should be kept secret. It is also important to note that the details so enumerated will form basic data for issuing Unique Identification Number.

I appeal to the Government to provide ample opportunity to individuals concerned to check their particulars, including the details about caste, that they have given to enumerators, as is done in voters list.

**Demand for Government's clarification on the proposed
changes in the Patent Act**

DR. T.N. SEEMA (Kerala): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the unreasonable demand to change the Indian Patent Act and the PMO Note on this issue. According to the news report, the PMO has sought the opinion of various Departments regarding amendment of some important provisions of the Indian Patent Act. This report also states that PMO's suggestion is based on a submission of Organization of Pharmaceutical Products of India, an association of pharmaceutical multinational companies. The proposal contains introduction of data exclusivity, patent linkage and amending section 3(d) of the Patent Act. Such amendment would compromise the ability of the Indian industry to produce low-cost generic versions of new drugs and would increase dependency on MNCs.

Considering the serious consequences of the proposal, I demand that the Government should clarify the following: The contents of PMO's proposal and the reasons for the proposed Government stand on the proposal.

**Demand to take steps for making Tuticorin as the
Hub Port in South-East Asia**

SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, it is very vital for the Tuticorin Port Trust to develop the Outer Harbour Project with an outlay of about Rs. 4350 crores. If work on the Outer Harbour Project is expedited, it will bring about rapid growth in terms of volume and revenue. Keeping in mind the geographical advantages of Tuticorin Port, the Outer

Harbour Project should pave the way for establishing Tuticorin as South Asia Hub Port in the near future.

In order to cater to the increased volume of bulk cargo and containerized traffic, we request that the inner harbour may be developed to bring 12.80 Mtrs draft in Port and the establishing of second container terminal be expedited.

In view of the strategic location of Tuticorin Port, if world standard ship-building yard and dry dock are established in Tuticorin, it can generate employment opportunities in the hinterland and the southern districts will be benefited.

Tuticorin Port has approached the State Government to allot about 2000 acres of additional land in the vicinity of the Port for the development of the port, as the available land is not enough for future projects. The district administration has already surveyed and identified suitable land for the above.

The formation of SEZ (Food Processing and EXIM Warehousing Zone) at Tuticorin Port is essential.

Tuticorin is an ideal place for the development of water-based sports activities, like ports of Kerala, Andaman and Maldives, to develop tourism.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to initiate immediate steps for establishing Tuticorin as the Hub Port of South-East Asia in the near future.

**Request to bring changes in the management of
Trivandrum Airport in Kerala**

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala): Sir, Trivandrum Airport is celebrating its 75 years in Civil Aviation this year. This airport was elevated as an international airport on 1.1.1991.

From that day onwards Trivandrum Airport was functioning as an independently administered airport with Airport Director having financial powers for sanctioning development projects and powers to recruit Group C and Group D employees from local employment exchanges.

The above status was tumbled down by AAI Office Order dated 29.8.2007 instructing the Airport Director, Trivandrum Airport to report to Regional Executive Director, against the spirit of existing gazette notification.

The financial powers for sanctioning development projects and powers to recruit Group C and Group D employees from local employment exchanges are no more vested in the existing Airport Director. Now the development projects are creeping at snail's pace or blocked at the office of Regional Executive Director, Chennai, and the recruitment to new and retired vacancies are in standstill.

There are hundreds of families who lost their land and means of livelihood for the development of this airport and denial of job opportunities to them at the airport is unjust.

All these lopsided actions are hindering the development of

Trivandrum Airport for the past four years.

Also the issues relating to officers and other employees of Trivandrum Airport including inter seniority of common cadres has not been finalized by Airport Authority even after 16 years of passing AAI Act by affecting the morale of workforce.

So, I urge upon the Minister to immediately address these issues and take appropriate action to solve the problem.

**Demand to extend the pension benefits to the former employees of
Global Trust Bank merged into the Oriental Bank of Commerce**

DR. RAM PRAKASH (Haryana): I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister of Finance a very harsh decision taken by the management of the Oriental Bank of Commerce which had given pensionary benefits to all its employees but denied the same to the erstwhile employees of the Global Trust Bank who had been working in the said Bank since its merger in 2004.

Sir, there have been several decisions of the High Courts which *inter alia* say that all the employees are treated alike after their merger in the mainstream. The past blemishes, if any, disappear the moment they are merged in the mainstream and as such, they cannot be treated indifferently.

It may also be stated that some time back, a number of employees of Punjab Co-operative Bank were also merged in the Oriental Bank of Commerce, perhaps in 1997, and those persons have been given all benefits including pensionary benefits. I do not know the circumstances under which the erstwhile employees of Global Trust Bank are being denied this benefit which has greatly demoralised them. Besides, it is a clear-cut violation of articles 15 and 16 of the Constitution of India.

I would, therefore, request the hon. Finance Minister to issue instructions to the management of the Oriental Bank of Commerce to extend the pensionary benefits to these employees also, and inform the House at the earliest.

**Demand to take steps for stopping the spillage of oil from Oil Wells
operated by ONGC in Champang region of Nagaland**

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI (Nagaland): A serious environmental catastrophe is staring at the villages of Wokha District of Nagaland. The oil fields opened up by the ONGC in the year 1981 and operated till 1994 in Champang area of Nagaland are now spilling out heavily causing devastating damages to soil and water. The estimated yield of this well is about 110 million barrels, which is equivalent to about 55,000 crores in rupee terms. The oil spill may lit up into a major fire accident. The Land Owners' Union of Champang has taken up this issue with the ONGC on several occasions but with no relief. The Union Government and the ONGC are both morally and legally liable to meet the environmental challenge. I request the hon. Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and also the hon. Minister of Environment and Forests

to depute a Fast Track Team to the Champang area to assess the situation, recommend necessary remedial measures including stoppage of the spillage of oil, and, also determine the compensation for the land owners and poor farmers.

There is also an urgent and imperative need to honour in letter and spirit the provisions enshrined in article 371-A of our Constitution, which gives special protection to the State of Nagaland in regard to ownership and transfer of land and its resources, and, which is often infringed by the Government of India.

Under Government of India's New Exploration Licensing Policy of 2002, several blocks were awarded to a consortium of ONGC, which is a blatant violation of article 371-A. I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to respect the provisions of article 371-A in letter and spirit. Thank you.

**Need to take measures to ensure adequate training and preparedness
by Indian players in Commonwealth Games 2010**

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL (Maharashtra): Sir, what is the level of preparedness of the Indian players who will be participating in the Commonwealth Games? Are there adequate measures and facilities in place for ensuring adequate training and practice so that India performs well in the Commonwealth Games? The Government should ensure that there would not be lack of financial resources for the participants of the country who are likely to take part in various events being organized during the Commonwealth Games. Otherwise, the efforts being made by the players as well as Government shall go waste. The deficiency shall not only demotivate players but also bring down the dignity and prestige of the country. The Government should, therefore, make all-out efforts to train our players so that they give out their best performance in the Commonwealth Games.

Concern over purchase of arms through foreign military sales route

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, in reply to Unstarred Question No.1046 dated 4.8.2010, the hon. Minister of Defence has said, "Some of the requirements of the Armed Forces have been met by procurements through Foreign Military Sales Procedure of the U.S. Government. In these non-tender purchases, the U.S. Government procures the equipments on behalf of the Indian Government from its military companies and takes a commission for the services rendered through Pentagon's Defence Security Cooperation Agency". Since 2002, purchases of equipments through this route ran into several billion dollars. Since the purchases are being made by the U.S. Government from the U.S. military companies, it is natural that the U.S. Government will serve the interests of the U.S. firms. But, what is the source of money being paid by Pentagon's Defence Security Cooperation Agency? Is it the Government of India for engaging third party in defence deals or is it the U.S. military firms for negotiating the defence deals in their favour? It is learnt that Army Chief General has written to the Defence Minister pointing out the Army's trouble with maintenance of a dozen weapon-loading radars bought from the U.S. firm Raytheon and said that at times two-thirds

of the radars have been in want of maintenance.

Sir, I want to ask from the Government: Why is India procuring arms through Foreign Military Sales Procedure of the U.S. Government and what is the source of money being paid by Pentagon's Defence Security Cooperation Agency?

**Demand to use NREGS funds to provide relief measures to the
drought affected people in West Bengal**

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, a serious crisis situation has emerged in

West Bengal owing to negligible rain and resultant condition of drought, putting the entire agriculture in jeopardy and loss of livelihood to millions of rural folk. The situation became more critical owing to utterly insensitive approach of the Central Government in sending the required fund for NREG Scheme to help the rural people to survive somehow in the moment of crisis.

In 11 districts, drought situation has emerged. The State Government has been trying to meet the crisis through NREGA programmes, and has already spent Rs. 875 crore during the last 4 months, despite receiving almost nothing from the Centre for NREGS for 2010-11. The State Government requested the Centre to send Rs. 1400 crore on account of NREGA for 2010-11. But a few days back, only Rs. 170 crore has been sent by the Central Government which reflects shocking insensitivity of the Government of India to the plight of rural folk of West Bengal. The last NREGS fund received by the State had been on 16.11.2009- a meagre Rs. 201 crore as second instalment for 2009-10—a small fraction of what had been already spent till that time. Owing to such huge outstanding on NREGA account, maintaining the NREGS work is becoming difficult. I urge upon the Central Government to send the fund requisitioned by the Government of West Bengal on NREGS immediately, including the outstanding dues for making available the relief to the rural people in West Bengal affected by drought.

**Situation arising out of eviction of students of
Delhi University from hostels**

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, youth is the backbone and future of our country. We must encourage and present opportunities to youth so that they can develop and become good citizens. But what I read and watch about difficulties caused on our students in Delhi University is of great concern. I am told, nearly 1500 students were evicted from hostels in Delhi University to accommodate tourists coming for Commonwealth Games. Of these, 500 are girl students and with the result, about 15,000 students were affected due to rent escalations in nearby areas. Students were evicted without proper information and notice, causing a lot of inconvenience and hardships to students, especially the girls. The students, supported by teachers, researchers, have sat on relay hunger strike from 12th August, demanding alternative accommodation and rent regulation. It is

inhuman of the authorities to evict students and disturb their studies. There are poor, physically handicapped and girl students. They cannot pay exorbitant rents outside and increased food bills. This decision has created tension among students and their parents are worried a lot as their children are on roads. Is it that much essential to put children to a lot of difficulties to satisfy foreign guests? How can we expect students to shell large amounts as rent and food bills? I heard students are not complaining out of sense of sacrifice for national glory. But the authorities are just not bothered. Therefore, I request the Government to intervene and stop eviction or provide suitable alternative accommodation to students.

Demand for implementing the Assam Accord

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Sir, after successful ending of the Assam Movement against the influx of foreigners in Assam, the historic Assam Accord was signed by the then Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, along with the leaders of the AASU and AAGSP on 15th August, 1985 and was announced at Lal Quila in the Independence Day speech of the Prime Minister.

Twenty-five years have passed since, but most of the clauses of the Accord are not implemented till today.

During the last 25 years, the Government of India has totally failed to seal the Indo-Bangladesh border and till date the Indo-Bangladesh border is open and porous due to which illegal immigration has multiplied and has changed the population of the State. Today, indigenous people of the State is losing their identity and if nothing is done immediately to protect the identity of indigenous people of Assam, it is feared that it will soon be a part of Bangladesh.

Nothing has been done for the detection and deportation of the foreigners. The foreigners' issue, though 36 Foreigners Tribunals were established in Assam as a part of the Assam Accord, now only 15 Tribunals are working to settle the cases which will take 5 to 20 years.

So, I request the Government of India to implement each and every clause of the Assam Accord in letter and spirit to "Save Assam today to save India tomorrow". It is the duty of the Government to identify and deport all foreigners from Assam. The Government has totally failed till today to seal the Indo-Bangladesh border.

Concern over financial loss in vaccine procurement from private companies

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, Government audits and RTI applications have revealed that the Government of India incurred a loss of more than Rs.116 crores by keeping three public sector vaccine labs, BCG Lab, Chennai, Pasteur Institute (PI), Coonoor and the Central Research Institute (CRI), Kasauli, closed for two years. Private sector manufacturers greatly benefited as the prices charged by them are much higher than that of the PSUs. For example, BCG vaccines from BCG Lab, Chennai, was procured by the Government for Rs.13 per vial of ten doses. In 2008-09, Government paid private

companies Rs.17.50 for similar vials and shockingly paid Rs.27.85 in 2009-10, that is, 114 per cent more. That is not all. At the time of closure of the BCG unit in Chennai, 220 lakh doses were available. The life of this freeze-dried vaccine is two years. But the Government, instead of using these vaccines, which were available at BCG, Chennai, bought them from a private company, Serum Institute of India. Why were the 220 lakh doses allowed to go waste? Why did the Government pay higher prices to private companies? Who is responsible? The Government should fix responsibility and take stringent action against the guilty.

Concern over prevailing drought situation in West Bengal

SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY (West Bengal): West Bengal is in the grip of a severe drought-hit situation. Many districts had nearly 30 per cent less than normal rainfall causing the drought situation. There has been severe damage to the kharif crop. Eleven districts namely Purulia, Bankura, Murshidabad, Birbhum, Burdwan, known as the rice-bowl of West Bengal, Hooghly, North and South 24 Paraganas, West Midnapore, Nadia and Malda have been officially declared by the West Bengal Government as 'drought-affected'.

The situation is quite serious and the State Government has put in its best efforts to deal with the calamitous condition. The Chief Minister has written to the Union Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar to send a Central team for assessing the situation in the eleven districts. There is a need for urgent Central intervention to help the despondent farmers, sharecroppers and agricultural labour as well as the related small-scale units like rice mills that are in a terrible State.

Demand to take steps for early settlement of medical claims of the retired Government servants in the country

SHRI N. BALAGANGA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Health and Family Welfare to an urgent matter involving the retired Government servants. All Central Government servants, after their retirement are eligible for taking medical treatment under the Central Government Health Scheme, CGHS. Every year, thousands of Central Government servants retire. Since they get only pension for their livelihood, almost all the retired Government servants avail the benefit of CGHS for their own medical treatment.

But, there is an agonizing disclosure in this regard by the Comptroller and the Auditor General of India, C&AG that indicates that there are considerable delays in settling the medical claims of these pensioners. It further states that there are more delays in case the diseases are of serious nature. It reports that the time taken to settle pensioners' claims for reimbursement is abnormally high, which varies between 10 and 22 months, which is almost two years. The situation is very grim, when it comes to the question of taking

permission before getting treatment for serious illness, where they were to wait for almost two years. Pensioners have no option but to wait till permission is given. If this is the time taken for granting permission to get treated, the pensioners would die due to the illness.

This is a very serious matter concerning the health of the persons who served the Government for decades. Their health should be given due importance and attention. Hence, I request the Minister of Health and Family Welfare to pay immediate attention to this and solve the problems of pensioners with regard to settlement of their medical claims as well as granting timely permission for getting treated.

**Demand for special package for taking road safety measures
in the hilly States of the country**

श्रीमती वसुधै ठाकुर (हमिचल प्रदेश) : महोदय , मैं सदन का ध्यान एक बहुत ही गम्भीर विषय की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहूंगी। हमारे देश के जो पहाड़ी राज्य हैं उनमें सड़कों के कटाव के कारण होने वाली दुर्घटनाओं की संख्या में लगातार वृद्धि हो रही है। आएदिल कभी कोई बस, तो कभी कोई कार सड़कों के कटाव के कारण नदी या गहरी खाई में गिर जाती है और कई बार तो ऐसा होता है कि इसमें सवार सभी व्यक्तियों की जानें चली जाती हैं। अभी हाल ही में हमिचल प्रदेश के कांगड़ा जिले में ऐसी ही एक सड़क दुर्घटना हुई , जिसमें एक बस सड़क से फिसलकर गहरी खाई में गिर गई और उसमें सवार करीब 30 लोगों की घटनास्थल पर ही मृत्यु हो गई। हमिचल प्रदेश में इस तरह की दुर्घटनाओं में नरिन्तर वृद्धि हो रही है। बसों व कारों के सड़क के कटने से या सड़क से फिसलकर गहरी नदी या खाई में गिर जाने से अब तक सैकड़ों लोगों की जानें जा चुकी हैं। देश व विदेश से आने वाले पर्यटक , राज्य की पहाड़ी सड़कों पर बलिकूल भी सुरक्षित नहीं हैं। सड़कों के सुरक्षित न होने के कारण कतिने ही पर्यटक अपनी जान गवां चुके हैं।

महोदय , मैं सदन के माध्यम से अपील करती हूँ कि सरकार पहाड़ी राज्यों में सड़कों की सुरक्षा के लिए विशेष पैकेज की व्यवस्था करे , जिससे वहां की सड़कों को सुरक्षित किया जा सके , उनको कटने से रोकने के लिए उनके साथ-साथ कोई रेटिनिंग वॉल बनाकर उस पर कोई ग्रिल इत्यादि लगाई जा सके।

धन्यवाद

**Demand to take steps for controlling the diseases spread by
mosquitoes in the country**

श्री राजीव शुक्ल (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदय , देश के अधिकतर भागों में वसित में मच्छरजनित रोगों जैसे मलेरिया , डेंगू , फाइलेरिया , चिकिनगुनिया , मस्तिष्क ज्वर , जपानी एन्सेफालाइटिस आदि में बेतहाशा वृद्धि हुई है। देश की आर्थिक राजधानी कही जाने वाली मुंबई में इस वर्ष जुलाई के अंत तक मलेरिया में 31 लोगों की मौत हो चुकी है। मनपा क्षेत्र में इस दौरान 17138 मलेरिया रोगी पाए गए थे , जिनमें 2554 रोगी मलेरिया के सबसे खतरनाक प्रकार प्लासमोडियम फैल्सीपैरम से पीड़ित थे। केवल पछिले महीने ही मुंबई महानगर में मलेरिया से सात लोगों की जान गई है। इसी प्रकार देश की राजधानी दिल्ली में मलेरिया के साथ डेंगू का भी प्रकोप जारी है। डेंगू से होने वाली मौतों का आंकड़ा दहाई में पहुंच चुका है। बरसात के मौसम में सारे देश में मलेरिया , चिकिनगुनिया एवं डेंगू अपने चरम पर पहुंच जाते हैं , क्योंकि

यह मच्छरों के प्रजनन का उत्तम समय होता है, जसि पर अंकुश लगाना आवश्यक है। इसके लिये कीटनाशकों का छड़िकाव, फागिंग एवं पानी को इकट्ठा न होने देना आवश्यक है। मुंबई में सबसे अधिक मलेरिया झोपड़पट्टियों, बंद कपड़ा मल्लों और भवन निर्माण स्थलों पर पाया गया है। यही स्थिति सब जगह है। इन जगहों पर गरीब लोग, मजदूर तबका रहता है जसिन्हें मच्छरजनित रोगों से संरक्षण देना आवश्यक है, जसिके लिये भरपूर केन्द्रीय सहायता चाहिए।

अतः मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि देश में मले रिया निर्मूलन अभियान को सार्थक रूप से चलाया जाए। राज्यों को भरपूर आर्थिक सहायता दी जाए, खासकर महाराष्ट्र जैसे बड़े राज्यों को विशेष पैकेज दिया जाए ताकि कीटनाशकों, दवाओं, टीकों, मच्छरदानियों, टैस्टिंग उपकरणों, फागिंग मशीनों आदि की कमी न हो और मच्छरजनित रोगों पर समय रहते काबू पाया जा सके। धन्यवाद।

Need for comprehensive development of Surat Airport

श्री भरतसिंह परभातसिंह परमार (गुजरात): उपसभापति महोदय, नागर वस्तिनन मंत्रालय के राष्ट्रीय वस्तिन पत्तन प्राधिकरण और गुजरात सरकार के बीच वर्ष 2003 सितम्बर में एक त्रि पक्षीय समझौता हुआ, जसिके अंतर्गत राज्य सरकार द्वारा 8.98 करोड़ राशि की कुल 312.68 हेक्टेयर भूमि, एक मल्लिकत करारनामे से सूस्त में एयरपोर्ट निर्माण योजना के लिये उन्हें दी गई थी। साथ ही साथ 1200 किलोवाट का वल्लियुत कनेक्शन तथा आवश्यक पानी की पाइप लाइन जैसी सुबिधाएं भी उपलब्ध कराई गई।

वर्ष 2008 के दौरान सूरत वस्त्रान पत्तन प्राधिकरण द्वारा एयरपोर्ट के विकास और विस्तार हेतु 1065 हेक्टेयर भूमि की मांग की गई, लेकिन राज्य सरकार ने अपना पक्ष रखते हुए कहा कि सूरत एयरपोर्ट पर रात्रि उड़ान की सुविधा और बड़े मालवाहक हवाई जहाज (कारगो) की उड़ानों के लिए और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय उड़ानों के लिए प्रथम रन-वे की लम्बाई और क्षमता बढ़ाई जाए, कार पार्किंग की उचित व्यवस्था भी की जाए। यात्रियों की बेहतर सुविधाओं के लिए टर्मिनल बिल्डिंग का कार्य पूरा किया जाए तथा सूरत से घरेलू और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय उड़ानों को शुरू किया जाए। भूमि की अधिक मांग पूरी की जाए तथा उसी दौरान वर्तमान में जितनी भूमि उपलब्ध है, उसका बेहतर उपयोग किया जाए। दक्षिण गुजरात चेम्बर्स ऑफ कॉमर्स एंड इंडस्ट्रीज ने अपने प्रस्ताव में यह मांग की है कि सूरत को अंतर्राष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट का दर्जा दिया जाए। साथ ही साथ कार्गो हैंडलिंग की क्षमता के साथ अंतर्राष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट बनाने की योजना को राष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण द्वारा एयरपोर्ट विकास योजना में शामिल किया जाए।

माननीय मंत्री महोदय से मेरा आग्रह है कि वे इस दिशा में तत्काल सकारात्मक कदम उठाएं। धन्यवाद।

Demand to take immediate steps for eradication of malaria in the country

श्री कलराज मन्शि (उत्तर प्रदेश): देश के विभिन्न हिस्सों में मरने वालों की संख्या बढ़ी है। अकेले देश की आर्थिक राजधानी मुंबई में अप्रैल से जुलाई के बीच मलेरिया से मरने वालों की संख्या लगभग 31 तक पहुंच गई है। इनमें ज्यादातर गरीब और मजदूर लोग हैं। केंद्रीय मलेरिया नर्ज़िलन संस्था के एक टीम सदस्यीय दल ने दौरे के बाद पाया कि वर्ष 2009 के मुकाबले इस वर्ष मलेरिया का प्रभाव 2.3% तक बढ़ गया है। इसी तरह प्लासमोडियम फैल्सीपैरम पीड़ितों की संख्या 3.61% तक बढ़ी है। मलेरिया नर्ज़िलन संस्था का कहना है कि झोंपड़-पट्टियों, बंद कपड़ा मल्लों, नदी तटों पर बसी बस्तियाँ आदि जगह पर रहने वाली आबादी के ठकानों पर सर्वाधिक प्रकोप पाया गया है। पछिले वर्ष जम्बि क्षेत्रों में मध्य प्रकार का खतरा था, इस बार वहां उच्च श्रेणी (हाई रस्क) का खतरा है।

इस क्षेत्रों में जहां गरीब व कमजोर वर्ग के लोग रहते हैं, जिनके पास दवा व इलाज कराने के लिए भी पैसा नहीं होता है, इलाज के अभाव में यह बीमारी उनके लिए जानलेवा साबित हो रही है। मलेरिया नर्ज़िलन विभाग द्वारा मानसून के साथ ही प्रभावी उपाय न करने के कारण यह बीमारी अनियन्त्रित हो गई और अस्पतालों में मरीजों की भारी संख्या में भर्ती करना पड़ा।

मैं सदन के माध्यम से मांग करता हूँ कि सरकार तत्काल

मलेरिया नर्मीलन वक्षिग के माध्यम से अभियान चलाकर इसका प्रभाव बढ़ने से रोके।

**Demand to investigate the unfair trade practices being adopted by
aircraft manufacturing company, Airbus**

DR. M.V. MYSURA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, in the present day world order of trade, all the companies are expected to follow fair trade practices. But, abusing the dominant position, Airbus is indulging in violating not only section 3 and 4 of the Competition Act but also the WTO norms. Airbus is indulging in acts of limiting and restricting market access, resulting in substantial damage to Indian economy.

The actions of Airbus are evident in the case of Flyington Freighters wherein it has reserved the Indian Air Cargo markets for Middle Eastern players like Etihad and MNG and causing irreparable loss to Indian air cargo business. It is restricting the market access to Indian players which is resulting in not only loss of several thousands of crores but also affecting huge employment potential for Indians.

It is not out of place to mention that WTO's DS316/R demonstrates that Indian economy has suffered and will continue to suffer due to market signaling, dumping, predatory pricing indulged by Airbus, apart from violating RBI and FEMA norms.

In view of this, I request the Government of India to order an inquiry by Competition Commission for anti-competitive activities and by the Enforcement Directorate for FEMA violations by Airbus. The Government should also take up this issue before the WTO. Thank you.

