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Friday  
25 February, 2011  
6 Phalguna, 1932 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
OFFICIAL REPORT  
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## RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 25th February, 2011/6th Phalguna, 1932 (Saka)

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

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### RE: DEMANDS FOR DISCUSSION ON BEATING OF PEOPLE PROTESTING AGAINST CORRUPTION

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 61. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Sir, I have to raise an important issue. I have also given notice. Sir, what happened yesterday reminds me of the Emergency days. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Could you raise it at 12.00 Noon. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: It is very serious, Sir. Many people are in the hospital. They have been injured. They have been brutally assaulted, and, some of them suffer from collarbone fracture. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: What I am suggesting is that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, you try to understand the problem. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I understand the situation. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल (राजस्थान) : महोदय , यह ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, please try to understand the seriousness of the situation. ...*(Interruptions)*... If people protest against corruption, will you beat them like this? Police themselves are throwing stones and hitting at my Party President in Delhi. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Police hit at our Party President of Delhi unit, and, you want us to just keep quiet. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. I am suggesting that you raise it after Question Hour.

श्री राजीव शुक्ल (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदय , ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Is it *Loktantra*? ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not able to understand. What is wrong if people protest against corruption? Will you beat them like this? ...*(Interruptions)*...



श्रीमती माया सहि (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय ,  
... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : मुझे सुझने दीजिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उद्धनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा) : सर, ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : आप लोग बैठ जाइए , एक को ही बोलने दीजिए।  
... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, this issue can be raised after the Question Hour.  
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: If somebody protests against corruption, are they going to hit him like this? ...(Interruptions)... Sir, it is there in every newspaper, whether it is 'The Hindu', 'The Indian Express' or Hindi newspaper 'Dainik Jagran'. Hundreds of people were injured. Scores of my Party workers were injured. My Party President was beaten up. ...(Interruptions)... A woman lost her right eye. ...(Interruptions)... Many people got fractures... ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. You have raised the point. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: No, no. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, permit me to raise the issue. ...(Interruptions)... I would also like the Home Minister to come here and respond to this issue. ...(Interruptions)... It is a very serious issue.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, he can raise it after the Question Hour.  
...(Interruptions)...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this matter.  
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, we are a Council of States. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, we are a Council of States. ...(Interruptions)... That is why, it is all the more important. यह नहीं चलेगा। ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute. ...(Interruptions)... Just one minute. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Minister, do you wish to say something? ...(Interruptions)... Just one minute. Let the Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs respond. ...(Interruptions)... Venkaiah ji. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Can I say something? (Interruptions) Venkaiah ji, listen to me. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not giving him the opportunity. (Interruptions) एक मिनट , आप संसदीय कार्य राज्य मंत्री की बात तो सुन लीजिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not the way.  
...(Interruptions)...

श्री सभापति : देखिए , आप एक मिनट बाहर सुन लीजिए कि वे  
क्या कह रहे हैं... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, what I can say is that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु : मुझे सुनने के बाद ही तो जवाब देंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Please don't disrupt the Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, it reminds me of the days of Emergency. It has never happened. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, it has never happened in the National Capital. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, it happened outside Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*... Where is the safety for the political parties? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति : देखिए, आप एक मिनट बाहर तो सुन लीजिए कि वे क्या कह रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... No newspapers in the House, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Please try to understand the issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: I will convey to the Home Minister the sentiments of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... But please do not disrupt the proceedings of the Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Is it a crime to raise voice against corruption? ...*(Interruptions)*... The police themselves. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nobody is hearing anything. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is the purpose? ...*(Interruptions)*... The House is adjourned till 12:00 hours.

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

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock,  
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) in the Chair.

### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

#### Decline in agricultural land

\*61. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that total area of agricultural land in the country has come down during the last few decades, thereby putting pressure on the production of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the details of reduction of agricultural land during the last two decades,



year-wise and its impact on foodgrain production;

(c) the details of foodgrain production in the country during the last two decades, year-wise; and

(d) the effort Government is making and proposes to make to arrest the reduction in the agricultural land?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. As per available estimates, the total area of agricultural land in the country has come down by 2.76 million hectare during the last two decades (1988-89 to 2008-09). However, during the same period the gross cropped area has increased from 182.28 million hectare to 195.10 million hectare, with net area sown remaining largely unchanged at 141 million hectare. The production of foodgrains has increased from 169.92 million tonnes to 234.47 million tonnes in the corresponding period. The year-wise details of agricultural land and the corresponding foodgrain production in the last two decades given in Statement (*See* below).

***Statement***

*Details of agricultural land and foodgrain production in the last two decades (1988-89 to 2008-09)*

(Area in million hectare; foodgrain production in million tonnes)

Sl.No.	Year	Agricultural Land	Foodgrain Production
1	2	3	4
1.	1988-89	185.142	169.92
2.	1989-90	185.211	171.04
3.	1990-91	185.177	176.39
4.	1991-92	185.000	168.38
5.	1992-93	184.875	179.48
6.	1993-94	184.734	184.26
7.	1994-95	184.173	191.50
8.	1995-96	183.623	180.42
9.	1996-97	184.121	199.44
10.	1997-98	183.972	192.26
11.	1998-99	184.024	203.61
12.	1999-00	183.873	209.80

1	2	3	4
13.	2000-01	183.506	196.81
14.	2001-02	183.607	212.85
15.	2002-03	183.172	174.77
16.	2003-04	183.186	213.19
17.	2004-05 (P)	183.007	198.36
18.	2005-06 (P)	182.742	208.60
19.	2006-07 (P)	182.565	217.28
20.	2007-08 (P)	182.505	230.78
21.	2008-09 (P)	182.385	234.47

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, DAC.

(P): Provisional–Agricultural land

As per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, land falls under the purview of the State Governments and, therefore, it is for the State Governments to bring in suitable Policy/Act/Legislation to prevent the diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes. Government of India has formulated National Policy for Farmers, 2007 and National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 which also envisage prevention/minimisation in utilization of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes. Watershed Development Programmes are also being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Rural Development to increase the productivity of agricultural land.

#### **Recommendations of Committee on 2G spectrum scam**

\*62. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the recommendations of Shivraj Patil Committee on 2G spectrum scam which submitted its report recently;
- (b) whether spectrum allocation or policy of Government has been questioned by the Patil Committee; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the measures proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) A summary of the recommendations of the Shivraj Patil Committee is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir, the Patil Committee has observed that the procedure adopted to grant new Unified Access Service (UAS) licences at the entry fee of prices determined for the 4th Cellular Mobile Telephone Licences (CMTS) in 2001 was not in line with the TRAI's recommendations dated 27.10.2003/Cabinet decision dated 31.10.2003. The observations of the Committee in this regard are given in Statement-II (*See below*). The measures proposed by the Committee are in the form of recommendations which have been summarized in Statement-I in response to (a) above.

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

#### ***Summary of Recommendations of the One-Man Committee***

#### **I. Recommendations regarding formulation of procedures-**

- (i) The procedures must be in tune with the requirements of law/the statutory norms and prevailing policy of the Government, and must be reasonable, fair, transparent and certain. The selection of applicants must be by choice and not by chance. First Come First Service (FCFS) is not justified when there are several applicants, there is competition and the resource is scarce. This procedure results in keeping away the best and allowing the one who approaches first though may not be the best and the public interest suffers. It also results in delay in processing of subsequent applications in case the grant of licence to the prior applicant is delayed on any count. Thus, it blocks processing of further applications and this is opposed to the policy of fast paced growth in telecom sector and optimum utilization of spectrum. Therefore, a procedure for selection based on merits should be devised;
- (ii) The procedures formulated whether as to the stages/time frame for processing or norms of eligibility should be clear, certain and as far as practicable and must not leave any room for subjectivity or arbitrariness. The procedure must specify time frame for - (a) receiving applications; (b) scrutinizing them; (c) intimating the eligible/ineligible applicants or requiring them to rectify deficiencies/ensure compliance; (d) processing the applications and intimating the decision to the applicants accordingly. Circumstances whereunder time for complying any requirements/meeting with deficiencies etc., can be extended and the maximum extent of time that can be extended must also be specified in the procedure;
- (iii) The procedure formulated must also stipulate that decision either of accepting or rejecting the applications as also of requirements at all stages of processing must be communicated to the applicants formally and in writing;

- (iv) Procedures formulated, and any deviation thereof, should be approved by Telecom Commission before implementation;
- (v) Any change in procedure be notified to all concerned well in advance before implementation;
- (vi) The procedure should spell out not only criteria but also specify documents required to be submitted by the applicants and a comprehensive check list be devised and included in the prescribed application form itself mentioning all steps/verification involved;
- (vii) Matters requiring approval by the Telecom Commission should be placed before full Commission comprising Chairman, Full-time Members and Part-time Members only;
- (viii) The procedure for making it mandatory for placing recommendations of TRAI before the Telecom Commission within a specified time frame should be drawn up and in the event the recommendations are not accepted or modification is required, the recommendation should be referred back to TRAI.

## **II. Recommendations regarding implementation of procedures-**

- (i) A detailed Office Memorandum, which should be approved by the Telecom Commission before implementation, indicating the procedures to be followed relating to grant of Access Service Licences and allotment of spectrum should be drawn up comprehensively and procedures to be followed by officials should be contained in a single self-contained document. The information should also be provided to the general public/prospective applicants to enable them to know the procedural/eligibility requirements, to ensure compliance with the requirements of fairness and transparency;
- (ii) Mechanism for supervision to ensure implementation of approved procedure, before the actual licence or spectrum is allocated, should be drawn up;
- (iii) The procedures must comply with the requirement of transparency and must be notified well in advance for information of the public/intending applicants;
- (iv) Due advance publicity be given for inducting new operators fixing last date for receipt of applications;

## **III. Recommendations relating to Spectrum-**

- (i) Allocation of spectrum should be transparent for which purpose spectrum allocation with details should be put on website and regularly updated;

- (ii) All spectrum should be audited and audit reports should be widely publicized and made available on the website;
- (iii) The Government, should undertake comprehensive spectrum reforms. There should be incentive to vacate unutilized spectrum and penalty for hoarding. Inefficient utilization of spectrum should be discouraged and release of spectrum from such agencies should be sought by appropriate mechanism;
- (iv) Availability of spectrum be ascertained before inviting applications;
- (v) Allotment of spectrum be delinked from access licences and the entry fee/spectrum pricing needs to be structured accordingly, *i.e.*, the entry fee payable for grant of access licence should not have any component of spectrum charges. Auctioning of spectrum by formulating suitable design appears to be appropriate;
- (vi) Comprehensive new legislation be framed as in some other countries like Australia and New Zealand;
- (vii) The channel of initiation and final decision be restricted to three officers;
- (viii) Suitable orders be issued for ensuring protection of upright officers who take a stand against any deviation either in formulation or implementation of procedures.

### ***Statement-II***

#### ***Observations of the Committee***

"Though the recommendations of TRAI dated 27.10.2003 for unified licensing regime in para 7.39 contained express recommendation that introduction of additional players in UASL regime had to be through a multistage bidding process, Mr. Vinod Vaish, the then Secretary, DoT, appears to have sought opinion of the Chairman, TRAI on some aspect through a telephonic talk instead of making proper reference in writing as required under second proviso to section 11(1) of TRAI Act as has been the practice. The Chairman, TRAI wrote a letter dated 14.11.2003, which was sought to be interpreted to infer conclusion as regards entry fee payable by fresh UASL contrary to and inconsistent with the express recommendations of TRAI. Based on such interpretation on 24.11.2003 a procedure was formulated to apply the entry fee paid by 4th Cellular operators (discovered in 2001) to new entrants under UASL regime in 2003 and also to consider applications for grant of UASL on FCFS basis. Formulation of procedure thus, was contrary to the decision of Union Cabinet dated 31.10.2003 which approved recommendations of TRAI dated 27.10.2003; before formulating such procedure recommendations from TRAI were not obtained; and the matter was not

placed before the Telecom Commission. The decision to apply entry fee discovered in 2001 for the new entrants without revision was also opposed to the policy requirement of the price of spectrum being commensurate with opportunity cost."

#### **Pantry car in long distance trains**

†\*63. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of trains which run more than 1000 km. and having no pantry cars;
- (b) the details of the target for providing this facility in such trains; and
- (c) the reasons of not providing this facility so far?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) 154 number of Mail/Express trains running more than 1000 kilometers are presently not having pantry car.

(b) and (c) The attachment of pantry cars to trains is based on factors such as operational feasibility due to existing load of the train, maximum load permitted on each section, priority of the train, journey time, commercial justification, availability of pantry cars and other exigencies etc. among others. Catering services are also made available from static units at stations enroute. Given these considerations the decision to attach pantry cars in long distance trains is taken.

#### **Closing down of Kachrapara, Madhepura and Marhaura units**

†\*64. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has decided to close down Kachrapara, Madhepura and Marhaura units operated under public-private partnership;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) if not, the present status thereof and by when the work in these units would start?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The present status of Kachrapara, Madhepura and Marhaura units is as under:

Required land has been identified for all the three units. While land has been made available at Madhepura, process of making land available for Marhaura is in final stages. Kachrapara unit is being set up on Railway land, already available.

The selection process for all these projects is going on. The standard bid document is under scrutiny to ensure that Government interests are fully protected. Further action will be initiated as soon as the exercise of scrutiny is complete.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

### **Grant of UASL**

\*65. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two letters were written by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) dated 14 November, 2003 and 19 November, 2003 with regard to the grant of Unified Access Service Licenses (UASL);

(b) if so, the details of these letters and what action was taken pursuant to these letters; and

(c) whether such letters regarding TRAI recommendations and guidelines can be written and be held legally valid and acted upon, if written after the issuance of UASL guidelines on 11 November, 2003, given that TRAI's role is limited to make recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) Sir, with regard to the grant of Unified Access Service (UAS) Licenses, two letters dated 14 November, 2003 and 19 November, 2003 were written by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT). Copy of both the letters are given in Statement-I and II (*See* below). The said letter dated 14.11.2003 of TRAI were taken into consideration by the Government while approving the Letters of Intent (LoIs) on 24.11.2003 which *inter alia*, indicated the amount of requisite entry fee for grant of new UAS licences.

TRAI has informed that no file number has been mentioned on the letter dated 14.11.2003 and it seems that this letter was written directly by the then Chairman, TRAI, as no records have been found. However, a copy of the letter was enclosed with TRAI's letter no. 101-35/2003-MN dated 19th November, 2003. In addition, the Authority in its meeting held on 24th November, 2003 and continued on 3rd December, 2003 took note of the decisions taken during informal meetings or on files and approved them.

The Report of Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) on "Issue of Licences and Allocation of 2G Spectrum by the Department of Telecommunications" which was laid on the Table of the House on 16.11.2010 and the report dated 31.01.2011 of the One Man Committee (OMC) under Justice (Retd.) Shivraj V Patil have observed that the procedure adopted to grant new UAS licences at the entry fee of price determined for the 4th CMTS licence in 2001 was not in line with the TRAI's recommendations dated 27.10.2003/ Cabinet Decision dated 31.10.2003. The relevant extract of the Report of CAG and the Report of the OMC are given in Statement-III.



**Statement-I**

*Copy of the Letter*

PRADIP BAIJAL

Chairman

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

November 14, 2003.

My dear Vinod,

Kindly refer our telecom regarding Entry Fee of the new Unified Licensee.

2. In this regard I am reproducing para 7.18, 7.19 and 7.20 of our recommendations:-

7.18 *The 3rd alternative is that the existing entry fee of the fourth Cellular Operator would be the entry fee in the new Unified Access Licensing Regime. BSOs would pay the difference of the fourth CMSP's existing entry fee and the entry fee paid by them. It may be recalled that, even in the past, entry to cellular and basic services has been on fixed fee basis, e.g. for metros in the case of cellular and the second BSO.*

7.19 *It is recommended that the 3rd alternative as mentioned in para 7.18 above may be accepted for fixing the entry fee for migration to Unified Access Licensing regime for Basic Cellular services at the circle level.*

7.20 *In service areas where there is no fourth operator - viz. Bihar, Orissa, W.B. and A.N. and Assam, etc. - no extra entry fee would be charged from the existing operators migrating to the Unified Access Licensing Regime, since in these areas operators did not see a potential mobile market at the time of repeated bidding for the 4th cellular operator.*

It would be clear from the above that the entry fee of the new Unified Licensee would be the entry fee of the 4th cellular operator and in service areas where there is no 4th operator - the entry fee of the existing BSO fixed by the Government (based on TRAI's recommendations). Incidentally, in such States where no 4th cellular operator came in, the entry fee for BSOs was fixed by the Government and as per our recommendations in para 7.20 above, it will be the same for new or existing unified licensee.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,

(Pradip Baijal)

Shri Vinod Vaish,  
Secretary,  
Department of Telecommunications,  
Sanchar Bhavan,  
New Delhi-110 001.

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**Statement-II**

*Copy of the Letter*

**HARSHA VARDHANA SINGH** भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण  
SECRETARY-CUM-PRINCIPAL ADVISOR ए-2/14, सफदरजंग इन्क्लेव , नई दिल्ली -110029

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TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

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D.O. No. 101-35/2003-MN

Date: November 19, 2003

Sub: Recommendation of the TRAI on Issues relating to Spectrum.

Dear Shri Gupta,

Please refer to TRAI's recommendations dated 27.10.2003, Para 7.30 of these recommendation states that efficient utilisation of spectrum by all service providers is of utmost concern to the Regulator. TRAI has further mentioned that it will shortly provide its recommendations on efficient utilization of spectrum, spectrum pricing, availability and spectrum allocation procedures. DOT vide their letter No.848-439/2003-VAS /5 dated 17.11.2003 has asked TRAI to submit its opinion on spectrum related issues at the earliest.

2. In para 7.31 of TRAI recommendations, it was mentioned that while operators may be issued unified access license they should continue to provide wireless services in the already allocated/contracted spectrum and no additional spectrum would be allocated only because of migration. It has been further recommended that there shall be no change in the spectrum allocation procedure as part of migration process. Thus the principle is that the prevailing spectrum allocation procedures should continue till fresh Guidelines on this matter are issued by the DOT. This principle can be applied in the interim period for the new entrants also.

3. Thus, in the interim period before the TRAI recommendations on efficient utilization of spectrum etc. become available, if the licensor has to issue any unified access license to new applicants, the TRAI feels that spectrum to these licensees may be given as per the existing terms and conditions relating to spectrum in the respective license agreement. This implies that even though unified access license is service and technology neutral, spectrum under the new unified license for offering mobile services may be allocated in the interim period on the technology used for offering these services. For example, if a new Unified Access provider is offering wireless mobile service using GSM technology then the allocation/contracted spectrum in existing cellular mobile license may be provided and for those using CDMA technology, spectrum allocation as per the provisions of basic service operators license can be considered.

4. Regarding entry fee to new Unified Access licensees, the matter has already been clarified *vide* Chairman TRAI's D.O. letter dated 14th November, 2003 (copy enclosed).

5. This is issued with approval of Authority.

(Harsha Vardhana Singh)  
Secretary-cum-Principal Advisor

Shri J.R. Gupta  
Sr. DDG (VAS)  
DOT  
Sanchar Bhawan  
New Delhi.

### ***Statement-III***

#### ***Extract of Reports of CAG and OMC***

**I. Observation of CAG:** In the matter, the Report of Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) on "Issue of Licences and Allocation of 2G Spectrum by the Department of Telecommunications" which was laid on the Table of the House on 16.11.2010, has *inter alia*, observed the following:

*"3.1.3 ....In pursuance to the Cabinet's approval, the DoT issued the guidelines on UAS Licencing (11 November 2003), for moving towards UASL regime by giving the option to all existing BSOs and CMSPs to migrate to UASL regime. The guidelines also included a condition that "All applications for new Access Services Licence shall be in the category of Unified Access Services Licence." There was ambiguity regarding entry fee to be charged from the new licensees as TRAI had not given any recommendation regarding introduction of new operators in the first phase of UASL regime. Secretary, DoT, spoke to the Chairman, TRAI who clarified (14 November 2003) that entry fee of the new unified licensee would be the entry fee of 4th Cellular Operator and in service areas where there is no fourth operator, the entry fee of existing BSO fixed by the Government (based on TRAI recommendations). DoT decided to receive all applications under UAS without revision of the spectrum allocation procedures/revision of entry fee, which automatically lifted the restriction on the number of operators in the UAS regime."*

*"3.1.7 The DoT's action of applying the rates approved for the existing operators for migrating to UAS regime, to new applicants also by relying on the clarification of the Chairman TRAI in his individual capacity was inconsistent with the recommendations of the TRAI (2003) and went beyond the authority given by the Cabinet. It also violated all canons of financial propriety. The DoT had to resort to informal clarifications from TRAI before concluding that new applications would also be at the entry fee of price determined for 4th CMSP in 2001 as against TRAI's recommendation of introducing new operators in the existing regime through a*

*multistage bidding process. Elimination of bidding process without delinking licensing from spectrum was not intended by TRAI. "*

- II. Observation of the One Man Committee (OMC): In the matter the OMC in its report dated 31.01.2011 has inter alia, opined the following:

***Para 6.1 (ii)** "Though the recommendations of TRAI dated 27.10.2003 for unified licensing regime in para 7.39 contained express recommendation that introduction of additional players in UASL regime had to be through a multistage bidding process, Mr. Vinod Vaish, the then Secretary, DoT, appears to have sought opinion of the Chairman, TRAI on some aspect through a telephonic talk instead of making proper reference in writing as required under second proviso to section 11 (1) of TRAI Act as has been the practice. The Chairman, TRAI wrote a letter dated 14.11.2003, which was sought to be interpreted to infer conclusion as regards entry fee payable by fresh UASL contrary to and inconsistent with the express recommendations of TRAI. Based on such interpretation on 24.11.2003 a procedure was formulated to apply the entry fee paid by 4th Cellular operators (discovered in 2001) to new entrants under UASL regime in 2003 and also to consider applications for grant of UASL on FCFS basis. Formulation of procedure thus, was contrary to the decision of Union Cabinet dated 31.10.2003 which approved recommendations of TRAI dated 27.10.2003; before formulating such procedure recommendations from TRAI were not obtained; and the matter was not placed before the Telecom Commission. The decision to apply entry fee discovered in 2001 for the new entrants without revision was also opposed to the policy requirement of the price of spectrum being commensurate with opportunity cost..."*

#### **Last mile telephone connectivity in villages**

\*66. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many villages in the country do not have the last mile connectivity through basic telephony; and

(b) how many of such villages have cellular footprints?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Out of the total of 5,93,601 inhabited villages in the country as per Census 2001, 5,74,673 villages have been covered with Village Public Telephones (VPTs) as on 31.01.2011.

(b) Out of the villages not covered with basic telephony, 2709 villages have been provided with VPTs on cellular Global System for Mobile communication (GSM) technology by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL).

### **Better seeds and latest technology to enhance sugar production**

\*67. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the sucrose content of our sugarcanes;
- (b) the R&D done to increase sucrose content and thereby increase quantity of sugar from indigenous sources as this would contribute in arresting the continuous price rise;
- (c) the FAO/internationally accepted sucrose content in sugarcane;
- (d) whether any special quality of seeds are available which ensure maximum sucrose content: and
- (e) whether a special awareness campaign would be launched for sugarcane growers for resorting to better seeds and adopting latest technologies to enhance sugar output qualitatively and quantitatively?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Whereas traditional varieties yielded around 15 percent sucrose in sugarcane juice in India, varieties being currently grown have 17 to 19 percent sucrose content in sugarcane juice in the sub-tropical regions of the country and 18 to 21.5 percent sucrose content in sugarcane juice in the tropical regions of the country. Recovery of sugar is, on the average, around 10.5 percent, ranging between 8.5 to 13.5 percent in different parts of the country.

(b) Research to increase the sucrose content in sugarcane varieties has led to release of several new varieties for increased sucrose content. Several higher sugar-yielding varieties have been released for various sugarcane growing states. Such notified varieties are also tolerant to key biotic and abiotic stresses and are under cultivation in the country. The higher sucrose in indigenous varieties could provide better sugar recovery. Scientific planning of identified varieties for cultivation in desirable agro-climate, maturity-wise harvesting and minimum cut-to-crush time could result in higher sucrose yield.

(c) FAO/International has not prescribed any standards, regarding sucrose content for sugarcane.

(d) Several varieties that have sucrose content in juice, ranging from 17.5 to 19.37 percent, have been released for cultivation. The list of such varieties is given in Statement (*See below*).

(e) The Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore; Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Lucknow and All India Coordinated Research Project on Sugarcane Organize meetings with stakeholders, in which information about new sugarcane varieties and meetings with stakeholders, in which information about new sugarcane varieties and

technologies are given to concerned officials of mills and cane departments of states from whom such knowledge percolate down to cane growers. Further, training programme on sugarcane production technologies and annual *Kisan Melas* are organized for exhorting sugarcane farmers for the adoption of latest technologies to enhance production and productivity of sugarcane. The concerned *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* are also involved in the assessment and refinement of various technologies including varieties, crop husbandry and crop health management so as to demonstrate the proven technologies to farmers.

**Statement**

*High sucrose containing varieties of sugarcane*

Sl. No.	Variety	Year of release and notification	Cane yield (t/ha)	Sucrose in cane juice (percent)	Commercial Cane Sugar (t/ha)
<b>Peninsular Zone</b>					
1.	Co 99004 (Damodar)–Midlate	2007	116.7	18.8	16.83
2.	Co 2001-13 (Sulabh)–Midlate	2009	108.59	19.03	14.73
3.	Co 2001-15 (Mangal)–Midlate	2009	112.99	19.37	15.65
<b>East Coast Zone</b>					
4.	CoC 01061 -Early	2006	110.8	17.4	14.18
<b>North West Zone</b>					
5.	CoS 95255 (Rachna)–Early	2004	70.5	17.5	8.45
6.	Co 98014 (Karan-1)–Early	2007	76.3	17.6	9.26
7.	CoS 96268 (Mithas)–Early	2007	69.8	17.9	8.65
8.	CoPant 97222–Midlate	2007	88.2	18.2	11.14
9.	CoS 96275 (Sweety)–Midlate	2007	80.8	17.3	9.52
10.	Co 0118 (Karan-2)–Early	2009	78.2	18.45	9.88
11.	Co 0238 (Karan-4)–Early	2009	81.08	17.99	9.95
<b>North Central</b>					
12.	CoSe 96234 (Rashmi)–Early	2007	64.1	17.9	8.04
13.	CoSe 96436 (Jalpari)–Midlate	2004	67.1	17.7	8.29
14.	CoLk 94184 (Birendra)–Early	2008	76.0	18.0	9.28
15.	Co 0233 (Kosi)–Midlate	2009	67.77	17.54	8.25

### **Enhancement in sanctioned strength of RPF**

\*68. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the additional powers and duties entrusted to the Railway Protection Force as per the RPF Amendment Act of 2003;
- (b) the steps taken by Railways to enhance the strength of the Railway Protection Force since the above amendment was adopted;
- (c) the total strength of RPF personnel, male and female, State/Division/Zone-wise at present;
- (d) the number of vacancies State/ Division/Zone-wise; and
- (e) how many battalions/number of women RPF commandos have been appointed under Mahila Vahini as declared in 2009-10 Railway Budget?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) With the amendments in the RPF Act 1957 in the year 2003, the ambit of duties of the Railway Protection Force has been enlarged to include protection and security of passenger area and passengers which was confined to the railway property only prior to 2003. However, legal powers have not been given to the RPF to deal with passenger related offences.

(b) Since amendments in the RPF Act in the year 2003, the strength of RPF/RPSF has been enhanced by 6107 posts. Further efforts are under process to enhance the strength of RPF/RPSF in consultation with the Ministry of Finance.

(c) and (d) The sanctioned strength of the RPF is around 73,000. Arising and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and regular notifications are issued for filling up the vacancies occurring due to superannuation, etc.

(e) Consequent to the announcement in Railway Budget last year, regarding setting up of Mahila Vahini, the process has already been initiated for creation of posts and four Companies of Mahila Vahini have already been set up.

### **Suspension of work on Nangal-Talwara rail line**

†\*69. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for suspending the work of laying of railway lines on Nangal-Talwara rail route midway after starting the work in the year 1982-83 and completing a stretch of only 11 kilometers out of total length of 83.74 kilometers;
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps to resume the work on this route; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is a fact that even after 63 years of independence, Government has paid no attention to Himachal Pradesh where the presence of railway network is almost negligible?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) The work of Nangal Dam-Talwara new line had to be suspended from 1991-92 to 1999-2000 as the State Government of Himachal Pradesh backed out of their initial commitment to provide land for the project free of cost, labour for earthwork etc. The work was restarted in 1999-2000 after the State Government agreed to provide Government land free of cost. Out of 83.74 Km. total length, the line has already been commissioned from Nangaldam - Amb Andaura (43 Km.). The work on the remaining section is in progress and an outlay of Rs. 50 crore has been provided in 2010-11.

(c) No, Sir. Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri (63.1 km.). Chandigarh-Baddi (33.23 km.) and Nangal Dam-Talwara (83.74 km.) are sanctioned new line projects falling partly/fully in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

#### **Vegetable farm clusters**

\*70. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to set up dedicated vegetable farm clusters near major cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the cities identified for the purpose, including those in the State of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) A vegetable initiative for establishing dedicated vegetable farm clusters around all state capitals and urban centres with population greater than 10 lakh is under consideration. However, State Governments have been advised to leverage the components of existing schemes under Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM) to ensure steady supply of quality vegetables to urban areas.

Under HMNEH, which is in operation from 2001-02, in eleven States\* and NHM which is in operation from 2005-06 in the remaining States and 3 Union Territories\*\*, assistance is provided for promotion of vegetable cultivation through vegetable seed production, cultivation of high value vegetables under protected condition (green houses, shade net houses and plastic tunnels) and organic cultivation of vegetables. Under HMNEH, assistance is also provided to farmers for vegetable cultivation in open field conditions.



Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have already taken concrete steps in this direction and recently one project on protected cultivation of vegetables in four districts around Hyderabad, and another for three districts around Chennai have been sanctioned under NHM for Rs. 541.50 lakhs and Rs. 174.56 lakhs respectively during 2010-11.

\*Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and J&K.

\*\*A&N Islands, Puducherry and Lakshadweep.

### **Educational reforms**

\*71. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether educational reforms are taking place;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) Education reforms are a continuous process and the Government seek to carry them forward through expansion, inclusion and rapid improvement in quality through institutional and policy reforms and by enhancing public spending.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2010 has been enacted which envisages significant reforms in the Elementary Education sector. The Act makes it incumbent on Government to provide free and compulsory education to all children of 6-14 years of age; ensure compulsory admission, attendance and completion of elementary education by every child of the age of six to fourteen years. It also makes it mandatory for the States to ensure availability of neighbourhood school within three years of the commencement of the Act. The Act stipulates that the State needs to provide infrastructure including school building, trained teaching staff and learning equipment as well as ensure good quality elementary education according to the standards and norms specified.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) follows a holistic approach to improve the quality of elementary education, and subject to certain norms, provides for opening of new primary schools, upgradation of primary schools to upper primary schools, construction of school buildings, construction of additional classrooms to improve the students classroom ratio, recruitment of additional teachers to improve the pupil teacher ratio, in-service training of the teachers and training of the teachers and training of untrained teachers, provision of text books, learning enhancement programme, remedial teaching, school and teacher grant and regular academic support to the school through Block Resource Centres and Cluster Resource Centres to improve the quality of classroom practices.

Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan was launched in March, 2009 with the objective to universalize access to secondary education and to improve its quality. The scheme aims to achieve an enrolment ratio of 75% for class IX and X within five years by providing a secondary school within a reasonable distance of every habitation, to improve quality of education imparted at secondary level through making all secondary schools conform to prescribed norms, to remove gender, socio-economic and disability barrier and universal access to secondary level education by 2017.

CBSE has taken number of steps for educational reforms which includes no Class X Board examination *w.e.f.* 2011 for students studying in CBSE's Senior Secondary Schools and who do not wish to move out of the CBSE system after Class X. The students studying in CBSE's Secondary Schools will, however, be required to appear in Board's external examination because they will be leaving the Secondary School after Class X. The Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation has been strengthened in all CBSE affiliated schools *w.e.f.* October, 2009 in Class IX. The new Grading System has been introduced at Secondary School Level (for Class IX and X) effective from 2009-10 academic session. During various meetings with stakeholders, survey etc. the Board has received overwhelming response in favour of these reforms.

Government has already introduced four Bills in the Parliament aiming at reforms in higher education which include proposals for prohibition of unfair practices in technical educational institutions, medical educational institutions and universities; mandatory accreditation of higher educational institutions; educational tribunals for adjudication of disputes; and legislation to regulate entry and operation of foreign educational institutions.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has taken a number of steps and has written to all universities to implement academic reforms including introduction of semester system, choice based credit system, curriculum development, reforms in admission procedures, in examination and evaluation systems. UGC has also notified regulations specifying that qualifying National Eligibility Test (NET) or State-Level Eligibility Test (SLET) shall be the minimum eligibility criteria for appointment as Assistant Professor with exemption to those who have obtained a Ph.D degree. UGC has also taken various steps for educational reforms which includes Quality Assessment Cell in Universities and Colleges, Regulations for Deemed Universities, Reform of College Affiliation System, Academic Reforms of Universities and College System, regulations for M.Phil and Ph.D admission, Faculty Development, Pay and Service conditions of Teachers, etc.

AICTE has taken initiatives for reforms which include permission to institutions under Section 25(g) of the Company Act, 1956 for setting up technical education institutions. Further, stand alone Post Graduate institutes are allowed to be set up for promoting research and development.

### **Implementation of Climate Resilient scheme**

\*72. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allocated Rs. 350 crore for implementation of a new planned scheme National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture to address the impact of climate change on agriculture and allied sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the response received from each State Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Government has launched a new scheme called National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture with an out lay of Rs. 350 crore for the period 2010-2012 to assess the impact of climate change on agriculture and allied sectors in the country and evolve cost effective adaptation and mitigation strategies.

(b) The components of the scheme include: (i) strategic research on natural resources, major food crops, livestock, marine and freshwater fisheries for adaptation and mitigation; (ii) demonstration of available climate resilient practices on farmers' fields in 100 most vulnerable districts of the country; (iii) strengthen research infrastructure and capacity building of scientists for undertaking long term research on climate change adaptation; and (iv) sponsored research.

The demonstrations of available climate resilient technologies are planned in 100 districts of 27 States (Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal) and one Union Territory (Andaman and Nicobar Islands). In Andhra Pradesh, 7 districts *i.e.*, West Godavari, Khammam, Srikakulam, Nalgonda, Kurnool, Anantapur and Rangareddy are identified for the implementation of the demonstrations through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).

(c) This is mainly a research programme being implemented by the ICAR and Agricultural Universities. No funds are released to the State Governments.

### **Logo for agro and horticulture plant material**

\*73. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to brand with a logo all agro and horticultural plant material that have been developed by the associate institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR);

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to evolve a common logo for the ICAR and also to adhere to the guidelines on branding and use of logo?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) Uniformity in the use of the ICAR logo amongst all its constituent units is encouraged by the ICAR. However, some brand names or logos used earlier are so well known and recognized that ICAR's IPR guidelines permit continued use of such brand names/trade marks/logos along with the ICAR logo.

#### **Implementation of NAIP**

\*74. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and World Bank have been implementing a joint National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) in the country;
- (b) if so, the objectives of the said project attained so far in various parts of the country;
- (c) the details of funds released so far by the World Bank under the said project along with their terms and conditions; and
- (d) the extent to which post-harvesting losses have been reduced since the implementation of said project?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is implementing National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) in India, funded by the World Bank and Government of India.

(b) The overall objective is to contribute to the sustainable transformation of Indian agricultural sector from an orientation primarily of food self-sufficiency to one in which market orientation is equally important with the aim of poverty alleviation and income generation. The specific objective is to accelerate the collaborative development and application of agricultural innovation between public research organizations, farmers, private sector and other stakeholders.

(c) The Project became effective on September 18, 2006. Till date a total of Rs. 407.97 crore has been claimed and received from the World Bank as reimbursement of expenditure in NAIP. The total project cost is US \$ 250 million of which US \$ 200 million is from the World Bank and the balance of US \$ 50 million is from the Government of India as counterpart funding. The total amount is through two Credit Agreements (No.4161-IN and 4162-IN) between International Development Association (IDA) and Government of India, Department of Economic Affairs. The credit 4161-IN is interest free whereas the other one *i.e.*, 4162-IN is interest bearing at a rate of 3% from

actual date of withdrawal. Besides this, commitment charges at a rate of 0.5% on the amount committed but not withdrawn and also as service charges of 0.75% on Principal amount withdrawn and outstanding from time to time have to be paid. The repayment is envisaged in semiannual installments commencing from September 15, 2016 and ending March 15, 2041.

(d) The Project has got 4 components being implemented through 188 sub-projects. There is one component on Production to Consumption Systems Research, referred to as 'value chain'. The objective is to link research output to commercial ventures for sustainable improvement of selected agricultural production to consumption systems (value chains), aiming at higher returns to farmers, processors and others in the chain. As such there is no project only addressing reduction in post harvest losses.

#### **Unfair practices in educational institutions**

\*75. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received large number of complaints about unfair practices in Technical educational institutions and Universities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the kinds of complaints made; and
- (c) the details of steps taken or proposed against such institutions for preventing such frauds and unlawful activities of educational institutions in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has reported that it has received 101 complaints against technical institutions on the alleged unfair practices in the last year and the current year. Similarly, University Grants Commission (UGC) has reported that it has received 23 complaints against Universities/institutions deemed-to-be Universities for indulging in alleged unfair practices. The complaints are mostly related to running of fake institutions and award of fake degrees, charging high fees, fee fixation or charging Capitation Fees, non-refund of fees, misleading advertisements, running of un-approved courses, complaints related to admissions, complaints/suggestions relating to entrance examinations and regarding complaints against private managements etc.

(c) UGC and AICTE have reported that they are issuing show-cause notices wherever, complaints are received about alleged unfair practices. Inspections by Expert Committees are undertaken wherever necessary, UGC and AICTE are also regularly publishing information in their respective websites, about fake Universities, unapproved institutions and unapproved courses respectively, from time to time. Public notices are also issued from time to time for information of students and general public.

Government is of the opinion that a law prohibiting unfair practices in higher education could minimize cause for complaints in this regard, and has consequently introduced a Bill namely, The Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill, 2010, in Parliament on 3rd May, 2010.

### **Setting up of Mega Food Parks**

\*76. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to set up 30 Mega Food Parks during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, whether those Mega Food Parks have been established as planned by Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(e) the total number of Mega Food Parks proposed by Government in the next Five Year Plan period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Government, has already approved setting up of 15 Mega Food Parks (MFPs) under the Scheme for Infrastructure Development, out of 30 Mega Food Parks envisaged to be set up during Eleventh Plan Period.

(b) The projects approved so far are at different stages of implementation in accordance with the guidelines of the Scheme.

(c) The implementation status of 15 Mega Food Parks approved is given in Statement (*See* below).

(d) Progress of some of the projects are slow due to difficulty in arranging land, delays in getting State Government clearances etc. Ministry has taken up these issues with concerned State Governments. The progress of the project is regularly monitored and efforts are made to remove impediments in implementation.

(e) Proposals for next Five Year Plan have not been finalized.

**Statement**

*Status of project implementation of 15 on-going Mega Food Parks as on 31.01.2011*

Sl. No.	Name	Project cost (Cr.)	Date of in-principle approval	Date of Final Approval	Amount of grant approved (Cr.)	Amount of grant released (Cr.)	Actual expenditure (Cr.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Patanjali Food and Herbal Park Ltd.	95.08	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	50.00	30.00	38.00
2.	Srini Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	126.54	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	50.00	30.00	42.00
3.	North East Mega Food Park Ltd.	75.98	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	50.00	15.00	3.00
4.	Jharkhand Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	113.95	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	50.00	5.00	4.58
5.	Tamil Nadu Mega Food Park Ltd.	133.45	16.12.2008	16.03.2010	50.00	5.00	1.50
6.	Jangipur Bengal Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	111.04	16.12.2008	16.03.2010	50.00	5.00	2.60
7.	Punjab	153.40	03.08.2010	DPR has been submitted. The same has been appraised and the SPV has been instructed to comply certain observations.			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Karnataka	130.00	03.08.2010	DPR to be submitted within six months of in-principle approval			
9.	Maharashtra	120.00	03.08.2010	DPR to be submitted within six months of in-principle approval			
10.	Uttar Pradesh	168.65	24.09.2010	DPR to be submitted within six months of in-principle approval			
11-15	EoI has been called for from Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Bihar, Orissa, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Chhattisgarh and Tripura to set up 5 newly approved Mega Food Parks. Last date of submission of proposal is 28.02.2011						



### **Findings of Committee on spectrum allocation**

\*77. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the one-man Committee formed by Government to look into the allocation of licenses and spectrum between 2001 and 2009 has found that all decisions taken by the Department of Telecommunications during the NDA and UPA regimes were procedurally wrong and unfair;

(b) if so, the details of the report submitted by the Committee;

(c) whether the decision of the Cabinet and recommendations of TRAI were totally overlooked by the Minister holding charge of Communications and IT; and

(d) if so, the corrective steps Government now proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The Committee has identified specific instances of deviation from laid down procedures followed during the period 2001 to 2009 relating to issuance of licences and allocation of spectrum. The Committee, however, has not stated that all decisions taken by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) were procedurally wrong and unfair.

(b) The full report of the Committee, including its Annexures, is available on the website of DoT ([www.dot.gov.in](http://www.dot.gov.in)). A summary of the findings and recommendations of the Committee is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) The Committee has observed that the procedure adopted to grant new Unified Access Service (UAS) licences at the entry fee of price determined for the 4th Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) licences in 2001 was not in line with the TRAI's recommendations dated 27.10.2003/ Cabinet decision dated 31.10.2003. The observations of the Committee in this regard are given in Statement [Refer to the Statement appended to answer to SQ No. 62 parts (b) and (c)]

(d) A copy of the Report has been given to the investigating agency (CBI). The Government proposes to study the Report and take a decision regarding administrative action.

***Statement***

***Summary of Recommendations and Findings of the Committee***

Sl.No.	Terms of Reference		Findings of the Committee
1	2	3	
1.	To study the circumstances and developments in the Telecom sector that led to the formulation of the New Telecom Policy 1999 and subsequently, introduction of 4th Cellular Telecom Mobile Service (CMTS) licence in 2001.		NTP 1994 was the first effective step towards deregulation, liberalization and private sector participation. However, it did not yield the desired results. Taking into account the technological advancement, New Telecom Policy, 1999 was formulated, the principal objective of which was to make available affordable and effective communications for achieving country's socio-economic goals and providing <i>inter alia</i> universal service to all uncovered areas. The new policy required the Government to seek recommendations of TRAI on number and timing of new licences and entry of more operators in a service area after every two years. The new policy brought in revenue sharing regime. It also envisaged review of spectrum utilization; efficient, economical, rational and optimal use of spectrum and a transparent process of spectrum allocation. As required under NTP 1999 based on recommendations of TRAI, 4th Cellular operators were introduced by following multi-stage bidding process in the year 2001.
2.	To examine the internal (intra-departmental) procedures adopted by DoT during the period 2001-2009 for:		The Committee studied the organizational structure, functioning of different wings and hierarchy in the department and took note of

1	2	3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Issue of telecom access service licences and</li> <li>(b) Allocation of spectrum to all telecom access services licencees during the above period.</li> </ul>	<p>the policy perspectives of the Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plans. The procedure adopted for grant of basic service licence during 2001-2003; Cellular Telecom Mobile Service (CMTS) licences during 2001-2003; Unified Access Service Licences during 2004 to 2007; UASLs during 2008 to 2009; allotment of spectrum to CMTS, BTS and UAS licencees has been deduced separately on the basis of the guidelines issued by DoT from time to time.</p>
3.	To examine whether these procedures were in accordance with extant policies and directions of DoT/Government.	The internal procedures adopted by DoT to the extent brought out have not been in tune with the extant policies and the directions of DoT/Government
4.	To examine whether these procedures were followed consistently and if not, identify specific instances of:	On the basis of notings on various files relating to UASL and spectrum allocation, there appears to have been deviation, inappropriate application and violation of underlying principles of the laid down procedures.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Deviation from laid down procedures.</li> <li>(b) Inappropriate application of laid down procedures.</li> <li>(c) Violation of underlying principles of laid down procedures.</li> </ul>	
5	To examine whether the procedures adopted were fair and transparent and were in keeping with the principles of natural justice and if not, identify the specific instances of lack of fairness and transparency.	Having taken note of the requisites of fairness and transparency, the specific instances of the lack of the same in the procedures adopted by DoT in granting access licences and allotment of spectrum during the period 2001-09 have been detailed in the One-man Committee's report.

1	2	3
6.	To identify the deficiencies, if any, in the procedures as formulated and identify the public officials responsible for such deficiencies.	The deficiencies in the procedures formulated have been brought out and the names/designation of officials who appear to be <i>prima facie</i> responsible for deficiencies in the procedures as formulated have been identified.
7.	To identify the shortcomings and lapses, if any, in the implementation of the laid down procedures and identify the public officials responsible for such lapses.	The shortcomings lapses in the implementation of the laid down procedures have been brought out and the names/designation of officials who appear to be <i>prima facie</i> responsible have been identified.
8.	To suggest remedial measures to avoid in future:	<b>I. Recommendations regarding formulation of procedures-</b>
(a)	Deficiencies in formulation of procedures and	(i) The procedures must be in tune with the requirements of law/the statutory norms and prevailing policy of the Government, and must be reasonable, fair, transparent and certain. The selection of applicants must be by choice and not by chance. First Come First Service (FCFS) is not justified when there are several applicants, there is competition and the resource is scarce. This procedure results in keeping away the best and allowing the one who approaches first though may not be the best and the public interest suffers. It also results in delay in processing of subsequent applications in case the grant of licence to the prior applicant is delayed on any count. Thus, it blocks processing of further applications and this is opposed to the policy of fast paced
(b)	Lapses in implementation of laid-down procedures.	

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growth in telecom sector and optimum utilization of spectrum. Therefore, a procedure for selection based on merits should be devised;

- (ii) The procedures formulated whether as to the stages/time frame for processing or norms of eligibility should be clear, certain and as far as practicable and must not leave any room for subjectivity or arbitrariness. The procedure must specify time frame for - (a) receiving applications ; (b) scrutinizing them; (c) intimating the eligible/ineligible applicants or requiring them to rectify deficiencies/ensure compliance; (d) processing the applications and intimating the decision to the applicants accordingly. Circumstances whereunder time for complying any requirements/meeting with deficiencies etc., can be extended and the maximum extent of time that can be extended must also be specified in the procedure;
  - (iii) The procedure formulated must also stipulate that decision either of accepting or rejecting the applications as also of requirements at all stages of processing must be communicated to the applicants formally and in writing;
  - (iv) Procedures formulated, and any deviation thereof, should be approved by Telecom Commission before implementation;
  - (v) Any change in procedure be notified to all concerned well in advance before implementation;
-

- (vi) The procedure should spell out not only criteria but also specify documents required to be submitted by the applicants and a comprehensive check list be devised and included in the prescribed application form itself mentioning all steps/verification involved;
- (vii) Matters requiring approval by the Telecom Commission should be placed before full Commission comprising Chairman, Full-time Members and Part-time Members only;
- (viii) The procedure for making it mandatory for placing recommendations of TRAI before the Telecom Commission within a specified time frame should be drawn up and in the event the recommendations are not accepted or modification is required, the recommendation should be referred back to TRAI.

## **II. Recommendations regarding implementation of procedures-**

- (i) A detailed Office Memorandum, which should be approved by the Telecom Commission before implementation, indicating the procedures to be followed relating to grant of Access Service Licences and allotment of spectrum should be drawn up comprehensively and procedures to be followed by officials should be contained in a single self-contained document. The information should also be provided to the general public/

1	2	3
		<p>prospective applicants to enable them to know the procedural/eligibility requirements, to ensure compliance with the requirements of fairness and transparency;</p> <p>(ii) Mechanism for supervision to ensure implementation of approved procedure, before the actual licence or spectrum is allocated, should be drawn up;</p> <p>(iii) The procedures must comply with the requirement of transparency and must be notified well in advance for information of the public/intending applicants;</p> <p>(iv) Due advance publicity be given for inducting new operators fixing last date for receipt of applications;</p> <p><b>III. Recommendations relating to Spectrum -</b></p> <p>(i) Allocation of spectrum should be transparent for which purpose spectrum allocation with details should be put on website and regularly updated;</p> <p>(ii) All spectrum should be audited and audit reports should be widely publicized and made available on the website;</p> <p>(iii) The Government, should undertake comprehensive spectrum reforms. There should be incentive to vacate unutilized spectrum and penalty for hoarding. Inefficient utilization of spectrum</p>

1	2	3
		<p>should be discouraged and release of spectrum from such agencies should be sought by appropriate mechanism;</p> <p>(iv) Availability of spectrum be ascertained before inviting applications;</p> <p>(v) Allotment of spectrum be delinked from access licences and the entry fee/spectrum pricing needs to be structured accordingly, <i>i.e.</i>, the entry fee payable for grant of access licence should not have any component of spectrum charges. Auctioning of spectrum by formulating suitable design appears to be appropriate;</p> <p>(vi) Comprehensive new legislation be framed as in some other countries like Australia and New Zealand;</p> <p>(vii) The channel of initiation and final decision be restricted to three officers;</p> <p>(viii) Suitable orders be issued for ensuring protection of upright officers who take a stand against any deviation either in formulation or implementation of procedures.</p>



### **Overcharging by pharma companies**

\*78. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many drugs are sold at much higher prices than prices decided by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA);
- (b) if so, the details of such drugs with name, company name, their selling prices in the market and the actual prices decided by NPPA;
- (c) the reasons for this state-of-affairs; and
- (d) the action Government is proposing so that these companies adhere to the regulations of NPPA?

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

Based on detection of overcharging cases since inception of NPPA on 27th August, 1997 and till 31st January 2011, NPPA has issued demand notices in 786 no. of cases involving an amount of Rs. 2328.53 crore (overcharging along with interest) for selling the medicines at a price higher than the prices fixed under DPCO 1995. Of this, Rs. 207.86 crore has been realized till 31st January, 2011 leaving a balance of Rs. 2120.67 crore to be realized. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 1930.41 crore is under litigation and pending in various courts and Rs. 33.72 crore is pending for recovery with Collectors of various States.

The details of companies penalized for overcharging in respect of the formulations mentioned against them are available on the website of NPPA at [nppaindia@nic.in](mailto:nppaindia@nic.in).

Action for recovery for the overcharged amount alongwith interest thereon is a continuous process for which action is taken by NPPA as per the provision of DPCO 95 read with Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

In order to ensure compliance of the notified ceiling price, NPPA calls for the control samples of the subsequent batches and the price list of the companies in respect of the formulations wherein the companies are found to have overcharged. To ensure that companies adhere to the prices fixed by NPPA, the State Drug Controllers are sensitized and asked to forward the cases relating to non-compliance of the notified price. As a part

of continuous market surveillance, NPPA also procures samples of various scheduled formulations to check the compliance of the notified ceiling price by the companies.

#### **Financial assistance to Goa under RTE Act**

\*79. SHRI SHANTA RAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Right to Education Act is being implemented in Goa;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government so far in this regard;
- (c) the financial assistance proposed to be given to Goa in the present and the next academic year;
- (d) the financial assistance given to the State Government so far;
- (e) whether new teachers have been recruited for the purpose; and
- (f) if not, how does the State Government propose to effectively implement the Act?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (b) Yes, Sir. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE), Act, 2009 became operative *w.e.f.* 1st April, 2010 throughout the country including Goa. According to information obtained from State Government Goa, the steps initiated by the State Government include, *inter alia*, the following:

- Conducting meetings at different levels to sensitize all stakeholders for the implementation of RTE Act, 2009.
- Constitution of Committee for framing the State rules under RTE Act, 2009.
- Shift to the eight year elementary cycle with primary cycle from class I to V and upper primary cycle from class VI to VIII.
- Training of 3240 teachers on RTE Act, 2009.
- Training of 2490 community persons through community awareness camps on RTE Act, 2009.

(c) to (f) An amount of Rs 571.27 lakhs has been released during 2010-11 to the State Implementing Society, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Goa toward the central share of assistance for implementing the approved activities under SSA. In addition, an amount of Rs 200.00 lakhs has been awarded to the State by the 13th Finance Commission. The Annual plans for the States are considered and approved by the Project Approval Board, every year. 47 posts of part time instructors have been sanctioned in the current year for implementing the provisions of the RTE Act, 2009.

### Free SIMs for BSNL and MTNL landline subscribers

†\*80. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) are providing free SIMs to landline subscribers of the country, especially in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of each State, especially from Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has launched special scheme named PYARI JODI on pan India basis (except Delhi and Mumbai service areas) for all BSNL landline customers. This scheme, which was initially launched for 90 days *w.e.f.* 5.11.2010, has now been made a regular plan *w.e.f.* 3.2.2011.

Under the scheme, there is unlimited free call facility to one BSNL landline or Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) number from mobile and Subscriber Identity Module (SIM)/Activation is free through BSNL Customer Service Centre.

The response in Maharashtra State is very good and BSNL has 2,78,592 working connections under PYARI JODI scheme as on 15.02.2011. The response received from other States, upto December, 2010, is given as under:-

State	Number of connections under PYARI JODI
1	2
Madhya Pradesh	58,484
Chhattisgarh	12,452
Gujarat	44,134
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	271
Bihar	6,842
Jharkhand	3,320
Kolkata	2,462
North East I & II	37
Orissa	23,665

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2
West Bengal	35,213
UP (East)	64,365
UP (West)	28,536
Punjab	1,09,510
Rajasthan	1,13,107
Himachal Pradesh	15,409
Haryana	31,917
J&K	4,589

Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) launched the scheme of providing free SIMs to existing MTNL Delhi Landline and Broadband Customers, on promotional basis, *w.e.f.* 01.11.2010 to 29.01.2011. This scheme has later been made a regular plan. However, no such scheme is available for the customers of MTNL, Mumbai.

Under the scheme, SIM/Activation charge is free through Sanchar Haats for postpaid customers and SIM and First Recharge Coupon are free for prepaid customers.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

### Post-harvest losses

†466. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the post-harvest losses of yield have been estimated to be very high in the country;
- (b) if so, the estimates of average annual losses in terms of quantity;
- (c) whether there is any estimation of decrease in these losses between the years 2000-2001 and 2009-2010; and
- (d) if so, the quantum of estimated decrease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) As per the report on "Estimation of Quantitative Harvest and Post Harvest Losses of major agricultural produce in India" conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) during 2005-07, the harvest and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

post-harvest losses of various agricultural produce in India was 3.9-6% for cereals, 4.3-6.1% for pulses, 2.8-10.1% for selected oilseeds and 5.8-18% in selected fruits and vegetables.

(c) and (d) There is no specific study of estimation of decrease in these losses between the years 2000-01 and 2009-10. However, as per the ICAR Study report on "Estimation of Quantitative Harvest and Post Harvest Losses of major agricultural produce in India", the total economic loss from all agricultural produce in the year 2005 was estimated to be Rs. 51,500 crores, which has been reduced to Rs. 44,000 crores in the year 2009.

### **Upgradation of Krishi Vigyan Kendras**

†467. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) functioning in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether such Krishi Vigyan Kendras run schemes/programmes for the benefit of farmers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has identified those Krishi Vigyan Kendras which are in need of upgradation; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and by when they are likely to be upgraded including those in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) There are 589 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) functioning in the country. The State/Union Territory-wise details of the districts with KVKs are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) and (c) The activities/programmes for the benefit of farmers run under KVK scheme include testing and demonstration of agriculture technologies in farmers field; training of farmers; and creation of awareness on improved technology through various extension programmes and agro-advisory on mobile phones. Besides, the KVKs produce seeds, planting materials and livestock strains for its availability to farmers.