**Demand for setting up Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Birth
Centenary Organizing Committee**

श्री रामविलास पासवान (बहिर) : महोदय , डा . राम मनोहर लोहिया का जन्म शताब्दी वर्ष चल रहा है। डा . लोहिया का जन्म 23 मार्च , 1910 को हुआ था। भारत सरकार द्वारा अभी तक कोई जन्म शताब्दी आयोजना समिति नहीं बनाई गई है। इसके पूर्व सरकार की ओर से लोकनायक जय प्रकाश नारायण, आचार्य नरेन्द्र देव जैसे महापुरुषों की जन्म शताब्दी मनायी जा चुकी है। डा . लोहिया गैर-सरकारी जन्म शताब्दी समिति के अध्यक्ष एवं पूर्व लोक सभा अध्यक्ष श्री रबी राय एवं महान समाजवादी नेता श्री सुरेन्द्र मोहन ने प्रधान मंत्री को इस संबंध में पत्र लिखा था। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जवाब में लिखा कि उन्होंने संस्कृति मंत्रालय को लिख दिया है , जबकि संस्कृति मंत्री स्वयं प्रधान मंत्री हैं। डा . लोहिया 1942 की अगस्त क्रांति के हीरो थे। महात्मा गाँधी ने कहा था कि डा . लोहिया जैसा बहादुर आदमी उन्होंने नहीं देखा है , जब तक डा . लोहिया जेल में हैं , वे चैन से नहीं बैठ सकते। आजादी के पहले डा . लोहिया ऑल इंडिया कांग्रेस कमेटी की वर्किंग कमेटी के सदस्य एवं वदेश विभाग के अध्यक्ष थे। आजाद भारत की वदेशी नीति बनाने में उनका काफी योगदान था। उन्होंने गोबा के पुर्तगाली शासन से मुक्ति हेतु आन्दोलन किया और जेल गए। आज गोबा भारत में है , तो उसका श्रेय डा . लोहिया को जाता है। उन्होंने पछिड़ा पाबे सौ में साठ का नारा दिया। गोरे -काले के भेद को समाप्त करने हेतु उन्होंने अमेरिका में सत्याग्रह किया। हमबोल्ड यूनिवर्सिटी (जर्मनी) ने उन्हें डाक्ट्रेट की उपाधि से सम्मानित किया। वे उसी यूनिवर्सिटी के छात्र थे तथा उन्होंने गाँधी जी के नमक सत्याग्रह पर शोध किया था। उन्होंने नेपाल में जनतंत्र की बहाली हेतु आन्दोलन चलाया। डा . लोहिया समाजवाद के जनक थे।

मैं केन्द्र सरकार से माँग करता हूँ कि सरकार तत्काल डा . लोहिया जन्म शताब्दी कमेटी गठित कर कार्यक्रम तय करे , डा .

लोहिया की आदमकद प्रतिमा डा. राम मनोहर लोहिया अस्पताल .
दिल्ली में स्थापित करे एवं डा. लोहिया के नाम पर दिल्ली की
किसी महत्वपूर्ण सड़क का नामकरण करे।

**Demand to withhold the plan of outsourcing and privatization of
Railway services in the country**

SHRI R.C. SINGH (West Bengal): Sir, Railways is the lifeline of the country and it is the social responsibility of the Railways to carry passengers, particularly poor, at affordable rates. Being the largest employment provider in the Government sector, it is the onerous responsibility of the Railways to stop outsourcing and privatizing its services. The hon. Minister has also assured many times that Railways would not be privatized. But, there are many services which are given or being given on outsourcing. Some of them are:-

- Goods sheds like Wadibundar Goods Shed, Central Railway, Carnac Bunder of Western Railway, etc, are closed down and goods traffic is diverted to private transport agencies.

- Catering is given to IRCTC and IRCTC is outsourcing all services like stationary stalls, mobile services of trains, food items are taken from private caterers.
- Railways is resorting to appoint doctors and paramedical staff in Railway hospitals on contract basis instead of recruiting them on regular/permanent basis.
- Sanitation services are totally outsourced or given to private contractors. Washing of trains is also given to private people.
- Maintenance of office buildings, quarters, etc. and considerable portion of track maintenance are done on contract basis.

In view of the above, I request the Railway Minister to desist herself from resorting to such privatization moves. If it is not stopped, lakhs of workmen will be affected and employment opportunities will also come down. So, I once again request the Government not to take steps which hamper the interest of workers.

**Concern over non-implementation of welfare programmes for
upliftment of Scheduled Castes in the country**

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL (Gujarat): Sir, I take this opportunity to invite attention of the House to various assurances given by the Government of India vide National Common Minimum Programme of the Government of India declared in May 2004.

- (i) All reservation quotas including those relating to promotions will be fulfilled in a time-bound manner.
- (ii) To codify all reservations, a Reservation Act will be enacted.
- (iii) The UPA Government will launch a comprehensive national programme for minor irrigation of all lands owned by Dalits and Adivasis.
- (iv) Landless families will be endowed with land through implementation of land ceiling and land redistribution legislation.

All these welfare programmes are yet to be implemented. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, the Ministry of Rural Development and the Ministry of Personnel should look into the issues

and enlighten the House about the progress.

On the other side, there is none as the Chairman of National Commission for Scheduled Castes. The reports submitted by the said Commission have not been discussed in the House during the last five years. The conviction rate in the case of atrocities is very poor, and according to media reports, the fund allocated to State Governments towards SCP and TSP are being used for non-SC/ST Developmental projects. All such issues require attention of the Minister of Law and Justice and also the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment. Atrocities on SC are increasing and police actions are non-effective.

The Government at the highest level (Home in particular) should respond to the situation and suggest adequate measures for State administration.

Need to give attention towards Centre-State relation for resolving various conflicts in the country

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE (Maharashtra): Sir, the Centre-States relations are under strain today. If the conflict between the Centre and States aggravate, the federal polity will be in danger.

Without the collaborative efforts of the Centre and the States, we cannot develop the country. There should be a perfect harmony in their working. When interests clash, conflicts arise. Conflicts between the States arise on certain matters such as sharing of river water, construction of dams, border demarcations, inter-State migration creating employment problems, etc.

Confrontation sometimes arises out of regional pride and identities. We should take care that regional identity should not clash with the national identity.

If the Centre and the States play the roles assigned to them by the Constitution without transgressing the *Laxman Rekha* drawn around them and with a profound sense of responsibility, their performance will be effective and fruitful.

Law and order is the responsibility of the States. Various schemes and programmes have to be implemented by the States. There should be perfect harmony between the Centre and the States.

The Centre should give impartial treatment to all the States irrespective of the parties in power. The States, on the other hand, should remember that the future of the country depends upon the strength of the Centre.

Things fall apart, the Centre cannot hold;
Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world.

(Y.B. Yeats)

I urge upon the hon. Prime Minister to take initiative in this direction.

Demand to give financial assistance for implementation of the Gram Nyalaya Act in the contry

श्री बृजलाल खाबरी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, ग्राम न्यायालय अधिनियम, 2008 दशक 02.10.09 से लागू हो जाने के फलस्वरूप प्रत्येक ब्लॉक में तहसील स्तर पर ग्राम न्यायालय की स्थापना की जानी है। दशक 16.08.09 को नई दिल्ली में

राज्यों के माननीय मुख्य मंत्रीगण एवं माननीय मुख्य न्यायाधीशगण के सम्मेलन में ग्रामीण न्यायालय स्थापित कए जाने पर निर्णय हुआ है। उत्तर प्रदेश में 1,132 ग्राम न्यायालय स्थापित होने हैं, जसके लए 452.80 करोड़ रुपये का व्यय आएगा। राज्य सरकार ने ग्राम न्यायालय की स्थापना पर इस शर्त के साथ सहमति दी थी कि इस पर आने वाला सम्पूर्ण व्यय केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा वहन कया जाएगा।

माननीय मुख्य मंत्री जी ने प्रधान मंत्री को दक्षिण 12.06.09 के अपने पत्र द्वारा ग्राम न्यायालय की स्थापना हेतु प्रदेश शासन को शत-प्रतिशत वस्तीय सहायता दए जाने का अनुरोध कया है। मुख्य सचिव, उत्तर प्रदेश शासन ने सचिव, वधि एवं न्याय मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली से इस नमित्त 452.80 करोड़ रुपये की मांग

की है, कब्तु अभी तक इस संबंध में कोई स्वीकृति प्राप्त नहीं हुई है। इससे भारत सरकार की मंशा कोरा नारा देवे जैसी लगती है।

अतः सदन के माध्यम से मेरा केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि वह अधिनियम लागू करने के बाद इसे धरातल पर उतारने के लिए वित्तीय स्वीकृतियाँ तुरन्त जारी करने के निर्देश जारी करने का कष्ट करे।

Demand to repair the National Highway Nos. 55, 31 and 31A in West Bengal

श्री समन पाठक (पश्चिम बंगाल): महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार का ध्यान एन.एच. 55, एन.एच. 31 और एन.एच. 31ए की खराब हालत की ओर आकृष्ट करना चाहूँगा।

एन.एच. 55 सलीगुड़ी से दार्जिलिंग पहाड़ी क्षेत्र की ओर जाता है और यह रास्ता दार्जिलिंग से जोड़ने के लिए एकमात्र नेशनल हाईवे है। गत 18 जून, 2010 को हुई भारी वर्षा के चलते खरसांग (Kurseong) नजिक पगलाझोड़ा में भूस्खलन होने के कारण यह रोड बंद पड़ा है, जिसके चलते पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में आवश्यक वस्तुओं एवं यात्रियों को आने-जाने में काफी मुश्किलों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। दार्जिलिंग पर्यटन एवं चाय उद्योग भी इससे प्रभावित हुए हैं। यह रास्ता पछिले दो महीनों से बंद पड़ा है, लेकिन इसकी मरम्मत हेतु अभी तक कोई कदम नहीं उठाया गया है। वैसे भी दार्जिलिंग पहाड़ी क्षेत्र में विभिन्न राजनैतिक आन्दोलनों और अन्य कारणों से होने वाली बन्द से जनता परेशान होती है और यदि यह एकमात्र हाईवे भी बंद रहे तब जनता को और परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ता है। अतः मैं सरकार से आग्रह करना चाहूँगा कि एन.एच. 55 पर विशेष ध्यान दिया जाए और शीघ्र ही उस रास्ते को मरम्मत करके खुलवाया जाए।

महोदय, इसके साथ-ही-साथ मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान एन.एच. 31 की दुर्दशा की ओर भी दबाना चाहूँगा। बागडोगरा विमान स्थल से सलीगुड़ी शहर तक आने का रास्ता एन.एच. 31 है। इसकी हालत भी बहुत खराब है। इस पर गाड़ी चलाना अत्यन्त कठिन है। यही रास्ता जलपाईगुड़ी तक जाता है। इसके साथ ही एन.एच. 31ए, जो सखिकम और कलिमपोंग का रास्ता है, उसकी दशा भी अत्यन्त शोचनीय है।

अतः मैं आपके माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार को एन.एच. 55, एन.एच. 31 और एन.एच. 31ए की हालत पर विशेष ध्यान देवे का अनुरोध करता हूँ।

Need for a statutory body to determine wages and service conditions of journalists and non-journalists in the electronic and print Media

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I would like to raise an urgent matter regarding the need for making statutory provisions for administering wages and service conditions of journalists and nonjournalists working in the electronic media (television, radio and online) in the country. At present, the provisions of the Act of 1965 for journalists and non-journalists are not applicable to this group. It is high time that an appropriate legislation was made to include journalists and non-journalists working with television channels, radio and the online media.

There are no statutory conditions regarding working hours, salary and other related matters. The employees are compelled to work for more than 12 to 15 hours at a stretch. Within a span of a few years, newcomers replace existing journalists who had worked tirelessly for many years. Since they work on a contract basis, at the end of the day, these journalists are thrown out of the system without proper legal and financial protection, minimum wages, pension and other related benefits.

The Government does not protect the interests of people working in the newspaper industry and the media as it should. The wage revision proposed in the newspaper industry by G.R. Majeethia Commission is yet to be finalized. There is no proper system for a periodic revision of wages. When a Wage Board is constituted, it takes many years to submit its report.

Therefore, Government needs to take urgent steps to finalize the wage revision and take urgent steps to announce interim relief to newspaper journalists in addition to the 30 per cent announced last year. Journalists in the electronic media may be included in the category of journalists immediately by taking suitable legislative measures.

Demand for inquiry into the alleged irregularities committed in the merger of the Bank of Rajasthan with the ICICI Bank

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY (Orissa): Sir, as per the Reserve Bank of India's Notification the Bank of Rajasthan has merged with the ICICI Bank on the 13th of August, 2010. By this the pride of Rajasthan has been minimized. This bank was established in the year 1943, that is, before the establishment of the present State of Rajasthan. There were about 4000 employees and more than twenty lakh customers in the 467 branches of the bank spreading over the country. Almost two hundred branches of the Bank of Rajasthan Ltd. were working in the rural areas executing or implementing the Government programmes. Mewar Gramin Bank was sponsored by this bank. It is highly complained that in the process of amalgamation the guidelines of the RBI have been violated like anything. SEBI has also a lot of complaints against this merger. The deal has been made over Rs.3040 crores while the property and assets of the Bank of Rajasthan Ltd. is assessed over more than Rs.12,000 crores. Hence a CBI inquiry is highly demanded regarding this merger. Again I demand that the service conditions and salary structure of the Bank of Rajasthan employees and officers should be governed by the industry level bipartite settlements signed time to time. The present working hours of Bank of Rajasthan should not be changed. The reservation policy for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes should not be affected. There should not be any harassment in the name of transfers. The second option of pension

should be implemented by the ICICI Bank Management. The Bank of Mewar (RRB) should be attached to any PSU bank.

**Demand for proper rehabilitation of tribals facing threat of
eviction in Kerala**

SHRI PRAMOD KUREEL (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, in 2002, owing to the struggle organised by the tribal people before the Secretariat, the then Government made an agreement with agitating tribals to distribute 1-5 acres of land to them. On the basis of that agreement, the Government distributed one acre of land each to almost 300 tribal families in Chinnakanal within Idukki district. But, the places allotted to them were not fit for residence. Constant attack of wild elephants made the life of tribals miserable. Seven tribals were killed there by the

wild elephants. Thereafter, 98 tribal families fled from the area due to the attack of wild elephants.

After that, these 98 families became homeless and landless. The Government authorities failed to provide them with alternate land and housing. Thereafter, they put their huts in Government land at Perinchamkutty in Udumbanchola taluk of Idukki district. They are staying there for several years. The police and other governmental authorities are harassing them with false cases and threats of forceful eviction. Their repeated request to legalise their stay in Perinchamkutty and to allot patta of their land in which they have established their huts, has not been allowed till this day.

Appad village is situated in Sulthanbathery taluk of Wayanad district in Purakady village. There are 48 landless tribal families who have put up their temporary huts in 55 acres of forest land demanding allotment of land to the landless tribal families. The agitation started on 10th January, 2010. These tribals are facing constant threats of eviction from Kerala Government. They have not been given any land to live. I urge upon the Government to look into the problems of these tribal people and provide them relief urgently.

**Demand to scrutinize the expenditure under Special Component Plan
for SCs/STs in various States**

श्री अवतार सहि करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, देश की आज़ादी के 63 वर्षों के बाद भी अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों की आर्थिक स्थिति, उत्तर प्रदेश को छोड़कर बाकी देश में अच्छी नहीं है, क्योंकि देश व प्रदेशों की सरकारों के द्वारा जो नीति इन वर्गों के कल्याण के लिए बनायी जाती है, उनका अनुपालन नहीं हो पाता है। इसलिए सरकारी सुविधाओं से अभी भी ये वर्ग वंचित हैं।

महोदय, यह सदन की जानकारी में है कि अकेले दिल्ली प्रदेश के दलितों के कल्याण के लिए बनायी गयी योजना, स्पेशल कम्पोनेन्ट प्लान का करीब 745 करोड़ रुपया दिल्ली की सरकार ने राष्ट्रमंडल खेलों में व्यय में समायोजित कर दिया है। यानी, करीब 745 करोड़ की भारी-भरकम रकम, जो अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के विकास व कल्याण पर खर्च होनी थी, वह रकम असंवेदनशील सरकार ने राष्ट्रमंडल खेलों पर खर्च कर दी है।

मान्यवर, सदन की आशंका है कि दिल्ली प्रदेश के अलावा और राज्यों में भी स्पेशल कम्पोनेन्ट प्लान की धनराशि दूसरे मर्दों में खर्च करके दलितों के साथ सौतेला व्यवहार किया जा रहा है, जिसके कारण देश का दलित वर्ग विकास की गति से दूर होता जा रहा है और स्थिति वस्फोटक होती जा रही है। किसी भी

समय देश के हालात बेकाबू हो सकते हैं।

अतः मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि सरकार उत्तर प्रदेश को छोड़कर बाकी सभी प्रदेशों व केन्द्र शासित प्रदेशों के स्पेशल कम्पोनेन्ट प्लान की खर्च हुई धनराशि की जाँच कराकर सदन को अवगत कराने की कृपा करे।

**Demand to take measures for curbing the alarming rate of
maternal mortality in the country**

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA (Rajasthan): Sir, my Special Mention is relating to horrendous scenario of unsafe motherhood. The Maternal Mortality Ratio in India is 254 to 1,00,000 live births, ranging from 95 in Kerala to 580 in Assam. This is worst MMR in the sub-

continent, worse than either Pakistan or Bangladesh. To make sense of this statistics, all you need to know is that in India, more than 70,000 women die every year during childbirth. That is to say, in our country, every eight minutes, a woman dies while giving birth.

A shocking 50 per cent of these deaths are caused by hemorrhage and sepsis, and, around 70 per cent of these deaths could easily be prevented by safer delivery methods and adequate maternal care. More than half of India's mothers deliver without the assistance of any health personnel. As for the children they leave behind, they are ten times more likely to die in the following two years than those with both parents alive.

Who stands to lose the most when a woman dies during childbirth? It is the children who survive her and the man who is left behind to take care of them. Women's health is an issue that impacts not just the female of the species but all the society. Anemia is endemic among Indian women, with 56.2 per cent of women suffering from it. Around 33 per cent of Indian women are malnourished with a Body Mass Index below normal. In view of the above alarming MMR scenario, I would urge upon the Hon. Minister of Women and Child Development to take corrective steps to save Indian Motherhood.

**Need to adopt a uniform policy for maintenance of National
Highways in the country**

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): It is reported that Mumbai-Goa Highway has become a pothole highway due to the damage caused to it on several stretches. It is not known as to exactly which Government is responsible for the maintenance of National Highways — State of Central. There appears to be no definite policy in this matter. Some stretches of highways are looked after by the National Highways Authority and some by the State Government by using the funds given by the National Highways Authority and so on.

Those who do not repair potholes on national highways within 24 hours, commit serious crime of criminal negligence. Thousands of people traveling through public and private vehicles on National Highway face the risk of grievous injuries and even death on account of potholes.

Present policy of the Government all over the country to repair potholes after the monsoon is dangerous as, by that time, damage caused to life and property of the people is quite huge.

As regards Mumbai-Goa Highway, sudden increase of pressure on it on account of disruption of Konkan Railway, during monsoon, which is a routine matter nowadays, calls for the timely repair of Mumbai-Goa Highway all the more. Traffic police and other Government agencies performing their duties on National Highways should be made to report on each and every pothole formed on National Highways.

In any case, Government should adopt a uniform policy as regards the maintenance of National Highways in the country and it should give up present musical chair policy.

**Demand to five emphasis on the use of commonly used Hindi
vocabulary in administrative work**

डा॰ प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान): उपसभापति जी, राजभाषा हब्दी के अनेक मुश्किल शब्दों का प्रयोग राजकाज संबंधी कामकाज में जसि प्रकार प्रचलित है, उसे हब्दी के साहित्य का अच्छा जामकार भी अक्सर समझ नहीं पाता, तो जसि हब्दी की सामान्य जामकारी है, उसे तो ऐसे हब्दी के शब्दों से अंग्रेजी अधिक सरल लगती है। हब्दी के राजभाषा के रूप में अधिक लोगों द्वारा जानने-समझने के लिए आवश्यक है कि हब्दी की सरल तथा आम लोगों में प्रचलित उपयोगी सामग्री को प्रकाशित करि जाने पर विशेष ध्यान दिया जाए। हब्दी का जो गंगा-जमुनी स्वरूप आम लोगों में प्रचलित है, जसिमें सहज रूप से हब्दी, उर्दू, फारसी, खड़ी बोली, संस्कृत आदि भाषाओं के अनेक शब्द घुल-मिल गए हैं, उस हब्दी का उपयोग ही राजकाज की भाषा में होना चाहिए। जसि प्रकार अंग्रेजी विश्व के सर्वाधिक लोगों द्वारा बोली-समझी जाने वाली भाषा है, उसी प्रकार हब्दी भारत के अधिकांश लोगों द्वारा बोली-समझी जाने वाली जुबान है।

अतः हब्दी को चंद लोगों की नहीं, आम लोगों की समझमें आने वाली जुबान बनाए जाने की भावना को ध्यान में रखते हुए राजकाज संबंधी कार्यों में हब्दी के शब्दों का उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए। मेरी मांग है कि सरकार इस संबंध में उचित दशा-निर्देश जारी करे।

**Demand for CBI enquiry to probe the smuggling of rice under
the PDS meant for poor people in Tamil Nadu**

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, in Tamil Nadu, under the Public Distribution System, 20 kilogram of rice is sold to each ration card holder at Re.1 per kilogram at the ration shops. Recently, the Headlines Today and Aajtak television channels showed how tonnes of rice meant for the poor, is smuggled out daily. PDS rice is making its way to neighbouring States of Andhra Pradesh and Kerala on trains and from there to Malaysia, Singapore, New Zealand and Indonesia. The smuggled rice is sold at Rs.18 to Rs.28 per kilogram in Andhra, Kerala and Karnataka and at Rs.120 to Rs.150 per kilogram in other countries.

The question is: Can PDS rice be diverted on a large scale in such a manner? This act has been going on for months right under the nose of the authorities.

In view of the fact that the rice-for-rupee one scheme of the State Government in Tamil Nadu, meant for the millions of poor is benefiting the middlemen and well-connected and influential big wags and tonnes of rice is smuggled to other States and even abroad, the AIADMK demands a CBI inquiry into this PDS rice megascam in Tamil Nadu.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We now take up the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2010. Shri Mullappally Ramachandran to move.

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2010

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): Sir, I move:

That the Bill further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

Sir, the code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2006, was passed by the Rajya Sabha on 18th December, 2008 and by the Lok Sabha on 23rd December, 2008. The Bill received the assent of the President on 07.01.2009. The corresponding Act, namely, the Code of Criminal (Amendment) Act, 2008, has been published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 1 dated 09.01.2009.

In the meantime, before the Act could be enforced through official notification (as is provided for under section 1(2) of the 2008 amendment Act), a number of representations were received in the Ministry of Home Affairs from all over the country particularly from lawyers' associations and Bar Associations against some of the provisions of the Act.

To address the misgiving of lawyers and others, the hon. Home Minister wrote a letter to the Chairman, Law Commission on 22.06.2009 to take initiative and to hold consultations with very select number of persons representing the premier Bar Associations to bring about a consensus on the issues that seemed to be agitating the minds of lawyers.

Hon. Chairman, Law Commission of India called a meeting on 20th August, 2009, for a discussion/consultation with all concerned in respect of the amendment in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, brought about the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2008, especially the provisions amending Sections 41 of Cr.P.C. at which the Chairman, Bar Council of India and the Chairman, Bar Council, Maharashtra and Goa were also present.

After holding consultations, the Law Commission recommended further amendment in the provisions of amended section 41 of the aforesaid Act to make it compulsory for the police to record the reasons for making an arrest as well for not making an arrest in respect of a cognizable offence for which the maximum punishment is up to seven years. The Law Commission also suggested further changes in the newly inserted section 41A of the Code of Criminal Procedure Act, 1973 (inserted by Act of 2009) to make it compulsory for the police to issue a notice in all such cases where arrest is not required to be made under clause (b) of sub-section (1) of the amended section 41. It was also suggested that the unwillingness of a person who has not been arrested

to identify himself and to whom a notice has been issued under the aforesaid section 41A could be a ground for his arrest. The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2010 has been prepared on the basis of the recommendations of the Law Commission of India.

The Bill has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 15.3.2010.

The Chairman, Rajya Sabha referred the Bill to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs for examination and report. The Committee examined the Bill and has submitted its 146th Report to the Chairman, Rajya Sabha, on 23.6.2010.

The recommendations of the Committee is given as, 'Since the recommendations of the Law Commission have been incorporated in the Bill and there appears to be unanimity amongst the legal community on the proposed amendment, the Committee recommends that the Bill be passed.'

Sir, the Bill is already passed by the Lok Sabha on 12th August, 2010. The Bill is now submitted to the Rajya Sabha for consideration and passing.

The question was proposed.