(d) and (e) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has identified KVKs for strengthening during Eleventh Plan with more facilities including soil and water testing, plant health diagnostic, minimal agro-processing and e-connectivity, besides demonstration units on rain water harvesting structure with micro-irrigation system, portable carp hatchery and integrated farming systems. The names of identified KVKs including those in Maharashtra for strengthening with such facilities are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

**Statement-I**

*State/Union Territory-wise details of the districts with KVKs*

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Number of KVKs	Name of districts with KVK
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	Port Blair, Nicobar
2.	Andhra Pradesh	30	Ananthpur, West Godavari, Warangal, Shrikakulam, Vizianagaram, Kadapa, Krishna, Nellore, Adilabad, Prakasham, Khammam, Nizamabad, East Godavari, Ranga Reddy, Mahaboobnagar, Nalgonda, Chittoor, Karimnagar, Kurnool, Visakhapatnam, Medak, Guntur, Ananthpur (2), Kurnool (2), Mahboob Nagar (2), East Godavari (2), Nalgonda (2), Warangal (2), West Godavari (2), Karim nagar (2)
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	12	West Siang, West Kameng, Tirap, Lower Dibang Valley, Lower Subansiri, Papumpare, Upper Siang, East Kameng, Tawang, Lohit, Upper Subansiri, East Siang
4.	Assam	21	Sonitpur, Cachar, Golaghat, Kokrajhar, Sibsagar, Nalbari, Barpeta, Bongaigaon, Karbi Anglong, Kamrup, North Lakhimpur, Nagaon, Tinsukia, Karimganj, Dhubri, Dhemaji, Dibrugarh, Darrang, Jorhat, Goalpara, Hailakandi
5.	Bihar	38	Munger, Darbhanga, Vaishali, Begusarai, Saharsa, Nalanda, Banka, Patna, Sheikhpura, Muzaffarpur, Madhepura, Bhagalpur, Rohtas, Araria, Purnea, Katihar, Samastipur, Siwan, West Champaran, Jahanabad, Saran, Supaul, Gaya, Sheohar, Aurangabad, Lakhisarai,

1	2	3	4
			East Champaran, Kishanganj, Gopalganj, Buxar, Bhojpur, Nawadah, Kaimur, Jamui, Madhubani, Khagaria, Sitamarhi, Arwal
6.	Chhattisgarh	16	Bilaspur, Surguja, Durg, Bastar, Raipur, Janjgir-Champa, Raigarh, Dhamtari, Mahasamund, Dantewada, Korba, Jashpur, Kanker, Kavardha, Korea, Rajnandgaon
7.	Delhi	1	Ujwa (New Delhi)
8.	Goa	2	North Goa, South Goa
9.	Gujarat	26	Banaskantha, Sabarkantha, Dahod, Anand, Ahmedabad, Dang, Surat, Navsari, Narmada, Amreli, Rajkot, Jamnagar, Porbandar, Surendranagar, Gandhinagar, Valsad, Kheda, Panchmahal, Mehsana, Bharuch, Vadodara, Patan, Kutch, Kutch (2), Bhavnagar, Junagadh
10	Haryana	18	Panipat, Kaithal, Jind, Hisar, Kurukshetra, Faridabad, Yamunanagar, Sonapat, Rohtak, Sirsa, Mahendergarh, Fatehabad, Jhajjar, Bhiwani, Karnal, Gurgaon, Ambala, Rewari
11.	Himachal Pradesh	12	Kullu, Una, Mandi, Sirmaur, Hamirpur, Kangra, Lahaul and Spiti, Bilaspur, Kinnaur, Chamba, Shimla, Solan
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	14	Jammu, Rajouri, Doda, Udhampur, Poonch, Leh, Pulwama, Srinagar, Budgam, Kargil, Baramulla, Kupwara, Anantnag, Kathua
13.	Jharkhand	22	West Singhbhum, Dumka, Palamau, Pakur, Lohardaga, Giridih, Bokaro, East Singhbhum, Sahibganj, Chatra, Garwah, Dhanbad, Simdega, Latehar, Jamtara, Koderma, Deoghar, Ranchi, Hazaribagh, Gumla, Godda, Seraikela

1	2	3	4
14.	Karnataka	28	Raichur, Haveri, Bidar, Dharwad, Koppal, Gulbarga, Bijapur, Uttara Kannada, Bagalkot, Hassan, Mandya, Shimoga, Tumkur, Udupi, Chitradurga, Chikkamagalur, Dakshina Kannada, Chamrajanagar, Kolar, Bangalore Rural, Kodagu, Mysore, Belgaum, Gadag, Davanagere, Ramanagram, Tumkur, Dakshin Kannada
15.	Kerala	14	Palghat, Kollam, Wynad, Kottayam, Kannur, Malappuram, Thrissur, Kasaragode, Alleppey, Ernakulam, Kozhikode (Calicut), Thiruvananthapuram, Idukki, Pathanamthitta
16.	Lakshadweep	1	Kiltab Island Lakshadweep
17.	Madhya Pradesh	47	Chhindwara, Jhabua, Sidhi, Shahdol, Khandwa, Tikamgarh, Seoni, Bhind, Rajgarh, Guna, Balaghat, Betul, Panna, Dhar, Dindori, Gwalior, Rewa, Hoshangabad, Morena, Sagar, Khargone, Shajapur, Ujjain, Mandsaur, Jabalpur, Harda, Damoh, Narsinghpur, Dewas, Padaria, Chatarpur, Shivpuri, Neemuch, Mandla, Badwani, Umaria, Sheopur, Datia, Bhopal, Ratlam, Vidisha, Satna, Indore, Sehore, Raisen, Burhanpur, Ashoknagar
18.	Maharashtra	39	Wardha, Bhandara, Chandrapur, Yavatmal, Gondia, Godchiroli, Aurangabad, Osmanabad, Ratnagiri, Raigarh, Dhule, Nagpur, Nashik, Parbhani, Kolhapur, Buldana (1), Amaravathi (1), Amaravathi (2), Nanded, Solapur, Washim, Sindhudurg, Thane, Jalgaon, Beed (1), Satara, Pune, Ahmednagar, Sangli, Jalna, Hingoli, Nandurbar, Latur, Pune (2), Jalgaon, Akola, Satara (2), Beed (2), Buldana (2)



1	2	3	4
19.	Manipur	9	Imphal West, Churachandpur, Tamenglong, Chandel, Senapati, Bishnupur, Imphal East, Thoubal, Ukhrul
20.	Meghalaya	5	West Garo Hills, Ri-bhoi, Jaintia Hills, East Khasi Hills, West Khasi Hills
21.	Mizoram	8	Lunglei, Kolasib, Chintuipui, Lawngtlai, Mammit, Champhai, Serchhip, Aizwal
22.	Nagaland	8	Dimapur, Medziphema, Wokha, Mokokchung, Kohima, Tuensang, Mon, Zunheboto
23.	Odisha	30	Koraput, Kendrapara, Keonjhar, Balasore, Gajapati, Bargarh, Kandhamal (Phulbani), Kalahandi, Jajpur, Dhenkanal, Angul, Bhadrak, Nabarangpur, Sundergarh, Nayagarh, Sambalpur, Jagatsinghpur, Gajapati, Rayagada, Nuapada, Boudh, Mayurbhanj, Sonepur, Malkangiri, Deogarh, Jharsuguda, Puri, Cuttack, Khurda
24.	Puducherry	2	Karaikal, Pudducherry
25.	Punjab	17	Faridkot, Gurdaspur, Ferozepur, Bathinda, Hoshiarpur, Patiala, Kapurthala, Sangrur, Nawanshahar, Roopnagar, Ludhiana, Amritsar, Muktsar, Fatehgargh Sahib, Moga, Jalandhar, Mansa
26.	Rajasthan	32	Dausa, Jhunjhunu, Bikaner, Sawai Madhopur, Ajmer, Dhoulpur, Sikar, Jalore, Alwar, Bharatpur, Jaisalmer, Nagaur, Sriganganagar, Karauli, Dungarpur, Banswara, Baran, Sirohi, Chittorgarh, Kota, Bundi, Jhalawar, Rajsamand, Bhilwara, Jodhpur, Pali, Tonk, Jaipur, Udaipur, Churu. Barmer, Hanumangarh
27.	Sikkim	4	East Sikkim, North Sikkim, West Sikkim, South Sikkim

1	2	3	4
28.	Tamil Nadu	30	Salem, Cuddalore, Virdhachalam, Trichirappali, Perambalur, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram, Kanyakumari, Madurai, Villupuram, Vellore, Thiruvallur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Virudhunagar, Dharmapuri, Kancheepuram, Shivagangai, Namakkal, Dindigul, Coimbatore, Theni, Nilgiris, Tiruvannamalai, Tirunelveli, Krishnagiri, Thanjavur, Tuticorin, Karur, Ariyalur
29.	Tripura	4	West Tripura, South Tripura, Dhalai, North Tripura
30.	Uttar Pradesh	67	Sahajanpur, Bijnor, Saharanpur, Badaun, Ghaziabad, Rampur, Muzaffarnagar, Meerut, Pilibhit, Baghpat, Moradabad, Gautam Budha Nagar, Bahraich, Ballia, Mau, Varanasi, Basti, Faizabad, Gorakhpur, Maharajganj, Sonbhadra, Siddharth Nagar, Azamgarh, Barabanki, Jaunpur, Chandauli, Balrampur, Sant Kabir Nagar, Mathura, Jhansi, Rai Bareilly, Fatehpur, Aligarh, Kanpur (Dehat), Mainpuri, Mahoba, Etawah, Kannauj, Firozabad, Hamirpur, Jalaun, Lakhimpur Kheri, Lalitpur, Farrukhabad, Hardoi, Lucknow, Bareilly, Kushinagar, Etah, Agra, Allahabad, Sant Ravidas Nagar, Mirzapur, Bulandshahar, Sultanpur, Gonda, Chitrakoot, Unnao, Pratapgarh, Gazipur, Sidhauli, Kaushambi, Auraiya, Deoria, Mahamayanagar, Banda, Ambedkar Nagar
31.	Uttarakhand	13	Champavat, Tehri Garhwal, Nainital, Chamoli, Haridwar, Almora, Pauri Garhwal, Rudra Prayag, Udham Singh Nagar, Pithoragarh, Dehradun, Uttarakashi, Bageshwar

1	2	3	4
32.	West Bengal	17	Darjeeling, Coochbehar, Malda, Dakshin Dinajpur, Uttar Dinajpur, Howrah, Hoogly, Jalpaiguri, Nadia, North 24 Parganas, Murshidabad, South 24 Parganas, West Midnapur, Purulia, Burdhan, Birbhum, Bankura
Total		589	

**Statement-II**

*Names of Identified KVKs for Strengthening*

Sl. No.	Particulars of strengthening	Number of KVKs	Name of identified KVKs for strengthening
1	2	3	4
1.	Soil and water testing facilities	106	Muktsar, Ludhiana, Fatehgarh Sahib, Moga, Jalandhar, Jhajjar, Bhiwani, Ambala, Shimla, Kinnaur, Udhampur, Poonch, Kathua, Baramula, Anantnag, Howrah, Malda, Nadia, Dakshin Dinajpur, Bokaro, Chatra, East Singhbhum, Garhwa, Giridih, Godda, Koderma, Lohardaga, Pakur, Palamau, Sahebganj, Araria, Katihar, Madhepura, Samastipur, Siwan, Sitamarhi, West Champaran, Tirap, Bishnupur, Senapati, Aizwal, Mokokchung, South Sikkim, Etawah, Jalaun, Azamgarh, Kushinagar, Barabanki, Chandauli, Jaunpur, Baghpat, Gautam Budh Nagar, Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Agra, Sitapur, Sulttanpur, Chamoli, Champawat, Dehradun, Haridwar, Pauri Garhwal, Rudraprayag, Udham Singh Nagar, Kadapa, Krishna, Karauli, Sabarkantha, Navsari, Porbandar, Amreli, Surendranagar, Kheda, Mehsana, Betul, Chhatarpur, Damoh, Dewas, Dhar, Dindori,

1	2	3	4
			Mandasaur, Narsinghpur, Shahdol, Ujjain, Raisen, Sehore, Raipur, Bagalkot, Bangalore Rural, Chamraj Nagar. Dakshin Kannada, Davangere, Dharwad, Karur, Madurai, Nagapattinam, Namakkal, Tiruvarur, Tiruvallur, Vellore, Villupuram, Kannur, Malapuram, Thrissur, Koppal, Krishnagiri
2.	Basic plant health diagnostic facility	172	Nawanshahar, Kapurthala, Hoshiarpur, Gurdaspur, Faridkot, Muktsar, Jalandhar, Yamunanagar, Kurukshetra, Panipat, Faridabad, Sirsa, Mahendergarh, Jhajjar, Rewari, Ambala, Gurgaon, Kullu, Mandi, Kangra, Sirmaur, Bilaspur, Shimla, Kinnaur, Solan, Jammu, Rajouri, Leh, Pulwama, Baramula, Anantnag, Delhi, Begusarai, Banka, Jamui, Munger, Patna, Samastipur, Kaimur, Muzaffarpur, Bokaro, Dhanbad, Chatra, Palamau, Dumka, Lohardaga, Garhwa, Pakur, Sahebganj, West Singhbhum, Birbhum, Coochbehar, Malda, Uttar Dinajpur, South 24-Parganas, Dakshin Dinajpur, Darjeeling, Nadia, Behraich, Basti, Barabanki, Chandoli, Raibareilli, Aligarh, Etawah, Saharanpur, Sahjahanpur, Chitrakoot, Pratapgarh, Unnao, Ghazipur, Tehri Garhwal, Champawat, Chamoli, Pauri Garhwal, Dehradun, Chittoor, Guntur. Kadapa, Karimnagar, Kurnool, Anantapur, Krishna, Mahaboobnagar, Nalgonda, Ahmednagar, Akola, Jalna, Nandurbar, Pune, Beed, Buldhana, Nagpur, Satara, Solapur, Washim, Sikar, Jalore, Bharatpur, Jhunjhunu, Nagaur, Ajmer, Alwar, Jaisalmer, Dausa, Banswara, Sirohi, Kota, Bhilwara, Bundi, Jhalawar, Baran, Rajsamand, Banner, Udaipur, Churu, Jaipur, Tonk, Hanumangarh,

1	2	3	4
			Banaskantha, Sabarkantha, Dangs, Surat, Rajkot, Jamnagar, Porbandar, Amreli, Surendranagar, Valsad, Kutch, Mehsana, Rewa, Ujjan, Dewas, Sarguja, Bastar, Bargarh, Keonjhar, Raichur, Bangalore Rural, Belgaum, Chickamagalur, Chitradurga, Dakshin Kannada, Davangere, Gadag, Haveri, Mandya, Mysore, Cuddalore, Dindigul, Erode, Karur, Madurai, Nagapattinam, Perambalur, Salem, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruvallur, Trichy, Vellore, Villupuram, Virudhunagar, Kannur, Kasaragod, Kollam, Palghat, Pathanamthitta, Thrissur, Puducherry
3.	Minimal agro-processing facility	24	Ludhiana, Kurukshetra, Gurgaon (Shikohpur), Pulwama (Malangpura), Palamau, Bankura, Purulia, South 24 Parganas, Aligarh, Udham Singh Nagar, Gadchiroli, Pune, Chittorgarh, Jaipur (Chomu), Anand, Porbandar, Bhopal, Raipur, Sundargarh, Dharwad, Madurai, Kasaragod, Malapuram, Trivandrum
4.	e-connectivity	91	Ludhiana, Fatehgarh Sahib, Moga, Jalandhar, Kurukshetra, Jind, Sirsa, Mahenderagarh, Jhajjar, Bhiwani, Fatehabad, Chamba, Kinnaur, Srinagar, Begusarai, Bhojpur, Muzaffarpur, Chatra, Garhwa, Gumla, Lohardaga, Palamau, Godda, Burdwan, Malda, Purulia, Senapati, Kolasib, Azamgarh, Barabanki, Jaunpur, Raebareli, Fatehpur, Kannauj, Jalaun, Hardoi, Ghaziabad, Shahjahanpur, Meerut, Gautam Budha Nagar, Agra, Kushinagar, Chamoli, Pauri Garhwal, Rudraprayagh, Kadapa, Amaravathi, Jalore, Alwar, Dholpur, Dungarpur, Rajsamand, Churu, Tonk, Sabarkantha, Dangs, Navsari, Porbandar,

1	2	3	4
			Amreli, Surendranagar, Kheda, Raigarh, Chhatarpur, Dewas, Mandsaur, Narsinghpur, Shajapur, Raisen, Sehore, Balasore, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara, Keonjhar, Nabarangpur, Nawapara, Bagalkot, Bangalore Rural, Chamraj Nagar, Dakshin Kannada, Davangere, Dharwad, Kodagu, Koppal, Nagapattinam, Namakkal, Perambalur, Shivagangai, Theni, Tiruvapur, Tiruvallur, Villupuram
5.	Rain water harvesting structures with micro irrigation system	51	Dumka, Hazaribag, Deoghar, Simdega, Latehar, Jamtara, Bishupur, East Sikkim, South Sikkim, West Sikkim, Kohima, Mokokchung, Tuensang, Tehri Garhwal, Bageshwar Anantapur, Kurnool, Amaravathi, Solapur, Nagaur, Udaipur, Dangs, Kutch, Bastar, Raigarh, Sagar, Umaria, Badwani, Mandsaur, Neemach, Dewas, Guna, Rajgarh, Jabalpur, Jhabua, Nabarangpur, Bidar, Bangalore Rural, Kodagu, Kolar, Calicut, Koppal, Raichur, Uttara Kannada, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, The Nilgris, Tuticorin, Trivandrum, Wynad, North Goa
6.	Portable carp hatchery	58	North Andaman, Darbhanga, Lohardaga, Pakur, Bankura, Birbhum, Burdwan, Daskhin Dinajpur, Malda, West Midnapore, South 24-Paraganas, Uttar Dinajpur, Goalpara, Golaghat, Sonitpur, Tirap, West Kameng, Bishupur, Imphal West, Imphal East, Thoubal Basti, Varanasi, Budaun, Rampur, Chitrakoot, Champawat, Nainital, Guntur, Karimnagar, Nalgonda, Nellore, Dhule, Washim, Hanumangarh, Banswara, Kota, Amreli, Jamnagar, Balasore, Bhadrak, Dhenkanal, Ganjam, Jagatsinghpur, Kalahandi, Kendrapara, Bastar.

1	2	3	4
			Narsinghpur, Belgaum, Dakshin Kannada, Davangere. Udup, Kancheepuram, Namakkal, Ernakulam, Kottayam, Karaikal, Puducherry
7	Demonstration unit on integrated farming system	184	Ferozepur, Nawanshahar, Kapurthala, Hoshiarpur, Gurdaspur, Patiala, Faridkot, Sangrur, Bathinda, Faridabad, Rewari, Ambala, Gurgaon, Kullu, Mandi, Kangra, Una, Hamirpur, Bilaspur, Solan, Srinagar, Baramulla, Leh, Delhi, Araria, Darbhanga, Katihar, Kaimur, Madhepura, Buxar, Samastipur, Chatra, Gumla, Godda, East Singhbhum, Palamau, Dhanbad, Burdwan, Coochbehar, Uttara Dinajpur, Dakshin Dinajpur, Nadia, South 24-Parganas, Purulia, Bankura, Malda, Senapati, Aizwal, East Sikkim, West Sikkim, Behraich, Basti, Varanasi, Siddharthnagar, Barabanki, Jhansi, Raibareilli, Aligarh, Hardoi, Badaun, Muradabad, Saharanpur, Rampur, Sultanpur, Gonda, Chitrakoot, Pratapgarh, Unnao, Bareilly, Ghazipur, Champawat, Chamoli, Haridwar, Pauri Garhwal, Rudraprayag, Pithoragarh, Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarkashi, East Godavari, Kadappa, Karimnagar, Kurnool, Nalgonda, Ahmednagar, Akola, Nagpur, Nandurbar, Nashik, Pune, Satara, Jalore, Ajmer, Alwar, Jaisalmer, Sarai Madhopur, Banswara, Sirohi, Bhilwara, Dungarpur, Bundi, Jhalawar, Rajsamand, Barmer, Udaipur, Jaipur, Hanumangarh, Banaskantha, Sabarkantha, Ahmedabad, Dangs, Jamnagar, Amreli, Surendranagar, Valsad, Kutch, Mehsana, Harda, Sidhi, Tikamgarh, Narsinghpur, Bastar, Surguja, Bargarh, Dhenkanal, Keonjhar, Koraput, Bagalkot, Bangalore Rural, Belgaum, Bidar, Bijapur, Chamraj Nagar, Chickamagalur, Chitradurga, Dakshin

1	2	3	4
			Kannada, Davangere, Dharwad, Gadag, Gulbarga, Hassan, Haveri, Koppal, Mandya, Mysore, Raichur, Shimoga, Tumkur, Uttar Kannada, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Dindigul, Erode, Karur, Madurai, Nagapattinam, Namakkal, Perambalur, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram, Salem, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruvallur, Trichy, Tuticorin, Vellore, Villupuram, Virudhunagar, Alleppey, Calicut, Kannur, Kasaragod, Kollam, Kottayam, Malapuram, Palghat, Pathanamthitta, Thrissur, Trivandrum, Wynad, North Goa, Puducherry.

#### **Steps to raise income through farming**

468. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise average of monthly income of a family involved in farming, according to the latest National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) data;
- (b) the steps being taken to raise farm incomes; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to provide farmer families with access to quality healthcare and education services to improve their situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) As per the NSSO special survey on Situation Assessment of farmers during January-December, 2003, the breakup of average monthly income (excluding rent, interest, dividend etc.) by source, per farmer household, in each of the major States during the agriculture year 2002-03 is given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) The Government of India has launched several schemes in consultation with States to increase investments in agriculture sector, for accelerating agricultural growth and to raise farm incomes. Some of the major Schemes are:

1. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)
2. National Food Security Mission (NFSM)
3. Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seed



4. National Horticultural Mission (NHM)
5. Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM)
6. Gramin Bhandaran Yojana.

(c) The Government is implementing various schemes to provide quality healthcare and universalization of elementary education services through M/o Health and Family Welfare and M/o Human Resource Development respectively.

M/o Health and Family Welfare has launched the National Rural Health Mission (2005-12) for providing integrated comprehensive Primary Healthcare Services, especially to the poor and vulnerable sections including farm families.

Further Right to Education Act (RTE), 2009 which became operative w.e.f. 1st April, 2010, says that a school shall be established within such area or limits of neighbourhood, where it is not established within a period of 3 years from the commencement of the Act; by appropriate Government and the local authority.

#### *Statement*

*Break-up of average monthly income (excluding rent, interest, dividend etc.)  
per farmer Household by source in each of the major States  
during the agriculture year 2002-03.*

#### **Average monthly income (Rs.) per farmer household from**

State	Wages	Cultivation	Farming of animals	Non-farm business	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	643	743	93	155	1634
Assam	973	1792	141	255	3161
Bihar	497	846	265	202	1810
Chhattisgarh	709	811	-3	101	1618
Gujarat	925	1164	455	140	2684
Haryana	1268	1494	-236	356	2882
Jammu and Kashmir	2060	2426	382	620	5488
Jharkhand	924	852	86	207	2069
Karnataka	1051	1266	131	168	2616
Kerala	2013	1120	154	717	4004

1	2	3	4	5	6
Madhya Pradesh	560	996	-227	101	1430
Maharashtra	799	1263	144	257	2463
Orissa	573	336	16	137	1062
Punjab	1462	2822	236	440	4960
Rajasthan	931	359	5	203	1498
Tamil Nadu	1105	659	110	198	2072
Uttar Pradesh	559	836	53	185	1633
West Bengal	887	737	77	378	2079
ALL INDIA	819	969	91	236	2115

Source: NSS Report No. 497: Income, Expenditure and Productive assets of Farmer Households, 2003.

#### **Onion held up for clearance at Mumbai port**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that when shortage of onion was causing spurt in selling prices in December, 2010, tonnes of onion was held up for clearance at Navi Mumbai Port which denied its access to market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it was a deliberate effort to create shortage or otherwise; and

(d) if otherwise, why concerned authorities could not act promptly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (d) Containers received from Pakistan are required to undergo a 100% scanning at facilities located at the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) - Container Freight Station (CFS) in Mumbai. However, the onion importers did not use CWC-CFS, warranting additional movement of containers from the designated CFS to CWC-CFS and back to the designated CFS before completing other necessary formalities of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), plant quarantine and customs clearances. The customs, plant quarantine and FSSAI accorded necessary clearances without any delay on their part.

#### **Recommendations of Government panel on farm production**

470. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any panel of Government on farm production has recommended cheaper farm loans at 4 per cent and a minimum support price at 50 per cent over the actual cost of cultivation for boosting farm productivity in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by this panel and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Working Group on Agriculture Production has recommended (Chairman: Chief Minister, Haryana) that credit should be made available for agricultural loans at not more than 4% per annum rate of interest. This Working Group has further recommended review of methodology adopted by Commission for Agriculture Cost and Prices (CACP) and has, for this purpose, supported adoption of National Commission on Farmers' report suggesting 50% higher price over the actual cost of cultivation or use of Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) formula.

The recommendations of the Working Group are under examination and Core Group of Chief Ministers, which constituted the Working Group, is still to consider the same.

#### **Allocation of budget for agriculture sector**

†471. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of population dependent upon agriculture; and
- (b) the details of percentage of total budget allocated for agriculture sector by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) As per Census 2001, the percentage of population employed in agriculture was 58.2% out of a total worker population of 402.2 million in the country.

(b) The share of the Agriculture Sector, comprising of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries and Department of Agricultural Research and Education in the total central plan outlay was 2.2% and 2.3% respectively in 2009-10 and 2010-11.

#### **Production of rabi crops**

†472. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of probable decrease or increase in the production of rabi crops this year in comparison to that of last year and how far this year will be successful in getting rid of the crisis of foodgrains in the country;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether there is possibility of decrease in the prices of foodgrains after the arrival of rabi crops and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has conducted any study regarding shrinking land area for farming and the steps being taken by Government to get rid of the problem of limited cultivable land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) As per 2nd Advance Estimates released on 9th February, 2011, production of foodgrains during Rabi 2010-11 is estimated to be marginally higher at 114.90 million tonnes as compared to 114.16 million tonnes during 2009-10. However, on account of considerably better production performance during Kharif 2010-11 as compared to Kharif 2009-10, the overall production of foodgrains during the current year is significantly higher than last year. As per 2nd Advance Estimates, total production of foodgrains in the country during the current year *i.e.* during 2010-11 is estimated at 232.37 million tonnes as compared to foodgrains production of 218.11 million tonnes during 2009-10 *i.e.* an increase of 13.96 million tonnes (6.01%). If weather situation during the current Rabi season continues to be favourable, the improved availability of foodgrains in the country is likely to have stabilizing impact on their prices.

(c) Ministry of Agriculture has not conducted any special survey regarding shrinking of land area for farming purposes. However, as a part of regular collection of data on agricultural statistics, the information on cultivable land is also reported to Ministry of Agriculture by the State Governments.

Although there is a decrease of about 7 million hectares in the arable/cultivable land from 189.64 million hectares in 1950-51 to 182.38 million hectares in 2008-09, the total/gross cropped area has increased from 131.89 million hectares in 1950-51 to 195.10 million hectares in 2008-09 with an increase in cropping intensity from 111.1% in 1950-51 to 138.0% in 2008-09.

With a view to prevent the use of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes and sustaining food security across the country, the Ministry of Agriculture has formulated a National Policy for Farmers-2007 (NPF-2007), which envisages that prime farm land must be conserved for agriculture except under exceptional circumstances, provided that the agencies that are provided with agricultural land for non-agricultural projects should compensate for treatment and full development of equivalent degraded/wastelands elsewhere. Further, for non-agricultural purposes, as far as possible, land with low biological potential for farming should be earmarked and allocated.

Similarly, Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Land Resources has developed a National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 which envisages that only the minimum area of land commensurate with the purpose of a project may be acquired and, as far as possible, projects may be set up on wasteland, degraded land or

un-irrigated land. Acquisition of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes in the projects may be kept to the minimum; multi-cropped land may be avoided to the extent possible for such purposes and acquisition of irrigated land, if unavoidable, may be kept to the minimum.

#### **Audit objection**

473. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of audit objections as contained in CA 15 of 2008-09 in two parts viz. development commercial Horticulture through production and post harvest management scheme and implementation of price support scheme operational for mustard seeds during Rabi-2005 as reported in Ministry's Annual Report 2009-10 (Annexure 2.5) without Government's observations thereon;

(b) what are Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether there is any other pending audit objection, if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) As per Statement-I and Statement-II (*See* below).

(b) Action Taken Note (ATN) has been submitted to the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG).

(c) There is no other audit objection pending in the report under reference.

#### ***Statement***

##### ***National Horticulture Board, Gurgaon***

##### ***Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management Scheme***

- (i) The National Horticulture Board (NHB) did not formulate any physical and financial targets for assessing the performance of the scheme.
- (ii) There were inordinate delays of three to 23 months in finalization of cases for issue of Letters of Intent (LsOI) in 292 cases out of 1372 cases test-checked in audit. Delay in issuance of LsOI deprived the beneficiaries from receiving the subsidies in time, which in turn resulted in delayed completion of their projects.
- (iii) There were cases of misappropriation of subsidy amounting to Rs. 10.30 crore in the North Eastern States.
- (iv) Subsidy of Rs. 4.23 crore was paid to beneficiaries in respect of cultivation of seasonal/short duration crops in open fields in contravention of the operational guidelines of the scheme.

- (v) NHB released subsidy of Rs. 87.36 lakh in eight cases without adhering to the norms of term loans.
- (vi) Although NHB succeeded in developing commercial horticulture through production in Maharashtra and Karnataka, it remained ineffective in implementing the scheme in many States and also in covering postharvest management activities.
- (vii) NHB could not make much headway in improving linkages between horticulture producers and marketers and creating integrated networks for marketing of horticulture produce.
- (viii) NHB failed to attract projects from priority area viz export-oriented units, co-operative sectors etc.

### ***Statement-II***

*National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India  
(NAFED)*

#### **Audit Findings**

Audit examination of PSS operations pertaining to mustard seed during Rabi season 2005 was made in pursuance of the request (January 2006) of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture. Test check of the records of 26 procurement centres in Rajasthan, Haryana, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh and offices of NAFED during the period October 2006 and July 2007 revealed the following:

#### **(i) Procurement of mustard seed by Primary Cooperative Marketing Societies**

As per NAFED's Action Plan for PSS, necessary documentary proof of land cultivated (Girdawari) was to be obtained by the Primary Cooperative Marketing Societies (PCMS) from the farmers, as issued by the respective State departments showing that the stock being delivered under PSS was cultivated in their fields. This would ensure that the benefit of PSS operations was actually received by genuine farmers, and not by traders and other middlemen. While conducting the audit of 26 procurement centres, the Patwari records of 21 centres were test-checked to verify this aspect. In 21 centres, 4,876 farmers of 60 villages sold 2,10,722 quintals of mustard seed under PSS. Out of this, discrepancies were noticed in respect of 1,15,575 quintals, which constituted 55 per cent of the total test-checked quantity. These discrepancies were attributable to excess purchases, irregular purchases due to wrong addresses, non-land holding of farmers and tampering of Girdawaries etc. as explained in the succeeding paragraphs.

**(ii) Purchase of mustard seed without prescribing limits**

It was observed that NAFED did not prescribe the limits for procurement of mustard seed from individual farmers as per the area of cultivation of mustard. In Rajasthan, the district authorities issued directions to procurement agencies to restrict the purchases as per the average production per acre/hectare declared by the State Agriculture Department, but no such directions were issued in the States of Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat by the district authorities/State Governments nor were any instructions issued by NAFED. Resultantly, Audit adopted the average yield of the area as the criteria for assessing the actual quantity of mustard seed to be procured.

Test-check of records revealed that an excess purchase of 62,234.16 quintals of mustard seed valued at Rs. 10.58 crore was made from 1,874 farmers of 40 villages in 12 procurement centres. Audit observed that the quantity procured from the farmers was far in excess in Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat than in Rajasthan. In Haryana, procurement was made even without collecting the documentary evidence of land holdings from farmers. Such adhocism did not enable rational planning for procurement of mustard seed, and could lead to the possibility of involvement of private traders/entities as a huge procurement of 20.84 lakh MT of mustard seed was made during Rabi-2005.

**(iii) Tampering of Girdawaries resulting in irregular purchase**

It was observed that the Girdawaries were tampered within one village of Rajasthan, resulting in procurement of 903.17 quintals of mustard seed amounting to Rs. 0.15 crore on the basis of the tampered Girdawaries NAFED stated (October 2007) that as per the report, the conversion of hectare into bighas was to be worked out as one acre/hectare being equal to 6.25 bighas and they had taken up the matter with the State Government/procuring agencies for devising a farmer friendly mechanism. The reply of NAFED is not tenable as the observation was related to tampering of Girdawaries, which were the basis for procurement from farmers.

**(iv) Irregular purchase of mustard seed**

Test-check of the records revealed the following cases of irregular procurement of mustard seed:

- (i) In Haryana and Madhya Pradesh, mustard seed was not cultivated by 699 farmers of 16 villages in 8 procurement centres during Rabi-2005 in their lands. The fact remained that 21130 quintals of mustard seed amounting to Rs. 3.59 crore was purchased from them by the Societies.

- (ii) In 16 villages of 6 procurement centres of Haryana, it was also noticed that 31,307 quintals of mustard seed amounting to Rs. 5.32 crore were purchased from 1,002 persons who were neither residents of these villages nor had any land in these villages.

The Ministry stated (April 2008) that the purchases in such cases were made on the basis of certificates of the Agricultural Marketing Board/local revenue authorities and while undertaking such huge procurement operations, the Central Nodal Agency had to rely on the State level agencies and the PCMS actually operating at the mandi level.

The reply is not acceptable as the facts were not verified by the Patwaris/Tahsildars who were the competent authorities to verify the revenue records. The Ministry, has, however, issued necessary directions to State Governments.

**(v) Sale of mustard seed in local mandis by farmers due to foreclosure of procurement operation under PSS**

The objective of the PSS scheme was to provide a remunerative price to the farmers for their produce and the purchases under this scheme were to continue in an open-ended fashion till the open market prices reached the MSP.

Audit scrutiny of the information received from local mandis revealed that the procurement was stopped midway *i.e.* at the end of May, and resultantly, the farmers were forced to sell their produce of about 7.64 lakh quintals to the Middlemen/Arhatiyas at very low prices *i.e.* between Rs. 800/1750 per quintal during June to August 2005. This reflected not only contravention of the scheme guidelines but also defeated the very purpose of the scheme.

The Ministry stated (April 2008) that due to paucity of storage capacity, financial arrangements and other logistic arrangements, the procurement of mustard seed was suspended for a couple of days and resumed subsequently, which resulted in procurement of additional quantity of 3 lakh MT of mustard seed.

The reply of the Ministry contradicts the reply given by NAFED which indicated that the procurement was stopped due to paucity of funds.

**Procurement Quality and Storage**

It is imperative that in order to have an effective control on quality, the quality of the stocks procured stored are analysed and the reports of such analysis are to be maintained.

**(i) Sampling of stock of mustard seed during procurement stage**

As per the Action Plan, random samples of the stock procured/stored were to be drawn, moisture content was to be got tested from the Market Committee



and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and their analysis reports were to be obtained by NAFED. Besides, samples were to be analyzed for other grade specifications.

Test-check of the records of various societies revealed that no records of the samples drawn were available. As a result, adherence to Fair Average Quality (FAQ) grade in procurement of mustard seed could not be ensured in audit.

The Ministry stated (April 2008) that NAFED had drawn the samples but no records of the samples were maintained due to heavy procurement and NAFED had been directed to take corrective measures in maintenance of records.

**(ii) Non-maintenance of records for moisture content in the procured stock**

The branch offices of NAFED were required to maintain the position of stock lying in various warehouses under their area of operation for stock deposited/despached for interoffice transfer (IOT), processing and sale. At the close of each financial year, they were to collect the statements of stock from each warehouse to ascertain the gain/loss of stock.

Scrutiny of records, however, revealed a shortage of 20,497 quintals of mustard seed in 91 warehouses and gain of 61,254 quintals in 224 warehouses, as on 31 March 2007 in five branch offices of NAFED.

As per clause 7.13 of the Business Procedures of NAFED, each Branch Office was to keep records of moisture content at the time of depositing the commodities in the warehouses and also at the time of delivery for working out the storage loss/gain, as the increase or decrease in moisture content was linked with gain/loss of weight of stocks lying at warehouses.

Test-check of records of the aforesaid branch offices disclosed that no such consolidated records of moisture were maintained either at the time of depositing the commodities in the warehouse or at the time of disposal. As a result, the authenticity of shortage/surplus shown in the 315 warehouses could not be vouchsafed in audit, and the possibility of any mismanagement in the sale/disposal of mustard seed could not be ruled out.

The Ministry accepted the audit recommendation and stated (April 2008) that NAFED had been directed to maintain the records of moisture content at the branch level as per the provisions of the Business Procedures so that the possibility of mismanagement in sale and disposal of mustard seed may be curbed. Besides, the Ministry directed NAFED to take action against the defaulting branches.

## **Sale of mustard seed, oil and cake**

### **Irregular sale of mustard seed**

The Business Procedures of NAFED stipulated that each successful buyer of mustard seed should deposit 10 per cent of the value of the tendered quantity of mustard seed as security deposit within 48 hours from the time of confirmation of the bid and the balance payment was to be made within 10 working days. Further, in case the party failed to deposit the balance payment within 10 working days, extension of time at their request for one week with penalty interest at 12 per cent and another week at 15 per cent was permissible. In case the party did not make payment within the extended period, the security deposited so remitted would be forfeited. It was, however, noticed that the branch offices of NAFED did not adhere to these instructions and failed to obtain security deposit of Rs. 3.69 crore in 13 cases. The question of forfeiting the security deposit thus did not arise.

The Ministry stated (April 2008) that the action of NAFED had not resulted in any loss and NAFED had been directed to adhere to the guidelines strictly to avoid such situations again in future. The plea of the Ministry is not tenable as non-deposit of security denied NAFED the opportunity to fulfil the same in cases of default.

### **Excess claim of interest from Government of India**

NAFED submits periodical Profit and Loss accounts to GOI for intimation of losses and claiming reimbursement of losses from GOI on account of PSS operations. It was, however, observed that excess interest was claimed from GOI on account of non-accountal and short accountal of sale proceeds, misclassification of other operations expenses in mustard account, delayed credit from banks and branch offices of NAFED, misclassification of interest due to non-reconciliation of interest charged by the banks, charging of interest for non-transaction periods, etc. The Ministry accepted the audit observation and stated that NAFED had made necessary rectifications in their books of accounts by crediting Rs. 8.87 crore to the account of GOI as pointed out by Audit. It was further stated that NAFED had been directed to be careful in booking commodity-wise expenses and calculation of the interest on investment made from other sources under PSS operations.

### **Conclusions**

- (i) NAFED did not fix the maximum yield per acre/hectare for individual farmers for procurement under PSS operations, to ensure that the benefits of PSS operations reached the genuine farmers.
- (ii) The accountability of State Governments for possible lapses vis-a-vis issue of Girdawaries could not be ensured.

- (iii) NAFED did not institute any mechanism for sample examination of procurement records vis-a-vis landholders' records by the State Governments, to ensure that the benefits of PSS operations reached the genuine farmers.
- (iv) No concerted efforts were made for the publicity of foreclosure of procurement amongst farmers.
- (v) NAFED did not maintain records for sampling of stock at the procurement and storage stages in its PSS operations.
- (vi) NAFED did not conduct test-check of records of warehouses to determine the genuineness of loss/gain of stock on account of moisture content, to have a control over its storage operations.
- (vii) NAFED did not adhere to the guidelines laid down in its Business Procedures for disposal of the procured commodities under PSS.

#### **Marketing of agricultural goods to corporates and big retailers**

474. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to open the marketing of agricultural goods to corporates and big retailers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that model Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act also has similar provisions;
- (d) the States which have implemented the model APMC Act so far; and
- (e) how the new proposal by Government would differ from provisions under the model APMC Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. In order to provide the farmers with the choice of alternative marketing channels for sale of their produce at better and remunerative price and to encourage private investment in development of market infrastructure and supply chains, Ministry of Agriculture has formulated a model Agricultural Produce Market (Development and Regulation) Act, 2003 and circulated the same to all the States/Union Territories for its adoption in their respective Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act for facilitating market norms.

The Model Act provides for direct marketing, contract farming and setting up of market in private and cooperative sectors. The Status of reform is given in Statement (*See below*).

At present, there is no new proposal on this issue initiated by the Central Government. However, a Committee of State Ministers in-charge of agriculture marketing has been constituted with the objective of promoting market reforms in the country.

### **Statement**

*Status of Reforms as on 31.01.2011*

Sl.No.	State of Reforms	Name of States/Union Territories
1.	States/UTs where reforms to APMC Act has been done for Direct Marketing; Contract Farming and Markets in Private/Coop Sectors.	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim and Tripura.
2.	States/UTs where reforms to APMC Act has been done partially	<p>(a) <b>Direct Marketing</b> NCT of Delhi and Madhya Pradesh</p> <p>(b) <b>Contract Farming</b> Haryana; Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Chandigarh.</p> <p>(c) <b>Private Markets</b> Punjab and Chandigarh</p>
3.	States/UTs where there is no APMC Act and hence not requiring reforms	Bihar*, Kerala, Manipur, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, and Lakshadweep.
4.	States/UTs where APMC Act already provides for the reforms	Tamil Nadu
5.	States/UTs where administrative action is initiated for the reforms	Meghalaya, Haryana, J&K, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Puducherry, NCT of Delhi and Uttar Pradesh.

\*APMC Act repealed w.e.f. 1.9.2006

### **Construction of rural godowns**

475. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the present number of rural godowns under Warehousing Corporation of India; and

(b) the additional godowns proposed to be made during the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) under Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India, presently operates 260 godowns situated in semi-urban and rural areas of the country.

(b) CWC proposes to construct additional godowns to the tune of 1.77 lakh MTs during the year 2010-11 and 2.07 lakh MTs during the year 2011-12. Under the Plan Scheme of 'Construction/Renovation of Rural Godowns' of Ministry of Agriculture, it is proposed to sanction 20 lakh MTs capacity during the year 2010-11 and 30 lakh MTs capacity during 2011-12. Proposal for making additional godowns have not been finalized for years 2012-13 onwards.

### **Production of pulses**

476. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of pulses estimated to be produced in the country during the current year as compared to that produced in the preceding three years;
- (b) the short-fall between demand and supply; and
- (c) the incentives proposed to be given to farmers to increase production of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) The details of estimated production *vis-a-vis* their demand as projected by the Working Group of Planning Commission constituted for the Eleventh Five year Plan alongwith shortfall/gap between demand and production of pulses during the last three years and the current year *i.e.* 2007-08 to 2010-11 are as under:-

(Million Tonnes)			
Year	Estimated Production	Projected Demand	Shortfall/ Gap
2007-08	14.76	16.77	2.01
2008-09	14.57	17.51	2.94
2009-10	14.66	18.29	3.63
2010-11*	16.51	19.08	2.57

\*2nd advance estimates as on 09.02.2011

(c) In order to incentivize farmers to increase production and productivity of pulses, the Government is providing support to farmers under the following major schemes/programmes:-

- (i) National Food Security Mission (NFSM)-Pulses is being implemented in 171 identified districts of 14 States. Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to farmers for purchase of integrated nutrient management including gypsum, lime, micronutrients, integrated pest management for management of

diseases and pest, incentive for distribution of farm machinery including seed drills, multicrop planters, rotavators and for water lifting and moisture saving devices which would help in production enhancement.

- (ii) Under the ongoing scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Additional Central Assistance is provided to promote dry land farming in 60,000 'Pulses and Oilseed Villages' in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.
- (iii) Under the ongoing scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, a programme 'Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern States' is also under operation in 6 States of Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and Chhattisgarh.
- (iv) A new initiatives 'Accelerated Pulse Production Programme (AP3)' has been launched as part of NFSM-Pulses from 2010-11. Under this programme, one million hectares of potential pulses areas for major pulses crops have been taken up for large scale demonstration of technology in compact blocks.

Besides support under the above schemes, to incentivize farmers for cultivation of pulses, the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of pulses for 2010-11 has also been increased substantially.

#### **Policy to boost agriculture**

†477. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the quantity of fertilizer distributed to farmers of all parts of the country, especially of Himachal Pradesh during 2009-2010, district-wise;
- (b) whether Government is formulating any policy to boost the agriculture so that farmers can get more concessions; and
- (c) if so, the details of the policy and the amount likely to be discounted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) Statements showing State-wise availability of fertilizers in the country and district-wise availability of fertilizers in Himachal Pradesh are given in Statement-I and Statement-II (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Based on the recommendation of the National Commission on Farmers and consultation with the State Governments, Government of India approved National Policy for Farmers, 2007 which *inter alia* provides for boosting agriculture for the benefit of the farmers. The provisions of the policy are being implemented through various flagship schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission, Watershed Management and Soil Health and Fertility etc.

Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana incentivises States to step up investment in agriculture sector. The allocation in agriculture and allied sector which was 5.11% of the total State plan expenditure in 2006-07 has gone up to 6.29% in 2009-10.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

**Statement-I**

*Fertilizer requirement, availability and sales at all India Level including Himachal Pradesh during the year 2009-10.*

(Lakh Metric Tonnes)

State	Urea			DAP			MOP			Complexes		
	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Sales	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Sales	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Sales	Require- ment	Availa- bility	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	27.50	26.16	25.95	9.75	8.89	8.85	6.60	6.07	6.01	20.50	18.69	18.15
Karnataka	13.75	13.77	13.77	8.20	8.46	8.46	5.15	6.12	6.08	11.20	10.95	10.76
Kerala	1.63	1.53	1.53	0.35	0.30	0.30	1.54	1.57	1.54	1.90	2.12	2.05
Tamil Nadu	11.50	9.98	9.98	4.25	2.94	2.94	5.84	5.14	5.12	4.00	6.18	6.13
Gujarat	18.75	18.21	18.12	8.00	7.64	7.62	2.30	2.86	2.69	4.72	4.20	4.01
Madhya Pradesh	15.25	16.00	15.93	8.50	9.52	9.47	1.20	1.67	1.43	3.55	2.48	2.43
Chhattisgarh	5.48	5.27	5.27	1.77	2.65	2.65	0.84	0.96	0.90	1.42	1.04	1.04
Maharashtra	24.75	22.87	22.87	12.50	13.83	13.82	5.60	7.07	7.06	14.00	11.25	11.13
Rajasthan	15.10	13.37	13.15	6.50	5.86	5.85	0.35	0.55	0.42	1.37	0.78	0.78
Haryana	19.65	18.05	17.95	7.00	6.66	6.66	0.52	0.90	0.90	0.45	0.48	0.48

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Punjab	25.50	24.65	24.46	8.50	8.08	8.06	0.91	1.00	1.08	0.55	0.57	0.55
Himachal Pradesh	0.67	0.54	0.54	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.07	0.05	0.05	0.50	0.38	0.38
Jammu and Kashmir	1.40	1.22	1.22	0.78	0.48	0.48	0.26	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	55.00	53.64	53.08	17.00	16.51	16.49	2.85	3.47	3.43	8.50	9.47	9.40
Uttarakhand	2.15	2.33	2.33	0.40	0.38	0.38	0.13	0.04	0.04	0.45	0.41	0.40
Bihar	19.00	17.04	17.03	4.50	3.98	3.97	2.10	2.26	2.26	3.10	2.68	2.68
Jharkhand	2.05	1.50	1.50	1.15	0.82	0.82	0.15	0.17	0.17	0.50	0.69	0.68
Orissa	5.75	4.61	4.59	2.25	2.24	2.21	1.70	1.31	1.27	3.00	2.28	2.24
West Bengal	13.00	11.71	11.71	4.80	4.56	4.55	4.15	4.97	4.97	7.50	8.39	8.39
Assam	2.60	2.56	2.56	0.35	0.22	0.22	1.26	0.97	0.97	0.06	0.06	0.06
ALL INDIA	281.90	265.97	264.48	106.98	104.09	103.92	43.85	47.60	46.74	87.73	83.38	82.03



**Statement-II**

*Availability of major fertilizers in Himachal Pradesh during 2009-10  
(as per FMS)*

(In '000 Tonnes)				
District	Urea	DAP	MOP	Complexes
Bilaspur	2.59	0.02	0.00	0.89
Chamba	2.29	0.00	0.02	0.39
Hamirpur	3.47	0.04	0.02	0.86
Kangra	12.06	0.62	0.03	4.29
Kinnaur	0.05	0.00	0.06	0.22
Kullu	2.33	0.23	1.10	3.03
Lahaul and Spiti	0.18	0.10	0.00	0.45
Mandi	6.11	0.03	0.29	2.80
Shimla	6.20	0.04	3.62	18.35
Sirmaur	4.57	0.21	0.00	1.67
Solan	4.98	0.58	0.03	1.49
Una	9.17	0.79	0.06	3.82
TOTAL	53.99	2.65	5.24	38.27

**Scheme for promotion and protection of potato crop in Bihar**

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

- (a) the amount sanctioned for Bihar for implementing centrally sponsored programme for promotion and protection of potato crop in last three years including current year;
- (b) how many farmers have benefited under this scheme in the State; and
- (c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in the country including Bihar for the holistic development of horticulture. Under NHM,

assistance is not provided for cultivation of vegetables including potato in open field conditions. However, assistance is provided for vegetable seed production and development of seed infrastructure under the Public and Private Sector.

During last three years including current year, an amount of Rs. 472 lakh has been sanctioned for production of vegetable seed in 1494 ha area under NHM in Bihar. Development of seed infrastructure is a project based activity. So far, no funds have been sanctioned for Development of Seed infrastructure in the State.

(b) and (c) During the period, up to September, 2010, 2057 farmers have been benefited in the State under vegetable seed production programme. Vegetable seeds produced include pea, cowpea, brinjal, okra, tomato, carrot, radish etc.

#### **Need of technologically empowered crops**

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

(a) whether India needs high yielding and technologically empowered food crops which are weather resistant, salinity tolerant, targeted pest-resistant to feed its people and livestock; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps to be taken in this direction in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
(SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) ICAR is taking steps to develop varieties resistant to various biotic and abiotic stresses in different crops. Some of the important varieties having resistance/tolerance to abiotic stresses developed in different food and fodder crops are given in Statement (*See below*). Now the biotechnological tools are being used to hasten the breeding processes to develop varieties resistant to biotic and abiotic stresses. In this process varieties like Improved Pusa Basmati 1 and Improved Samba Mahsuri in rice and Improved HHB 67 in pearl millet resistant to bacterial leaf blight and downy mildew respectively have been developed. Bollworm resistant Bt cotton hybrids have been developed which provide seed cake meal from the harvested cotton seed. Several other crops/varieties are at different stages of development with different genes for disease and pest tolerance.

ICAR has also initiated a new scheme entitled "National Initiative on Climatic Resilient Agriculture". The scheme has three components, (i) strategic research on adaptation and mitigation on important grain and horticulture crops critical for food security, livestock and fisheries, (ii) technology demonstration in 100 most vulnerable districts with best bet practices to cope with current climate variability and (iii) awareness and capacity building of different stakeholders (scientists, policy makers, extension staff and farmers) on climate change.

### ***Statement***

*List of some important varieties in food and fodder crops having  
resistance to abiotic stresses*

#### **Drought**

**Wheat:** PBW 527, HD 2888, HI 1531, HI 1500, HD 8627

**Barley:** HBL 276, RD 2660, K 603

**Rice:** Sahabhagi Dhan, Vandana, Annapurna, Anjali, Dateswari, PNR - 519, VL Dhan 208, Abhisek, Virendra

**Maize:** Pusa Hybrid Makka- 1,2 and 5, Vivke-21, Vevek-23, HM-4

**Sorghum:** CSH15R, CSH19R, CSV-18

**Pearl Millet:** HHB 67 improved, GHB-757, GHB-538

**Chickpea:** RSG 44, RSG 888, S26, BGD 72, Vijay, Pusa 362, Pusa 362, Pusa 1103

**Mothbean:** CZM 1, CZM 2, CZM 3

#### **Salinity**

**Rice :** CR Dhan 402, CR Dhan 403, CSR 30, CSR 27, CSR-36, Narendar Ushar Sankar Dhan 3, Lunishri

**Wheat:** KRL-14, KRL-19, KRL-210, KRL-213.

**Chickpea:** ICCV6, Karnal Chana 1

**Guinea Grass:** For acid soil : Hamil, PGG-1; For Degraded forests and ravines; Hamil, PGG 14 and PGG 19; for Coastal saline : Hamil, PGG-14

#### **Submergence**

**Rice:** Swarna Sub-1

#### **High temperature**

**Wheat:** WH 730, NIAW 34, Raj 3765 and DBW 14, HD 2808 and Raj 4037

**Mungbean:** HUM 1,16, Samrat, Meha, IPM 02-3,1PM 02-14, Pant Mung 5 and SML 668, Pusa Vishal

**Urdbean:** WBU 109, KU 96-3 and Pant U 35.

**Fieldpea** Adarsh, Prakash, Vikash and Pant Pea 42

**Maize:** Hybrids Prakash, Buland, PMH-1, PMH-3, HM-9 and HQPM-1

**Selling of Ghee and Dhara products at MRP at Mother Dairy outlets**

480. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mother Dairy is selling Ghee and Dhara products at Maximum Retail Price (MRP) through its outlets in Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Mother Dairy Ghee and Dhara products are available at cheaper price than MRP in Kendriya Bhandar outlets;

(c) if so, action Government proposes to take against Mother Dairy for defrauding its consumers for selling Ghee and Dhara products at higher rates; and

(d) the steps taken to bring down the prices of Mother Dairy Ghee and Dhara products at par with that available in Kendriya Bhandar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It has been reported that Kendriya Bhandar is selling Ghee and Dhara at prices less than MRP. Retail outlets are permitted to sell goods not exceeding MRP under the provisions of the Standards of weights and measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977.

(d) Does not arise in-view of (b) and (c) above.

**Climate resilient agriculture**

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

(a) whether ICAR has started a new initiative on climate resilient agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the achievements made under this initiative?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has launched a new initiative called National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture with an out lay of Rs.350 crore for the period 2010-2012 to assess the impact of climate change on agriculture and allied sectors in the country and evolve cost effective adaptation and mitigation strategies. The components of the scheme include (i) strategic research on natural resources, major food crops, livestock, marine and freshwater fisheries for adaptation and mitigation; (ii) demonstration of available climate resilient practices on farmers' fields in 100 most vulnerable districts of the country (iii) strengthen research infrastructure and capacity building of scientists for undertaking research on climate change adaptation; and (iv) sponsored research.

(c) The project has been sanctioned recently on January 12, 2011. As a follow up action, a workshop was organized on Feb. 1 and 2, 2011 to finalize the detailed technical programme for all the partner Institutes.

#### **Balanced application of fertilizers**

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

- (a) whether Food Security of the country is suffering due to the declining response of agricultural productivity to increase fertilizer usage;
- (b) if so, its statistics for past 10 years, corrective steps taken to increase productivity;
- (c) the steps taken to ensure the balanced application of fertilizers;
- (d) the rationale and justification of Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy;
- (e) the total amount of fertilizer subsidy during past 10 years, year-wise; and
- (f) whether subsidy has benefited the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) Crop response to applied NPK fertilizers during last 10 years is given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) The "National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility" has been launched during 2008-09 to promote soil test based balanced and judicious use of fertilizers. The Scheme includes setting up/strengthening of soil testing laboratories, trainings and demonstrations on balanced use of fertilizers and promoting use of organic manure, soil amendments and micro nutrients.

(d) The Government has introduced the Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy for P&K Fertilizers with effect from 1.4.2010 to promote balanced use of fertilizers.

(e) As per the information made available by Department of Fertilizers the year-wise total amount of fertilizer subsidy is given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(f) Yes, Sir. The subsidy on fertilizer is provided to ensure availability of fertilizer on affordable price to farmers to encourage productivity of agriculture.

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

##### ***Crop response to applied NPK fertilizers during last 10 years***

Year	Partial factor productivity (kg. grain/kg. applied NPK)
1	2
2000-01	11.78

1	2
2001-02	12.26
2002-03	10.85
2003-04	12.69
2004-05	10.78
2005-06	10.25
2006-07	10.03
2007-08	10.22
2008-09	9.39
2009-2010	8.24

***Statement-II***

*Year-wise total amount of fertilizer subsidy*

Year	Amount
2001-02	12695.02
2002-03	11015.68
2003-04	11847.82
2004-05	16127.70
2005-06	19389.64
2006-07	28019.55
2007-08	43319.16
2008-09	99494.71
2009-2010	64032.29
2010-2011	57840.73*

\*Provided in second supplementary for Budget 2010-2011

**Production and consumption of milk**

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

(a) the number of cows (indigenous and occidental) and buffaloes, their increase/decrease (number/percentage), as per last three cattle census;

- (b) the production and consumption of milk in the country, State-wise, during last five years;
- (c) whether due to shortage of milk in the country, its price is going up;
- (d) if so, the scope for increase in production of milk in the country; and
- (e) the steps Government is taking to keep the price of milk at an affordable price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) The number of cows (indigenous and exotic/crossbred) and buffaloes, their increase/decrease (number/percentage), as per last three livestock census is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) Production of milk in the country, State-wise, during last five years is given in Statement-II (*See* below). Consumption of milk, State-wise, as available from the National Sample Survey Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation during 1999-2000 and 2004-05 is given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The price of milk has increased mainly due to increase in cost of milk production. In addition to the steps taken by State Governments, the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India is implementing the following schemes among others to increase the production of milk in the country:

1. Intensive Dairy Development Programme.
2. National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (for improving the productivity of bovines)
3. Livestock Health and Disease Control
4. Feed and Fodder Development Scheme
5. Dairy Venture Capital Fund/Dairy Entrepreneurship Development scheme

(e) The price of dairy product is not regulated by Central Government. The Government has taken following measures to augment the availability of liquid milk and to stabilize the prices of milk in the domestic market during 2011-12.

- (i) National Dairy Development Board has been allowed to import 30,000 MT of milk powder and 15,000 MT of Butter Oil/Anhydrous Milk Fat (AMF) with 0% import duty for reconstitution of milk by state milk federations and metro dairies to meet domestic demand of liquid milk.
- (ii) The Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) scheme benefit for export of casein has been withdrawn with effect from 24.1.2011.

- (iii) Export of milk powders (including skimmed milk powder, whole milk powder, dairy whitener and infant milk foods), Casein and Casein products has been prohibited with effect from 18.02.2011.
- (iv) Milk Federations have been instructed to take all necessary action to ensure adequate availability of liquid milk to the consumers at a reasonable price.

**Statement-I**

*Number of Cattle and Buffaloes-All India – (1997, 2003 and 2007)*

Category	Thousand Number				
	16th	17th	18th	Increase/decrease	
	Livestock	Livestock	Livestock	(in %)	
	census (1997)	census (2003)	census #(2007)	(1999- 2003)	(2003- 2007)
Cattle (Indigenous)	1,78,782	1,60,495	1,66,015	-10.2	3.4
Cattle(Exotic/crossbred)	20,099	24,686	33,060	22.8	33.9
Total Cattle	1,98,881	1,85,181	1,99,075	-6.9	7.5
Buffaloes	89,914	97,922	1,05,343	8.9	7.6

\$ Provisional, derived from village level totals

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics and Animal Husbandry Statistics Division, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries M/O Agriculture.