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब): उपसभापति जी, धन्यवाद। इस अमेंडमेंट को लाने की इंटेंशन बहुत अच्छी है। सर, पुलिस कई बार लोगों को या जो एक्ज्यूज्ड हैं, उसको अरेस्ट करने के लिए इसका मसियूज भी करती है। सर, मैं कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ, क्योंकि यदि पार्लियामेंट में ही वे सुझाव लागू करके, उनको मानकर इस बिल को पास किया जाएगा, तो जो अमेंडमेंट आपने ऐक्ट में की है, यदि इसकी इंटरप्रेटेशन हाई कोर्ट या सुप्रीम कोर्ट करेगा, तो वहां कसिने लोग जा पाएंगे, यह पता नहीं है, इसलिए मेरा एक सस्प्ल सा सुझाव है। मेरा बहुत छोटा सा अमेंडमेंट है, इसलिए इस पर ज्यादा बोलने की जरूरत नहीं है। आपने लिखा है कि जो कल्ट्रिट है या जिसको अरेस्ट करना है, उसको पहले एक नोटिस दिया जाएगा। सर, इसमें कहीं भी यह प्रोवाइड नहीं किया गया है कि रटिन नोटिस होना चाहिए। नोटिस क्या होता है? There are two types of officers to deal with the offence—one is the investigating officer and another is the arresting officer. The investigating officer अगर इन्वेस्टिंग ऑफिसर एक जख्मी भी अपनी डायरी में डाल लेगा कि हमने फलां आदमी को नोटिस दे दिया और उसने कम्पाइल्ड वदि नहीं किया, तो आपकी जो इंटेंशन है, वह एक जख्मी केस डायरी में डालने से खत्म हो जाएगा। मेरी आपसे रक्विरेस्ट है कि इसमें एक रटिन नोटिस की बात होनी चाहिए। आप इसमें खाली नोटिस शब्द मत लिखिए, इसमें रटिन नोटिस लिखिए। दूसरी बात, नोटिस दे दिया, अरेस्टिंग ऑफिसर उसके घर पर नोटिस देने के लिए गया, वह नहीं मिला, तो क्या यह नोटिस समझा जाएगा? इसमें एक अमेंडमेंट कीजिए कि duly received by that person or any adult member of the family of that person यह प्रैक्टिकल डिफिकल्टी आपको आएगी, क्योंकि इसमें बहुत कुछ आई.ओ. (इन्वेस्टिंग ऑफिसर) के हाथ में होता है कि किस ढंग से इसको मोर्ड करना है। सैकिंडली, आपने इसमें कहा कि अगर वह नोटिस को कम्पाइल्ड नहीं करता, तो कम से कम यह नोटिस टाइम

बाउंड होना चाहिए कि कतिने घंटे के लिए है। अगर आप रटिन में अमेंड नहीं करते हैं, तो आई.ओ. कहेगा कि मैंने फोन कर दिया था, वह नहीं आए, इसलिए मैं उनको अरेस्ट करने के लिए जा रहा हूं, इसलिए इसमें 24 ऑवर्स या 48 ऑवर्स का एक टाइम बाउंड नोटिस इंक्यूड करने की जरूरत है, अदरवाइज इस प्रोविजन का भी मसियूज होगा।

पहले 41 की रक्वायरमेंट्स थीं, अब 41 (ए) आया है। आपको अमेंडमेंट करने की जरूरत पड़ी, क्योंकि लोग लॉ कमीशन तक गए, स्टेट्स ने अपने व्यू रखे, इसलिए हमारी ऐसी भावना है कि इसका मसियूज न हो। सपोज, आई.ओ. ने टाइम दे दिया कि आप मेरे पास दो बजे आ जाइए, वह आदमी आ गया, लेकिन वहां पर आई.ओ. नहीं मल्लिता है, तब उसका क्या प्रोसिजर होगा? आप यह इन्सर्ट कीजिए कि जो वहां का एस.एच.ओ. है या वहां का एम.एस.सी. है, वह अपनी रोजनामचा रपोर्ट में यह एड करे कि फलां आदमी आया था, लेकिन आई.ओ. के न होमे के कारण वह अपनी हाजिरी नहीं दे सका। इससे उसको अगला टाइम दिया जा सकता है। इसमें क्या होगा कि लोग तो आएंगे, लेकिन वह सक्पिली एक और जल्मी डालेगा कि मैंने नोटिस दिया था, वह आया नहीं। इसलिए मैं उसको अरेस्ट करने जा रहा हूं। आप इसको भी थोड़ा सा क्लैरीफाई कीजिए। थईली, बहुत अच्छी इंटेशन है, उसको अपने आपको पेश करने का इमिडिएटली मौका

मल्लिगा , लेकिन कई बार ऐसे लोग भी होते हैं कि जबकि अरेस्ट करने से उनकी रेस्पूटेशन पर फर्क पड़ता है। मान लीजिए I.O. और Arresting Officer इस provision को comply with नहीं करता , तब arrest का status क्या होगा ? So-called accused के पास क्या right है ? क्या उसकी arrest illegal मानी जाएगी ? Non-compliance के लिए Arresting Officer या Investigation Officer को क्या सजा मिलेगी ? जतिने लोग practice करते हैं , वे practical difficulty feel करेंगे या जब इसको implement करना होगा , उस समय मुश्किल आएगी , फरि इसका interpretation कोर्ट्स करेंगी। पता नहीं कतिने लोग हाई कोर्ट और सुप्रीम कोर्ट तक जाएंगे। इसलिए मेरा आपसे यह नविदन है कि अगर good intentions से यह amendment लाए हैं , यह intention ठीक रहे , इसका फायदा लोग ले सकें , कानून को भी अपना रास्ता मिले , लेकिन मैंने जो दो-तीन मूल बातें बताई हैं , अगर उनको यहाँ पर amend करके डाल सकें , तो बहुत अच्छा होगा। आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak on this Bill. First of all, I congratulate the Government for taking into consideration the modern trend of giving more human rights issues in favour of the persons who are under the criminal justice system. Sir, earlier, the police used to have the power of arrest and they used to convert the non-cognisable offence also as a cognisable offence, because they had arrested the person and the media also covered it. Nowadays, the media trial is also very famous. Even before the court trial starts, the media start to say that so and so is arrested, he is coming before the police or coming before the magistrate and they bring out lot of stories on that issue. Finally, in many cases, they may not find any charges to be framed. Then, the case used to be ended with that. But, the thing happened due to the drama of the arrest. In that case, what will happen? The individuals and their families' reputation will be totally tarnished. Therefore, now the system of giving notice to the person who is needed for commission of any cognisable offence or any complaint which is reasonable is a new departure from the procedure which we are following till now.

Sir, this particular amendment has also come forward after lot of discussion in the Parliamentary Standing Committee which has submitted the Report No.128, and also recently, after this Bill is brought in, in Report No.146. In the meantime, the Law Commission was also asked by the Ministry of Home Affairs to get the evidence from different parties to come to the conclusion. Here, Sir, I would like to just

submit that whenever a law is brought in on the procedure and also on the substantial questions, then, there should be a role of the Bar Council of India. Hon. Law Minister is also here. My suggestion is, the Bar Council of India should also have a separate wing to go into the issues like this and come forward with the recommendation to the particular Parliamentary Standing Committee or to the Ministry concerned or to the Law Ministry so that their representation can also be looked into before framing any law like this. I am saying this because they are the part of the judges made laws. They are making lot of interpretations before the High Courts and the Supreme Court. But, nowadays, we find, Sir, that even for small things they start to agitate, and stop the working of the court system itself. The people are having the last resort to the courts. Now, gradually, they are losing dependence on certain institutions. Therefore, the court is the last resort for the citizens. That should also not be

closed because of the reasons of legal fraternity. If they have got their problems, they can solve the problem by way of discussion. They can come forward to the proper forum and redress their grievances.

Sir, in this particular amendment we are protecting the interests of the individuals. Already in article 23 of our Constitution a person is protected from being used as a witness against himself. Similarly, in article 22, the arrest and detention is also formulated that if there is arrest, then within 24 hours, they have to bring him before the Judicial Magistrate. In this particular amendment *prima facie* it is very, very clear that a citizen is to be respected properly, given notice, given sufficient time to appear before the concerned officer and cooperate into the investigation of a particular case. But, at the same time, we have to see that this procedure can be misused against an innocent person. The Constitution under article 22 guarantees that an arrested person has to be produced before the court within 24 hours. Here specific time has not been given. They can be held up in a police station for many days simply because notice has been issued and they may say that investigation is going on, inquiry is going on. They may ask the person to keep quiet and sit there only. This type of thing can happen by misusing this particular proposition. Therefore, there should a standing order to police of different States. When they are formulating the standing order for police, I request the Government of India to give direction to them that there should be proper protection and entry is made about when that particular person came to the police station, about the basis of the notice, when investigation was started and when he was asked to go out. All these things should be recorded. I am saying this because the words used here are and I am quoting, 'provided that the police officer shall in all cases where arrest of a person is not required..'. This is very dangerous, Sir. There is no need for arrest but he is called there. This is a departure from the non-cognizable offence. If there is a non-cognizable offence, the police has got no right to call him to the police station. But now it is allowed that he can be called even if it is a non-cognizable offence. Then, Sir, under the provisions of this sub-section, 'record the reasons in writing for not making the arrest', it is not for making the arrest. That means you are giving more powers to the police to say, "I am not arresting because of these

reasons.” Then he can be sent out.

Sir, next dangerous thing which is coming is plea bargaining. We have amended our law and we have shifted to the American system where an accused can have plea bargaining and can file a petition before the court. Sir, this section can be very much misused by the police officer by keeping the person there, asking him to go for plea bargaining because he is going to file the charge-sheet. And he can say ‘if you are going for plea bargaining, then, I will not arrest. He would say, “I will give the reasons. If you are not obliging it, then you will be arrested.” This can happen very easily. I am sorry to say this. Although many human right activists and politicians are raising their voice, but even now the police officers have not changed their colonial

mind because they have huge pressure of the work. I do not deny the fact that they have got the pressure of work from different quarters. But, at the same time, we have to see how much and how far we can protect the interests of the common citizens. Similarly, the second amendment is also like this, 'the police officer may' is changed to 'the police officer shall'. The subsequent amendment is also like this, 'where such person at any times fails to comply with the terms of the notice or unwilling to identify himself...' It is very easy to misuse this particular phrase saying that 'he has not identified himself that is why I am arresting him.' 'The police officer may, subject to such orders as may have been passed by the competent authority, competent court in this behalf arrest him for the offence mentioned in the notice.' Sir, this particular clause I am quoting it again, 'subject to such orders as may have been passed by a competent court', it is directly applying for an anticipatory bail. The court used to issue anticipatory bail orders even though the order says that he has to be released immediately but he can be arrested by using this particular provision.

He can very easily say because this provision itself gives the power to the police officer 'subject to such orders as may have been passed by a competent court in this behalf, arrest him for the offence mentioned in the notice.' Therefore, Sir, I feel a very, very dangerous power is given to the police. If they are doing it properly we don't deny that they have got every right.

Sir, I want to stress another important point. Nowadays we are following the American system in procedural law also. The Fifth Amendment in the American system gives the guarantee that even if a person testifies against himself the jury should not take notice of the negative inference. That means, Sir, a person is guaranteed that he will not be incriminated for a criminal justice simply because he was pressurized by some system to testify certain things before the jury. Similarly, they have got the right even at the early period of Prisoners Council Act, 1838. They have got the right to two things. One is, they can be represented by the attorneys *i.e.* by the advocates here and the other is, he can keep silent. Now, in India if anybody keeps silent he will have all the third degree methods to shout at least for the help of the mother or father or God. Therefore, if we

follow the American system we have to follow it at least in these human rights issues in a proper way. Are we maintaining the Right to silence? I will just read that portion, "Make inferences on an accused's failure to face cross examination or to answer a particular question. This limits usefulness of silence as a tactic by the defence." In England, The Criminal Justice and Public Order Act, 1994 under the Rule of criminative circumstances. These were the guarantees given by UK and USA laws. Now, we are allowing the police officers to honourably call the particular person on a notice and give sufficient time for that. That does not mean that he has to break his silence because already our Constitutional Right is given under 23 that a person cannot be a witness against himself. Therefore, the Right to Silence is silently given in the Constitution of India. That should be protected. That should not be misused by the police force. Thank you.

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश): मान्यवर, मेरी समझ में दंड प्रक्रिया संहिता (संशोधन) विधियक, 2010 मुख्य तौर से दो बातों पर ध्यान रख कर लाया गया है। इस संशोधन में पहली बात यह आई है कि 1973 की धारा 41 के आधार पर अधिकतम 7 वर्ष तक की सजा के केसेज में पुलिस बन्नि वारंट के गरिफ्तारी कर सकेगी। इस संशोधन में दूसरी बात यह दर्शायी गई है कि 7 वर्ष तक के अधिकतम दंड के केसेज में गरिफ्तारी करने या न करने के संदर्भ में तफतीश करने वाले ऑफिसर्स को लेखबद्ध करना पड़ेगा। इस प्रकार इसमें इन दोनों बातों पर खास तौर से प्रकाश डाला गया है।

महोदय, एमेंडमेंट पढ़ने के बाद मैं महसूस करता हूँ कि यह बात सही है कि यह एक छोटा-सा संशोधन है, लेकिन इसके प्रभाव और कुप्रभाव पर जब तक हम लोग चर्चा नहीं करेंगे तब तक मेरे हिसाब से इसमें संशोधन करने का औचित्य स्पष्ट नहीं हो पाएगा।

मान्यवर, मेरे मन में इसके पीछे बहुत सारी शंकाएँ उपज रही हैं। मेरी सबसे पहले शंका यह है कि अगर पुलिस को बन्नि वारंट के गरिफ्तारी के अख्तियारात दे दिये गए तो कहीं पुलिस इसका नाजायज लाभ उठाकर समाज के माहौल को दूषित न कर दे।

मेरी ऐसी आशंका इसलिए है कि बन्नि वारंट गरिफ्तारी के अधिकार मल्लिने के बाद भ्रष्टाचार को बढ़ावा मिल सकता है। नर्दोष लोगों की गरिफ्तारी के समय हम लोग कोई बात कहने के लिये उपलब्ध नहीं होंगे। पुलिस को वारंट की जरूरत नहीं होगी, वह जसिको चाहेगी, अरेस्ट कर लेगी, चाहे वह दोषी है या नर्दोष है। इससे नर्दोषों के खलिफ अन्याय की प्रवृत्ति को बढ़ावा मिल सकता है और पुलिस की ज्यादाती बढ़ सकती है। कामून के पीछे कामूनविदों की मंशा है कि लोगों को सस्ता और सुलभ न्याय मिले। इसमें इस बात की कमी होने की आशंका मुझे इसलिए नजर आ रही है कि कामून की मंशा है कि समाज के हर व्यक्ति को सस्ता और सुलभ न्याय प्राप्त हो, लेकिन जब बन्नि वारंट गरिफ्तारी का अख्तियार पुलिस के हाथों में आ जाएगा तो फरि कहीं न कहीं न्याय पैसे पर आधारित हो सकता है। जो ज्यादा पैसे देगा, उसकी बात को मान लिया जाएगा और जो नहीं देगा, उसकी बात नहीं भी सुनी जा सकती है। इसलिए मान्यवर, मैं समझता हूँ कि पुलिस को बन्नि वारंट गरिफ्तारी का अख्तियार देने से हम लोग बहुत बड़े न्याय की उम्मीद नहीं कर सकते हैं। कामून की मंशा समाज को अपराधमुक्त, अन्यायमुक्त और भ्रष्टाचारमुक्त बनाने की है, लेकिन इस अख्तियार के मल्लिने के बाद मैं यह समझता हूँ कि कामून की यह मंशा शायद पूरी नहीं

होगी। Indian Constitution के अनुच्छेद 21 में जीवन के अधिकार का उल्लेख किया गया है। संविधान का अनुच्छेद 21 यह कहता है कि किसी भी व्यक्ति के जीवन के अधिकार को किसी प्रकार से प्रभावित न किया जाए। अगर सी.आर.पी.सी. में अमेंडमेंट हुआ और पुलिस को वॉटेंट वारंट अरेस्ट करने का राइट दिया गया, तो इससे कहीं संविधान का अनुच्छेद 21 तो प्रभावित नहीं होगा ? माननीय मंत्री जी कृपया इस पर भी जरूर विचार कर लें।

जहाँ तक गरिम्ता करने या न करने की बात को लेखबद्ध करने का मामला है, इस पर भी मेरी आशंका है, जैसा मैं इस माननीय सदन के समक्ष लाना चाहता हूँ। पुलिस जैसा अरेस्ट करेगी, उसकी डिटेल उसे लेखबद्ध करनी पड़ेगी। अगर वह किसी accused को अरेस्ट नहीं भी करेगी तो उसको भी उसे लेखबद्ध करना पड़ेगा। पुलिस या आई.ओ. पर इस लेखबद्ध करने वाली प्रक्रिया का बोझ बढ़ जाये से अपराधों को पंजीकृत करने में कहीं कमी तो नहीं आएगी ? हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी को इस पर जरूर सोचना पड़ेगा कि अगर हम पुलिस का रटिन वर्क बढ़ा देते हैं, तो कई बार इसका कुप्रभाव यह हो सकता है कि पुलिस ऑफिसर्स बजाय मुकदमा दर्ज करने के उसमें compromise की बात सोचेंगे। अगर किसी के साथ अन्याय हो रहा है तो वे उस बात को रफा-दफा करने की सोचेंगे। इस पर भी हमारे कानून मंत्री जी को विचार करना चाहिए कि बयानों को लेखबद्ध करने से समाज के लोगों पर यदि कोई कुप्रभाव पड़ता है, तो इस पर पुनर्विचार होना चाहिए,

otherwise कसों के दर्ज होने में कमी होगी जिससे अपराधों में बढ़ोतरी हो सकती है। जब अपराध बढ़ जाएँगे और मुकदमे कम दर्ज होंगे, तब फिर न्याय की उम्मीद करना, मेरे विचार से संभव नहीं हो सकता है।

मान्यवर, मैंने इस विधायक में एक और चीज़ यह पढ़ी है कि इसमें सारे अख्तियार एस.ओ. को दिये गये हैं। अरेस्ट करने की प्रक्रिया को लेख बढ़ करना या अरेस्ट न करने की प्रक्रिया को लेखबद्ध करना, इस बिल में ये सारे राइट्स एस.ओ. को दिये गये हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी, यह बहुत अच्छा होता कि इस बिल में अरेस्ट करने या न करने की प्रक्रिया को लेखबद्ध करने की नबिरानी किसी सीनियर अधिकारी को दी जाती। जब हम सारे अधिकार एस.ओ. को दे रहे हैं कि वह स्टेटमेंट भी नोट करेगा और अगर अरेस्ट नहीं करना है, तो यह स्टेटमेंट भी वही नोट करेगा, लेकिन वह सही कर रहा है या गलत कर रहा है, इसकी कोई व्यवस्था हमारे इस अधिनियम में नहीं दी गयी है। बहुत अच्छा होता कि इसके लिए एक नबिरा नी अफसर depute किया जाता, जो इस बात को देख पाता कि जो arrest हुआ है, जो स्टेटमेंट नोट हो रहा है, वह सही है या नहीं, इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाता चाहता हूँ।

उपसभापति जी, इसके अलावा मेरे एक-दो छोटे-छोटे सुझाव हैं कि inquiry and interrogation के समय audio and video recording को प्रबंध होना चाहिए। आज समाज में यह हो रहा है कि किसी भी नर्दीष व्यक्ति को या अभियुक्त को पकड़ लिया जाता है और थाने में उसके साथ कैसा व्यवहार होता है, यह बात किसी से छपी हुई नहीं है। इसलिए मैं मंत्री जी को सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ कि inquiry के समय कम से कम audio and video recording की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए, ताकि किसी भी अनियुक्त या नर्दीष व्यक्ति के साथ injustice न हो सके। मेरा दूसरा सुझाव यह है कि जब आरोपी को lock-up में डाला जाता है, तो उसकी भी videography होनी चाहिए। कई बार थानों में ऐसी घटनाएँ हुई हैं कि किसी व्यक्ति को पकड़ा गया और उसके बाज़ काट दिये गए या उसके साथ दुर्व्यवहार किया गया। आए दबि ऐसी बहुत सी घटनाएँ और incidents होते रहते हैं कि पुलिस स्टेशन में पुलिस की मार से अभियुक्त मर जाता है, इसके कारण बहुत सी मौतें भी हुई हैं। बाद में मुकदमे दर्ज होते हैं और पब्लिक में रोष होता है। मेरा नविदन है कि माननीय मंत्री जी इस पर ध्यान देने की कृपा करें कि यदि किसी अभियुक्त को लॉक-अप में रखा जाता है, तो उसकी videography होनी चाहिए, ताकि पुलिस उसके साथ अन्याय न कर सके।

उपसभापति जी, मेरा यह भी नविदन है कि third degree method की व्यवस्था खत्म होनी चाहिए।

आज हमारे देश में यह व्यवस्था है कि जब तक कोर्ट यह decide न करे दे कि इसने offence किया है या नहीं किया है, तब तक किसी भी व्यक्ति को दोषी नहीं माना जा सकता, लेकिन पुलिस का रवैया यह हो गया है कि वह किसी भी नामजद अभियुक्त को पकड़ती है और उसके साथ इतना बुरा व्यवहार होता है कि वह व्यक्ति पुलिस की शक्ति देखकर भागता है। इसलिए मेरा नविदन है कि यह third degree method समाप्त होना चाहिए।

हमें वकीलों का भी ध्यान रखना पड़ेगा। जब यह मामला लोक सभा में वधिर के लिए आया था, तो इस पर डबिट हुई। सुप्रीम कोर्ट के अधिवक्ताओं ने, हाई कोर्ट के अधिवक्ताओं ने, जनपदीय अधिवक्ताओं ने इस बाह्य की आशंका व्यक्त की थी कि कहीं उस अमेंडमेंट के आने से अधिवक्ताओं के कार्य में बाधा तो पैदा नहीं होगी, क्योंकि पुलिस का लेब-देब बढ़ जाएगा? जब without warrant arrests होंगे, थानों में bails दी जाएंगी, तो वकीलों के काम पर इसका कुप्रभाव न पड़े, इसके लिए हमें कुछ व्यवस्था करने के बारे में सोचना पड़ेगा।

इसके अलावा SC और ST का मामला है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes के खिलाफ जो atrocities के मामले आते हैं, उत्पीड़न के मामले आते हैं, इस बिल में ऐसी कुछ व्यवस्था होगी चाहिए, ताकि इन मामलों में कमी आए और Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes के साथ उत्पीड़न न हो, उनके साथ ज्यादाती न हो। यदि इसके लिए बिल में कुछ व्यवस्था होती, तो बहुत अच्छा होता।

महिलाओं के मामलों पर CrPC मौजूद है 498A, Dowry Act - कई ऐसे offences हैं, जिनमें 7 साल से कम सजा का प्रावधान है... (व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : कश्यप जी, अब आप समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप : उपसभापति जी, मेरा नविदन है कि CrPC में संशोधन आया है, वह बहुत ठीक है, लेकिन मेरा अनुरोध है कि CrPC की समीक्षा होनी चाहिए। हमारे देश में लंबे समय से इसमें अमेंडमेंट आ रहे हैं, कभी सैक्शन 41 में अमेंडमेंट आता है, कभी सैक्शन 42 में अमेंडमेंट आता है। आज हमारे देश की व्यवस्था बदली है, हालात बदले हैं, इसलिए अगर CrPC में संशोधन का प्रस्ताव मंत्री जी लाएंगे, तो अच्छा होगा। आपने मुझे इस बलि पर बोलने के लिए समय दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, at the outset, I would support the positive intention of the Government behind bringing this proposed amendment. By this, the Government hopes that it will be able to control the arbitrariness on the part of the Police authorities while considering criminal cases which attract cognizance up to 7 years of punishment.

Sir, actually, it is in continuation of the 2008 Amendment. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it has been stated that this is a proposal moved by the Law Commission of India to compel the Police officers or make it mandatory for them to record the reasons for the non-arrest of a particular accused, and, through this, the culprits and the corrupt officers cannot connive criminal conspiracy to sabotage legal remedy available for the affected people.

Sir, technically this is very good and correct. But like my learned friend,

Dr. Natichiappan, said here, there is ample scope for arbitrariness on the part of the Police authorities even after this amendment. Sir, this will be successful if it is done in a laboratory condition or in a green house condition. But, unfortunately, in India, we don't have a laboratory condition. The sweet dreams of the legal letters will not be realized knowing the bitter practical experience of the Police Force. Sir, actually we need a total revamping of the criminal jurisprudence in the country. It is not only related to the Police force. I think, a total revamping, from the legislation stage to the judicial scrutiny, is needed in this country.

Sir, after this amendment in 2008, there is a provision for recording the reason for the arrest and now we are making it mandatory to also record the reasons for non-arrest. But even after this, the issue of atrocities against women is not properly addressed. If we go into the details, there is enough space for ambiguity and subjectivity with regard to some of the provisions. Sir, Section 354 of the IPC is related to molestation of women. But here, with regard to the question as to how outraging the modesty of a woman will be identified, there are subjective provisions. If a Police Officer is willing to help a particular accused, he can make a subjective assessment to free that person. Similarly, with regard to 498A of the IPC which is about atrocities against women, there also even the Supreme Court has not clarified or finalized the position as to how it can be assessed whether there is an atrocity or not. The mental torture can be there; the other aspects may be there. So, in these kind of situations, the Police Officer can easily help the accused person. Sir, there is another aspect. There is also a scope of

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corruption on the part of the Police Officer who is interested to indulge in such activities, as other Members have also mentioned.

Two aspects are there. If a Police Officer is willing to help someone, he can record it positively in favour of the accused and vice-versa. Generally, convicting is easy. Some advocates jokingly say, 'that particular Judge is convicting everyone because he does not know how to record the reasons for acquitting a particular person after having a lot of evidence.' It is because convicting a person is easy for many Judges. This is what the advocates generally say. Like that, the Police Officer, for lack of proper reasoning for not arresting a person, may also write some reasons for arresting him and thereby can make a mockery of this law. Sir, I would like to say something regarding this. I am supporting the intention of the Government. I am supporting the Law Commission. But, I think, in our country, more than the Police system, we have to revamp our legal system also. The criminal administration in the country, as I said earlier, from legislation to judicial scrutiny, needs to be revamped. We are having a system which we have traditionally followed from the British days. We are not revamping many of those provisions even now. We are making only piecemeal provisions and amendments. So, we have to thoroughly change this thing. Sir, for 'POLICE', as per Police, 'P' stands for 'Politeness'; 'O' for 'Obedience'; 'L' for 'Loyalty'; 'I' for 'Intelligence' and like that. But we all know what is actual picture of the Police in the country. We know that everyone is scared of the Police. From Kashmir to Kanyakumari, 'Police' is a name which scares everyone, which threatens everyone. When we were studying in law colleges our Professors used to say that. Even though the provisions are there in the law book, don't think that a Police Officer or a Policeman is knowing all these legal provisions. So be careful. So, Police is to be revamped. Even though all these provisions are there, Bhagalpur has happened in our country where the Police dealt with the under-trial prisoners in the jail in a very bad way.