**Statement-II**

*Estimates of Milk Production*

		(000 tonnes)				
Sl.No.	States/UTs	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7624	7939	8925	9570	10429
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	48	49	32	24	26
3.	Assam	747	751	752	753	756
4.	Bihar	5060	5450	5783	5934	6124
5.	Chhattisgarh	839	849	866	908	956



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	Goa	56	57	58	59	59
7.	Gujarat	6960	7533	7911	8386	8844
8.	Haryana	5299	5367	5442	5745	6006
9.	Himachal Pradesh	869	872	874	884	836
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1400	1400	1519	1565	1604
11.	Jharkhand	1335	1401	1442	1466	1463
12.	Karnataka	4022	4124	4244	4538	4822
13.	Kerala	2063	2119	2253	2441	2537
14.	Madhya Pradesh	6283	6375	6572	6855	7167
15.	Maharashtra	6769	6978	7210	7455	7679
16.	Manipur	77	77	78	78	78
17.	Meghalaya	73	75	77	77	78
18.	Mizoram	15	16	17	17	11
19.	Nagaland	74	67	45	53	78
20.	Orissa	1342	1431	1625	1598	1651
21.	Punjab	8909	9168	9282	9387	9389
22.	Rajasthan	8713	9375	9536	9491	9548
23.	Sikkim^	48	49	49	49	46
24.	Tamil Nadu	5474	5560	5586	5673	5778
25.	Tripura	87	89	91	96	100
26.	Uttar Pradesh	17356	18095	18861	19537	20203
27.	Uttarakhand	1206	1213	1221	1230	1377
28.	West Bengal	3891	3982	4087	4176	4300
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	20	23	24	26	24
30.	Chandigarh	46	46	47	47	46
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli#	5	5	5	10	10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
32.	Daman and Diu#	1	1	1	1	1
33.	Delhi#	310	289	282	408	466
34.	Lakshadweep	2	2	2	2	2
35.	Puducherry	43	45	46	46	46
ALL INDIA		97066	100869	104844	108587	112540

^ Sikkim has not conducted Survey for 2008-09 and 2009-10. The figures of 2007-08 are used for 2008-09 and figure of 2009-10 is estimated based the number of animals in milk as per livestock census 2007 and the yield rate of West Bengal. # Figures of 2008-09 and 2009-10 are estimated based on the number of animals in milk as per livestock census 2007 and yield rate of concerned neighbouring State (for Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu yield rate for Gujarat and for Delhi yield rate of Haryana is used).

Source: State/UT Animal Husbandry Departments

### **Statement-III**

*Estimates of monthly per capita quantity of consumption of milk (in Liter)  
as per NSS rounds*

Sl. No.	State	Rural		Urban	
		55th round (July 1999 to June 2000)	61st round (July 2004 to June 2005)	55th round (July 1999 to June 2000)	61st round (July 2004 to June 2005)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2.87	3.05	4.40	4.38
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.50	0.63	1.89	1.47
3.	Assam	1.11	1.31	2.14	2.00
4.	Bihar	2.41	2.98	3.40	3.81
5.	Chhattisgarh		0.67		2.99
6.	Goa	3.16	3.19	4.22	3.92
7.	Gujarat	5.42	4.98	6.58	6.70
8.	Haryana	13.88	13.13	9.03	9.59

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7.87	8.72	10.08	8.17
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	9.53	8.02	8.02	8.31
11.	Jharkhand		1.44		3.94
12.	Karnataka	3.45	3.30	5.07	4.87
13.	Kerala	2.97	2.82	3.49	3.66
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2.71	3.41	4.33	4.33
15.	Maharashtra	2.66	2.73	4.79	4.39
16.	Manipur	0.32	0.17	0.45	0.33
17.	Meghalaya	0.92	0.77	2.92	1.91
18.	Mizoram	0.44	0.40	1.54	1.82
19.	Nagaland	0.86	0.29	1.78	0.87
20.	Orissa	0.64	0.78	1.97	2.25
21.	Punjab	11.67	11.55	9.73	10.57
22.	Rajasthan	9.62	9.50	7.72	7.38
23.	Sikkim	4.27	5.57	5.97	4.92
24.	Tamil Nadu	2.39	2.48	4.77	4.82
25.	Tripura	1.32	1.07	3.09	2.11
26.	Uttar Pradesh	4.52	4.64	5.27	5.10
27.	Uttarakhand		6.60		6.40
28.	West Bengal	1.31	1.45	2.63	2.59
29.	A&N Islands	1.10	1.45	1.29	1.58
30.	Chandigarh	9.92	8.18	10.53	10.46
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.43	0.87	5.49	5.69
32.	Daman and Diu	3.13	3.55	5.56	4.83
33.	Delhi	6.34	6.54	8.73	8.20
34.	Lakshadweep	0.63	0.22	0.55	0.27
35.	Puducherry	2.65	2.92	4.64	4.88
ALL INDIA		3.79	3.87	5.10	5.11

Source: National Sample Survey Office, MOSPI, GOI.

### **Ban on endosulfan**

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

- (a) whether Government has any plan to ban endosulfan in India;
- (b) if not, whether there is a plan to have a new study of its effects on human beings taking into consideration the views of affected States; and
- (c) the details of State Governments which have banned endosulfan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (c) Use of Endosulfan in the country has been reviewed by various Committee viz. Dr. S.N. Banerjee Committee in 1991, Dr. R.B. Singh Committee in 1999, Dr. O.P. Dubey Committee in 2003 and Dr. C.D. Mayee Committee in 2004. All Committees had recommended its continuous use in the country. Based on these reviews, use of Endosulfan is continued in the country except in Kerala where its use has been kept on hold *vide* Gazette Notification No. S.O. 1874 (E) dated 31.10.2006.

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW) has constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Director General, ICMR to examine the report by National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad on "Health Effects of Endosulfan in Kasargod district" submitted to National Human Rights Commission in 2002. A fresh view on Endosulfan is possible based on inputs from the Committee constituted by ICMR.

### **Improvement in agricultural growth**

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

- (a) whether there is an improvement in the growth of agriculture during the first half of 2010-11 as compared to the same period during 2009-10;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) how far this growth has failed to control soaring food prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is an improvement in the growth of the agriculture and allied sectors during the first half of 2010-11 as compared to the same period during 2009-10. As per the Estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) compiled by CSO, MoSPI, the Agriculture and Allied Sectors registered a growth of 3.4 per cent at constant (2004-05) prices during first half of 2010-11 as compared to 1.4 percent growth registered during the same period in 2009-10.

(c) The said growth in the agriculture GDP apparently does not have any direct link with soaring food prices. Price of a commodity depends upon various factors such as demand for and supply of the commodity, market arrivals at a point of time etc.

#### **Identification of agro climatic zones**

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

(a) whether Government has identified 127 agro climatic zones in the country based on the cropping and weather factors; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Yes Sir, a total of 127 agro-climatic zones have been identified in India under National Agricultural Research Project (NARP) based on physiographic divisions of each of the states, its rainfall pattern, soil type, availability of irrigation water, existing cropping pattern etc.

(b) Details are given in Statement (*See below*). Specifically for the state of Andhra Pradesh, these zones are as follows:-

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Agro-climatic Zone</b>
AZ114	North Coastal
AZ115	Southern
AZ116	Northern Telengana
AZ117	Scarce rainfall zone of Rayalseema
AZ118	Southern Telengana
AZ119	High altitude and tribal
AZ120	Krishna Godavari

#### ***Statement***

##### *Agro-climatic zones of India*

<b>Region:</b>	<b>North India</b>
<b>State :</b>	<b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>
Abbreviation	Agro-climatic Zone
AZ1	Low Altitude Subtropical
AZ2	Intermediate

AZ3	Valley temperate
AZ4	Dry Temperate
AZ5	Cold Arid
<b>State:</b>	<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>
AZ6	High hills Temperate Wet
AZ7	Sub Montaneb and low hills subtropical
AZ8	Mid hills subtropical
AZ9	Sub Montaneb and low hills subtropical
<b>State:</b>	<b>Punjab</b>
AZ10	Undulating Plain
AZ11	Central Plain
AZ12	Western Plain
AZ13	Western
AZ14	Sub montane undulating
<b>State:</b>	<b>Haryana</b>
AZ15	Eastern
AZ16	Western
<b>State:</b>	<b>Rajasthan</b>
AZ17	Arid Western Plain
AZ18	Irrigated North Western Plain
AZ19	Transitional plain zone of Island drainage
AZ20	Transitional plain zone of Luni Basin
AZ21	Semi arid eastern plain
AZ22	Flood prone eastern plain
AZ23	Sub humid southern plain and alluvial hill
AZ24	Southern humid plain
AZ25	South eastern humid plain
<b>State:</b>	<b>Uttarakhand</b>
AZ26	Hill
AZ27	Bhabar and Tarai

<b>State:</b>	<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>
AZ28	Western Plain
AZ29	Mid Western Plain
AZ30	South Western Semi arid
AZ31	Central Plain
AZ32	Bundel Khand
AZ33	North Eastern Plain
AZ34	Eastern Plain
AZ35	Vindhya
<b>Region:</b>	<b>East and North east India</b>
<b>State:</b>	<b>West Bengal</b>
AZ36	Hilly
AZ37	Tarai
AZ38	Old Alluvial
AZ39	New Alluvial
AZ40	Laterite and red soil Zone
AZ41	Coastal Saline
<b>State:</b>	<b>Assam</b>
AZ42	Basic valley
AZ43	Upper Brahamaputra
AZ44	Hill
AZ45	Coastal Brahamaputra
AZ46	Upper Brahamaputra valley
AZ47	Lower Brahamaputra valley
<b>State :</b>	<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>
AZ48	Alpine
AZ49	Temperate Sub Alpine
<b>State :</b>	<b>Meghalaya</b>
AZ50	Sub tropical Hill

<b>State:</b>	<b>Manipur</b>
AZ51	Sub tropical plain
<b>State:</b>	<b>Nagaland</b>
AZ52	Mid Tropical Hill
<b>State:</b>	<b>Tripura</b>
AZ53	Mid Tropical Plain
<b>State:</b>	<b>Bihar and Jharkhand</b>
AZ54	Northwest Alluvial Plain
AZ55	North east Alluvial plain
AZ56	South Bihar Alluvial Plain
AZ57	Central and northeastern plateau
AZ58	Western Plateau
AZ59	South eastern plateau
<b>State:</b>	<b>Orissa</b>
AZ60	North Western plateau
AZ61	North Central plateau
AZ62	North Eastern Coastal plain
AZ63	East and southeastern coastal plain
AZ64	North eastern ghat
AZ65	Eastern ghat highland
AZ66	Southeastern ghat
AZ67	Western undulating
AZ68	West central table
AZ69	Mid Central table land
<b>Peninsular India</b>	
<b>State:</b>	<b>Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh</b>
AZ70	Chhattisgarh plain zone including Chhattisgarh districts
AZ71	Bastar Plateau
AZ72	North hill zone of Chhattisgarh
AZ73	Kymora plateau and Satpara hill



AZ74	Vindya Plateau
AZ75	Central Narmada Valley
AZ76	Gird
AZ77	Bundelkhand
AZ78	Satpura plateau
AZ79	Malwa Plateau
AZ80	Nimar Valley
AZ81	Jhabua hills
<b>State:</b>	<b>Gujarat</b>
AZ82	East Gujarat heavy rainfall
AZ83	South Gujarat
AZ84	Middle Gujarat
AZ85	North Gujarat
AZ86	North Western Gujarat
AZ87	South Saurashtra
AZ88	North Saurashtra
AZ89	Ghat and Coastal
<b>State:</b>	<b>Maharashtra</b>
AZ90	South Konkan Coastal
AZ91	North Konkan Coastal
AZ92	Western Ghat
AZ93	Submontane
AZ94	Western Maharashtra Plain
AZ95	Scarcity
AZ96	Central Maharashtra plateau
AZ97	Central Vidarbha
AZ98	Eastern Vidarbha
<b>State:</b>	<b>Karnataka</b>
AZ99	North East transition
AZ100	North east dry

AZ101	Northern dry
AZ102	Central dry
AZ103	Eastern dry
AZ104	Southern dry
AZ105	Southern transition
AZ106	Western transition
AZ107	Hill
AZ108	Coastal
<b>State:</b>	<b>Kerala</b>
AZ109	Northern
AZ110	Southern
AZ111	Central
AZ112	High Altitude
AZ113	Problem area
<b>State:</b>	<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>
AZ114	North Coastal
AZ115	Southern
AZ116	Northern Telengana
AZ117	Scarce rainfall zone of Rayalseema
AZ118	Southern Telengana
AZ119	High altitude and tribal
AZ120	Krishna Godavari
<b>State:</b>	<b>Tamil Nadu</b>
AZ121	North eastern
AZ122	North western
AZ123	Western
AZ124	Kaveri delta
AZ125	Southern
AZ126	High rainfall
AZ127	High altitude and hilly

### Production and sale price of fruits and vegetables

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that shortage of vegetables and fruits and consequent increase in selling prices is attributed to untimely rains in some parts which destroyed crops;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the anticipated production of onion, tomatoes, peas, cauliflower, beans, carrots, bananas, apples etc., as compared to actual during November, 2010 and January, 2011;
- (d) whether less production justified the increase in selling prices of these items;
- (e) if not, the other factors responsible for increase in prices; and
- (f) the steps taken by Government to check and correct them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) Sir, there has been no shortage in production of vegetables and fruits during the current year as evident from table below:

Hon. Commodity	Production ('000 MT)		
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11 (Estimated)
Fruits	68466	72282	75770
Vegetables	129072	133545	141354

Source: NHB, DAC

(b) to (d) Recent higher prices of onion were mainly due to lower and delayed arrivals in markets caused by initial damage of Kharif crop attributable to untimely rains during November and December, 2010 in some parts of major onion growing States. However, total estimated production of vegetables and fruits in 2010-11, shows an increase as compared to the production in 2009-10:-

Crops	Production ('000 MT)	
	2009-10	2010-11 (Estimated)
1	2	3
Onion	12190.7	13147.0

1	2	3
Tomato	12424.9	12900.0
Peas	3011.0	3137.0
Cauliflower	6403.0	6511.0
Beans	494.1	782.1
Carrot	305.4	308.9
Banana	27142.0	27862.0
Apple	1772.0	2402.0

Source: NHB, DAC

(e) and (f) The retail prices of fruits and vegetables depend upon a large number of factors primarily the demand - supply position, cost of transportation, cost of cold storage, etc. The most effective measure for stabilizing retail price of horticulture products is to establish good Post Harvest Management infrastructure in the country for which Department of Agriculture and Cooperation provides assistance under National Horticulture Mission and Horticulture Mission for North-East and Himalayan States (HMNEH).

With a view to contain the prices of horticulture products especially onion, Government have taken a number of steps including raising the minimum export price (MEP) of onion from US\$ 275 PMT to US\$ 1200 PMT from September 2010 to December, 2010. Further, from 22nd December, 2010 export of onion was banned and duty free imports of onion were allowed to enhance domestic supply. To give relief to consumers, Government started distribution of onion through NAFED and other agencies in Delhi during January, 2011 at a subsidized rate. In the second week of February 2011 a decision has been taken by the Government to remove ban on export varieties like Bangalore Rose and Krishnapuram onion as these are not domestically consumed, cannot be stored for long periods and moreover farmers are adversely affected by the ban. Recently, the Government has taken a decision to totally remove the ban on export of all varieties of onions in view of the improved arrivals and falling prices of onions across the country and reduced the MEP to US \$ 600 per metric ton.

#### **Investment in agriculture for research and development**

488. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Working Group on Agriculture Production, set up by Prime Minister with Chief Ministers of Punjab, Bihar, Haryana and West Bengal has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the main features of the report; and

(c) the conscious and consistent measures taken by Government to set up both public and private investment in agriculture, especially in Research and Development, which has been stagnating for years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
(SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Working Group on Agriculture production was to deliberate on and recommend measures for increasing agriculture production and productivity including long-term policies for sustained agricultural growth.

A summary of major recommendations of the Group is given in Statement (See below).

(c) Government has taken up a number of programmes in agriculture including agriculture research and education. During Eleventh Plan, the outlay of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for development programmes is Rs. 66577 crore. These programmes not only result in public investment by Government, of India but incentivises/encourages investment by State Governments and the private sector. Plan outlay of Department of Agriculture for year 2010-11 is Rs.17254 crore (RE). Major development programmes include Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds, Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms, Gramin Bhandaran Yojana, Strengthening and Modernisation of Pest Management Approach, National Project on Soil Health and Fertility, National Project on Promotion of Organic Farming, Integrated Scheme on Oil seeds, Pulses, Oil palm and Maize Development (ISOPOM), Micro Irrigation, etc.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research takes measures for enhancement of region specific research and development activities in agriculture. The plan expenditure of the Council has been Rs.1760 crore in the years 2008-09 (RE) and 2009-10 (RE).

### *Statement*

#### *Major Recommendations of Working Group on Agriculture Production*

1. **Bridge the horizontal and vertical gaps in yield** by ascertaining these through specific studies and address them through appropriate interventions like timely sowing, balanced use of fertilizers and soil ameliorants, improving water use efficiency etc.
2. **Expansion of area under *boro* (winter) rice** by increasing cropping intensity especially in the states of Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, and West Bengal. (*Extending Green Revolution to Eastern India programme launched to address this*)

3. Assam should also be included in the Extending Green Revolution to Eastern India programme. (*included*)
4. As electric power is unlikely to be available to the extent required, it is necessary to assist farmers partly in meeting higher cost of diesel pumping sets for lifting water in eastern states. A scheme on the lines of Diesel Subsidy Scheme of Bihar should be launched in other States also.
5. Undertake an ambitious time bound programme of ground water use through bore-wells, shallow wells and lift irrigation schemes in eastern India.
6. Additional investments are required to maintain canals and to fund research on conjunctive use of brackish water with canal water.
7. Develop and upscale integrated farming systems including crops, horticulture, livestock etc. to generate both on-farm and off-farm employment for small and marginal farmers.
8. Include short duration summer mung-bean varieties under zero tillage in areas under irrigated cereal production systems of the country, and Reintroduce pulses in sugarcane production systems areas. In eastern India, relay cropping of zero till planting of winter legumes (lentil, chickpea etc.) should be focussed in 'rice-fallows'.
9. Promote production of hybrid seed aggressively and provide incentives to Private Sector.
10. Improve seed replacement rate of oilseed crops. Popularise Cyto-plasmic Male Sterility (CPM) based hybrids as they promise substantial productivity enhancement. Superior sunflower hybrids should be developed and promoted in northern India. In castor, special focus is required for the development of hybrids and varieties resistant to abiotic stresses such as drought and salinity.
11. State Seed Corporations should either be reformed/re-organized to make them vibrant organisations or should be closed to allow development of alternative mechanisms.
12. Fertiliser companies should produce right kind of mixtures of nutrients to suit the specific requirements of soils in all agro-climatic zones. Target to bring at least 10% area under bio-fertiliser application. Encourage use of liquid fertilisers.
13. There is need to create appropriate pesticide/ bio-pesticide quality control set up and to provide deterrent punishment for the sale of spurious pesticides.

14. New irrigation technologies like furrow irrigation, mulching, drip and sprinkler irrigation etc. need to be promoted as a national priority. Micro irrigation systems (*i.e.* drip and sprinkler) must be promoted as a matter of priority in both canal command and rainfed areas. *In situ* water conservation is the best solution for stability and sustainability of agriculture, and improving yields of crops in the rainfed areas.
15. Institutional development across States is a priority area for equitable flow of credit. Credit should be made available at not more than 4% per annum rate of interest.
16. Farm mechanisation is not only necessary for increasing productivity, but has become essential in view of emerging labour shortage and needs considerable support from Government. A Technology Mission on Farm Mechanisation should be started.
17. Encourage establishment of agri-business centres by Self Help Groups to purchase, maintain and provide farm machinery to farmers under custom hiring.
18. All types of tools, implements, machinery and equipment should be allowed to be freely imported without any import duty.
19. States may consider taking up segregation of feeders for dedicated availability of power to agriculture sector and making power available in un-served areas especially in eastern India.
20. Much needed emphasis to encourage use of solar, biomass and wind power in agriculture is required. It will be highly desirable to initiate a National programme on Harnessing Bio-energy in Agriculture.
21. A time bound programme to fill up existing vacancies in all KVKs and Extension Directorates should be prepared and implemented.
22. Train and Develop Technology Agents through vocational training at State Agricultural Universities for establishment of Agri-Clinics.
23. It is necessary to bring in private sector investments for developing marketing infrastructure to give better choices to farmers and for developing more efficient supply chain for better handling of agriculture produce.
24. System of Spot Electronic Trading, one of the biggest institutional reforms in agriculture marketing system, needs to be institutionalised.

25. Funds available under the Scheme 'Gramin Bhandaran Yojana' should be fully utilised to create a network of rural godowns in the country.
26. Methodology of calculating costs of cultivation of Commission for Agriculture Cost and Prices (CACP) must be reviewed in the context of need to provide economic and remunerative prices to the farmers. The Working Group supports acceptance of the National Commission on Farmers' report suggesting 50% higher price over the actual cost of cultivation or adoption of Bureau of Industrial Cost and Prices (BICP) formula used for estimating industrial costs.
27. Minimum Support Price (MSP) for vegetables, especially Potato, Onion and Garlic, should also be fixed by GOI.
28. Market for agricultural produce must be immediately freed of all sorts of restrictions on movement, trading, stocking, finance, exports etc. No monopoly, including that of APMCs or corporate licensees, should be allowed.
29. Agriculture land ceiling for corporates could be fixed at 25 times the ceiling for individual farmers.
30. Proper policy should be put in place for land lease and contract farming. Guidelines need to be chalked out for contract farming/leasing, to ensure that the rights of both land owner and tenant are safeguarded.
31. Indian companies can be encouraged to buy lands in foreign countries for producing pulses and oilseeds under long term supply contracts to Indian canalising agencies.
32. A consolidation exercise should be taken up by the Planning Commission to convert existing CSSs into a few focussed schemes.
33. From the Twelfth Plan, it will be advisable to extend the NFSM to cover all the districts of wheat producing States. Crops such as maize and coarse cereals (sorghum and bajra) should be included in NFSM.
34. Entire statistical system needs to be revamped to cover all crops and to increase accuracy of data collection and elimination of higher or lower bias.
35. A national system of collecting and monitoring identified weather parameters should be developed and put in place using RKVY and other funds. Market information along with daily weather conditions should be provided to the farmers using modern ICT tools and techniques (SMS, Panchayat e-services, FM radio, AIR, TV etc.).



36. The States may consider setting up separate Universities of Veterinary and Animal Sciences. Union Government should also set up a Livestock Mission.
37. Efforts to promote use of plastics in agricultural operations should be encouraged.
38. A coordination mechanism for Ministries of Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Public Distribution, Irrigation, Fertilisers and Power in the Central/State Government is urgently needed. A Scientific Advisory Council on Agriculture should be created under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister.
39. States may consider bringing all agriculture and allied sector related production programmes under the Agriculture Production Commissioner, for coordinating with other allied departments.
40. A comprehensive policy for insurance coverage of all important food crops and live stock needs to be put in place on priority and the same should be implemented with additional funding support from the Centre, with village as a unit instead of the Block.
41. Norms of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) should be revised and the compensation for the loss of crops due to natural calamities like flood/drought/frost should be enhanced to at least Rs. 25,000 per hectare.
42. A massive effort for building modern silos to arrest post harvest losses of foodgrains is needed at the national level through both public and private sector interventions as a national priority.
43. In addition to use of location-specific technology, suitable policy initiatives in terms of insurance, preferential credit, strengthening infrastructure and extension services are also needed for climate proofing rainfed agriculture.
44. A Second Green Revolution focusing on the Rainfed areas is possible only through a technological breakthrough in the use of bio-technology to strengthen conventional breeding methodology by evolving plant varieties resistant to pest and diseases, tolerant to adverse weather conditions, better nutritional value and enhanced durability of product.
45. A National Mission for Development of Rainfed Agriculture should be established with defined outcomes and convergence with line Ministries/ Departments and State Governments.

#### **Pension and family insurance scheme for farmers**

489. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) how many States in the country have introduced pension and family insurance schemes for the farmers;
- (b) the essential features of these schemes; and
- (c) whether Government has any plan to introduce a pension scheme for the small and marginal farmers of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Need to increase production of foodgrains**

490. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that food prices are perpetually on the increase;
- (b) whether Government is also aware of the fact that the problem of food inflation can not be solved unless foodgrains are produced in abundance; and
- (c) if so, the measures being visualized in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (c) Government is constantly monitoring the food prices in the country. Several measures have been taken including ensuring adequate availability of food items such as vegetables, moong, masoor, maize etc. As a result food inflation has come down from 13.07% (provisional) on 29.01.2011 to 11.05% during the week ended 5th February, 2011.

For increasing productivity and production of foodgrain crops in the country, various Crop Development schemes and Programmes like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Scheme of Oilseed, Pulses, Maize and Oilpalm (ISOPOM), Integrated Cereals Development Programme for Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals under Macro Management of Agriculture and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) are being implemented by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation through State Governments.

In 2010-11, in addition to above mentioned schemes, two new programmes relating to bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India and integrated development of 60000 Pulses and Oilseeds Villages in rainfed areas have been initiated under RKVY. National Food Security Mission has been strengthened with the merger of pulses component of ISOPOM and inclusion of two new potential States of Assam and Jharkhand for Pulses production. A new programme Accelerated Pulses Production programme (A3P) in the form of block demonstrations has been started to cover 1000 unit of 1000 hectare each of

five pulses crops in 16 pulses growing States of the country. As per second advance estimate compare to previous year food grain production has significantly increased particularly for pulses and oilseed crops.

#### **Purchase of agricultural production by Government**

491. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will come forward to purchase the agricultural production directly to avoid the role of middlemen who cause increasing the rate of those production in the market and less remuneration for the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (c) Under the Price Support Scheme (PSS), Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India has taken steps to enhance the reach of Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Agencies for making procurement of wheat and paddy from farmers at Minimum Support Price (MSP). It has also allowed the involvement of cooperative societies and self-help groups to enhance the reach of procurement from small and marginal farmers under MSP system. Similarly, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) along with Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India (NCCF) have been designated to carry out procurement of identified pulses and oilseeds at MSP from the farmers. Sufficient numbers of procurement centres are opened and wide publicity is given for the procurement system under PSS. Government is also implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of perishable agriculture and horticulture commodities, which are not covered under PSS.

#### **Decline in production of pulses**

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

(a) whether Government is aware that production of pulses is falling day-by-day;

(b) whether Government is also aware that farmers are preferring the cultivation of cash crops like wheat, rice, soya and sugarcane as prices of these essential crops are increasing in the market and more remunerative to them;

(c) the details of quantum of pulses being imported from other countries; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether Government proposes to encourage the farmer to increase the production of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) The production of pulses has increased from 14.20 million tonnes in 2006-07 to 14.66 million tonnes in 2009-10. During 2010-11, the production of pulses is estimated at 16.51 million tonnes (2nd Advance Estimate) which is nearly 2 million tonnes higher than that of 2009-10.

(b) The data below indicates that the area under Pulses has increased by about 2 million hectares during 2010-11 as compared to area coverage during 2007-08; where as the increase in area under other crops is not very significant in the same period. This quantum jump in increase in area coverage and pulse production during 2010-11 could be attributed to Pulses production programmes promoted by the Government and increase in MSP of pulses.

Area in million hectares				
Crop	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11*
Rice	43.91	45.54	41.92	42.21
Wheat	28.04	27.75	28.46	28.25
Soybean	8.88	9.51	9.73	9.46
Sugarcane	5.06	4.42	4.17	4.96
Pulses	23.63	22.09	23.28	25.51

\*2nd advance estimate.

(c) The details of the Pulses being imported from other countries during last three years are given below:

Quantity in Million tonnes		
2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
2.84	2.47	3.49

Source: DGC&S.

(d) Farmers are being encouraged to increase the production of pulses by availing the incentives provided under crop development schemes such as National Food Security Mission - Pulses, Accelerated Pulses Production Programme, Macro Management Mode of Agriculture Scheme, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, new initiatives of 60000 Pulses and oilseed villages and bringing in Green Revolution to Eastern India.

### **Training to farmers for better crops**

‡493. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government educates farmers about how to grow the crops that require less water in the low rain fed areas;

(b) the manner in which the farmers are provided with useful information by Government as to what kind of soil is suitable for growing, what kind of crops to get better harvest and what kind of climate is suitable for growing what type crops;

(c) the crops that can fetch more price to the farmers;

(d) whether any such mechanism has been developed in every State to impart such training in each district;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The farmers are provided with information about suitability of soils and climate for crops to achieve better harvest. Requisite information regarding alternative crops with remunerative prices suitable for the local agro-climatic conditions is also provided. The information is disseminated through Trainings, Kisan Call Centres, Farm Schools, Demonstrations, Exhibitions, Fairs, Mass-Media Campaigns etc.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Support for organizing need based trainings at district level is available under various ongoing Schemes of the Government. 598 Agricultural Technology Management Agencies (ATMAs) have been set up at district level throughout the country under 'Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms Scheme,' which has been strengthened since last year to *inter alia* provide for dedicated specialist and functionary support for extension right down to the Block level. Besides trainings at all levels and farmer to farmer extension under ATMA, 'National Horticulture Mission' provides for support for need based trainings at National, State and District levels. Under National Food Security Mission (NFSM), trainings of farmers are organized through Farmer Field Schools (FFS). Under National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility, financial assistance for organizing trainings on balanced use of fertilizers is being provided besides carrying out soil tests at reasonable rates. Similarly, trainings on agricultural production, in-situ moisture conservation, on farm water management, water use efficiency etc. are provided to the farmers in the project

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

area under watershed development programmes namely – National Watershed Development Project for Rain-fed Area (NWDPA), Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP & FPR) and Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA).

(f) Not applicable.

#### **Suicide by farmers**

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

(a) whether in the wake of large scale suicide by debt-trapped farmers in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra since 2007-08, a financial assistance package was granted in 2009 by Hon'ble Prime Minister to mitigate the farmers' problem;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the status of implementation thereof;

(c) whether spate of suicide by debt-trapped farmers continues to occur in Vidarbha inspite of the said assistance; and

(d) if so, the details of incidents of farmers' committing suicide in Vidarbha, year-wise since 2007-08 till 31 December, 2010, indicating number of debt-trapped victims post-PM's package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) A Rehabilitation Package covering six districts in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra was announced by the Prime Minister in July 2006 to mitigate farmers' problem. The components of the package include credit related measures, assured irrigation facilities, seed replacement programme, watershed development, horticulture development, micro irrigation, extension services and subsidiary income. As on 31.12.2010, an amount of Rs. 4326.21 crore has been released under the package. The period for implementation of the non-credit components of the package has been extended up to 30.09.2011.

(c) and (d) Details regarding suicide by farmers due to debt and loss in crops during 2007 to 2010 in six districts of Vidarbha region monitored under Rehabilitation Package, as reported by Government of Maharashtra, are given in Statement (*See below*) With the implementation of the Rehabilitation Package, the number of suicides has declined.

#### **Statement**

*Farmers' suicide due to debt and loss in crops in Vidarbha districts monitored under the Rehabilitation Package*

District	No. of suicides due to debt and loss in crops			
	2007	2008	2009	2010 (31.10.2010)
1	2	3	4	5
Amravati	75	65	44	20

1	2	3	4	5
Akola	51	79	87	61
Yavatmal	103	79	39	22
Buldana	42	47	42	48
Washim	24	35	25	23
Wardha	43	16	26	20
TOTAL	338	321	263	194

**Setting up of fourth fertilizer unit at Namrup under B.V.F.C.L.**

495. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the status of modernization of fertilizers plants in the NE Region;
- (b) whether Government will start Fourth Fertilizer Unit at B.V.F.C.L., Namrup as per its promise; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) In the NE Region we have only one plant *i.e.* Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL). BVFCL has currently engaged Process Licensors for conducting detailed feasibility study for achieving 100% annual plant capacity with energy saving schemes for Namrup II and Namrup III plants.

(b) and (c) Regarding establishment of Fourth Unit of BVFCL, a detailed Techno Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR) prepared by M/s PDIL has been submitted to the Department of Fertilizers for setting up a Brown Field Ammonia Urea Plant at Namrup. The proposal is under examination of Department of Fertilizers.

**Shortage of urea in U.P.**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the farmers of Uttar Pradesh had to face the crisis of urea fertilizers this year and whether Government has allocated less quota of urea to Uttar Pradesh this year in comparison to that of last year and if so, the reasons therefor;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government will consider to raise the quota of urea allocation to Uttar Pradesh and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the inflow of imported urea decreased in the year 2011 in comparison to that of last year and if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The demand and availability of Urea during the year 2009-10 and 2010-11 (April to January) are as follows:

('Qty. in lakh metric tonnes')				
Product	2009-10		2010-11	
	(April'2009 to January'2010)		(April'2010 to January'2011)	
	Demand	Availability	Demand	Availability
Urea	47.40	44.67	48.05	44.83

It may be observed that Department of Fertilisers has made available 44.83 LMT of Urea during current year *i.e.* 2010-11 as compared to 44.67 LMT to Uttar Pradesh during the corresponding period last year. As such, supplies of urea to Uttar Pradesh during current year are more than the supplies during last year. Department of Fertilizers and Department of Agriculture and Cooperation are jointly reviewing fertilizer availability with State Agriculture department through Video Conferencing every week. The corrective actions, if required, are taken immediately to avoid any local shortages.

(c) The total imports of urea during the year 2010-11 (April'10 to January'11) is 62.80 LMT compared to 48.66 LMT during corresponding period of last year.

#### **Approval for PCPIR**

497. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of progress made in granting approval to the Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Region (PCPIR) recommended by the State Government of Gujarat; and

(b) by when, it is expected to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The PCPIR in Gujarat was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on 27.02.2009. Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed with the Government of Gujarat on 07.01.2010.



(b) The PCPIR in Gujarat comprises capital and technology intensive projects with a long gestation period and is likely to be fully commissioned by the end of the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2016-17).

#### **New fertilizer sale price policy**

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

(a) by when new fertilizers sale price policy would be announced by Government because the fertilizer industries are not developing at the required pace due to delay in the announcement of sale price and fertilizer producers are not getting due profit of their cost for which no major investment in the fertilizers industry is being made;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) the target of production of fertilizers in tonnes in the next five years set by Government and the steps being taken to achieve it; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) In Urea sector, on the basis of recommendations of Group of Ministers (GoM), a committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri, Member Planning Commission which is examining options on Urea pricing policy beyond NPS-III. As regards P&K sector, Nutrient Based Subsidy regime is already being implemented from 01.04.2010.

(c) and (d) To achieve the production target of approximately 300 LMT in Urea sector, Government is examining proposals regarding amendment in the New Investment Policy 2008. As regarding P&K sector, the availability is largely dependent upon imports, although efforts are being made to maximise domestic production.

#### **Opening of Jan Aushadhi Stores**

499. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed to open 3,000 Jan Aushadhi Stores in various parts of the country to sell generic drugs at low cost;

(b) if so, the details of the stores proposed in the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the number of existing Jan Aushadhi Stores in the country, State-wise?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Government has proposed to encourage opening of Jan Aushadhi Stores with active support of State Government through Government Hospitals/ NGOs/ charitable bodies etc. in Government Hospital premises or at other suitable places in each district of the country to provide unbranded generic medicines at affordable prices for all. Till now 81 Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened in the States of Punjab (20), Rajasthan (36), Haryana (04), Uttarakhand (02), Andhra Pradesh (03), Odisha (08), West Bengal (02), Delhi (03) and Chandigarh (03).

#### **Fertilizer plants**

500. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any fertilizer unit has been closed in the last ten years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any new fertilizer plant has been commissioned in the last ten years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether fertilizer is imported from abroad; and
- (f) if so, the value of fertilizer imported for the past five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Five Units of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) and three Units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) in the public sector have been closed down as per details below:

#### **(i) FCIL:**

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

**(ii) HFCL:**

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

(c) and (d) No, Sir. No fertilizer plant has been commissioned in the Government Sector.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Urea is imported from abroad to meet the gap between demand and indigenous production. During the last 5 years, urea amounting to approx. US\$ 7100 Million has been imported from the abroad.

**Revival of fertilizer manufacturing plants**

†501. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is actively considering an action-plan for revival of closed fertilizer manufacturing units all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received a number of complaints regarding non-availability of fertilizers during the year 2010-11;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether existing fertilizer units of the country have failed to fulfil the demand of fertilizers in the country; and

(f) if so, to what extent revival of these closed fertilizer manufacturing units will be able to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Government has decided to explore the feasibility of revival of the closed public sector units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL), Fertilizer Corporation India Ltd. (FCIL). An Empowered Committee of Secretaries (ECOS) has been constituted with the mandate to evaluate all investment options for revival of the closed units of FCIL/HFCL and to make suitable recommendations for consideration of the Government. ECOS has considered various

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

possible investment options for revival of each of the closed units and have finalized its recommendations. Based on the recommendations of the ECOS, a Draft Cabinet note has been finalized and circulated for inter-ministerial comments.

(c) and (d) State Governments have been reporting shortage of Urea in some parts of their states, which are looked into by Dept. of Fertilizer from time to time.

(e) and (f) The demand of fertilizer in the country is more than the production from the existing fertilizer units. Imports are made to bridge the gap between indigenous demand and production. The revival of closed units of FCIL & HFCL is expected to bridge the demand supply gap in the country.

#### **Nutrient based subsidy**

502. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has introduced nutrient-based subsidy regime for fertilizer;

(b) if so, details thereof indicating the impact thereof on the overall cost of the exchequer on account of fertilizer subsidy;

(c) whether urea import continues to be centralized;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating volume and CIF value of urea imported year-wise since 2004-05 and proposed for 2011-12;

(e) whether Government is contemplating to decentralize import of urea;

(f) if so, the details of the proposal indicating the rationale behind the same; and

(g) the current status of proposal for providing fertilizer subsidies directly to the user farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government of India has introduced Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy with effect from 1.4.2010 (with effect from 1.5.2010 for SSP) in continuation of the Concession Scheme for decontrolled P & K fertilizers. Accordingly, subsidy for each nutrient of Nitrogen 'N', Phosphate P', Potash 'K' and Sulphur 'S' has been announced for 2010-11. The total allocation under Revised

Estimates 2010-11 for decontrolled P&K fertilizers is Rs. 33500.00 crore which was Rs. 65554.79 crore during 2008-09 and Rs. 39452.06 crore during 2009-10.

(c) Urea is presently under the statutory price, partial movement and distribution

control of the Government and is canalized through the designated agencies on Government account.

(d) The details indicating volume and CIF value of urea imported year-wise since 2004-05 is as under:

Year	Quantity (LMT)	Value (in million US\$) approx.	Quantity (LMT) imports from OMIFCO, Oman	Value (in million US\$) approx.
2004-05	6.41	152.00	—	—
2005-06	7.31	189.01	13.25	205.68
2006-07	28.82	717.19	18.37	309.83
2007-08	50.37	1732.95	18.91	340.57
2008-09	37.61	1972.54	19.06	443.68
2009-10	31.48	872.45	20.62	340.21
2010-11 (upto January 2011)	45.12	1474.70	17.68	301.57

(e) and (f) The matter is under examination with the Government of India.

(g) The matter is under examination with the Government of India.

#### **Harmful effects of insecticides on foodgrains, vegetables and fruits**

†503. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the use of insecticides on foodgrains, vegetables and fruits etc. renders them harmful for health, if so, the adverse effects likely to be caused on human health due to consumption of such fruits, vegetables and foodgrains;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) whether the number of all species of birds is slowly decreasing due to eating of foodgrains containing insecticides and water and air are getting polluted due to it; if so, whether Government has adopted any innovative idea in this direction so as to protect environment, human beings and wild life, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Insecticides, if used as per the label

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

claim approved by the Registration Committee constituted under section 5 of Insecticides Act, 1968, do not pose any hazard or affect the safety of food. Insecticides are registered after evaluating the comprehensive data as per the laid down guidelines in respect of the product for bio-efficacy, chemistry and safety to human being. The ingredients/contents of the products are examined from the medical toxicology angle to ensure safety to human being and animals and matters related therewith as per approved guidelines of the Registration Committee.

However, misuse or abuse of insecticides may result in harmful effect on health and environment. Therefore, Central and State Governments impart training to the farmers for safe use of insecticides. Farmers are advised to use registered quality insecticides in recommended dosage and observe the required precautions and other instructions as given on labels and leaflets.

- (c) No such report has been received by the Department on this issue.

**Allocation of spectrum to mobile companies at market price**

504. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in view of scandal over allocation of 2G spectrum, Government has recently decided to allocate spectrum at market price;
- (b) if so, whether changes in the National Telecom Policy would be made in the allocation of spectrum to various telecom companies;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) to what extent the subscribers will be benefited by the allocation of spectrum to various mobile companies at a market price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) No, Sir. The recommendations of TRAI dated 8th February, 2011 on spectrum pricing have been received by the Government and the same are being examined by an internal Committee of Department of Telecom. The Government will take a decision on spectrum pricing upon receipt of the report of the committee accordingly.

(b) to (d) The policies for allocation of spectrum are yet to be formulated for the purpose of National Telecom Policy (NTP)-2011.

**Non-fulfilment of mandatory roll-out obligations by  
2G spectrum licensees**

505. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:  
SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that some of the 2G spectrum licensees have not fulfilled the mandatory roll-out obligations;
- (b) if so, the names and other details of such licensees; and
- (c) what action has been taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Sir, as per Unified Access Service (UAS) License condition, the date of registration by Telecom Engineering Centre (TEC)/Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring (TERM) cells of Department of Telecom (DoT) for roll out coverage testing is treated as date of meeting the roll out obligation if the prescribed coverage criteria is met on testing. All the licensees to whom UAS licences were granted in the year 2008 and got 2G startup spectrum have registered with TERM cells of DoT for meeting the 1st year roll out obligation testing except following UAS licensees who have not yet registered with TERM cells for roll out coverage testing.

Sl.No.	Name of Licensee Company	Name of Service Area
1.	Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	Mumbai
2.	S Tel Pvt. Ltd.	Jammu and Kashmir
3.	Spice Communications Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh
4.	Spice Communications Ltd.	Haryana
5.	Spice Communications Ltd.	Maharashtra
6.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Karnataka
7.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	Punjab

As per information received from the companies mentioned at serial number 3 to 7, Spice Communications Ltd. holding the UAS licenses has amalgamated with M/s Idea Cellular Ltd. as per the orders of the Hon'ble High Court(s).

- (c) It is proposed to take action against these licensees as per terms and condition of licence agreement.

#### **Airwaves given by BSNL to private franchisee companies**

506. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:  
SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is found to

have given costly airwaves to private franchisee companies for free even through BSNL had paid entry fee of Rs. 8000 crore to Government;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any inquiry has been conducted into the matter; and
- (d) if so, the details and the findings thereof and the action taken, if any, thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) BSNL has paid Rs.8313.80 crore for Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) spectrum. To use this spectrum, BSNL has gone for franchisee model on revenue sharing basis. As per the provision of Expression of Interest (EOI) and agreement signed with the franchisee companies they are required to pay amortised value of spectrum/cost to BSNL on monthly basis.

(c) and (d) A direct enquiry is being conducted by Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) on "irregularities in allotting BSNL's Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access (WiMAX) franchisee". Department of Telecommunications has also constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Member (Finance), Telecom Commission for detailed examination of the course of actions taken by BSNL while floating tender/EOI for short listing of bidders for WiMAX franchisee.

#### **Health hazards from over-use of mobile phones**

†507. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:

SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Empowered Committee of the Ministry has warned about the dangerous effect on health due to over use of mobile phones;
- (b) whether different experts have also expressed opinion at different times about the hazards due to their over use;
- (c) if so, the views of Government in this regard; and
- (d) whether Government has taken any step to protect the mobile phone users from the effects on their health?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (c) DoT had constituted an Inter-ministerial committee consisting of officers from DoT, Indian Council of Medical Research, Ministry of Health, Department of Biotechnology and Ministry of

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



Environment and Forest to examine the effect of EMF Radiation from base stations and mobile phones.

Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) in its report has indicated that most of the laboratory studies were unable to find a direct link between exposure to radio frequency radiation and health; and the scientific studies as yet have not been able to confirm a cause-and-effect relationship between radio frequency radiation and health. The effect of emission from cell phone towers is not known yet with certainty. Further, the committee has also suggested certain safeguards.

The IMC report has been placed on the DoT website for feedback from stakeholders. Based on the comments of stakeholders, DoT will take appropriate action in the matter.

(d) DoT has already adopted the Electro Magnetic Radiation norms prescribed by International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). Further, DoT, *vide* letter No. 800-15/2010-VAS dated 8th April 2010 has directed all Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS)/ Unified Access Service (UAS) licensees for compliance of the reference limits/ levels prescribed by ICNIRP by way of self certification of their Base Transmitting Station (BTS) for meeting the Electro Magnetic Field (EMF) radiations norms.

As per the directions issued *vide* letter dated 8th April, 2010, all existing BTSs should be ICNIRP guidelines compliant and all BTSs should be self certified as meeting the radiation norm. Self certification should be submitted to respective Telecom Enforcement Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cells of DOT. All new BTS sites should start radiating only after self certificate has been submitted to relevant TERM Cells.

The TERM Cell will test up to 10% of new BTS sites randomly at its discretion. Additionally, the BTS sites against which there are public complaints shall also be tested by TERM Cell. The testing shall be done as per procedures prescribed by Telecom Engineering Centre (TEC) from time to time.

If a site fails to meet the EMR criterion, a penalty of Rs. 5 lakh shall be levied per BTS per service provider. Service providers must meet the criterion within one month of the report of TERM cell in such cases, after which the site will be shut down.

Accordingly, the self certifications are being submitted by the telecom service providers to respective TERM Cells. As on date, there are 5,53,326 Base Transmitting Stations (BTS) out of which the self certifications have been submitted by the service providers to the respective TERM Cells for 4,55,428 BTSs. TERM Cells have carried out the testing of radiation levels for 1197 BTSs and found that the radiations levels are in compliance of ICNIRP prescribed levels in all the tested BTSs.

For the mobile handsets, DoT, *vide* letter no. 18-10/2008-IP dated 01.09.2008, has notified for compliance of Mobile Handsets being manufactured in India as well as the handsets being imported to conform to ICNIRP prescribed Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) limit of 2 W/kg localized for head and trunk in the frequency range of 10 MHz to 10 GHz. Mobile handsets manufacturers have been instructed to indicate the level of radiation on the product itself and to clearly communicate the potential danger of mobile phone radiation and exposure. To regulate indigenous as well as imported mobile phones, Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) has been requested to frame standards for mobile phones under BIS Act, 1986.

Further, DoT has also decided to set-up a laboratory in the Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) for testing of SAR value of mobile handsets imported/ manufactured in India.

#### **Ban on pre-paid mobile services in North Eastern States**

508. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether North Eastern States want ban on pre-paid mobile services due to concerns arising out of lack of proper verification of subscribers by the service providers or vendors; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Sir, the information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

#### **Recovery charges for excess spectrum**

509. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether on the basis of the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), Government is planning to recover charges from telecom companies which were awarded excess spectrum;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of those companies; and

(c) the details of revenue likely to be accrued by the charges levied for additional and excess spectrum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (c) The TRAI's recommendations received on 11th May, 2010 and 8th February, 2011 are being

examined by an internal Committee of Department of Telecom. Government will take a decision on receipt of the report of the Committee accordingly.

**Setting up of more BSNL transmitters in Maoist-affected remote areas**

510. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has requested the Ministry to direct BSNL to set up more transmitters in the Maoist-affected remote areas for better mobile communications among the security forces working in the remote regions of Maharashtra; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Although no specific request has been received from the Government of Maharashtra to set up more towers in Maoist affected districts of the State, it is the endeavour of BSNL to provide maximum coverage to all areas of Maharashtra including those affected by Maoist activities.

**Unsolicited SMS on mobile phones**

†511. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been set by Government regarding sending of SMS containing advertisements on mobile phone subscribers and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is aware that mobile companies are pestering mobile subscribers daily by sending a large number of unsolicited SMS unabatedly without their consent; and

(c) the names of the companies against which action has been taken for sending unsolicited SMS along with the details of the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) In order to curb Unsolicited Commercial Communications, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) notified the Telecom Unsolicited Commercial Communications Regulations, 2007 dated 5 June, 2007, putting in place a framework for controlling unsolicited commercial communications. It envisaged establishment of a National Do Not Call (NDNC) Registry to facilitate registration of requests from customers who do not wish to receive Unsolicited Commercial Communication (UCC). To improve the effectiveness of the framework, the TRAI had subsequently amended these regulations by issue of the

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Telecom Unsolicited Commercial Communications (Amendment) Regulations, 2008 (1 of 2008) dated 17th March, 2008 and had imposed financial disincentives for non-compliance of regulatory provisions by the telecom service providers. The principal regulations were further amended by the Telecom Unsolicited Commercial Communications (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2008 dated 21st October, 2008, simplifying the customer enrolment process, smoothening the system for redressal of complaints related to UCC and imposing financial disincentives on Access Providers for non-compliance with regulatory provisions.

Despite various measures taken by the TRAI for curbing UCC, dissatisfaction on this account among telecom customers continues. Although the number of unsolicited commercial voice calls has decreased, the number of unsolicited SMS has increased. However, it is observed that the framework that has been put in place to curb UCC in 2007 has not been effective and needs revision. Therefore, TRAI has issued "The Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010" on 1st December 2010 with the objective to provide an effective mechanism for curbing Unsolicited Commercial Communications. The Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010 have been framed keeping in view the interest of the customers and telemarketers while ensuring effective implementation. As intimated by TRAI, the main features of the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010 are as follows:

- (i) Options to customer to exercise his preference for selected sectors.
- (ii) Registration of the telemarketer with identification
- (iii) Sharing of National Customer Preference Register with service providers and telemarketers so that telephone databases can be effectively scrubbed before initiating telemarketing activities
- (iv) Filtering and auto-blocking of calls and SMS to customers according to their options, if any
- (v) Disconnection of telecom resources of defaulting telemarketers and blacklisting to ensure that they do not get any telecom resources from any other access provider
- (vi) Adequate provision to effectively implement the provisions of the Regulations.

As per the provisions of The Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010, registration of telemarketers has started from 15th January, 2011. Registration of customer preference on National Customer Preference Registry (NCPR) has started from 10th February, 2011. Other operational provisions of regulations will come into force from 1st March, 2011.

(c) TRAI has imposed financial disincentives on the 8 service providers for Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC) under Telecom Unsolicited Commercial Communications Regulation, 2007 (as amended).

**Setting up of mobile towers by private companies**

†512. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any rules have been prescribed for setting up of mobile towers by private mobile companies and if so, the brief details thereof;

(b) whether mobile companies take land from local farmers/residents on rent to erect towers and later on invite other companies to mount their equipments on the same tower and charge rent from them;

(c) whether this practice of allowing other companies to mount their equipment is lieu of rent on the same tower does not amount to exploitation of farmers/residents; and

(d) whether Government would take appropriate steps to check such exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (d) As per existing licensing and regulatory norms, only Access Service Licensees and Infrastructure Provider Category I (IP-I) registered companies are authorized to establish mobile towers. For installation of mobile towers, Wireless Planning and Coordination (WPC) Wing of Department of Telecommunications (DoT) issues siting clearance for each and every site of mobile tower from point of view of interference with other wireless users, aviation hazards and obstruction to any other existing microwave links. This clearance is issued without prejudice to applicable bylaws, such as Municipal Corporation and Gram Panchayat, etc. The Access Service Licensees / IP-I companies make their own arrangement for erection of tower.

In order to avoid the clustering of multiple towers in congested areas, DoT has permitted the sharing of towers and other related accessories, equipments amongst the telecom service providers on mutual agreement basis.

Further, the acquisition of land for erection of mobile tower and compensation thereof is a commercial matter between the two parties.

**Telephone signal towers installed by BSNL**

513. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has installed signal towers in the country;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the above signal towers are enough to meet the requirement of telephones and mobile services in the country;
- (d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;
- (e) whether Government has made any effort to ensure that the above signal towers are not causing inconvenience to the common people; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) As on 31.01.2011, BSNL has installed 81825 (2G & 3G) Cellular BTSs in its area of operation. Circle-wise details are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The sites/towers are planned by BSNL based on population, existing customer base, existing BTSs, expected customer base and Radio Frequency (RF) planning for mobile coverage. BSNL upgrades its telecom network based on techno-commercial considerations.

(e) and (f) Department of Telecommunications has prescribed norms related to radiations keeping in view that no inconvenience is caused to the people from the radiations of these cellular BTSs.

#### ***Statement***

*Status of Cellular BTSs working in BSNL's Network as on 31.01.11*

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	Cellular BTSs as on 31.01.2011
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	167
2.	Andhra Pradesh	6219
3.	Assam	1732
4.	Bihar	2691
5.	Chhattisgarh	1815
6.	Gujarat	5263
7.	Haryana	2029
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1140
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1345

1	2	3
10.	Jharkhand	2119
11.	Karnataka	5677
12.	Kerala	4605
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4556
14.	Maharashtra	8530
15.	North East-I	615
16.	North East-II	605
17.	Orissa	2588
18.	Punjab	3334
19.	Rajasthan	4630
20.	Tamil Nadu	5742
21.	Uttaranchal	1014
22.	Uttar Pradesh (E)	6041
23.	Uttar Pradesh (W)	2581
24.	West Bengal	2766
25.	Kolkatta TD	1806
26.	Chennai TD	2215
TOTAL		81825

#### **Specific absorption rate of mobile phones**

514. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an interministerial committee appointed by Government has recommended that mobile phones not adhering to standard levels of specific absorption rate (SAR) should be barred;

(b) whether it is also a fact that radiation emitting from mobile phones and towers poses serious health risks; and

(c) whether Government intends to issue an advisory to manufacturers of mobile phones for displaying specific absorption rate of handsets and other important things for buyers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) Inter-Ministerial Committee constituted by the Department of Telecommunications in its report has recommended that Mobile handsets manufactured and sold in India or imported from other countries should be checked for compliance of SAR limit and no handsets of SAR value above the prescribed standard adopted in India should be manufactured or sold in the country.

(b) The Inter-Ministerial Committee in its report has indicated that most of the laboratory studies were unable to find a direct link between exposure to radio frequency radiation and health; and the scientific studies as yet have not been able to confirm a cause-and-effect relationship between radio frequency radiation and health. The effect of emission from mobile phones and towers is not known yet with certainty. However, the Committee has suggested certain safeguards.

(c) (1) Telecom Commission has adopted International Commission on Nonionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) guidelines for mobile handsets imposing basic restrictions in terms of SAR (Specific Absorption Rate) value limiting to 2 W/Kg (averaged over 10g tissue ) localized for head and trunk in the frequency range of 10 MHz to 10 GHz. Thereafter:

- (i) Indigenous manufacturers of mobile handsets have been instructed comply with ICNIRP guidelines and furnish self certificate.
- (ii) Mobile handsets manufacturers have also been instructed to indicate the level of radiation on the product itself and to clearly communicate the potential danger of mobile phone radiation and exposure.

2. To regulate indigenous as well as imported mobile phones, Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) has been requested to frame standards for mobile phones under BIS Act 1986.

3. The report of the Inter-Ministerial Committee has been placed on the Department of Telecommunications' website calling for feedback from stakeholders. Thereafter, it will be examined for appropriate action.

#### **Prevention of unwanted calls and SMSs**

†515. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has framed any policy to prevent unwanted calls;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) by when it will be implemented; and
- (d) whether there is a provision to prevent unwanted SMSs under this policy?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) In order to curb Unsolicited Commercial Communications, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) notified the Telecom Unsolicited Commercial Communications Regulations, 2007 dated 5th June, 2007, putting in place a framework for controlling unsolicited commercial communications. It envisaged establishment of a National Do Not Call (NDNC) Registry to facilitate registration of requests from customers who do not wish to receive Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC). To improve the effectiveness of the framework, the TRAI had subsequently amended these regulations by issue of the Telecom Unsolicited Commercial Communications (Amendment) Regulations, 2008 (1 of 2008) dated 17th March, 2008 and had imposed financial disincentives for non-compliance of regulatory provisions by the telecom service providers. The principal regulations were further amended by the Telecom Unsolicited Commercial Communications (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2008 dated 21st October, 2008, simplifying the customer enrolment process, smoothening the system for redressal of complaints related to UCC and imposing financial disincentives on Access Providers for non-compliance with regulatory provisions.

Despite various measures taken by the TRAI for curbing UCC, dissatisfaction on this account among telecom customers continues. Although the number of unsolicited commercial voice calls has decreased, the number of unsolicited SMS has increased. However, it is observed that the framework that has been put in place to curb UCC in 2007 has not been effective and needs revision. Therefore, TRAI has issued "The Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010" on 1st December 2010 with the objective to provide an effective mechanism for curbing Unsolicited Commercial Communications. The Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010 have been framed keeping in view the interest of the customers and telemarketers while ensuring effective implementation. As intimated by TRAI, the main features of the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010 are as follows:

- (i) Options to customer to exercise his preference for selected sectors.
- (ii) Registration of the telemarketer with identification.
- (iii) Sharing of National Customer Preference Register with service providers and telemarketers so that telephone databases can be effectively scrubbed before initiating telemarketing activities.
- (iv) Filtering and auto-blocking of calls and SMS to customers according to their options, if any.

- (v) Disconnection of telecom resources of defaulting telemarketers and blacklisting to ensure that they do not get any telecom resources from any other access provider.
  - (vi) Adequate provision to effectively implement the provisions of the Regulations.
- (c) As per the provisions of The Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010, registration of telemarketers has started from 15th January, 2011. Registration of customer preference on National Customer Preference Registry (NCPR) has started from 10th February, 2011. Other provisions of regulations will come into force from 1st March, 2011.
- (d) Various provisions have been made to prevent unwanted SMS under The Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010. Main features of regulations in this regard are:
- (i) Sharing of National Customer Preference Register with service providers and telemarketers so that telephone databases can be effectively scrubbed before initiating telemarketing activities
  - (ii) Filtering and auto-blocking of calls and SMS to customers according to their options, if any
  - (iii) Disconnection of telecom resources of defaulting telemarketers and their blacklisting to ensure that they do not get any telecom resources from any other access provider
  - (iv) Adequate provision to effectively implement the provisions of the Regulations.