Sir, we read about custodial deaths and fake encounters. The recent Gujarat cases are a subject of serious discussion. There is the situation in Kashmir. People do not believe the Police. Why is this happening? Police reforms are very important. I wish to cite some

examples here. The Kerala Government started community policing where policing is done with the help of common people. The Police is involving the common people. Also, they have started a student policing system where students are involved in the process and they also get some idea about policing. In Kerala, we have introduced a Police Complaint Authority under the chairmanship of a High Court Judge at the State level where one can lodge complaints about Police; the Authority would then look into the matter. There are Police Complaint Authorities even in the districts. So, police reforms are very important.

The next point I wish to make is about the judicial system. I am happy to see the hon. Law Minister here and I hope he is listening to me. Now, in the name of judicial activism, there is

judicial anarchism at many places. ...(Interruptions)... Many things are happening in the name of judicial activism. The judiciary is there to look after the legality of the system; even the legislative procedure in which we are involved can go in for a judicial review. The arbitrariness of any activity, whether it is policing or anything else, needs to be looked into by the Judiciary. Unfortunately, this is not happening. For instance, in Kerala, the hon. High Court made a decision banning public meetings throughout the State. Public meeting is a meeting held in a public place. I would like to know from the hon. Law Minister, how these kinds of * or arbitrariness on the part of the judiciary can be controlled.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The word * may be removed.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Sir, this is not a *sub judice* matter. I am just making a point about the judiciary. ...(Interruptions)... The judicial service and related matters need to be studied in the wake of the most recent case. Yesterday, there was a case in Andhra Pradesh where five judges, senior officers from the judicial services, were debarred from the University Examination, while taking their LLM examinations. They were some district judges appearing in the examination for promotion as Judges in the High Court. They were caught copying. This is the situation in the country.

Hence, a totalbroad approach is needed to revamp the legal system and not an amendment to the CrPC alone. A total revamp is needed.

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA (Contd.)

The Educational Tribunals Bill, 2010

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:-

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Educational Tribunals Bill, 2010 as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 26th August, 2010.”

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet at 2.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at four minutes past one of the clock.

The House re-assembled after lunch at thirty-one minutes past two of
the clock,

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA) in the Chair.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA): Shri Prabhat Jha; not
present. He has two Bills.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2010 (to amend the Preamble)

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Drug and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements)
Amendment Bill, 2010**

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2010

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2010 (to amend articles 15 and 16)

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers
(Recognition of Forest Rights) Amendment Bill, 2010**

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA): Now, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy; not present. Shri O.T. Lepcha.

The Special Financial Assistance to the State of Sikkim Bill, 2010

SHRI O.T. LEPCHA (Sikkim): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for special financial assistance to the State of Sikkim for the purpose of promoting the welfare of Scheduled

Tribes and other sections of the people of the State and for
development and

exploitation of its vast natural resources and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA): Now, Shri Mohan Singh; not present. He has three Bills. Dr. Janardhan Waghmare.

The Compulsory Pre-Marital HIV Test and Other Measures Bill, 2010

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE (Maharashtra): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory HIV test for the couples intending to be married and also for establishing the AIDS Controlling Authority to provide counselling and other necessary measures to prevent AIDS and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA): Now, Shri Mahendra Mohan; not present. He has two Bills. Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar; not present. He has three Bills. Shri Shreegopal Vyas.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2010 (to amend article 10)

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि भारत के संविधान का और संशोधन करने के लिए एक वधियक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास : महोदय, मैं इस वधियक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Code of Criminal Porcedure (Amendment) Bill, 2010 – (Contd.)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री कलराज मन्नि): अब Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2010, पर श्री पांडियन बोझेंगे।

SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, at the outset, I wish to state that this Bill is proposed with a view to strike a balance between the rights of the complainant and the accused. There is a right now vested with the victim who will be satisfied as he will be furnished reasons about the non-arrest of the accused. In the same way, the accused can go to court and complain that he was arrested on flimsy grounds.

However, Sir, I wish to State some issues with regard to the proposed amendment. Sir, the present amendment to section 41 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 imposes a duty upon the police officer to record reasons for not arresting a person involved in an offence punishable up to seven years. I have my own doubts about the efficacy of these amendments. Section 41,

as amended by the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2008, empowers a police officer to arrest a person involved in an offence punishable up to seven years only if any of the five necessities set forth in clause (a) to (e) is satisfied. The section also states that while making such arrest, the police officer shall record the reasons in writing. Obviously, the record must be there in the case diary maintained under section 172 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. The object of the 2008 amendment was to regulate the existing discretionary power to effect arrest. To that extent, the power of the police to indiscriminately effect arrest in certain class of offences stands curtailed. To that extent, the 2008 amendment is a welcome one.

But the present amendment imposes a duty on the police officer to record reasons for not effecting arrest. Sir, this is a negative provision. The anomaly that will set in is that on account of the present amendment, it will make policing difficult. If the police officer decides to arrest a person, it is enough for him to record any one of the five reasons set out in clause (a) to (e), but if he does not want to effect arrest, he should write all the five reasons in clause (a) to (e) as not available for effecting arrest.

Now, let us take clause (e), which says, "as unless such person is arrested, his presence in the court whenever required cannot be ensured." Can any police officer say with certainty that he is not arresting because he is confident that the person's presence in the court on the future date can be ensured? Will he take such a risk? Sir, my apprehension is that in the present system, and, if the present amendment is introduced, it will be an easier option for the police officer to record one of the five reasons for effecting arrest rather than justify his decision not to arrest by excluding the five reasons. Sir, I also wish to state that this provision will be misused by the police. Therefore, my apprehension is that arrests will become a routine and the purpose of the 2008 amendment will stand defeated.

Sir, the proposed amendment to section 41-A is a welcome one but that will come into play when the police officer decides not to arrest. In effect, section 41-A will become a dead letter and will not be put to use because the police officer will invariably take a decision to effect arrest, which decision cannot be subjected to

judicial review. Action taken by an Executive Authority at the ground level in a given situation cannot be subjected to judicial review unless *malafide* is manifest on the very face of it.

Sir, my apprehension is that the present amendment will have the effect of nullifying the 2008 amendment to section 41. Sir, I wish to know what is the mechanism adopted by the Government in order to implement the above provisions, and, how will they be complied with? There is also an apprehension as to how this procedure will be monitored.

Sir, in cases where the accused commits an offence against women, for example, under sections 354, 498-A, and, 509 of the IPC, and, also under an Act, which we have in Tamil Nadu,

called the Tamil Nadu (Prohibition of Harassment of Women) Act, 1998, the accused will not be arrested. I urge upon the hon. Minister to consider its consequences in the society.

Lastly, Sir, I wish to mention the recent observation of the hon. Supreme Court. The hon. Supreme Court has said that the criminal justice system has crumbled. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to reform and rationalize the criminal law of our country by introducing a comprehensive legislation instead of bringing piecemeal amendments. Thank you.

SHRI A.A. JINNAH (Tamil Nadu): Thank you Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. There is a saying in Thirukkural indicating how much a State or a Government should be careful in approaching the problems.

A lot of party politics, a lot of people are there to betray the Government and a lot of terrorists and other people are there. Two thousand and five hundred years before Thiruvalluvar had come to understand what would happen in future. For that only, our police force is day-by-day modernizing with the help of State Government and the Central Government, which is taking some of these amendments.

The key features of the Bill make it compulsory for the police to record reasons for making an arrest or not making an arrest. This provision renders useful information in understanding the police action taken. These reasons are subject to judicial scrutiny, would always go to the court of law. The papers they are taking in writing should be submitted before the court of law for judicial perusal.

It makes it mandatory for the police to issue a 'notice of appearance' to a person in all such cases where arrest is not required to be made under section 41 of the Cr.P.C. It is very much essential because according to other Members who are talking that police can take any action, even now or after the amendment also, the police can take action according to their whims and fancies. It means that cannot be done after this amendment. They have to make it in writing why they are arresting the person and what are the reasons for arrest. The entire thing should be recorded. This amendment has been taken up after substantial discussion with Bar Associations and taken into consideration the suggestions of the Law Commission. So, the reasons have to be noted as to why a person can be arrested or cannot be arrested. They have to be answerable. The Cr.P.C. amendment would increase transparency and also reduce the arbitrariness in

discretionary police action. Police action cannot be one-sided. They cannot take action according to their terms and conditions. They have to go by this amendment and they have to be transparent in all their activities and all that has to be scrutinized by the court of law.

Now, Sir, any effort to increase the trust and confidence of people in the police is welcome. As the guardians of law and order, the policemen should discharge their duties to ensure that there is no arbitrariness in their duty. One of the major challenges is to facilitate the common man to understand what his Fundamental Rights are. When a person is arrested, he should

know why he has been taken into custody and if a person is let off free, the system should communicate to the complainant why there has been no arrest made. These are all grey areas in our law and order system. This Bill seeks to remove this and ensure that we have a transparent and straightforward process that is uncomplicated.

At this juncture, Sir, law and order is a State subject and States must be given autonomy in the management of this vital service. However, at this moment, I would like to request the hon. Home Minister ...(Time-bellrings)... to increase training facilities and allocate necessary assistance to modernize our police force to face the law and order challenges of the day, to take action against atrocities of the terrorists and anti-social elements. The Parliamentarians and the Legislatures are engaged in information of laws. Courts are rendering justice by making use of the laws. Police forces are supposed to implement the laws without fear or favour and render justice.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA): Your time is over.

SHRI A.A. JINNAH: Sir, I am concluding. The atrocities of the lawbreakers like anti-social elements and terrorists should be curbed by police by making use of the powers vested in them. At this juncture, I would like to record my request to the police force. They have to take it up. It is a job given to them not only by the Government, but it is given by the Parliament and they are answerable to the people. We are people's representatives and we are giving powers to them. They must make use of the powers reasonably. I would like to tell one thing. Everybody knows the things. They are searching for a black cat in a dark room when it is not there. All know it pretty well. What is the power of the police? The police officers must understand the powers vested with them.

Sir, with these words, I conclude my speech. I welcome this amendment. Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA): Now, Shri Baishnab Parida. You have three minutes.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA (Orissa): Sir, I stand here to support the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2010. The amendment is aimed at streamlining the power of police. It is also intended to reduce the arbitrariness of the police and to bring transparency in police actions. Sir, according to this amendment, it makes compulsory for the police to record in writing its reasons for arresting or not

arresting a person accused of a cognizable offence that carries imprisonment up to seven years. This means, the police cannot make needless arrest or may, under pressure, let go people who may be wanted in the case.

Sir, the intention is very noble, but, I think, at present, in our society, the police arbitrariness is growing and atrocities on people are also growing. There are lot of deaths in police lock-ups. Though it has very good intention, yet, I think, it is very difficult to implement this law in rural areas. Among the poor people, police high-handedness, torture and arbitrariness is going on. I think, it will be a step to stop the police arbitrariness. So, I support this.

Sir, in the second amendment, under Section 41(A), police is given power to arrest a person when he or she fails to comply with the terms of the notice sent in writing by the police for questioning. But, the police can arrest the person for an offence on the order of a competent court. Of course, police arbitrariness can also be checked by this amendment because before arresting a person, the police has to obtain the order of a competent court. Sir, since the Criminal Procedure Code is very old - originally, it was made during the British time - I would appeal to the hon. Home Minister to introduce a comprehensive Bill in the Parliament to reform and rationalise the criminal law of the country instead of bringing forward amendments in a piecemeal manner.

The Criminal Procedure Code has been amended 10 times since 1973. Originally, we have followed the British procedure, and now, we are going to follow the American procedure.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री कलराज मणि) : कृपया बैठिए , आपका समय समाप्त हो गया है।

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: The administration of the criminal jurisprudence is a subject of the Centre and States. So, when a comprehensive and rational law will be introduced in the Parliament, the States views should be taken into consideration. That is my suggestion.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री कलराज मणि) : श्री आर.सी. सहि। आपके पास दो मिनट हैं।

श्री आर.सी. सहि (पश्चिम बंगाल) : सर, मैं मंत्री महोदय को बधाई देता हूँ कि विद्वान विधिवेत्ताओं से बातचीत करके वे ये संशोधन करने जा रहे हैं। अंग्रेजों के जमाने के 1861 के कानून आज भी लागू हैं , जिसके कारण आज भी लोग पुलिस को देख कर डर से भागते हैं। इसमें सम्पूर्ण संशोधन करने की जरूरत है। इसके बावजूद इन्होंने इसमें जो संशोधन किया है , इसके लिए मैं उन्हें बधाई देता हूँ। सर, मैं एक बात कहना चाहूँगा कि अगर पुलिस friendly नहीं हो सकती है , तो पत्थर का हल बुल्लेट नहीं हो सकता है , जैसा कश्मीर वगैरह में हो रहा है। इसलिए इनको 1861 वाले कानून को पूरी तरह से बदल कर सदन के पटल पर रखना चाहिए और इसे बदलने की कोशिश करनी चाहिए।

सर, इस बिल में इन्होंने तीन संशोधन किए हैं। पहला यह है कि सेक्शन 41 के अनुसार पुलिस ऑफिसर को इसके लिए बाध्य किया गया है कि जब वह किसी व्यक्ति को गिरफ्तार करता है या नहीं करता है , तो वह उसका रेकार्ड दर्ज करेगा। यह अच्छी बात है , लेकिन अगर इसमें गिरफ्तार करने के बाद उसकी family को inform करना add कर दिया जाता है , तो बेहतर होता।

इसके बाद , इन्होंने 41(ए) में 'may' शब्द को बदल कर 'shall' किया है। इन्होंने पुलिस अधिकारी को इतना अधिकार तो दे ही दिया है कि वे dilemma में नहीं रहेंगे , वह उसको गिरफ्तार कर सकता है। अगर वह अपनी पहचान बताने से इनकार करता है , तो वह उसको गिरफ्तार करेगा , लेकिन उसको लिखित तौर पर एक नोटिस होनी चाहिए , सिर्फ उसकी डायरी में इसका रिकार्ड नहीं होना चाहिए।

सर, सेक्शन 41 के द्वारा पुलिस अधिकारी किसी को मनमाने तरीके से गिरफ्तार नहीं कर सकता है , इन्हीं में इसमें दिया है , लेकिन मुझे इसमें एक बात कहनी है , चूंकि मेरे पास समय बहुत कम है , कि जब तक वह enquiry करेगा , तब तक असामाजिक तत्व या नक्सलवादी या आतंकवादी ऐसे लोग हैं कि उनकी enquiry करते - करते कहीं गायब न हो जाएँ , इसमें इसकी सम्भावना रहती है। इसके लिए मंत्री महोदय क्या व्यवस्था कर सकते हैं , मैं चाहूँगा कि वे इसके ऊपर जरूर अपने विचार रखेंगे। ... (समय की घंटी)... सर, मैं ज्यादा समय नहीं लूँगा।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री कलराज मन्नि) : आपका समय समाप्त हो गया है।

श्री आर सी . सहि : ठीक है।

3.00 P.M.

जहाँ तक Notice of Appearance जारी करने की बात है , तो मैं समझता हूँ कि नागरिकों के जीने के अधिकार के अनुकूल ही इन्होंने व्यवस्था की है। इससे हमें मदद मिलेगी। पुलिस नागरिकों के लिए friendly बने , मैं यही बात कहना चाहता हूँ। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS (Assam): Thank you very much, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2010 which aims to streamline the power of arrest of the police. It is a fact that there is an imperative need to reform and rationalize the criminal law of the country by introducing a comprehensive legislation in the Parliament. There is a need of bringing the police laws in tune with the time in every State to make the police work more transparent. The Code of Criminal Procedure has been amended 10 times since 1973. The present Bill is 11th in the series. Sir, the hon. Members of this House have already given some important suggestions. I support those suggestions. Also, custodial deaths must be avoided. Harassment and excesses of the police should be reduced. There is a need to introduce the video recording system for taking statements of the accused in police custody. Sir, North-East Region is well known for these custodial deaths and deaths in fake encounters. It has become an everyday phenomenon in the North-Eastern Region. Again, while supporting this Bill, there is an urgent need for amendment of Section 41A under which the police will get powers to arrest a person where he or she fails to comply with the terms of notices sent to him/her for questioning. Sir, the amendment will reduce arbitrariness and apprehension of people and bring about transparency.

Sir, while supporting this Bill, I, again, request the hon. Home Minister to look into the black laws prevailing in our Region, i.e. the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act. There is a need to withdraw these black laws. So, I hope, the Government will come out with a resolution to withdraw the black laws. With these few words, Sir, I support the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2010. Thank you very much, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA): Thank you, Mr. Das. Now, Shri M. Rama Jois.

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS (Karnataka): Sir, this is a very short amendment brought to the Criminal Procedure Code but has got greater implications on human rights. As we are aware, we got Independence on 15th August, 1947 and, then, the Constitution was brought into force on 26th January, 1950. In the meanwhile, on 10th December, 1948, human rights were declared by the United Nations called "The Universal Declaration of Human Rights". All the fundamental rights incorporated in Part III of the Constitution are, basically, human rights that have been incorporated. Article 21 is most important. It says: "No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law." So, you can take away the right or liberty or the right to life of an individual provided it is taken away according to the law.

This question came up, before the Supreme Court, first time, in A.K. Gopalan's case. At that time, the Supreme Court interpreted saying if there is any law which authorizes the State to arrest a person or take away his liberty, that would satisfy the requirement of Article 21. But much water has flown under the bridge. Subsequently, in Kesavananda Bharati case's, thirteen judges' judgment came where the Supreme Court declared that the basic human rights, which are part of fundamental rights, cannot be altered at all. Articles 21, 19 and 14, equality and other freedom, including the right to liberty, were all considered as basic human rights. And, therefore, any law made by the State Government must, according to the subsequent judgment of the court, if it is not sufficient that you have got the law, must answer Articles 14 and 19 also. Therefore, keeping that point in view, we have to consider the validity of the present amendment brought to the Criminal Procedure Code. Now, as we see, in Section 41 of the Act itself, it was incorporated to ensure and protect the fundamental rights of an individual. Here, it says, this Chapter is made to regulated the arrest person by the police without warrant.

Therefore, without any warrant issued by any Magistrate or Court, a power is conferred on the police officer to arrest a person. So, before arresting a person, there are certain conditions to be satisfied. They are all set out, namely against whom a reasonable complaint has been made, or credible information has been received, or a reasonable suspicion exists that he has committed a cognizable offence punishable with imprisonment for a term which may be less than seven years or which may extend to seven years whether with or without fine. These conditions must be satisfied. I don't want to repeat them. These conditions are laid down in the section. In such a case, the police officer shall record, while making such arrest, his reasons in writing.

Before going to the proviso, my submission is that it is not sufficient that the police officer should record the reasons in writing, but the date and time of the arrest should also be recorded, his family should be informed of the arrest and a report should also be sent to the jurisdictional magistrate. These safeguards must be included. I am saying this from my judicial experience. One day, when I was taking up *habeas corpus* writ petitions in Karnataka High Court,

a petition came up saying that some person had been arrested by the police a week back. After I issued notice, the person was produced before the court. The police said, "We had arrested him just yesterday and we are producing him within 24 hours as required under article 22 of the Constitution". Then, we asked the police to go out of the court and asked him when he was arrested. He began to weep and said, "Sir, I was arrested one week ago. I was taken to Chikballapur and somewhere else and tortured me". The police methods are very strange. They don't record the arrest at all. They arrest and just before the completion of 24 hours, when they have to produce him before the jurisdictional magistrate, they will record that they have arrested him on that day. Therefore, there must be some safeguard. The date and time of arrest should be recorded. The family may not be knowing whether the person is arrested or not. Therefore,

there should be a provision in section 41 itself. Apart from the police officer making such arrest should record his reasons in writing, a report should be sent to the jurisdictional magistrate and his family should also be informed. Unless these safeguards are included, the police officers are likely to misuse the power and the human rights will be violated.

Now, coming to the present proviso where such person, at any time, fails to comply with the terms of the notice, it shall be lawful for the police officer to arrest him for the offence mentioned in the notice subject to such orders as may be passed by the competent court. It is a double-edge sword. Undoubtedly, it is intended to protect an individual's right. Therefore, the reasons should be recorded for not arresting. But once you give these powers to the police, we don't know what is going to happen, particularly, in these days of rampant corruption. They can easily say, "We will not arrest him". For collateral consideration by recording same reason. Therefore, here also it is necessary, particularly, in the proviso to add a provision to the effect that not only the reasons should be recorded but also a report should be sent to the jurisdictional magistrate and the members of his family should be informed. Many a time, a family may not be knowing whether a person is arrested or not and they will be searching where the person is and all that. This is absolutely necessary.

There is another case which we had to deal with. A lady came and presented a *habeas corpus* writ petition saying that her husband was missing for one week and the police had arrested him. The Police Commissioner appeared and filed an affidavit saying that they had not arrested him. I was taken by surprise. After the Police Commissioner went away, we told her that the Police Commissioner has said that they had not arrested him and, therefore, we said that there was no question of issuing writ of *habeas corpus* and we could not interfere. Then, she said, "No, Sir. My husband has been arrested. My husband has been kept in a private house in Basaveswara Nagar Extension and not in the police station". Then, we appointed a Special Officer of the High Court to go along with the lady to the place mentioned by her and find out whether he was there or not. The lady went along with the Special Officer and he found there not one person but eight persons. Subsequently, we sat, after the court hours, at 7 o'clock and directed

that all those persons should be produced and after that they were released. More than one week they had kept them in custody, but they did not bring it on record. Therefore, this safeguard must be introduced in the provision. Otherwise, there would be every possibility of the police interfering with the Fundamental Rights, and with impunity.

Now, coming to the second amendment, the earlier provision was that the police officer may, in all cases, where the arrest of a person is not required under the provision, issue notice to the person against whom a reasonable complaint has been made or credible information has been received, or a reasonable suspicion exists that he has committed an offence, to appear before him and the fails to comply with the terms of the notice, it shall be lawful for the Police

Officer to arrest him for the offence mentioned in the notice subject to such orders as may be..." and so on. This is sought to be substituted: for the words "The police officer may", the words "The police officer shall" be substituted". This is a very welcome suggestion. Earlier, the police officer had the discretion to either issue the notice or not. Now, the police officer is bound to issue notice, giving reasons or the circumstances under which a person is going to be arrested. And in sub-section (4), the following sub-section is request to be substituted, namely, "Where such person, at any time, fails to comply with the terms of the notice or is unwilling to identify himself, the police officer may, subject to such orders as may have been passed by a competent Court in this behalf, arrest him for the offence mentioned in the notice". It is only in such cases where he fails to identify himself, the police officer can arrest him. But, as I said, the power to record reasons not to arrest, no doubt, on the face of it, appears to be a very good provision, but it is likely to give a handle to the police officers, to use his discretion not to arrest on collateral consideration and, then, record same reasons. Therefore, this requires two modifications at both places; the time and date of arrest should be recorded and the report should be made of the reasons for his arrest or non-arrest to the jurisdictional Magistrate.

Lastly, the family should be informed. These safeguards must be incorporated here. These are my suggestions. Of course, I have not moved any official amendment, but these suggestions must be taken into consideration by the Home Minister because of the rampant misuse of powers by the police. In fact, in the most ancient times, in Kautilya's Arthashastra, I quote what protection was given to human rights. Here are the powers. I would read, not the Sanskrit portion, but the translation. Misconduct by police officers jail superintendents: the Superintendent of the jail is liable to be punished for his acts of commission and omission, for putting a person in jail without disclosing the grounds for such detention, for subjecting prisoners to unjust torture – now that Bill against Torture is also coming up – for transferring a prisoner to any other place or depriving him of food and water – even the Supreme Court now says,

under article 21, an arrested person has the right to get food and water – for causing trouble to prisoners or receiving bribe from them, for beating a prisoner resulting in his death, for having sexual intercourse with the wife of a thief or any other person, for interfering with the taking of food or sleep; all these basic human rights have to be protected. This is in Kautilya's Arthashastra written in 250 B.C. It is at that time, that these safeguards had been incorporated. Therefore, now, in this 21st century, the Criminal Procedure Code should be such as would respect the human rights. No doubt, reasons to be recorded itself is not going to solve the problem. The reason should be communicated to the jurisdictional of magistrate and also the time of the arrest of persons should be recorded and family also should be informed. Such safeguards should be introduced. With these suggestions, I support the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am deeply grateful to the hon. Members who have participated in this debate. I begin by offering my sincere apologies that I was not present for most of the debate. That is because in the last 3-4 working days, there was so much work going on in both Houses, that I had to be present in that House too. But, I have, of course, with the final statement of my good friend, Shri Rama Jois, got the sense of what the House has been debating. I also heard a part of the hon. AIADMK Member's speech.

Sir, criminal procedure code has already been amended. In fact, clause (a) and (b) of section 41(1) have already been amended and we have introduced sub-section 2, 41A, 41B, 41C and 41D. We did not notify it because several Bar Councils and Bar Associations represented against the amendment that was made. Therefore, if hon. Members read amendments already made by this House, much of the doubts will be allayed. For example, I heard hon. Member say that we must inform a member of the family. That has already been done under 41B. 41B which this hon. House has already passed says, 'inform the person arrested; unless the memorandum is attested by a member of his family, that he has a right to have a relative or a friend named by him to be informed of his arrest.' Whether a friend or a relative has to be informed of his arrest is already there. Then, right of arrested person to meet an advocate is already there in 41D. Therefore, all these safeguards have been introduced.

What is objected to was why are you making a provision where the police officer shall record reasons only if an arrest is made in a case falling under 41(i), that is, arrest without a warrant. If it is above 7 years, then the question does not arise. We are talking about punishment up to 7 years. Therefore, when this objection came, I met with a number of Bar Member and then I said, 'All right, we will refer it to the Law Commission, let the Law Commission hold a consultation with academics, lawyers, Bar Associations, Bar Councils and let them come up with a recommendation.' So, I wrote a letter to the Chairman of the Law Commission on 22nd June, 2009. The Chairman of the Law Commission was very kind to agree to my suggestion. He held a formal

consultation with a number of persons representing premier Bar Associations. A meeting was called on the 20th August, 2009 and at the end of the meeting, the Chairman summed up the consensus, more or less unanimity, where they recommended that 41 should be further amended to say, 'when we arrest in a case falling under 41(1), we shall record reasons, when you do not arrest also you should record reasons.' The argument was, if you require an officer to record reasons only when making an arrest, he may for good or bad reasons not arrest a person and then we will not know why he did not arrest the person. Therefore, the Law Commission recommended, after consulting the Bar Associations, 'All right, we will now make it clear that you will record reasons for arresting, you will record reasons for not arresting.' Then,

consequently, if you are not arresting, the original section was you may issue notice to the person, but now they have said that consequently for not arresting you shall issue notice to a person so that he will join the investigation, he will be available for interrogation; if he does not even identify himself, then you have to arrest him. That is the only change we are bringing about.

Otherwise, all other safeguards have already been done in the earlier amendment, which we did by the Act 5 of 2009, in the early part of 2009. Now, if you read the Bill in that light, I think much of the doubt will be cleared. What does it say now? Let me read the section that will read, as amended. Any police officer may, without an order from a magistrate or without a warrant, arrest any person; (a) who commits in the presence of the police officer a cognizable offence; (b) against whom a reasonable complaint has been made, or credible information has been received, or a reasonable suspicion exists that he has committed a cognizable offence punishable with imprisonment for a term which may be less than seven years or which may extend to seven years, if the following conditions are satisfied:-

(i) the police officer has reason to believe that such person has committed the said offence;

(ii) the police officer is satisfied that such arrest is necessary- (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and the police officer shall record, while making such arrest, his reasons in writing". Provided that the police officer, in all cases, if arrest of a person is not required under the provisions of the section to record the reasons in writing for not making the arrest. Now, if you read it together, it is very clear now. It applies only to a case of an arrest without a warrant, in an offence where the punishment is up to seven years, in circumstances where there is a reasonable complaint or credible information, he is satisfied that one of the five conditions is or is not attracted. If any of the five conditions, one of them, is attracted, he shall record reasons. If he thinks that none of the five conditions is attracted, he shall also record reasons for not arresting. So, if you read the whole of it together, I think, it is quite clear that it is not an expansion of discretion; it is a restriction of discretion. Earlier, he can arrest, without recording any reason, until we amended it,

last year. Now, if we don't make this amendment, he need not arrest and without recording any reasons. What we are now doing is, whether you arrest or whether you do not arrest, record your reasons. Therefore, it restricts his discretion. The person arrested can go to court for bail and say, "Look at the reason that is recorded. This is an absurd reason. I should not have been arrested. I should be given bail." If the person is not arrested, the reason is there, the complainant can go to court and say; the prosecutor can go to court and say, "Look at the reason for not arresting him. He should have been arrested. Therefore, please direct the police to arrest him." Therefore, I think, this is a restriction on discretion, not an enlargement of discretion. Therefore, I would request the hon. Members to accept the amendment...

SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: It should be communicated to the judiciary...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am coming to that. Once the person is arrested, and the reason is recorded, it will go as part of the Case Diary as to why he is arresting him. The Case Diary is there. The Case Diary will have to record (A) has been arrested for the following reasons. That is where he will record the reason. The Case Diary will go. And the prosecutor will have to produce the Case Diary. The lawyer for the accused will say, "Let us see the reason why you arrested my client. He should have been let on bail. Why is he not being given the bail?" The complainant can go and say, "Look at the Case Diary, why did he not arrest this person? He should have been arrested." I think, it is a restriction of discretion.

Now, the second one is, where the existing sub-section (4) read, "Where such person, at any time, fails to comply with the terms of the notice 41(A), it shall be lawful for the police officer to arrest him for the offence mentioned in the notice." That is what it says. Now, the Law Commission substituted with the following. "Where such a person, at any time, fails to comply with the terms of the notice..." - that is a repetition - "or is unwilling to identify himself" That is all we are adding. We are adding the words, "unwilling to identify himself". Suppose, I say, "All right, I will not arrest you, but I want to issue a notice to you. Tell me, what is your name and what is your address?" If he refuses to identify himself, then, obviously, he has to be arrested. I am willing to exercise my discretion not to arrest him. Therefore, I say, I will give you a notice, you join the investigation tomorrow, at 12 o'clock in the police station; tell me what is your name and what is your address. And, if he refuses to identify himself, obviously, he has to be arrested on-the-spot. So, all that we are doing is, to the existing 41(A), which has already been passed by Parliament, we are adding six words, "or is unwilling to identify himself". This is all the two amendments we are making, Sir. The other amendments have already been made. They had not been notified... which is why, maybe, my friend, Rama Jois, did not find it in the body of the Cr.P.C., but at the footnote amendments already made by this House not yet notified are carried out.

If you read with it with the amendments already made, it becomes very clear we are restricting discretion. We are requiring him to

record reason because these are the cases falling in the middle category, up to seven years. Then we say this is obviously justiciable if you go to court, both the arrested person as well complainant can certainly make the reasons justiciable and the court will decide. Therefore, I think these are the amendments which complete the exercise we started last year. Now there has been a demand that we should not make these piecemeal amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code. I entirely agree. I have already written to the Law Minister that he should refer the matter to the Law Commission that a comprehensive look at the Criminal Procedure Code may be done and we must have a comprehensive Criminal Procedure Code. This is after all of 1973, which is already 37 years old. We have made piecemeal amendments over a period of time. He has acknowledged my letter and says that he

agrees with me and he will refer the matter to the Law Commission. I say that let it be done in about a year. I hope the Law Commission will be able to give its Report by next year. Once that Report comes, certainly, we will look into it and bring about a comprehensive new set of laws on criminal laws. But for the present we are completing an exercise we started last year. One bit remains, we are completing that exercise. I request the hon. Members to pass this Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA): The question is:

That the Bill further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA): We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

[श्री उपसभापति पीठासीन हुए]

PRIVATE MEMBERS BILLS

The Fruit and Vegetable Board Bill, 2010

श्री मोहन सहि (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि फलों और सब्जियों तथा उनके उत्पादों के विकास, भंडारण और वणिणन के उपाय करने तथा उससे संबंधित अथवा उसके आनुषंगिक वणिियों का उपबंध करने के लिए एक वधियक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री मोहन सहि : महोदय, मैं वधियक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

The Prevention of Female Infanticide Bill, 2010

श्री मोहन सहि (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि कन्या शिशु-हत्या रोकने के लिए उपाय करने और उसे कठोर शास्ति सहित दंडनीय बनाने और तत्संसक्त अथवा उसके आनुषंगिक वणिियों का उपबंध करने के लिए एक वधियक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री मोहन सहि : महोदय, मैं वधियक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

हैं।

The Political Parties (Maintenance and Auditing of Accounts) Bill,
2010

श्री मोहन सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय , मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि राजनीतिक दलों के वार्षिक लेखाओं को तैयार करने , उनके अनुरक्षण तथा लेखा परीक्षण और तत्संसक्त अथवा उसके आनुषंगिक वस्तुओं का उपबंध करने के लिए एक वधियक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाय।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री मोहन सिंह : महोदय , मैं वधियक को पुर :स्थापित करता हूँ

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will now take up The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2010.

GOVERNMENT BILLS (contd.)

The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2010

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): Sir, on behalf of my senior colleague Shri Sharad Pawar, I move:

That the Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

Sir, The Essential Commodities Act, 1955 was last amended in December, 2009 by the Essential Commodities (Amendment and Validation) Act, 2009 to remove the ambiguity as regards the factors that should be taken into consideration by the Central Government for the determination of the price of levy sugar and to validate actions taken under the principal Act. Sub-section (3C) of Section 3 of the principal Act dealing with determination of price of levy sugar was amended in two parts. In the first part vide clause (a) of section 2 of the Amendment and Validation Act, 2009 a new Explanation II was inserted under sub-section (3C) with retrospective effect from 1st October, 1974 to remove any doubt regarding the meaning of expressions or cost components mentioned therein. In the second part, the said sub-section (3C) and the Explanations thereunder, including the newly inserted Explanation II, was substituted by a new section (3C) on and from 1st October, 2009 to introduce the concept of "fair and remunerative price of sugarcane" payable to the growers of sugarcane by replacing the earlier expression "minimum price of sugarcane", which did not contain provision for margin on account of risk and profit to farmers. Explanation II inserted retrospectively with effect from 1.10.1974 was not retained in the substituted sub-section (3C) which came into force on 1.10.2009 since through the amendments to the Sugarcane (Control) Order 1966, the provision regarding payment of additional price was deleted and a new clause 3B was inserted, which

put the liability on the State Government regarding the payment of difference between the "fair and remunerative price of sugarcane" fixed by the Central Government and SAP i.e. "State Advised Price of sugarcane" (if fixed higher than the fair and remunerative price) fixed by the State Government concerned. Since this provision had given rise to certain misgivings, it was agreed to delete the said clause altogether. The assurance given in this was implemented by deleting the said clause by amending the Sugarcane (Control) Order 1966 through a notification issued on 7th January, 2010. Consequent to the deletion of the said clause 3B from the Sugarcane (Control) Order 1966, the necessity for having an Explanation on the lines of said Explanation II

under the newly substituted sub-section (3C) of section 3 of the principal Act has been felt, since the absence of such an explanation may again lead to ambiguity in law, which the Essential Commodities (Amendment and Validation) Act 2009 had sought to solve. Hence the present Amendment Bill to insert a new explanation under sub-section (3C) of section 3 of the principal Act with retrospective effect from 1st October, 2009. Learned Attorney General of India has advised for making this amendment to the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. This amendment in no way will affect or disturb the status regarding the powers of the State Governments to announce the State Advised Price of sugarcane.

The question was proposed.

श्री कप्ता न सहि सोलंकी (मध्य प्रदेश): मान्यवर उपसभापति महोदय, Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2010 पर बोझने का मुझे अवसर प्रदान किया, इसके लिए सर्वप्रथम धन्यवाद। जैसा कि इस बिल का नाम है - Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2010, एक तो उसमें Essential Commodities है और दूसरा अमेंडमेंट है। Essential Commodities, यह मुझे लगता है कि आज देश में जतिने वषिय हैं उनमें सबसे महत्वपूर्ण वषिय Essential Commodities है। जब इस सदन का सत्र शुरू हुआ था या इससे पहले भी सदन के जो सत्र शुरू होते रहे हैं, Essential Commodities को लेकर, उसके मूल्यां को लेकर समुचित रूप से इसके उपभोक्ता को जो उपलब्धता नहीं होती है, उसको लेकर अवरोध पैदा होता रहा है और 5-5 दबि तक सदन में गतिरोध पैदा हुआ है। इसलिए जब यह जानकारी में आया कि Essential Commodities बिल के अंदर एक अमेंडमेंट हो रहा है, तो स्वाभाविक रूप से यह इच्छा जगी कि इस भीषण समस्या के नदिन के लिए कोई न कोई महत्वपूर्ण अमेंडमेंट आएगा। वैसे इस सदन में इस सत्र में कई महत्वपूर्ण अमेंडमेंट, कई महत्वपूर्ण बिल आए हैं, जैसे नास्रुन्दा विश्वविद्यालय, जो पांचवीं सदी में स्थापित हुआ था और वह देश का गौरव था तथा विश्व में वख्यात था, लेकिन 12वीं शताब्दी में वह धूल धूसरित हो गया। यद्यपि 64 वर्ष लगे, मगर उस बिल का लाना एक इतिहास बन गया। शायद स्वर्गीय सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल अगर जखि रहे होते तो वह जल्दी आ जाता। उसी तरह के अन्य कई बिलों पर हमने चर्चा की है, जैसे इल्लीगल माइनिंग, सरकार ने बहुत अच्छा आश्वासन दिया है इसको रोकने के लिए कि वे कामून लाएंगे। सखिल लाइबिलिटी और न्यूक्लीअर डेमेज बिल, यद्यपि इसमें 18 संशोधन हुए लेकिन वह भी एक न्यायसंगत बिल बन कर लोक सभा से पास हो गया और राज्य सभा में टेबल पर आ गया, उस पर भी चर्चा होगी। मैं सोचता था कि Essential Commodities को लेकर ऐसी कोई बात होगी, लेकिन वह नहीं हुई। फरि

भी इस बलि के अंदर जो संशोधन पेश किया गया है, मैं यह अध्ययन कर रहा था कि इसके पेश करने के पीछे मंशा क्या है। मंत्री महोदय ने एटार्नी जनरल का नाम लिया, उन्होंने कहा कि 1955 का जो एक्ट है, उसके अंदर संशोधन करें। 30 में जो कुछ अभी है उसको एक्सप्लेनेशन -वन करें, और कुछ जो जोड़ना चाहते हैं वह एक्सप्लेनेशन -सेकेंड करके उसमें जोड़ दें। लेकिन इसके पीछे जो सरकार की मंशा है, उसके ऊपर मुझे शंका है।

यह बलि क्यों लाया गया है इसके बारे में जो कुछ मैंने पढ़ा कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट में महालक्ष्मी शुगर मलि कम्पनी लिमिटेड ने अपने भारत संघ यूनियन गवर्नमेंट के खिलाफ एक केस पेश किया। इसमें सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने नर्षिय दिया और नर्षिय देते समय केन्द्र सरकार को आदेश दिया था कि चीनी मलिन से लेवी चीनी, लेवी शुगर उसी दर के अनुपात में खरीदें, जसि दर पर चीनी मलिन किसानों से गन्ना खरीदती है। इसमें वैधानिक न्यूनतम मूल्य यानी एस.एम.पी. का कोई आधार नहीं होना चाहिए। यह बात सुप्रीम कोर्ट कह रहा है। असल में सरकार को यही मुश्किल होती है। अगर वह सुप्रीम कोर्ट की अनुपालना में लेवी चीनी, जो राशन की दुकानों पर आवंटित होती है, को खरीदती है, तो उसे चीनी महंगी पड़ेगी। सरकार की जेब पर भार न पड़े और चीनी मलि मलिन को भी फायदा हो, इसके लिये केन्द्र सरकार ने इस बार एफ.आर.पी. का एक नया पैलरा फेक दिया

है। अब एस.एम.पी. नहीं है, अब उसके स्थान पर एफ.आर.पी. आया है। सैक्शन "सी" के अंदर भी, उचित मूल्य और लाभकारी मूल्य, लेवी चीनी का रेट तय करते समय, उस पर विचार करेंगे। इससे केन्द्र सरकार का किसानों की कथित मदद करने का मानवीय चेहरा बेमकाब होता है। इसको देखकर मुझे लगता है कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने जो आदेश दिया है, उसकी अनदेखी कैसे की जाए, उसके लॉटिगेशन से कैसे बचा जाए, सुप्रीम कोर्ट के आदेश को कसि तरह से nullified किया जाए, कसि तरह से उसको धूल-धूसित किया जाए, इसके बारे में शायद आपने अटार्नी जनरल से पूछा होगा, तो उसने यह कह दिया होगा कि 1955 का जो एक्ट है, उसमें आप संशोधन कर दीजिए। आपने उसी तरह के संशोधन की बात कही है।

मैं इस बात की पुष्टि दो और बातों से करना चाहता हूँ। जब भी एफ.सी.आई. के गोदामों में गेहूँ सड़ रहा था, काफ़ी मात्रा में गेहूँ सड़ रहा है, जो कि लाखों मीट्रिक टन में है, उसकी करोड़ों रुपये में कीमत होती है, जब इसका संज्ञान सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने लिया, तो सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने सरकार से कहा कि आप इस सड़े हुए गेहूँ को गरीबों में क्यों नहीं बाँट देते? यह सुप्रीम कोर्ट की मंशा थी। मुझे लगता है कि हम सब की मंशा भी यही होगी और जबकि पास गेहूँ नहीं है, जो गरीब लोग हैं, वे भी यही चाहते होंगे कि अगर गेहूँ सड़ने के बजाय हमें मल्लि जाए तो बहुत अच्छा होगा। लेकिन मामनीय कृषि मंत्री जी ने कहा कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट यह कहता है कि उसे गरीबों में बाँट दीजिए, यह सम्भव नहीं है, उसको हम नहीं बाँट सकते। मैं यह नहीं कह रहा हूँ कि कृषि मंत्री जी गलत कह रहे हैं, वह भी ठीक कह रहे हैं, क्योंकि मैंने एफ.सी.आई. के अधिकारियों से स्टैंडिंग कमेटी में साक्षदों के सामने पूछा था कि गोदामों में इतना गल्ला सड़ रहा है, आप इसे गरीबों को क्यों नहीं दे देते, आप इसको बाज़ार में क्यों नहीं ले जाते हैं? इस बारे में जो नयिम होगा, जो कानून होगा, जो प्रॉविजन होगा, उसके अनुसार उन्होंने भी कह दिया कि ऐसा सम्भव नहीं है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट की जो मंशा है, उस मंशा को पूरा करने के लिए, अगर नयिम-कानून में व्यवस्था नहीं है, तो अच्छा यह होता कि आप इस तरह का अमेंडमेंट लेकर आते। आपसदन में इस तरह का कोई संशोधन रखते, आप इस तरह का कोई प्रस्ताव करते कि जनता चाहती है, सब लोग ऐसा चाहते हैं और सुप्रीम कोर्ट की भी ऐसी ही मंशा है। इस तरह के अमेंडमेंट की कोई बात हमने नहीं सुनी है। हम जानते हैं कि गरीबों के लिए पीडीएस सिस्टम के माध्यम से आवश्यक वस्तुओं का वितरण होता है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने इस बात का भी संज्ञान लिया है कि पीडीएस में क्या होता है? सुप्रीम कोर्ट में एक याचिका डाली गई, उस याचिका के ऊपर सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने एक कमेटी बनाई। उस कमेटी ने अपनी फाइंडिंग्स दीं और उन फाइंडिंग्स से यह उजागर हुआ कि पीडीएस सिस्टम के तहत जबकि हम फायदा देना चाहते हैं, जबकि पास आवश्यक वस्तुएं पहुंचाना चाहते हैं, उन तक हम इनको पहुंचा नहीं पाते हैं, इन चीजों का डायवर्जन

होता है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने जसि व्यवस्था को ठीक करने के लिए कहा , अगर हम उस व्यवस्था को ठीक करें , अगर उसके लिए अमेंडमेंट लाते , तो यह बहुत अच्छा होता। सुप्रीम कोर्ट की जो मंशा है , उसके बारे में , मैंने जो दो बातें कही हैं। इसके अंदर भी सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा था कि आप एस.एम.पी. को ध्यान में मत रखिए। वास्तव में जो चीनी मल्लि मालिक हैं , जबकी चीनी बनाने की फैक्ट्रीज हैं , उनके द्वारा गन्ना किसानों को कम कीमत दी जा रही है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा है कि गन्ना किसानों को चीनी मल्लि कीमती कीमत दे रही हैं , उसका संज्ञान किया जाए। इससे बचने के लिए आप यह संशोधन लेकर आए हैं। हम इस बात पर विचार करें कि यह जो अमेंडमेंट लाया जा रहा है , इसके माध्यम से किसको लाभ हो रहा है ? ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : आप जरा बैठिए , पहले ऑनरेबल होम मन्निस्टर साहब एक स्टेटमेंट कर लें , उसके बाद आप कंटेन्यु कीजिए।

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS (Contd.)

Alleged diversion of funds meant for the welfare of SCs/STs to commonwealth Games Projects by Government of NCT of Delhi

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, with your leave, I beg to lay a statement in English and Hindi on alleged diversion of funds meant for the welfare of

SCs/STs to Commonwealth Games Projects by Government of NCT of Delhi.

Some hon. Members had raised issues relating to alleged diversion of funds meant for welfare of SC/STs to Commonwealth Games Projects by Government of NCT of Delhi and had demanded that a statement may be made in this regard. I am, therefore, making the following statement after obtaining the requisite information from the Government of NCT of Delhi.

The Government of NCT of Delhi has stated that, as per the guidelines of the Planning Commission, they have to ensure their contribution to the Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) equal to the size of Scheduled Caste population. SC population of the total population of Delhi is about 16.9 per cent, as per the Census 2001. They reside all over the territory of Delhi. Hence, about 16.9 per cent of the total outlay of the Government of NCT of Delhi is required to be earmarked as flow to SCSP.

Keeping the above in view, the Government of NCT of Delhi has channelised the flow of funds to SCSP under two heads – (i) Divisible category and (ii) Indivisible category. These are described below:

Divisible Category: Funds under this category are earmarked in the Finance Department of the Government of NCT of Delhi (under Demand Code 789). Funds flow directly for the welfare of SC. This involves improvement of SC bastis, vocational and educational scholarships, vocational training, construction of hostels for SC students, etc. These funds are non-divertible and non-lapsable. During the last five years (2006-07 to 2010-11) funds earmarked under this category have been almost utilised. As against the approved outlay of Rs. 983.5 crores, the expenditure incurred/anticipated expenditure is Rs. 945.94 crores.

Indivisible Category: In this category, the amount could be spent for the welfare of SCs, which is not marked as SCSP in the Demand Book but has been taken on the presumption that the benefit under this category of scheme flows to SCs. The funds are not earmarked or targeted to any community as the SC/ST population is not residing in any particular locality, except for a few bastis. The infrastructure projects, such as hospitals, schools, widening of roads, drainage improvement, bridges, under-bridges, construction of stadium, modernisation of street lights, construction of flyovers, foot-over-bridge, terminal depots, etc., benefit the entire community, including

the SC population. During the last five years (2006-07 to 2010-11), funds earmarked under this category have been fully utilised. As against the approved outlay of Rs. 6967.35 crores, the expenditure incurred/anticipated expenditure is Rs. 7062.76 crores. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 678.91 crore has been contributed from SCSP funds to various Commonwealth Games-related infrastructure projects.

I have included a table in this Statement that indicates year-wise total expenditure on CWG projects; value of expenditure on CWG projects that would also benefit SC/ST; flow of funds under SCSP and percentage flow of funds under SCSP.

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Total expenditure on CWG Projects	Value of expenditure on CWG projects that benefit SC/ST	Flow of funds under SCSP out of Column 4 (column 5 would also)	Percentage flow of funds under SCSP to
1.	2006-07	11.60	11.60	1.97	17.00
2.	2007-08	895.95	83.07	15.58	18.75
3.	2008-09	1659.80	1240.86	214.73	17.30
4.	2009-10	2290.39	1657.00	288.44	17.40
5.	2010-11	1183.00	924.00	158.19	17.12
TOTAL:		6040.74	3916.53	678.91	17.33

Thus, it will be seen that 17.33 per cent has been contributed out of SCSP funds to the CWG projects that are considered as beneficial to the people including the SC population.

श्री उपसभापति : सोझकी जी, आप कंटिन्यु कीजिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, when can we have clarifications? ... (Interruptions) ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Clarifications will be taken up later. ... (Interruptions) ...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, it is a very serious issue. ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री प्रकाश जाबडेकर (महाराष्ट्र) : मंत्री जी को जाने क्यों दे रहे हैं ? ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति : Monday को क्लेरिफिकेशन होगा ... (व्यवधान) ... अब इनको लोक सभा में जाना है , क्यों जाने देले का सवाल नहीं है। Clarifications will be on Monday. ... (Interruptions) ... Clarification will be on Monday. ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री कप्तान सहि सोझकी (मध्य प्रदेश) : सर, आप जाइए , ताकि मुझे बोलने का मौका मिले। ... (व्यवधान) ...

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2010 (contd.)