#### **Certificates for radiation emission levels from telecom towers**

516. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been increasing concerns over emissions from telecom towers and their adverse implications on health;
- (b) whether despite missing several deadlines, telecom companies have still not been able to certify over one lakh telecom towers on radiation emission levels; and
- (c) if so, the action Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

- (c) It is proposed to impose penalty on telecom companies for non-submission of certificates.

### **Disinvestment of BSNL**

517. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has deferred BSNL disinvestment;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the financial health of BSNL has improved since the last financial year;
- (d) the major achievements of 'Project Shikhar' aimed at organizational restructuring within BSNL with the help of M/s Boston Consulting Group; and
- (e) the amount paid to M/s Boston Consulting Group for their consulting services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) The Full Telecom Commission has decided that this is not the opportune time for listing and disinvestment of BSNL, as such a step may not realize true value of the company at this juncture. The Commission has further observed that this issue could be revisited if the need arose in the context of any major policy decisions relating to restructuring and repositioning of BSNL

(c) The financial result for 2010-11 will be known only after the closures of annual accounts of BSNL as a whole and auditing of the said annual accounts will take place in the month of July 2011. However, based on the unaudited and provisional results up to 31.12.2010, it is seen that the financial health of the company has not improved over the previous year.

(d) The major achievements of "Project Shikhar" are given in Statement (*See below*).

(e) Rs. 37,07,07,270/- (Rs. Thirty seven crore seven lakh seven thousand two hundred and seventy only) has been paid till date to M/S Boston Consulting Group for Consulting Services.

### ***Statement***

#### ***Major Projects and their achievements under Project Shikhar Initiatives***

As part of Project SHIKHAR, several initiatives were started across different business verticals. Details of the Projects and the achievements so far are as follows:

1. **Project Udaan** - This project is aimed at accelerating broadband growth and reducing landline churn by focusing on critical areas such as sales and distribution, innovation in product and pricing and improving service delivery

and provisioning times. Expected annualised Revenue of connections sold by Udaan sales team is about Rs. 330 Cr. by taking an ARPU of Rs. 645 for BB and Rs. 245 for LL and others.

2. **Project Vijay** - The objective of this project is to bring about improvement in the sales and distribution chain in mobile business by building channel management teams and through introducing innovation in pricing. More than 4500 members have been incorporated in Channel Management Team in 21 Circles. Prior to start of Project Vijay, 2.7 Lakh retailers were doing BSNL business. But now this number has increased to 4.4 lakh.
3. **Enterprise** - This project is aimed at growing enterprise business and making BSNL as service provider of choice for enterprise customers. 9 Platinum and 64 Gold offices have been set-up across country. Total confirmed orders received as on date is Rs. 1937 Cr. Total sales pipeline as on date is Rs. 4018 Cr.
4. **Infrastructure Sharing** - Objective of this project is to tap the potential for generating additional revenues in infrastructure sharing business. Master Sharing Agreement was signed with 08 operators with commitment to share a cumulative of 13000 towers in the first year. Total number of BSNL towers leased out as on 15 Feb. 2011 is 767 and Billed revenue till date is Rs. 25.49 Cr.
5. **Project Kuber (Collections)** - The objective of this project is to strengthen revenue assurance capabilities with focus on 3-24 month bad debt and to fix billing leakages and improving collection. Approx. Rs. 214.69 Cr. has been collected till 15th Jan. 2011. Of this, Rs. 18.21 Cr. was recovered by collection agencies and over Rs. 196.48 Cr. recovered by the in-house teams.
6. **Project Kuber (Leased Circuits)** - The objective of this project is to Identify gaps between actual number of leased circuits and those being billed. Database of mismatched circuits was created and provided to Circle/SSA/Region which helped significantly in reducing billing discrepancies.
7. **Project Sanchay** - This project aims to bring about reduction in overall security costs by rationalizing security expenses. Number of security guards reduced by removal from installations with low security need from the month of August 2010 is approx. 3200, *i.e.* from 29000 to 25800. Estimated saving on account of this is around Rs.3.5 crores per month.
8. **Project Smile** - The objective of this project is to bring about improvement in the functioning of Customer Service Centres and to improve customer service levels across different interface points. Implementation of the initiative of extension of timings of payment counters has enhanced convenience to the

customers. Similarly, other initiatives such as business process redesign and lead capture have improved effectiveness of CSCs as well as enriched customer experiences. Till date, out of 3972 CSCs, 3529 CSCs have been covered in the Project Smile.

9. **Organization Restructuring** - Several changes have been implemented in BSNL's organization structure with the objective of effectively implementing the overall business strategy. This includes adoption of a business unit based organization structure. Three separate business units, namely Consumer Fixed Access (CFA), Consumer Mobility (CM) and Enterprise units under separate Board level Directors and a New Business division under Executive Director, have been created. Organization structure redesign exercise is aimed at providing adequate end-to-end-focus on key growth segments, defining clearly accountability for different businesses and functions at all levels of the organization; significant higher thrust on marketing, sales, distribution and customer care activities and creation of dedicated enterprise and wholesale business units.

#### **3G connections given by BSNL in Goa**

518. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of 3G connections given by BSNL and other companies to the subscribers in Goa;
- (b) the areas covered by 3G facility in the State;
- (c) the number of mobile towers constructed by BSNL and various other companies in the State; and
- (d) the number of towers proposed to be erected by BSNL in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) As on 31.01.2011, BSNL has provided 14,576 connections of 3G in Goa and no 3G connection has been provided by the other telecom service providers in the State.

- (b) BSNL has covered the entire urban areas of the State by 3G facilities.
- (c) As on 31.01.2011, BSNL has installed 335 Cellular Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) and other telecom service providers have installed 1253 BTSs in the State.
- (d) BSNL has proposed to erect 21 additional BTSs in the State upto 31.03.2011.

#### **Problems faced by subscribers under mobile number portability**

519. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the subscribers are facing problems from the Mobile operators with regard to Mobile Number Portability (MNP); and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Sir, after the introduction of Mobile Number Portability (MNP), some complaints from subscribers was received in porting their number. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had held meetings with the Service Providers to sort out various implementation issues and generic issues. TRAI has also issued directions dated 3rd December, 2010, regarding charging of SMSs to 1900 for MNP request, amendment in the direction dated 21st January 2011 modifying the format of Unique Porting Code and an advisory to Service Providers dated 27th January 2011 regarding offering of special tariffs for MNP subscribers. A customer guide was also posted by TRAI on their website. The compliance of various provisions of "The Telecommunications Mobile Number Portability Regulations 2009" from the CMTS/UAS Providers is also being monitored by TRAI.

#### **Allocation of 2G Spectrum licences**

520. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has ignored the advice of TRAI in issuing 2G Spectrum licences to some companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government lost huge revenue in the allocation of 2G Spectrum;

(d) if so, the details of extent of such loss;

(e) whether Government proposes to take corrective action by cancelling the licences that were granted; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (f) Sir, based on the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) and the decision of the Government in year 2003, the Unified Access Services (UAS) licences were being granted on First-Come-First-Served (FCFS) basis since introduction of UAS licensing regime in November 2003 with the entry fee for the 4th Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) licence(s) awarded in 2001 and in service areas where there were no 4th operator, the entry fee of existing Basic Service Operator (BSO) fixed by the Government in 2001 based on TRAI's recommendation. After enhancement of FDI in

telecom sector from 49% Department of Telecom (DoT), 14.12.2005 issued broad guidelines for Unified Access Services (UAS) licences.

The Government granted 122 Unified Access Services (UAS) licences in the year 2008 to 17 applicant companies in terms of the extant UAS Licence Guidelines dated 14.12.2005 and based on certain eligibility criteria specified and validated by the information/document/certificates submitted by the applicant companies duly certified by their Company Secretary as mentioned in the Guidelines/Application Form.

As a matter of abundant precaution, Department of Telecom (DoT) also took an undertaking from the applicant companies that "if at any time, any averments made or information furnished for obtaining the licence was found incorrect, then their application and the licence if granted thereto on the basis of the such application, shall be cancelled". However, based on the Report of Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) on "Issue of Licences and Allocation of 2G Spectrum by the Department of Telecommunications", DoT, on 14.12.2010 have issued show cause notices to 13 companies for termination of the 85 Unified Access Service (UAS) licences issued in the year 2008, who stated to be ineligible on the date of their respective applications for grant of UAS licences.

In view of the policies and various decisions taken by the department since 2003 regarding issue of UAS licences and allocation of 2G spectrum, no exercise has been undertaken by the department to estimate/calculate loss to the exchequer.

#### **Steps to increase telecom subscribers**

521. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of telecom subscribers has shown an increasing trend in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to increase the number of subscribers especially in the remote, inaccessible, far flung and rural areas of the country;
- (d) whether the quality of services and consumer grievance redressal mechanism of telecom companies are far from satisfactory; and
- (e) if so, the corrective steps taken by Government/TRAI in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There has been continuous increase in the number of telephone connections in the country. The year-wise detail of number of telephone connections for the last three years and current year is given below:

At the end of March	Number of telephones (in million)
2008	300.49
2009	429.72
2010	621.28
As on 31.12.2010	787.29

(c) The following steps are taken/being taken by the Government to increase more subscribers especially in the remote, inaccessible, far-flung and rural areas of the country:

1. To meet the demand of wire line telephones in rural areas, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is now laying cable up to 5 Kms. of exchange against the earlier standard of 2.5 Kms. based on demand and techno-commercial consideration.
2. BSNL has deployed Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) network in rural areas to meet the demand of scattered and far-flung rural areas where connection of telephone is not techno-commercially feasible on landlines.
3. Remote and far-flung areas, which are not possible to be covered with terrestrial technology, are planned to be covered with Digital Satellite Phone Terminals (DSPTs).
4. BSNL has deployed its mobile network on national highways, important towns, pilgrim centres and State highways.
5. As on 31.01.2011, about 5,74,673 villages *i.e.* 96.81% of the Census 2001 inhabited revenue villages have been covered with Village Public Telephones (VPTs). VPTs are being provided in remaining inhabited revenue villages under ongoing Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) schemes.
6. 1,85,121 number of VPTs which were earlier working on Multi Access Radio Relay (MARR) technology and installed before 01.04.2002, are being replaced with reliable technologies. A total number of 1,84,649 MARR VPTs (99.74%) have been replaced as on 31.01.2011.
7. MoU has been signed with BSNL on 12.03.2009 wherein subsidy support of Rs. 2000 Crore per annum is being provided to BSNL for a period of three years with effect from 18.07.2008 for operational sustainability of their Rural Wire lines installed prior to 01.04.2002 in lieu of Access Deficit Charges (ADC) having been phased out.



8. A scheme has been launched by USO Fund to provide subsidy support for setting up and managing 7363 number of infrastructure sites/ towers (revised from 7871) in 500 districts spread over 27 states, for provision of mobile services in the specified rural and remote areas, where there was no existing fixed wireless or mobile coverage. As on 31.01.2011, 7251 towers *i.e.* about 98.48% towers have been set up under this scheme. The infrastructure so created is being shared by three service providers for provision of mobile services. As on 31.12.2010, 13866 BTSs (Base Transceiver Stations) have been commissioned by Service Providers and mobile services are being provided.

(d) and (e) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been monitoring the performance of service providers in terms of Quality of Service benchmarks laid down by TRAI, through the quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs) and monthly congestion reports submitted by the service providers. As per the Performance Monitoring Report for the quarter ending September 2010, the service providers (Basic and Cellular) are generally meeting the benchmarks for various network related quality of service parameters in different service areas barring some of cases of fault incidences and fault repair related to the Basic Service Providers. TRAI has been taking various steps to ensure quality of service by the service providers such as monitoring Point of Inter-connection (POI) congestion on monthly basis, taking up the matters with Service providers for meeting the Quality of Service benchmarks and seeking detailed action plan to address the problem of deficiencies, undertakes objective assessment of the Quality of Service of Basic, Cellular and Broadband Services by means of survey through independent agencies etc.

As regards the grievance redressal mechanism, TRAI has prescribed the mechanism for handling consumer complaints by the service providers through Telecom Consumer Protection and Redressal of Grievances Regulations, 2007, which provide for a three tier grievance redressal mechanism *viz.* Call Centre, Nodal Officer and appellate authority within the company. These regulations provide for toll free access to consumers to the call centre numbers of service providers for lodging grievances. TRAI also take cognizance of complaints affecting a large number of consumers or complaints alleging violation of TRAI orders, directions and regulations. The service providers are also mandated to submit quarterly Consumer Grievance Redressal Report to TRAI regarding redressal of customer grievances.

#### **Revenue earnings and competitiveness of outsourcing services**

522. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the revenue that the Indian companies earned through their outsourcing services during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) to what extent the attractive cost structures in Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia and China pose threat to India's offshore outsourcing; and

(c) how the Ministry is planning to retain supremacy of the country in such competition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) As per National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), the revenue that the Indian companies earned through their, outsourcing services during the last three years, year-wise is as under:

(All figures In US \$ Bn)

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11 (Estimated)
Software and Services- Exports	40.4	47.1	49.7	59.0
Software and Services- Domestic	11.7	12.8	14.2	17.2

Source: NASSCOM

(b) While the salary costs in most of these countries are similar to those in India, attractive fiscal and financial incentives and good quality infrastructure services like power, transport etc. at subsidized rates make some of these countries, especially Philippines increasingly competitive as a destination for Business Process Outsourcing.

(c) Government extends several incentives for Information Technology Sector in the country. The Software Technology Parks (STP) scheme and the SEZ Scheme have facilitated setting up of good infrastructure for operations of IT/ITES units. Moreover, approved units under these schemes are allowed to import goods required by them for carrying on IT/ITES export activities as per the Foreign Trade Policy. In addition, the tax benefit to units located in Software Technology Parks under the provision of Section 10A of the Income Tax Act, 1961 is available upto 31.03.2011. Also, SEZ units, starting operation before March 2014, are eligible for tax benefits for a period of 15 years as per the SEZ Scheme.

#### **Revenue of Postal Department**

523. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Postal Department revenue from its postal operations have been on decline while the working expenses of the Department are increasing year after year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that during current fiscal the Department is expected to generate revenue of Rs. 6956 crore way below its estimated working expenses of more than Rs. 10552 crore;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to improve the quality of mail operations to increase mail traffic and revenue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) No Sir. The Revenue of Postal Department from its postal operations have not been on decline as mentioned below The working expenses have been increasing as under:

(Rupees in crore)

Year	Revenue from Postal Operation	Working Expenses
2006-07	2937.58	6738.87
2007-08	3018.54	7223.79
2008-09	3059.87	9676.87
2009-10	3133.93	13143.50

(b) The Department has estimated its Revenue and working expenses for the current fiscal as under:

(Rupees in crore)

Year	Revenue Realisation Revised Estimates 2010-11	Working Expenses Revised Estimates 2010-11
2010-11	7381.17	13235.48

(c) The details of Revenue estimated to be realised are under:

From Postal Operations	Rs. 3600.00 crore
From Savings Bank Work	Rs. 3214.59 crore and
From Recoveries for services rendered to other Ministries/Department	Rs. 566.58 crore

As regards the expenditure, the same are on account of:

Salary of the employees	Rs. 8800.00 crore
Pensionary Charges	Rs. 3150.00 crore

Others

Rs. 1285.48 crore

(d) The Department of Posts has regularly been making efforts to improve the quality of mail sorting, transmission and delivery services. As part of the 11th Plan, initiatives have been taken to improve transmission of mail through induction of dedicated freighter aircraft in the North East Region, setting up of Automated Mail Processing systems to expedite sorting of mail, enhance the usage of Pin Codes, creation of a National Address Database Management System etc. A network optimisation project has also been initiated to streamline core mail operations and improve the quality of mail transmission and delivery services. To improve mail delivery in the North East Region, vehicles have been provided. Global Positioning System (GPS) device has also been used to track the movement of mail carrying vehicles.

Other measures taken by the Department of Posts to improve the mail delivery services are as follows:

1. Regular monitoring of mail routing and delivery through posting Test Letters and Trial Cards.
2. Surprise check on delivery of mails by the supervisory staff and officers.
3. Live mail survey at regular intervals both in rural and urban areas to identify weak links and streamline the mail transmission and delivery system.
4. To cope with the seasonal mails, separate centres with adequate manpower are opened to give expeditious handling to such mail.

**Termination charges for domestic and international calls**

524. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cost of termination charges for both domestic and international calls are the same;

(b) if so, the reasons for TRAI deviating from its established principle of termination charges on the basis of cost to benefit certain select operators;

(c) whether there is a disparity in the termination charges of 20 paise per minute for domestic calls and 40 paise per minute for international calls; and

(d) whether Government has asked TRAI to look into these aspects and frame a policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (c) Sir, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) issued "Telecommunication Interconnection Usage Charges (Tenth Amendment) Regulation 2009 (2 of 2009) dated the 9th March, 2009

wherein the termination charge for international incoming calls and for domestic calls has been fixed as 40 paise per minute and 20 paise per minute respectively. The details of the reasons for determining the termination charges as mentioned in the TRAI Regulation in para 5.8 are given in Statement (*See below*).

(d) No, Sir.

#### ***Statement***

##### ***Details of reasons for determining termination charges as given in TRAI Regulation***

1. The Authority considered all the options (a) reciprocal arrangements with other countries (b) Forbearance or negotiated settlement between access provider and ILDO (c) increase the international termination from the existing rate (d) Maintain at present level of Rs 0.30 per minute, and (e) Same as domestic termination charges.
2. The reciprocal arrangement *i.e.* mandate the same termination rate for calls from a country as the country applies to calls from India may lead to complexity in settlement. There would be a large number of prevalent termination rates for calls terminating in India and settlement disputes would increase. This arrangement would also lead to hubbing of international traffic in a country that has low termination rate arrangement with India. This would not only lead to dependence on bandwidth on some routes and inefficient utilization of bandwidth on other routes but may also encourage the operators to alter CLI to show that the calls are from a country that enjoys low termination charges for calls to India. These are not the results that any regulatory authority would expect while regulating these rates.
3. The option of forbearance or leaving the charges to negotiation between ILDO and access providers has both advantages and disadvantages. It may help access providers in negotiating higher than prevalent rates and earn more revenue. It may also reduce the tariff for outgoing international calls if the service providers are willing to share the increased revenue with the customers. The disadvantages in this case seem to outweigh the advantages. Such negotiations may become protracted and may lead to uncertainty and disputes in the market. The termination is monopoly, therefore, an access provider would always try for higher termination charge from the ILDOs which may lead to a situation of non-settlement and, therefore, non-completion of calls.
4. The third option of increasing the international incoming termination charge from the current level also has its plus and minus points. The advantages are that it may help access providers to earn more revenue at the same time the

disadvantage of stalled negotiation as in the case of forbearance would disappear. It may also reduce the tariffs for outgoing international calls if the service providers are willing to share the increased revenue with the customers. Critics of this approach would cite the disadvantage of the arbitrage opportunity that differential domestic and international termination charge would create. It may also be noted that there is considerable difference between the arbitrage generated due to ADC on international incoming calls and arbitrage due to difference between termination charge of international calls *vis-a-vis* domestic calls. It would however also be important to appreciate that the arbitrage opportunity arises if the cost of the call on the illegal route is less than that on the legal route. The termination charge is not the complete cost of the calls. Since the grey market operations are not free of cost and may present ILD calls as local calls therefore if the arbitrage were higher than prevailing domestic local call rates only then there would be enough financial incentive to bypass the legitimate route.

5. The Authority feels that the international incoming termination charges should not only be based on costs but also on the fact that in general termination charges are higher internationally and also on assessment of what is more advantageous to the Indian operators and consumers. In the light of the above the Authority has decided that the termination charge for international incoming calls shall be 40 paise per minute.

#### **Proposed changes in Telecom Policy**

525. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to change the telecom policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that due to this change telecom companies will increase their tariff and common man will have to bear the burden; and
- (d) if so, the steps Government is taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Department of Telecommunications has constituted a Committee for making recommendations on formulation of National Telecom Policy-2011. The Committee will seek inputs from all concerned while making its recommendations. Hon'ble Minister of Communications and Information Technology is having consultation with key stake holders in this regard.

### Mobile Number Portability

526. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mobile Number Portability Scheme has been introduced in all circles in the country;

(b) if so, how many customers have shifted their providers so far; and

(c) the details of providers changed by customers, provider-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Total 19,79,600 number of subscribers have ported their numbers so far using the MNP facility.

(c) The Service Provider wise detail is given in Statement (*See below*).

#### *Statement*

##### *Status of porting*

Operator	Total PORT IN	Total PORT OUT
1	2	3
Aircel	162664	117822
BPL /Loop	1270	2113
BSNL (CDMA)	0	1
BSNL (GSM)	107724	257816
Bharti Airtel	530615	382400
Etisalat DB	10	498
HFCL	15	1552
HFCL (GSM)	461	1606
Idea /Spice	391191	240402
MTNL (GSM)	3793	14851
Sistem Shyam (MTS)	11653	9840
Reliance Com (CDMA)	5717	134132
Reliance Com (GSM)	31011	164630

1	2	3
Reliance Tel (GSM)	8025	52408
STel	3374	925
Tata Teleservices (CDMA)	8298	104729
Tata Teleservices (GSM)	189106	132064
Uninor	31019	24689
Videocon	5404	11633
Vodafone	488250	295489
TOTAL	1979600	1979600

#### **Withdrawal of spectrum allocated in 900 MHz**

527. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to withdraw the entire illegal spectrum allotted in 900 MHz band to the private telecom operators and instead allot them in 1800 MHz band and charge them for the intervening period as per the recommendations of TRAI;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (c) No, Sir. As per order of February 2002, the additional spectrum would be assigned in 1800 MHz band. Accordingly, additional spectrum beyond 6.2 MHz was allotted to some operators in 900 MHz band subject to availability at the time of such allotments, which does not violate above stated order, as this order does not restrict for allotment of additional spectrum in 900 MHz band.

However, recommendation of TRAI made on 8th February 2011 on spectrum pricing has been received by the Government and same are being examined by an internal Committee of Department of Telecom. Government will take a decision on receipt of the report of the committee accordingly.

#### **Allocation of 900 MHz spectrum illegally**

528. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:



(a) whether some of the telecom operators who had paid for spectrum in 1800 MHz band were given spectrum in 900 MHz band resulting in savings of thousands of crores of expenditure for the beneficiary operators at the cost of Government exchequer;

(b) if so, the names of operators and amount of spectrum allotted on 900 MHz band;

(c) the names of officials who had colluded with private operators for allotment of spectrum in 900 MHz band;

(d) whether any action has been taken by Government against these officials for colluding with private operators;

(e) if so, details thereof; and

(f) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) No, Sir. No upfront charges are levied separately for allocation of 2G spectrum. However, spectrum usage charges are levied as a percentage of AGR (Adjusted Gross Revenue) as per the quantum of spectrum allocated to service providers irrespective of the bands *i.e.* 900 MHz/1800 MHz. Current spectrum charging orders are given in Statement-I (*See* below). It is presently under conditional stay by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

(b) The names of operators and amount of spectrum allotted in 900 MHz is given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) to (f) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

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

##### ***Current Spectrum charging orders***

##### **(A) 2G Spectrum charges with effect from 1 April, 2010**

Amount of GSM spectrum	Amount of CDMA spectrum	Spectrum charges as a percentage(%) of Adjusted Gross Revenue
Upto 2 x 4.4 MHz	Upto 2 x 5.0 MHz	3
Upto 2 x 6.2 MHz	Upto 2 x 6.25 MHz	4
Upto 2 x 8.2 MHz	Upto 2 x 7.5 MHz	5
Upto 2 x 10.2 MHz	Upto 2 x 10.0 MHz	6
Upto 2 x 12.2 MHz	Upto 2 x 12.5 MHz	7
Upto 2 x 15.2 MHz	Upto 2 x 15.0 MHz	8

The above order is under conditional stay by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

**Statement-II**

*Details of allotted spectrum to all the GSM operators*

(As on 31.01.2011)

Sl. No.	Service Area	Operators	Allotment in 900 MHz band in MHz
1	2	3	4
1.	Delhi	Bharti	8.0
		Vodafone	8.0
		MTNL	6.2
		IDEA	
		Aircel Ltd.	
		Reliance	
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.	
		TOTAL	22.2
2.	Mumbai	Vodafone	8.0
		Bharti	
		MTNL	6.2
		Idea	
		Reliance	
		BPL	8.0
		Aircel Ltd.	
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.	
		Datacom	
		Unitech	
		TTSL	
		TOTAL	22.2
3.	Kolkata	Bharti	6.2
		BSNL	6.2

1	2	3	4
		Reliance	
		Aircel	
		Vodafone	7.8
		Idea	
		Datacom	
		Unitech	
		TTSL	
		Loop	
		TOTAL	20.2
4.	Maharashtra	Bharti	0.0
		Idea	7.8
		Reliance	0.0
		BSNL	6.2
		Vodafone	6.2
		Aircel Ltd.	0.0
		Datacom	
		Unitech	
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.	
		Loop	
		TTSL	
		Spice	
		TOTAL	20.2
5.	Gujarat	Vodafone	7.8
		Reliance	
		BSNL	6.2
		Idea	6.2

1	2	3	4
		Bharti	
		Aircel Ltd.	
		Datacom	
		Unitech	
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.	
		Loop	
		TTSL	
		TOTAL	20.2
6.	A.P	Vodafone	
		Aircel Ltd.	
		Reliance	
		Bharti	7.8
		BSNL	6.2
		IDEA	6.2
		Datacom	
		Unitech	
		Spice	
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.	
		Loop	
		TTSL	
		TOTAL	20.2
7.	Karnataka	Bharti	7.8
		Spice	6.2
		Vodafone	
		Aircel Ltd.	
		Reliance	

1	2	3	4
		BSNL	6.2
		Datacom	
		Idea	
		Unitech	
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.	
		Loop	
		TTSL	
		TOTAL	20.2
8.	Tamil Nadu	Bharti	
	(incl. of Chennai)	Vodafone	6.2
		Reliance	
		Aircel Ltd.	7.8
		BSNL	6.2
		Datacom	
		Idea	
		Unitech	
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.	
		Loop	
		TTSL	
		TOTAL	20.2
9.	Kerala	BSNL	6.2
		Vodafone	6.2
		Bharti	
		Idea	6.2
		Reliance	
		Dishnet	

1	2	3	4
		Datacom	
		Unitech	
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.	
		Loop	
		TTSL	
		TOTAL	18.6
10.	Punjab	Vodafone	
		Bharti	7.8
		Spice	7.8
		BSNL	6.2
		Reliance	
		Aircel Ltd.	
		HFCL	
		Unitech	
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.	
		Loop	
		TTSL	
		Idea	
		TOTAL	21.8
11.	Haryana	Bharti	
		BSNL	6.2
		Reliance	
		Idea	6.2
		Vodafone	6.2
		Dishnet	
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.	

1	2	3	4
		Datacom	
		Unitech	
		TTSL	
		Loop	
		Spice	
		TOTAL	18.6
12.	UP (West)	Bharti	
		Vodafone	6.2
		Idea	6.2
		BSNL	6.2
		Reliance	
		Datacom	
		Unitech	
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.	
		Aircel Ltd.	
		Loop	
		TTSL	
		TOTAL	18.6
13.	UP (East)	Bharti	6.2
		Vodafone	6.2
		Reliance	
		Idea	
		BSNL	6.2
		Dishnet	
		Datacom	
		Unitech	

1	2	3	4
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.	
		Loop	
		TTSL	
		TOTAL	18.6
14.	Rajasthan	Vodafone	6.2
		Idea	
		Reliance	
		BSNL	6.2
		Bharti	6.2
		Aircel Ltd.	
		Shyam Telelink	
		Datacom	
		Unitech	
		Etisalat DB Pvt. Ltd.	
		TTSL	
		Loop	
		TOTAL	18.6
15.	M.P.	Bharti	
		Vodafone	
		BSNL	6.2
		Reliance	6.2
		IDEA	6.2
		Dishnet	
		Datacom	
		Unitech	
		Loop	



1	2	3	4
		TTSL	
		Allianz	
		TOTAL	18.6
16.	West Bengal	Bharti	4.4
		Dishnet	
		Vodafone	4.4
		Reliance	4.4
		BSNL	6.2
		Datacom	
		IDEA	
		Unitech	
		Loop	
		TTSL	
		TOTAL	19.4
17.	HP	Vodafone	
		Dishnet	
		Bharti	6.2
		Reliance	6.2
		Idea	
		BSNL	6.2
		Datacom	
		S.Tel	
		Loop	
		Unitech	
		TTSL	
		TOTAL	18.6

1	2	3	4
18.	Bihar	Bharti	6.2
		Vodafone	
		Reliance	6.2
		BSNL	6.2
		Dishnet	
		ABTL	
		Datacom	
		Unitech	
		S.Tel	
		Loop	
		TTSL	
		Allianz	
		TOTAL	18.6
19.	Orissa	Vodafone	
		Reliance	6.2
		BSNL	6.2
		Dishnet	
		Bharti	6.2
		Datacom	
		Idea	
		Unitech	
		S.Tel	
		Loop	
		TTSL	
		TOTAL	18.6
20.	Assam	Vodafone	

1	2	3	4
		Bharti	1.8
		BSNL	6.2
		Reliance	6.2
		Dishnet	4.4
		Datacom	
		Idea	
		Unitech	
		Loop	
		S.Tel	
		TOTAL	18.6
21.	NE	Bharti	4.4
		BSNL	6.2
		Reliance	4.4
		Dishnet	4.4
		Vodafone	
		Datacom	
		Idea	
		Unitech	
		Loop	
		S.Tel	
		TOTAL	19.4
22.	J&K	Vodafone	
		Reliance	
		BSNL	8.0
		Dishnet	4.4
		Bharti	6.2

1	2	3	4
		Datacom	
		Idea	
		Unitech	
		Loop	
		S.Tel	
		TOTAL	18.6

**New schemes introduced by MTNL/BSNL to counter competition**

529. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new scheme has been introduced by MTNL/BSNL to counter the extremely strong competition being posed by various telecom operators in the private sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has recently launched very attractive mobile promotional plan "PYARI JODI" to counter the strong competition being posed by various telecom operators in the private sector. Under this scheme, there is unlimited free call facility to one BSNL landline or Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) number from mobile and Subscriber Identity Module (SIM)/Activation is free through BSNL Customer Service Centre. Likewise various tariff plan/schemes launched by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) are as under:

- (i) 3G tariff plans for Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM) service.
- (ii) Pay per second plans for GSM service.
- (iii) International Long Distance tariff reduced.
- (iv) Waived off of 3G activation charges to all existing 2G customers and provided 3G to all customers.
- (v) Dolphin/Trump (GSM postpaid/prepaid) bundling with 3G MTNL Data Card.

(vi) Prepaid high speed Internet "Power Connect" Trump (GSM Prepaid) one for all.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

**Radiation Certificate for cell phone towers**

530. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 1.5 lakh cell towers were yet to get radiation certificate;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government against erring service providers; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that no action has been taken by the telecom private service providers to get the radiation certificate inspite of several deadlines given to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) At present there are around 1 lakh cell towers for which the certificates are yet to be received from service providers.

(b) Service Area-wise summary of total cell towers and certificates received thereof is given in Statement (*See* below). It is proposed to impose penalty on the erring service providers.

(c) The service providers have submitted radiation certificates for 4,66,045 cell towers out of 5,74,025 so far.

***Statement***

*Service Area-wise summary of Total cell towers and self certificates submitted so far*

Sl. No.	Name of LSA	Total cell towers as on date	Number of self certificate submitted so far
1	2	3	4
1.	Assam	61544	51008
2.	Bihar	35515	24778
3.	Chennai	14326	14326
4.	Delhi	16425	6763
5	Gujarat	32371	28116

1	2	3	4
6.	Haryana	15184	11555
7.	Himachal Pradesh	5578	5578
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	8235	7987
9.	Karnataka	39142	14628
10.	Kerala	26780	22813
11.	Kolkata	13968	12606
12.	Madhya Pradesh	34173	33632
13.	Maharashtra	41124	31498
14.	Mumbai	18292	0
15.	NE-I	3320	3285
16.	NE-2	2471	2220
17.	Orissa	18677	18330
18.	Punjab	23880	22841
19.	Rajasthan	29446	23156
20.	Tamil Nadu	37476	37476
21.	Uttar Pradesh East	40364	36704
22.	Uttar Pradesh West	30795	24378
23.	West Bengal	24939	22367
TOTAL		574025	466045

#### Export by FPI

†531. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:  
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a steady rise in the exports done by food processing industry for the past few years;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Government has provided different types of monetary relaxations to this industry to encourage their export;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the quantity of products exported during the years 2008-09, 2009-10 and upto December month of financial year 2010-11; and

(d) the foreign exchange earned from the exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir. There has been a steady rise in the exports done by food processing industry upto 2008-09. During 2009-10 a decline was noticed which was primarily due to global recession. However, in 2010-11 there appears to be signs of slight increase in the exports of processed foods.

(b) Yes, Sir. Government has provided following fiscal incentives to processed food industry to encourage the exports.-

- (i) EPCG scheme has been extended to processed food products with a zero duty and status Holder Incentive Schemes has also been introduced for the processed food sector.
- (ii) Addition of new markets under the Focus Market Scheme *i.e.* coverage of Africa, Latin America and large part of Oceania. Under this (FMS) Scheme available incentives were increased from 2.5% to 3% and from 1.25% to 2% under Market Linked Focus Products Scheme (MLFPS).
- (iii) Excise duty and VAT are exempted in majority of the processed food products.
- (iv) APEDA provides financial assistance under their schemes for promotion of exports:
  - Scheme for Market Development
  - Scheme for Infrastructure Development
  - Scheme for Quality Development
  - Scheme for Research and Development
  - Transport Assistance Scheme

(c) and (d) The quantity of products exported and its value for 2008-09, 2009-10 and upto October month of 2010-11 given below:-

(Qty in MT and Value in Rs. Lakh)

Product	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Value (Apr.-Oct.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Processed fruits and vegetables	844881.31	316351.91 (687.87)	808920.46	312051.35 (658.33)	154803.21 (336.53)

1	2	3	4	5	6
Other processed foods	2433913.43	690204.79 (1500.77)	1016333.64	518677.64 (1094.25)	397899.05 (865.00)
TOTAL	3278794.74	1006556.7 (2188.64)	1825254.1	83072.99 (1752.58)	552702.26 (1201.53)

Figures in Parenthesis are in terms of million US \$

### Growth of FPIs

†532. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:  
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that along with companies of big industrial houses including MNCs are engaged in production work in food processing industry in the country;
- if so, the details thereof;
- the average annual turnover of food processing industry in the country and the average annual growth rate to turnover during the last five years; and
- the share of small and medium scale industries in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is fact that companies of big industrial houses and MNCs are engaged in Food Processing Sector in the country. List of some of the leading companies of big industrial houses and MNCs is given Statement (*See* below).

(c) As per the competitiveness report of National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council (NMCC) there are 25,367 registered food processing units in the country whose total invested capital is Rs. 84,094 crores, Annual turnover is Rs. 204,267 crores. Annual average growth rate of food processing sector was 7% in 2004 which has gone up to over 14% in 2010. Ministry of Food Processing Industries do not maintain data on annual turnover of the Food Processing Industries.

(d) Share of Small Scale Industries (SSI) units in food processing sector is 33%.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



***Statement***

*List of some of leading Food Processing Companies in India having  
net worth of more than Rs, 10 crore*

1. Fritolays India Pvt. Ltd.
2. Nestle India Pvt. Ltd.
3. Cadbury India Pvt. Ltd.
4. Britannia Industries Ltd.
5. KRBL Limited
6. Temptation Foods Limited
7. Chordia Foods Products Limited
8. ITC Limited - Food Business Division
9. Pagro Foods Pvt. Ltd.
10. Dabur India Ltd.
11. Hindustan Uniliver Limited
12. Parle Agro Products Pvt. Ltd.
13. Godrej Beverages and Foods Limited
14. Keventer Agro
15. Haldiram Foods Pvt. Ltd.
16. Glaxo Smithkline Consumer Health Care
17. Capital Foods Limited
18. Mapro Foods Pvt. Limited
19. Agro Tech Foods Limited
20. Al Kabeer Exports Pvt. Ltd.
21. Shakti Bhog Food Limited
22. Kwaliti Dairy India Limited
23. Sunstar Overseas Limited
24. VRS Foods Limited
25. L.T. Overseas Limited
26. Amira Foods (India) Limited
27. Kohinoor Foods Limited

28. REI Agro Ltd.
29. Bush Foods Overseas Pvt. Ltd.
30. Santosh Overseas Ltd.
31. Fun Foods Pvt. Ltd.
32. DFM Foods Ltd.
33. New Bharat Rice Mills
34. Hind Agro Industries Limited
35. Amir Chand Jagdish Kumar Exports
36. Cargill India Pvt. Ltd.
37. Dharampal Satyapal Group
38. Emmsons International Limited
39. G.M. Overseas
40. Rajdhani Flour Mills Ltd.

**Introduction of trade in ITI's related to food processing sector**

533. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether on 12th February, 2008 Government had received a proposed project involving a cost of Rs. 2047.36 lakhs for introduction of trade in ITI's related to food processing sector;
- (b) if so, the present status in this regard and the reasons for delay in according sanction to the project; and
- (c) the time by which the project is likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) A proposal was received on 5.11.2007 from the Directorate of Technical Education and Industrial Training, Government, of Punjab for introduction of trades in 38 ITIs relating to food processing sector and conduct of Entrepreneurship Development Programme in 34 ITIs with a total cost of Rs. 2047.36 lakhs in the Ministry.

(b) The proposal was not as per Eleventh Plan scheme guidelines of the Ministry for extending financial assistance for running degree/diploma courses in food processing. Accordingly they were invited for presentation cum discussion on the proposal.

(c) Since no response was forthcoming despite many reminders (letters and emails), the case is proposed to be closed.

### **Quality of education under RTE Act**

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

(a) whether Government has ensured quality of education especially in rural areas, while implementing the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to recruit quality teachers and to provide quality infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has become operative with effect from 1st April, 2010. The RTE Act provides that every child in the 6-14 age group shall have a right to free and compulsory education till completion of elementary education. It prescribes norms and standards for Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR), school infrastructure and facilities. It lays down that the curriculum and evaluation process shall be in accordance with the values enshrined in the Constitution of India, and shall take into account the all-round development of the child, build on the child's knowledge, potentiality and talent, provide for learning through activities, discovery and exploration, and shall make the child free of fear, trauma and anxiety. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Framework of Implementation has been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act, 2009 in terms of provisioning for additional teachers, classrooms and facilities in schools, as well as quality interventions.

The additional requirement of teachers in elementary schools, pursuant to the enforcement of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, has been estimated at 5.08 lakh. To ensure the availability of quality teachers National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has laid down the teacher qualifications under section 23 of the RTE Act. States would need to follow the prescribed teacher qualifications in all future recruitments. One of the essential qualifications for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher is that he/she should pass the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) to be conducted by the appropriate Government. Guidelines for the TET have been notified, and are available on the website: [www.mhrd.nic.in](http://www.mhrd.nic.in)

### **Insurance for school teachers**

535. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has not approved Government's ambitious scheme of providing health and life insurance to school teachers in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission has acknowledged that school teachers are important stakeholders in our country's development and intimated that the proposal to introduce a life-insurance-cum-endowment scheme for school teachers is under examination in the Planning Commission. The proposal for health insurance for the school teachers has not been sent by this Ministry to the Planning Commission.

**Indian students being cheated by fraudulent educational institutions**

536. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the complaints of Indian students being cheated by fraudulent educational institutions stretching across continents offering worthless degrees, the latest being the case of Tri-Valley University in California;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken to see that ambitious Indian students seeking foreign degrees are not cheated by such fictitious institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. However, only one case has been officially reported in recent times about Indian students being cheated by fraudulent educational institutions abroad. The Tri Valley University in California, which was closed down on 19 January 2011 for alleged fraudulent practices by authorities in the United States, had enrolled approximately 1500 Indian students. The Government has repeatedly raised with the U.S. Government, including during the recent visits of External Affairs Minister and the Foreign Secretary, its strong concerns in the matter as well as the welfare of the students and their academic future in the United States. The United States Government has conveyed that it would seek to provide innocent students an adequate opportunity to transfer to other universities, adjust their status or, otherwise, leave the country honourably. The Government expects the US Government to take steps to prevent such universities from being set up and exploiting foreign students. Government also hopes that Indian students will exercise due vigilance in applying to foreign universities.

### **Universalisation of school education through RTE Act**

537. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study to assess the impact of implementation of the policy of universalisation of school education through the Right to Education (RTE) Act in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has come into force *w.e.f.* 1st April, 2010 only. It is premature to conduct any study on the impact of RTE Act at this stage.

(b) Question does not arise.

### **Indian students being forced to wear radio collars**

†538. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Indian students are forced to wear radio collars after being cheated by a California based University in USA so that the administration can keep watch on their activities;

(b) if so, the total number of such students;

(c) whether Government has taken up the matter of such inhuman behaviour with the administrative authorities of USA; and

(d) if so, the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Approximately, 1500 Indian students were enrolled at the Tri Valley University in California, which was closed by the United States Government on 19 January, 2011 for alleged fraudulent practices. A number of Indian students were questioned and 18 of them, facing investigation in case, were initially detained and then released with radio monitoring devices on their ankles.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has repeatedly raised with the U.S. Government, including during the recent visits of External Affairs Minister and the Foreign Secretary, its strong concerns about radio tagging, welfare of the students and their academic future in the United States. The United States Government has

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

begun progressively removing radio collars from 18 students and has conveyed that it would seek to provide innocent students an adequate opportunity to transfer to other universities, adjust their status or, otherwise, leave the country honourably. The Indian Mission in the United States is regularly meeting students and providing appropriate guidance and advisories. A free legal aid camp for the affected students was also organized in San Francisco.

#### **Vocational education curriculum**

539. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to develop a national vocational education curriculum framework for students to help spread of vocational education in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has made any consultation recently with State Governments in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the outcome of the dialogue and stand of various State Governments in respect of spreading vocational education system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Ministry of Human Resource Development has initiated the process of developing a National Vocational Education Qualifications Framework (NVEQF) for a nationally recognized qualification system, covering secondary schools, vocational education institutes, polytechnics, colleges and institutes of higher education.

(c) and (d) The Ministry had organized consultation meetings on 14.12.2010 and 20.1.2011 with State Education Ministers (in charge of Vocational Education). All the States represented at the meetings endorsed the initiative of the Ministry.

#### **Annual Status of Education Report**

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

- (a) whether as per the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) released recently, it has been found that the quality of education in rural parts of the country is still lagging;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether Government has given any direction to the States to give due attention to the rural people in providing quality education;

- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps Union Government proposes to take to make education in rural areas of the country that of quality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) is brought out annually by PRATHAM, a non-governmental organization. The ASER (Rural)-2010 (provisional) presents certain positive findings, including that 96.5% children in the 6 to 14 age group are enrolled in schools in rural areas, the percentage of out-of-school children in the 6 to 14 age group has dropped from 4% in 2009 to 3.5% in 2010 and the percentage of out-of-school girls in the 11-14 age group has dropped from 6.8% in 2009 to 5.9% in 2010. The RTE indicators reported in the ASER reveal that 72% of all visited schools had drinking water facilities, 90% of them had toilets with 70% of them having the facility of separate girls' toilets and 62% of the visited schools had playgrounds. ASER 2010 mentions that 55.8% of the visited schools were found to comply with the RTE norms on Pupil-Teacher Ratio and over 60% of the 13,000 schools visited satisfied the infrastructure norms.

(c) to (e) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has become operative with effect from 1st April, 2010. The RTE Act is applicable to rural and urban areas in the country. The Act provides that every child in the 6-14 age group shall have a right to free and compulsory education till completion of elementary education. It prescribes norms and standards for Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR), school infrastructure and facilities. It lays down that the curriculum and evaluation process shall be in accordance with the values enshrined in the Constitution of India, and shall take into account the all-round development of the child, build on the child's knowledge, potentiality and talent, provide for learning through activities, discovery and exploration, and shall make the child free of fear, trauma and anxiety. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Framework of Implementation has been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act, 2009 in terms of provisioning for additional teachers, classrooms and facilities in schools, as well as quality interventions.

#### **Amendment to Copyright Act for import of books**

541. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has proposed some amendments in the Copyright Amendment Bill-2010 which make it easier to import books in the country;
- (b) whether proposed amendments to the Act will make the Indian market a dumping ground from bigger publishing countries like the U.S. and U.K.; and

- (c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes Sir. A proposal to amend Section 2 (m) of the Copyright Act, 1957 is included in the Copyright Amendment Bill - 2010 which was tabled in Rajya Sabha on 19 April, 2010. The same was referred to the Department Related Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on 23 April, 2010 for examination and the Committee has submitted its report on 23rd November, 2010.

- (b) and (c) No Sir, does not arise.

#### **Seats in engineering courses**

†542. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has framed a policy to increase the seats of various courses of engineering;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) by when these seats would be increased and the number of seats to be increased along with the names of the courses;
- (d) whether there is any target to fix any quota for economically backward classes in these increased seats; and
- (e) if so, the quota proposed to be fixed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information received from All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the various steps taken by the Council for increasing the seats of various courses of engineering in AICTE approved institutions in country are as follows:

- (i) Applications for opening new institutions are accepted round the year.
- (ii) New Institutes can now start with enhanced, intake capacity for more economic viability.
- (iii) Upto 5 Under Graduate (UG) courses and/or divisions with intake of 300 is granted to new engineering and technical institutions.
- (iv) Upto 2 UG courses and/or divisions with intake of 120 is granted to new technical institutions other than engineering.
- (v) AICTE approval is granted for establishing stand alone Post Graduate (PG) institutions.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



- (vi) Upto 2 courses/ programmes at any level per shift may be granted on self disclosure basis if facilities are available for institution which has completed one batch.
- (vii) Upto one course/programme any level per shift may be granted on self disclosure basis if facilities are available for institution yet to complete one batch.
- (viii) One course/programme at any level per shift may be additionally granted if the institution is accredited.
- (ix) Approval is granted for 2nd shift to increase utilization of infrastructure at the institutes with additional intake.
- (x) Additional division (60 seats) is granted for lateral entry of diploma holders in degree programmes in Engineering.
- (xi) Different institutions established by same society/ trust/government running same or different programmes can be integrated to increase the seats of various courses of engineering.
- (xi) Land and building norms for the grant of approval to establish new technical institutions has been modified maintaining the quality of education for enhancing participation and increasing the number of seats.

(c) AICTE has opened its web portal from 30.12.2010 to 28.02.2011 for online submission of proposals for opening of new institutions with different courses in engineering for academic year 2011-12. The applications so received will then be processed as per process defined under Approval Process Handbook 2011-12 and approval will be granted to the suitable proposals complying with the AICTE norms before the commencement of the Academic year 2011-12. It is expected that grant of new approvals will *inter alia* help in increasing the number of seats in engineering for academic year 2011-12.

The actual numbers of seats to be increased along with the names of the courses can only be known after completion of the approval cycle for 2011-12.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. AICTE has notified a Tuition Fee Waiver Scheme for sons and daughters of parents having annual income of less than Rs. 2.5 lakhs from all sources which is mandatory for all AICTE approved technical institutions offering Bachelor programme, Diploma, Post Diploma programme of three/four years of duration, The seats upto maximum 5% of sanctioned intake per course supernumerary in nature shall be available for these admissions.

#### **Code of ethics for school teachers**

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

- (a) whether a committee headed by a former NCERT Director has recommended a code of professional ethics for school teachers across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Committee has also suggested setting up of a professional body for teachers similar to the Bar Council of India or the Indian Medical Association;
- (d) the response of Government to the Committee's recommendation; and
- (e) whether Government proposes to implement the recommendations of the Committee and if so, the timeline for implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has developed a Code of Professional Ethics for school teachers on the recommendations of a Committee constituted for the purpose under the Chairpersonship of Prof. AK Sharma, former Director, NCERT. The Code provides a framework of principles that would guide teachers in discharging their obligations towards students, parents and other stakeholders.

(c) The Committee has not suggested setting up of a professional body for teachers similar to the Bar Council of India or the Indian Medical Association.

(d) and (e) The NCTE has informed that the Code will be implemented in collaboration with the associations and federations of school teachers.

#### **Launching of mini satellites by higher educational institutions**

†544. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the concept and objectives of the initiative called 'Mini Satellite Revolution' started by the institutions of higher education in association with ISRO;
- (b) the term and budget of this scheme and the institutions where this scheme is running; and
- (c) whether such type of experiments are proposed to be replicated in other institutions also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Measures to improve education scenario**

†545. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether Government is considering to provide right to free and compulsory education at secondary level in order to improve the education scenario;
- (b) whether Government is getting a code of conduct for teachers prepared through NCTE;
- (c) Government's programme for providing education through television; and
- (d) whether the scheme of providing Mid-Day-Meal in private schools is also under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) There is no such proposal at present. However, a centrally sponsored scheme 'Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan' (RMSA) was launched in March, 2009 to universalize access to secondary education and improve its quality, while ensuring equity.

(b) The National Council of Teacher Education (NCTE) has developed a Code of Professional Ethics for school teachers which provides a framework of principles to guide teachers in discharging their responsibilities towards students, parents, colleagues and other stakeholders.

(c) Video programmes prepared by National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), an autonomous institution under this Ministry are telecast on Doordarshan and Gyan Darshan channels.

(d) A National level Review Committee has been constituted by this Ministry to examine the issue of coverage of students studying in privately managed unaided schools, under the Mid Day Meal Scheme. However, currently this Ministry does not have the requisite resources to extend the scheme to such institutions.

#### **Guidelines for nursery admissions**

546. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to issue guidelines for admission of children to nursery classes for the entire country so that uniformity is maintained in this regard;
- (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) The Government had on 23rd November, 2010 issued guidelines under section 35(1) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 for implementing the provisions of

section 12(1) (c) and section 13(1) of the RTE Act relating to procedure for admission in schools as under:

- (a) with regard to admission of 25% children in class I (or pre-primary class as the case may be) in unaided and 'specified category' schools, schools shall follow a system of random selection out of the applications received from children belonging to disadvantaged groups and weaker sections for filling the pre-determined number of seats in that class; and
- (b) for admission to the remaining 75% of the seats (or a lesser percentage depending upon the number of seats fixed by the school) in respect of unaided schools and specified category schools, and for all the seats in the aided schools, each school should formulate a policy which should include criteria for categorization of applicants in terms of the objectives of the school on a rational, reasonable and just basis and that there shall be no profiling of the child based on parental educational qualifications. The policy should be placed by the school in the public domain, given wide publicity and explicitly stated in the school prospectus. There shall be no testing and interviews for any child/parent falling within or outside the categories, and selection would be on a random basis. Admission should be made strictly on this basis.

#### **Teacher Eligibility Test under RTE Act**

547. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has prescribed Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) for appointing teachers under the Right to Education Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether many States including Tamil Nadu have opposed TET;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) In pursuance of Section 23(1) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has laid down the minimum qualification for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in schools *vide* its Notification dated 23rd August, 2010. One of the essential qualifications specified in the Notification is that a person has to pass a Teacher Eligibility Test (TET). The TET will be conducted by the appropriate Government (Central Government and State Government) in accordance with guidelines framed by the NCTE for the purpose.

(c) to (e) The Government has not received any representation from States opposing the conduct of TET by appropriate Governments.

### **Educational reforms**

548. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the reforms in education Government proposes to bring about in the country;
- (b) the finances proposed to be incurred in case of each of the reforms;
- (c) the reactions/opinions received from State Governments in case of each of the reforms; and
- (d) the reforms which would require statutory changes in the State legislations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Educational reforms are a continuous process and Eleventh Five Year Plan seeks to carry them forward through expansion, inclusion and rapid improvement in quality through institutional and policy reforms and by enhancing public spending.

Government has already introduced four Bills in the Parliament which include proposals for prohibition of unfair practices in technical educational institutions; medical educational institutions and universities; mandatory accreditation of higher educational institutions; educational tribunals for adjudication of disputes; and legislation to regulate entry and operation of foreign educational institutions.

Education being in the concurrent list, it is the responsibility of both Centre as well as State Governments. Educational Reforms are taking place after consultation with all the stakeholders including State Governments. The educational reforms are discussed in the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE), the highest advisory body to advise the Central and State Governments in the field of education and also with State Education Ministers from time to time. Summary Record of Discussion of 56th meeting of the CABE held on 31.8.2009 is given in Statement-I (*See below*). Summary Record of Discussion of 57th meeting of the CABE held on 19.6.2010 is given in Statement-II (*See below*). Consensus Points arising in the Conference of the State Education Ministers held on 18.6.2010 is given in Statement-III.

### ***Statement***

#### ***I. Summary Record of Discussion of 56th Central Advisory Board of Education and the lists of Ministers and CABE member attending it***

1. The Fifty Sixth Meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) was held on 31st August, 2009 at Hotel Ashok, New Delhi. The meeting was

chaired by the Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development, Shri Kapil Sibal. Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development, Shri C.P. Joshi, Hon'ble Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Dr. M.S. Gill, Hon'ble Minister of Tribal Affairs, Shri Kantilal Bhuria, Hon'ble Minister of Labour and Employment, Shri Mallikarjun Kharge, Hon'ble Minister of State for Human Resource Development, Smt. D. Purandeswari, Member Planning Commission, Dr. Narendra Jadhav, and Hon'ble Ministers in-charge of Education from various States/UTs attended the meeting. The Board also has eminent educationists, authors, artists, linguists etc. apart from Heads of different autonomous organizations and Secretaries of different departments of the Government of India as its members. List of Hon'ble Ministers who attended the meeting is at Annexure-I (a) and list of Hon'ble Members of CAGE who attended the meeting is at Annexure-I (b).

2. The CAGE is the highest advisory body to advise the Central and State Governments in the field of education. It was reconstituted by the Government on 12th December, 2008 with the mandate to review the progress of education and implementation of education policies and to advise regarding educational development in the country. The CAGE also acts as a forum for coordination and exchange of views between Central and State Governments/Union Territories and Non-Governmental Agencies and eminent persons from different walks of life on education policy and progress.
3. The meeting focused on the vision for the future with Child Centric education as mentioned by Shri Sibal in his opening address, and also reviewed various initiatives by the Ministry of HRD both in School Education and Literacy as well as Higher Education. The meeting also focused particularly on the legislation for Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education and the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan - flagship programme for universalisation of elementary education; Mid-Day Meal Programme meant for improving nutritional standards and health status of school-going children and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan for universalisation of access to secondary education and Education Reforms.
4. In the area of Higher Education, the Central Advisory Board of Education deliberated on planning and progress in expansion of Higher Education envisaged under the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The meeting also focused on initiatives like opening of new Central Universities, Central assistance for the 374 new degree colleges in educationally backward districts, opening of new IITs, IIMs, NITs, IITSERs and IIITs, National Mission on Education through ICT, educational advancement of minorities, Reforms in Higher Education and creation of an all encompassing National Commission for Higher Education and Research (NCHER) a constitutional body.

5. (i) CABE unanimously endorsed the general need for reforms at all levels of education and felt that while there may be different view points on the pace and process of reforms, there was unanimity on its direction in the interest of children who are India's most precious assets. Members reiterated their commitment to a meaningful partnership between Central and State Governments, non-government and civil society organizations in the national endeavour for the future of children in our country. The national endeavour should encompass:
- (a) expansion of the existing education system to allow choices to children.
  - (b) Inclusion so that no child is left out, and special priority given to child belonging to SC/ST and other disadvantaged groups, including children with special education needs so that they receive the same educational opportunity as other children.
  - (c) Opportunity for excellence for all children.
- (ii) CABE welcomed the new legislation on Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education, which would lead to significant systemic reform in the elementary education sector, including SSA. CABE endorsed the RTE mandate for ensuring universal access, attendance and completion on elementary education, and recommended that quality benchmarks in teacher qualification, quality of teacher education and curriculum reform be expeditiously established. CABE also welcomed the shift in approach from provision of incentives and benefits to child rights and entitlements. CABE endorsed the need for synergy between the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education and the literacy and continuing education programme.
- (iii) CABE emphasized the need for all States to modify their curriculum, syllabi and textbooks on the basis of NCF 2005, so that all children in the country have access to child-centric, constructivist teaching and learning process. CABE emphasized that curriculum and textbooks should be fully in line with constitutional values and child centered pedagogies.
- (iv) CABE endorsed the necessity of a core curriculum in science and mathematics at secondary and higher secondary levels across all Education Boards in the country, so as to provide a level playing field to all students to join professional courses.
- (v) CABE noted the efforts of CBSE to introduce a grading system in lieu of marks for its Class X examination from next year with the objective of

reducing unhealthy competition, and thereby reduce stress, and suggested to the States that they explore the possibility of following suit.

- (vi) CABE was unanimous that there is a need to reduce examination stress among students. CABE noted the attempt of CBSE to make class Xth examination optional for students who will continue in the same school in Class - XI, while replacing the same with an efficient comprehensive and continuous evaluation (CCE) system so that standards of learning outcome are not compromised.
- (vii) CABE agreed to set up a Committee to draw up guidelines regarding ICT in School Education.

### **Higher Education**

- (viii) CABE approved the proposal for an autonomous overarching authority for higher education and research with its policy related functions being distinct from regulatory functions — some States felt that there should be scope for the involvement of States. The Task Force constituted to follow up on the proposed National Commission for Higher Education and Research would consult States in this regard. CABE also approved the proposal of a self-selecting Collegium of eminent persons for greater objectivity and assistance to search committees in the selection of Chairperson and Members of the proposed National Commission and in the selection of Vice Chancellors and other eminent academic and research positions.
- (ix) CABE endorsed the need for a law to prevent, prohibit and punish malpractices in higher education — some States felt that the scope of the proposed law should be widened to include all sectors of education, and it was explained that the present proposal was in keeping with the legislative competence of Parliament.
- (x) CABE approved mandatory assessment and accreditation in higher education — the proposed law should take into consideration the concerns expressed by some of the States with regard to the autonomy of the processes of accreditation.
- (xi) CABE supported the proposal to establish Educational Tribunals at the national and State levels for fast track adjudication, without undermining the authority of universities.
- (xii) CABE also supported academic reforms in Central Universities, State Universities and Colleges, especially the need to revise curriculum and update teacher competence with appropriate support from Centre and States.