श्री कप्तान सिंह सोलंकी : सर, आप जाइए , तबकि मैं बोल सकूँ।

महोदय , मैं यह कह रहा था कि जो यह अमेंडमेंट लाया जा रहा है , हम इसके इस तारतम्य पर विचार करें कि इससे लाभ किसको हो रहा है। यहां पर शुगरकेन का सवाल है , शुगर का सवाल है , लेवी चीनी का सवाल है और जो लेवी चीनी PDS सिस्टम के माध्यम से दी जाने वाली है , उसका सवाल है। प्रमुख रूप से चार कम्पोनेन्ट हैं - सबसे पहले किसान हैं , उसके बाद चीनी बनाने वाला मल्लि मालिक हैं , तीसरा उपभोक्ता हैं और

चौथी राज्य सरकार है। आप अगर इनका अलग-अलग विचार करेंगे, तो इनमें से किसी का फायदा नहीं है। उदाहरण के लिए सबसे पहले किसान पर विचार करें, क्या किसान को अपने उत्पाद की गन्ने की, पूरी कीमत मिल रही है? इसी को लेकर आए दलित आंदोलन होते हैं। आपने इसमें एक टर्म डाली है fair and remunerative prices, उचित और लाभकारी मूल्य, यह शब्द बहुत अच्छा है, लेकिन गन्ने की जो कीमत किसान को मिल रही है, वह न तो उचित है और न लाभकारी है। आपने इस अमेंडमेंट के बल पर, क्योंकि SAP जो स्टेट है जो एडवाइजरी प्राइज होगी, राज्य की जो प्राइज होगी, अलग-अलग राज्यों की अलग-अलग हैं, आप इसमें से एकसक्लूड कर रहे हैं। वह कहीं इसमें न मिले दिया हो, इसमें आपको शंका है, इसलिए आप इसमें से हटा रहे हैं। इससे किसानों को भी कोई लाभ नहीं हो रहा है। किसानों की स्थिति यह है कि पहले वे गन्ना बोएं और फिर उसको बेचने के लिए लड़ें। पछिले कई सालों से यही हो रहा है। सरकारें रेट तय करती हैं, किसान मानते नहीं हैं। किसान सड़कों पर उतरते हैं और चीनी मिलें न्यायालयों में चली जाती हैं और एक-दो महीने तक यही चलता है। किसान हार-थक कर या तो अपने खेतों में खड़ा गन्ना जला देता है या फिर कोल्हू में सस्ते दामों पर बेच देता है, जहां पर गुड़ बनता है। यदि खेत से गन्ना हटाएंगे तभी तो दूसरी फसल आएगी, गेहूं बोएंगे। हर साल की यही लीला है। उत्तर प्रदेश में तो खासतौर पर जसि तरह से केन्द्र और राज्य सरकार चीनी मिलों को फायदा पहुंचाने के लिए कामून को अपने हिसाब से तोड़ती-मरोड़ती हैं, वह सोचने पर विचार कर देता है कि गन्ना किसान एक लोकतांत्रिक राज्य में खेती कर रहा है या फिर चीन के साम्यवादी किसी कम्युनिज्म में या खेती की सारी उपज राज्य के खाते में चली जाती है। अगर हम इस प्रकार से देखेंगे, तो पाएंगे कि किसानों को भी योग्य कीमत नहीं मिल रही है। अगर किसानों को योग्य कीमत मिल गई होती, तो फिर किसान शुगर मिल को गन्ना क्यों नहीं बेचते? जहां पर उनको अधिक कीमत मिलती है, वे वहां पर जाकर बेचते हैं। आप fair and remunerative prices रख रहे हैं और किसानों का गन्ना 220, 220 व 250 रुपये के भाव पर बिक रहा है। कई चीनी मिलें भी किसी प्रकार से खरीद रही हैं। इस अमेंडमेंट पर जसि तरह की आपकी मंशा है और जसि शब्दों का प्रयोग किया गया है, उससे किसानों का कोई भला नहीं हो रहा है।

चीनी मिलें दो तरह की हैं - एक तो नज्दी हैं और दूसरी सहकारी। दोनों मिलकर असंतोष व्यक्त कर रही हैं और 45-46 चीनी मिलें तो बंद हैं। जसिके परिणामस्वरूप जो शुगरकेन पैदा होता है, अगर उसके माध्यम से शुगर बन सके, तो बहुत सारी कमी दूर हो सकती है, लेकिन वह इधर न आते हुए गुड़ की तरफ डाइवर्ट हो जाती

हैं, इसीलिए जो मल्लि के मालिक हैं, वे भी खुश नहीं हैं। उपभोक्ता को तो कहना ही क्या है। चीनी की कीमत दस, बारह रुपए से शुरू होती है और चासीस रुपए तक चली जाती है। उपभोक्ता को उससे कोई लाभ नहीं है। राज्य की सरकारें भी परेशान हैं। इस तरह के जो आदेश नक़ालते हैं, उसके परिणामस्वरूप जो statutory price होता था, उसको खत्म करके fair and remunerative price (FRP) को लागू कर दिया। केंद्र सरकार ने काम को दूसरी ओर से पकड़ते हुए कहा कि जो FRP रेट होगा, चीनी मल्लि केवल उसी के लिए जवाबदेह होंगी। यदि राज्य सरकारें इससे ज्यादा रेट तय करती हैं, तो उसकी भरपाई राज्य सरकारों को करनी पड़ेगी। केंद्र सरकार ने इस सीजन के लिए गन्ने का मूल्य 130 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल तय किया है, जबकि राज्य सरकारों की दरें इससे कहीं ज्यादा हैं। उधर उत्तर प्रदेश में सरकार ने इस सीजन के लिए राज्य का जो मूल्य तय किया है, वह 160 रुपए से लेकर 170 रुपए है, हरियाणा सरकार ने सबसे ज्यादा, 170 रुपए से 180 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल निर्धारित किया है, यानी राज्य सरकारें, जो अपनी कीमत तय कर रही हैं, उस कीमत को हम levy sugar की कीमत तय कर, उसको मान्य नहीं कर रहे हैं। हम कह क्या रहे हैं? हम कह रहे हैं कि अगर राज्य सरकारें शुगरकेन की कोई कीमत तय करती हैं तो वह कीमत चीनी मल्लि नहीं देगी, वह राज्य सरकार को देनी चाहिए। इसका परिणाम यह हुआ है कि सरकारें भी खुश नहीं हैं, इसलिए कुछ मल्लिकर इस अमेंडमेंट के बारे में वधिर करते हुए मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि न तो किसान खुश हैं, न चीनी मल्लि का मालिक खुश है, न उपभोक्ता खुश है और न ही सरकार खुश है। यह हो सकता है कि इसी में हम सारे खुश हों, लेकिन मैं कहता हूँ कि essential commodities बहुत महत्वपूर्ण वषिय हैं।

आज देश में तीन-चार वषिय हैं, जो बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हैं। एक तो महंगाई है। दूसरा आतंकवाद और तीसरा भ्रष्टाचार है। अगर इन तीनों पर विचार करें तो टॉप पर महंगाई आती है। हम उसको लेकर essential commodities बिल के अंदर संशोधन कर रहे हैं। मैं इस अवसर पर कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ। मैं मंत्री महोदय से नविदन करूँगा कि उनको नोट कर लें और हो सके तो उनका स्पष्टीकरण दें दें। एक तो यह है कि जस चीज को सरकार हाथ लगाती है, वही चीज बाजार से गायब होती है, वहीं समस्या खड़ी करती है। जैसा कि हमने सुना था कि पहले सीमेंट पर सरकार का कंट्रोल था, जब सरकार का सीमेंट पर कंट्रोल था, तो सीमेंट की जितनी आवश्यकता होती थी, उतना सीमेंट नहीं लक्षित था। जसको भी सीमेंट की बोरी की जरूरत होती थी, उसको लाइन लगानी पड़ती थी, कलेक्टर के पास जाकर कागज लेना पड़ता था कि इसको इतनी बोरी सीमेंट दें दिया जाए, लेकिन जैसे ही सरकार ने सीमेंट पर से कंट्रोल हटाया, आज सीमेंट की कोई कमी नहीं है, उसकी भरपूर उपलब्धता है। अगर वह कंट्रोल बना रहता, तो मुझे लगता है कि अपने देश में इतनी बिल्डिंग्स बन ही नहीं पातीं। पहले सूटिल पर भी कंट्रोल था। आपने वह कंट्रोल हटा दिया, बहुत अच्छा किया। मैं सोचता हूँ कि आप इसका विचार क्यों नहीं करते? आप अर्मेंडमेंट लाकर क्या करने वाले हैं? आप शुगर पर से कंट्रोल क्यों नहीं हटा देते हैं? शुगर पर से कंट्रोल हटाया जाए, इसकी बात हर कोई कह रहा है, चीनी मल्लि वाले भी कह रहे हैं। पहले सरकारी चीनी मल्लि इसके वसिध में थीं, लेकिन अब तो वे भी तैयार हो गई हैं। आप इस पर से कंट्रोल को हटा दीजिए। मैं सोचता हूँ कि विश्व के अंदर, जहां पर सबसे ज्यादा चीनी पैदा होती है, आप ब्राजील को ले लीजिए, मोक्सिको को ले लीजिए, आप जरा विचार कीजिए कि क्या इन देशों का शुगर के ऊपर कंट्रोल है? वहां पर प्रॉडक्शन फ्री है, सारी चीजें फ्री हैं। अगर इस आधार पर आप इसका विचार करते हैं कि आप इस कंट्रोल को हटा दें, तो मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि देश के अंदर जो चीनी का संकट है, वह साफ खत्म हो सकता है। आप इस दिशा के ऊपर विचार कीजिए। दूसरा, पूरे देश के लिए, fair and remunerative price को ध्यान में रखकर, क्या आप गन्ने की कोई एक कीमत पूरे देश के अंदर तय कर सकते हैं? आप उसकी कीमत recovery के आधार पर तय कीजिए। जस गन्ने की recovery हो, उसके आधार पर आप उसका रेट तय कर सकते हैं। क्या पूरे देश के अंदर कोई एक कीमत तय करने का फॉर्मूला बन सकता है, जसके अंदर राज्यों को जो अलग-अलग तय करना पड़ रहा है, वह उसमें से मजिमाइज हो जाएगा? अभी आपने fair and remunerative price (FRP) 130 रुपए तय कर दिया है, 2010 और 2011 के लिए 137 रुपए तय कर दिया है। राज्य सरकारें जो कीमत तय कर रही हैं, क्या उसको लेकर केंद्र सरकार की तरफ से कोई एक

कीमत तय की जा सकती हैं? अगर आप एक कीमत तय कर दें और यदि राज्य सरकारें कुछ करना चाहती हैं तो उसके ऊपर बोनास दें जैसा वे गेहूँ के बारे में करती हैं। क्या केन्द्र सरकार ऐसा कोई विचार कर सकती है?

मेश तीसरा सुझाव यह है कि क्या केन्द्र सरकार sugar का buffer stock बना सकती है? वह अपना buffer stock बना ले। अगर वह आयात करती है, तो आयात करके अपना buffer stock बना ले। उस buffer stock के माध्यम से चीनी की जो कमी होती है, हम उसको दूर कर सकते हैं।

मेश चौथा सुझाव यह है कि क्या आप PDS को computerize कर सकते हैं? इसमें हरेक Fair Price Shop पर जो माल आता है, वह लिखा हो, वहाँ पर कितने राशन कार्ड्स हैं, वह लिखा हो, आप कितना माल दे रहे हैं, वह सब लिखा हो। अगर आप इसको computerize कर देते हैं, तो PDS के बारे में सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने जो चर्चा व्यक्त की थी, वह इससे दूर हो जायेगी और उपभोक्ताओं को इसका ठीक प्रकार से लाभ मिल सकेगा।

अगर आप चीनी के निर्यात की बात करते हैं, तो मेश एक सुझाव है कि निर्यात की बात करते समय आप जो अनुबंध करते हैं, उसमें एक बात डाल दीजिए कि अगर हमारे देश के अंदर surplus चीनी होगी, तभी हम इसका निर्यात करेंगे, अन्यथा हम निर्यात नहीं करेंगे।

इन सारी बातों को लेकर, खास कर sugar और sugarcane को लेकर अगर सरकार पूरे Essential Commodities बिल पर विचार करती है, तो मुझे लगता है कि देश का भला होगा, आमआदमी का भला

4.00 P.M.

होगा और एक अच्छी नीति हम सबके सामने आएगी। इसलिए जैसा मैंने प्रारम्भ में कहा था कि Essential Commodities Act एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण चीज है, लेकिन इसमें amendment का कोई मतलब नहीं है। आपने सुप्रीम कोर्ट की मंशा को धूल-धूसरित करने के लिए अटार्नी जनरल के कहने पर यह amendment लाया है। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी (उत्तराखंड): धन्यवाद उपसभापति महोदय। यह “आवश्यक वस्तु (संशोधन) विधियक, 2010” सरकार ने विचार के लिए प्रस्तुत किया है। मैं इस विधियक का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्रीमन्, मैं समझता हूँ कि कोई भी सही सोचने वाला व्यक्ति इस विधियक का विरोध नहीं कर सकता। या तो वह व्यक्ति विरोध करेगा, जिसको इस विधियक को गहराई से समझने में सफलता नहीं मिली या फिर वह व्यक्ति विरोध करेगा जो चीनी मल्लिकों का हमियाती है और गरीब आदमी का विरोधी है।

अब इस विधियक की वजह से क्या हो रहा है? परिस्थितिजन्य कारणों से एक वसिगति पैदा हो गई थी। 1955 का जो आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम है, उसकी धारा 3 की उपधारा 3(सी) में सन् 2009 में एक संशोधन बिल प्रस्तुत करके संशोधन करके explanation का, स्पष्टीकरण का एक पैराग्राफ जोड़ा गया था। उसकी अवधि 30 सितम्बर, 2009 तक थी। 30 सितम्बर, 2009 के बाद वह explanation नष्टिभावी हो गया। जब से वह explanation नष्टिभावी हुआ, यानी 1 अक्टूबर, 2009 के बाद से एक कानूनी वसिगति बन गई है, जिसके बारे में मैं आपको बता रहा हूँ।

श्रीमन्, आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम के तहत शक्कर या चीनी का जो व्यापार है, व्यवसाय है, आपूर्ति है, वितरण है, इस पर जनहित में इस सरकार का नियंत्रण रखा गया। इसकी कीमतों के ऊपर सरकार दो प्रकार से नियंत्रण करती है। जितनी चीनी उत्पादित होती है, उसमें से एक हिस्सा लेवी की चीनी का होता है और बाकी हिस्सा free sell के लिए मार्केट में दे दिया जाता है। जो मार्केट में free sell के लिए जाता है, उस हिस्से पर सरकार मूल्य का नियंत्रण नहीं करती है, बल्कि market forces उसके मूल्य का नियंत्रण करती हैं। लेकिन गरीब आदमियों को Public Distribution System के जरिए, उचित मूल्य की दुकानों के जरिए, पूरे देश के गरीबी रेखा से नीचे के जो लोग हैं, गरीब आदमी हैं, उनको चीनी सस्ते दर पर उपलब्ध हो सके, इसके लिए सरकार लेवी लगाती है। लेवी की शक्कर की, चीनी की कीमत का आकलन करने के लिए धारा 3 में यह प्रावधान किया गया था कि उसके जरिए चार आधार बनाए गए थे, जिन आधारों के ऊपर सरकार यह तय करेगी कि लेवी की चीनी की क्या कीमत अदा की जाए। उसमें पहला आधार

होता था कि गन् ने की जो खरीद होती है, उसका केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा जो लाभकारी उचित मूल्य घोषित होता है, उसका आकलन किया जाए और उसे इसमें जोड़ा जाए। दूसरी चीज़ जो इसमें जोड़ी जाती थी, वह है चीनी मखि की उत्पादन लागत। उत्पादन लागत को इसके आकलनका आधार बनाया जाता था। तीसरा, जो इयू टी या टैक्स चीनी मखि को चीनी के उत्पादन पर देना पड़ता था, उसे भी इसमें सम्मिलित किया जाता था। चौथी चीज़ थी - पूंजीगत लागत, जो चीनी मखि के अंदर उस मखि मालिक की है, उस पर उसे उचित रटर्न मखि जाए, जसिसे उसको वाजिब आयप्राप्त हो सके।

इन चार आधारों पर केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा यह तय होता था कि लेवी की चीनी की क्या कीमत इन मखि मालिकों को दी जाएगी। यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि अगर लेवी की चीनी की कीमत ज्यादा होगी, तो स्वाभाविक रूप से पब्लिक डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन सिस्टम के माध्यम से, उचित मूल्यों की दुकानों के माध्यम से गरीब आदमियों को हम जो चीनी देंगे, उसकी कीमत भी ज्यादा हो जाएगी।

उसमें किसी प्रकार की नाज़ायज़ बढ़ोतरी न हो सके, इस बात का प्रावधान करने के लिए सन् 2009 में इसकी धारा 3 (सी) में एक संशोधन लाया गया, जसिसे माध्यम से उसमें एक एक्सप्लेनेशन या स्पष्टीकरण जोड़ा गया। वह स्पष्टीकरण क्या था? श्रीमन्, होता यह था कि कई राज्य सरकारें राजनैतिक या अन्य कारणों से अपने - अपने यहां मनमाने तरीके से गन्ने की कीमत बढ़ा करके घोषित कर देती थीं। कसिान को उसकी

वाजिब कीमत मल्लि या न मल्लि , लेकिन ऑन रिकॉर्ड उसकी ऊँची कीमतें घोषित हो जाती थीं। इस बात की कई जगह से शकियतें मल्लि , जो जांच में सही पाई गई। कई जगह कुछ कसिनों और मल्लि - मल्लिकों के बीच में कुछ इस तरह के फर्जी लिखित दस्तावेज़ बना लिए गए, जसिमें कसिनों को गन्ने की जो कीमत दी गई है , वह बहुत ऊँची दिखा दी गई और उसके बड़े -चढ़े या इन्फ्लेटेड आंकड़े दे दिये गए। इन आंकड़ों की वजह से सरकार के सामने एक कठिनाई उत्पन्न होती थी और लेवी की चीनी की कीमत बढ़ा दी जाती थी। इसको स्पष्ट करने के लिए 2009 में एक एक्सप्लेनेशन डाया गया , जसिमें यह कहा गया कि अगर मल्लि -मल्लिकों और कसिनों के बीच अथवा कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटीज़ के बीच इस तरह के कोई समझौते हों या फर्जि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स अपनी तरफ से कोई बढ़ोतरी करें , तो लेवी की चीनी की कीमत के आकलनके समय उसे हिसाब में नहीं लिया जाएगा। यह इसलिए किया गया , जसिसे मल्लि मल्लिकों द्वारा लेवी की चीनी की कीमत को बढ़ा करके न बताया जा सके।

हुआ यह कि इसमें एक वसिंगति यह रह गई कि इस प्रस्तावित संशोधन की अवधि 30 सितम्बर , 2009 तक थी। 30 सितम्बर , 2009 में उसकी अवधि पूरी हो गई, जसिके बाद वह एक्सप्लेनेशन नष्प्रभावी हो गया। इसका परिणाम यह हुआ कि चीनी मल्लि - मल्लिकों ने उसका फायदा उठाने के लिए तत्काल अदालतों में जा करके अपने -अपने कसिज़ दायर करने शुरू कर दिये , यह बताते हुए कि चूंकि अब वह एक्सप्लेनेशन लागू नहीं है , इसलिए लेवी की जो चीनी हमसे ली जाती है , केन्द्र सरकार ज्यादा पैसे की कीमत में उसकी भरपाई करे यानी ज्यादा दर पर खरीदे। यह जो षडयंत्र था अथवा इसमें जो कामून वसिंगति रह गई थी , उसी को दूर करने के लिए और उस स्पष्टीकरण को पुनः प्रभावशाली बनाने के लिए ही यह संशोधन विधायक लाया गया है। इसका उद्देश्य मात्र इतना ही है कि अनावश्यक रूप से लेवी की चीनी की कीमतें न बढ़ सकें , लेवी की चीनी की वाजिब कीमत मल्लि सके , जसिसे सरकार गरीब आदमी को आवश्यक वस्तुओं की दुकानों के माध्यम से सही कीमत पर, कम कीमत पर चीनी दे सके। मैं नहीं समझता कि इस मामले में हमारा किसी तरह का विशेष होना चाहिए।

कुछ बातें मुझे जरूर कहनी हैं। अगर मामनीय मंत्री जी यहां होते तो अच्छा था , लेकिन कोई बात नहीं , हमारे मजिस्ट्रि ऑफ स्टेट यहां मौजूद हैं , वे ही इस बात को नोट कर लें। श्रीमन् , मेरा एक सुझाव तो यह है कि आप जब मल्लि मल्लिकों के उत्पादन की लागत आकलित करते हैं , तो मल्लि मल्लिकों को उसकी वाजिब पूँजीगत आय पर उसकी आय वापस हो जाए , यह आप सुनिश्चित करते हैं और उत्पादन करने में उसकी जो रजिनेबल लागत लगती है , उसका आकलनकरते हैं , तब आप चीनी की कीमत निर्धारित करते

हैं। श्रीमन् , मेरा केवल यही अनुरोध है कि जब आप कसिनों से गन्ना वसूल करते हैं तो उसमें भी आप इन्हीं मापदंडों को आधार बनाइए। अब कसिनों से गन्ना लिया जाता है , कसिन के गन् ने की जब कीमत तय की जाती है तो उसकी भूमि भी तो उसकी लागत पूंजी है , उसकी भूमि की लागत पूंजी पर उसको क्या मल्लिता है ? लल्लिजा मेरा यह कहना है कि जो मापदंड चीनी मल्लिों के लए बनाये गए हैं , चीनी की कीमत तय करने के लए , गन्ने की कीमत भी तय करते समय इन्हीं मापदंडों को सुम्लिशित कलिया जामा चाहिए।

श्रीमन् , दूसरी बात यह है कि जब गन्ने की उत्पादन लागत तय हो जाए तब कसिनों को वल्लिब कीमत मल्लिनी शुरू हो जाए। खेतों में उत्पादित होने वाली वस्तुओं की कीमत पर तो सरकार का नल्लित्रण है , उनकी कीमत पर तो सरकार नल्लित्रण करती है , लेकिन क्या आवश्यक वस्तुएं केवल खेतों में ही पैदा होती हैं ? ये क्या उद्योगों में पैदा नहीं होती हैं ? आजरोजमरा की जरूरत की जो चीजें हैं , उनकी जो सूची है , में उसकी तरफ ध्यान दल्लिना चाहता हूं। मामनीय मंत्री जी , क्या साबुन , नहाने का हो या कपड़े धोने का , क्या अब वह आवश्यक वस्तु नहीं बन गया है ? उसी तरह मंजन , पेस्ट और ब्रश क्या आवश्यक वस्तुएं नहीं हैं ? क्या तेल , चड़्डी , बनियान , कंघी , मोजे आदि आवश्यक वस्तुएं नहीं हैं ? क्या जूता , बच्चों के स्कूल की इरेस , पेन , पेंसिल , नोट बुक , अखबार आवश्यक वस्तुएं नहीं हैं ? सुई , धागा , रेडी मेड गारमेंट्स , शीतल पेय और आमआदमी की

जरूरत का जो कपड़ा होता है, मोटा कपड़ा, क्या ये वस्तुएं नहीं हैं? बजिली के बल्ब, ट्यूबलाइट, वगैरह-वगैरह तमाम ऐसी चीजें हैं, जो आज आम आदमी की जम्बिगी के लिये आवश्यक वस्तुएं बन गई हैं, लेकिन इनमें से किसी की कीमत के ऊपर क्या सरकार का कोई नियंत्रण है? क्या इनको आवश्यक वस्तुओं की सूची में नहीं जोड़ा जा सकता चाहिए? क्या इनको मनमानी छूट दे देनी चाहिए कि उद्योग जत्तिना चाहे इनकी कीमत बढ़ाते चले जाएं? किसान अगर अपनी चीज की कीमत, खाने की वस्तुओं की कीमत, जैसे दाल की या चावल की कीमत, अगर बढ़ा दे, तो इस देश में हंगामा हो जाता है कि महंगाई हो गई, धरती फट गई, आसमान टूट पड़ा। लेकिन, काखाने में पैदा होने वाली रोजमर्रा की जरूरत की जो चीजें हैं, जबकि इस्तेमाल करे बगैर कोई गरीब आदमी भी नहीं रह सकता, उन वस्तुओं की कीमतों पर कोई नियंत्रण नहीं है। माननीय मंत्री जी, मैं आपसे और सरकार से यह अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि इन तमाम वस्तुओं की सूची बनाई जाए, जो आम आदमी की जरूरत की चीजें हैं और जिनमें खास तौर से मैं दवाइयों का नाम लेना चाहता हूँ दवाइयों की कीमत आज जसि हद तक बढ़ी है, उन दवाइयों की कीमत आज 8 गुनी और 10 गुनी हो गई है, जो आजसे कुछ साल पहले इससे 10वें हस्से की कीमत पर मिलती थीं। आज अस्पताल में इलाज कराना या दवाई खरीदना आम आदमी के बस की बात नहीं रह गई है। इसलिए चाहे वे दवाइयां हों या इस तरह की रोजमर्रा की जरूरत की आम चीजें हों, जो उद्योगों में पैदा होती हैं खेतों में पैदा नहीं होती, उनको भी सरकार को आवश्यक वस्तुओं की सूची में जोड़ना चाहिए और उनकी भी न्यूनतम तथा अधिकतम कीमतें घोषित करना चाहिए।

श्रीमन्, मैं इस सरकार को आखिरी सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ हमने यह देखा है कि खेतों में पैदा होने वाली वस्तुएं, चाहे वह आलू हो या टमाटर, सब्जी, फल, गन्ना, दाल, चावल हो, इनके उत्पादन के बाद जब किसान इन्हें बेचने के लिये जाता है तब तो उसको इसकी बहुत कम कीमत मिलती है, लेकिन जब वही चीज हमारे पास बाजार में आती है, तब उनकी कीमतें बहुत ज्यादा होती हैं। पछिले दिनों मैंने एक प्रश्न इसी सदन में आलू की कीमतों को लेकर उठाया था। देश में किसान से सिर्फ दो या ढाई रुपए प्रति किलो के भाव से आलू खरीदा गया, इसे यहां पर सरकार ने भी स्वीकार किया, और वही आलू जब उपभोक्ता के पास यहां दुकान पर पहुंचता है तब वह 20 रुपए या 25 रुपए प्रति किलो कि भाव पर बिकता है। दो-ढाई रुपए प्रति किलो के भाव से किसानों से आलू खरीदना और 25 रुपए प्रति किलो के भाव पर उपभोक्ताओं को बेचना, यह दोनों का शोषण है। ये बचिौलिये शोषण करते हैं वे उसको वाजिब कीमत नहीं देते हैं जो अपना