(xiii) CABE welcomed the proposed policy to attract talent to teaching and research to higher education system generally.

(xiv) CABE endorsed the proposal to establish a Central Madarsa Board, which it felt should have greater representation of academics, especially women - and should ensure that only non-theological education would be overseen by the Board in respect of Madarsas volunteering to be affiliated to the Board.

*II. List of Hon'ble Ministers who attended the 56th Meeting of CABE*

Sl.No.	State	Name
1	2	3
1.	Assam	Shri Gautam Bora
2.	Bihar	Shri Hari Narayan Singh
3.	Chhattisgarh	Shri Brij Mohan Agrawal
4.	Gujarat	Shri Raman Lal Bora
5.	Haryana	Shri Mangeram Gupta
6.	Himachal Pradesh	Shri Ishwar Das Dhiman
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	Shri Peerzada Mohammad Sayeed (School Education) Shri Abdul Gani Malik (Higher Edn.)
8.	Karnataka	Shri Arvind Limbavali (Higher Edn.) Shri Visheshwar Hegde (Sec.Edn.)
9.	Kerala	Shri M.A. Baby
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Mrs. Archana Chitnis
11.	Maharashtra	Shri Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil
12.	Manipur	Shri L. Jayanta Kumar Singh
13.	Meghalaya	Mrs. A. Lyngdoh
14.	Mizoram	Shri Lalsawta
15.	Nagaland	Shri Nyeiawang
16.	Orissa	Shri Devi Prasad Mishra (Higher Edn.) Shri Pratap Jena (School and Mass Edn.)

1	2	3
17.	Rajasthan	Master Bhanwar Lal Gupta (Edn.) Dr. Jitendra Singh (Higher Edn.) Shri Mahendrajeet Singh (Technical)
18.	Sikkim	Shri N.K. Pradhan
19.	Tamil Nadu	Thiru T. Thangam Thennarasu
20.	Uttar Pradesh	Shri Rang Nath Mishra
21.	West Bengal	Shri Sudarshan Ray Choudhury (Higher Edn.) Shri Partha Dey (School Edn.)

*III. List of Hon'ble Members of CABE who attended the  
56th Meeting of CABE*

1. Shri K. K. Aboobacker
2. Ms. Shantha Sinha
3. Shri Vinod Raina
4. Shri Javed Akhtar
5. Ms. Teesta Seetalvad
6. Shri Kiran Seth
7. Mrs. A. Hemavathi
8. Dr. Mithu Alur
9. Prof. Mrinal Miri
10. Dr. C. Subramaniam
11. Shri Gopal Guru
12. Prof. Abhai Maurya
13. Prof. Gopichand Narang

***Statement-II***

*Summary Record of Discussion of 57th Central Advisory Board of  
Education held on 19th June, 2010*

Fifty Seventh Meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) was held on 19th June, 2010 at Hotel Ashok, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Shri Kapil Sibal, Minister of Human Resource Development. Smt. Ambika Soni, Minister of

Information and Broadcasting, Smt. D. Purandeswari, Minister of State for Human Resource Development and Vice-Chairperson of CAGE, Shri Prateek Patel, Minister of State, Youth Affairs and Sports and Ministers-in-charge of Education from various States/UTs attended the meeting. The Board also has eminent educationists, authors, artists, linguists etc. apart from Heads of different autonomous organizations and Secretaries of different departments of the Government of India as its members.

2. The CAGE is the highest advisory body to advise the Central and State Governments in the field of education. The previous meeting *i.e.* 56th meeting of CAGE was held on 31st August, 2009. The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed today with a minor amendment of Shri M.A. Baby, Hon'ble Education Minister of Kerala that he was not against the private participation in education but it should be with strict and comprehensive regulations.

3. The meeting focused on the vision of education for the future with Child Centric education, as mentioned by HRM in his opening address. HRM said that we cannot be slaves of the past and must move with the processes of change. We need to learn from the past; build on it and create opportunities for the future of our children as also the future of the unborn child. While enunciating his vision of child centric education, HRM recalled the very insightful and perceptive statement made by Shri MC Chagla in 1964, when he was Education Minister. He said: (Quote) *"Our Constitution fathers did not intend that we set up hovels, put student there, give untrained teachers, give them bad textbooks, no playgrounds and say, we have complied with Article 45 and primary education is expanding... They meant that real education should be given to our children between the ages of 6 and 14"* (Unquote). HRM said that the most precious of all resources are our children and we must ensure that they get all the opportunities for their development. Smt. Ambika Soni, Minister of I&B congratulated HRM for his unsparing efforts in developing India as a knowledge society and said that her Ministry would be glad to partner with MHRD to have nation-wide campaign of empowerment through education.

4. The meeting focused particularly on the proposed Higher Education and Research Bill, dematting of academic awards, harmonising norms of SSA & RTE, National Vocational Qualification Framework and core curriculum for Science and Maths as also Commerce.

5. After detailed discussions, the Central Advisory Board of Education (CAGE) took the following decisions:—

- (i) **CAGE** considered the proposal on the draft Higher Education and Research Bill, 2010. It was clarified by HRM that the draft Bill remained the property of the Task Force until it submitted its final proposal to the Ministry. Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon, member of the Task Force constituted by MHRD to

follow up on the recommendations of the Committee on Rejuvenation and Renovation of Higher Education (Yash Pal Committee) and the National Knowledge Commission, presented the proposal and explained the modifications proposed by the Task Force after taking into consideration the inputs and suggestions received from various stake holders during the wide ranging process of consultations across the country.

Members of the Task Force also briefed **CABE** on clarifications in regard to certain provisions raised on behalf of States. It was explained that the proposed NCHER was intended to promote autonomy of universities by devolving powers hitherto exercised by the existing regulatory bodies, prevent fragmentation of education, promote interdisciplinary pursuit and creation of knowledge, accord a level playing field through norm-based funding for all universities — Central or State, grant powers to States to participate in policy making at the national level through representation in the decision making processes of the proposed Commission etc.

While there was a general consensus in regard to the need to establish an overarching body at the apex level to prevent fragmentation of Higher Education and to promote interdisciplinary pursuits for creating knowledge, **CABE** decided that State Governments and other members could send in written comments and suggestions within **4** weeks, so that the Task Force could take the same in to consideration, before the draft Bill was finalized and submitted to the Ministry of Human Resource Development for the consideration of the Central Government.

- (ii) **CABE** considered the proposal on the proposed National Academic Depository Bill, 2010 for creating and maintaining a national electronic database of academic records and awards at no cost to Central or State Government. **CABE** endorsed the proposal which mandates academic institutions - universities, higher educational institutions, CBSE and States Boards of Education to entrust academic awards with authorized Depository to be appointed under the legislation for secure storage, authenticated access, online verification and efficient retrieval while ensuring confidentiality, fidelity and authenticity.
- (iii) **CABE** unanimously welcomed the steps taken to harmonise the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) with the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. CABE expressed solidarity in taking proactive steps for ensuring the educational rights of all children. The Central and State

Governments will collectively provide adequate financial resources to meet the challenges of implementation of the Act. In the context of admission of 25% children from disadvantaged groups and weaker sections in unaided schools, CAGE resolved to constitute a Committee to address the complexities involved in its implementation.

- (iv) Recognising the high demand for skill in the country, **CAGE** emphasised the need for a National Vocational Qualification Framework to provide a common reference framework for linking various vocational qualifications and setting common principles and guidelines for a nationally recognised qualification system and standards. It was resolved to set up an inter-ministerial group which would also include representatives of State Governments to develop guidelines for such a National Framework.
- (v) **CAGE** endorsed the proposal for implementation a core-curriculum in the subjects of science and mathematics by all higher secondary boards in the country from the academic session 2011-12. The preparation of core curriculum for commerce was also endorsed.

### ***Statement-III***

*Consensus points arising in the Conference of State Education Ministers'  
held on 18th June 2010*

The Hon'ble Minister representing States welcomed the initiatives taken by the Ministry of Human Resource Development in respect of the proposed National Educational Finance Corporation, which is conceived to provide easy refinance and differential guarantees in respect of educational loans availed by students for higher education from Banks and financial institutions. The proposed Corporation shall also finance the infrastructural requirements of educational institutions directly as well as through refinance facilities.

The Hon'ble Minister of HRD shared with the Hon'ble Ministers from States a child centric vision of education including higher education. In particular, he exhorted States to join hands in

- (a) Reducing the multiplicity of entrance examinations for entry to higher education;
- (b) The need to develop a core curriculum in schools for the subjects of science and mathematics, without in any manner restricting or affecting the authority of States in prescribing syllabi and conducting Board Examinations. Such a core curriculum would enable level playing field for all students irrespective of background;
- (c) Establishing a National Institute for Assessment and Evaluation, which could serve as an advisory institution to help School Boards volunteering to seek such help in assessment and evaluation;

- (d) Restoring the weightage that must be accorded to performance in class 12 in entrance tests for professional and other courses; this would minimize the current inequality in access to such courses of study due to dominating influence of expensive preparatory coaching;
- (e) Extending the system of Comprehensive and Continuous Evaluation up to class 10;
- (f) A National Vocational Curriculum Framework;
- (g) A curriculum framework for value education because examinations are only a gateway to higher education whereas values last and guide a lifetime.

HRM agreed to take up at the appropriate levels the feelings expressed by Hon'ble Ministers from States in regard to the enhancement of age of superannuation of teachers in higher education in the pay revision package.

States were requested to send in proposals under Eleventh Plan schemes in accordance with the decision taken by the National Development Council.

#### **Approval for new polytechnics**

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

- (a) whether All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has withdrawn the powers given to the States for processing of applications for grant of approval for new polytechnics and extension of courses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the move is to reduce the gap between the number of degree-level technical institutions and polytechnics;
- (d) whether the regulatory body AICTE has decided to introduce a system of e-governance in its approval process for diploma and PG Diploma level institutions to ensure transparency and swiftness in decision making; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information received from All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the Council has withdrawn the powers given to the States for processing of applications for grant of approval for new polytechnic and extension of courses.

- (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) AICTE has introduced a system of e-governance in its approval process for diploma and PG Diploma level institution from the year 2011-12 to ensure greater transparency in decision making notified *vide* Gazette Notification No. F.No. 37-3/legal/2011 dated 10.12.2010 which is available on AICTE's website [www.aicte-india.org](http://www.aicte-india.org)

#### **Setting up of new institutions by AICTE**

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

(a) whether Government has announced a set of norms for All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) for setting up new institutions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether under the new system corporate sector can set up technical institutions provided they get registered as a non-profit entity;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether this move will help increase lakhs of seats in engineering and management streams; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information received from All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the Council has notified a set of norms for setting up of new technical institutions in the country. The Gazette Notification No. 37-3/Legal/2011 dated 10.12.2010 published in this regard which is available on AICTE's website ([www.aicte-india.org](http://www.aicte-india.org)).

(c) and (d) As per the clause 3 of the said Gazette Notification No. 37-3/Legal/2011 dated 10.12.2010, corporate section can set up technical institutions provided that the company is established under the section 25 of the Company's Act-1956 ensuring the following:

(i) No profit working;

(ii) Income generated through operations of Technical Institution shall be utilized for working and development of the Technical Institution; and

(iii) there shall be no indirect holding.

(e) and (f) AICTE has opened its web portal for online submission of proposals for opening of new institutions for academic year 2011-12 from 30.12.2010 to 28.02.2011. It is expected that corporate sector will come forward with the proposals for opening new institutions and this move will *inter alia* help in increasing the number of seats in engineering and management streams for academic year 2011-12.

### **Fee hike in IITs**

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

- (a) whether Government has decided against fee hike in IITs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the views of States and students in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) There is no proposal at present to raise the fees in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs).

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

### **Adult Literacy Rate**

552. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of present Adult Literacy Rate in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government has any plan to improve adult literacy in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the funds allocated for the purpose; and
- (d) the concrete steps taken or being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The census in India is conducted on decennial basis. As per 2001 census the adult literacy rate is 60.97 percent. State-wise details of adult literacy rate are given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) to (d) The Government has recently launched a new variant of National Literacy Mission, as Saakshar Bharat, with specific objective of improving adult literacy. The programme encompasses functional literacy, skill development, equivalency programme and life long learning opportunities through continuing education. To encourage adults to join the literacy campaign, the entire cost of the teaching learning material and literacy teaching is being met by the Government. The programme also provides for environment building and mass mobilization to motivate the non-literates to join the literacy campaign. Simultaneously a robust MIS is being developed for monitoring the programme. An amount of Rs. 5257 crores has been allocated for the purpose for Eleventh plan period (2007-12); Rs. 388.50 crore was allocated for the current financial year; and Rs.488.50 crore has been earmarked for the next year.



***Statement***

***State-wise details of Adult Literacy Rates***

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs	Adult Literacy Rate (15+) as per Census 2001
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	54.15
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	51.92
3.	Assam	61.15
4.	Bihar	44.16
5.	Chhattisgarh	59.06
6.	Delhi	79.56
7.	Goa	79.88
8.	Gujarat	65.29
9.	Haryana	62.42
10.	Himachal Pradesh	71.70
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	51.31
12.	Jharkhand	49.75
13.	Karnataka	61.62
14.	Kerala	89.85
15.	Madhya Pradesh	58.76
16.	Maharashtra	72.90
17.	Manipur	69.72
18.	Meghalaya	63.18
19.	Mizoram	89.42
20.	Nagaland	65.08
21.	Orissa	59.68
22.	Punjab	65.27
23.	Rajasthan	54.43

1	2	3
24.	Sikkim	65.99
25.	Tamil Nadu	69.81
26.	Tripura	70.38
27.	Uttarakhand	66.68
28.	Uttar Pradesh	51.07
29.	West Bengal	65.77
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	78.97
31.	Chandigarh	80.30
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	53.62
33.	Daman and Diu	75.52
34.	Lakshadweep	85.35
35.	Pondicherry	79.05
ALL INDIA		60.97

#### **Review of NPE**

553. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to review National Policy on Education (NPE) as most States of the country have not accepted 10+2+3 structure so far;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to implement a uniform education policy across the country; and
- (d) the time by which this uniform policy is likely to be implemented in all States of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The Government is already following National Policy on Education, 1986 (as modified in 1992), which provides for National System of Education implying that up to a given level, all students, irrespective of caste, creed, location or sex, have access to education of a comparable quality. The National System of Education envisages a common educational structure. The 10+2+3 structure has now been accepted in most parts of the country.

The National System of Education is based on a national curriculum framework, which contains a common core along with other components that are flexible. The common core includes the history of freedom movement, the constitutional obligations and other content essential to nurture national identity. These elements cut across subject areas and are designed to promote values such as India's common cultural heritage, egalitarianism, democracy and secularism, equality of the sexes, protection of the environment, removal of social barriers, observance of the small family norm and inculcation of the scientific temper.

#### **Medical facilities for students in JNV hostels**

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

(a) whether Government provides basic medical assistance for the students living in the hostels in each Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the vidyalayas in which medical officer, Staff Nurse are not posted to take care of the students living in the hostels of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to arrange alternative arrangements till regular medical attendance is provided in each of such vidyalaya?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes Sir. In each Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV), there is a medical room with a staff nurse to provide basic medical assistance to students staying in the hostel.

(b) There is no post of medical officer in any JNV. However, a part-time doctor visits each JNV for health check-up of students. The list of JNVs where staff nurses are not available at present is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) Wherever staff nurses are not available, other staff members of JNVs are made in charge of the medical facility and the sick students are promptly taken to the nearby health centre for treatment.

#### ***Statement***

##### ***State-wise list of JNVs where the Staff Nurse is not available***

Sl. No.	Name of State	Name of the JNVs where the Staff Nurse is not available
1	2	3
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Dibang Valley

1	2	3
2.	Bihar	Gaya-II Supaul
3.	Gujarat	Porbandar Navsari Anand
3.	Haryana	Mewat
4.	J&K	Budgam Kargil Poonch Reasi Jammu-II Kulgam
5.	Jharkhand	Pakur-II
6.	Karnataka	Gulbarga
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Narasingshpur
8.	West Bengal	Darjeeling Jalpaiguri Uttar Dinajpur E. Mednapur North 24 Paraganas.

#### **Scholarships for students**

555. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of scholarships sanctioned by the Union Government for the students belonging to pre-matric classes, between 2007-08 and 2009-10;
- (b) the amount released to various States in the above mentioned years;
- (c) whether Government has received utilization certificates from the States;

(d) the percentage of amount utilized by the concerned State Government other than Bihar during the above three years; and

(e) the percentage of amount utilized in each year by the State Government of Bihar during the above three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The details of number of pre-matric scholarships and amount released under the centrally sponsored schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Minority Affairs and the Ministry of Human Resource Development are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) Ministry of Minority Affairs has informed that it has received Utilization Certificates from the States. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has informed that the central assistance is released to States/UTs on receipt of the utilization certificates pertaining to the previous years and that utilization certificate for 2009-10 have not been received from Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jammu and Kashmir, Puducherry and West Bengal. In case of National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme of this Ministry the amount is directly credited to the bank accounts of the scholarship holders.

(d) The details of percentage of amount utilized by the concerned State Governments other than Bihar during the above three years are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(e) The details of percentage of amount utilized by the State Government of Bihar during each of the above three years are given in Statement-III (*See* below).

**Statement-I**

*The details of Pre-matric Scholarships and amounts released under Centrally Sponsored Schemes*

S. No.	Name of the Scholarship	Ministry	No. Sanctioned			Amount released to States (Rupees in lakhs)		
			2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1.	Pre-matric Scholarship to the children of persons engaged in unclean occupations	Social Justice and Empowerment	735129	618277	701072	309.87	5827.28	7974.02
2.	Pre-matric scholarship for OBCs	Social Justice and Empowerment	1681044	1657460	1262369	2499.12	3216.94	3172.83
3.	Pre-matric scholarship for Minority Community	Minority Affairs	Scheme launched in 2008-09	512657	1729076	Scheme launched in 2008-09	6221.00	20294.00
4.	National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme	Human Resource Development	Scheme launched in 2008-09	54579	78178	*	*	*

\* The amount of scholarship is directly credited into the bank account of scholarship holders by State Bank of India @ Rs. 500 per month on quarterly basis and is not released to the States.

**Statement-II**

*Details of the percentage of amount utilized by concerned State Government other than Bihar during three year*

Sl. No.	Name of the Scholarship	Ministry	Amount released to states other than Bihar (Rupees in lakhs)			Amount utilised by States other than Bihar (Rupees in lakhs)			Percentage utilised		
			2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1.	Pre-matric Scholarship to the children of persons engaged in unclean occupations	Social Justice and Empowerment	309.87	5827.28	7974.02	192.12	1048.91	5821.03	62	18	73
2	Pre-matric scholarship for OBCs	Social Justice and Empowerment	2098.94	2770.51	3172.83	2036.18	2224.67	2926.38	97	80.3	92.23
3	Pre-matric scholarship for Minority community	Minority Affairs	Scheme launched in 2008-09	5150.00	19372.00	Scheme launched in 2008-09	5150.00	19372.00	Scheme launched in 2008-09	100	100
4	National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme	Human Resource Development	Amount is directly credited to the scholarship holders account and not released to the States.								

**Statement-III**

*Details of the percentage of amount utilized by Government of Bihar during three year*

Sl. No.	Name of the Scholarship	Ministry	Amount released to Bihar (Rupees in lakhs)			Amount utilised by Bihar (Rupees in lakhs)			Percentage utilised		
			2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1.	Pre-matric Scholarship to the children of persons engaged in unclean occupations	Social Justice and Empowerment	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2	Pre-matric scholarship for OBCs	Social Justice and Empowerment	400.18	446.43	0.00	116.38	234.53	0.00	29.08	52.53	Nil
3	Pre-matric scholarship for Minority community	Minority Affairs	Scheme launched in 2008-09	1071.00	922.00	Scheme launched in 2008-09	1071.00	922.00	Scheme launched in 2008-09	100	100
4	National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme	Human Resource Development	Amount is directly credited to the scholarship holders account and not released to the States.								



### **Introduction of Semester System in Universities**

556. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government has any proposal under consideration to implement Semester System in all the Central Universities, on the pattern of Delhi University;

(b) if so, by when the decision in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Central Universities are statutory autonomous bodies governed by their respective Acts and, Statutes and Ordinances framed thereunder. Under their respective Acts, it is within the competence of the Central Universities to introduce any academic reforms, including semester system after due approval of their statutory bodies, viz Academic Council and Executive Council or Board of Management. While the Central Universities have introduced semester system in phased manner, in the newly established Central Universities, semester system has been implemented right from their inception.

### **Mid-Day-Meal Scheme for private schools**

557. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to extend the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme to unaided private schools in tribal and minority areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how the scheme would benefit the students of private schools operating in tribal areas of Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) A National Level Committee has been constituted to examine extension of Mid Day Meal Scheme to cover students studying in privately managed unaided schools in Tribal and minority areas.

### **Distance education through online courses**

558. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is encouraging self-learning by distance education taking advantage of online courses especially for higher courses and specialized courses;

- (b) if so, the details thereof, course-wise; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Distance Education Council (DEC) is responsible for promotion of Open and Distance Education System, its coordinated development and determination of its standards in the country which includes online mode also. Recognition of new universities or institutes or distance mode courses is a continuous process. At present, there are 14 recognized Open Universities and 147 recognized Distance Education Institutions offering various certificates, diploma and degree courses in the country. Further, under the National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning curriculum based supplementary e-content in video and web modes have been developed in about 20 Science and Engineering Disciplines. The National Mission on Education through Information, Communication and Technology envisages development of curriculum based video and web courses in Engineering, Science and Humanities for graduate and post graduate students.

#### **Setting up of 'Innovation Universities'**

559. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has identified 14 Universities as Innovation Universities in the country to bring them to world class standards;
- (b) if so, the details of universities identified in Andhra Pradesh as Innovation Universities; and
- (c) the action plan of Government to make identified universities as world class universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The National Development Council has approved setting up of 14 Universities aiming at World Class standards across Eleventh and Twelfth Plan periods. Based on identification of likely locations by an inter-ministerial Committee, among others, Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh has been identified. The legislative proposal prepared for this purpose contains provisions to ensure world class quality standard of education in such Universities.

#### **Funds for model schools in Punjab**

560. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government is yet to accord approval and release funds for recurring expenditure in respect of 21 model schools which have already been made

functional, despite the fact that the State Government of Punjab has submitted all the required information in this regard;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(c) the time by which necessary approval is likely to be given and the funds released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The proposal of Government of Punjab for recurring grant towards running 21 model schools has been considered in this Ministry and there is approval for an amount of Rs. 6.61 crore for the current financial year 2010-11. Necessary documents for release of funds have not been received from the State Government. The time by which funds can be released depends, *inter alia*, on receipt of the documents from the State Government.

#### **Polytechnic colleges for women**

†561. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of polytechnic colleges in the country at present, the list thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether Government proposes to open more polytechnic colleges in the country this year; and

(c) whether among these colleges there are polytechnic colleges exclusively for women also, the list thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) approved state-wise list of polytechnics is given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) No, sir. The institutions are established by Public Private Trusts Registered Societies and/or State Governments, However, under the scheme of "Sub-mission on Polytechnics under coordinated Action for Skill Development" this Ministry provides one time financial assistance of Rs. 12.30 crore per polytechnic to the State/UT governments for setting up of 300 new polytechnics in unserved and underserved districts of the country subject to State/UT Government providing free of cost land, meeting 100 % recurring expenditure and also non-recurring expenditure beyond Rs. 12.30 crore, if any. These polytechnics are being set up by State/UT Governments. State Government may set up polytechnics exclusively for women under the scheme.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) approved state-wise list of polytechnics for women is given in Statement

**Statement**

*AICTE approved State-wise list of polytechnics for Women*

Region	States/Union Territory for women	No of No.	of Polytechnic Polytechnic
1	2	3	4
Central	Madhya Pradesh	108	14
	Chhattisgarh	37	04
	Gujarat	123	02
	TOTAL	268	20
Eastern	Mizoram	0	0
	Sikkim	2	0
	Orissa	97	05
	West Bengal	83	03
	Tripura	3	01
	Meghalaya	2	0
	Arunachal Pradesh	3	0
	Andaman and Nicobar	3	0
	Assam	15	0
	Manipur	4	0
	Nagaland	4	0
	Jharkhand	27	03
	TOTAL	243	12
Northern	Bihar	19	02
	Uttar Pradesh	237	23
	Uttaranchal	64	05
	TOTAL	320	30

1	2	3	4
North-West	Chandigarh	4	04
	Haryana	135	04
	J&K	15	03
	New Delhi	22	01
	Punjab	150	07
	Rajasthan	217	16
	Himachal Pradesh	27	04
	TOTAL	570	39
Southern	Pondicherry	24	02
	Tamil Nadu	403	07
	TOTAL	427	09
South-West	Karnataka	291	14
	Kerala	60	07
	TOTAL	351	21
Western	Maharashtra	610	14
	Goa	8	-
	Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	-
	TOTAL	620	14
SCRO	Andhra Pradesh	275	23
	TOTAL	275	23

#### Leakage of examination papers

†562. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether leakage of exam papers is becoming a common feature in recent years like—Delhi University paper leak, IIM paper leak etc.;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of effective steps taken by Government to prevent these incidents of paper leaks;

(c) whether any stringent action has been taken against the guilty persons; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As per the information available, there is no such report as to conclude that leakage of examination papers is becoming a common feature in recent years. The various examination conducting bodies under this Ministry are taking effective measures including packing of question papers in special envelopes, storing of question papers in the nationalized banks, a safe authorized place and handing over the question papers only before the start of the examination, opening of question papers in the Centre Superintendent's Office in the presence of invigilators etc. to ensure confidentiality of question papers before the examinations.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of reply to parts (a) and (b) above.

#### **Opening of new Kendriya Vidyalayas**

†563. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken initiative in the direction of establishing 107 Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in view of growing population the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country is very low;

(d) if so, the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas opened in the country during the last five years, State-wise;

(e) the number of Kendriya Vidyalayas in Jalgaon, Dhule and Nasik districts of Maharashtra at present;

(f) whether any Kendriya Vidyalaya, out of these 107, will be opened in these districts; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Government have approved establishment of 107 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. Out of these, 85 KVs have been made functional during the academic session 2010-11.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) Kendriya Vidyalayas are opened primarily to meet the educational needs of children of transferable central Government employees on the basis of requests from sponsoring agencies that include State Governments, Central Ministries, Public Sector Undertakings and Institutes of Higher Learning, subject to fulfillment of prescribed norms. There are 1067 functional KVs at present. Details of the state-wise number of KVs sanctioned during the last five years are given in Statement (*See* below).

(e) At present there are 3 KVs in Jalgaon district, 1 KV in Dhule district and 6 KVs in Nasik district of Maharashtra.

(f) and (g) No proposal has been received during the current year from the Government of Maharashtra for opening of any new KV in the districts of Nasik, Jalgaon and Dhule.

### ***Statement***

*State-wise number of Kendriya Vidyalayas sanctioned during last five years i.e. from 2005-06 to 2009-10 and 2010-11 (till 22.02.2011)*

Sl.No.	Name of State	No of KVs sanctioned
1	2	3
1.	A&N (UT)	–
2.	Andhra Pradesh	11
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	01
4.	Assam	06
5.	Bihar	08
6.	Chandigarh	–
7.	Chhattisgarh	05
8.	D&N Haveli	–
9.	Daman and Diu	–
10.	Delhi	02
11.	Goa	–
12.	Gujarat	04
13.	Haryana	01
14.	Himachal Pradesh	02

1	2	3
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	05
16.	Jharkhand	11
17.	Karnataka	07
18.	Kerala	08
19.	Lakshadweep	–
20.	Madhya Pradesh	17
21.	Maharashtra	05
22.	Manipur	02
23.	Meghalaya	02
24.	Mizoram	02
25.	Nagaland	–
26.	Orissa	24
27.	Pondicherry	02
28.	Punjab	09
29.	Rajasthan	07
30.	Sikkim	01
31.	Tamil Nadu	08
32.	Tripura	04
33.	Uttar Pradesh	10
34.	Uttarakhand	02
35.	West Bengal	11
TOTAL:		177

#### **Quality education in Madarsas**

564. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any scheme for providing quality education in Madarsas in the country in the Eleventh Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;



- (c) the criteria for inclusion of the institutions in Government List;
- (d) the number of requests received so far from the Madarsas for providing help under this scheme, State-wise; and
- (e) the time which would be taken for release of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (c) Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarsas (SPQEM) is in existence with effect from October, 2008. SPQEM encourages Madarsas to introduce modern subjects like Science, Mathematics, Social Studies, Hindi and English in their curriculum, so that students can attain academic proficiency in these subjects up to senior secondary level. The process of modernization of Madarsas and Maktabas is voluntary.

(c) Madarsas which have been in existence at least for three years and registered under Central of State Government Acts of Madarsa Board or with Wafk Boards or NIOS are eligible to apply for assistance under this programme.

(d) During 2010-11, proposals have been received from:-

S.No.	State	No. of Madarsas proposed to be covered
1.	Assam	486
2.	Andhra Pradesh	40
3.	Bihar	1127
4.	Haryana	6
5.	J&K	372
6.	Orissa	270
7.	Rajasthan	220
8.	Karnataka	80
9.	Kerala	724
10.	Maharashtra	11
11.	Chhattisgarh	439
12.	Uttarakhand	65
13.	Uttar Pradesh	2842

(e) Release of funds is subject to submission of utilization certificate and availability of funds.

### **Setting up of model colleges in Madhya Pradesh**

‡565. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has announced to establish many model colleges in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken in this regard, so far and the amount to be released by Central Government under this head?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of setting up of Model Degree Colleges in the identified 374 educationally backward districts having Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for higher education less than the national GER, 39 model degree colleges are to be set up by the State Government, with eligible Central assistance in the State of Madhya Pradesh, in the identified higher educationally backward districts. These Districts are Balaghat, Barwani, Betul, Bhind, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Damon, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Dindori, East Nimar, Guna, Harda, Jhabua, Katni, Mandla, Mandsaur, Morena, Narsimhapur, Neemuch, Panna, Raisen, Rajgarh, Ratlam, Sagar, Satna, Sehore, Seoni, Shandol, Shajapur, Sheopur, Shivpuri, Sidhi, Tikamgarh, Ujjain, Umaria, Vidisha, and West Nimar .

Under the scheme, the Central assistance is 1/3rd of the Capital cost of the each model college subject to maximum of Rs. 2.67 crores. The State Government is required to meet the balance Capital cost as well as recurring expenditure and provide land free of cost. According to the University Grants Commission, no proposal has been received from the State Government.

### **Adequate nutrients in mid-day-meals**

566. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mid-day-meal is not being provided with adequate nutrients to children in various schools of the country;

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

(c) whether Government has ever monitored mid-day-meal scheme in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating shortcomings found in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to improve the mid-day-meal scheme in the States, particularly in Rajasthan?

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) There is a provision under the mid-day meal scheme to provide for an energy level of 450 calories and 12 grams of proteins for primary students and an energy level of 700 calories and 20 grams of proteins for upper primary students of Government and Government aided schools to improve their nutritional status. The State Governments are provided with foodgrains and resources accordingly.

(c) and (d) The actual provision of Mid Day Meal (MDM) Scheme is monitored by the State level agencies, independent professional institutions, Joint Review Missions of this Ministry as well as the Commissioners of the Supreme Court. The Planning Commission has also reviewed the Scheme. These evaluations have assessed the percentage of children covered under the scheme, off take of foodgrains against norms, availability of kitchen sheds and utensils for cooking as well as eating, drinking water availability and the kind of fuel used for cooking. In addition the surveys have evaluated the overall quality of food, and whether there is any discrimination on grounds of caste.

(e) The Government, of India expenditure on MDM has been increased substantially, by 35%, from Rs 6938 crores in 2009-10 to Rs 9348 crores in 2010-11. A provision for payment of honorarium and for training the cook-cum-helpers has been made, to improve quality of the meal. Guidelines have been issued to all States/UTs for setting up of Grievance Redressal Mechanisms at various levels to address the grievances of the stakeholders. The State of Rajasthan has taken steps for upgradation of MDM infrastructure and vigorous monitoring of the scheme through eighty two thousand visits by officers and elected representatives. The State Government has also developed a Computer based Management Information System (MIS) to monitor the scheme effectively.

#### **Seats for EWS in technical educational institutions**

567. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether all technical educational institutes in the country have been asked by Government to reserve five per cent of seats for Economically Weaker Students (EWS), who must not be charged tuition fees;

(b) the action Government proposes to take against those technical educational institutes which ignore the directives for free quota for poor; and

(c) by when these five per cent reserved seats for economically weaker sections would become effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) As per the information

received from All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the Council has notified a Tuition Fee Waiver Scheme for sons and daughters of parents having annual income of less than 2.5 lakhs from all sources which is mandatory for all AICTE approved technical institutions offering bachelor programme, Diploma, Post Diploma programme of three/four years of duration. The seats upto maximum 5 % of sanctioned intake per course supernumerary in nature shall be available for these admissions.

(b) All AICTE approved, institutions are required to adhere to the AICTE regulations, norms and standards notified from time to time. Any institutions running any programme in violation of Regulations shall be liable for punitive action as defined under chapter IV of Approval Process Handbook 2011-12 which is available on AICTE's website [www.aicte-india.org](http://www.aicte-india.org).

(c) This supernumerary five per cent reserve seats for economically weaker sections in AICTE approved technical institutions offering bachelor programme, Diploma, Post Diploma programme of three/four years of duration will become effective from the Academic year 2011-12.

#### **Distribution of text books for school children in Orissa**

†568. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is serious discontent among the school going students in Orissa as they are not getting the text books in sufficient numbers; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken so far by Government to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Distribution of free textbooks in Orissa was delayed in 2010-11 as the State Government of Orissa had undertaken reform in text books production and printing, and the matter was challenged in the High Court of Orissa. After overcoming legal problems the State distributed free textbooks under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) amongst children at elementary level by December, 2010.

#### **Setting up of new IITs, IIMs and Universities**

569. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had earlier announced in 2008 for setting up eight new IITs and seven IIMs along with 30 Central and World Class Universities in the country; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress achieved by Government over this proposal finalized in the year 2008?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Government has set up eight new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) in the country at Hyderabad, Patna, Jodhpur, Bhubaneswar, Ropar, Gandhinagar, Indore and Mandi. Six of the eight new IITs at Hyderabad, Patna, Jodhpur, Bhubaneswar, Ropar, Gandhinagar have started functioning from the academic year 2008-09 and the IITs at Indore and Mandi have started functioning from the academic year 2009-10.

During Eleventh Five Year Plan, seven new IIMs were proposed to be established in the country, out of which Rajiv Gandhi Indian Institute of Management (RGIIM), Shillong has started functioning from the academic year 2008-09 and IIMs at Rohtak, Ranchi, Raipur and Tiruchirappalli have started functioning from the academic year 2010-11. MM, Udaipur and Kashipur would become functional from 2011-12.

The Central Government has established 16 Central Universities under the Central Universities Act, 2009 in each State without any such University (except Goa) and two Central Universities in the State of Jammu and Kashmir (one each in Kashmir Division and Jammu Division in lieu of an IIM for the State). All these Universities except Central University of Jammu have started their academic programmes from temporary premises, pending allotment of land and development of permanent campus.

Further, the Central Government has also identified 14 cities in the country for establishment of Innovation Universities targeted to be World Class.

#### **Annual Status of Education Report (ASER)**

†570. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 'Annual Status of Education Report-2010' states that the condition of education in Government schools situated in rural areas is very deplorable;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government agrees to the comments given in the report regarding the deplorable condition of education;

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

(d) the planning of Government to improve the standard of education in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The Annual Status

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of Education Report (ASER) is brought out annually by PRATHAM, a non-governmental organization. The ASER (Rural) - 2010 (provisional) presents certain positive findings, including that 96.5% of children in the 6 to 14 age group are enrolled in schools in rural areas, the percentage of out-of-school children in the 6 to 14 age group has dropped from 4% in 2009 to 3.5% in 2010 and the percentage of out-of-school girls in the 11-14 age group has dropped from 6.8% in 2009 to 5.9% in 2010. The RTE indicators reported in the ASER reveal that 72% of all visited schools had drinking water facilities, 90% of them had toilets with 70% of them having the facility of separate girls' toilets and 62% of the visited schools had playgrounds. ASER 2010 mentions that 55.8% of the visited schools were found to comply with the RTE norms on Pupil-Teacher Ratio and over 60% of the 13,000 schools visited satisfied the infrastructure norms. The ASER report, however, also points to overall low learning levels.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has become operative with effect from 1st April, 2010. The RTE Act is applicable to rural and urban areas in the country. The Act provides that every child in the 6-14 age group shall have a right to free and compulsory education till completion of elementary education. It prescribes norms and standards for Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR), school infrastructure and facilities. It lays down that the curriculum and evaluation process shall be in accordance with the values enshrined in the Constitution of India, and shall take into account the all-round development of the child, build on the child's knowledge, potentiality and talent, provide for learning through activities, discovery and exploration, and shall make the child free of fear, trauma and anxiety. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Framework of Implementation has been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act, 2009 in terms of provisioning for additional teachers, classrooms and facilities in schools, as well as quality interventions.

#### **Enrolment and quality of learning at elementary level**

571. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether even though there is an increase in the enrolment at elementary level, there is no quality improvement in learning; and
- (b) the reasons behind this and how Government is thinking to address the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) conducts the National Learners' Achievement Survey for classes III, V and VIII periodically. Till now, two rounds of Achievement Surveys have been completed. The surveys reveal improvements in the

learning level. A comparative table of the progress in respect of the two rounds is given below:

Subject	Class III		Class V		Class VIII	
	Round I	Round II	Round I	Round II	Round I	Round II
Mathematics	58.25%	61.89%	46.51%	48.46%	39.17%	42.71%
Language	63.12%	67.84%	58.57%	60.31%	53.86%	56.57%
EVS	NA	NA	50.30%	52.19%	NA	NA
Science	NA	NA	NA	NA	41.30%	42.73%
Social Science	NA	NA	NA	NA	46.19%	48.03%

NA: Not applicable.

Government is committed to improving the quality of elementary education through Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). Steps taken in this regard include, *inter alia*, revision of SSA norms to align them with the provisions of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, including provisioning for additional teachers and classrooms as prescribed in the RTE Act, 2009, inclusion of new norms under SSA such as uniforms for girls, children from SC/ST and BPL families, residential/transport facilities for children in habitations which are too small and sparsely populated and urban deprived children without adult protection.

To ensure the availability of quality teachers National Council for Teacher Education has laid down the teacher qualifications under section 23 of the RTE Act. States would need to follow the prescribed teacher qualifications in all future recruitments. One of the essential qualifications for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher is that he/she should pass the Teacher Eligibility Test to be conducted by the appropriate government. Guidelines for the Teacher Eligibility Test have already been notified and are available on the Ministry's website [www.mhrd.nic.in](http://www.mhrd.nic.in)

### **Modernization of Railway Stations**

572. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations modernized till date in this financial year, which were proposed in Railway General Budget 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11, the details name-wise;

(b) the number of railway stations under process for modernization, the details name-wise;

(c) the railway stations which are left out and no work is started so far, even though their name have been proposed in rail budgets; and

(d) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) 362 railway stations on Indian Railways have been modernised under "Adarsh Station" Scheme till 31.01.2011. The details are as under:

Belapur, Bhandup, Chembur, Currey Road, Dadar, Devlali, Dock Yard Road, Dombivali, Ghatkopar, Gulbarga. King's Circle, Kurla, Matunga, Mulund, Nasik Road, Sangli, Sanpada, Sewri, Solapur, Tilak Nagar, Ulhasnagar, Wadi, Wardha, Balangir, Balugaon, Bargarh Road, Dhenkanal, Jajpurkeonjhar Road, Kantabanji, Kesinga, Khariar Road, Khurda Road Jn., Koraput, Muniguda, Rayagada, Srikakulam Road, Titlagarh Jn., Vizianagram Jn., Bihar Sharif, Chandauli Majhwar, Gomoh Jn., Jehanabad, Madhubani, Naugachia, Parasnath, Patna Saheb, Sasaram Jn., Sitamarhi, Adi Saptagram, Agarpara, Ahamedpur, Akra, Ambika Kalna, Aranghata, Asansol Jn., Azimganj City, B.B.D. Bag, Badkulla, Bagbazar, Baghajatin, Baidyabati, Ballygunge, Bandel Jn., Banpur, Bansh Beria, Barakar, Baranagar Road, Bardhaman, Barrackpore, Baruipara, Baruipur, Basirhat, Begampur, Belanagar, Belerhat, Belghoria, Belur, Belurmath, Berhampur Court, Bethudahari, Bhadrachar, Bhasila, Bidhannagar Road, Biman Bandar, Bira, Birati, Birnagar, Bolpur, Bongaon Jn., Brace Bridge, Budge Budge, Burrabazar, Canning, Chakda, Champa Pukur, Champahati, Chandannagar, Chandpara, Chittaranjan, Chuchura, Dakshineswar, Dankuni Jn., Deula, Dhakuria, Dhaniakhali, Dhapdhapi, Diamond Harbour Road, Dum Dum Canrt., Dum Dum Jn., Durganagar, Durgapur, Duttapukur, Eden Garden, Gangnapur, Garia, Gede, Ghutiari Shariff, Gobordanga, Gopalnagar, Guma, Guptipara, Guskara, Habibpur, Habra, Halisahar, Haripal, Harua Road, Hasnabad, Hooghly, Ichhapur, Jadabpur, Jagaddal, Jangipur Road, Jiaganj, Jirat, Joynagar Majilpur, Kakdwip, Kalikapur, Kalinarayanpur, Kalyani, Kalyani Ghoshpara, Kalyani Silpachal, Kalyanpur, Kamarkundu Jn., Kanchrapara, Kankinara, Kashinagar Halt, Katwa Jn., Khana Jn., Khardah, Kirnahar, Konnagar, Krishnagar City Jn., Kulti, Lake Gardens, Lakshmikantapur, Lalgola, Liluoli, Madanpur, Madhupur Jn., Madhyamgram, Magrahat, Majhergram, Malda Town, Mallikpur, Mankundu, Masagram, Masalandapur, Memari, Muragachha, Murshidabad, Nabadwipdham, Naihati Jn., Nalhati Jn., Nalikul, Namkhana, Nasibpur, Netra, New Alipore (Kolkata), New Barrackpore, New Farakka, Nischindapur Market, Paglachandi, Palpara, Palta, Pandooah, Parkcircus, Patipukur, Phulia. Plassey, Princepghat, Purbasthali, Rampurhat, Ranaghat Jn., Raniganj, Rasulpur, Rishra, Sahibganj, Sainthia Jn., Samudragarh, Sangrampur Halt,



Santoshpur, Shaktigarh, Shantipur Jn., Sheoraphully Jn., Shyamnagar, Simurali, Singur, Sitarampur Jn., Siuri, Sodepur, Sonarpur Jn., Sondalia, Subhasgram, Sultanganj, Suryapur, Taki Road, Tala, Tarakeswar, Tarapith Road, Thakurnagar, Titagarh, Tollygunge, Tribeni, Uttarpara, Banda, Lalitpur, Azamgarh, Ballia, Balrampur, Basti, Mau Jn., Pilibhit Jn., Salcnpur Jn., Sitapur, Alipurduar, Aluabari Road, Balurghat, Coochbehar, Dalkolha, Dhupguri, Haldibari, Jalpaiguri, Raiganj, Rangapara North. Samsi, Silchar, Siliguri Jn., Abohar, Chandausi Jn., Rishikesh, Kosli, Lalgah, Sirsa, Adiiabad, Anantpur, Bapla, Bhongir, Bidar, Chittoor, Guntakal Jn., Kakinada Town, Kumool Town, Mahaboob Nagar, Nalgonda, Nandyal, Nellore, Nizamabad, Parli Vajinath, Ramagundam, Renigunta, Zahirabad, Adra Jn., Amta, Andul Jn., Bagnan, Balasore, Ballichak, Bankura, Bargachia, Bauria Jn., Belda (Contai Road), Birshipbur, Chakradharpur, Chengel, Domjur, Haur, Jaleswar, Jhargram, Kalikunda, Kolaghat Coaching, Kulgachia, Mahisadal, Mccheda, Midnapur, Mourigram, Narayan Pakuria Murail, Panskura Jn., Phuleswar, Purulia Jn., Radliamohanpur (Debra), Rourkela, Srirampur (H), Tamluk, Tatanagar, Ulubaria, Avadi, Badagara, Chennai Beach Jn., Chennai Chetpat, Chennai Park, Chromepet, Coonoor, Dhanuvachapuram, Karuvatta, Kasargod, Korukkupet, Kottayam, Manavur, Pattikkad, Perambur Carriage WKS, Senjipanambakam Halt, St. Thomas Mount, Tambaram, Thalasseri, Tiruchirappalli Jn., Tiruninravur, Tirur, Tiruvalangadu, Tiruvallur, Tiruvizha, Vayalar, Chamraj Nagar, Londa Jn., Ashok Nagar, Sagar, Sawai Madhopur Jn., Andheri, Bandra, Bhayander, Borivali, Chittorgarh Jn., Dadar, Dahanu Road, Dahod, Goregaon, Himmatnagar, Jamnagar, Malad, Mira Road, Mumbai (Charni Road), Mumbai (Churchgate), Mumbai (Marine Lines), Mumbai Central (L), Naigaon, Okha, Ratlam, Santacruz, Saphala, Una, Vangaon and Virar.

(b) to (d) 217 railway stations on Indian Railways are under process for modernisation under "Adarsh Station" Scheme. The details are as under:

Ajni, Chinchwad, Kalmeshwar, Karjat, Kasara, Katol, Khadki, Khopoli, Kopergaon, Latur, Miraj, Multai, Nahur, Narked, Pandhurna, Panvel, Shirdi, Shivajinagar, Turbhe APM Complex, Vashi, Vishrambag, Angul, Bobbili, Doikallu, Jakhapura, Lanjigarh Road, Lapanga, Meramandoli, Paradeep, Raghunathpur, Rengali, Talcher, Anugraha Narayan Road, Barauni, Mansi, Mughalasarai, Rafiganj, Singrauli, Andal, Bally, Ballyghat, Bhatar, Bhedia (Ausgram), Debagram, Galsi, Jagadishpur, Jamalpur, Jamuria, Khaltipur, Khidirpur, Kodalia-Bisorepara, Salar, Taldi, Aligarh, Atarra, Dapsaura, Dhaulpur, Firozabad, Kalpi, Mirzapur, Moth, Orai, Pokhrayan, Shikohabad Jn., Tundla, Chhapra Jn., Gonda Jn., Naugarh (Siddharth Nagar), Ramnagar, Badarpur Jn., Barpeta Road, Basugaon, Bijni, Changrabandha, Dimapur, Dinhata, Fakiragram, Gazole, Gorcswar, Gosaigaon Hat, Hojai, Jalpaiguri Road, New Domohni, New Maynaguri,

Rowta Bagan, Salakati, Srirampur Assam, Tangla, Tihu, Tipkai, Udalguri, Ambala Cantt., Amethi, Bahadurgarh, Barabanki, Barnala, Bhiwani, Delhi Kishanganj, Dhuri, Faridkot, Gurdas Pur, Gurgaon, Hardoi, Hoshiarpur, Jwalaji (Jalwalamukhi Road), Kalanour, Kotdwara, Lehragaga, Malerkotla, Meerut Cantt, Moga, Panipat, Partap Garh Jn., Partapur, Prayag, Ringus, Rohtak Jn., Sandila, Sangrur, Sonipat, Subzi Mandi, Sultanpur, Sunam, Tapa, Tarntaran , Udampur, Dausa, Aler, Dwarapudi, Ghanpur, Gudur, Jangaon, Kamareddy, Karim Nagar, Kazipet, Khammam, Lingampalli, Nagarsol, Narasaraopet, Parbhani, Purna, Shankarpalli, Tandur, Udgir, Urmer, Vikarabad, Warangal, Anuppur, Belpahar, Bilaspur Road, Chhindwara Jn., Dongargarh, Kamptee, Ramtek, Shahdol, Umariya, Umrer, Bakrabad, Banspani, Baripada, Chandrakona Road, Chas Road, Chhatna, Dantan, Garbeta, Giri Maidan, Gokulpur, Gourinathdham, Hijli, Jharsuguda Jn., Narayangarh, Nekurseni, Sili, Sonamukhi, Tikiapara, Alappuzha (Alleppey), Aluva, Ambalapuzha, Angamaly, Chalakudi, Changanassery, Cherthala (Shertalai), Haripad, Karunagappally, Kayankulam Jn., Kochuveli, Kottarakara, Mahe, Mavelikara, Nagappattinam, Nilambur Road, Ochira, Punalur, Rajapalayam, Sankarankoil, Srivilliputhur, Tenkasi, Tiruvalla, Tiruvarur, Virudunagar, Bagalkot, Chikballapur, Devanahalli, Dodhallapur, Gauribidanur, Gokak: Road, Hindupur, Koppal, Nanjangud Town, Yelahanka Jn., Ghatera, Itarsi, Maihar, Ruthiyai, Shivpuri, Kosamba and Vyara.

#### **Electrification of Amritsar-Pathankot rail line**

573. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of electrification of Amritsar-Pathankot rail line;
- (b) by when the work on this project is likely to be completed; and
- (c) the financial allocation made for the project for the year 2010-11 and how much out of that has been utilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Amritsar-Jalandhar City-Suchipind section is already electrified and work is in progress on Suchipind-Pathankot section.

(b) Electrification of Suchipind (Jalandhar)-Pathankot is a part of Jalandhar-Jammu Tawi-Udhampur electrification project which is planned for completion by March 2013.

(c) Expenditure of Rs. 35.79 Crores was accounted for till December, 2010 as against the allocation of Rs. 75.66 crores for the financial year 2010-11

#### **Policy for bamboo dependent people**

574. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether representations have been received from North East to evolve a policy for bamboo-dependent people, (living in forest area);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps Government has taken to study and assess the need of some communities dependent on bamboo for their livelihood;
- (d) whether any team has visited such communities during the last year;
- (e) the steps proposed to interact with NGO's to further such plans for bamboo dependent people;
- (f) whether Government has formulated implementation of Anti Dumping Policy specific to Bamboo products manufactures in China as it is hampering local artisans; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Development of Multi Model Logistics Park in Orissa**

575. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a proposal for development of Multi Model Logistics Park and container freight stations at Kalinga Nagar, Angul, Jharsuguda, Rourkela and Choudwar in Orissa is pending with Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Government of Orissa is pressing for implementation of this proposal; and
- (d) if so, the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (d) Government of Orissa had approached Ministry of Railways suggesting development of Multi Modal Logistic Parks (MMLPs) near the important industrial clusters like Kalinganagar, Angul, Jharsuguda and Choudwar. Ministry of Railways does not make any investment in development of such MMLPs and its role is limited to providing technical assistance and guidance for development of MMLPs for specific sites.

Setting up of Container Freight Stations is done by industry participants like CONCOR or other private logistics providers based on economic viability and justification.

### **Effect of New Catering Policy**

576. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that small caterers were unhappy with the revised catering policy announced by the Railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that with the new catering policy, the level playing field for the small caterers will be wiped out; and
- (d) if so, the measures taken by Government to ensure that small caterers remain in fray?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

### **Demand for increase in frequency of Tirukkural Express**

577. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any representation for increasing the frequency of the Tirukkural Express between Nizamuddin and Kanyakumari, which is running only once a week;
- (b) if so, whether Government will come forward to increase the frequency of Thirukkural Express at least thrice in a week since it is a long pending demand of Tamil Nadu;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) At present, there is no proposal to increase the frequency of 12641/12642 Kanyakumari-Hazrat Nizamuddin Thirukkural (weekly) Express.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) Increase in the frequency of 12641/12642 Kanyakumari-Hazrat Nizamuddin Thirukkural (weekly) Express is not feasible due to operational and resource constraints at present.

### **Increase in freight rates**

†578. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the freight rates by Railways have been increased in December, 2010;
- (b) if so, the commodities for which freight rates have been increased;
- (c) the extent of increase in freight rates for each commodity; and
- (d) the additional revenue Railways will earn in the financial year 2010-11 as a result of this increase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Since July 2006, there has been no across the board increase in freight rates by Railways. However, as a process of rationalisation, minor adjustment in telescopic rate structure has been carried out in December 2010, in respect of all commodities except Foodgrains and Chemical Manures and a minor change has been made in classification of Sugar and De-oiled Cake.

(c) As a result of the above freight adjustment, the extent of increase is negligible for major commodities. For example, the increase per kg per 1000 km is Nil for Foodgrain and Chemical Manures, 03 paise for Coal and Cement, 04 paise for Iron and Steel and Iron Ore and 05 paise per litre for Petroleum products.

(d) This can be assessed only after completion of financial year.

### **Loading of less quantity of Goods in Trains**

†579. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:

SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the case of running goods-trains by loading thereon less quantity of goods by railway personnel has come to the light;
- (b) if so, the number of trains in which less quantity of goods were loaded in the last three years and the monetary loss to the Railways as a result thereof;
- (c) whether any action has been taken against the guilty persons by tracing them out for loading goods lesser than the prescribed loading; and
- (d) the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) Does not arise.

**Joint venture in railway projects**

†580. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that it has been decided to carry out the execution work of many projects under Railways by joint ventures of public and private sector;
- (b) if so, whether the projects sector that are to be executed under this system have been selected;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the share of public sector and private sector fixed in these joint ventures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. Areas identified for possible execution through Joint venture with public and private sector include manufacturing of rolling stock and components, port and other connectivity works and setting up of dedicated power plants, etc.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Railways has taken up the following four projects for execution through Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV).

- (1) Haridaspur-Paradip new Railway line;
- (2) Obullavaripalli-Krishnapatnam new Railway line;
- (3) Bharuch -Dahej gauge Conversion and
- (4) Angul- Sukinda new Railway line.

Locomotive factories at Madhepura and Marhowra and Coach manufacturing factory at Kanchrapara have been identified for execution through Joint venture with suppliers selected through competitive bidding for long-term procurement.

A joint venture has been formed with NTPC for setting up of power plants at Navinagar and Adra.

(d) The equity share of private sector and public sector in ongoing SPVs as on date is as under:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Ongoing projects	Public sector	Private sector
Haridaspur-Paradip New Railway Line	60.91%	39.09%
Obullavaripalle-Krishnapatnam New Railway Line	58%	42%
Bharuch-Dahej Gauge Conversion	52.94%	47.06%
Angul-Sukinda New Railway Line	45%	45%

Note: The equity share of Railways in the Joint Venture with NTPC as on date is 26%.

\*Government of Orissa has been requested to pick up the gap of 10%.

### Incidents of robbery in trains

†581. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:  
SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- the names of trains in which incidents of robbery occurred during the last three years;
- the details of the category of coaches in which such incidents of robbery take place usually;
- whether any passenger died in such incidents during the last three years;
- the details of amount and other items robbed from passengers in such incidents during the last three years; and
- the steps taken by Government to check increasing incidents of robbery and for safety of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The maintenance of law and order, including that on running trains is a State Government subject. In Railway premises/ trains this is carried out through the Government Railway Police of the State concerned whose efforts are supplemented by the Railway Protection Force. The names of trains in which incidents of robbery occurred during the years 2008, 2009 and 2010 are as under:-

Sl.No.	Train No.	Names of trains in which incidents of robbery occurred during the last three years
1	2	3
1.	13	Tatanagar - Bilaspur Pgr.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3
2.	40	Ahmedabad - Mumbai Pgr.
3.	85	Tatanagar - Barkakana Pgr.
4.	102	Bangalore - Arakkonam Pgr.
5.	126	Amravati - Surat Pgr.
6.	128	Tenali - Repalle Pgr.
7.	131	Pgr.
8.	169	Pilibhit - Sahajahanpur Pgr.
9.	173	Tikonia - Aishbagh Pgr.
10.	174	Aishbagh - Tikonia Pgr.
11.	182	Sitapur - Mailani Pgr.
12.	189	Chennai Central - Tirupati Pgr.
13.	192	Mailani - Gonda Pgr.
14.	201	Santragachi - Puri Pgr.
15.	210	Passenger
16.	219	Passenger
17.	224	Kanpur - Jhansi Pgr.
18.	233	Jhansi - Agra Pgr.
19.	244	Chhapra - Thawe Pgr.
20.	249	Valsad - Viram Gam Pgr.
21.	251	Thawe - Kaptangaj Pgr.
22.	255	Ratlarn - Mathura Pgr.
23.	272	Passenger
24.	274	Kakinada - Tirupati Pgr.
25.	286	Panchaveli Pgr.
26.	298	Passenger
27.	321	Tatanagar - Bilaspur Pgr.
28.	322	Bilaspur - Tatanagar Pgr.



1	2	3
29.	325	Kakatiya fast Pgr.
30.	329	Tatanagar - Barbil Pgr.
31.	329	Bijapur - Hyderabad Pgr.
32.	330	Barbil - Tatanagar Pgr.
33.	330	Hyderabad - Bijapur Pgr.
34.	345	Kharagpur - Tatanagar Pgr.
35.	347	Kharagpur - Tatanagar Pgr.
36.	352	Tatanagar - Kharagpur Pgr.
37.	807	Vridhachalam - Trichy Pgr.
38.	826	Tirunelveli - Erode Pgr.
39.	355	Ernakulam - Quilon Pgr.
40.	356	Gondia - Jharsuguda Pgr.
41.	361	Arsikere - Mysore Pgr.
42.	421	Gomoh - Chakradharpur Pgr.
43.	428	Guntur - Dhronachalam Pgr.
44.	463	Howrah - Adra Pgr.
45.	470	Ratlam - Akola Exp.
46.	480	Siwan - Thawe Pgr.
47.	485	Sikohabad - Kasganj Exp.
48.	490	Akola - Mahu Pgr.
49.	491	Jodhpur - Bhopal Pgr.
50.	492	Bhopal - Jodhpur Pgr.
51.	494	Mhow - Ujjain Pgr.
52.	516	Nizamabad - Daund Pgr.
53.	517	Daund - Nizamabad Pgr.
54.	542	Nanded - Manmad Pgr.
55.	544	Siwan - Chhapra Pgr.

1	2	3
56.	553	Passenger
57.	559	Passenger
58.	574	Yeswanthpur - Salem Pgr.
59.	578	Passenger
60.	583	Bangalore - Hubli Pgr.
61.	593	Passenger
62.	607	Chennai Egmore - Nagercoil Pgr.
63.	614	Coimbatore - Chennai Central spl.
64.	629	Rameswaram - Trichy Pgr.
65.	701	Villupuram - Madurai Pgr.
66.	711	Jaipur - Sriganganagar Pgr.
67.	716	Passenger
68.	717	Passenger
69.	720	Dahod - Vadodara Pgr.
70.	755	Madurai - Rameswaram Pgr.
71.	761	Passenger
72.	769	Intercity Exp.
73.	770	Intercity Exp.
74.	785	Madurai - Sengottai Pgr.
75.	786	Madurai - Sengottai Pgr.
76.	836	Salem - Vridhachalam Pgr.
77.	863	Passenger
78.	1006	CSTM Exp.
79.	1011	CSTM - Kolhapur Exp.
80.	1014	Kurla Exp.
81.	1015	Kushinagar Exp.
82.	1016	Kushinagar Exp.

1	2	3
83.	1019	Konark Exp.
84.	1028	Chennai - CSTM Exp.
85.	1057	Dadar - Amritsar Exp.
86.	1059	Godan Exp.
87.	1065	Pawan Exp.
88.	1068	Saket Exp.
89.	1071	Kamayani Exp.
90.	1093	Mahanagri Exp.
91.	1125	Intercity Exp.
92.	1126	Bhind - Indore Intercity Exp.
93.	1322	Aurangabad - Hyderabad Pgr.
94.	1330	Bijapur - CSTM Pgr.
95.	1333	CSTM - Bijapur Pgr.
96.	1348	Agra - Jhansi Pgr.
97.	1388	Katni - Bhusawal Pgr.
98.	1450	Jammutawai - Jabalpur Exp.
99.	1555	Pune - Solapur Pgr.
100.	1589	Bhopal - Bina Pgr.
101.	1619	Miraj - Hubli Pgr.
102.	1630	Kolhapur - Sangli Pgr.
103.	736	Damoh - Kota Pgr.
104.	771	Kota - Agra Pgr.
105.	2020	Ranchi - Howrah Shatabdi Exp.
106.	2021	Janshatabdi Exp.
107.	2022	Barbil - Howrah Exp.
108.	2107	LTT-Lucknow Exp.
109.	2129	Azad Hind Exp.

1	2	3
110.	2137	Punjab Mail
111.	2138	Punjab mail
112.	2150	Patna - Pune Exp.
113.	2151	Summarsatha Exp.
114.	2155	Bhopal Exp.
115.	2159	Nagpur - Jabalpur Exp.
116.	2163	Dadar - Chennai Exp.
117.	2166	Ratnagiri Exp.
118.	2179	Lucknow - Agra Intercity Exp.
119.	2183	Bhopal - Lucknow Exp.
120.	2185	Rewanchal Exp.
121.	2191	Sreedham Exp.
122.	2256	Bihar Sampark kranti Exp.
123.	2312	Kalka - Howrah mail
124.	2345	Saraighat Exp.
125.	2382	Poorva Exp.
126.	2403	Allahabad - Mathura Exp.
127.	2406	Gondwana Exp.
128.	2412	Gondwana Exp.
129.	2413	Pooja Exp.
130.	2417	Prayag Raj Exp.
131.	2466	Jodhpur Exp.
132.	2471	Swaraj Exp.
133.	2472	Swaraj Exp.
134.	2506	N.E. Exp.
135.	2522	Raptisagar Exp.
136.	2534	Pushpak Exp.

1	2	3
137.	2537	Maruadih Exp.
138.	2542	LTT - Gorakhpur Exp.
139.	2558	Sampark Kranti Exp.
140.	2566	Bihar Sampark kranti Exp.
141.	2602	Mangalore - Chennai Central mail
142.	2609	Bangalore - Chennai Exp.
143.	2616	G.T. Exp.
144.	2618	Mangalore Exp.
145.	2625	Kerala Exp.
146.	2627	Karnataka Exp.
147.	2631	Chennai Egmore - Tirunelveli Exp.
148.	2637	Chennai Egmore - Madurai Exp.
149.	2638	Madurai - Chennai Egmore Exp.
150.	2643	Trivendrum - Nizamuddin Exp.
151.	2661	Chennai Egmore - Sengottai Exp.
152.	2671	Chennai Central - Mettupalayam Exp.
153.	2672	Mettupalayam - Chennai Central Exp.
154.	2674	Chennai Central - Coimbatore Exp.
155.	2689	Hyderabad - Chennai Exp.
156.	2691	Prashanthi Nilayam Exp.
157.	2693	Chennai Egmore - Tuticorin Exp.
158.	2710	Simhapuri Exp.
159.	2712	Chennai Central - Vijayawada Exp.
160.	2722	Dakshin Exp.
161.	2737	Gowthami Exp.
162.	2741	Vasco-de-gama Exp.
163.	2750	Visakhapatnam super fast Pgr.

1	2	3
164.	2763	Padmavathi Exp.
165.	2764	Padmavathi Exp.
166.	2779	Vasco-de-gama Exp.
167.	2780	Vasco-de-gama Exp.
168.	2792	Rajendra Nagar Exp.
169.	2802	Purusottam Exp.
170.	2803	Swarn Jayanti Exp.
171.	2826	Jharkhand Exp.
172.	2842	Chennai Central - Howrah Exp.
173.	2925	Paschim Exp.
174.	2941	Parasnath Exp.
175.	2945	Tapti Ganga Exp.
176.	2948	Azeemabad Exp.
177.	2967	Jaipur - Chennai Exp.
178.	3006	Amritsar - Howrah mail
179.	3008	Toofan Exp.
180.	3019	Bagh Exp.
181.	3020	Bagh Exp.
182.	3039	Janta Exp.
183.	3040	Janta Exp.
184.	3050	Amritsar - Howrah Exp.
185.	3105	Sealdah - Ballia Exp.
186.	3111	Lal Quilla Exp.
187.	3112	Lal Quilla Exp.
188.	3151	Sealdah Exp.
189.	3225	Danapur - Link Exp.
190.	3243	Patna - Dehri-on-son Exp.

1	2	3
191.	3252	Howrah - Danapur Exp.
192.	3287	South Bihar Exp.
193.	3347	Palamau Exp.
194.	3351	Dhanbad - Alleppy Exp.
195.	3352	Alleppy - Dhanbad Exp.
196.	3420	Janeswari Exp.
197.	4055	Brahmaputra Mail
198.	4056	Brahmaputra M ail
199.	4084	Mahananda Exp.
200.	4096	Himalayan Queen Exp.
201.	4119	Kathgodam Exp.
202.	4163	Sangam Exp.
203.	4206	Faizabad Exp.
204.	4217	Unchahar Exp.
205.	4218	Unchahar Exp.
206.	4258	Kashi Viswanath Exp.
207.	4674	Shahid Exp.
208.	4724	Kalindi Exp.
209.	4863	Marudhar Exp.
210.	5017	Kashi Exp.
211.	5028	Maurya Exp.
212.	5037	Awadh Exp.
213.	5046	Okha Exp.
214.	5049	Purvanchal Exp.
215.	5093	Surat - Nuzaffarpur Exp.
216.	5110	Budh Poornima Exp.
217.	5202	Raxaul - Hajipur Exp.

1	2	3
218.	5209	Jansewa Exp.
219.	5210	Jnasewa Exp.
220.	5211	Jannayak Exp.
221.	5212	Jannayak Exp.
222.	5274	Satyagrah Exp.
223.	5280	Purbaiya Exp.
224.	5631	Barmer - Guwahati Exp.
225.	5691	Cachar Exp.
226.	5694	Barak Valley Exp.
227.	5695	Lumding - Agartala Exp.
228.	5707	Amritsar - Katihar Exp.
229.	5708	Amritsar - Katihar Amrapali Exp.
230.	5713	Katihar - Patna Exp.
231.	5715	Garib Nawaj Exp.
232.	5934	Dibrugarh Exp.
233.	6041	Chennai Central - Alleppy Exp.
234.	6042	Aleppy - Chennai Central Exp.
235.	6101	Chennai Egmore - Rameswaram Exp.
236.	6102	Rameswaram - Chennai Egmore Exp.
237.	6123	Chennai Egmore - Trivendrum Exp.
238.	6309	Ernakulam - Patna Exp.
239.	6323	Trivendrum - Shalimar Exp.
240.	6340	Mumbai Exp.
241.	6350	Mangalore - rivendrum Exp.
242.	6507	Jodhpur - Bangalore Exp.
243.	6517	Mangalore Exp.
244.	6526	Kanyakumari Exp.



1	2	3
245.	6527	Yeswanthpur - Cananore Exp.
246.	6532	Garibnawaj Exp.
247.	6535	Yeswanthpur - Solapur Exp.
248.	6614	Coimbatore - Rajkot Exp.
249.	6669	Chennai Central - Erode Exp.
250.	6731	Tuticorin - Mysore Exp.
251.	7018	Secunderabad - Rajkot Exp.
252.	7031	CSTM - Hyderabad Exp.
253.	7205	Manmad Exp.
254.	7208	Vijayawada - Manmad Exp.
255.	7212	Machlipattanam Exp.
256.	7309	Yeswanthpur - Vasco Exp.
257.	7487	Tirumala Exp.
258.	7651	Egmore Exp.
259.	8029	Shalimar - Kurla Exp.
260.	8102	Muri Exp.
261.	8181	Tatanagar - Chhapra Exp.
262.	8182	Chandrapura - Tatanagar Exp.
263.	8204	Betwa Exp.
264.	8237	Chhattisgarh Exp.
265.	8238	Chhattisgarh Exp.
266.	8239	Shivnath Exp.
267.	8617	Howrah - Ranchi Intercity Exp.
268.	8621	Patna - Hatia Patliputra Exp.
269.	8646	East Coast Exp.
270.	9012	Gujarat Exp.
271.	9017	Saurashtra Janta Exp.

1	2	3
272.	9030	Awadhi Exp.
273.	9060	Jamnagar - Surat Intercity Exp.
274.	9066	Jodhpur - Howrah Holiday Spl.
275.	9167	Sabarmati Exp.
276.	9215	Saurashtra Exp.
277.	9269	Porbandar Exp.
278.	9303	Bhopal - Ratlam Intercity Exp.
279.	9324	Bhopal - Indore Exp.
280.	9711	Jaipur - Sriganganagar Exp.
281.	12331	Himgiri Exp.
282.	12392	Shramjeevi Exp.
283.	12524	New Jalpaiguri Anand Vihar Exp.
284.	12630	Yeswanthpur Sampark kranti Exp.
285.	12657	Chennai Exp.
286.	12876	Neelachal Exp.
287.	13307	Ganga Satluj Exp.
288.	14124	Kanpur - Pratapgarh Intercity Exp.
289.	14205	Faizabad - Delhi Exp.
290.	14235	Varanasi - Bareilly Exp.
291.	14370	Triveni Exp.
292.	19167	Sabarmati Exp.
293.	54056	Firozpur - Jhind Pgr.
294.	58023	Tatanagar - Barkakana Pgr.
295.	1 NKM	New Delhi - Kurukshetra Pgr.
296.	1 RB	Bhatinda - Rewari Pgr.
297.	1 VPL	Varanasi - Lucknow Pgr.
298.	2 FP	Faizabad - Prayag Pgr.

1	2	3
299.	2SSD	Saharanpur - Delhi Pgr.
300.	2JH	Jharsuguda - Hatia Pgr.
301.	2RL	Lohardaga - Ranchi Pgr.
302.	3 KM	Kasganj - Mathura Pgr.
303.	4SD	Samli - Delhi Pgr.
304.	4BA	Burdwan - Bokaro Pgr.
305.	5 RAD	Raipur - Abhanpur - Dhamtari Pgr.
306.	6NPM	Panipat - New Delhi Pgr.
307.	6NRC	Nagpur - Ramakona - Chhindwara Pgr.
308.	6RN	Ramtek - Nagpur Pgr.
309.	7JNK	Jhind - Kurukshetra Pgr.
310.	8RD	Rewari - Delhi Pgr.
311.	8RL	Lohardaga - Ranchi Pgr.
312.	Exp.	Gaya - Howrah Exp.
313.	Express	North Bengal Exp.
314.	GDN-1	Ghaziabad - New Delhi Local
315.	L-18	Pune - Lonavla local
316.	L2U	Pune - Lonavla local
317.	L-31	Lonavla - Pune local
318.	L-32	Pune - Lonavla local
319.	L-33	Lonavla - Pune local
320.	Local	Howrah - Barddhaman Local
321.	Local	Sealdah - Diamond Harbour Local
322.	Local	Duttapukur Local
323.	Local	Lakhikantapur Local
324.	Local	Canning Local
325.	Local	Naihati Local

1	2	3
326.	Local	Budge Budge Local
327.	Local	Howrah - Tarakeswar Local
328.	Local	Namkhana Local
329.	Local	Krishnanagar Local
330.	Local	Kalyani Local
331.	Local	Sonarpur Local
332.	Local	Ranaghat Local
333.	Local	Sealdah - Gobardanga Local
334.	Local	Katwa Local
335.	Local	Baruipur Local
336.	Local	Sealdah - Gede Local
337.	Local	Chennai Suburban local
338.	Local	Mumbai Suburban local
339.	Passenger	Howrah - Jaynagar Fast Pgr.
340.	Passenger	Sahibganj - Rampurhat Pgr.
341.	Passenger	Azimganj - Jamalpur Pgr.
342.	Passenger	Jamalpur - Kiul Pgr.
343.	Passenger	Howrah - Darbhanga Pgr.
344.	Passenger	Lalgola - Ranaghat Pgr.
345.	Passenger	Rampurhat - Gaya Pgr.
346.	Passenger	Howrah - Joynagar Pgr.
347.	Passenger	Karimganj - Dallabehera Pgr.
348.	Passenger	Katihar - Siliguri Pgr.
349.	Passenger	Jogbani - Katihar Pgr.
350.	PP 2	Parli - Puma Pgr.

(b) Usually incidents of robbery take place in General and Sleeper coaches of trains.

(c) and (d) Details of number of passengers died, amount/items robbed in the incidents of robbery occurred during the last three years are as under:-

Year	No. of passengers died	Amount robbed (in Rs.)	Items robbed
2008	10	1,41,60,678	Mobile phones. wrist watches and other valuables
2009	5	76,77,091	
2010	5	1,03,60,395	

(e) Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Police, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. As such the cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railway Police. Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of Government Railway Police (GRP) by deploying escorts in important Trains in affected areas.

Following measures are being taken by the Railways to check such incidents and ensure fear free journey for the passengers in trains:-

1. 1275 trains are escorted by RPF daily on an average, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States.
2. An Integrated Security System consisting of electronic surveillance of vulnerable stations through CCTV camera network, access control, anti-sabotage checks has been approved to strengthen surveillance mechanism over 202 sensitive and vulnerable Railway stations.
3. Regular coordination meetings are held with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police (GRP).
4. Passenger awareness programmes are organized frequently to sensitize the travelling public about the *modus operandi* adopted by the criminals to fleece the passengers.
5. An amendment in the RPF Act is under examination to enable RPF to deal with the passenger related offences more effectively.

#### **Cancellation of trains due to foggy weather**

†582. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:  
SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) the number of trains cancelled and ran late due to cold wave and fog in the winter seasons during the last three years;
- (b) the total amount of loss incurred by the railways due to cancellation of trains;
- (c) the total amount to be spent on installing A.C.D., T.P.W.S. and anti fog device; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government keeping in view the hardships faced by passengers due to the delay in arrival and departure of trains from the scheduled time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) 27,347 Mail/Express trains were delayed and 3770 Mail/Express trains were cancelled in winter season during the last three years.

(b) Railways are suffering revenue loss due to delay and cancellation of passenger carrying trains on various account. The data of loss due to cancellation is not maintained train wise.

(c) Both ACD and TPWS are on the trial stage and total amount to be spent on their installation over Indian Railway network cannot be estimated at present. There is no such device as anti-fog device being used on Indian Railway.

(d) The following steps have been taken by Indian Railways to ensure safe operations and the punctuality of passenger carrying trains:

1. Intensive, round the clock monitoring of trains at all three levels viz. Divisional, Zonal Head Quarters and Railway Board.
2. Launching of punctuality drives from time to time.
3. Running of trains at maximum permissible speed except during adverse weather conditions like fog, for safety considerations.
4. Improvement in standard of maintenance of assets to reduce equipment failures.
5. Counseling and motivating staff to ensure punctual running.
6. Liaison with State Government to tackle the Law and Order problems and miscreant activities.
7. Up-gradation of technology of track, rolling stock and signaling.

Besides, Railways have taken initiative to run train safely and in time during fog also. Railways have provided LED signal at 4273 stations on Indian Railways to improve visibility during fog for safety and smooth running. The automatic signals on fog affected busy sections of Northern region of Indian Railways *i.e.* Kanpur-Aligarh and Mathura-

Ballabgarh were also converted to semi automatic during fog period so as to improve transit time of trains and also prevent accidents. A number of trains were cancelled in advance to create clear path for all other trains and the same was announced 3 months in advance to avoid any inconvenience to travelling passengers. Information of current train running was made available to public through 139 services to avoid any inconvenience to travelling public.

#### **Use of Light Emitting Diodes in Mumbai**

†583. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Central Railway has started use of “Light Emitting Diodes (LED)” in Mumbai on trial basis to improve the signal system;
- (b) if so, by when and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it has now been fully operated on Central Local lines;
- (d) whether any improvement has been observed in the signal system as a result thereof; and
- (e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Central Railway has started use of LED signals in Mumbai on regular basis.

- (b) Mumbai Division adopted Light Emitting Diodes (LED) signals in Mumbai since June, 2008 to improve the visibility and longevity of the signal lamps.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Yes, Sir. There has been improvement in the visibility and reduction in number of signal lamp fusing cases.
- (e) Out of 4165 lamps, 750 LED lamps have been provided.

#### **Increasing the number of bogies in local trains in Mumbai**

†584. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether local trains of Mumbai are now going to have 15 bogies instead of 12 bogies;
- (b) if so, by when and whether all platforms have been made for the trains with 15 bogies;
- (c) if not, whether the work has been commenced therefor;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (d) whether even now the local trains are running with 9 bogies; and
- (e) the complete details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) At present, 12 Coach Electrical Multiple Unit (EMU) services with 15 coaches are running between Churchgate and Virar section of Western Railway.

(b) and (c) 15 Coach platforms at 10 stations on Churchgate-Virar Section of Western Railway are available at present. For other stations, works are yet to be sanctioned.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. 774 EMU services on Central Railway and 302 EMU services on Western Railway are running with 9 coaches.

#### **Passenger/mail trains for Rangiya-Murkongselek Region**

585. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Rangiya-Murkongselek passenger/mail trains have been stopped completely and only goods trains are running in that sector;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps Government has initiated for the passengers of the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) Train services from Rangiya to Murkongselek section have been suspended w.e.f. 18.12.2010 due to adverse law and order condition and will resume after getting security clearance from the State Government.

#### **Rail projects in Assam and NER**

586. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the ongoing projects in Assam and NER, State-wise;
- (b) the funds allocated for these projects during each of the last three years;
- (c) the progress made so far on these projects; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by Government for the completion of these projects expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The details of ongoing railway projects in Assam and North-Eastern Region alongwith outlay during the last three years and present status are as under:



(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the ongoing Project	States	Outlay (Through Gross Budgetary Support)*			Present Status
			2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>NEW LINE</b>						
1	Kumarghat-Agartala (National Project)	Tripura	45.00	10.00	10.00	Completed and commissioned in Oct., 2008 for MG services. Commissioning for BG services will be done alongwith Lumding-Badarpur-Kumarghat gauge conversion.
2.	Bogibeel Bridge (National Project)	Assam	249.45	75.00	110.49	South Bank line from Moranhat to Chalkhowa (44 km.) has been completed. Main bridge substructure and guide bunds have been taken up. The main bridge superstructure tender under finalisation.
3.	Jiribam-Tupul-Imphal (National Project)	Manipur	15.00	25.00	50.00	Earthwork, Tunnelling and Bridgework taken up in Jiribam-Tupul section. Final Location Survey for Tupul-Imphal (26.5 km.) taken up. Progress badly affected due to economic blockade and security problems.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Azra-Byrnihat (National Project)	Assam and Meghalaya	1.00	10.00	5.00	Survey work was suspended in Assam portion due to obstruction by local people. State Government desired for change of alignment. Alternative alignment from Tetelia to Byrnihat was examined and found feasible. Final Location Survey for the alternative alignment completed.
5.	Dimapur-Kohima (National Project)	Nagaland	1.00	10.00	5.00	Final Location Survey for entire length completed except at two locations at Km. 4.68-4.96 and Km. 5.25-5.70 where alignment is passing through Zoological park. Work has been entrusted to RVNL for execution.
6.	Agartala-Sabroom (National Project)	Tripura	0.00	0.01	30.00	Final Location Survey and Geo-tech investigation for entire length completed. Land acquisition taken up. Earthwork and bridges in Agartala-Udaipur under progress.
7.	Bhairabi-Sairang (National Project)	Mizoram	0.00	0.01	5.00	Final Location Survey completed. Work will be taken up after land is handed over to Railways by State Govt.
8.	Sivok-Rangpo (National Project)	West Bengal and Sikkim	0.00	0.00	10.00	Final Location Survey completed. The work has been entrusted to M/s. IRCON for execution.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Byrnihat Shillong (National Project)	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	Work sanctioned in 2010-11. Final Location Survey taken up.
10.	Harmuti-Itanagar	Assam and Arunachal Pradesh	5.00	30.00	35.00	Final Location Survey from Harmuti to Naharlagun (21 km.) completed. State Government agreed to terminate the line at Naharlagun. In Arunachal Pradesh land handed over from Km.8.7 to 14.2 and Km. 15.6 to 20.0. In Assam portion land is yet to be acquired. Earthwork, bridge works taken up in Arunachal Pradesh.
11.	Dudhnoi-Mendipathar	Assam and Meghalaya	0.02	0.02	5.00	Land acquisition proposals for entire length submitted to State Governments. Earthwork and bridges taken up.
12.	New Mainaguri-Jogighopa	Assam and West Bengal	55.00	60.00	109.00	Land acquisition, earthwork, bridges taken up in New Mainaguri-New Coochbehar-Golakganj section. Land acquisition and major bridges taken up in Gouripur-Jogighopa (Abhayapuri) (84.90 km).
<b>GAUGE CONVERSION</b>						
1.	Lumding-Silchar-Jiribam and Badarpur to	Assam, Tripura and	90.00	137.95	120.00	Construction works for earthwork, major and minor bridges and ballasting etc. is in progress. Progress is adversely affected due to militancy

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Kumarghat (National Project)	Manipur				and law and order problems in the region, poor motorability due to bad conditions of road and bridges in N.C. Hills.
2.	Rangia-Murkongselek with linked fingers (National Project)	Assam	22.00	50.00	54.28	On Rangia-Rangpara North Section, works of formation, bridges etc. taken up. On Rangapara North-Murkongselek section, land acquisition, earthwork and bridges taken up.
3.	New Jalpaiguri- Siliguri-New Bongaigaon including branch lines	Assam and West Bengal	6.00	5.00	21.71	Completed and commissioned in 13.09.2010.
4.	Katakhal to Bhairabi		5.98	15.00	10.00	Work is planned to be completed along with Lumding-Silchar gauge conversion project.
<b>DOUBLING</b>						
1.	New Guwahati- Digaru patch doubling		10.00	50.00	35.00	Land acquisition, earthwork, bridge work taken up.

(d) Non Lapsable North East Region Rail Development Fund (NERRDF) has been created by Central Government to expedite progress of these projects.

**Improvement of railway services in West Bengal**

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

- (a) the areas in West Bengal where railway services/functioning need to be improved and developed further;
- (b) the details of plan, estimates and preparations made for the same;
- (c) the targets fixed in each case;
- (d) the details of demands received for development and improvement of railway services in West Bengal over the last two years; and
- (e) the action being taken in all these matters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (e) Improvement of railway services and functioning and development of rail facilities is a continuous exercise. Depending on traffic demand, operational feasibility, commercial viability and availability of resources, the exercise of improvement and development of services is done in a unified manner. No proposal is considered on the basis of State-wise boundaries and neither any State-wise data is maintained for the same.

**Double stack container facility**

588. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to run three stack container facility on Rajkot-Surat-Howrah section;
- (b) whether there is any plan for providing such double stack facility in any other part of the country;
- (c) whether it is technically possible to provide such double stack container arrangement on this route;
- (d) whether Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR) is running a special container train anywhere in the country connecting ports;
- (e) if so, details thereof;
- (f) the number of such trains planned to run to Gujarat Ports;
- (g) whether Government plans to run special double stack container trains connecting Kandla and Veraval Ports; and

(h) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Single stack container trains are running to and from many ports, like Chennai, Kolkata, Tuticorin, Cochin, Kandla, Mundra, Pipavav, Mumbai and JNPT.

However, double stack container trains are operating on Pipavav - Kanakpura ICD (near Jaipur and Mundra-Kanakpura routes only. The number of trains in this year between April 2010 and January, 2011 are:

	Mundra	Pipavav
Import	36	30
Export	52	8

(f) Trains are planned depending upon the demand for container train services.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

#### **Railway density in States**

589. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the railway density of each State;

(b) whether special provisions have been made for States with poor density; and

(c) the list of National projects currently undertaken by Railways and their status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) State-wise railway density in terms of route kilometres as on 31.03.2010 is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of State	Route Kms. (RKM)s as on 31.3.2010
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5240.53

1	2	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.26
3.	Assam	2433.34
4.	Bihar	3567.83
5.	Chhattisgarh	1185.75
6.	Delhi	183.23
7.	Goa	69.31
8.	Gujarat	4999.17
9.	Haryana	1553.05
10.	Himachal Pradesh	296.26
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	255.67
12.	Jharkhand	2000.66
13.	Karnataka	3073.14
14.	Kerala	1049.85
15.	Madhya Pradesh	4948.34
16.	Maharashtra	5601.62
17.	Manipur	1.35
18.	Meghalaya	-
19.	Mizoram	1.50
20.	Nagaland	12.85
21.	Orissa	2386.40
22.	Punjab	2133.41
23.	Rajasthan	5780.12
24.	Sikkim	-
25.	Tamil Nadu	4060.96
26.	Tripura	151.40
27.	Uttar Pradesh	8725.85
28.	Uttarakhand	344.91

1	2	3
29.	West Bengal	3889.82
<b>Union Territories</b>		
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-
2.	Chandigarh	15.70
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-
4.	Daman and Diu	-
5.	Lakshadweep	-
6.	Pondicherry	11.10
ALL INDIA		63974.38

(b) Provisions are made according to the overall need for the projects, and not merely according to density of railway lines.

(c) Status of National Projects as on 01.04.2010 is as under:-

Name of the Project	Status
1	2

#### **New Line**

Jiribam-Imphal Road (Tupul) in the State of Manipur	Work on earthwork, major bridges and minor bridges for 0.00 to 97.90 kms started.
Kumarghat-Agartala in the State of Tripura	Commissioned on metre gauge on 05.10.2008
Azra-Byrnihat in the States of Assam and Meghalaya	Final Location Survey taken up. Survey is under suspension due to obstruction by local villagers on alignment issue in Assam area.
Dimapur-Zubza (Kohima) in the State of Assam and Nagaland	Final Location Survey taken up.
Bogibeel bridge in the State of Assam	Work of construction of embankment, guidebund, is in progress at North and South Bank of the bridge. On South



1	2
	Bank, Moranhat-Chalkhoa (44 km.) link has been completed and commissioned on 08.12.2009. Substructure of the main bridge is under progress. Superstructure contract has been invited and it is under process of finalization.
Bhairabhi-Sairang in the State of Mizoram	Final Location Survey has started.
Agartala-Sabroom in the State of Tripura	Final Location Survey completed. Land acquisition, earthwork and bridges have been taken up.
Sivok-Rangpo in the States of Sikkim and West Bengal	The work has been entrusted to IRCON. Final Location Survey completed.
Byrnihat-Shillong in the State of Meghalaya	Work included in Budget 2010-11
Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla in the State of Jammu and Kashmir	Qazigund-Baramulla (119 km) completed and commissioned. Work in Udhampur-Katra and Katra-Qazigund section in progress. Overall physical progress of 48%.
<b>Gauge Conversion</b>	
Lumding-Silchar-Jiribam and Badarpur to Kumarghat in the States of Assam and Manipur	Work on earthwork, major bridges, minor bridges, tunnelling and ballasting is under progress. However, progress is being affected due to militancy in the region.
Rangia-Murkongselek with linked fingers in the State of Assam	Work on formation and bridges is in progress.

#### **Proposal for doubling the plan expenditure of Railways**

590. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in view of the pathetic position of Railways Government has put forth a proposal before the Finance Ministry to double its Plan size to Rs. 39,600 crores;

(b) the reasons for sharp increase in the operating ratio touching to 95.3 per cent;

- (c) the efforts made by Government to improve the operating ratio; and
- (d) whether Finance Ministry has given any assurance for doubling the Plan size?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Rise in operating ratio to 95.3 in 2009-10 was mainly on account of payment of 6th Pay Commission arrears. A similar trend has been observed during earlier Pay Commissions also. Efforts to improve the operating ratio by maximising earnings and reducing expenditure is an on-going exercise. The Operating Ratio is expected to show a declining trend from 2010-11.

- (d) Does not arise.

#### **Utilization of rail track for attending call of nature**

591. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that in Surat, Udhna and Ahmedabad, people are utilizing railway tracks and areas near Railway Station for their natural cause which creates dirtiness, bad smell and spreading of various diseases;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to stop this; and
- (c) by when Government will grant approval to Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC) to provide toilet facilities for them as SMC already submitted a proposal to Surat local Railway Administration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Railway provides toilet facilities only to *bonafide* railway passengers.
- (c) Formal proposal in this regard has not been received from Surat Municipal Corporation.

#### **Delay in implementation of rail projects**

592. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether delay in rollout of 207 railway projects has pushed up the cost by over 85 per cent to Rs. 3.12 lakh crore from the original estimate of Rs. 1.69 lakh crore;
- (b) if so, whether Government has found out the reasons for delay in implementation of those projects; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that railway projects are completed within the stipulated time frame to avoid cost escalation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Railways have a huge throwforward of about Rs. 1 lakh crore for ongoing new line, gauge conversion and doubling projects and there is limited availability of Gross Budgetary Support. As on 01.04.2010, there were 327 ongoing new line, gauge conversion and doubling projects. The targets for the projects are generally fixed on yearly basis based upon the progress of the projects, their relative priority and availability of resources. Besides financial constraints, the railway projects get delayed due to delay in availability of land, forestry and other clearances, law and order conditions, contractual failure, etc.

(c) To expedite completion of the ongoing projects as also to avoid cost and time overrun, the railways are making efforts to generate additional funds through measures which are other than Gross Budgetary Support. Besides, Railways have introduced Railway Infrastructure Investment Initiative (R3i) policy and R2Ci also for attracting private sector participation in rail connectivity projects. 4 projects have been taken up under special purpose vehicle with industry participation. The measures adopted such as Public Private Partnership, participation by State Governments/beneficiaries, additional funds for National Projects as also implementation through Rail Vikas Nigam Limited have started yielding positive results.

#### **Appointment of persons on compassionate grounds**

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

(a) whether a large number of applications are pending for compassionate appointment in the Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the norms adopted by Government for appointment on compassionate grounds; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to process those applications and appoint them immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Compassionate appointment in Group 'C' or Group 'D' is considered in favour of one eligible dependent family member of Railway servants who die in harness or retire prematurely on account of medical decategorisation, subject to fulfilling the eligibility conditions prescribed for the post being considered for.

(d) Each and every case of compassionate appointment is dealt with and disposed expeditiously to save the family of the ex-employee from any hardship. With a view to expedite appointment on compassionate ground the following steps have been taken:

- (i) Welfare Inspectors deputed to contact the family members and to conduct enquiry into the details as soon as the applications are made.
- (ii) Constant monitoring is done by Sr. Divisional Personnel Officers/Divisional Personnel Officers at the Divisional level and by Chief Personnel Officers at the Head quarter level and also by the Heads of Personnel Branch in other units.
- (iii) Selections for determining the suitability of the applicants for Group 'C' posts are conducted regularly.
- (iv) Compassionate appointment Adalats are also held periodically to settle the grievances regarding appointment on compassionate grounds.
- (v) The position regarding compassionate appointment is also reviewed by the Railway Board regularly.

#### **Execution of rail projects in Sri Lanka by Indian Railways**

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

- (a) the details of ongoing Sri Lankan railway project under execution by Indian Railways as on date;
- (b) whether the Lines of Credit has offered by Government of India for each of these projects;
- (c) if so, the details in this regard, project-wise;
- (d) the details of the targets fixed for completion of each of these projects; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken by the Indian Railways to complete such projects within the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (d) M/s IRCON International Limited and M/s RITES Limited, two Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under the administrative control of Ministry of Railways are executing rail projects in Sri Lanka. The details of rail projects under execution by these PSUs are as under:

#### **1. M/s IRCON International Limited**

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Target date for completion
1.	Upgradation of Colombo - Matara Coastal Railway line Phase-II (Kalutara to Galle)	March, 2012

## 2. M/s RITES Limited

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Target date for completion
1	Supply of 20 DMU Train sets with spares	August, 2012
2.	Supply of Machinery and Plant for DMU maintenance	March, 2011
3	Construction of Sheds and buildings for DMU maintenance	February, 2012
4	HRD and Training of SLR personnel	June, 2011
5.	Supply of 3 Diesel Locomotives	February, 2012

(b) and (c) Government of India has offered Lines of Credit for each of the following projects. The details of Lines of Credit offered by Government of India are as under:

- (i) Track laying on Omanthi - Pallai Railway line - US\$185.35 million
- (ii) Track laying on Madhu Church - Thallaimannar Railway line - US\$ 149.74 million.
- (iii) Track laying on Medawachchiya-Madhu Railway line - US\$ 81.31 million.
- (iv) Upgradation of Southern Railway Corridor - US\$167.4 million.

(e) Indian Railways lends necessary support to the PSUs and the progress of activities undertaken is monitored under the laid down monitoring mechanism.

### Setting-up of X-Ray scanners at Railway Stations

595. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to set-up X-Ray scanners for passengers and baggage at all major stations; and
- (b) how many stations use them now and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. It has been decided to install X-Ray Baggage Scanners at major stations of Indian railways.

(b) At present 38 X-ray baggage scanners are installed at 22 stations over Indian Railways. However, X-ray baggage scanner is one of the components of Integrated Security System, which is under final stages of installation at 202 vulnerable stations of the country.

### **Increase in vacancies**

596. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the vacancies of supervisors and artisans in the signalling and Telecom Works Division of Railways has increased recently;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Signalling Engineers in Railways are being paid lesser than private industries and this has caused exodus to these engineers to private sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government to put necessary personnel in Signalling Divisions;

(d) the actual number of placement made in these sections during the last three years; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

### **Increase in frequency of trains in Tamil Nadu**

597. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government tracks the number of train passengers travelling in Tamil Nadu during the year;

(b) whether there is substantial increase in demand of trains during festival and holiday seasons and details thereof; and

(c) whether Government increases the number of trains and frequency over the festival period of Pongal and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Statistics of number of passengers booked by trains is not maintained State-wise. However, the number of passengers travelling by trains is monitored on a regular basis by all zonal Railways including those serving the State of Tamil Nadu.

(b) Yes, Sir. There has been an increase of around 17% in the number of passengers booked on Southern Railway (which mainly serves the State of Tamil Nadu) during the festival and holiday seasons as compared to non-peak period.

(c) Special trains are run and the number of coaches of existing trains is augmented for clearance of extra passenger traffic during peak seasons and festival

period including Pongal and other festivals keeping in view the pattern of traffic, availability of resources and subject to operational feasibility. About 1530 special trains were run and 7000 additional coaches were attached between April 2010-January 2011 on Southern Railway.

#### **Participation of private firms in railways projects**

598. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had invited some private sector companies to participate in 37 rail projects under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) for laying new lines, doubling of old lines and gauge conversion;

(b) if so, whether none of the private company has shown any interest in these projects, particularly in those 19 projects which were for backward areas;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details in this regard, indicating proposed equity participation and estimated return, etc.; and

(e) the measures proposed to make these project proposals more attractive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (e) A list of 37 projects which have the potential for being considered on Private Participation basis, has been published on the Indian Railway website in February, 2010 but there has not been any conducive response so far.

However, R3i policy notified by the Railways for private partnership in rail connectivity to ports/industrial clusters have evinced interest and three proposals in this regard have been received.

#### **Increase in frequency of Rajkot Express**

599. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would take immediate action in increasing the frequency from thrice a week to all the seven days of a week with regards to Train No. 17017 Rajkot Express from Secunderabad to Rajkot, in view of a very large section of Marwarees and Gujarathees at Secunderabad are depending on this train to reach Rajkot; while a large section of this population had to wait for several weeks for reservation; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) At present, increase in frequency of

17017/17018 Rajkot-Secunderabad Express from thrice a week to daily is not feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

**Providing trolley facility to travellers**

†600. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether efforts have been made to provide trolley facility to travellers at many stations for carrying of luggages;
- (b) if so, the number of trollies being run under the cooperation of Railway and private institutes respectively; and
- (c) the target of increasing such facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It has been decided to introduce modern luggage trolleys at five major locations as a pilot project. To start with, 50 modern luggage trolleys operated by Rail Yatri Sevaks have been introduced at Howrah station through the sponsorship of State Bank of India.

**Disruption of rail traffic due to Gurjar Agitation**

†601. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Delhi-Mumbai rail traffic was totally disrupted due to Gurjar agitation and Gurjars pulled out the railway track on this rail line;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Railways suffered loss of crores of rupees due to Gurjar agitation and fog; and
- (d) the details of tickets cancelled at various stations of Maharashtra and economic loss to Northern Railway and Delhi and Mumbai Divisions due to this agitation and fog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 415 Mail/Express trains were cancelled, 514 diverted, 201 short terminated/short originated and a large number of goods trains were also affected.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



### **Deployment of RPF personnel in trains**

602. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of trains operating in Kerala presently having RPF officials on duty abroad;
- (b) whether there is any plan to extend the RPF security to all the trains running in Kerala;
- (c) if so, the time-frame required for implementing security in all trains; and
- (d) the number of sanctioned posts lying vacant in RPF in southern railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Out of a total of 143 escorted trains running fully or partly in the State of Kerala, 77 are escorted by GRP and 66 by RPF.

(b) and (c) All Mail/Express trains running during night hours in Kerala, are escorted by the RPF and the GRP. Some passenger trains running during night hours are also escorted. However, it is not feasible to provide RPF escort in all the trains for the present.

(d) Arising and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process. All efforts are made to fill up the vacancies in shortest possible time.

### **National Health Insurance Scheme for Porters etc.**

†603. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that it was announced in the railway budget, 2010-11 to provide the benefit of National Health Insurance Scheme to the porters, vendors and hawkers having Indian Railways licence; and
- (b) if so, the details of the amount collected under this head alongwith the benefit provided during the year 2010-11?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The scheme for extension of Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana to licensed porters, vendors and hawkers has been finalized in consultation with Ministry of Labour and Employment and instructions have been issued to the Zonal Railways on 27.01.2011 for implementation through the State Government Nodal Agencies. As per the scheme, 75% of the premium will be borne by the Railways and the balance 25% to be contributed by the beneficiaries.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

### Electrification of rail track

604. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state by when Government is taking up the electrification work of the following sections to bring train operative in single track system-Vizianagaram-Rayagada Damanjodi, Theruvali-Titlagarh Sambalpur; Titlagarh-Raipur B.G. Link Railway and Haridaspur-Paradeep broad gauge rail link?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): Electrification of Railway routes is decided based on traffic volumes, operational flexibility and financial viability. Electrification of Rayagada-Damanjodi and Titlagarh-Sambalpur section is not under consideration at present. Electrification of the new line Haridaspur-Paradeep B.G. rail link (82 RKM) is under execution by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited.

### Rail projects in NE Railway

605. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of progress made in various projects of new trains and broad gauge conversions etc. in the North-Eastern Railway;
- (b) the details of the projects of NER running behind schedule;
- (c) the reasons therefor in each case;
- (d) whether it is a fact that Izzatnagar Division of NER is the most neglected and the progress on various projects is unsatisfactory; and
- (e) the steps being taken to tone up the North-Eastern Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) At present, there are 5 new lines and 5 gauge conversion ongoing projects under North-Eastern Railway. The project-wise details and their present status are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Length in Km.	Status including target fixed
1	2	3	4

#### New Line

1.	Paniyahawa-Chhitauni-Tamkuhi Raod	62.50	Formation work from Paniyahawa-Chihitauni (3.7 km) has been completed. Land acquisition is under process. Money deposited with State Government, but no
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1	2	3	4
			land is acquired so far by the State Government and handed over to Railway.
2.	Hathua-Bhatni	79.64	Hathuwa-Phulwaria-Bathua Bazar section (22 km.) has been completed and commissioned. Bathua-Bazar-Panchdewari (11 km) is targeted for completion by March 2011.
3.	Kichha-Khatima	51.48	Land acquisition from the State Government of Uttarakhand is awaited. The land is to be provided free of cost from them.
4.	Maharajganj-Masrakh with Masrakh-Rewaghat	35.49 30.00	Maharajganj-Basantpur (20 km.) is targeted for completion by March 2011.
5.	Rampur-Lalkau- Kathgodam-Road over Bridge on National Highway near Rampur	-	Revised estimate is sanctioned. Re-tender is being invited.
<b>Gauge conversion</b>			
1.	Bhojipura-Pilibhit- Tanakpur	101.79	Earthwork, Bridges work, station building work etc. have been taken up.
2.	Gonda-Bahraich	60	Earthwork completed. Bridges work, ballast blanketing, station building, etc. have been taken up.
3.	Gonda-Gorakhpur loop with Anandnagar-Nautanwa	260	Gorakhpur-Anandnagar-Nautanwa section (81.28 km.) has been completed and commissioned. Earthwork, bridges work, ballasting, etc. are also in progress in the balance section of Anandnagar-Naugarh-Barhni-Gonda (179.89 km).
4.	Kanpur-Kasganj- Mathura and Kasganj-Bareilly- Lalkuan with extension to Bareilly-Lalkuan	544.50	Kanpur-Farukhabad-Kasganj-Mathura section (353 km.) completed and commissioned. Work is in progress in the balance section of Kasganj-Bareilly (107.50 km).

1	2	3	4
5.	Kaptanganj-Thawe-Siwan-Chhapra	232.50	Siwan-Thawe (28.43 km) section completed and commissioned. Work is in progress balance section of Kaptanganj-Thawe-Chhapra (205.2 km) section and is targeted for completion during 2010-11.

(c) In view of large number of ongoing railway projects having huge throwforward and the limited availability of Gross Budgetary Support, the projects are progressed as per availability of resources. Besides, delay in land availability and forestry clearances, adverse law and order condition and failure of contractors are also the main reasons for delay of the projects.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) To expedite completion of projects, a number of initiatives have been taken to generate additional resources through non-budgetary measures like Public-Private Partnership, funding by State Governments and other beneficiaries. Besides, to reduce delays on account of land availability, security issues and forestry clearances, etc. meetings with State Officials are held from time to time. Land acquisition is also now being done under Railways Amendment Act, 2008. Contract conditions have been modified to bring in efficiency in contract management, and field units have been further empowered.

#### **Rail projects in U.P.**

606. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of pending Railway plans, projects and schemes in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) the reasons for their pendency and non-completion in time;
- (c) the implications of delay and their non-completion; and
- (d) the action being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Details of ongoing/pending Railway projects falling partly or fully in the State of Uttar Pradesh are given hereunder:-

Project	Status	Expected Target wherever fixed
1	2	3
Agra-Etawah (114 km.)	80% completed	2010-11 (Agra-Fatehabad section)

1	2	3
Deoband-Roorkee (27 km.)	12% completed	
Etawah-Mainpuri (57.5 km.)	66% completed	
Bhind-Etawah (36 km.)	78% completed.	
Chhitauni-Tumkuhi Road (59 km.)	5% completed.	
Hathua-Bhatni (80 km.)	28% completed.	
Rampur-Lalkuan-Kathgodam		
<b>DOUBLING</b>		
Panki-Bhaupur 3rd line (11.38 km.)	Completed.	
Balance 148 km. of Utretia- Zafrabad section	5% completed	
Barabanki-Burhwal (39 km.)	35% completed	
Bhatni-Baitalpur (28 km.)	25% completed	
Bhatni-Jiradei (38 km.)	70% completed	
Ghaghara Ghat -Chowka Ghat (5.6 km.)	50% completed	
Gorakhpur-Baitalpur (38 km.)	45% completed	
Gorakhpur-Sajanwa (17 km.)	71 % completed.	
Mau-Indara (8 km.)	80% completed	2010-11.
Munderwa-Bhabhanan (45 km.)	70% completed	2010-11.
Sajanwa-Munderwa (32 km.)	75% completed	2010-11.
Tundla-Yamuna Bridge (21 km.)	Nearing completion.	2010-11.
Lohta-Bhadoi (39 km.)	In initial stages	
Phaphamau-Allahabad (13 km.)	In initial stages	
Bhadoi-Janghai (31 km.)	In initial stages	
<b>GAUGE CONVERSION</b>		
Kaptanganj - Thawe -Chhapra (233 km.)	48% completed	
Gonda-Gorakhpur (260 km.)	40% completed	
Gonda-Bahraich (60 km.)	8% completed	

(b) to (d) Railways have huge throwforward of ongoing projects with limited availability of resources. The projects are being progressed as per availability of resources. To expedite completion of projects, a number of initiatives have been taken to generate additional resources through non-budgetary measures like Public-Private Partnership, funding by State Governments and other beneficiaries. Besides, Railways have introduced Railways Infrastructure Investment Initiative (R3i) policy for attracting private sector participation in rail connectivity projects. To reduce delay on account of land availability, security issues, forestry clearances, etc. meetings with State Government/Central Government Officials are held from time to time.

#### **Building of under-pass at Tanuku**

607. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received representation from the Forum on Social and Human Rights, Andhra Pradesh on the need to build an under-pass at Tanuku in South Central Railways;

(b) whether National Human Rights Commission has issued a Notice on this issue;

(c) the number of such under-pass built by Government in 2008-09, 2009-10 and in the current year, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by Railways to avoid public damage and harassment to populations in towns and cities by poorly placed and designed Rail-over-Bridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Railways have constructed three subways alongwith the Road Over Bridges (ROBs), one in Tamil Nadu and two in Madhya Pradesh during the year 2010-11. It is nil on other States for the period 2008-09 to 2010-11 (upto Jan'2011).

(d) As per undertaking given by the State Government, provision of encumbrance free land for approach road, alignment decision, etc. is to be taken by them. As such, relief and rehabilitation for displaced people, if any, is to be arranged by the State Government. In case, State Governments sponsor subway for pedestrian, two/three wheelers, etc., on cost sharing basis, Railways will agree for the same at technically feasible location to reduce hardship to the people.

#### **Parking of trains at railway stations**

608. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand to ensure that trains are parked at platforms nearest to exits at all major railway stations;

(b) whether it is a fact that trains are parked for long periods of 30 minutes or more, creating a shortage of available platform space;

(c) the reasons for not using the latest technology to create software to enable trains to park at most convenient platform and exit within reasonable time, etc.;

(d) whether Railways has refused to create new system to deal with public demands; and

(e) the measures proposed to help the public in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Trains are usually provided scheduled berthing for about 30 minutes only at originating/terminating stations to facilitate easy boarding/de-boarding of passengers with luggage, loading/unloading of parcel, attachment of locomotive, pre-cooling of AC coaches, loading of passenger amenities items like bed rolls and food etc. At intermediate stations trains are stopping only for 2 to 10 minutes except at stations where engine reversal is unavoidable. At engine reversal station trains are stopping for 15 to 20 minutes. During these halts watering and *en-route* cleaning of long distance trains is ensured.

(c) to (e) Platform occupancy and berthing is planned in detail while preparing Time Tables of trains keeping in view convenience of travelling public, patronization of the train etc. Assignment of originating and terminating Mail/Express trains to platform is done rationally on the basis of platform occupation, arrival and departure of trains. The scheduled berthing of platform at stations, however change on account of late running of trains. However, for the convenience of passengers, information of platform nomination is relayed from time to time through public address system and auto announcement system. Further, at major stations all platforms are invariably connected with the platform having direct exit through foot-over-bridges or subways.

#### **Joint venture with Autokast Limited**

609. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for formation a joint venture company between Indian Railways and Autokast Limited, Alappuzha, a Government of Kerala undertaking is pending with the Railway Board for approval;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in giving approval for the venture; and

(c) whether Government would take necessary steps to approve the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) A memorandum of Understanding (MOU) had been signed between Ministry of Railways and Government of Kerala for setting up of a component factory at Cherthala in Kerala. In view of the upgraded technology being adopted by Railways now, a revised business plan is being prepared by M/s. RITES, on receipt of which the proposal would be considered.

**Development of dedicated rail corridor**

610. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal for the development of a dedicated rail corridor of Meramandali to Talcher to Angul to Chhendipada to Boinda in Orissa which is going to be connected with 57 industries based on coal, integrated steel plants and power generating units causing a rail traffic of 113 MTPA;

(b) if so, whether the steps have already been taken in this direction;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the State Government of Orissa has sent any proposal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The decision for development of Dedicated Freight Corridor Project is taken depending on the traffic justification and based on the outcome of the detailed feasibility study conducted.

(d) No, Sir.

**Corporate safety plan**

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

(a) the details regarding Corporate Safety Plan according to which all safety related posts were to be filled-up; and

(b) the details of such vacancies and also information regarding vacancies filled-up during financial year 2009-10?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) In the Corporate Safety Plan (CSP) it has been mentioned that all safety category vacancies would be filled up on urgency basis. The arising and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and Notifications for filling up the same are done from time to time. As per information available, on



01.04.2009 there were 89,024 safety category posts lying vacant. The last such Notification for filling up safety category vacancies was done on 30.10.2010.

#### **Rail projects in Gujarat**

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

(a) the present status of demand for new lines in Western Railway at Dhangadhara-Shantalpur, Palanpur-Ambajee Abu Road, Dhamera-Goradu, Nadiad-Dholka and Tharad-Vas-Sailgem (Suigam); and

(b) the reasons for such delay in the backward districts of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) At present, no such proposals are under consideration for construction of new line.

(b) Demands for new lines are received from various parts of country. However, Railways has a huge throw-forward of ongoing projects and with limited availability of resources, it is not feasible to consider each and every demand.

#### **Supply of Punjabi newspaper in Kalka-Delhi Shatabadi**

613. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that so many passengers from Punjab travel in Kalka- Delhi Shatabadi daily;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no Punjabi newspaper is supplied in this train and that there is resentment among the people in this regard;

(c) whether a Punjabi newspaper will be supplied in the train; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Punjabi Newspapers, namely Ajit Jalandhar, Tribune and Chandigarh-Spokesman are supplied in Kalka-Delhi Shatabdi Express Trains.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Stoppage of trains at Khanna**

614. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people of district Khanna, Punjab, have demanded stoppage of

train Nos. 2053/2054, Haridwar Amritsar Garib Rath and 4609/4610 Rishikesh-Jammu Tawi at Khanna;

- (b) if so, the status of the demand made;
- (c) whether Government is planning to stop these trains at Khanna; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. At present, 29 Mail/Express trains and 6 passenger trains have stoppage at Khanna station. Stoppage of 12053/12054 Haridwar-Amritsar Jan Shatabdi Express and 14609/14610 Rishikesh-Jammu Tawi Hemkunt Express at Khanna has not been found justified on commercial and operational grounds.

#### **Allocation of funds for railway projects in Karnataka**

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

- (a) the amount of funds allocated for railway projects in Karnataka during the last three years, year-wise, project-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the allocated funds were not released for certain projects;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, project-wise and reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Year-wise and project-wise amounts of outlay provided for Railway projects falling fully/partly in the State of Karnataka is as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Project	Outlay during 2008-09	Outlay during 2009-10	Outlay during 2010-11
1	2	3	4	5
<b>NEW LINE</b>				
1.	Kottur-Harihar (65 Km.)	30 (In addition, Rs. 60 crore from State Government)	30	10

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Kadur-Chickmagalur-Sakleshpur (93 Km.)	10	5	40 (In addition, Rs. 40 crore from State Government)
3.	Hassan-Bangalore <i>via</i> Sharavanbelagola (166 Km.)	55	65	46
4.	Hubli-Ankola (167 Km.)	10	5	5
5.	Rayadurg-Tumkur (213 Km.)	15	13.48	15
6.	Bangalore-Satyamangalam (260 Km.)	1	0.10	0.10
7.	Bagalkot-Kudachi (142 Km.)	–	–	4
8.	Munirabad-Mahboobnagar (246 Km.)	5	20	40 (In addition, Rs. 40 crore from State Government)
9.	Gulbarga-Bidar (140 Km.)	20 (In addition, Rs. 20 crore from State Government).	20	50 (In addition, Rs. 50 crore from State Government).
10.	Gadwal-Raichur (60 Km)	25	15	60
11.	Cuddapah-Bangalore (255.4 Km.)	0.01	29	40 (In addition, Rs. 40 crore from State Government)
<b>GAUGE CONVERSION</b>				
1.	Bangalore-Hubli and Shimoga Town-Talguppa (630 Km.)	42	36.66	10

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Kolar-Chickballapur (96.5 Km.)	70	40	70
3.	Arsikere-Hassan-Bangalore (236 km.)	40	2.40	3
<b>DOUBLING</b>				
1.	Dharwad-Kambarganvi (26 Km.)	50	32	10
2.	Arasikere-Birur (44.28 Km.)	50	32	19.50
3.	Ramanagaram-Mysore doubling (92 Km.) with electrification of Kengeri-Mysore section	50	24.24	20
4.	Bangalore Whitefield- Bangalore City- Krishnarajapuram (23.08 Km.)	0.01	1	0.50
5.	Yeshwantpur-Yellahanka (12.07 Km.)	–	1	0.50
6.	Yellahanka-Chennasandra (12.89 Km.)	–	1	0.50
7.	Birur-Shivani (28 Km.)	–	–	4
8.	Hosadurga Road-Chikjajur (28 Km.)	–	–	4
9.	Hospet-Hubli-Londa- Tinaighat-Vasco-da-Gama (352 Km.)	–	–	4
10.	Raichur-Guntakal (81 Km.)	100	55	25
11.	Daund-Gulbarga (224 Km.)	–	0.01	20
12.	Whitefield-Bangarpet- Kuppam (81.21 Km.)	5	7	1
13.	Bangalore City-Kengeri (12.45 Km.) with electrification	0.05	5	1

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Kengeri-Ramanagaram (32.43 Km.)	5	7	1
15.	Yeshwantpur-Tumkur (64 Km.)	8	1	5
16.	Hubli-Hebsur (17.17 Km.)	40	22	5
17.	Hospet-Guntakal (115 Km.)	21	26	30
18.	Kankanadi-Panambur (19 Km)	2	15	10
19.	Calicut-Mangalore (221 Km.)	18.50	4	9

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### **Recruitment of ex-servicemen in Railways**

616. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to recruit 16,000 ex-servicemen in railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has issued notification for filling-up the vacancies over 1,67,000 employees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (d) Occurrence and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process. General Managers have been delegated the powers to place indents with Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs)/Railway Recruitment Cells (RRCs) for recruitment. During the last two years, notifications for filling up of approximately 1,41,000 vacancies including 16,747 for ex-servicemen have been notified/published by RRB/RRC.

#### **Travel concession for sickle cell anaemia patients**

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

(a) whether there is demand of sickle cell anaemia patients for railway travel concession like thalassaemia patients as the disease is very similar to it;

(b) whether the demand of travel concession is denied to sickle cell anaemia patients on the grounds of financial constraints; and

(c) if so, the reasons and justification behind allowing similar travel concession to film technicians in the name of promoting art and culture, while on the other hand rejecting the same for sickle cell anaemia patients citing financial constraints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Travel concession has not been extended so far.

(c) Railways has granted concessions to various categories of persons as a social welfare measure and also to promote sports, arts and culture.

#### **Trials for passenger traffic on goods track**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that trials for passenger traffic on goods track are being carried out;

(b) if so, the details of such routes where these trials are taking place;

(c) whether it is also a fact that for the last one and half year passenger trains are running on Majri-Adilabad section at a speed of 30 kms/citing such trials as reasons thereof; and

(d) if so, by what time such trials will take to complete for the tracks to be declared fit for passenger traffic and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) This section is already certified fit for running of passenger trains at maximum permissible speed of 50 kmph.

#### **Shifting of new Bongaigaon railway yard**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that New Bongaigaon Yard under Rangia Division will be shifted to Alipurduwar division of Railway;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Divisional Railway Managers (DRMs) of Rangia and Alipurduwar Division have given written consent to such arrangement;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) considering the wide public resentment whether Government would stop such shifting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Double track rail line between Guwahati to new Jalpaiguri**

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

(a) whether Government will take initiative of sufficient budget provision for the construction of double track rail line between Guwahati to new Jalpaiguri so that it could be completed expeditiously;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the status of double track of railway line in NE Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Double line already exists between Samuktla Road (near New Alipurduar) and New Bongaigaon. Further, between New Jalpaiguri-Samuktala Road and New Bongaigaon-Guwahati, there are two separate Broad Gauge lines. However, there is no sanctioned work of doubling between Guwahati and New Jalpaiguri.