खून और पसीना खेत में बहाता है , रात -दबि मेहनत करता है , गर्मी -सर्दी नहीं देखता है और गरीबी में जीता है , उसको उसकी मेहनत की वाजिब कीमत नहीं मिलती है। वह, जो बेचारा बड़ी मुश्किल से रात -दबि मेहनत करने के बाद तनख्वाह से अपना पेट भरने की कोशिश कर रहा है , उससे आठ गुनी और दस गुनी मनमानी कीमत वसूल की जाती है। आवश्यक वस्तु (संशोधन) वधियक पर सरकार गंभीरता से विचार करे और इसमें यह संशोधन करे कि आवश्यक वस्तुओं की सूची पहले बनायी जाये। सरकार सभी एजेंसीज़ से बात करने के बाद इन आवश्यक वस्तुओं की न्यूनतम और अधिकतम कीमत निर्धारित करे , जिससे न तो किसान का शोषण हो पाये , न्यूनतम कीमत से नीचे उसे कोई खरीद न पाये और न ही अधिकतम कीमत से ऊपर कोई उपभोक्ता को बेच पाये। इस प्रकार , दोनों का शोषण रोका जा सकता है। सरकार को मेरा यह सुझाव है कि वह दोनों के शोषण पर रोक लगाने के लिए आवश्यक वस्तुओं की सूची बनाये , जिसमें केवल खेतों में पैदा होने वाली वस्तुएं न हों , बल्कि उसमें कारखानों में पैदा होने वाली आम उपभोक्ता की जरूरत की चीज़ें भी हों। उस सूची के आधार पर इन वस्तुओं की न्यूनतम और अधिकतम कीमत घोषित की जाए। फिर इसके लिए प्रति वर्ष एक ऐसा mechanism बनाया जाए , जो हर साल इन वस्तुओं की कीमत fix करे और वह यह देखे कि उसमें कोई अनावश्यक बढ़ोतरी या कमी तो नहीं हुई है। अगर उसमें ज्यादा कमी या बढ़ोतरी हुई हो , तो वह उसको रेगुलेट करने का काम करे। अगर ऐसा mechanism बनेगा , तो जसि महंगाई के बारे में हम यहां घंटों बहस करते हैं , उस महंगाई पर नियंत्रण करना भी संभव हो सकेगा और बच्चिलियों के द्वारा किसानों को जो शोषण हो रहा है , उसको भी रोका जा सकेगा।

श्रीमान् , मैं इस सदन के माननीय सदस्यों से अनुरोध करूंगा कि जहां तक इसमें लाये गये संशोधन का प्रश्न है, वह संशोधन वाजिब है। वह संशोधन उनके लिये है। अगर तमाम मन्त्रि मन्त्रियों को फर्जी आंकड़े प्रस्तुत करने की खुली छूट दे दी गयी, तो ये सरकार से लेवी की मनमानी कीमत वसूल करेंगे। जब सरकार को मन्त्रियों से ऊंची कीमत पर लेवी की चीनी खरीदनी पड़ेगी तो फरि गरीब उपभोक्ताओं को, जो below poverty line हैं, गरीबी-रेखा से नीचे जीने वालों को वहां से वह सस्ती चीनी दे पाएगी ? इसलिए मैं आपसबसे अनुरोध करता हूँ कि इस संशोधन वधियक की जो मंशा है, इसका जो मूल कारण है, धारा 3 की उपधारा 3 (सी) में जसि स्पष्टीकरण को जोड़ने की बात कही गयी है, उस स्पष्टीकरण को जोड़ कर हम गरीबों की मदद करने जा रहे हैं। इसलिए हमें इसका समर्थन करना चाहिए, मैं सबसे यही अपील करता हूँ धन्यवाद।

श्री बृजलाल खाबरी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, आवश्यक वस्तु (संशोधन) वधियक, 2010 के सभा पटल पर आने के बाद मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी के इस वधियक का समर्थन करता हूँ। अभी माननीय सांसद सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी जी ने जसि बारीकी के साथ इस वधियक की मूल आत्मा को रखा है, उसके लिये मैं उन्हें भी अपनी ओर से बधाई देता हूँ।

सर, वधियक का जो मूल उद्देश्य है, वह सदन के सामने है। हमारी समझमें, देश के अंदर जो गन्ना कसिन हैं, उनका कसि तरह से शोषण होता है, वह कसि से छप्पि नहीं है। कसिन कसिनी मेहनत के साथ गन्ने का उत्पादन करता है, लेकिन जब गन्ना बेचने का समय आता है, तो उसको जो रेट मन्त्रिता है, वह उसकी मेहनत का आधा भी नहीं होता है।

उपसभापति जी, मैं एक मध्यमवर्गीय कसिन का बेटा हूँ, मैं भले ही गन्ना नहीं उगाता हूँ, लेकिन न गेहूँ, चावल, मटर, मसूर आदि जसिों को उगाने का काम करता हूँ। मूलतः देखा जाता है कि कसिन के पास फसल आती है, तो फसल उगाने से पहले कसिन कसिनी ही समस्याओं से जूझते हुए फसल को उगा पाता है। कभी-कभी ऐसा भी होता है कि उसके पास बीज के लिये पैसे नहीं होते हैं, fertilizer के लिये पैसे नहीं होते हैं और दूसरे लोगों से पैसे उधार लेकर वह अपनी फसल उगाने का काम करता है। जब फसल सामने आती है, तो लिये हुए कर्ज को जल्दी चुकाने के लिये उसके सामने अपने उत्पादन को कम रेट पर बेचने की मजबूरी होती है।

उपसभापति जी, यही हाल गन्ना कसिनों का है। हमारा देश गन्ने के उत्पादन में ब्राजील के बाद दूसरे नंबर पर है। देश के तमाम प्रदेश गन्ने का उत्पादन करते हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश के साथ-साथ कर्नाटक, आंध्र प्रदेश, बह्लिर आदि प्रदेश गन्ना

उगाते हैं। जब कसिनों को वाजिब दाम नहीं मिलते हैं , उनके गन्ने की कोई value नहीं रहती है , तो उस समय वे आत्महत्या करने पर मजबूर हो जाते हैं। गन्ने के अलावा खेतों में पैदा होने वाली दूसरी जसों का भी यही हाल है। इन हालातों में कसिन आत्महत्या करने के लए मजबूर है। आजगन्ने और शूगर की चर्चा हो रही है। जब गन्ना अधिक मात्रा में पैदा होता है , तो कसिनों को उसका वाजिब दाम नहीं मिलता और जब गन्ना कम मात्रा में पैदा होता है , तो हमारी दार्जी और बैठी सरकार चीनी आयात करती है और चीनी आयात करने में क्या -क्या घोटाले होते हैं , वे कसि से छपि हुए नहीं हैं , वे दुनिया के सामने उजागर हो जाते हैं ।

उपसभापति जी , मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान दो -तीन बातों की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। चीनी का जो सकल उत्पादन है , उसका 20 परसेंट लेवी चीनी के लए निर्धारित किया गया है , ऐसा अखबार के माध्यम से हमारी जानकारी में आया है , लेकिन मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि कसि खुशी में सरकार 20 फीसदी को 16 फीसदी करने जा रही है ? यह इस अखबार में दिया हुआ है। सकल उत्पादन का 20 फीसदी लेवी चीनी के लए निर्धारित है , लेकिन सरकार उसको घटाकर 16 फीसदी करने जा रही है। यह कसि खुशी में हो रहा है , इससे कौन से गरीबों का हित हो रहा है ? PDS के तहत लेवी की चीनी देश के उन सब लोगों के घरों में पहुंचती है , जो गरीबी की रेखा के नीचे अपना जीवन -यापन कर रहे हैं। हम देख रहे हैं कि आपइसे

20 फीसदी से घटाकर 16 फीसदी करने जा रहे हैं। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या देश में गरीबी रेखा के नीचे जीवन-यापन करने वाले लोगों की संख्या में कमी आ गई है? यदि सरकार की नजर में गरीबी की रेखा के नीचे रहने वाले लोगों की संख्या में कमी आ गई है, तो फिर हम इस बात से भी सहमत हैं कि इसे 20 फीसदी से घटाकर 16 फीसदी कर दिया जाए या 15 फीसदी कर दिया जाए, लेकिन अगर गरीबी की रेखा के नीचे रहने वाले लोगों की संख्या में बढ़ोतरी हो रही है, तो फिर आप 16 फीसदी की तरफ क्यों जा रहे हैं, आपको तो 25 फीसदी, 30 फीसदी की तरफ जाना चाहिए। यह सकल उत्पादन का 20 की जगह 25-30 प्रतिशत होना चाहिए, जिससे देश के अंदर गरीबी रेखा के नीचे जीवन यापन करने वाले लोगों को चीनी मिल सके और उन तक चीनी पहुंचाई जा सके। हमें तो इसमें कोई न कोई साजिश नजर आ रही है। सरकार गरीबों का तो उत्पीड़न करने में माहिर है। इसे भी एक तरह से उत्पीड़न ही कहा जाएगा। चीनी तो सबको चाहिए, कारपोरेट घराने को भी चीनी चाहिए और रक्षा चलाने वाले को भी चीनी चाहिए। अगर उनको चीनी नहीं मिलेगी, तो उनके शरीर में चीनी की मात्रा कम हो जाएगी और वे काम के लायक नहीं बचेंगे। इसलिए इस कोटे को नहीं घटाया जाए, बल्कि इसको बढ़ाने की तरफ ध्यान दिया जाए ताकि इससे गरीबों का हित हो सके।

श्री उपसभापति : अभी आपके दो मिनट बाकी हैं।

श्री बृजलाल खाबरी : सर, मैं अपने समय के अंदर ही समाप्त कर दूंगा। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि चीनी के future forward trading को बंद करना चाहिए। इसमें बहुत भ्रष्टाचार है। इसके अंतर्गत कोई आदमी दो सौ टन चीनी इकट्ठी करके रख लेता है और मात्र लीजिए आज उस दो सौ टन चीनी की कीमत एक करोड़ रुपए है, जब मार्केट में कीमत बढ़ती है, तो टेलीफोन पर ही यह सवा करोड़ रुपए में डन हो जाती है। धीरे-धीरे उसकी कीमत चार करोड़ रुपए तक पहुंच जाती है। चीनी में इस तरह का जो व्यापार है, इसको बंद कराना चाहिए। यह कारपोरेट घराने और बड़े-बड़े उद्योगपतियों के लिए सीधा जुआ है। इस जुआ को बंद कराना चाहिए। ... (समय की घंटी) ...।

सर, चीनी उठाने के बाद उसमें एक महीने की लमिट है यांनी उस एक महीने की लमिट के अंदर ही उस चीनी को मार्केट में जाना चाहिए, लेकिन ऐसा नहीं होता है। व्यापारी उसको गोदाम में रख लेते हैं और जब मार्केट में इसके दाम बढ़ते हैं, तब उसको निकाल कर बेचते हैं। इस तरह के अवैध भंडारण पर कठोर कार्रवाई होनी चाहिए। अवैध भंडारण बंद होना चाहिए। अगर अवैध भंडारण बंद हो जाएगा, तो इससे भ्रष्टाचार कम होगा और इससे रेट भी कंट्रोल में रहेंगे। अगर अवैध भंडारण नहीं होगा, तो इससे

नश्चित रूप से रेट पर कंट्रोल होगा। इससे कासा बाजारी
उकेगी।

श्री उपसभापति : खाबरी जी, कृपया आप समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री बृजलाल खाबरी : सर, मैं समाप्त कर रहा हूँ। मैं आपके
माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि
गन्ना किसानों को जो मामला है, उसमें पूरे देश में गन्ने का
रेट एक होना चाहिए। अलग-अलग रेट नहीं होना चाहिए। इसमें जो
वाजिब शब्द लगा हुआ है, इस वाजिब शब्द का गन्ना किसानों को
हकीकत में लाभ मिलना चाहिए। अभी गन्ना किसानों को गन्ने का
मूल्य 129 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल मिल रहा है, क्या इससे वे
संतुष्ट हैं? अभी सोलंकी साहब ने बताया कि इससे न तो किसान
संतुष्ट हैं, न उपभोक्ता संतुष्ट हैं और न ही सरकारें
संतुष्ट हैं। 129 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल क्या दाम होते हैं? यह
तो उसकी आधी मेहनत की भी कीमत नहीं है। अगर किसानों को
वाजिब दाम मिलेंगे, तो नश्चित रूप से उत्पादन में बढ़ोतरी
होगी।

श्री उपसभापति : कृपया आप समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री बृजलाल खाबरी : सर, बस मैं समाप्त कर रहा हूँ। कभी -
कभी यह समस्या खड़ी हो जाती है कि वाजिब दाम के चक्कर में
राज्य सरकारें suffer करती हैं। जब किसान धरना व प्रदर्शन
करते हैं, तो राज्य सरकारें

उसको झेलती है। उनको मनाने के चक्कर में राज्य सरकारें अपने बजट से, जो कुछ उनसे बनता है, गन्ना किसानों को देती है। इसी चक्कर में आकर किसान कोर्ट और कचहरी में फंस जाता है। जब वह कोर्ट और कचहरी में फंसता है, तो उसका और ज्यादा शोषण होता है।

मान्यवर, हम आपके माध्यम से यह चाहते हैं कि मामनीय मंत्री जी इन तमाम बढ़ियों पर विचार करें और किसी भी तरीके से, चाहे वे देश के गन्ना किसान हों या दूसरी तमाम ज़िंदगियों के किसान हों, उनकी हमदर्दी में कुछ ऐसे कदम उठाएं, जिनसे उनको लाभ मिल सके। इन्हीं बातों के साथ आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to make my observations on the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill which is before us. It is, primarily, meant to define the modalities of fixing the price of levy sugar, and also to remove the ambiguity. So, Explanation II is, again, revalidated and reintroduced. Definitely, this needs to be done. This ambiguity needs to be removed. So, I support the Bill. But while supporting the Bill, I would like to draw your attention to certain important, urgent issues.

Number one, levy sugar price is built up on the FRP (Fair and Remunerative Prices) given to sugarcane peasants. Is that fair at all? Or, is that remunerative? I think, all my previous speakers have raised this pertinent question, whether the FRP, on which the levy sugar price is built up, and for which an amendment has been brought in this House, given to the peasants is remunerative. It is not. It is Rs.129/- a quintal, as was just told by my previous speaker. If the calculation that has been provided is based on the recommendation of the Swaminathan Committee, drawing an average of the cost of production of sugarcane of four main sugarcane-producing States, it ranges, in a very conservative estimate, from around Rs.284.42 to Rs.367.50 per quintal, and if you add to this certain other factors, that sugarcane is a single crop; it is monsoon dependent and other risks associated with the sugarcane production, in no case, the fair and remunerative price of sugarcane can be below Rs.300/- a quintal. So, on these occasions, while supporting the Bill, I insist the hon. Minister to seriously consider this basic aspect and standardize the modality of fixing the price. I understand your worry about standardising the price of levy sugar, but, I think, the situation

demands the standardization of FRP of levy sugar also because the terms of trade between agriculture and industry, not in our country alone, but in the entire world as well, are regularly going against the agriculture. In our country's context where the majority of our population is still dependent on agriculture, it is important that the adverse nature of the terms of trade between agriculture and industry should be corrected. There is a serious urgency for that. If a majority of *aam aadmis* has to be taken care of, I think, which is the basic requirement in a democratic system like ours, the Essential Commodities Act is a most important instrument to ensure that responsibility of a democratic government towards the mass of the people. So, this is important, Sir, and I request you to seriously work for standardising the FRP of sugarcane given to the peasants. I think a serious practical assessment will bring it to Rs.300/- a quintal, not below that. Please consider this aspect for the benefit of sugarcane producers of our country.

Sir, the second point is, the Essential Commodities Act, in a broader perspective, needs to be expanded. I fully endorse the opinion of my colleague, Mr. Chaturvedi, right here, that the essential commodities' canvass needs to be expanded. All the essential commodities which are required for our daily living must be included in it. On all those items a price control should be imposed. I fully endorse the view of my friend, Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi. But again there is a question. With the present economic policy paradigm, I am not confident about it. Our former Finance Minister, Mr. Chidambaram, is sitting here. The whole economic policy paradigm has changed and it does not prescribe that kind of a control on the prices of essential commodities, rather the whole trend is decontrol. I have read in the Press very recently that even sugar is sought to be decontrolled. I don't know how far it is correct. One of the aspects of decontrol – it is becoming fashionable – is to align it with the international price and this alignment is called "adjustment". The same thing is sought to be done for fertilisers. If the same thing is sought to be done in the case of sugar, it will be a misnomer. The sugar mills will earn windfall profit, whereas the sugarcane growers and peasants will receive a pittance and be pushed towards much more distress and disaster. So, this essential commodities canvas has to be expanded. On an earlier occasion, during the NDA regime, the Essential Commodities Act has been seriously tampered with in favour of the market and in favour of volatility which has seriously affected the consumers and the common people. That kind of tampering needs to be corrected. The essential commodities canvas needs to be expanded and all these commodities should be brought under control. This warrants a much more comprehensive amendment to the Essential Commodities Act. Without that the terms of trade will continue to be against the agriculturists. The prices of most of the essential commodities will go up uncontrolled. A minority of the society will earn windfall profit and the consumers and the common people will stand to suffer. Apart from that, it will disturb our industry, as a whole. In this respect, the essential commodities formulations and the essential commodities canvas need to be expanded and greater control needs to be introduced. All kinds of future trading in essential commodities should completely be banned. I think, this the most urgent requirement even to address the serious

inflationary situation and the serious situation of price rise in the country. While we are dealing with the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, while supporting and passing this Bill, I request the hon. Minister to bring a comprehensive legislation. It requires a paradigm shift in our present economic policy prescriptions. I would like to tell my friend, Mr. Chaturvedi, that we endorse his views. But, at the same time, his party's economic policy orientation needs a reversion and a change. If all the essential commodities which are required for the day-to-day living of the common people are to be brought under control, if the drugs which save human lives are to be brought under control, if the multinational companies and foreign producers of medicines in the market are to be controlled, if a complete ban on future trading, which is a very essential requirement, in the essential commodities listed under the Essential Commodities Act, is to be

imposed, the canvas of Essential Commodities Act needs to be expanded. Otherwise, the peasants will stand to suffer and the sugar companies will go on minting profit, and, on the other hand, the common people will stand to suffer.

Sir, I don't think that I have taken much time. I am sorry for the extra time that I have already consumed. With these words I urge upon the hon. Minister to expand the canvas of the Essential Commodities Act and to stop future trading in all essential commodities. I also urge upon the hon. Minister to bring forward a comprehensive Bill covering both industrial and agricultural production. Agriculture on which majority of our population depends needs to be protected. With these few requests, I conclude my speech. Thank you.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I rise to support the amendment on The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2010. I believe, this amendment has been put forth in order to ensure that there is a proper legal safeguard and also to remove certain ambiguities which have been persisting since 1st September, 2009. In fact, due to this amendment, after the passage of this Bill, the interests of farmers will be safeguarded, the common man will be protected, and the States, which had adhered to the State-Advisory Price which they announce every year in favour of the sugarcane farmers, are protected. Sir, the amendment makes it clear that the pricing of levy sugar under sub-clause 3(c) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act do not, in any way, include the price announced by the State Governments and, also, the price agreed to between the sugar producers, the industries and the sugarcane growers. As long as this amendment does not curtail or take away the rights of the State Government, we absolutely welcome; or, if there is any right, for that matter, which infringes upon the State Government, we would not be in a position to support. The country is facing a serious situation on food inflation. Of course, the Government is also serious about it. The spiraling price especially, of sugar, which touched a record high in the year 2009, is reasonably coming down at this stage. It is expected to come down more in future. Therefore, Sir, instead of bringing a piecemeal legislation like this, there has to be a comprehensive and complete legislation on Essential Commodities Act and, more so, on the Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of

Supplies of Essential Commodities Act. So, we demand that there should be a holistic approach in tackling food inflation in the case of sugar; all these Acts like the Essential Commodities Act, Special Provision Act, 1981, have to be reintroduced; and we also demand that the BMMES Act, 1980 should be made more stringent to deal with black marketeers and hoarders. Sir, on the sugar front, the Government has to protect the interests of the consumer; the Government has to safeguard the interests of the sugarcane farmers and it has to see to it that the sugar industry also survives.

Therefore, in order to carry out these three-fold duties, the Government is duty-bound to see to it that the sugarcane farmers get fair and remunerative prices. It is unfortunate that as per

the recent announcement made by the Government of India with regard to fair and remunerative price to the sugarcane farmers, the prices announced are insufficient because of the situation where we have taken away the subsidy on the DAP. Because of the high cost of input in farming these days, the farmers are being forced to switch over to other crops rather than sugarcane. Therefore, under the able and dynamic leadership of Dr. Kalaignar, Tamil Nadu has announced a record hike of Rs.2,000 per MT. It is a record. Almost Rs.1,000 has been increased in Tamil Nadu which was at the level of only Rs.765 during the previous regime. Sir, it is a golden era as far as farmers in Tamil Nadu are concerned. The production of sugarcane was a record in ten years' time which was almost about 27.39 lakh MT in the State of Tamil Nadu.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude, Mr. Ganapathi.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Yes, Sir, there are some vital points. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will just take one or two minutes.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please be brief. If Members want to convey important points, they should be brief so that points are covered.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Not only the sugarcane farmers but also for the general agriculturists in the State, Dr. Kalaignar is the only one who waived agricultural loans to the tune of about Rs.7,000 crores in one stroke, benefiting lakhs of farmers. Our leader is the only one who gave free electricity to all farmers in the State. Dr. Kalaignar alone is advancing agricultural loans free of interest. Sir, on the eve of the Independence Day, a historic announcement was made in Tamil Nadu that all obsolete and old electric motor pumps would be replaced by the new electric motor pumps free of cost to all the farmers in the State. Sir, following the footsteps of Dr. Anna, who adorned this House once, tax the rich and pat the poor—this is what our Government is doing. Instead of patting industrialists, the Government is patting agriculturists. There are two important issues I would like to draw the attention of the Minister...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think, you are deviating. Your points are not on the Bill. I am forced to stop you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: I am simply saying what good the State Government is doing to the farmers. The farmers have to be protected.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please speak on essential commodities.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: The farmers have to be protected to see that the prices...(Interruptions)... Unless the farmer is protected, you cannot control the prices...(Interruptions)... Unless the sugarcane farmers are protected, the industries cannot consume it. Therefore, the only point I am raising is, there is a demand...(Interruptions)... The percentage of levy sugar at present is 20 per cent, they demand that it should be reduced to 15 per cent. We oppose it because bulk of production of sugar in the country is consumed by the bulk consumers like confectionary makers, people who make soft drinks, people who make chocolates.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please conclude.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Now, every State is demanding sugar for the APL and BPL families. So, the Government can make buffer stock by the levy of 20 per cent on sugar and see that it is distributed...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have consumed double the time allotted to you. Please conclude. You cannot take advantage of my...
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Sir, the last point which is very important. There is a move to deregulate the sugar front which we oppose. It is not in the interest of the nation. It is not in the interest of aam aadmi, the common man. The reason is, there is a high inflation rate and the Government is contemplating on the Food Security Act, which will prove to be at perils if the sugar front is deregulated. I support the Bill. Sir, I thank you for giving me more time.

श्री प्रकाश जाबडेकर (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभापति महोदय, हमारी पार्टी का समय बचा है और मुझे भी इस बिल पर बोलना है।

श्री उपसभापति : Shri Balaganga now. आपका नाम नहीं दिया है।

श्री प्रकाश जाबडेकर : सर, हमारी पार्टी का समय बचा हुआ है। हमारे वक्ता ने 15 मिनट ही बोला है।

SHRI N. BALAGANGA (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for allowing me to participate in this discussion. Sir, this legislative measure is intended to remove certain doubts and misgivings that might arise consequent to the passage of the Ordinance and the Bill that was passed last year.

Sir, India is having a very well-developed sugar industry. India is the second-largest sugar producer in the world, and our consumer base is also very huge. Forty-five million sugarcane growers are scattered in all the States of our country. Sir, the sugar industry is a very vibrant industry, and the Government should initiate adequate measures to make it more vibrant so that the sugarcane growers would earn their livelihood in a desired manner.

But the problem is that the acreage of sugarcane or the land in which sugarcane is produced is shrinking due to various reasons. India produces sugar in large quantities, no doubt, but the sugarcane

growers should be advised constantly to change the cropping pattern depending on the requirement. Every year, if they continue to grow sugarcane, it may lead to severe drop in procurement prices for the farmers. With the result, the farmers will lose money. We witnessed this a few years back. At the same time, a situation should not arise wherein the farmers do not grow sugarcane and start growing some other crop, leading to a crisis in sugar industry. This situation may lead to import of sugar, thereby increasing the cost of sugar in the market, which will put the common man into a lot of difficulties. So, there has to be a balance between the two; the farmers need to be advised about the correct farming practice, which is the responsibility of the Government.

Sir, last year, the Government brought forward the concept of Fair and Remunerative Price, which is being given by the Centre. This replaced the 'minimum price' which was there earlier. The State has its own 'State Advisory Price'. The last year's amendment brought the focus on the FRP and SAP. If the SAP is more than the Centre's FRP, the difference between the two shall have to be borne by the respective States themselves. This puts the different States in severe difficulties. It may not be possible for the States to bear this additional burden since many States are reeling under financial crunch due to one reason or the other. It shall be the duty of the Central Government to take the advice of all the States in fixing the correct price for the sugarcane growers and, in no case, they shall be put to difficulties. If the Central Government unilaterally fixes the price for the farmers, it may go against the interests of the sugarcane growers across the country.

Sir, at this juncture, I want to emphasize about our Leader, the General Secretary of All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, hon. J. Jayalalithaaji's demand that the cane growers may be given Rs.2,500 per tonne, and apart from this, cutting charges and transportation charges shall have to be borne by the sugar industries which procure the sugarcane. I appeal to the Government of India to impress upon the Tamil Nadu Government to yield to this long-pending demand of the people.

Though India is the largest sugar producer, at the same time, India is the world's largest sugar buyer. We have been importing large quantity of sugar every year. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... There are reports that the Government is thinking of imposing some tax on sugar import. My only suggestion to the Government and the hon. Minister is that he should strike a balance between the indigenous production of sugar and the import of sugar; the Government should see to it that neither the sugarcane growers nor the common man is put to hardship due to the middlemen in the business. Sir, with these words, I conclude my speech. Thank you very much.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir. Sir, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, we find the objective of the amendment is to extend the application of explanation 2 inserted under sub-clause 3C by clause 'a' of section 2 of the Amendment Act 36 of 2009, beyond the 30th September, 2009 as well. This is the

objective of this Amendment Bill. What is the explanation 2, Sir, "for the removal of the doubts, it is hereby declared that the expressions "minimum price" referred to in clause (a), "manufacturing cost of sugar" referred to in clause (b) and "reasonable return on the capital employed" referred to in clause (d) exclude the additional price of sugarcane paid or payable under clause 5A of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 and any price paid or payable under any order or enactment of any State Government and any price agreed to between the producer and the grower of sugarcane or a sugarcane growers' cooperative society." This is the minimum objective of this Bill. I broadly agree with intent of this minimum objective but the problems are with the governance of UPA-II Government because there is a strong impression in the country that UPA-II Government is increasingly becoming a Government of decontrol and decontrol has become the buzzword of

governance of this Government. It is here where the problem lies. That is why I am asking the Government how it is going to tackle the price of levy sugar or the price of sugar in the market. Sir, the Government's attitude, I think, is to leave everything to the market forces and they believe that the market forces will bring down the prices, the market forces will bring down inflation.

So, they rely upon the Government forces and the Government has failed to take any effective measure to control the price or control the inflation. Having said that, Sir, what I am asking the Government is that the Government talks of fair and remunerative price for the sugarcane. You take any State whether it is Tamil Nadu or Uttar Pradesh or Maharashtra or any other State, what is the reality there today? It is neither fair nor remunerative. Sugarcane farmers are undergoing tremendous ordeal in the given situation. That is why they are demanding 300 rupees per quintal which means one tonne price should be Rs.3000. I am talking about the average because the inputs are more expensive. The inputs for sugarcane cultivation have become more expensive. Pesticides prices have gone up and all other essential inputs prices have gone up. The farmers are suffering whereas the sugar mill owners are making huge profit. I am not going into all the details. The Government must be having and should have these details. But I am quoting only two figures, in 2008-09, the sugar mill owners have the profit of Rs.742.07 crores and for 2009-10, they have the profit of Rs.993.09 crores. So, the sugar mill owners are getting profit, more profit and they are going for super profit whereas the consumers suffer, the sugarcane farmers suffer, the workers suffer. Workers in the sugar mills do suffer. They do not get their salaries, their wages and sugarcane farmers do not get remunerative price whereas the cost of cultivation of sugarcane has gone up and they do not get orders for cutting the sugarcane on time. They are not being paid by the mills or the cooperative mills on time. Arrears are heaping. What I am trying to point out is, the consumers, the farmers, the workers, all three segments who are involved in the cultivation of sugarcane, in the process of making sugar suffer. That is why I am asking the Government: will the Government take any serious step to ensure fair and remunerative price 'as you claim', to sugarcane cultivators and the demand is Rs. 300 per quintal. Can you consider this? This is my question because as far as sugar mill owners are

concerned they get more profit by way of producing sugar but there are by-products also. They get molasses, ethanol and other by-products and they make profit out of it.

So, in a way the intent may appear to be good but in practice what is being implemented in the country is to ensure the profit of sugar mill owners. That is why I doubt the very conviction of the Government. Sir, the conviction is one element that Government should have. When Madam Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister, when she gave the slogan of *Garibi Hatao* there was an element of conviction. People did believe her but, now when the Government talks about *aam aadmi* there is lack of conviction. People do not believe you. That is why I doubt the intention of this Bill.

5.00 P.M.

Can you ensure the levy sugar price will be under Government's control? Can you ensure the supply of levy sugar in the Public Distribution System because this Government is not for universalizing Public Distribution System? This Government is not for ending forward trade. This Government is not for taking action against black-marketing and hoarding. That is why I question the very conviction of the Government. You bring any number of the amendments, any number of Bills, but, finally what do we see on the ground? What do we see in life? Do people have benefits? That is why I am asking the Government.

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY (Orissa): Mr. Raja, they are winning the elections, but Indira Gandhi was defeated.

SHRI D. RAJA: She came back also.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Pany, please sit down. Please conclude Mr. Raja.

SHRI D. RAJA: I am concluding, Sir. The other thing is The Essential Commodities Act. Whatever the Government wants to amend, I think, there should be a comprehensive approach to the entire issue. Government should bring a comprehensive amendment to the Essential Commodities Act because there were certain amendments made in the past in order to control the inter-state movement of essential commodities to fight hoarding and black-marketing but in reality it turned out to be a different one. Black-marketing went on and is going on. Hoarding went on. Here, I think, the Government will have to think of bringing a comprehensive amendment to The Essential Commodities Act. It is not one Ministry. It is not the responsibility of one Ministry. It is a collective responsibility of the Government. ...*(Time bell rings)*... Why is there price rise? It is not because of the failure of one Ministry or one Department. It is the collective failure of the Government as a whole and the present price rise, the present inflation are results of neo-liberal economic policies, financial policies pursued by the Government. That is where I question the Government that it should show some conviction. Yes, it stands for Aam Aadmi. It is taking steps to control the price rise. Now, it is for levy sugar. But, what happened in the past? There was a scandal. The print and electronic media reported it widely.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Raja, your 'negative meter' is going up.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, this is an important

issue.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I am neither a sugarcane farmer nor a sugar mill owner.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Otherwise, installation of these display boards does not have any meaning.

SHRI D. RAJA: I am representing the toiling masses. That is why I try to explain the difficulties of the people.

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: You are taking away the time of the Forward Block and the RSP.

SHRI D. RAJA: My Comrades are left. So, it is a good idea, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Do not have such ideas.

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: I always give good ideas.

SHRI D. RAJA: I am completing.

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : वह तो हो जायगा , गठबंधन सरकार बनने वाली है।

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): He is defaming the Left. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RUDRA NARAYN PANY: BJP is going to form the next Government ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: No, no. We supported the UPA-I.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It does not look nice to consume so much of time, Mr. Raja.

SHRI D. RAJA: I am concluding, Sir.

Finally, while moving this Bill, the hon. Minister made it clear that it is to clarify the price payable for levy sugar procured for PDS. If that is so...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Raja, please conclude. If you take 2 or 3 minutes more than the time allocated, it is okay. Otherwise...

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I am conscious of the time.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: ...other Members will also ask why you are liberal to Raja and not to us. How can I answer?

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, sometimes, you should be liberal to Ranis also.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then, the Praja will question me.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I am very thankful for the love and affection shown by you and my colleagues. I am concluding.

What I am finally asking the Government is this. The Government should come forward with a comprehensive amendment to the Essential Commodities Act, so that the common people will benefit and the farming community in general and sugarcane farmers in particular will benefit in the coming days.

With these words, I conclude my speech. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Prabha Thakur, you are the last speaker.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र) : सर, मुझे भी बोलना है।

श्री उपसभापति : नहीं , नहीं आपका टाइम समाप्त हो गया है।

श्री प्रकाश जाबडेकर : सर, बीजेपी के अभी पन्द्रह मिनट बाकी हैं।

श्री उपसभापति : नहीं , हमारे पास नहीं है। I will give you the details of time consumed by your party.

डॉ. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान) : माननीय उपसभापति जी, धन्यवाद ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, it is already 5 o' clock. The House is virtually empty.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us complete this Bill first. It has been agreed that we will complete this Bill. ... (Interruptions) ... No, no. Let us pass this Bill. Brindaji, let us pass this Bill.

डॉ. प्रभा ठाकुर : सर, मुझे कतिना टाइम दिया गया है ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have five minutes.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Sir, it was decided yesterday in the BAC that on Friday when we are taking up Government Business in place of the Private Member's Business, we will sit up to 5 o' clock, not beyond that. Sir, it is already 5 o' clock.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But, it was also decided that we will pass legislative business.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, whatever business listed has been taken up.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will take the sense of the House after the Bill is passed.

डॉ. प्रभा ठाकुर : सर, क्या मुझे दस मिनट का समय दिया गया है?

श्री उपसभापति : नहीं, पांच मिनट में अपनी बात समाप्त कीजिए।

डॉ. प्रभा ठाकुर : सर, दो मिनट तो यूँ ही चले गए।

श्री उपसभापति : आपका टाइम अब शुरू होगा ... (व्यवधान) ... देखिए, अब जीरो से शुरू हो रहा है।

डॉ. प्रभा ठाकुर : भारत एक कृषि प्रधान देश है और आजवर्षि का सबसे ज्यादा गन्ना उत्पादन, चीनी का उत्पादन भी इसी देश में हो रहा है। महोदय, मैं इस वधियक का, जो कि आवश्यक वस्तु (संशोधन) वधियक, 2010 के नाम से प्रस्तुत किया गया है, समर्थन करती हूँ। इसके पीछे जो भावना है, वह गन्ना किसानों के हितों की और आम जनता के हितों की है। आम जनता, जो चीनी का इस्तेमाल करती है, उसके हितों को ध्यान में रखते हुए और गन्ना किसानों के हितों को ध्यान में रखते हुए यह एक संशोधन

आवश्यक वस्तुओं , खास तौर पर चीनी और गन्ना उत्पादन , के वषिय में लाया गया है।

महोदय , मैंने अपने कई साथियों के वचिर सुने। मैं भी एक बात यह कहना चाहूंगी कि उत्तर प्रदेश में किसानों द्वारा जो आन्दोलन हुआ , तो कुछ राजनीतिक दलों और कुछ राज्य सरकारों में कुछ ऐसे लोग होते हैं , जो सिर्फ राजनीति के लिए जबानी जमा खर्च करते हैं , लेकिन करते कुछ नहीं या देते कुछ नहीं , लेकिन अगर केन्द्र सरकार ने किसी वस्तु का मूल्य 175 या 180 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल निर्धारित किया तो वह उसे 280 रुपए या 300 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल जरूर बोलेंगे। वे सिर्फ बोलेंगे ही , लेकिन अपने स्टेट में करेंगे नहीं। अगर वाकई उनको गन्ना किसानों के प्रति या अन्य किसानों के प्रति सहानुभूति है , तो जो मिनिमम सपोर्ट प्राइस केन्द्र सरकार तय करती है और उससे अधिक की जो भी बात वे करते हैं कि किसानों को इतना मजिना चाहिए , तो उसमें राज्य सरकार अपनी तरफ से जोड़ कर किसानों को क्यों नहीं देती है , अगर वह सचमुच ऐसा महसूस करती है ? राज्य सरकारों के भी अपने संसाधन होते हैं , वहां भी रेवेन्यू जेनरेट होता है , जो पेट्रोलियम पदार्थ होते हैं , डीजल -पेट्रोल आदि सब पर वे भी अपनी तरफ से टैक्सेज लगाती हैं , तो अगर वाकई उनको किसानों के प्रति हमदर्दी है और सिर्फ जबानी सहानुभूति नहीं है , तो वे उनको दें चाहे वह पश्चिमी बंगाल सरकार हो या

उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार हो, जो महसूस करती हैं कि गन्ने का मूल्य 300 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल होना चाहिए या इतना मूल्य उनको दिया जाना चाहिए वे उनको दें, तो हम भी मानें कि हाँ, जो वे कह रही हैं, उस बात में कोई दम है और उनके दल में वाकई किसानों के लिए कोई भावना है। अब केवल जनता की या किसानों की भावनाएं भड़का कर, उनको गुस्सा दिलाकर और आन्दोलन करवा कर उस पर अपनी राजनीति की रोटियां सेकना और करना कुछ नहीं तथा जो केन्द्र सरकार कर रही है, उस कृषि को भी यह बताना कि यह क्या किया, यह तो कुछ नहीं किया, यह ठीक नहीं है।

सर, जनता ने सारी सरकारें देखी हैं। पछिली बार की दो एन.डी.ए. सरकारें भी देखी हैं। उस दौरान किसानों के लिए कतिना या क्या हुआ? जो Essential Commodities Act है, उसमें ऐसा संशोधन किया गया कि जिससे जमाखोरों को बढ़ावा मिला। उसमें ऐसी कोई लिमिट नहीं रखी गई और इससे जमाखोरी को और काबाबाजारी को बढ़ावा मिला। उन्होंने किसानों के हस्ति का ऐसा और कौम-सा काम किया? मैं आज इस सरकार को बधाई देती हूँ, यू.पी.ए. सरकार को, डा. मनमोहन सिंह जी की सरकार को, जिनोंने वाकई किसानों के लिए 72 हजार करोड़ रुपए के तो कर्ज ही माफ़ कर दिए। आज ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में 'महात्मा गांधी नरेगा योजना' जैसी योजना चलाकर किसानों को, गांव के लोगों को एक नया जीवन दान दिया। रोजगार देते की बातें पछिली सरकारें और कई राजनीतिक दल करते रहे, लेकिन किया नहीं और केन्द्र सरकार 100 में से 90 रुपए भी किसी काम के निमित्त किसी स्टेट को देती है, यदि उसमें 10 पैसा भी खुद से जोड़ कर लगाना पड़ता है, वह तक कई राज्य सरकारें गांवों के विकास के लिए या राज्य के विकास के लिए देते को तैयार नहीं हैं, लेकिन केन्द्र सरकार की आलोचना करने के लिए सबसे पहले तैयार हैं।

महोदय, मैं यही कहना चाहती हूँ कि आज यह जो यू.पी.ए. सरकार है, इसकी पूरी भावना है। सरकार का जो एजेंडा भी है, वह भारत निर्माण का है और वह ग्रामों के विकास को ध्यान में रख कर ही बनाया गया है, चाहे वह कृषि का क्षेत्र हो, किसानों का हस्ति हो, गांव वालों का हस्ति हो, गरीबों का हस्ति हो, आमआदमी का हस्ति हो या वहां स्वास्थ्य-चिकित्सा की बात हो। लेकिन, जब हम यहां सार्वजनिक वित्तियन प्रणाली की बात करते हैं तो मुझे बड़ा ताज्जुब होता है। सामग्री यहां से दी जाए, धन यहां से दिया जाए। यह तो समझमें आता है कि यह सब केन्द्र सरकार दे, लेकिन उसका सार्वजनिक वित्तियन, उस श्रुत का या अन्य खाद्य-पदार्थों का वित्तियन बराबर सही ढंग से हो रहा है कि नहीं...। बीपीएल की श्रेणी में वाकई सही लोगों को लिया गया है या नहीं, जो लोग बीपीएल में नहीं आते, कहीं उन लोगों को तो बीपीएल में नहीं

जोड़ दिया गया और जो वाकई बीपीएल में आते हैं, वे रह तो नहीं गये हैं, यह देखना तो राज्य सरकारों का काम है। सार्वजनिक वित्तियन प्रणाली के माध्यम से खाद्यान्न, शुगर या केरोसीन गरीबों को ठीक प्रकार से पूरा-पूरा मिला रहा है या नहीं, यह देखना तो राज्य सरकारों का ही दायित्व होता है, लेकिन इसकी ज़िम्मेदारी भी केन्द्र सरकार के ऊपर लगा दी जाती है, उसका सवाल भी यहां पर उठाया जाता है। सर, कई बार बड़ा ताज़्जुब होता है।

मैं एक बात से जरूर सहमत हूँ, जो मैं कई साथियों से उम्मीद कर रही थी कि वे कहेंगे, पर मेरे एक साथी ने वह बात कही कि एम.सी.एक्स., जो टीबी का एक बिजनेस चैनल है, जसि पर खाद्य पदार्थ, जैसे चीनी, अनाज, मसाले या तेल आदि के भाव आते हैं, उस पर पाबंदी होनी चाहिए, क्योंकि उसके माध्यम से सट्टाबाजारी को बढ़ावा मिलता है और कात्ताबाजारी को भी बढ़ावा मिलता है, इसलिए उस पर पाबंदी लगाना आवश्यक है। उस पर पाबंदी होने से भी आवश्यक वस्तुओं और खाद्य पदार्थों के मूल्य कुछ नियंत्रण में आ सकेंगे। चीनी के अलावा भी जो अधिकांश आवश्यक चीज़ें हैं, जैसे मसाले, तेल, अन्न, दलहन, तबिहन, गन्ना आदि, इनमें से अधिकांश चीज़ें कृषि पर आधारित हैं और essential commodities में आती हैं... (समय की घंटी)... इनके अलावा केरोसीन वगैरह कुछ और भी ऐसी चीज़ें हैं, जबकि मूल्य किसी प्रकार नियंत्रण में रहें, किसी प्रकार वे एक नियंत्रित कीमत पर आमजनता को उपलब्ध हों, गन्ना किसानों को किसी प्रकार से राहत मिले, उनको वाजिब दाम मिले और उनका लाभकारी मूल्य समय पर ही निर्धारित किया जाए, इन सब चीज़ों

के लिये सरकार यह वधियक लायी है। इसमें अगर कोई वधिलित हुआ है, तो वे मन्त्रि मालिक हुए हैं, लेकिन हमारे कई राजनीतिक दल यह कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि वे इसके नाम पर कस्सिनों को बहका कर उन्हें वधिलित कर सकें, लेकिन मैं यह जानती हूँ कि देश के कस्सिनों को श्रीमती सोनिया गांधी में, मनमोहन सिंह जी की नीयत में और इस सरकार की नीति में विश्वास है कि यह सरकार जो भी मुख्य निर्धारित करेगी, उसमें कस्सिनों के हितों को प्राथमिकता देना सरकारी की प्राथमिकता होगी। धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, the hon. Minister.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : नहीं, आपका समय समाप्त हो गया है। Yes, Mr. Minister. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, this is not fair. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; I am asking the Minister to reply.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: You were ringing the bell when she was speaking. They had 11 minutes left, Sir. How can you do this? This is not fair. Sir, you cannot rush through the things. The Party has got time. How can you not give that? ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This Party has got no time. Do you want to see it?

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, I am talking about the lady speaker. When she was speaking. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; no. She has voluntarily done it. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, after 5.00 o'clock, no new Bill should be taken up, please. We have to be very clear about it. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is not a new Bill. Why are you agitating? ...(Interruptions)...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : अभी हमारी पार्टी के पास टाइम है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... Okay; you have got three minutes.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, I will not take much of the time.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, I am very confident that you will appreciate

those Members who are still present on the Friday evening. It shows that we are really serious and we want to do it. Other Members had to leave because they had certain preoccupations. I am fully convinced that you will actually give your ruling ultimately to implement the ruling of the Business Advisory Committee, the decision that today after 5.00 p.m., we will not continue.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are you speaking on the Essential Commodities Bill?

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: No; that is a preamble. Sir, I have three-four points to make. Why is the Government so casual? I should not be. Why are they bringing amendments so late? They are doing this with retrospective effect in order to nullify what they forgot to do in 2009. This is dereliction of duty. They should not do this. They should have brought the amendment right in 2009, when we were discussing it, when farmers were protesting, when the

issue was alive. They realized suddenly that they forgot to bring the necessary amendment to complete the process. The Government should not be casual in its approach. The point is this. There were agitations because the State price was different from the MSP; the farmers agitated; through its first amendment, Government thought that it would make the States bear the burden, and the farmers revolted. Everybody protested and the Government had to withdraw. That is the background in which all these decisions were taken and now the amendment has been brought. The issue is, they are out to nullify the Court's rulings. Is it the way to amend the Bill? Have they got any holistic vision? They have no vision and they have no mission. So, they don't think of the whole gamut of amendments which are necessary to be made in the Act. They bring one amendment at a time and we discuss it for two hours. We cannot discuss the whole gamut of issues because it is a very small and limited amendment. So, it has no vision; it has no mission; it is only commission, Sir! That is the issue. Now, what should be the MSP? Why did the whole agitation start? It was because of this. Our hon. Member, Dr. Swaminathan, under whose chairmanship a commission was appointed, had given the formula. He had given that formula six years ago and said that the MSP for any foodgrain or crop should be the cost of production plus 50 per cent of the cost of production. That should be the Minimum Support Price. But the Government is not accepting that recommendation. Why? Unless the scientific advice is accepted, unless the formula of MSP given by Dr. Swaminathan is accepted, which is in the interest of farmers, in the interest of agriculture and in the interest of the country, every time, every year, we would face farmers' agitation. Farmers would be in disarray. They would be suffering and they would agitate and the Government would have to amend its own decisions again and again. So, we must have the formula and policy in place.

Sir, what is the sugar policy of this Government? There is no policy. What is the export-import policy? Shri Sharad Pawar is on record saying that we had enough stock and so we shall export; and we exported 48 lakh tonnes of sugar at Rs.12 per kg. Suddenly, he realized that now we don't have the stock and so, we will have to import. He imported the same 48 lakh tonnes of sugar at Rs.24 per kg. What is this? This is nothing but looting of the country. This is inconsistency of Government policies, for which the nation is paying.

We had decided, during our Government's time, that we would blend five per cent Ethanol and later, 10 per cent. Every time, Murli Deoraji says that he would make it five per cent; every time they deliberate and decide upon one rate, which is never accepted by the factory because that is not a feasible rate, and then Ethanol is not blended. That is the whole story of this Government. It is only sloganeering and no action.

Then, Sir, they decided about co-generation. Let me tell them, their only sugar policy is to benefit the "private" factory owners. That is the only intention of the Government. Government has a vested interest in the profits of private mill-owners; there is no other motive of the Government for all such policies. So, this is a small amendment, which is a correction of what

they forgot at that time. In a post-facto situation, there is no choice but to support the amendment. The issue is, they must have a policy, a long-term vision and then, they must come out with a holistic amendment, so as to benefit the farmers. Today, only private mill-owners are profiting. Consumers are the sufferers, farmers are the sufferers and workers are the sufferers, as my colleague has mentioned. That is the whole story of the sugar industry and that is the story of this Government.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, I am thankful to all the Members who have seriously participated in this discussion. Sir, in my introductory remarks, I have specifically explained that this Amendment is simply to remove the ambiguity which came in the Essential Commodities (Amendment and Validation) Ordinance in October 2009. After the debate which took place in this House, we have to delete Section 3(b). That is how this *Explanation II* came in. We have to delete it again because of the legal advice that we have got. So, it is as simple as it is. But many of the hon. Members have brought certain important issues which I would like to explain. One is regarding the fair and remunerative price. The complaint is that it is neither fair nor remunerative. Sir, actually FRP is decided in a very scientific and systematic manner. It is not decided by the Government. There is the Commission on Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) which has the representatives of farmers. They decide the MSP based on certain definite parameters. One is the C2 cost of production. This C2 cost of production includes all actual expenses in cash and kind incurred in production by actual owners plus interest on value of owned capital assets (excluding land) plus rental value of owned land and rent paid for leased land plus imputed value of family labour. Along with the C2, we have the cost of transport, insurance charges, margin on account of profit ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: What is the margin of profit?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: The margin of profit in 2009-10 is Rs.13.55 per quintal. In 2010-11, it is Rs.15. As the hon. Member, Shri Raja, suggested, when we decide this price, the price of molasses and other

by-products are also considered. So, all those angles are being looked into it. Definitely, this is a process taken in a scientific manner by the CACP which is an independent organization. Second is that this FRP is confined only to the sugar we take from millers for the PDS. Sir, when we look at the history, it was about 80 per cent. From 80 per cent, it came down to 10 per cent and now it is 20 per cent. So far now the Government has not taken any further decision on that. Decision can be taken only after consultation with State Governments and various bodies. Similarly, regarding future trading, in sugar, there is no future trading. On the question of future trade or forward market, it is a policy matter which we have to discuss on the basis of overall scenario throughout the world. Like, when I was in China, I went to a future trade

centre where future trading was taking place in a very scientific manner. So, this issue is a policy matter. The entire House have to discuss and take a decision. As of now, there is no future trade in sugar.

Sir, in the case of the State Governments, they are free to take their decisions. We are not at all intervening in their functioning. They are free. But, looking at the FRP and the prices fixed by the State Governments, we can find that the FRP is better than the later. For example, in 2008-09, the SMP in the State Governments was 9 per cent recovery; it was 81.19 per quintal. Now, Sir, in 2009-10, the FRP is 129.84. And, in 2010-11, this is 139.12. So, the decision taken by the CACP is practically helpful to the farmers. Sir, only after this FRP was brought in that the farmers got their share. Otherwise, they had to wait for a long period. According to the determination of FRP, one of the important components is that the farmers are getting their part in advance. So, these are some of the important measures that the Government has taken.

Now, some broader problems were raised on improving or remodelling our Essential Commodities Act. This is something we have to discuss. These were the major points that were raised. In the other House also, it has been discussed in depth and we have passed it unanimously. So, I request the august House to pass this amendment unanimously.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, I have a clarification. He told that CACP has decided the price. I think, in the House, another important point was raised that in CACP, all the farmer organisations of the country have represented to the CACP to accept the Swaminathan Commission recommendations based on cost plus 50 per cent pricing. On that, the Government is yet to take any decision. We want to know. You may accept; you may reject. Are you rejecting that? Make it clear.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Farmers' representatives are there in the CACP.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: But, all the farmer organisations have made a representation before CACP placing this particular demand.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: What I am suggesting is if they are very particular on this, they can refer to us.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Farmer representatives are your chosen representatives.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: That is quite natural. I can understand your feelings, but we have taken some decision on certain norms existing now. Now, that the hon. Member has made a suggestion, we can suggest it.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, I have a clarification. I would like to ask whether the Government has accepted the Swaminathan Commission recommendations or not. The Government is sitting idle on the recommendations for the last six years. How much time will the Government take to look into it?

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Swaminathan Commission has made a lot of recommendations. We have accepted many of them. Certain things are in the consultation process.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the question is:

That the Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, I beg to move:

That the Bill be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, it is already 5.30 p.m. ...(Interruptions)... Now, we do not want to take it up. ...(Interruptions)...

श्रीमती वृद्धा कारत : सर, पांच बजे के बाद नया बिल कैसे ले सकते हैं ? ... (व्यवधान) ... Sir, how can we? ... (Interruptions) ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So, now you do not want to ...(Interruptions)...

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि : नहीं हो सकता है। ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: After taking the sense of the House, the House is adjourned to meet at 11.00 a.m. on Monday, the 30th August, 2010.

The House then adjourned at thirty-one minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 30th August, 2010.