(c) In NE Region, one work of doubling from New Guwahati to Digaru was sanctioned during 2007-08. "New Guwahati-Narengi" section has been commissioned on 14.12.2010 and "Thakurkuchi-Digaru" section has been commissioned on 30.01.2011. Balance work for "Narengi-Thakurkuchi" is likely to be commissioned by March' 2011.

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**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Sir, I have got an issue to raise.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No, no, first I will take up laying of the Papers and then I will allow you.

**Report (2010-11) and Accounts (2009-10) of ICAR,  
New Delhi and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, for the year 2010-11.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, for the year 2009-10, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (b) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3914/15/11]

#### **Economic Survey (2010-11)**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Economic Survey, 2010-11.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3902/15/11]

#### **Report and Accounts (2009-10) of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi and related papers.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi, for the year 2009-10, together with 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. 4062/15/11]

#### **I. Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture.**

#### **II. Statement giving reasons for not laying Report and Accounts (2009-10) of GSSC**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): Sir, I lay on the Table —

- I. (i) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Co-operation) Notification No. G.S.R. 949 (E), dated the 3rd December, 2010, publishing the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights (Amendment) Rules, 2010, under



Section 97 of the Protection of Plant varieties and Farmers Rights Act, 2001.

- (ii) A copy (in English) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Co-operation) Notification No. G.S.R. 1032 (E), dated the 29th December, 2010, publishing Corrigendum to Notification No. G.S.R. 949 (E), dated the 3rd December, 2010.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3888/15/11]

- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Statement giving reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Gujarat State Seeds Corporation Limited (GSSC), for the year 2009-10, within the stipulated period.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 3889/15/11]

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### MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA

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:-

“I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on Thursday, the 24th February, 2011, adopted a motion regarding appointment of a Joint Committee (i) to examine policy prescriptions and their interpretation thereafter by successive Governments, including decisions of the Union Cabinet and the consequences thereof, in the allocation and pricing of telecom licences and spectrum from 1998-2009; (ii) to examine irregularities and aberrations, if any, and the consequences thereof in the implementation of Government decisions and policy prescriptions from 1998-2009; and (iii) to make recommendations to ensure formulation of appropriate procedures for implementation of laid down policy in the allocation and pricing of telecom licences.

I am to request that the concurrence of Rajya Sabha in the said motion, and also the names of the Members of Rajya Sabha appointed to the Joint Committee, may be communicated to this House.”

### Motion

“That a Joint Committee of both the Houses consisting of 30 members – 20 from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha be appointed:

- (i) To examine policy prescriptions and their interpretation thereafter by successive Governments, including decisions of the Union Cabinet and the

consequences thereof, in the allocation and pricing of telecom licences and spectrum from 1998 to 2009;

- (ii) To examine irregularities and aberrations, if any, and the consequences thereof, in the implementation of Government decisions and policy prescriptions from 1998 to 2009; and
- (iii) To make recommendations to ensure formulation of appropriate procedures for implementation of laid down policy in the allocation and pricing of telecom licences.

2 That the Committee shall have the following 20 Members of the Lok Sabha as its Members:-

- (1) Shri V. Kishore Chandra S. Deo
- (2) Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar
- (3) Shri Jai Prakash Agarwal
- (4) Shri Deepender Singh Hooda
- (5) Shri P. C. Chacko
- (6) Shri Manish Tewari
- (7) Shri Nirmal Khatri
- (8) Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury
- (9) Shri T.R. Baalu
- (10) Shri Kalyan Banerjee
- (11) Shri Jaswant Singh
- (12) Shri Yashwant Sinha
- (13) Shri Harin Pathak
- (14) Shri Gopinath Munde
- (15) Shri Sharad Yadav
- (16) Shri Dara Singh Chauhan
- (17) Shri Akhilesh Yadav
- (18) Shri Gurudas Dasgupta
- (19) Shri Arjun Charan Sethi
- (20) Dr. M. Thambi Durai

3. That the Speaker will nominate one of the members of the Committee to be its Chairman.
4. That the Committee shall start functioning from the day it is duly constituted.
5. That the Committee shall be provided all assistance by the Government and other agencies.
6. That in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee, the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee.
7. That the Joint Committee shall make a report to this House by the end of the next Session of Parliament.
8. That in other respects, the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to the Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make.
9. That this House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do join the Committee and communicate to this House the names of ten Members appointed from amongst the members of the Rajya Sabha to the Committee as mentioned above.”

The above motion was adopted by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on Thursday, the 24th February, 2011.

Sir, I lay a copy each of the Bills on the Table.

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**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE  
DEVELOPMENT**

DR. K. KESHAHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I lay a copy of the following Reports (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development:—

- (i) Two Hundred and Twenty-ninth Report on the Architects (Amendment) Bill, 2010;
- (ii) Two Hundred and Thirty-fourth Report on the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Amendment Bill, 2010; and
- (iii) Two Hundred and Thirty-fifth Report on the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Bill, 2010.

**EVIDENCES TENDERED BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT RELATED  
PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN  
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

DR. K. KESHAHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I lay on the Table, copies of the Evidences tendered before the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on the following Bills:—

- (i) The Architects (Amendment) Bill, 2010;
- (ii) The Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Amendment Bill, 2010; and
- (iii) The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Bill, 2010.

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**MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COURT OF THE  
ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY**

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I move the following Motion:—

“That in pursuance of item (xxiv) of clause (1) read with clause (2) of Statute 14 of the Statutes of the Aligarh Muslim University appended to the Aligarh Muslim University (Amendment) Act, 1981, in terms of Section 28 thereof, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from amongst the Members of the House to be a member of the Court of the Aligarh Muslim University in the vacancy caused due to the expiry of term of Shri Raashid Alvi as a member of the Court on the 30th August, 2010.”

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

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**STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): Sir, I beg to announce that the Government Business in this House for the week commencing 28th February 2011 will consist of:-

1. Consideration of passing of the Pesticides Management Bill, 2008.

2. Consideration and passing of the Seeds Bill, 2004.
3. General Discussion on Budget (Railways) for 2011-12.

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### MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): We shall now take up Special Mentions.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Sir, before you take up Special Mentions, please take up the issue I raised in the morning.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay.

#### Alleged lathicharge by police on BJP activities in Delhi

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Sir, it is an unpleasant job to ask for suspension of Question Hour and raise some issue. But, at the same time, what has compelled me and my colleagues to do it today is the brutal, inhuman attack police made on the agitating party workers in Delhi. The BJP workers were agitating, demonstrating and demanding an inquiry into the Commonwealth Games; and the role of Delhi State Government, including the Chief Minister. Sir, the police, without any provocation, used tear gas, water canons and then started beating the people. Sir, with your permission, I would like to submit to you these two photographs wherein the police is kicking the party functionaries. Normally, they do not act with a boot, (*Interruptions*) with a shoe (*Interruptions*) with a shoe (*Interruptions*) आप लोगों को \* ... (व्यवधान) ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Ashwaniji, let him complete. (*Interruptions*) Let him complete. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): I have communicated the sentiments of the House and of the Opposition to the hon. Home Minister. We have sent for him. He should be here. The Home Minister is here.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: The Party President of the Delhi BJP Unit was specially marked, lathi-charged and beaten at the instruction of the Delhi Chief Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)... Because he made corruption charges against the Government. Sir, it is the duty of the Opposition to highlight the issues, to pinpoint the defects, if any, and also corner the Government on corruption. ...(*Interruptions*)...

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\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please take your seat. No. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have allowed him. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप लोग बैठिए , आप लोग बैठिए। ... (व्यवधान) ... I will take care. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Rashtrapalji, sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have allowed him. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is speaking with my permission. ...*(Interruptions)*... No. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. Natchiappanji, please sit down. I have not permitted you. No. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... What Mr. Venkaiah Naiduji says only that will go on record. I have allowed him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: If people don't have patience to hear the Opposition, then there is no meaning in having democracy. You cannot call yourselves a democracy. आप \* हैं या लोकतंत्र हैं ? ... (व्यवधान) ... क्या इस देश में UPA शासन में , कांग्रेस के शासन में लोगों को प्रदर्शन करने का या सरकार का वसिध करने का कोई अधिकार नहीं है ? ... (व्यवधान) ... मैं आपको यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि वहाँ पर पुलिस खुद पत्थर मार रही थी। It is today's *Indian Express*. ...*(Interruptions)*... पुलिस खुद पत्थर मार रही थी। ... (व्यवधान) ... जैसा मैंने कहा कि ... (व्यवधान) ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please don't make comments.

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु : आप पुलिस की वकालत क्यों कर रहे हैं ? ... (व्यवधान) ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now you please conclude. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why do you disturb your own leader? ...*(Interruptions)*... Why do you disturb your own leader? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I am trying to be precise. ...*(Interruptions)*... More than 200 activists were injured; more than 60 people were hospitalized; one woman lost here right eye; and eleven party workers' either legs or hands had been broken. One person's collar bone was fractured. The condition of some of the workers is very serious. Even today a protest is going on there.

After all you saw yesterday the Lokayukta recommended the dismissal of a Minister, Raj Kumar Chauhan, to the Rashtrapatiji. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... You made your point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): Kindly expunge the words "at the instruction of the Chief Minister." ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, we demand a judicial inquiry in all fairness. This has never happened. It happened right in the capital, in front of Parliament. It is barbaric, atrocious. It reminds us of the day of emergency. ...*(Interruptions)*... I request

the Government, through you, Sir, to order a judicial inquiry. ...(*Interruptions*)...

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\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

प्रो . अलका कृष्णिय (गुजरात ) : सर, ... (व्यवधान )...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): It is not allowed. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: And take action against the people who were responsible for this brutal assault. ... (Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please resume your seat. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Sir, kindly expunge the words. ... (Interruptions)...

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु : आप लोगों को \* ... (व्यवधान )... आप लोग यह क्या \* कर रहे हैं ? ... (व्यवधान )... \*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You please take your seat. ... (Interruptions)...

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु : क्या आप \* कर रहे हैं ? ... (व्यवधान )... हम भ्रष्टाचार के खिलाफ नहीं बोल सकते हैं क्या ? ... (व्यवधान )... आपको \* ... (व्यवधान )... यह देखकर आप लोगों को \* ... (व्यवधान )... यह क्या \* हो रहा है ?

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूफाला (गुजरात ) : ये देश को \* रहे हैं ? ... (व्यवधान )...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: If they want to speak like this .. (Interruptions) ..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please sit down. (Interruptions) Please take your seat. (Interruptions) The hon. Home Minister is here. He would like to react. (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: You control the Members. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): That is my job. You don't intervene. (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I am requesting you. They interrupted me. (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): That is okay. What you said went on record. What else do you want? The hon. Minister is reacting.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, as I was coming to the House, I had a word with the hon. Leader of the Opposition. I asked him, yes, if the House wants me to respond briefly, there is no difficulty. You could have said that at 11.00 a.m., the Question Hour could have run and I would have come at 12 o'clock. There is no reason to lose the Question Hour.



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\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Be that as it may, if you want any Minister to respond at 12 o'clock, if you wish to raise it at 11 o'clock and the Chair allows you to raise it at 11 o'clock, please raise it at 11 o'clock and if the Chair asks, we will come at 12 o'clock or 12.15. *(Interruptions)* Sir, my submission is, there is no reason to disrupt Question Hour. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I had given a notice in advance. We have given a notice. *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): That was for suspension. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: We have a right. *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): That was for suspension. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: We could have been allowed. *(Interruptions)* Sir, same thing happened in Lok Sabha. They allowed there. *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please don't refer to the proceedings of Lok Sabha here. Please don't do that. *(Interruptions)* We go by our rules. *(Interruptions)* But, your notice was for suspension of Question Hour and not for raising the matter. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: It was for both. *(Interruptions)* Please see my notice. *(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Anyway. That's over. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I have received a report from the police. At this stage, I can only go by this report. This report says that the BJP represented by its State President asked for permission to hold a demonstration. There was another demonstration which had also been permitted by about 5000 women activists of the Samyukta Morcha of Anganwadi Federations. I have a map with me. The Anganwadi women were sitting between barricade 3 and barricade 2. There was barricade 1 also. According to the police, the BJP agreed that they will stop at barricade 1 and no one will cross barricade 1 and come to barricade 2 because barricade 2 and 3 had been reserved for the Anganwadi workers. At 12.25 p.m., BJP activists started marching towards barricade 2. They were stopped at the first barricade and told that Section 144 was in operation and they were requested not to cross that barricade. This is apart from the understanding reached earlier. It is very normal in these demonstrations. There is an understanding reached earlier. They crossed the first barricade and came to the second barricade. At that stage, they could not

be allowed to cross the second barricade because then they would have entered the area reserved for the 5000 women who were protesting there. And, therefore, water cannons were used. Most BJP workers dispersed after the water cannons were used. However, some of them climbed on the vehicles. According to the police, the driver was beaten up. And, therefore, there was no option but to order a mild *lathicharge*. (*Interruptions*) Now, the numbers are cited on one side. I have got some numbers. According to the police, 28 protesters, 2 media persons and 15 policemen were injured. Four of the protesters have received fractures. I have got the names. One is a left knee fracture, one is a left ankle fracture, one is a left wrist fracture and one is a right elbow fracture. Only one person, according to the police, is now admitted in RML Hospital complaining of back pain. He is under observation. Others have already been discharged. Now, those who have suffered fractures are being examined. A medical report will come. I will share the medical report with the House. I can't hide a medical report on fracture. When most of the workers dispersed, the leaders also left the place which I think was a mistake. The leaders should have stayed back and restrained the remaining workers who were trying to cross the second barricade. Leaders should be last to leave. Be that as it may, Sir, my learned friend...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: \*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Pany, don't interrupt.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I am telling you from my report. You were not there. I was not there. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: \*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Pany, please take your seat. (*Interruptions*) That won't go on record. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, if he shouts, what can I do? (*Interruptions*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Pany, it is not going on record. (*Interruptions*) Why are you wasting your time? (*Interruptions*) आप बैठिए , आपक्या कर रहे हैं ?

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु : यह तो वे डिसाइड करेंगे।

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, he was not there; I was not there. I can only go by the report. Fortunately, there is a video, I believe, which captures most of the demonstration. I have asked that the video be shown to me. If -- I will underline if -- there is any indication that any excess has been committed, we will look into the matter. But I assure you that this demonstration could have been conducted peacefully according to the originally 'arrived at understanding'. ...(*Interruptions*)... It is a breach of the

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\*Not recorded.

understanding that leads to these things. Anyway, I am not taking a partisan view. If any political worker suffered a fracture, I am sorry. We are all political workers. I am sorry if any political worker has suffered a fracture. We will ask for a medical report. We will try to see what can be done. But I request that let me be allowed to look into the matter and let the matter come to an end.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay. Thank you.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, this is a very important issue.  
...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): The matter ends now.  
...(Interruptions)...

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु : यही डिसाइड करेंगे | It is a serious matter.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): He gave you assurance.  
...(Interruptions)... He gave you assurance.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I do not want any sorry from the Minister because Minister was not personally responsible. As he said rightly 'neither he was there nor I was there', my point is, the Minister was misled by the police to say that there was a mild lathi-charge. Sir, in the mild lathi-charge.....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No. He said 'he will look into it'.  
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I will give.....(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): He said 'he will get it examined'. Then why do you raise it again? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: If, from a mild lathi charge, people get fractures.....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No; that is the preliminary report.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I also led thousands of demonstrations.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no; you see.  
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: In mild lathi-charge do you receive fractures?  
...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no; the Minister is making the statement on the basis of a report he got. ...(Interruptions)... He said 'he will examine it and come back to you'. That's it. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Why won't he order a judicial inquiry?



THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): If the police was misled, he will look into it. Okay.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I can give the papers to the Minister....  
...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Hon. LoP wants to say something.  
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I can pass on the papers to the Home Minister, Sir.  
...(Interruptions)... People were kicked with shoes. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Look, your Leader has stood up. Take your seat. ...(Interruptions)... Let the hon. LoP speak. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: People were kicked, Sir. What is this?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Your leader wants to say something. Please allow him.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, I trust the fairness of the hon. Home Minister. All I request him is that - - he holds the report which has been given to him -- please independently ascertain the fact.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Yes.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: When I was informed personally about the extent of the injuries, I visited the hospital. I am contrary to what is the report with him. My other senior colleagues, Mr. Advani, Mrs. Sushma Swaraj, also visited the hospital. There were 38 people with serious injuries. Now, some will have fractures; some will not have fractures. And it apparently looked a disproportionate force. I made inquiries from the police. The police informed me that most of the excesses lathi charge was done by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) because that had been deployed for this. If, *prima facie*, the newspaper reports today that Eenadu shows the State President -- he has not fled away -- standing alone and being attacked with lathis from all sides. The photograph is here. The Indian Express, today, shows the photograph. Sir, the Indian Express, today, shows the photograph where policemen, with stones in hands, are throwing at the demonstrators. So, it is not a question of only demonstrators having breaches of understanding. This is something which is never done. The demonstrators, at times, cross the barricades, but I have never seen policemen hurling stones back at them and using this kind of a disproportionate force. Please examine it independent of what you are being told.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I looked at the video, I said.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Please look into it yourself and, then, see what action is to be taken in the matter.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay. That is correct. Thank you.

### Alleged insult to National Anthem in a School

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद (बहिर ) : सर, मैं एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण चीज़ की ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

सर, हम लोग सत्र के प्रारंभ एवं अंत में राष्ट्रीय गान गाते हैं, साथ ही 26 जनवरी, और 15 अगस्त को भी राष्ट्रीय गान गाया जाता है। राष्ट्रीय गान भारत की राष्ट्रीय गरिमा का प्रतीक है, लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश के टांडा के उत्तरेथू गांव में स्थित “लार्ड ऑ बुद्धा अम्बेडकर अर्जक मशिन पब्लिक स्कूल” के प्रबंधकों द्वारा राष्ट्रगान का अपमान कए जाये की ओर मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित कर रहा हूँ। तथाकथित विद्यालय के प्रबंधकों द्वारा विद्यार्थियों से प्रतिदिन राष्ट्रगान के संशोधित रूप का गायन करवाया जा रहा है। यह सरासर भारत के राष्ट्रीय प्रतीक की अवमानना है।

उक्त विद्यालय के विद्यार्थियों द्वारा राष्ट्रगान में “भारत भाग्य विधाता” के स्थान पर “स्वर्णिम भारत निर्मिता”, “तब शुभ आशीष मांगे” के स्थान पर “तब शुभकामना मांगे” एवं “अधिनायक” के स्थान पर “उत्प्रेरक” शब्द गाया जा रहा है।

प्रबन्धक श्री रघुनाथ सहि का मानना है कि राष्ट्रगान जॉर्ज पंचम के स्वागत के लिए लिखा गया, अतः उन्होंने अपनी इच्छा से इसमें संशोधन किया है। यह राष्ट्रगान का ही अपमान नहीं, अपितु भारत के संबिधान और राष्ट्रगान के रचयिता रविन्द्र नाथ टैगोर का भी अपमान है।

सर, मैं आपसे नविदन करना चाहूंगा कि राष्ट्रगान का कोई भी दूसरा इंटरप्रिटेशन नहीं हो सकता है और न ही उसमें अन्य शब्दों को जोड़ा जा सकता है। इस तरह से जसिने राष्ट्रगान का, राष्ट्रीय प्रतीक का अपमान किया है, उसके खिलाफ हमें कुछ जरूर करना चाहिए और उसके खिलाफ कार्रवाई होनी चाहिए। धन्यवाद।

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बहिर ) : सर, मैं खुद को इससे एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

श्री शान्ताराम लक्ष्मण नायक (गोवा) : सर, मैं खुद को इससे एसोसिएट करता हूँ ।

पु. अलका कृष्णत्रिय (गुजरात) : सर, मैं खुद को इससे एसोसिएट करती हूँ।

श्री गोविंदराव आदिक (महाराष्ट्र) : सर, मैं खुद को इससे एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

**Apprehension of blackout in Orissa and other States due to stoppage of power generation at all Power Stations in Orissa**

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA (Orissa): Sir, this is regarding the total stoppage of coal transportation in the State of Orissa and the apprehension is that this total stoppage of transportation of coal in Orissa may cause disruption in power generation. This has also an impact on the power grids. This is because the local people unitedly stopped the transportation of coal demanding modernisation of the Talcher Railway Station and routing the express trains through Talcher Railway Station. I would



like to know whether it is a fact that the Indian Railways earn around Rs.5 crores from the Talcher Railway Station which falls under the East Coast Railway. I would like to have the details of the income which the Railways got in 2009-10 and in the past three quarters of 2010-11. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister of Railways is aware of the economic blockade caused by non-movement of coal rakes in and around Talcher Railway Station from 16th February, 2011 demanding that the eleven express trains running between Athagarh and Sambalpur section of East Coast Railway should be routed through the Talcher Railway Station. I would like to know the loss sustained by the Union Government public sector enterprises and other Government enterprises. I would like to know the total accumulated loss to the Indian Railways, Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd., NALCO and NTPC. I would like to know whether it is a fact that on 20th January, 2003 an agreement was reached between the representatives of the Indian Railways and the All Party Coordination Committee, Talcher under the presidentship of the Collector, Angul in the State of Orissa that all express trains likely to run in this section in future would touch Talcher Railway Station. But the details of the agreement are not being implemented.

I would like to know whether it is a fact that the Talcher Railway Station was established during 1927-28 and the people's demand for routing all express trains through Talcher dates back to 1998, after the opening of Talcher-Sambalpur rail route.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay. It is over. Now, Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri. (Interruptions)... It would not go on record. Your three minutes are over. (Interruptions)...

श्री उद्गनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा): सर, मैं खुद को इससे एसोसिएट करता हूँ... (व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): It would not go on record. (Interruptions)... Your three minutes are over. (Interruptions)... Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri. (Interruptions)...

#### Derogatory remarks against Bhagwan Valmiki in Punjab

श्री अवतार सहि करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं एक बहुत ही गंभीर मुद्दा उठाना चाहता हूँ पंजाब में भगवान वाल्मीकि जी के वस्त्र कस्ती योजना के तहत, एक षडयंत्र के तहत अपमानजनक भाषा का इस्तेमाल हो रहा है। इसी तरह से कपूरथला जिले में एक धार्मिक समागम का प्रबंध किया गया। उस धार्मिक समागम में हमेशा की तरह, मैं उस अखौती संत का नाम नहीं लेना चाहूंगा। ... (व्यवधान) ...

जो भगवान वाल्मीकी के वस्त्र अपमानजनक और नफरत भरी टिप्पणियाँ करते हैं जब वाल्मीकी समाज के लोगों को यह

पता चला कि पंजाब सरकार कपूरथला में ऐसा समागम करने की  
 इजाजत दे रही है, तो वाल्मिकी सभाओं ने उस पर ऐतराज किया।  
 जल्लि के डिट्टी कमिशनर ने उसकी परमिशन लिखित में कैंसल  
 कर दी और वाल्मिकी सभाओं को पत्र दे दिया कि ऐसा कोई भी  
 समागम यहाँ नहीं होगा, जसिमें भगवान वाल्मिकी सभाओं को पत्र दे  
 दिया कि ऐसा कोई भी समागम यहाँ नहीं होगा, जसिमें भगवान वाल्मिकी जी के बारे में गैर -  
 जम्मेदाराना शब्दावली का इस्तेमाल किया या

अपमानजनक टप्पिणी हो। परमिशन कैंसल हो जाने के बाबजूद ज़िल्ला प्रशासन की ओर से वह प्रोग्राम करवाया गया। जब वहाँ वाल्मिकी सभाओं ने उसका विरोध किया, तो उनके ऊपर लाठी चार्ज किया गया और वाल्मिकी वर्ग के नौजवानों को बेतहाशा पीटा गया। वे जखमी होकर हॉस्पिटल में पड़े हैं।

हम यहाँ आपके माध्यम से यह कहना चाहते हैं कि इस संबंध में कृषया केन्द्र सरकार पंजाब सरकार को पाबंद करे। ज़िल्ला अधिकारियों ने वाल्मिकी समाज के नौजवानों के ऊपर लाठी चार्ज किया है, परमिशन रद्द करने के बाबजूद धार्मिक समागम करवाया है, धार्मिक जज्बातों पर अटक किया है, उन अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध कार्रवाई हो। सेंसर बोर्ड, जो हमेशा नाटकों और फिल्मों में भगवान वाल्मिकी के बारे में ऐसी टप्पिनियों को करने की इजाजत दे देता है, जिसके विरुद्ध भगवान वाल्मिकी में आस्था रखने वाले लोग हमेशा रोष प्रकट करते हैं, उस सेंसर बोर्ड को भी पाबंद किया जाए और भगवान वाल्मिकी जी के आदर और सम्मान को दूसरे संतों और महापुरुषों की तरह कायम किया जाए।

अंत में, हम यह कहना चाहते हैं कि ज़िल्ला अधिकारियों ने ऐसा किया है, उनके विरुद्ध कार्रवाई की जाए।  
... (व्यवधान) ...

प्रो . एस.पी . सहि बघेल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको संबद्ध करता हूँ।

## SPECIAL MENTIONS

### Demand to take immediate steps to remove uncertainty over the creation of separate State of Telangana

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am raising a very serious issue. The agitation in Andhra Pradesh for a separate State of Telangana has virtually paralysed the administration in the Capital City, Hyderabad, and the districts falling in the Telangana region. Protests and dharnas have become the order of the day, affecting adversely day-to-day lives of the people. The State Government employees have been on pen-down strike. Students and lawyers have taken to the streets demanding creation of Telangana State. Forty-eight hour total bandh was observed. Transport and other essential services have been seriously affected. Uncertainty is not good for the State. Indecision is affecting the State heavily in terms of development. MLAs and MPs are facing demonstrations. Justice Srikrishna Committee was not having a statutory status, but the Home Minister told us that let us await the report. The report now is with the Central Government. Let the Centre end the uncertainty. The Centre should not turn a blind eye to the volatile situation in the State. It must feel the pulse of the people of the

region and take immediate action to end the uncertainty because the State is affected very badly, very negatively. People are agitated. I would urge upon the Chairman and the House to see to it that the Government of India takes an early decision.

#### **Demand to scrap English as compulsory paper in U.P.S.C. Examinations**

**श्री अली अनवर अंसारी** (बहिर) : महोदय , यूपीएससी ने सखिल सर्विसेज , प्रीलिम्स , 2011 के लखे जो नया पाठ्यक्रम घोषित किया है , उसमें अंग्रेजी वषिय अनिवार्य बना दिया गया है। अभी तक इसके दो प्रश्न पत्र थे , एक सामान्य ज्ञान का और दूसरा किसी एक ऐच्छिक वषिय का , जसि विद्यार्थी अपनी रूचि

के अनुसार चुनता था। नयी परीक्षा योजना के तहत इस वषिय वाले प्रश्न पत्र के स्थान पर 200 अंकों का एक नया प्रश्न पत्र होगा , जसिमें से 30 अंक अंग्रेजी समझने की कुशलता के होंगे। हब्दी व भारतीय भाषाओं के इसमें कोई स्थान नहीं होगा।

यह प्रश्न पत्र 'qualifying' नहीं होगा , बल्कि इसके अंक मेरिट में जोड़े जाएंगे , जहां एक-एक अंक निर्णायक सद्धि होता है। स्पष्ट है कि इस योजना द्वारा अंग्रेजी भाषा को अनिवार्य रूप से थोपा जा रहा है और हब्दी , उर्दू तथा अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं के दरवाजे हमेशा के लखे बंद कए जा रहे हैं।

दुनिया के किसी भी स्वतंत्र देश की प्रशासनिक सेवा परीक्षा में विदेशी भाषा के ज्ञान की अनिवार्यता नहीं है। भारतीय सखिल सेवा के अधिकारी विभिन्न राज्यों में नयिक्त होते हैं , जहां वे संबंधित राज्य की भाषा बोलते और लखिते हैं। इसी प्रकार के उत्तर के अधिकारी भी दक्षिण या पूर्वोत्तर की भाषाओं में कुशलता से कार्य करते हैं। स्वतंत्रता प्राप्ति के बाद यह मुद्दा अनेक बार उठाया गया कि क्या संघ की सखिल सेवा परीक्षा केवल उन थोड़े से लोगों के लखे है , जो अंग्रेजी माध्यम से अध्ययन करते हैं ?

अतः मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूं कि संसदीय संकल्प को लागू करते हुए , लोक सेवा आयोग के पाठ्यक्रम में अंग्रेजी की अनिवार्यता समाप्त की जाए।

**प्रो . एस.पी . सहि बघेल** (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैं अपने को इस वषिष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

**श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास** (छत्तीसगढ़) : मैं अपने को इस वषिष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

श्री नंद कुमार साय (छत्तीसगढ़) : मैं अपने को इस वशिष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री गुरुनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा) : मैं अपने को इस वशिष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री उपेन्द्र कुशवाहा (बहिर) : मैं अपने को इस वशिष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

### Demand to re-establish 'All Party Delegation' on law and order situation in Jammu and Kashmir

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, जम्मू -कश्मीर में आतंकवाद व अलगाववाद ने यहां के बाशिंदों की ज़िंदगी पूरी तरह से तबाह कर दी है। आप दबि आतंकवादियों व अलगाववादियों के हमलों से नर्दोष आम नागरिक सेवा, पुलिस व अधिकारी शहीद हो रहे हैं और अरबों रुपए की सरकारी व गैर-सरकारी संपत्ति जलकर नष्ट हो गई है। वशिषकर कश्मीर घाटी के हाश्वत दबि -प्रतिदिन बदतर हो रहे जा रहे हैं और अवाम का वशिवास प्रदेश की सरकार व लोकतंत्र से उठ चुका है। कश्मीर के कसिनों, कारोबारियों, व्यापारियों, छात्रों -छात्राओं तथा दलितों में घोर नशिशा व्याप्त हो गई है।

मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन के संज्ञान में यह लाना चाहता हूँ कि सौ दबिों में 107 लोगों की जानें कश्मीर घाटी में जाना एक हृदय वद्विरक घटना से कम नहीं है। लगातार कई महीनों से सम्पूर्ण कश्मीर घाटी में कर्फ्यू लगा रहा। हाश्वत को सामान्य बनाने के लए राज्य व केन्द्र सरकार की हर कोशिष नाकाम साबित हुई है। राष्ट्रीय व अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर देश के माथे पर जम्मू -कश्मीर की अनसुलझी समस्या एक कलंक बनी हुई है।

केन्द्र सरकार के प्रयास से एक ऑल पार्टीज़ डेल्गीशेन जम्मू -कश्मीर के दो दबिसीय दौर पर गया था, जसिने कश्मीर घाटी और जम्मू की इस गंभीर समस्या को संज्ञान में लेकर अपनी राय से केन्द्र सरकार को अवगत गया था, परन्तु केन्द्र सरकार ने जम्मू -कश्मीर की गंभीर समस्या को लेकर कोई सकारात्मक रुख नहीं अपनाया, जसिके कारण कश्मीर घाटी व जम्मू के लोगों का वशिवास और दूख है।

तीन सदस्यीय वार्ताकार कमेटी का भी कोई व्यापक असर जम्मू -कश्मीर की जनता पर नज़र नहीं आता है। ऐसी परिस्थितियों में ऑल पार्टीज़ डेब्रीगेशन को पुनः अस्तित्व में लाकर जम्मू -कश्मीर की समस्या का नदिन समय सीमा ननिश्चित करके दूँह जाना आवश्यक है।

अतः मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से यह माँग करता हूँ कि जम्मू -कश्मीर के स्थायी समाधान के लए तथा दलितों व पछिड़ों को आरक्षण व्यवस्था का पूरा लाभ देने के लए ऑल पार्टीज़ डेब्रीगेशन के अस्तित्व को बहाल करने की कृपा करें, ताकि जम्मू -कश्मीर की समस्या का स्थायी समाधान हो सके।

**श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा)** : मैं अपने को इस विशेष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

#### **Predatory pricing of airline tickets and monopolies in aviation sector**

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the Government has been proudly announcing that nearly 30 million people travel by air every year. It is a fact that nearly 70 per cent of our air passengers use private airports of Hyderabad, New Delhi, Bangalore and Mumbai. Therefore, there are two stark facts, namely, (a) 70 per cent of all air travel in India originate or terminate in the four private airports; and (b) the Government has absolutely no control over these four airports and 70 per cent of air travelers in India are at the mercy of private airports and airlines. The Government has ceded ownership and control of aviation to the private sector.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation and the Airports Authority of India are Government's two regulatory wings for aviation. The Government has specifically designated the DGCA to monitor and solve the perennial problems of "predatory pricing by airlines" and harassment of passengers. Yet, the DGCA and the AAI have no offices at any of the four private airports, which control 70 per cent of air traffic. Without physical presence at airports, these bodies are irrelevant to the public. Problems of passengers have to be solved in real time and not through correspondence or through media attention.

Private managements are not worried about ordinary passengers. They have a callous attitude. Managements are very particular about collecting User Development Fee only and nothing else. Airlines have shown extreme callousness to passengers saying 'cheap ticket holders have no rights'.

The Government should come out with an urgent comprehensive plan to control private airports and airlines. Piece-meal action is of no use.

#### **Need to protect Indians working in turmoil-ridden Arab Countries**

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala): Sir, the turmoil in Arab countries of Libya, Oman, Bahrain and Kuwait is affecting Indians working in these countries. There are millions of Indians in Kuwait, Oman and Bahrain. In Libya, hundreds of Indians are employed, especially nurses. There is widespread fear among Indians working in these countries. The Union Government must take immediate and effective measures to protect

the interests of Indians in these countries. The Government must also prepare a comprehensive rehabilitation programme for those who are forced to return to India from these countries.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned.

DR. T.N. SEEMA (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned.

SHRI MANGALA KISAN (Orissa): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has mentioned.

**Demand for reservation in employment for SCs/STs/OBCs in Supreme Court,  
Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils in the States**

श्री अवतार सहि करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, 63 वर्षों की आज़ादी के बाद भी हमारे देश में अनुसूचित जाति /जनजाति, पछिड़ी जाति देश की मुख्य धारा में शामिल नहीं हो पा रही हैं, क्योंकि जसि उद्देश्य की पूर्ति के लखि भारतीय संविधान के नर्मीता बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर ने इन वर्गों को आरक्षण देवे की व्यवस्था की थी, उसका पूरा लाभ नहीं मल्लि पा रहा है। उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य को छोड़कर देश में अन्य प्रदेशों की सरकारों ने अभी तक अनुसूचित जाति /जनजाति वे पछिड़े वर्गों के कोटे को पूरा नहीं कयिा है और न ही बैकलॉग भरने की कोशिश की गई है। फलस्वरूप भारतीय संविधान में आरक्षण की व्यवस्था होने के बावजूद भी ये बड़ा वर्ग सामाजिक, आर्थिक तथा नौकरी के क्षेत्र में स्वावलंबी नहीं बन पाया है।

अनुसूचित जाति /जनजाति व पछिड़े वर्ग की इस दुर्दशा को सुधारने के लखि केंद्र सरकार के केंद्रीय वल्लिागों में आरक्षि त पदों को भरने की सुनिश्चित व्यवस्था करने के साथ-साथ उत्तर प्रदेश के अलावा अन्य प्रदेशों में भी प्रदेश की सरकारें आरक्षित पदों को समय-सीमा नश्चित कर भरने की व्यवस्था करने के साथ-साथ केंद्र की सरकार यह भी सुनिश्चित करे कि जसि प्रकार से बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर ने



अनुसूचित जातियों /जनजातियों तथा पछिड़ी जातियों को उनकी जनसंख्या के आधार पर आरक्षण की व्यवस्था की है, उसी प्रकार केंद्र की सरकार द्वारा इन वर्गों को सर्वोच्च न्यायालय, राज्य सभा, प्रदेशों की विधान परिषदों में आरक्षण की व्यवस्था लागू करके सामाजिक, आर्थिक व नौकरियों के क्षेत्र में आगे बढ़ाना चाहिए ताकि इन वर्गों को भी देश में स्वाभिमान के साथ आगे बढ़ने का मौका मिल सके।

अतः मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से यह मांग करता हूँ कि अनुसूचित जाति /जनजाति व पछिड़ी जातियों को सर्वोच्च न्यायालय, राज्य सभा तथा प्रदेशों की विधान परिषदों में इनकी जनसंख्या के आधार पर आरक्षण व्यवस्था सुनिश्चित कराने की कृपा करें।

**सुश्री अनुसुइया उइके** (मध्य प्रदेश): मैं अपने को इस विषय के साथ एसोसिएट करती हूँ।

**Request to immediately address the problems being faced by  
staff of Regional Rural Banks**

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): The Government of India set up Regional Rural Banks in 1975 with an objective to provide credit to weaker sections of rural areas, particularly small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers, artisans and small entrepreneurs. But, RRBs are not able to spread as much as they ought to have been in view of various problems relating to policy, staff, expansion, etc.

Policy decisions in RRBs are taken without involving the office bearers of associations. In commercial banks, principal office bearer of the association is nominated as one of the directors of the Board which helps in arriving at correct policy and addressing the staff issues for the development of bank and business. So, representative from association should also be included as Director of every RRB.

Recruitment of staff is not taking place in time. Many times, it goes beyond two years which is resulting in tremendous pressure on the existing staff and affecting quality customer service. So, recruitment should be started well in time based on the projection of vacancies and business volumes.

Hospitalization charges are reimbursed as per VII Bi-partite settlement in 2002. The revised rates are given only to lower staff, but not officers. I request that they be extended to officers immediately. The Government of India has directed sponsor banks to negotiate with associations of RRBs regarding extension of other allowances and benefits given to staff of sponsor bank. But, nothing has been done so far. I request Government of India to ensure that staff of RRBs also gets the allowances and benefits at par with staff of sponsor bank.

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY (Orissa): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention.

**Demand to resolve long pending issue of one rank one pension  
for armed forces personnel**

SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA (Punjab): Sir, the long pending issue of one rank one pension has been agitating the minds of old pensioners. The Government has failed to protect their interests by not implementing this demand despite a sense of unanimity on this emotive issue among all the main stream of political parties. A majority of them have included this demand in their election manifesto. The issue was also included in the President's Address to Parliament in 2004. That makes one rank one pension the declared policy of the Government and not just of any political party. The Punjab Vidhan Sabha has passed a resolution in this regard and the State Government of Punjab has taken up the matter with the hon. Prime Minister to implement this demand without any delay. An interim reply has since been received from the Union Ministry of

Defence *vide* their letter dated 23rd November, 2010. I urge upon the Union Government not to linger on the issue and take an immediate decision in the matter to obviate the problems being faced by the old ex-servicemen.

**Demand to include coconut, rubber growers and fishermen  
as farmers in Census 2011**

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, the approach of the Census 2011 to the agriculture sector in Kerala is totally against the interest of the farming community. The enumeration questionnaire, which specifically says coconut, rubber, areca nut, tea and coffee should not be categorized as agriculture but as commercial cultivation, is a blow to the farming sector. The questionnaire virtually recognizes only paddy as agriculture in Kerala. The two important traditional crops of Kerala, pepper and cardamom, have been categorized as tuber crops.

That going by the census definition of agriculture, there would not be many agriculturists left in Kerala. M.S. Swaminathan Committee had defined a farmer as one who lived off the soil, water or natural resources and that even a fisherman was a farmer. Census data were very critical and that it would be on the basis of these data that Central assistance to the State's farming sector would be determined. This would lead to excluding millions of farmers and farm labourers from the benefits due to them under agricultural aid. Considering the complexity and heterogeneous character of India, the Centre should have consulted the States on carrying out such an important exercise as the census. I urge the Home Minister and the Government of India to intervene in this issue, and do the needful to protect the interest of the State of Kerala.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with this subject.

**Concern over rural-urban divide and lack of basic amenities in  
rural areas**

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA (Rajasthan): Sir, the National Sample Survey Organisation Report of 2008-09 released recently shows that three basic necessities of life – tapped drinking water, electricity connection and sanitation – together are not available to 82% of rural Indian households. The survey of over one lakh households on basic living standards in India also says that 20% of rural households don't have access to either of these facilities. In urban India, 67.5% enjoys all the three. The coverage in urban areas between 1993 and 2008-09, increased by about 20% as compared to 12% in rural areas.

Just 30% of households in rural India have access to tap drinking water as compared to 74% in urban areas. As a result, majority of village households are dependent on tube wells or unprotected wells for drinking water. Nearly 57% of households in rural India

have to travel up to five kilometres every day to fetch drinking water as compared to just 20% in urban areas. Only 15% of urban population is deprived of drainage as against 58% rural population. Only 11% of urban households are without toilets as against 65% in rural areas.

Sir, the above three elements were key in defining of India's new poverty line earlier this year by the Suresh Tendulkar Committee, which said that 46% of rural Indians were poor. The poverty line was based on NSSO Report of 2004-05.

In view of above startling rural-urban disparity, Sir, I would urge the hon. Prime Minister to take policy decisions to bridge the divide.

**श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास** (छत्तीसगढ़): सर, मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूँ और इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री सुद्वनारायण पाणि** (उड़ीसा): महोदय, मैं भी इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री तरुण वजिय** (उत्तराखण्ड): सर, मैं एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

**श्री के.बी. शणप्पा** (कर्नाटक): सर, मैं भी इसका समर्थन करता हूँ और इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री तरुण वजिय** (उत्तराखण्ड): महोदय, मैं भी एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री तारिक अनवर) पीठासीन हुए।**

#### **Demand to revoke the order slashing the wages of striking workers of Coal India Ltd.**

**सुश्री अनुसुइया उइके** (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, भारतीय कोयला खदान मजदूर संघ द्वारा कोल इंडिया के 10 प्रतिशत वगतिवेश के वरिध में 18 अक्टूबर, 2010 को एक दक्सीय वैधानिक हड़ताल की गई थी, जिसके लखे मजदूर संघ द्वारा प्रबंधन को वगधिवत 14 दक्खि का नोटिस दक्खि गया था।

मजदूर संघ द्वारा एक दक्खि की हड़ताल की गई थी, कक्खि कोल इंडिया द्वारा 8 दक्खि का वेतन काटने के आदेश दक्खि गए हैं जक्खिसे पेंध, कन्हान एवं पाथरखेड़ा, वेस्टर्न कोल फील्ड में लगभग 8000 तथा पूरे कोल इंडिया में लगभग एक लाख मजदूरों/कर्मचारियों की 8 दक्खि की मजदूरी काटी जा रही है तथा उन्हें उनके संवैधानिक अधिकार से वगधित कक्खि जा रहा है।

महोदय , यह भी उल्लेखनीय है कि इंटक तथा अन्य मजदूर संघों द्वारा भी वज्रिवेश के वसिध में 7 सितम्बर , 2010 को एक दक्खीय हड़ताल की गई थी किन्तु उनका 8 दक्खी का वसन्न नहीं काटा गया है।

भारतीय मजदूर संघ द्वारा वज्रिवेश के वसिध में की गई हड़ताल को असंवैधानिक घोषित किया गया है जबकि इन्हीं मुद्दों पर अन्य संघों तथा इंटक द्वारा की गई हड़ताल को असंवैधानिक घोषित नहीं किया गया है , जो कि भेदभाव पूर्ण राजनीति से प्रेरित दोहरी नीति है। कामगारों के वसन्न से अवैधानिक कटौती के कारण उनके रोज़ उत्पन्न हो रहा है तथा वे आन्दोलन के लिए बाध्य हो रहे हैं।

अतएव मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहती हूँ कि भारतीय कोयला खदान मजदूर संघ द्वारा वर्धित नोटिस देकर की गई हड़ताल को असंवैधानिक घोषित करने तथा एक दल की हड़ताल के बदले 8 दल की मजदूरी काटने के आदेश को वापिस लेकर मजदूरों को उनकी मेहनत की पूरी मजदूरी दिलाने का कष्ट करें।

**श्री गुन्नारायण पाणि** (उड़ीसा): महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास** (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री तरुण वज्रिय** (उत्तराखंड): महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री जय प्रकाश नारायण सहि** (झारखंड): महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री कांजीभाई पटेल** (गुजरात): महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री नतुजी हाल्ला जी ठाकोर** (गुजरात): महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

### **Demand for immediate allocation of gas to Nedunuru Power Project in Andhra Pradesh**

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I would like to bring to your kind notice that Telangana is a backward region. Here the farmers are depending on bore-wells for irrigation and through canals.

APGENCO has proposed Nedunuru Gas-based 2100 MW power project in 2007 in Karimnagar District of Andhra Pradesh and in August 2007 the Company was assured of providing gas from KG Basin. After that, Group of Ministers met umpteen times and gas has also been allotted to many private power companies. But for the reasons best known to the Government, no gas has been allotted to Nedunuru in spite of the Power Ministry recommending for allotment of 9.72 MMSCMD of gas. I understand that the Government has now decided to provide gas only to those projects which would be completed before 2012 but Nedunuru Project would be completed in 2013-14, therefore, it will not get gas now. This is totally unfair.

In view of this, I demand that the Government of India immediately allots 9.72 MMSCMD gas to Nedunuru and the required gas to Shankarpalli looking at the pathetic situation in Telangana region.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

**Demand to institute national awards in the name of  
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Shrimati Savitri Phule**

SHRI AMBETH RAJAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, in the recognition of services rendered by persons in various fields *viz.* art, science, sports, culture, etc., awards are given to them in order to appreciate their hard work and service to the society.

These awards are named after eminent leaders who rendered selfless service for the betterment and progress of the nation. To name a few, highest civilian honour is given in the name of Bharat Ratna, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan birthday is celebrated as Teacher's Day to honour teachers, Dr. B.C. Roy Award in the field of science, Dhronacharya Award for coaching, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award for excellent performance in the field of sports, Dada Saheb Phalke Award for excellent performance in the cinema, etc. Thus awards are instituted in general and also in the name of individuals. Awards are given in the form of citation, cash, memento, medals, etc.

In this context, I am to state that Shrimati Savitribai Phule is one of the pioneers of women's education in India and she is the first woman teacher of our country. Ours is the largest democracy with a written Constitution. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar is father of our Constitution. It is very unfortunate that none of the prominent awards is given in the names of above mentioned two famous leaders.

I urge the Government to name any prominent awards in the name of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and honour the best female teacher in the name of Shrimati Savitri Phule. This will be a befitting tribute to these two leaders.

श्री उद्वेगनाथ पाणि (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री अवतार सहि करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं इससे अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we also associate ourselves with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): Okay, okay, all are associated.

#### **Demand for installation of escalators at railway stations for old and ailing passengers**

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान (आंध्र प्रदेश): उपासभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका ध्यान उन बूढ़े और कमजोर रेलवे मुसाफिरों की तरफ दिलाता चाहता हूँ, जिनमें रेलवे स्टेशनों पर लफ्ट या एस्कलेटर (escalator) नहीं होने की वजह से बहुत मुश्किलों का सामना करना पड़ता है। जैसा कि सभी लोग जानते हैं कि रेलवे मुसाफिरों को एक प्लेटफार्म से



दूसरे प्लेटफार्म पर जाने की जरूरत पेश आती है। ऐसे में बूढ़े मुसाफिरों को और खासतौर से ऐसे मुसाफिरों को जहाँ सांझ की तकलीफ होती है, सीढ़ियां चढ़ने में बहुत दुशवारियों का सामना करना पड़ता है। सीढ़ियां चढ़ने से उनकी सांझ की तकलीफ बढ़ जाती है। ऐसी हालत में उनके घर वालों को या तो उन्हें उठाकर सीढ़ियों से ऊपर ले जाया पड़ता है या सीढ़ियां चढ़ने में उनकी मदद करनी पड़ती है। बूढ़े मुसाफिर अपने आप सीढ़ियां नहीं चढ़ पाते, लेकिन ज्यादातर रेलवे स्टेशनों पर एस्कलेटर (escalator) की सहायता नहीं होती। इसमें शक नहीं कि रेलवे हर साल

کروڑوں روپے کمااتا ہے اور ریلوے کی ماحولیاتی ہلاکت ایسی بھی نہیں ہے کہ بڑے لوگوں کی پریشانیوں کو دیکھتے ہوئے ، ہر سٹیشن پر اسکیلٹر (escalator) نہ لگا سکے۔ اسلئے ریلوے مینسٹر صاحب سے میری درخواست ہے کہ وہ ہر ریلوے سٹیشن پر اسکیلٹر (escalator) لگوانے کے لئے جی ضروری اقدام اٹھائے ، تاکہ بڑے اور کمزور مسافر آرام کے ساتھ اپنا سفر کر سکیں۔

**جناب محمد علی خان (آندھرا پردیش) :** اب سبھا پتی مہودے، میں آپ کا دھیان ان

بوڑھے اور کمزور ریلوے مسافروں کی طرف دلانا چاہتا ہوں، جنہیں ریلوے اسٹیشنوں پر لفٹ یا ایسکیلٹر نہ ہونے کی وجہ سے بہت مشکلوں کا سامنا کرنا پڑتا ہے۔ جیسا کہ سبھی لوگ جانتے ہیں کہ ریلوے مسافروں کو ایک پلیٹ فارم سے دوسرے پلیٹ فارم پر جانے کی ضرورت پیش آتی ہے۔ ایسے میں بوڑھے مسافروں کو اور خاص طور سے ایسے مسافروں کو جنہیں سانس کی تکلیف ہوتی ہے، سیڑھیاں چڑھنے سے ان کی سانس کی تکلیف بڑھ جاتی ہے۔ ایسی حالت میں ان کے گھر والوں کو یا تو انہیں اٹھا کر سیڑھیوں سے اوپر لے جانا پڑتا ہے یا سیڑھیاں چڑھنے میں ان کی مدد کرنی پڑتی ہے۔ بوڑھے مسافر اپنے آپ سیڑھیاں نہیں چڑھ پاتے، لیکن زیادہ تر ریلوے اسٹیشنوں پر ایسکیلٹر کی سہولیت نہیں ہوتی۔ اس میں شک نہیں کہ ریلوے ہر سال کروڑوں روپے کمااتا ہے اور ریلوے کی مالی حالت ایسی بھی نہیں ہے کہ بوڑھے لوگوں کی پریشانیوں کو دیکھتے ہوئے، ہر اسٹیشن پر ایسکیلٹر نہ لگا سکے۔ اس لئے ریلوے مسٹر صاحب سے میری درخواست ہے کہ وہ ہر ریلوے اسٹیشن پر ایسکیلٹر لگوانے کے لئے ضروری قدم اٹھائیں، تاکہ بوڑھے اور کمزور مسافر آرام کے ساتھ اپنا سفر کر

سکیں۔



1.00 P.M.

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास (छत्तीसगढ़): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो वज्रिय उठाया है, मैं उसके साथ अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री तरुण वज्रिय (उत्तराखण्ड): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो वज्रिय उठाया है, मैं उसके साथ अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रुद्रनारायण पाणि (उड़ीसा): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो वज्रिय उठाया है, मैं उसके साथ अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**Demand for immediate release of salary and arrears to the employees of HCL at Rupnarayanpur**

श्री आर.सी. सहि (पश्चिमी बंगाल): महोदय एचसीएल, रुपनारायणपुर के कर्मचारियों को अगस्त, 2005 से वेतन नहीं मिला रहा है। उन्हें न्याय की तलाश में जगह-जगह धक्के खाने पड़ रहे हैं। इतना ही नहीं, जो लोग सेवानिवृत्त हो गए हैं, उन्हें भी उनकी जायज बकाया राशि नहीं दी जा रही है।

महोदय, एचसीएल के सभी कर्मचारी 60 वर्ष की आयु में सेवानिवृत्त होते हैं और रुपनारायणपुर के कर्मचारी भी 60 वर्ष की आयु तक कार्यरत थे, लेकिन प्रबंधन ने भविष्य नष्टि, ग्रेच्युटी आदि की गणना करते समय सेवानिवृत्ति की आयु 58 वर्ष ली है, जो सरासर गलत है। एचसीएल ने न तो ऐसा कोई आदेश निकाला है कि उसके कर्मचारी 58 वर्ष की आयु में सेवानिवृत्त होंगे, न ही उनके सेवा न्युमें में इस प्रकार का कोई संशोधन किया गया है और न ही कर्मचारियों को 58 वर्ष की आयु के बाद कार्य करने से रोका है। वास्तव में, उनमें से कुछ को चुनौतीपूर्ण कार्यों के लिए भी नियुक्त किया गया है। 1974 के त्रिपक्षीय समझौते के अनुसार सेवानिवृत्ति की आयु 60 वर्ष निर्धारित की गई थी और अब तक इसमें कोई संशोधन नहीं किया गया है। अभी वहां पर 58-60 वर्ष की आयु में 400 से भी ज्यादा कर्मचारी हैं।

अतः मैं भारत सरकार से आग्रह करता हूँ कि वह इस संवेदनशील मामले में तुरंत हस्तक्षेप करे और एचसीएल, रुपनारायणपुर के प्रबंधन को वहां के कर्मचारियों को उनकी बकाया राशि का अविलम्ब भुगतान करने के लिए निर्देश दे।

### **Demand to ban the insecticide 'Endosulfan' in the country**

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Kerala): Sir, Endosulfan, an insecticide, is a controversial agri-chemical due to its acute toxicity potential for bio-accumulation and genetic mutation and its role as an endocrine disruptor. Although it is banned in more than 60 countries, it is still used extensively in many countries, including India. Its wide use in many ecological and biodiversity hotspots and environmentally fragile regions in India, such as the Western Ghats, have resulted in physical deformity, endocrine disruption and impact on reproductive development in Northern Kerala and South Karnataka, which confirms the study reports that Endosulfan is likely -- due to its long-range environmental transport -- to lead to significant adverse human health and environmental effects.

A proposal to ban use of Endosulfan globally at the Stockholm Convention of the POPRC in Geneva was not supported by India saying there was not enough evidence to

prove its health/environmental impacts even as large number of Endosulfan poisoning cases resulting in severe disability, various health hazards and deaths are still being reported from Kasaragod districts of Kerala.

It is, therefore, requested that the Government may take urgent steps to:

- (i) permanently ban the use of Endosulfan insecticide in India;
- (ii) declare adequate rehabilitation and relief package for victims of Endosulfan poisoning in India; and
- (iii) support the move to ban the use of Endosulfan globally.

Thank you.

**Demand to give approval to the proposal of naming the Raipur Airport after Swami Vivekananda**

**श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास** (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, छत्तीसगढ़ शासन ने रायपुर के हवाई अड्डे का नाम बदल कर स्वामी वविकानंद जी के नाम पर हो, ऐसा नर्णिय लयिा है, क्यौकि स्वामी जी कोलकाता के बाद सबसे अधिक समय रायपुर में रहे, ऐसी जाणकारी मल्लि है। अप्रैल, 04 से इसकी स्वीकृति केन्द्र से मांणी जा रही है। 11 जलाई, 2008 को छत्तीसगढ़ वधिन सभा ने इसे स्वीकृति दी। इसकी सूचना अगस्त, 2008 में भेजी गई थी, पर इसे अभी तक केन्द्र की स्वीकृति दी। इसकी सूचना अगस्त, 2008 में भेजी गई थी, पर इसे अभी तक केन्द्र की स्वीकृति नहीं मल्लि है। स्वामी जी तो वशि्व - मानव थे और कसिी अंतरिक्ष स्टेशन को भी उनके नाम से जोड़ना कम होगा। छत्तीसगढ़ वधिन सभा धन्यवाद की पात्र है।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) पीठासीन हुए]

अच्छा होता कि भारत सरकार इस प्रस्ताव को शीघ्रातिशीघ्र स्वीकार कर भारत के हृदय-स्थल से उठी इस बात से वशि्व का ध्यान आकर्षित कराती। तेजी से वकिस कर रहे छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य का हवाईतल अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बनने की क्षमता रखता है।

में सरकार से पुनः आग्रह करता हूं कि वह छत्तीसगढ़ शासन के प्रस्ताव को शीघ्र स्वीकृति प्रदान करे।

**श्री उदुनारायण पाणि** (उड़ीसा): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस वशिष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

श्री तनुष वजिय (उत्तराखंड): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस वशिष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री अनिल माधव दवे (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस वशिष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नतुजी हालाजी ठाकोर (गुजरात): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस वशिष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री भरतसिंह प्रभातसिंह परमार (गुजरात): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस वशिष उल्लेख के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

### **Hijacking of ships by pirates**

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): Sir, hijacking of ships in high seas has become the order of the day and that Somalian pirates are turning successful despite the mighty world powers trying their best to arrest such attempts.

Naval forces of India, as also of other countries, are doing their best to prevent such hijacking or rescue the sailors after they are hijacked.

At any given point of time, hundred of sailors are found to be in the custody of pirates.

One ship by name M.V. Sinin has been hijacked on 12th February at about 13.00 GMT off the coast of Oman along with 22 crew members, including nine Indians. For first three days, pirates did not even establish contacts with the owners of the ship and, therefore, the Directorate General of Shipping was not able to get any information from the owners.

It is learnt that they have now established contracts with the owners of the ship, M/s Irano Hind Shipping Company Ltd., of Teheran, Iran.

The ship lost control with their vessel since 12th February. The vessel was *en route* from Fujaira to Singapore loaded with approximately 52,000 metric tones of iron ore.

World powers have to put in more efforts to thwart such criminal activities or else even the terrorists will resort to piracy as one of the methods of terrorizing the world community.

Ship owners should be authorized to carry arms for self-defence and face the armed pirates when they climb the ships. It is appreciated that the Indian Navy has been playing an important role in this regard and more powers have to be given to the Navy to tackle the problem of ship hijacking. Thank you.

### **Demand to confer Bharat Ratna on Late Shri Anant Pai**

SHRI TARUN VIJAY (Uttarakhand): In the sudden death of Uncle Pai last night, the country has lost one of the greatest story tellers and children's dearest Uncle Pai. He was creator of Amar Chitra Katha and editor of Tinkle, children's popular magazine. He instilled Indian values in the minds and hearts of new generation through marvelous depiction of India's glorious heritage and sagas of brave Indian heroes. He was the most beloved and respected uncle of millions of children world wide. He was born at Karakala in Karanataka in year 1929. He lost his parents at the age of two. At a *Doordarshan* quiz contest, when he saw children were easily answering questions on Greek myths but were unable to answer who was Rama's mother or who was Shivaji, he thought of starting comic book series, devoted to Indian culture. He toured extensively all over India and



addressed millions of school children from Kerala to Kashmir. He was also the creator of *Pratha* series of video documentaries that aimed to create self-confidence and moral values in the hearts and minds of little kids. An entire Indian generation belonging to every religion, caste and State owe its moral upbringing and introduction to the great past of India's culture and civilization to the success of Amar Chitra Katha and Uncle Pai's tireless efforts to bring India back to Indians. He wrote and produced two video films, namely, '*Ekam Sat*' and '*The Secrets of Success*'. He wrote books on personality development for children and teenagers. He also created audio books of Amar Chitra Katha. Several Indian leaders, including Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, L.K. Advani, Atal Bihari Vajpayee deeply accepted the influence of Uncle Pai's stories on them. He married Lalitaji, from a great Gandhian family of Karachi. He was childless but had a family of millions of children. I, therefore, request that the Government should consider his name for awarding Bharat Ratna.

SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Tarun Vijay, has said.

MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Tarun Vijay, has said.

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY (Orissa): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Tarun Vijay, has said.

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Tarun Vijay, has said.

SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI (Chhattisgarh): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Tarun Vijay, has said.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): The House is adjourned for lunch till 2.30 p.m.

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The House then adjourned for lunch at seven minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty minutes past two of the clock,

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) in the Chair.

### **THE BUDGET (RAILWAYS), 2011-12**

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, with your permission, I beg to lay on the Table, a statement (in English and Hindi) of the estimated receipts and expenditure of the Government of India for the year 2011-12, in respect of Railways.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now I have to seek the permission of the House because this is Private Members' Business. So, with your permission, I am allowing Shri Ajay Maken to lay the Statement on the Table of the House. Shri Ajay Maken.

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### **STATEMENT BY MINISTER**

#### **Need to have a legislation for development of sports at the National level**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): Sir, with your permission and with the permission of the House, I beg to lay on the Table of the House a Statement on the intent of the Government to initiate a national debate on the need to have a legislation for the development of sports at the national level and to deal with all matters connected therewith. For this purpose, we propose to place in public domain an exposure draft paper on the proposed national sports legislation. This draft paper contains the following broad principles:-

- (a) Some of the core principles enunciated in the 'Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance' proposed by the IOC and endorsed by the XIII Olympic Congress, which include fair and transparent election process; age and tenure limit in respect of office bearers; and participation of athletes in the decision-making process.
- (b) Best practices in sport governance identified from the legal frame work of sports obtaining in other countries.
- (c) Anti-Doping regulations compliant with WADA Code to be given legislative backing. As a signatory to the UNESCO convention, India has shown highest commitment to movement against doping. It is a member of the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) and has constituted its own National Anti Doping Agency (NADA) on the lines of WADA.
- (d) Measures to prevent sexual harassment of women by following the guidelines enunciated by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the Vishakha judgement.
- (e) Foolproof guidelines for detection and prevention of Age fraud in sports.
- (f) Effective and speedy resolution of sport-related disputes, including redressal of athletes' grievances, through conciliation and mediation process by appointing a National Sports Ombudsman.

2. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, through you, I wish to inform the august House of this proposal and seek their support and cooperation in furthering this initiative.

## **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS**

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Shri Prabhat Jha; not present. Then, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy; not present. Shri Mahendra Mohan.

### **The Chairpersons and Members of Tribunals and Commissions (Retirement Age) Bill, 2010**

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for uniform retirement age for Chairpersons and Members of the various Tribunals and Commissions established under various laws enacted by Parliament.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

### **The Incest and Sexual Abuse in Family (Offences) Bill, 2010**

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to define the offences relating to incest and sexual abuse in family and prescribe the special procedure for punishment for the offences relating to incest and sexual abuse in family and matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar; absent. Shri Khekiho Zhimomi.

### **The Acts of Parliament (Application to Nagaland) Bill, 2010**

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI (Nagaland): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for procedure for effectuating article 371 (1) (a) of the Constitution of India in relation to the State of Nagaland.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Shri Mohan Singh; not present. Shri Shantaram Laxman Naik.

### **The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2010 (To amend article 53)**

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 Sugarcane Growers (Remunerative Price and Welfare) Bill, 2010**

SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA (Haryana): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the remunerative price for the produce of the sugarcane growers, insurance of sugarcane crop free of cost and for their overall welfare and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Population Stabilization Bill, 2010**

SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA (Haryana): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for promotion of family planning measures by the Central and State Governments for population stabilization in the country through various incentives and disincentives so as to ensure that the population is commensurate with its social, economic and other developments and with the ecological balance and bridge the gap between the haves and have nots and for achieving quality of life and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Rural Electrification Authority Bill, 2010**

SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA (Haryana): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for establishment of Rural Electrification Authority to ensure uninterrupted electricity supply to farmers for their agricultural activities and for providing at least one bulb connection to every dwelling in rural India and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Prevention of Begging Bill, 2010**

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय ,  
मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि भक्षिवृत्ति का निवारण करने  
और तत्संस्कृत तथा उसके आनुषंगिक वस्तुओं का उपबंध करने  
के लिए वधियक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप : महोदय , मैं वधियक को

पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ

**The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2010**

**(To amend article 16)**

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय , मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि भारत के संविधान का और संशोधन करने के लिए विधायक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाय।

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप : महोदय , मैं विधायक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

**The Distressed Farmers (Special Facilities, Protection and Welfare) Bill, 2010**

DR. AKHILESH DAS GUPTA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the special facilities and protection of distressed farmers who are affected by various natural calamities and victims of indebtedness, physical infirmities, diseases, old age, exploitation, etc. by giving adequate compensation, extending relief measures, removal of indebtedness, prevention of exploitation by moneylenders and other unscrupulous elements, extending easy and hassle free bank loans, giving remunerative prices for their produce, improving farming practices through scientific means, extending compulsory market intervention in case of bumper crop, compulsory insurance of crops and livestock, old age allowance, Medicare and other welfare measures to ensure that they do not commit suicide and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

DR. AKHILASH DAS GUPTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Freedom of Earning Livelihood Bill, 2010**

DR. AKHILESH DAS GUPTA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for complete freedom to earn livelihood to the hawkers, vendors, potters, kabariwalla, cycle rickshaw and cart pullers, roadside eateries, machanics, fish and chicken outlets, patriwallahs etc., by prohibiting the local police personnel of local bodies from impounding or taking away the tools, wares, stuff, cycle rickshaw, cart, rehri, etc., so as to enable the poverty stricken and unemployed youth and other citizens to earn their livelihood without fear and feed their dependent families and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

DR. AKHILESH DAS GUPTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Unauthorised Colonies, Slums and Jhuggi Clusters (Welfare, Basic Amenities and Other Provisions) Bill, 2010**

DR. AKHILESH DAS GUPTA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the regularization of unauthorized colonies existing for more than two

years in the urban areas and for the basic amenities like drinking water, sanitation, healthcare, electricity, toilets and management of garbage, sewerage in such unauthorized colonies, slums *Jhuggi-Jhopri* clusters to be provided by the appropriate Government and for certain welfare measures to be initiated by the State for the residents of such colonies, slums and *jhuggi* clusters and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

DR. AKHILESH DAS GUPTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

#### **The Destitute and Neglected Women (Welfare) Bill, 2010**

SHRI AVTAR SINGH KARIMPURI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for maintenance and welfare measures to be undertaken by the State for the destitute, neglected, old, infirm or physically challenged widow, divorcee or unmarried women through establishment of an Authority and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI AVTAR SINGH KARIMPURI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

#### **The Health Insurance for Persons Living Below Poverty Line Bill, 2010**

SHRI AVTAR SINGH KARIMPURI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for health insurance for the benefit of persons living below poverty line and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI AVTAR SINGH KARIMPURI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

#### **The Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Bill, 2010**

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ: “कि खान और खनिज (वर्गियमन और विकास) अधिनियम, 1957 का और संशोधन करने के लिए वधियक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए”...॥

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास : मैं वधियक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Shri Jawaharlal Darda; not present. Then Shri Prakash Javadekar; not present; Shri P. Rajeeve.

#### **The Abolition of Corporal Punishment in Educational Institutions Bill, 2010**

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for abolition of corporal punishment in educational institutions by providing



protective measures against use of physical force towards children and to set forth good

practices and provide stringent penalties to any person involved in corporal punishment keeping the best interest of the child and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2011  
(To amend article 25)**

SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA (Punjab): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Pre-Examination Coaching Centres Regulatory Authority  
Bill, 2010**

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a Regulatory Authority for regulation of pre-examination coaching centres and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Bureau of Accountability Bill, 2010**

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the setting up of a Bureau of Accountability to suggest measures to uproot corruption, making the administration efficient and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2010 (Insertion of  
new article 51B)**

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): 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 MOHAN SINGH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

### **The Right to Privacy Bill, 2010**

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR (Karnataka): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for protection of right to privacy of persons including those who are in public life so as to protect them from being blackmailed or harassed or their image and reputation be tarnished in order to spoil their public life and for the prevention of misuse of digital technology for such purposes and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

### **The Victims of Naxalite Acts of Violence (Relief and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2010**

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR (Karnataka): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for financial compensation, monthly allowance, relief and other rehabilitation measures and facilities to the dependents of citizens killed in naxalite acts of violence and those losing their property, crops, houses etc., due to such violence in the country and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

### **The Renewable Energy (Promotion and Compulsory Use) Bill, 2010**

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR (Karnataka): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for promotion of renewable energy on a large scale by establishing an Authority to protect the environment and control the global warming being caused due to burning of fossil fuels for energy production resulting in noxious emissions therefrom and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now we take up the further consideration of the Motion moved by Shri Shanappa on 13th August. Did you finish your speech on that day?

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: No, I spoke only for two minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You can speak now.

### **The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2006 (Insertion of new article 371J)**

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA (Karnataka): Sir, on 13th August, 2010 I moved the Motion to amend the Article 371. Hyderabad Karnataka, part of today's Karnataka, has to be given some special status on the ground that for the last so many years this part to which I belong has been neglected on many spheres of life -- in education, social-economic problems, roads, industries and irrigation. And, there are no opportunities in these areas for the last 55 years. We were asked to join the old Mysore as per the Fazal Ali Committee Report which was submitted in the year 1955.

Sir, it was initiated, Potti Sriramuluji, who wanted that entire Andhra should be separated from Madras Presidency and should have a separate State of Telugu-speaking people. He went on hunger strike for 52 days and sacrificed his life. In the year 1953, because of violence and protests, former Prime Minister of India, Nehruji, decided that such things should be eliminated from the political scene of India. Therefore, he constituted a Commission headed by Syed Fazal Ali. I don't want to go into the details of that movement. Now, as you know, Nizam State was having 16 districts. In the re-organisation of the States, eight districts went to Andhra and five went to Maharashtra. Three districts *i.e.* Bidar, Gulbarga, Raichur - were taken away by Mysore, and Bellary was added to Mysore in 1953 itself. In all the Princely States of the country, the Maharaja of Mysore was very famous. He used to look after the people of the State very well. Before independence, that State was highly developed as far as roads, irrigation, education, connectivity, etc., were concerned. In all these fields, Maharaja of Mysore was considered one of the famous kings of the country. Even in 1939, a lot of discussion took place in the Constituent Assembly whether undeveloped part of Hyderabad should be merged with highly-developed Mysore. So, Sir, in the beginning, we all had expectation while merging with old Mysore which was renamed as Karnataka in 1971. When Mr. Devaraj Urs was the Chief Minister of the State, till that time, it was called Mysore only. Even after 1956, this State was known as Mysore. Sir, I am coming to my point that in Hyderabad-Karnataka, we have two more districts that have been created by the Government – Yadgir and Koppal. In total, six districts come under the Gulbarga Division. This is the map to which I would like to draw the attention of this august House. This is the red portion which is called Hyderabad-Karnataka. And, this has been prepared by the people who have been struggling not to have a separate State from Mysore or Karnataka. They wanted to see that people of this region should be brought at par with the people of old Mysore. As far as education is concerned, I would go into this aspect later because then I would highlight what are the differences, how much we are backward in all aspects, whether it is education, industry, irrigation or roads. I will talk about all these things later with all the facts and figures. But, when we joined Mysore,

which is now called Karnataka, we had many aspirations, and to make that Karnataka, many people had struggled there and they lost their lives also. But, after four or five years, that is, up to 1965 to 1970, nothing was done to develop this area. Our hon. Law Minister is here. He was the Chief Minister of our State. During his tenure, he was able to do something, but not to the satisfaction of people of this region.

We have many politicians represented from that area. Mr. Veerendra Patil was there, who was the Chief Minister of the State. Mr. Dharam Singh, who happens to be the ex-Chief Minister, and, the sitting Member of Lok Sabha, is from Gulbarga. Mr. Kharge, who is the Central Minister today, happens to be a resident of Gulbarga. Shri S.M. Krishna was the Chief Minister, and, in 2002, during his period, he made recommendation and said, "This part is most backward, and, being the Chief Minister of the State, I feel sorry". Sir, a committee was constituted under the leadership of Dr. Nanjundappa. The Report of the Committee has already come. It is here and I will highlight what the Report says and all. Even after all these things, nothing could be done, and, therefore, people of that area and politicians have become frustrated. They could get lot of things under this, but they have not achieved the thing, which was supposed to be there. Fifty-five years is not an ordinary period. Even today, as per the Nanjundappa Report, out of 39 Talukas, 21 are most backward in the State itself. When the Talukas were considered, out of 175 Talukas, Gulbarga is the last one. In such a situation, there was a big movement, which took place in 1972 and continues till today.

Late Shri Vishwanath Reddy Mudnal, former Cabinet Minister; Mr. Vaijnath Patil, former Minister; Late Shri Hanumantha Rao Desai, former MLA; Mr. Matmari Nagappa, ex-MLA, and, many other people from Gulbarga, Bidar, Raichur, Koppal, formed a Committee, namely, 'Hyderabad Horata Samiti', headed by Mr. Vaijnath Patil. When Mr. Vaijnath Patil is seen on the road, everybody calls him 'article- 371'. He is bent upon to see that the people of this area are liberated. He wants to see that Karnataka should be at par with Mysore in all spheres of life, they should have the roads, they should have educational institutions, they should have hostels, they should have electricity, power stations, they should have medical facilities, and, all such things. But, Sir, nothing has happened. They started a movement. A lot of agitation has taken place. *Rail-Roko* has taken place but the Government has not come forward. Unfortunately, all the political people have not taken a decision to join this movement, as has been done in the case of Telangana. We have not taken any decision as on today. Our patience is being tested saying because the people of Hyderabad-Karnataka are only giving the memoranda and

**3.00 P.M.**

the Chief Ministers of the States are giving memoranda to the Central Government. Today, our Chief Minister, Mr. Yeddurappa also submitted a memorandum to the Central Government.

Under the leadership of Shri S.M. Krishna, who is the Minister of External Affairs of this country, many delegations met the then Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji. Sir, today, we are lucky to have almost all the senior leaders of Karnataka in the Cabinet of the Central Government. Therefore, it becomes my duty to convince the Government. Sir, I happen to be a person from that area and I was thinking of a way to highlight all these things in this august House. Luckily, my Party made me a Member of this august House, and, gave me a chance to highlight the views, agony and misery of the people of that area.

Sir, Chambers of Commerce, Karnataka Sangharsha Samiti, Kanadda Samiti, Kanadda Parishad, almost all the people are of the opinion not to have a separate State. They are willing to have all the facilities at par with the Telangana, that is, 371 (d). Sir, very recently the High Court was wrong. Mulki rule was there in 1919 when Nizam was there. I just want to bring to the notice of the House that at that time His Excellency Nizam had brought a *farman*. People from Aligarh, people from Lucknow, people from Agra came out to Hyderabad in search of jobs. The local people revolted against it. Being the local people of that area, they asked how it was possible to accommodate those people there. At that time, Sir, Osman Ali, the Nizam, said that it could not be possible. In 1919-20 he made a rule, that is, Mulki rule. What was that Mulki rule? As per that rule, whosoever had been residing in Hyderabad State for the last 15 years, would be given first preference and the people who were migrated from other parts of the country will not be given preference. That was considered even after the formation of the linguistic state. So, that has not been done in our case. The five districts of Maharashtra enjoy all these things; Telangana people enjoy all these things. But these districts have been neglected by the Government of Karnataka. Therefore, our people thought to submit a memorandum. It will not yield any result. But ultimately the political parties have taken a decision. Telangana people, who were a part of us only, wanted to have their own separate state. When they are asking, our people are also thinking why not to ask for that. But many political people said, "No, we will not support all these things. Being in Karnataka, we should be given all the benefits and we should be brought at par with the Mysore standard". For that, Karnataka people are prepared to go for any sort of movement. Therefore, I feel that I have to convince the House. The Chairman should listen to me properly, Sir. I would like to say something to show how the discrepancies have taken place against us, how the injustice has been done towards us. The backwardness in this region continued even after reorganization in 1956 till today. The

reasons for its backwardness are to be found in recurring droughts, lack of large scale industries, backwardness in education and illiteracy and many other socio-economic problems. A high power committee headed by Nanjundappa identified 21 talukas in Hyderabad Karnataka as most backward out of 39 in the total number of 175 talukas of the State. I want to give some figures for the convenience of the House. The literacy percentage of Hyderabad Karnataka is 48.70 as compared to Belgaum division which is 65.82, Bangalore division which is 73.25, Mysore division which is 69.62 and the state average which is 67.04. Literacy in women is widespread. This is on the basis of 2002 figures. With respect to education, at the time of reorganisation, even primary education was not accessible to children in rural areas. Urdu was the only medium in primary schools. Earlier to the independence only district headquarters had the facilities of high school education. Even today, the schools in the region do not have the basic facilities such as building, playgrounds, laboratories, etc. Education index shows severe imbalances between Hyderabad Karnataka and the rest of the State.

Sir, as per the 1991 Census, the figures are: For State index, it is 596. For Hyderabad Karnataka and Bellary, it is 516. For Bidar, it is 489. For Gulbarga, it is 421. For Raichur, it is 383. For Bangalore, it is 773. This is the imbalance.

Other districts of the State such as Chikmagalur, old Mysore, South Canada and North Canada, Gulbarga and Shimoga have higher index than the State figure. Education of the girl child is pathetic. Here are some figures relating to school education.

There are 21,943 primary schools in South Karnataka whereas North Karnataka has only 15,741. This is where we are. This is also not completely showing the figures for Hyderabad Karnataka. It includes Belgaum district which is the highly developed part which has been merged with North Karnataka. Hyderabad Karnataka is eliminated. Again we are down here. Now, South Karnataka has 3,571 schools. North Karnataka has 2,161 high schools. South Karnataka has 331 Junior colleges. But North Karnataka has 202. South Karnataka has 668 Degree Colleges and North Karnataka has 401. Just see the difference, Sir. Out of twelve Universities in the State, there are two in Hyderabad Karnataka. Remaining ten are in South Karnataka. For the development of education, on average Rs.2,700 per annum is spent on each student in South Karnataka whereas only Rs.900 is spent on each student in North Karnataka.

Hyderabad Karnataka is the region with the highest population belonging to the SC and the ST in comparison to the rest of State. But the hostels are very few to cater to the needs of the SC and the ST students. Gulbarga Division has 224 hostels compared to 374 in Bangalore Division.

Now I come to employment. The statistics relating to recruitment for various gazetted and non-gazetted posts over the last ten years reveal that the South Karnataka takes the lion's share of 72 per cent and 73 per cent. Bangalore Division occupies the first place with 47 per cent in gazetted posts and 8 per cent in non-gazetted posts. Koppal district of Hyderabad Karnataka area has a minimum share of .05 per cent in gazetted posts and 11 per cent in non-gazetted posts. Just see the difference.

Recruitment for most of the posts in the State is done by the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC). The appointment is at the State level, and there is no scope whatsoever for the regional recruitment. The statistics published by the Department of DPAR reveal that the big share of Group 'A' and Group 'B' officers' post which is 66.5 per cent goes to South Karnataka. Bangalore Division has the highest share which is 38.5 per cent followed by Mysore Division which is 28 per cent. Belgaum Division accounts for 19.7 per cent and Gulbarga Division accounts for the lowest share of 13 per cent.

This is the Report of the Nanjundappa Committee. I am not giving any report on my own. He was one of the leading economists. The Committee submitted its report to the Karnataka Government. If the heads of departments working in the State service are taken into account, the share of South Karnataka is 62.05 per cent as against that of North Karnataka of 36.25 per cent. If Bangalore and Mysore districts account for 12.5 per cent each, the Gulbarga district accounts for 5 per cent and Raichur is nil.

The number of IAS officers working in the State as on 15.01.2002 is 262. Out of which, officers belonging to South Karnataka are 95 which is 36 per cent and those belonging to North Karnataka are only 25 which is 10 per cent.

The data is provided by the Commissioner of Public Instruction in Karnataka.

Sir, now, I come to agriculture. The main dependence of 55 per cent of the people of Hyderabad Karnataka for their livelihood is agriculture and related cottage industries. The area is very backward. Of 18 per cent SC population in Karnataka, 31.86 per cent SC population is there only in Hyderabad Karnataka State. Maximum SCs are residing here. So also women population is 49.20 which is also highest in the State. The agricultural land available is 27,95,642 hectares which accounts for 20 per cent of the land available for agricultural activities. Forest area is 5.54 per cent. Rains mainly depend on forest. Rain water is decreasing year after year. For example, the average rainfall of Karnataka is 819 mm, of which Hyderabad Karnataka accounts for less than 60 per cent. Especially Bellary and Koppal account for only 325 mm and 328 mm being the lowest in the State. Consequently, there have been severe droughts now and then, Hyderabad Karnataka is at



the lowest level in the State in basic facilities for agriculture. Except part of Raichur, entire region is dry land. The soil does not contain zinc, phosphorus, iron, potash and manganese, which are necessary for better yield and quality of the crops like tur, groundnut, cotton and sugarcane, which are the main crops of the Hyderabad Karnataka area. Only 20 per cent of the land is under irrigation. Not much is done for dry land development. Now, it has already been abolished. Dry land was there for the last 10 or 15 years. They could not do anything. Therefore, that has been abolished. Of total 28 per cent of the population of the agricultural labour of the State, Hyderabad Karnataka accounts for more than 40 per cent. Because of frequent droughts in the region, the agricultural labourers are migrating to the neighbouring industrial cities like Pune, Bangalore, Bombay and elsewhere, to eke out their livelihood as non-agricultural labour. The wages in agriculture labour are not rationalised and standardised. So, Sir, this is the problem. We want to highlight this problem to the House.

Sir, now, I come to irrigation. Of 25.46 lakh hectares land of Hyderabad Karnataka, only 22.33 per cent is irrigated, which accounts for only 23.21 per cent of total irrigated land of the State. This is the difference. Sir, I am concluding within a few minutes. Number of natural tanks is just countable. Canals only are the main sources along with the bore wells, that is, 60.35 and 17.10 per cent respectively. There are only two major irrigation projects in Hyderabad Karnataka area – Tungabhadra Project and Upper Krishna Project. These are the big projects which were started in 1965. Still it has not been completed. The Upper Krishna Project is still struggling. No irrigation projects have been completed. In 1965, the Tungabhadra Project was started and it is yielding results. About 3,62,750 hectares of land of the region of UKP was started in 1965 which is still incomplete, which provides water for 4.25 lakh hectares of land. The irrigation projects are suffering from some basic problems. Sir, the Upper Krishna Project was undertaken with the financial assistance from the World Bank. Because of the non-completion of the project on time, the World Bank had withdrawn all its financial assistance, though the State Government of Karnataka itself had to mobilise resources to finance the project and its completion. Sir, proper development of dry land is essential, but no substantial efforts are being made for dry land development. It was aimed at getting 305.70 TMC water from different projects for Hyderabad Karnataka area, out of which presently we are getting only 31.49 per cent only.

It was aimed at irrigating 9.57 lakh hectares of land of the area. Only 0.72 per cent has been made possible. Additionally, lift irrigation, watershed programmes, well irrigation programmes will have to be enhanced in the irrigation of water deficit regions.

Power sector. Sir, electricity is necessary not only for agriculture, irrigation and public life, but also for improving the quality of life. Much of these disparities in

industrial development and irrigation can be attributed to the imbalance in the state of power supply. Only 37 per cent of the hamlets have been electrified in the State. Hyderabad-Karnataka's share is only 24 per cent of the total rural electrification. Karnataka State, especially Karnataka-Hyderabad has no alternative source of energy such as wind, solar or *gobar* gas. The production of electricity by hydel projects is inefficient and hence, the State is borrowing power from the neighbouring Andhra Pradesh. Though the Government of Karnataka is giving supply of power to the small and medium scale cultivators, the effort of the Government is unable to meet the needs of more than 50 per cent of these farmers.

Now, about the industry, Sir. Though Karnataka is the fifth in the nation in the development of industries, Hyderabad-Karnataka is lagging behind rest of the States. During 2000-2002, only 81 medium and large-scale units came up in Hyderabad-Karnataka as against 211 in South Karnataka. The rate of Industrial development is 28 per cent in our area compared to 72 per cent in South Karnataka. Hyderabad-Karnataka requires immediate attention towards development of infrastructure necessary for industrial growth. Sir, 12 talukas of Hyderabad-Karnataka are below the State average in respect of industrial infrastructure. The high-powered Committee recommended that the international agencies may be invited to explore the availability of minerals like limestone, iron and gold. It is time to take a new path of development, promotion of IT and biotechnology in Hyderabad-Karnataka.

Transport. Roads play a decisive role in initiating and accelerating the process of development in any region. It is a fact that the total road length comprising of National Highways, State Highways, important District roads and village roads is not distributed among the regions, districts talukas in a balanced way. In as many as 90 of 175 talukas in the State, the road lengths are less than the State average. Out of 90 backward talukas, 61 are in North Karnataka, of which 31 are in Gulberga, Sir. The National Highway is of 638 kms. in Bangalore; 416 kms. in Mysore; 715 kms. in Belgaum and only 238 kms. in Gulberga. See these are the anomalies due to which the people of region feel that they have been neglected by the whole Mysore. That too is in a bad condition. More than 50 per cent villages do not have either the road network or the Government bus services. There are serious demands being made by the people for doubling of railway tracks and providing new lines, district trains and fast trains. Today, we have seen, Sir, that we could not get even the railway train from Sholapur to Bangalore. This is the demand of the people, and 25 MPs have signed. We have been demanding since the time of Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav. Till today, we have not got a new Express train line between Solapur and Bangalore, between Gulberga-Raichur and Anantapur. It is one of the important lines.

They are not considering. I don't understand why they are doing so. Sir, 25 MPs from the State have signed it and given to them. Sir, the high-powered Committee is of the opinion that these demands are genuine and very basic.

Prof. Nanjundappa has, after studying and going through all these areas, accepted it and he felt very sorry. Even after fifty-five years these people have not developed in all these spheres. In the case of education, roads, infrastructure, etc., nothing has been done. He recommended that more attention should be paid to these areas.

The only airport that the people are aspiring for is in Gulbarga. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... Sir, I am speaking after five years. Please give me five to ten minutes. The runway in the process of construction for the last five years. The High Power Committee has recommended that Bangalore be linked with all the headquarters by air service within five years from 2002. That dream has not yet come true.

As regards health, health is not only for living for oneself but also to be a productive individual for the nation. The diseases not only weaken the individual but also hamper the national productivity in the long term. The people are not aware of sanitation and health because of poverty and lack of education. The costs of the medicines are going up day by day making it unaffordable for the people. The Hyderabad Karnataka area suffers from basic health amenities. Of the total number of 43,868 beds in the Government hospitals, Gulbarga has only 2,020, Raichur has 1,180 and Bidar 567. A good number of posts of medical officers are lying vacant for years in rural areas and there are no lady medical officers in many villages. The situation is that even today local uneducated ayahs take care of deliveries in rural belts under unhygienic conditions and without any medical assistance, leading to unfortunate deaths in, at least, 10 per cent of the cases. During the recruitment of medical officers in the State, the Hyderabad Karnataka area is getting only five per cent share. For instance, in the year 2001, of 558 medical officers recruited, only 54 were appointed in the five districts of Gulbarga division. Of 180 dentists recruited, only 12 had been posted in the five districts of Hyderabad Karnataka. In many parts of the Hyderabad Karnataka region the groundwater contains fluoride. The optimum quantity of fluoride that the body can sustain is 1.5 mg per litre. Anything above leads to diseases of the bones, kidney failure, etc. Hattigudur of Gulbarga district has 7.40 mg., Farthbad Village has 5.75 mg., Raichur has 5.15 mg, Lingasugur has 5 mg, Koppal has 5.15 mg and Teklkotta of Bellary district has 7.40 mg of fluoride content in groundwater. Forty per cent of the people are below poverty line. The people living in poverty in our area is forty per cent. Due to lack of nutritious food and clean environment 50 per cent of the people are suffering from anaemia. The Government hospitals are ill-equipped; supply of medicines is insufficient to meet the needs of the population in the area. The HIV and AIDS are increasingly spreading in India. Of the total 51 lakhs victims in India, five lakhs are in Karnataka. Out of that, more than 30 per cent are reported to be in

Hyderabad Karnataka area. Gulbarga is a limestone belt with cement factories and Koppal is an iron ore belt with extensive mining, and hence major portion of the population is found to be the labour class, both in factories and in mining areas. Being uneducated, prostitution and drug abuse are rampant. Filariasis is a common disease to be found in most parts of Gulbarga, Koppal and Raichur. Of the total number of 652 cases in Karnataka in the year 2005, 465 cases are from the Gulbarga district.

It is almost 80 per cent. So also, brain fever is another menace troubling these districts. Of the total number of 122 cases reported in the State, 96 are from these districts. Chikungunya has spread as an epidemic and has taken a toll of 13,197 people reported in Bellary alone.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please conclude.

SHRI K. B. SHANAPPA: I am concluding, Sir. I will take only five minutes more. I have to make this House understand in what condition Hyderabad-Karnataka is. The Government has to understand it. All the senior Members are here. The Home Minister is sitting here and the Law Minister is also sitting here. Everybody is here to listen to me. I am very grateful to them. Since I am representing the Council of States, if I don't mention the problems, miseries and agonies faced by the people of this area, it will not be good on my part. Being a Member of this House, I have to highlight these problems because people have great hope on us. This is not a small area. In this area, 1.35 crore people are residing. One-fourths population of Karnataka is residing in Hyderabad-Karnataka. It is not that I am just talking for the sake of making a speech. I will be grateful to you if you give me five to six minutes more, Sir.

Hyderabad-Karnataka has a great historical and cultural heritage. It has a place in the national tourism map. Gulbarga has a big fort constructed by the Bahamani Kings; there is a mosque built in Persian style, being the only mosque in the nation. Khwaja Banda Nawaz Dargah, Sri Sharnabasappa Temple and Budh Vihar are on the outskirts of the city. The Manikeshwari Temple at Yanagundi and Chandralamba in Sannati are famous places of interest in this area. There is a famous place in Bidar which Saint Guru Nanakji visited and did a miracle by producing a fountain of water in the drought hit area, known as Gurunanak Jharna in Bidar. Basavakalyan has a fort and many historical remains belonging to the 12th Century A.D. which bring to the memory the cultural revolution of Basaveshwara. There is a Madrasa, a site of higher learning, built by Md. Gavan. Bidar is very famous for Bidri art. Bidar fort is a place of interest for visitors. Raichur also has got a big fort. Musal has stone carvings of the period of Ashoka. Gold mine of Hatti is famous in the State. In Koppal there are many structures and Sasanas belonging to the Ashoka

period which are found in dilapidated condition. Hampi Virupaksha Temple in Bellary is of national fame. Tungabhadra Dam is another site of visit. Tourism is a promising industry assuring higher employment output.

Lastly, redressal of imbalances in facilities that constitute infrastructure as well as investment for development, is a matter that can be achieved in one stroke. The long-term State-wise statistics have to be looked into as it has financial implications for the State and the Union Government. A Memorandum was submitted to the hon. Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, by the hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka and the leaders of all parties belonging to both the Houses of Karnataka Legislature on 11th February, 2005 on Karnataka's proposal to amend Article 371 of the Constitution of India for providing regional reservation on the pattern of Andhra Pradesh, that is, Article 371 D and also to appoint a Committee of Experts to decide the quantum of financial assistance to be worked out to meet both recurring and non-recurring expenses and to meet the requirements of implementation.

At the end, I would like express my gratitude to the Chair as well as the hon. Members, who have been listening to my speech, and understanding our problems. My only sincere request is that, the Government having come forward to give article 371 on par with Vidarbha, we want it to be article 371 (d) on par with Telengana. If the Government does that, I will be very grateful to the Government and this hon. House. Thank you.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I am very happy that our friend, Shri Shanappa, has brought a very important issue before Parliament so that people, who are affected in a similar way, in different areas in various States of India, can have something towards their development. Sir, when this Constitutional provision was made, it was done to satisfy the needs of the people. When different erstwhile Princely States were taken out, on the basis of the linguistic formulations, new States were formed. During that period, certain areas were having better development when compared to other parts of the same State which were newly formed. Therefore, there was a very clear idea of the Constitution-makers and also the subsequent reorientation of these States on linguistic basis. It was very clear that the Nizam of Hyderabad did not care for his citizens, and carry out developmental activities, while the neighbouring States, under the British rule, were somewhat developed. Even though natural resources were available in that State, these were not utilized for the benefit of the citizens. As history students, we can understand that the Nawab was concentrating on his own pleasures and he could not devote attention for the welfare of the people. That is why there is still suffering and backwardness in many parts of Andhra Pradesh as well as in

Karnataka. At the same time, I am very happy to mention here that the present Law Minister, who was the then Chief Minister of Karnataka, could concentrate on the development of these areas, especially, Gulbarga, Raichur, Bidar, Koppal and other parts of Karnataka, which were, in fact, called Hyderabad-Karnataka. These areas, which were very backward, were focused upon for developmental activities. More funds were given, during his period as Chief Minister, for development of infrastructure, and the subsequent Chief Ministers also followed it up. The Central allotments were also made focusing on the development of these areas. I can just mention a small issue over which the neighbouring States are fighting. This is relating to the Almatti Dam. This is giving a lot of benefit to two districts. These two districts, namely, Raichur and Gulbarga, are having the benefits. Similarly, the biggest thermal plants, at Bellary and Raichur, are producing huge electricity. No doubt, the power goes to the entire State as well as the neighbouring State. But these districts, as my hon. colleague mentioned, are still in backwardness. They should have more industries so that they can absorb the power which is available in their own areas.

On social aspect also, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister that these areas are very backward due to inaccessibility to education. No doubt, when Shri Veerappa Moily, who was there as the Chief Minister, and the subsequent Chief Ministers established universities in these areas.

But there is the language problem too. Earlier, education there was based on Urdu and they could not switch over to Kannada. The Kannada language was not much in use and consequently, not much developed in that area; also, the English language entered these districts very late. While Mysore had the best education, was civilized and had a rich history, these areas which were far away from Mysore were not given much importance. But now that we are an independent nation and now that these districts are included in the Karnataka state, it is for the Government of the day to make efforts to create awareness among the people of these districts, tell them how much money is being utilized for construction of public property, roads, etc. and that they should also participate. Sir, I do not wish to comment on the neighbouring States here, but contractors from neighbouring States could occupy this field and take the wealth out of it. Our friends here should not feel that I am commenting upon the neighbouring States. What I mean is that the people living there should be aware of the situation. They should feel concerned that their wealth is being taken away by others rather than being used by their own people. I do not mean to create some sort of a conflict amongst them but creating awareness is very important. That can be done only by the State Governments. We must be grateful to Rajivji for helping establish the three-tier system of public administration,

that is, the Zilla Parishads, the Mandals and the Gram Panchayats. About 29 subjects listed in the State List were given to the Panchayati Raj institutions. Karnataka is one of the leading States where powers from the panchayati raj institutions have percolated down to the lowest levels. We are astonished to see how these areas were left out even though the panchayati raj system was working very well in that State. Therefore, we need to focus upon development in these areas and bring in more projects on education for these people. The hon. Minister for Human Resources Development, Purandeswariji, is here. When the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is being implemented, these districts should be focused upon more and more and more funds should be allocated to them. Whenever a Central university is being conceived of, focus should be laid on these areas. Fortunately, the Congress Government has announced the university at Gulbarga as a Central University. The UPA Government led by the Congress is focusing upon these lesser developed areas for spreading education and, therefore, huge funds are being pumped into these areas. The receivers of these funds must also be careful in spending this money. It is for the States, the panchayats, to take care of that. The hon. Member has great influence in that area. I remember, earlier he was a Communist; he has got his friends in the JD(S), and now he is in BJP. He has many friends around him. I would request him to help spread awareness among people in that area. The State Government should also focus on these issues. Money coming from the Centre should reach the people for whom it is meant.

Then, Sir, I would like to quote from his petition to the hon. Home Minister; I have a copy of his petition. There he has given details of some of the most backward taluqs numbering about 39 and the most backward district in the entire Karnataka, Raichur, is at no. 27, almost at the bottom.

Gulbarga, though having the richness of facility, is having 26; Koppal is having 24 and Bidar is having 21. Sir, I was told that a large portion of fertile area is occupied or owned by the people of neighbouring State because the local people are innocent and they do not know how best to utilise their available resources; they are selling for a minimum amount. When the rich people of neighbouring State invest money on their lands, automatically the price goes up to crores. Therefore, I would like to suggest that the Government of Karnataka should focus its attention to the area just like it has focused to the areas in and around Bengaluru. They should have contract farming system developed in these areas by which the cooperative sector and others who are ready to invest money come in. At the same time, the common man who is living in the backward area should also involve his physical energy to be utilised for the development of agriculture. The cooperation of contract farming is very suitable for these areas in order

to bring the fertile areas into occupation of the local people rather than giving them to neighbours.

Similarly, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister on one point. Though it is a matter of States formation, I feel that the hon. Minister can recommend to the Planning Commission to focus on this type of backward areas to be taken separately and pump more funds. Let more funds be utilised and the local people's awareness and participation should be looked after. The contract system is not helping the local people. We need to bring cooperation among the people and they should also participate in the development of these areas. Only by that means, I feel that this type of backward areas can be developed.

No doubt, Sir, it is intended to bring in an amendment to the Constitution. It is one way of meeting the needs. Another way to be explored is even before seeking a Constitutional amendment, we should utilise all opportunities available to develop the areas with the available resources; I believe, the resources are very much available in those areas. The Government shall also be pumping the money. Already two districts are having fertile land and better irrigation. The same district is having maximum thermal power generated and the rich people are living in the nearby States. Therefore, they can be wooed to develop the districts by setting up new industries. We should see to it that the skill of the people is developed and the level of education enhanced. When a Central university is brought there, that should not help only the rich candidates who come from other States, but a priority should be given to cater to the needs of the backward areas like these; there should be reservation for students from backward areas. They should be given opportunity. On employment also, reservation is very much needed. In Panchayati-raj institution, they can recruit only to a certain extent but not at the State-level. There should be a reservation of posts in the recruitment at the State-level also. Thank you for the time given.

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK (Goa): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I can understand the concerns of Shri K.B. Shanappa with respect to public employment, education, etc. For that purpose, he has sought to make an amendment in the Constitution by introducing article 371J. While the concern of the hon. Member can be understood, but it has to be seen whether at all a constitutional amendment is required for the purpose or for the objective that he has mentioned here. I am saying this because things like public employment, education, etc., are like giving some special treatment, which can be done by an ordinary legislation or by executive orders. If we go on amending the Constitution for such issues with respect to every State, I don't know where it will lead us



to. As it is, he has mentioned Bellary in other respect. There are such elements in Bellary who want to make Bellary as a republic. They say that they do not bother about the funds of the State Government. They can build roads, they can build schools and they can do everything with their own money. So, this sort of trend is coming in Bellary. I am not saying that the objective of the hon. Member in bringing in this Bill is of the same type. The concern of the hon. Member may be genuine. But, according to me, these objectives can be met by an ordinary legislation.

Sir, as far as article 371 is concerned, it is a dear article to me for one thing. For one simple reason, I have been going after this article for the last several years. I am invoking it in other matter. Goa is a small State. We have got limited land there. But, in our State, Russians are coming with tons of money; Israelis are coming with tons of money and our own builders from Delhi, Mumbai and other cities are coming with tons of money to buy land there. They can buy villages after villages with that money, and this is happening there. We have no remedy for that because this is a free country. There are Constitutional provisions which back this, and nobody can stop this. But, can we not have some sort of amendment under this provision so that our land is protected? Therefore, Sir, first, Goa made an attempt to amend the Registration Act, in which the Goa Government sought to introduce a provision to give powers to the Government that under public policy certain deeds of sale or purchase or give shall not be registered. But, Sir, when this amendment was referred to the President of India for assent, the President of India refused to give assent to this Bill saying that such a law goes against the provisions of the Constitution. Therefore, I have introduced a Bill in this House, Sir, to amend article 371 of the Constitution to empower Goa Legislature to enact a law to regulate its land. Sometimes, it is questioned as to why a citizen cannot go in other parts of the country and buy land there. It is true in respect of bigger States because a lot of land is there, and there is no need to prevent anybody from buying land there. But, in case of Goa, if these provisions are not made under article 371, I don't know what will be the consequences. Therefore, I have invoked this article 371 of the Constitution.

Sir, if we see amendments under article 371, we will find that the letter has reached quite up to 'I'. In fact, every major State, including Andhra, Maharashtra, etc., has been included under article 371 and given special provisions in some form or the other. In fact, Goa has also been given special provision under this article. When Goa Assembly was constituted, as per the constitutional provisions, every Assembly has to have a minimum of 60 seats, we wanted 40 seats. So, an amendment under article 371 had to be made to incorporate 40 Members in the Goa Assembly. So, Goa also comes under that. But, we have come under that for a smaller purpose, whereas the major States have come under

that for some boards, etc. States like Mizoram and Nagaland have been included under article 371 to permit them to protect their religious customs, their marriage laws, their property laws, etc. So, to protect those rights of theirs, amendment under article 371 has been made. I have no grudge against that. In a similar way, the genuineness of a subject has to be considered. This amendment is widespread. It encompasses the entire field of education, unemployment field, and things like that.

Ours is a limited purpose, Sir, therefore, it is apparently stressing that at some stage our amendment should also be considered. Now, Sir, in this context of article 371, a wrong nomenclature is floating. I would also like to draw the attention of the Law Minister also to this. Everybody says 'special status'. Where is the 'special status'? The Constitution does not say any 'special status'. Article 371 mentions 'special provisions'. There is one which is called 'special category'. This is under Executive Order. Supposing the Government of India wants certain States to be brought under 'special category' for the purpose of giving subsidy, more loans, etc., etc. they are included in an Executive Order and they are called 'special category' States. So, these are 'special provisions' States and those are 'special category' States. There is nothing called 'special status'. But everybody is using that term. Therefore, there is sometimes confusion. Now, Sir, since he has raised the issue of unemployment, there are several matters. It is true that jobs are concentrated in certain areas only. Supposing there is a Minister for PWD and there are 50 posts in his Ministry, he would give majority of these posts even not to one region but only to his own constituency. This happens in many places. MLAs also try to bring in their people. Therefore, those who are elsewhere, they have no scope of getting the clerical or other jobs. Some neutral mechanism has to be applied or put in place for the purpose of recruiting people, maybe, at the lowest grade, but it should be done by a neutral committee. We have State Public Service Commissions or Union Public Service Commission for higher posts. As far as lower posts are concerned, unemployed youth, boys and girls, have to run from pillar to post. Nobody is considering recruitment on merit. Therefore, Sir, in the matter of employment really we need a neutral mechanism to recruit people even at this level. Some people say if this mechanism is not there, the Minister would say, the MLAs would say, "If we don't have power to recommend somebody, then what is our power?" Sir, ultimately, how many names a Minister can recommend? How many names an MP or MLA can recommend? That brings actually bad name to the elected representatives. If one has got one thousand or two thousand people lining up, one can recommend only one or two names. So, he becomes inimical in terms with the rest of the people. Therefore, it is not to the advantage of anybody. There has to be a neutral mechanism and the scope of the State Public Service Commissions has

to be increased if we want some sort of transparency to be brought in it. Secondly, Sir, we have got recruitment rules under article 309 of the Constitution. All the ambiguities in these recruitment rules lead to thousands of litigations right from District Courts to Supreme Court. Nobody looks into this aspect that recruitment rules, as far as possible, should not be vague. I can understand that all things cannot be put in black-and-white. There is scope for ambiguity; there is scope for different interpretations. Most of our recruitment rules are vague, therefore, there are litigations. Public servants and others have to fight their cases throughout their life, perhaps, for promotion, transfer, punishment, etc., etc. There is a need for making transparent recruitment rules. Related to this is another question, Sir. The whole thing depends on the Confidential Reports. If you see in the administration, things are regulated by the Confidential Reports. There is no law governing it except for the All India Services for which there is an Act and there are rules. As far as recruitment rules for the purpose of other category of persons are concerned, they are regulated by Circulars. One higher officer will issue one Circular today, second day he will issue another circular. If he finds that somebody has to be denied promotion, first day he will issue a memo and stop his promotion. Therefore, these recruitment rules which are in the form of Circulars, which are in the form of letters, have to go and a law has to be enacted.

My last submission is, in the matter of recruitment sometimes, especially with regard to Central Government petitions, people don't like jobs in their States, whether it is Railways, Airports, Shipyards, porters etc. They say you have to have a national outlook. They have to be recruited from anywhere in the country. But, if this is done, Sir, no reservations are kept for locals, no consideration is given. Then local people do not feel that these institutions belong to them. They will not feel Railways belong to me; they will not feel porters belong to me. Therefore, some sort of reservations has to be compulsorily allotted as far as local people are concerned, wherever Central Government institutions are established. Thank you.

SHRI K. B. SHANAPPA: My submission was that it has been accepted by almost all the political leaders.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Let the Minister reply.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, my good friend Mr. Shanappa has raised the issue of the backwardness of the Hyderabad-Karnataka area. Karnataka itself is not a backward State. Karnataka is one of the more progressive States in India. Ever since Karnataka was formed, we have seen the rise of many industries and many parts of Karnataka have benefited greatly from

these developments. Karnataka is rich in agriculture, plantation crops, iron and steel, software and now of course, electronics and telecommunications. Karnataka also has a very great tradition of education. Some of the best colleges and universities of the country are in Karnataka. It has produced giants like Vishweshwarayya. Sir, C.V. Raman made his most signal contribution when he was working in Karnataka. Within Karnataka, certain areas are backward. But that is a universal truth. Within every State there are backward areas. Can anyone say that in Tamil Nadu there are no backward areas or in Andhra Pradesh there are no backward areas? There is no State in India where, if you compare one region with another, one region would have progressed further and one region would have remained backward. Notwithstanding the uneven development, what binds the State together is the fact that they speak one language. Our States are constituted on the basis of linguistic principle and therefore, one hopes that, one would like to believe that the people of the State through their elected representatives -- because there is a bond of language that ties them together -- will help each other and ensure that the less developed parts of the State catch up with the better developed parts of the State. That is why we have elections, that is why we have elected legislatures, that is why we have elected representatives from all parts of the State, all sitting together in one House, one Assembly. A Government that is sensitive to its people will understand that, will recognize that some parts are less developed, some parts are more developed and therefore, will make special provision while allocating funds, while locating industries, while recruiting people for implementing projects. It will lean in favour of the backward areas of a State.

That is the essence of democracy. I don't think we can find Constitutional answers in the manner suggested by hon. Member Mr. Shanappa to the problem of backwardness. I think it is somewhat naïve to believe that there are Constitutional answers to uneven development. The answer to uneven development is essentially a political answer. There must be political will to address the backwardness of areas. What Mr. Shanappa is proposing is, set up Hyderabad-Karnataka as a local area and once you define Hyderabad-Karnataka as a local area, provide for local recruitment and provide for local preferences for admissions into universities and colleges. These are, in my view, not answers to the problem. In fact, they may, actually, accentuate the problem. Once the local jobs are reserved for local people, young men and women, will be excluded, in one way or another, from jobs in the more developed parts of the State. Instead of the whole of Karnataka being the area of opportunity, the area of opportunity will, in fact, be reduced to your local area. The answer lies in proper allocation of funds, proper plans being drawn up, bias in favour of the backward areas, sending your better officers to

these areas, improving quality of administration, increasing the opportunities for local youth, setting up more institutions, colleges, hospitals, schools, locating more industries, encouraging the political leadership of that area to assume important offices in the State. For example, Finance Minister, Agriculture Minister, Industry Minister must be selected from those areas for sometime. I think, these are the answers to uneven development of a State. Creating Constitutional sub-State entities is not the answer. I don't think anywhere in India, especially in States formed on linguistic lines, sub-State units or sub-State entities carved out on the ground of backwardness have, actually, removed the backwardness of that area. So, my respectful submission to the hon. Member is, while his concern is genuine, the passion with which he argued his case is admirable and, I am sure, his voice is being heard and he will be reported extensively in the media in Karnataka tomorrow or the day after what he said in this House will touch the conscience of those who rule Karnataka today. I would respectfully request that he does not press this Bill for a Constitutional amendment.

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: My intention is not either to be reported in Karnataka or anywhere. It is not my intention to be heard or listened by somebody in Karnataka and be happy. It is a genuine case and that is why I have brought it before this House.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I said that I hope and pray that your voice is heard by those who rule Karnataka, because you have made a valid point and it must be heard there. If they don't hear, I am afraid, they are deaf. They must hear your voice and the passion with which you spoke.

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Sir, the Central Government has to do it. Therefore, I have brought it here.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, Mr. Shanappa is not asking the Central Government to do anything. In fact, there is nothing in the Bill that casts an obligation on the Central Government. This is a Bill, which he wants to bring before the Parliament, because Parliament alone is empowered to amend the Constitution, so that a sub-State entity can be carved out in Karnataka. Kindly read the Bill. There is not a single clause that casts any duty upon the Central Government. So, his appeal is really not to the Central Government. If I understand it correctly, the hon. Member intends to say that he had appealed in Karnataka and it has fallen on deaf ears; so, he wants the Parliament to create a sub-State entity in Karnataka so that he can go back and use that instrument. My respectful submission is that, I think, that is not an answer to the problem. The answer to the problem is this. Enlighten the political leadership to recognize the backwardness of some parts of States and ask them to address the causes of that backwardness by

economic development, social development, by allocation of funds, by better administration, by creation of institutions, by expansion of opportunities. That is the way to go about it, and not by creating a sub-State entity.

Sir, I would respectfully request the hon. Member to withdraw the Bill. I admire the passion with which he has argued his case. I admire the genuine concern that he has shown. But I respectfully request him to withdraw the Bill for two reasons – (a) I do not think that the Bill addresses the real issue; and (b) a constitution amendment Bill has to be passed with a special quorum; and special majority one-half of the House has to be present, not less than one-half of the House has to vote in favour, and not less than two-third of those present and voting have to vote in favour. You do not even have one-half of the membership present in this House. There is really no quorum to put the Bill to vote. Therefore, it would be quite a setback to my hon. Friend, for whom I have great respect, if there is no quorum to vote on the Bill. So, my respectful submission to Mr. Shanappa is that he should withdraw the Bill. I have heard him and I will convey what he said with all the authority at my command to the Government of Karnataka to address the problems of Karnataka. Thank you very much, Sir.

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Sir, I tried my level best to convince... (*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please use the mike.

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Sir, even after fifty-five years, the people from this area cannot match with the people of old Mysore. The hon. Home Minister has categorically said that बाबा , तुम लोग तो बहुत ही ऊंचे दर्जे के स्टेट में गए हो। हम कहां कहते हैं कि यह नहीं है , लेकिन हम लोगों की हासत वैसी नहीं है , जैसे गुलबर्गा , बीदर , यादगीर , रायचूर , कोप्पल। उनके पास हम लोगों के लिए परंपरा वजिन नहीं है। उन लोगों का डॉमिनेशन इतना ज्यादा है कि हम लोगों को कुछ भी नहीं मल्लिता है। होम मनिस्टर के सामने हमारा यही सबमिशन है। हम कहां कहते हैं कि आपके पैसे मल्लिने से लोगों का डेवलपमेंट होगा। We cannot compete with those boys. वे लोग 90% माक्स लेते हैं और इन लोगों को 60%, 70% पर लेते हैं , तब भी हमारे लोगों को एपॉइंटमेंट नहीं मल्लिता। आपने रजिर्वेश न दया है , इस हासत में भी वे बोलते हैं कि कोर्ट का जजमेंट ऐसा है, you cannot be considered separately, as far as today's situation is concerned. If you give some sorts of concessions to this area, as has been given in Andhra Pradesh that इस

एरिया में एजुकेशन के लिए जो भी यूनिवर्सिटीज़ *Æiü*, these boys  
will be recruited university-wise. हम यही मांगते हैं , हम उनके लिए कुछ  
नहीं मांग रहे हैं। होम मन्निस्टर साहब , वे कंपीट नहीं  
कर सकते हैं। We have tried our level best for 55 years. That is the lacuna in our  
area.

इसलिए हम यह चाहते हैं कि you bind them with this amendment. We do not want from the Central Government. You bind the State Government. एजुकेशन में जो कुछ भी होता है, जैसे मेडिकल की सीट होती है, इंजीनियरिंग की सीट होती है, appointment होती है और प्रमोशन होता है। Do you know, out of 268, we have only two IPS officers from Karnataka? परसों-तरसों पता चला है कि इसमें हमारे कर्नाटक से दो लोग पास हुए हैं। 55 सालों के बाद वहां के दो बच्चों में से एक आई.ए.एस. और दूसरा आई.पी.एस. बना। We want that some special provisions be made for this area. तभी हम लोग कुछ कर सकते हैं। हमारे यहाँ B.Ed. colleges हैं। हमारे यहाँ veterinary hospitals हैं, कॉलेज हैं, लेकिन वहां सारे बच्चे whole मैसूर के हैं, क्योंकि हमारे बच्चे वहाँ पर कम्पीट नहीं कर सकते। We have medical colleges but वहाँ पर मेरिट में हमारे बच्चों को जगह नहीं मिलती। There is some imbalance. Ultimately, Central Government is the mother of the country. You have to compel them by introducing these amendments. That is the request of the people of that area. I am supposed to mention their problems here. I have highlighted the problems of the people from every nook and corner. Therefore, I still insist, kindly see to it. And, UPA Chairperson has given a statement in Bidar, 'yes, I am for it.' Rahulji said, "yes, I am for it." Dharam Singh said, "yes, I am for it." Shri S.M. Krishna said, "I am for it." Yedurappa said, "I am for it." Kharge ji said, "I am for it." K.B. Shanappa said, "I am for it." Then, where is the lacuna? We have to do something for that area. This is my sincere submission to you, Sir. Kindly take your own time. I don't insist that this should be done today. You say that, in future, we will think, इसके बारे में हम कुछ भी करने की सोचेंगे। You have to see how best we can bring that area at par with other areas. If that assurance comes, I am going to withdraw it. इसमें मेरी कोई जबरदस्ती नहीं है कि आपके ऊपर मैं कोई दबाव डालूँ। After all, they are also a part of our country. About 1,35,00,000 people are residing there. जल्दिनी गोब्रा की पोलुटेशन है, उतनी ही हमारी जनसंख्या है। यह मैंने आपके ऊपर छोड़ा है। I do not want to insist. Take your own time. I want some assurance from you, then, I will withdraw my case.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: As I said a little while earlier, my sympathies are entirely with the hon. Member. I share his concern. All I am saying is, we have to find other institutional ways of addressing the problem. The Constitutional amendment is like using a sledgehammer to hit at the problem; this is not the way to go about it. Other institutional arrangements must be found. I am sure, the State Government of Karnataka



will suggest or he can suggest to the State Government and the State Government can suggest to us. We can find ways in which this can be addressed, but a Constitutional amendment is touching the fundamental law of the country. It must be done very sparingly. It cannot be done for every grievance that might arise in one part of India or the other. The answer is not a Constitutional amendment to carve out a sub-State entity.

That was my point. I take his point. My appeal to him is, kindly withdraw the Bill. We can put our heads together and see if there is any other way to address the problem. But this Bill is not the solution to the problem. And prudence dictates that my hon. Friend having made his point should withdraw the Bill and allow the Central Government and the State Government together with the elected representatives from Karnataka MPs, MLAs, to find other ways in which the problem should be addressed.

SHRI K. B. SHANAPPA: Sir, with great sorrow, I withdraw it. But, my submission must be considered by the Government. Article 371 has been amended nine times in this country. Article 371 gives protection to all the weakest sections of the country. Only under the shelter of article 371, we can achieve something.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Anyway, you have got the assurance.

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: If the Home Minister says that we have to withdraw, at this juncture, I withdraw it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): He is very sympathetic to you.

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: But kindly see to it that it is taken into consideration.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Yes, the Home Minister is very sympathetic to you. What else do you want? Now, you please withdraw.

श्री के.बी. शणप्पा : मैं अभी तो यहां पर कुछ नहीं कहूंगा।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, you withdraw.

SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Sir, I have already said.

*The Bill was, by leave, withdrawn.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, the next Bill is of Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi to move that the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration; not present.

Then, the next Bill is of Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar to move that the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration. He is also not present.

The next Bill is of Dr. Manohar Joshi to move that the Bill to set up a National Commission to identify and deport illegal immigrants in the country and matter

connected therewith and incidental thereto, be taken into consideration; not present.

Then, Shri Mohan Singh to move that the Bill to provide for measures to stop female infanticide and make it punishable with stringent penalty and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration; not there.

The next Bill is of Shri Mahendra Mohan. Even though that is included but that is subject to receiving of the President's recommendation under article 117(3) of the Constitution. So, it is not being taken up.

The House stands adjourned till 1.30 p.m. on Monday, the 28th February, 2011.

The House then adjourned at sixteen minutes past four of the clock till thirty minutes past one of the clock on Monday, the 28th February, 2011